

# Press release

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## **Top in-house counsel recognised at the 13th annual Lexology European Counsel Awards in association with the Association of Corporate Counsel.**

London, United Kingdom – Lexology, together with the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC), hosted the 13th annual European Counsel Awards at London’s historic One Great George Street last night. The gala event celebrated the achievements of in-house counsel recognised by their peers as excelling in their chosen fields.

As Steve Leroy, Group General Counsel at United Group and Vice President of the ACC Europe Chapter, explained:

**“The aim of the awards is simple — to find and recognise the best in-house lawyers based in Europe with attributes that really matter in the ever-changing corporate world. This encompasses communication skills, commercial awareness and flair for both leadership and innovation. In essence, it is the ability to add value to one’s company.”**

To identify the winners, the research team conducted in-depth analysis of in-house lawyers and legal departments worldwide, receiving more than 4,000 nominations globally. Respondents were asked to focus on criteria such as effective communication, legal understanding, commercial awareness, depth and strength of team, and management skills. The following awards were presented: Competition, Corporate Tax, Employment, General Commercial, Intellectual Property, Litigation, M&A, Regulatory (Financial and Non-financial), Compliance Innovator of the Year and Rising Star.

Jan Eckert of ZF Friedrichshafen AG was named General Counsel of the Year after receiving multiple individual nominations from colleagues and partners at leading law firms. One respondent enthused:

**“Eckert combines deep substantive knowledge with outstanding business acumen and a willingness to take decisions and responsibility that is remarkable for in-house counsel. He is a trusted advisor.”**

The event sponsors were Baker McKenzie; Bird & Bird LLP; Brown Rudnick LLP; Burness Paull LLP; Dechert LLP; Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP; Gianni Origoni Grippo Cappelli & Partners; Latham & Watkins; Mayer Brown; Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP; Reed Smith; and Slaughter and May.



### **About the ACC**

The ACC is a global legal association that promotes the common professional and business interests of in-house counsel who work for corporations, associations and other private-sector organisations through information, education, networking opportunities and advocacy initiatives. With more than 40,000 members in 85 countries, employed by over 10,000 organisations, the ACC connects its members to the people and resources necessary for both personal and professional growth – By in-house counsel, for in-house counsel.® For more information, visit [www.acc.com](http://www.acc.com) and follow the ACC on Twitter: @ACCinhouse.

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