

Press Release

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Top in-house counsel recognised at the International Law Office European Counsel Awards in association with the Association of Corporate Counsel Europe

London, United Kingdom – The International Law Office (ILO) and the Association of Corporate Counsel Europe (ACC Europe) hosted the fourth European Counsel Awards at London’s sumptuous Dorchester Hotel last night. The gala event celebrated the achievements of in-house counsel recognised by their peers as excelling in their chosen fields.

“The aim of the awards is as bold as it is simple – to find and recognise the best in-house lawyers based in Europe. This means looking behind the scenes in search of those attributes that really matter in the ever-changing corporate world,”

explained Susan Flook, member of the ACC board of directors.

To identify the winners, the ILO team conducted in-depth analysis of in-house lawyers and legal departments worldwide, receiving more than 3,300 individual nominations. Respondents were asked to focus on criteria such as effective communication, legal understanding, commercial awareness, depth and strength of team, and management skills. Awards were presented to both individuals and legal teams working in the following areas: competition, corporate tax, employment, general commercial, intellectual property, litigation, M&A, and regulatory (financial and non-financial).

Massimo Mantovani of ENI SpA was named General Counsel of the Year after receiving multiple individual nominations from partners at leading law firms.

“Mr Mantovani is defined by his imaginative solutions and rapid decision making. He personally attends to the company’s most crucial national and international transactions, and has built a team capable of offering first-class support to the wider company. When managing outside counsel his performance has been equally exemplary – never failing to maintain a clear and professional dialogue with his advisers,”

enthused one such respondent.

The event sponsors were Addleshaw Goddard LLP; Bird & Bird; CMS Hasche Sigle; Delphi; DLA Piper; Eversheds; Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP; Herbert Smith LLP; Ince & Co; Kemp Little LLP; Linklaters LLP; Labruna Mazziotti & Segni; and Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP.

For more information and a complete list of winners, visit www.europeancounselawards.com.



About ILO

Launched in 1998, ILO is the nexus where global corporate counsel engage with the world's pre-eminent law firms, and each other.

The ILO brand encompasses:

- A multifaceted online resource for senior international corporate counsel, which provides tailored, quality-assured updates on global legal developments, a database of the world's major deals and the legal advisers involved, and a comprehensive directory of firms and partners.
www.InternationalLawOffice.com
- An awards programme recognising and rewarding those law firms and partners that have been commended exclusively by corporate counsel for their client service.
www.ClientChoiceAwards.com
- A global awards programme that identifies in-house corporate counsel, both teams and individuals, who excel in their specific roles. The awards culminate each year in three of the largest annual gatherings of senior corporate counsel, with prestigious ceremonies in London, Buenos Aires and New York.
www.GlobalCounselAwards.com

In recognition of its unique relationship with global corporate counsel, ILO became an International Online Media Partner to the ACC Europe in 2005. Many other leading legal associations around the world have also chosen to partner with ILO.

www.InternationalLawOffice.com/Associations.

About the ACC Europe

The ACC Europe is the only European organisation run by the in-house counsel profession for the benefit of its in-house counsel members throughout Europe. The ACC Europe promotes the common interests of its members, contributes to their continuing legal education and seeks to improve the understanding of the role of in-house counsel. The ACC Europe is a chapter of the ACC, which since its founding in 1982 has grown to over 26,000 members in nearly 75 countries, representing more than 10,000 organisations. Internationally, its members represent 42 of the Global 50 and 74 of the Global 100 companies. Membership in the ACC Europe includes membership in the ACC. Additional information on the ACC Europe can be found at **www.acce.com**. *By in-house counsel, for in-house counsel®*.

About the European Counsel Awards

In January 2008 ILO, in association with the ACC Europe, launched the European Counsel Awards to recognise the excellent work done by corporate in-house legal teams and individuals. The primary aim is to reward lawyers for demonstrable achievements across the full spectrum of in-house responsibility, and not simply those who have acted on high-profile transactions. Winners have performed above and beyond the usual requirements of their profession and position. The ILO research team focused on criteria such as effective communication, legal understanding, commercial awareness, depth and strength of team, and management skills, in addition to any significant projects or transactions. While based on thorough and coherent research, the results remain the subjective views of the ILO team.