



The A&L Goodbody team with Daniel Diamond of SSQ

INTERNATIONAL FIRM OF THE YEAR

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A&L GOODBODY JULIAN YARR

A STANDOUT PERFORMER IN A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE MARKET

This Dublin powerhouse combines strong financial performance with significant mandates in M&A, property, financial services and litigation. This includes being ranked the biggest M&A legal adviser by volume in Ireland by most outlets, with standout transactional matters including the Glenveagh Properties IPO.

Its international strategy is clearly defined with the US, UK, China and Germany key areas of focus. Its commitment to embracing new technology, supporting CSR initiatives and

promoting diversity are impressive, with almost half the partners appointed in the last six years being female.

All key indicators point to a firm that is comfortably at the top of its market. In addition to continued year-on-year revenue growth, nine partners were appointed in 2018, up 8% on the previous year, including two lateral hires. Total staff headcount is also up 8%, while managing partner Julian Yarr was re-elected for third term.

HIGHLY COMMENDED PÉREZ-LLORCA

PEDRO PÉREZ-LLORCA

A firm that is clearly in the ascendant, when set against the big Spanish trio – Cuatrecasas, Garrigues and Uría – Pérez-Llorca manifestly continues to make great progress. A striking 20% growth in 2017 is combined with a strong set of 2018 deals, including advising CVC on the acquisition from Repsol of a 20% stake in Gas Natural for €3.8bn.

COMMENDED

McCANN FITZGERALD BARRY DEVEREUX

As a key plank of its four-year strategy, McCann FitzGerald's new technology-led legal services business division is impressive, combining legal project management, agile resourcing and digital

services. Growth in lawyer numbers (34% since 2008) and a highly impressive deal list attest to a strong performance for one of Ireland's most respected law firms.

NOERR TOBIAS BÜRGERS

Consistently noted as Germany's leading independent firm, Noerr's sustained financial performance comfortably surpasses its domestic competition over five and ten years, while an abundance of strategic and technology initiatives show the strength of management planning. In terms of diversity, flexible working and training, Noerr is also ahead of its German rivals.

URÍA MENÉNDEZ LUIS DE CARLOS

The strongest performer in the last 12 months of Spain's big three, Uría matched

its revenue growth of the previous year of 6%. Its stake in PPU (in Chile, Colombia and Peru) has delivered a consistent stream of domestic and cross-border activity – around 12 per cent of its revenue is now generated in Latin America. A raft of heavyweight deals – 240 totalling €73bn – confirm a strong year.

WILLIAM FRY BRYAN BOURKE

While one of the smallest of Ireland's elite firms in terms of headcount, this has not prevented William Fry from outstanding performance – both in terms of revenue growth and winning impressive work. A particular highlight for 2018 was its role advising the Software Alliance, the leading advocate for the global software industry, in relation to the Max Schrems case.

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SSQ work with law firms and leading brands to build the best legal teams. With a unique geographical footprint and unrivalled track record, we remain at the forefront of the legal search market.

SSQ was delighted to be involved with this year's Legal Business Awards to celebrate the industry's finest achievements. We would like to congratulate all of the shortlisted and winning law firms and businesses of this prestigious event.



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