
CHAMBERS EUROPE 2024

The Leading Lawyers and Law Firms in Europe

Norway





Contents:

Aquaculture and Fisheries p.1280
 Banking & Finance p.1282
 Competition/Antitrust p.1286
 Construction p.1290
 Corporate Compliance & Investigations p.1294
 Corporate/M&A p.1295
 Dispute Resolution p.1301
 Employment p.1305

Energy Oil & Gas p.1309
 Energy Renewables p.1312
 Intellectual Property p.1315
 Real Estate p.1318
 Restructuring/Insolvency p.1323
 Shipping p.1327
 Tax p.1330
 TMT p.1333
 Leading Individuals p.1336

Aquaculture and Fisheries

Aquaculture and Fisheries	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	
Band 2	
SANDS	
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig	
Band 3	
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Bruland Grunde Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	
Espolin Johnson Ida Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	
Paulsen Mons Alfred Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	
Sørgård Bjørn Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	
Band 2	
Mellbye Halfdan SANDS	
Mikkelsen Kenneth Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig	
Band 3	
Duus Arthur Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig	
Fjørtoft Tore Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	
H. Bryde Martin Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	
Lund Andreassen Ole-Martin SANDS	
Staurset Andresen Erik Advokatfirmaet Schjødt AS	
Steffensen Kenneth SANDS	
Up-and-coming individuals	
Andreassen Thomas NORD Advokatfirma (ORL) ♦	
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

Band 1

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind enjoys a top-tier practice that concentrates on the aquaculture industry, handling an impressive range of regulatory and licensing mandates. The law firm additionally provides support in disputes, representing clients against regulatory authorities and the Norwegian state. The team is well placed to advise on development projects in the sector and represents prominent fish farming groups and seafood companies.

Strengths

"The team has broad expertise in the area and provides very short response times."

"The department can cover all fields related to the topic."

"The lawyers are very skilled and have industry knowledge. They offer quick and efficient responses."

"Haavind has good knowledge of the industry."

Notable practitioners

Rising to the top tier, **Ida Espolin Johnson** is a market-leading practitioner who acts on regulatory aquaculture mandates, as well as handling complex commercial and patent litigation proceedings. **Strengths:** *"It is clear that Ida Espolin Johnson has an impressive knowledge of aquaculture in Norway." "Ida is an excellent lawyer in court. She has a great knowledge of the aquaculture industry; she is one of the best in this industry." "She has deep industry knowledge, and is efficient and thorough." "Ida Espolin Johnson is very clever." Top-tier practitioner **Bjørn Sørgård** regularly deals with complex regulatory aspects related to environmental and food safety matters in the seafood industry, with additional experience in contentious mandates, often concerning licensing matters.*

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen is a renowned law firm with a growing focus on aquaculture and fisheries. The team is particularly well reputed for regulatory and licensing matters, and also assists with contentious proceedings, M&A transactions and financing deals. Thommessen represents a variety of clients, including fish farming groups, vessel owners and seafood producers.

Strengths

"The law firm takes a holistic approach and has a long-term focus. The lawyers are solution-oriented and understand the aquaculture industry and the underlying drivers."

"The whole team is very responsive."

"The department's industry insight is helpful."

"Thommessen provides a high-quality service every time. The law firm is always dedicated and effective, aiming for good solutions. The team has long-standing experience and gives excellent advice on a

wide range of different cases."

"Thommessen is a very strong discussion partner. It has a broad and strong team that offers good responsiveness."

Notable practitioners

Market-leading lawyer **Mons Alfred Paulsen** acts on a range of matters, offering particular expertise in transactional mandates. He also handles licence applications and regulatory advice. **Strengths:** *"Mons Alfred Paulsen has good commercial awareness." "Mr Paulsen has the experience and expertise necessary in an industry that is subject to strict and complex regulation, and has a solution-oriented focus. He is always available at short notice, supportive, efficient and clear in his advice." "He is always up to date and service-minded." "Mons' experience from having worked with the aquaculture industry for several decades is unique and highly valued." "He has very strong interpersonal and industry-specific skills, in addition to his legal capabilities."*

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein is a pre-eminent practice handling a range of matters, both in aquaculture and in traditional fisheries. The law firm boasts a strong regulatory practice, and advises clients on complex licensing matters. The team is outstanding in litigious mandates, with additional experience handling criminal investigations relating to violation of animal welfare legislation. The law firm also assists with transactional mandates. Wikborg Rein's client roster includes prominent fish farming and seafood production companies, frequently representing such entities against regulatory and state bodies.

Strengths

"The team has strong breadth and is set up in a smart way, adjusted to the matter. The lawyers are always available."

"Wikborg Rein understands the many aspects of the industry. The lawyers are always quick to respond and understand the commercial concerns of companies."

"The department is strong with respect to response times. It is probably one of the biggest and most reputable teams in Norway."

"Wikborg Rein has the most experienced and skilled team in Norway. It provides quick responses and clear advice, both verbally and in writing."

"The lawyers are always available and service-minded."

Notable practitioners

Grunde Bruland assists with licensing applications, administrative appeals and transactional mandates, as well as boasting strong regulatory experience. **Strengths:** *"Grunde Bruland is well connected and has a commercial mindset."* *"Grunde is one of the best."* *"He has been the country's best lawyer in aquaculture for several years. He knows the industry well and has solid commercial understanding."* **Martin Bryde** enters the rankings for the first time following notable recognition of his regulatory expertise, having previously worked for the Norwegian state. He provides strategic advice concerning future legislation, as well as assisting with license applications. **Strengths:** *"Martin Bryde has a great level of expertise in specific regulatory aquaculture matters."* *"He is efficient, accessible, knowledgeable and clear in his advice."* *"Martin has a solid knowledge of the authority's understanding and enforcement of laws and regulations as well as the political processes within aquaculture."* *"His background from the government is valuable."*

Band 2

SANDS

What the team is known for SANDS has a strong practice assisting clients from both aquaculture and fisheries with regulatory matters in the sector. The team advises on fish breeding permits, R&D permits, production capacity controls and fishing vessel-related topics, such as the transfer of quotas. The law firm demonstrates additional experience in transaction-related matters and contentious proceedings.

Strengths

"Regardless of the field with which you need help, SANDS has lawyers who can handle it."

"The team has experience in all levels of the value chain in aquaculture and fisheries matters."

"The department provides quick responses and has good knowledge of the industry."

"The lawyers are specialised in the key fields and their service level and responsiveness are impressive. They have a good balance between risk and reward in their counselling."

Notable practitioners

Halfdan Mellbye is renowned for his long-standing experience in regulatory mandates, often representing fish farmers and seafood

companies. He also handles contentious matters.

Strengths: *"Halfdan Mellbye provides very good responses to our questions."* **Ole-Martin Lund**

Andreassen acts on matters concerning applications as well as fishing rights. He offers additional experience in handling transactions in the sector. **Strengths:** *"He has strong expertise in the area of aquaculture permits and research licences, and the ability to relate legal aspects to commercial activities in a very good and thoughtful way."* *"Ole-Martin Lund Andreassen is one of Norway's foremost lawyers in catch-based fisheries."* **Kenneth Steffensen** is recognised for his capabilities in procedural law, and is seen acting on contentious matters related to permits.

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a highly reputed team across various offices in Norway. The law firm boasts a strong practice in traditional fisheries as well as the aquaculture sector. The team handles M&A transactions, as well as advising on licences and regulatory issues. The law firm has additional expertise in administrative and commercial disputes in the industry. Simonsen Vogt Wiig's varied client roster includes international fish farming companies, as well as local fishing businesses.

Strengths

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a national team with strong lawyers."

"The law firm has very strong knowledge in fisheries. The lawyers offer a very good service and quick responses."

"The department has the available expertise for most cases and responds to requests quickly."

"The lawyers are hands-on, show rapid responsiveness and are proactive."

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig covers many different fields of law. The team is service-minded and knowledgeable."

Notable practitioners

Kenneth Mikkelsen is recognised by the market for his work in the fishery sphere, where he often assists with contentious mandates, including those concerning fishing quotas. He additionally advises clients on transactional matters and applications for aquaculture and fishing licences.

Strengths: *"Kenneth Mikkelsen is an excellent lawyer with expertise in the field of fisheries."*

"Kenneth is a fishing expert." **Arthur Duus** has extensive expertise in regulatory and contractual matters concerning the sale of smolts as well as the access rights for their production. **Strengths:**

"He is always available, has a strong level of knowledge and is to the point." *"Arthur Duus is always service-minded and gives quick responses."* *"He*

is factual and thoughtful." *"He has a very long-standing practice working within aquaculture and is very service-minded."*

Band 3

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt acts for a range of clients, including domestic and international seafood companies and producers, as well as suppliers, fish farming groups and shipping companies. The law firm assists with regulatory, licensing and contractual matters. The team also handles transactions within the industry, including finance mandates.

Strengths

"Schjødt is a large law firm with a lot of knowledge."

"The team provides quick responses and feedback."

"The practice has a wide range of knowledge in different aspects of the aquaculture business. The lawyers are always available and offer a high service level."

"The team has a good knowledge of the business and government processes."

"The lawyers always respond promptly and provide assistance at short notice. They are well informed about developments in the industry."

Notable practitioners

Tore Fjærtøft enters Band 3 following notable recognition for his expertise in administrative law mandates connected to the aquaculture and fisheries sector. In addition to appeal proceedings related to production licences, he advises clients from the industry on corporate and strategic topics. **Strengths:** *"Tore Fjærtøft is exceptional in administrative law; he is one of the best lawyers in Norway in this area. He gives a lot of added value and precise advice."* **Erik Staurset Andresen** advises clients on licences and permits, application processes and regulatory matters. **Strengths:**

"He offers very good insights into the aquaculture business." *"He is very knowledgeable and skilled in topics related to aquaculture matters."* *"Erik has a strong grasp of industry knowledge and consistently delivers according to agreements."* *"Erik Staurset Andresen is extremely good."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Up-and-coming practitioner **Thomas Andreassen** of NORD Advokatfirma has particular expertise in regulatory matters concerning aquaculture.

Banking & Finance

Banking & Finance	Banking & Finance: Regulatory	Capital Markets: Debt
Leading Firms	Leading Individuals	Leading Firms
Band 1	Band 1	Band 1
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	Hammerich Peter <i>BAHR</i> *	Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Wiersholm	Mydske Tore <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS</i>	Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	Trøbråten Kjersti T <i>Wiersholm</i>	Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 2	Band 2	Band 2
BAHR	Rosén Karl <i>Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS</i>	Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Steinland Bernt Olav <i>Selmer</i>	BAHR
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig	Band 3	Wiersholm
Band 3	Asplin Kasper Formo <i>Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS</i>	Leading Individuals
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS	Nilssen Markus <i>BAHR</i> *	Band 1
Selmer	Wollan Camilla <i>Advokatfirma DLA Piper</i> *	Grette Einar <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS</i>
Band 4		Mortensen Stian Tande <i>Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS</i>
CMS Kluge		Band 2
Advokatfirma DLA Piper		Løhre Vidar <i>Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS</i>
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS		Mansåker Halvor <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS</i>
Senior Statespeople		Mørkve Camilla Skøie <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners		Band 3
Ramm Erik <i>Advokatfirma DLA Piper</i> *		Jensen Christopher A. <i>Selmer</i>
Leading Individuals		Nilssen Markus <i>BAHR</i> *
Band 1		Owesen Alexander W <i>Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS</i>
Gabrielsen Atle <i>Wiersholm</i>		Up-and-coming individuals
Haugstad Hans <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS</i>		Lund Andreas <i>Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS</i>
Mørkve Camilla Skøie <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>		Lyse Snorre <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>
Rasmussen Johan <i>Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS</i>		
Sverdrup Kaare <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>		
Band 2		
Heyerdahl Ellen Teresa <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen</i>		
Simonsen Peter Aall <i>Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt</i>		
Band 3		
Gullåsen Anders <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>		
Kildal Trond <i>Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS</i>		
Klingenberg Halvor <i>Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig</i>		
Nedrelid Audun <i>BAHR</i> *		
Owesen Alexander W <i>Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS</i>		
Band 4		
Christiansen Per Morten <i>Selmer</i>		
Dale Thomas <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>		
Donjem Hans-Christian <i>Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS</i>		
Grøttjord Børge <i>Advokatfirma DLA Piper</i> *		
Hansson Dag Thomas <i>CMS Kluge</i> *		
Moltu Petter Thomren <i>Wiersholm</i>		
Strand Stig <i>Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig</i>		
Windrup Ida Marie <i>BAHR</i> *		
Up-and-coming individuals		
Kinsella Sunniva <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>		
Lund Andreas <i>Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS</i>		
Sporstøl Pia <i>SANDS (ORL) ◇</i>		
Associates to watch		
Leikvang Hedda <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS</i>		
* Indicates individual with profile.		
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.		
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.		

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for The team at Arntzen de Besche is well regarded for its banking and finance capabilities. The lawyers have notable experience handling syndicated loan facilities, acting for both borrowers and lenders. The law firm additionally assists with DCM mandates

involving bond issuances, and is particularly active in transactions involving the oil and gas sector. Its areas of expertise include acquisition finance and corporate finance deals, as well as refinancing matters.

Strengths

"Arntzen de Besche gives solid advice on all matters, always taking commercial considerations into account while ensuring compliance with all relevant laws and regulations."

"The team is very adept at handling complex matters and issues which are out of the ordinary, providing constructive and creative advice."

"The lawyers are always prepared to go the extra mile."

"It is a strong team that is very proactive."

"The lawyers are able to quickly break complex matters into smaller parts with a focus on the key questions that matter."

Work highlights Arntzen de Besche advised Pandion Energy on the increase, amendment and refinancing of its syndicated reserves-based banking facility and its senior unsecured bond issue.

Notable practitioners

Vidar Løhre is highly experienced in bond issuances and often handles mandates from the oil and gas sector. He acts for managers, trustees and issuers, and is knowledgeable in sustainability-linked bonds. His work often entails cross-border elements. **Strengths:** "Vidar Løhre is very knowledgeable, extremely commercial and always available." "He is very precise in his approach, comfortable to work with and has industry knowledge." "He is clever, sharp and effective." "He is legally strong and expeditious." "Vidar has great understanding and a super level of service. His commercial vision is among the best in Oslo. He is always in the market with transactions, which gives him a great understanding of the market and insight into complex matters, and a variety of matters." **Karl Rosén** advises on a range of regulatory issues, from transaction-related mandates and establishing banking entities to frameworks concerning derivatives. **Strengths:** "Karl Rosén provides practical and concrete advice and solutions on how to deal with complex problems." "Karl is very knowledgeable in cross-border financial matters." "Karl quickly understands complex matters and provides accurate advice. He has a high level of expertise and is highly commercial." **Trond Kildal** has considerable experience assisting clients with acquisition finance and debt restructuring matters.

Strengths: "Trond Kildal is very client-friendly and always gives quick feedback. He is responsive and solution-oriented." "Trond understands our needs, is commercially-oriented and is very available and helpful." "He always delivers 100%." "Trond is commercial and very solution-oriented."

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR possesses a highly revered banking and finance department that demonstrates particular acumen in refinancing and restructuring mandates. The team is also well versed in acquisition finance deals. The lawyers additionally exhibit impressive expertise in financial services regulatory matters. The law firm also has notable capabilities in EMTN covered bond programmes.

Strengths

"BAHR has deep knowledge and vast experience in handling complicated case structures."

"The lawyers are committed and self-driven."

"The team has incredibly good commercial insight."

"The team has a unique ability to understand and handle complex and sophisticated matters. It has exceptional bandwidth, with some of the best lawyers in their field who are a joy to work with, even when they are on the other side."

"BAHR offers very good process management and the lawyers are not afraid to push the processes. They are informative and make decisions going forward, demonstrating the proactive nature of their service."

Work highlights BAHR advised Aker BP on an amendment and restatement to its USD3.4 billion corporate revolving credit facility.

Notable practitioners

Peter Hammerich (see p.1340) is a market-leading practitioner advising on a broad range of regulatory topics in the financial services sector, including funds, pensions and asset management.

Strengths: “He is a very strong and commercially oriented lawyer. He has a great perspective.” “He is the number-one, go-to person for fund structuring and finance regulatory matters.” “Peter Hammerich is one of the most experienced and insightful individuals when it comes to private equity in the Norwegian market.” Advancing in the rankings, **Audun Nedrelid** (see p.1343) is well regarded for his banking and finance practice, regularly assisting with corporate and acquisition finance mandates. He advises borrowers on the amendment and refinancing of revolving credit facilities, and has experience in green financing facilities. **Strengths:** “He is solution-oriented and extremely creative.” “Audun is very comfortable to work with.” **Markus Nilssen** (see p.1344) is knowledgeable in financial regulatory mandates, frequently advising covered bond issuers and savings banks on funding and capital requirements. He enters the DCM rankings this year and is notable for his experience in EMTN and GMTN programmes. **Strengths:** “Markus Nilssen provides a very high service level at all times. He is knowledgeable within the relevant areas, with very strong commercial awareness.” “He is strong in bank funding and covered bonds.” “He is very active and visible in the market.” “Markus is skilled and recognised.” **Ida Marie Windrup** (see p.1348) is a new addition to the rankings, with experience in a variety of banking and finance mandates. She regularly advises banks on acquisition finance, project finance and refinance matters, including syndicated and green lending. **Strengths:** “Ida Marie Windrup is very detail-oriented and efficient. She is just a brilliant lawyer.” “She is not only very good at giving off-the-cuff advice but also making good plans to get us closer to the results we want, keeping the communication flowing between the customer and the bank.” “She is very service-minded and provides a positive contribution to the deal team.” “Ida Marie is a good and experienced lawyer.”

CMS Kluge

What the team is known for CMS Kluge represents borrowers and lenders in loan transactions, including syndicated lending. The department has particular experience in real estate, acquisition and corporate finance transactions, often with cross-border elements. The lawyers are also knowledgeable in refinance mandates.

Strengths

“The lawyers are commercially strong and pragmatic, and they understand the customer’s business and the transaction.”

“CMS Kluge offers a very high level of responsiveness and a very good service at all times.”

“The team provides efficient and structured support.”

“The law firm is always available.”

“The team has a high level of knowledge in a broad range of issues and the ability to go deep into matters when needed.”

Work highlights CMS Kluge advised Danske Bank on the provision of finance to Aurora Eiendom for the acquisition of two shopping centres.

Notable practitioners

Dag Thomas Hansson (see p.1341) advises on acquisition and corporate finance transactions. He also has experience in refinancing mandates.

Strengths: “He is very proactive and has a lot of experience and expertise with both smaller and large loan transactions with international and sophisticated elements.” “Dag Thomas Hansson provides a high level of service with strong knowledge and experience. He offers strong support on complex structured deals.” “He is versatile, experienced, very comfortable to work with and very adaptable.” “Dag Thomas offers a great service level and good knowledge.” “He is service-minded and skilled.”

Advokatfirma DLA Piper

What the team is known for DLA Piper’s banking and finance department is active on a range of project finance and real estate finance transactions. The team is also experienced in refinancing mandates. The law firm also advises clients on a range of financial regulatory and compliance issues.

Strengths

“The DLA Piper team has broad experience and deep knowledge in regulatory matters. The lawyers always provide a quick reply.”

Work highlights DLA Piper advised Blue Bidco on security take-up matters related to a dual tranche multicurrency term loan and revolving credit facility agreement.

Notable practitioners

Senior practitioner **Erik Ramm** (see p.1344) assists with a range of financing and refinancing matters in a whole host of industries, including the shipping and energy sectors. **Strengths:** “Erik Ramm is very efficient in his work and very prompt.” “He is a very experienced and skilled financing lawyer.” “Erik is very pragmatic and skilled.” **Camilla Wollan** (see p.1348) assists fintech and startup companies with financial regulatory compliance topics, as well as application processes with the Norwegian Financial Supervisory Authority. **Strengths:** “Camilla Wollan has broad experience within the various aspects of Norwegian capital markets and finance legislation.” Head of department **Børge Grøttjord** (see p.1340) frequently assists clients with acquisition and real estate finance transactions, as well as refinancing matters. **Strengths:** “He has good attention to detail and offers a high level of responsiveness.”

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for The team at Haavind frequently advises on project, acquisition and real estate finance transactions, as well as refinancing mandates. The department is also knowledgeable in regulatory matters, assisting financial institutions with a range of compliance topics.

Strengths

“The practice has a good understanding of what we need and how we work.”

“Haavind has a strong team that is solution-oriented, well known and easy to work with.”

“Haavind handles complex legal issues in a pragmatic and solution-oriented manner. It provides specific advice that can easily be put to use by the business. The team is broadly composed and has specialists who complement each other. The team has a good response time and an excellent level of service.”

“It’s a strong team that offers very high-quality work.”

“The lawyers have experience in complicated matters and are solution-oriented. They have good availability and no problem handling tight deadlines.”

Work highlights Haavind assisted Aider Konsern with obtaining a bond loan and a super senior revolving credit facility.

Notable practitioners

Kasper Formo Asplin advises financial institutions on a range of compliance and transaction-related mandates. **Strengths:** “Kasper Formo Asplin provides an excellent level of service. He understands our business, and challenges us to new thinking.” “Kasper is commercially oriented and delivers efficiently.” “He is skilled in AML and regulatory questions. He knows this area well and is a commercial lawyer.” “He has good knowledge in regulatory issues and AIFM.” **Hans-Christian Donjem** advises on acquisition and project finance deals as well as refinancing mandates. **Strengths:** “Hans-Christian provides really good-quality banking advice.” “Hans-Christian Donjem has strong industry knowledge and a commercial mindset, always finding creative and practical solutions to complex legal and financial challenges.” “He is good in terms of timelines and an overview of transactions. He is very structured.” “He is always easy to work with, commercial, calm and a good discussion partner.”

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt is highly regarded for its strength in domestic and cross-border banking and finance mandates, acting for both lenders and borrowers. The department advises on loan agreements relating to acquisition finance, project finance and ship finance mandates, as well as refinancing matters. The law firm also possesses market-leading expertise in DCM transactions, representing issuers, managers and trustees in the issuance of bonds and notes.

Strengths

“The team is proactive, on the ball and provides good advice when we need it.”

“The partners have deep experience within their fields. They are always responsive and within reasonable timelines, and have a very good commercial understanding of our business.”

“It is a very good team in ship finance at partner level and associate level. The law firm is always good at including young and skilled lawyers, and there is good access to partners. The lawyers respond quickly and provide good suggestions and input.”

“Schjødt are very forward-leaning, proactive, and understand what the client is concerned about and adapts to their needs. The law firm is a good discussion partner. The team is very good on the commercial side, but balanced with the legal side.”

“The lawyers are always available, very positive and service-minded.”

Work highlights Schjødt advised on the establishment of the fund Pareto Alternative Investments.

Notable practitioners

Widely recognised for her banking and finance practice, including DCM mandates, **Camilla Skøie Mørkve** often acts for borrowers on ship finance and acquisition finance transactions.

She is also knowledgeable in refinancing matters. **Strengths:** “She is incredibly hard-working and a really good negotiator.” “Camilla Skøie Mørkve is highly recommended.” “She is a fantastic adviser.” “She is incredibly diligent, very structured, knows how a bank thinks and has a great work capacity.” **Kaare Sverdrup** is highly regarded for his banking and finance practice. He represents lenders and borrowers in a range of mandates, with particular activity in acquisition finance transactions. **Strengths:** “Kaare Sverdrup is a very knowledgeable lawyer who knows the industry.” “He has very longstanding experience and reflects on his advice.” **Anders Gullåsen** is active on acquisition finance transactions and restructuring mandates. He often acts for clients from the shipping sector. **Strengths:** “Anders Gullåsen is a commercial and pragmatic lawyer who looks for good solutions and is realistic.” The Bergen-based **Thomas Dale** is experienced in project finance and acquisition finance mandates, in addition to refinancing matters. He acts for borrowers and lenders, including syndicates. **Strengths:** “Thomas Dale has broad knowledge in the field.” **Sunniva Kinsella** is well regarded as an up-and-coming practitioner in the field of banking and finance. She assists banks with bilateral and syndicated lending that pertains to project finance and ship finance transactions. She joined Schjødt from Simonsen Vogt Wiig in February 2024. **Strengths:** “She has an eye for detail, understands the important items that banks want to see reflected in loan agreements and always finds a good balance between pushing back and giving away items that are less relevant. She is extremely responsive, fast, diligent and always in the know.” “She is very service-minded with high commercial awareness.” “Sunniva delivers top quality in all projects.” “She is very effective, to the point and takes a commercial view.” “Sunniva Kinsella is very good: efficient and commercial.” The up-and-coming **Snorre Lyse** acts for managers and issuers on senior unsecured and high-yield bond transactions. He has experience in green and convertible bonds, as well as debt restructuring mandates. **Strengths:** “He is knowledgeable about the market, commercial and has a broad market coverage.” “Snorre Lyse is very commercial.”

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer’s banking and finance team advises lenders and borrowers on a range of banking and finance mandates, often in the shipping and real estate sectors. The practice is particularly active in acquisition and LBO finance transactions. It also handles refinancing matters.

Strengths

“The lawyers at Selmer know what is important and have a good balance between legal and commercial considerations.”

“The law firm is very experienced in all areas and responds very promptly.”

“It’s a good team to work with.”

“The lawyers provide strong commercial and juridical advice, and are fast and helpful.”

“The lawyers are able to corroborate with other

team members who may be specialists in different areas, and they are up to date with the commercial trends in their areas.”

Work highlights Selmer assisted Danske Bank and SEB with arranging a new revolving credit facility agreement with Watrium.

Notable practitioners

Bernt Olav Steinland has considerable experience advising financial institutions on regulatory requirements, including capital markets and transaction-related mandates. **Strengths:** “Bernt Olav Steinland is highly skilled and has extensive expertise. He is good at providing strategic input and sharing updates on regulatory framework issues and other matters relevant to the business.” “He provides strong and solid advice on regulatory matters in the financial sector.”

Christopher Jensen frequently acts for issuers and arrangers on bond issuances. He has notable experience in green and sustainability-linked bonds. **Strengths:** “Christopher Jensen is very knowledgeable and easy to work with.” “He is commercially skilled and very service-minded.” “Christopher Jensen is responsive.” “Christopher is efficient and always on time.” **Per Morten Christiansen** advises on acquisition and LBO finance mandates, as well as refinancing matters. **Strengths:** “Per Morten Christiansen is very experienced, sensible and proactive.” “He has a very good name in the market and is a very comfortable person to work with. He is proactive and has enough experience and guts to give very clear and good advice.” “Per Morten is skilled.”

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig has an impressive banking and finance department, frequently acting for lenders on bilateral and syndicated loans. The team handles a broad range of domestic and cross-border finance mandates, with particular expertise in ship finance and project finance. The lawyers also demonstrate expertise in the aviation sector.

Strengths

“Simonsen Vogt Wiig offers constructive and innovative solutions for difficult problems.”

“The team are always on top of things, available and service-minded.”

“The lawyers respond right away.”

“The law firm has a large and experienced banking and financing team, based both in Oslo and Bergen. It uses small teams and focuses on partner attention, which is always preferable.”

“Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a team of experienced and knowledgeable lawyers.”

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig advised Hima Seafood Rjukan on the project finance for a land-based aquaculture project.

Notable practitioners

Peter Aall Simonsen represents lenders in bilateral and syndicated loan agreements. He frequently acts on transactions in the shipping and energy sectors. **Strengths:** “Peter Aall Simonsen is very commercial, has a very good understanding and can give advice in a good way. He is strong in renewable energy and is also good within traditional banking and finance.” “Peter is always immediately on top of things. He is well informed and tries to find a solution rather than focusing on the problem.” **Halvor Klingenberg** assists lenders and

borrowers with various finance mandates, often with cross-border elements. He has particular experience in project finance deals in the energy sector. **Strengths:** “Halvor Klingenberg is very service-minded and capable in all aspects of debt financing. He is the kind of lawyer you can call whenever you have a question and you always get the right type of answer.” “He is always able to provide sound legal advice on both general and case-specific issues.” Based in Kristiansand, **Stig Strand** is new to the rankings this year. He advises lenders and borrowers on a range of matters, including project, corporate and ship finance. **Strengths:** “Stig Strand is a great person to work with. He has a high level of service, commercial awareness and sophistication, and he is solution-oriented.” “Stig has an unbelievable working capacity.”

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen is a leading law firm in the banking and finance market, assisting clients with the full scope of mandates. The department often represents lenders, including syndicates, in high-value domestic and cross-border matters. Its expertise entails acquisition finance as well as refinancing and restructuring deals. The law firm also enjoys top-tier prowess in DCM transactions, acting for issuers and financial institutions on the listing of bonds and notes. The lawyers additionally offer outstanding knowledge in regulatory topics.

Strengths

“Thommessen is very good at combining the craft; the department is good technically and has a big team, but it is commercial as well.”

“Thommessen provides impeccable legal and commercial advice. The lawyers are easy to access and provide timely feedback.”

“Thommessen is absolutely a leading team, without a doubt. It has the biggest and broadest team, and handles the most matters.”

“The law firm has the capacity to handle matters quickly and efficiently.”

“The lawyers are skilled and good at thinking through complex issues and finding solutions.”

Work highlights Thommessen advised Oaktree Capital on the refinancing of Golden Energy Offshore Services.

Notable practitioners

Einar Grette is a leading practitioner in the Norwegian DCM market. He frequently acts for investment banks on bond issuances, including sustainability-linked bonds. **Strengths:** “Einar is very skilled. He is clearly leading in his field in Norway. He is a very experienced, solution-oriented and proactive lawyer.” “Einar Grette is a fantastic lawyer who is great to work with.” “He is experienced and has worked in this market his whole career. He knows the different market players and where to call to solve something. He has a practical approach to problems.” “He is extremely responsive.” “Mr Grette always shows great commercial awareness.” **Hans Haugstad** is lauded as a top-tier practitioner in the banking and finance arena. He is highly experienced in acquisition finance matters, where he often represents lender syndicates.

Strengths: “Hans is a top-qualified and well-experienced lawyer with a high level of commercial understanding. He is pragmatic, solution-oriented

and very efficient. He is also pleasant to work with." "Hans Haugstad is number one in banking and financing." "He is skilled, responsive, solution-oriented and available." "He is amazing at banking and finance. He is very diligent and incredibly detail-oriented." "Hans Haugstad is a very pragmatic lawyer who is very commercial and solution-oriented."

Tore Mydske is revered for his outstanding regulatory practice. He is knowledgeable in matters connected to bank mergers as well as issues pertaining to the insurance sector. **Strengths:** "Tore Mydske is perhaps the lawyer with the best understanding of financial regulation in Norway, both in terms of content as well as the process by which it is developed and adjusted." "Tore Mydske is extremely knowledgeable and pleasant to work with." "Tore is a top lawyer and strategic adviser."

"He is one of the most skilled lawyers in financial regulatory law." **Ellen Teresa Heyerdahl** heads the department and frequently acts for lenders on high-value and cross-border mandates, with particular activity in refinancing matters. **Strengths:** "Ellen Teresa Heyerdahl is academically strong, has a good commercial sense and is easy to communicate with. She has a good understanding of the needs of both banks and borrowers." "Ellen is a hard-working and well-experienced lawyer who is very pleasant to work with. She is able to deliver both high-quality legal and strategic advice as well as being able to consider and understand the commercial side and possible risks." "She is very pleasant to work with and solution-oriented." "She is a trusted adviser and a joy to work with."

Halvor Mansåker is well regarded for his knowledge in DCM matters. He assists managers, bookrunners, trustees and issuers with the listing of bonds and notes, including high-yield and sustainability-linked bonds. **Strengths:** "Halvor Mansåker is experienced and very good at what he does. He has a good control of transactions." "Halvor comes up with good solutions." "He is a very sharp lawyer who does an excellent job." "He has very good, detailed knowledge of the bonds market." "He always demonstrates impressive execution and efficiency."

Hedda Leikvang joins the rankings as an associate-to-watch following outstanding plaudits for her impressive and growing practice. She often assists lenders, including syndicates, with acquisition finance transactions. **Strengths:** "Hedda Leikvang is an impressive talent in large and complex loan transactions. She is very structured and knowledgeable." "She is a skilled lawyer who is very responsive and pleasant to work with." "She is fully in control of everything. She is hard-working and polite, and has lots of knowledge – very impressive." "Hedda is very skilled and is good at managing the project, making sure that everything gets done." "She is conscientious and skilled, and very good at leading meetings and negotiations with the counterparty."

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm's market-leading banking and finance department is noted for its ability to handle complex and cross-border mandates. The team assists banks and borrowers with bridge, acquisition and corporate finance deals, as well as refinance matters. Wiersholm also has a notable debt capital markets

group, regularly acting for issuers on the listing of bonds. The team also advises on updating EMTN programmes.

Strengths

"Wiersholm are very efficient at finding pragmatic solutions for both borrowers and lenders."

"The team are service-minded, proactive and comfortable to work with."

"Wiersholm has an experienced team with the breadth to handle debt-related risks. The lawyers are swift and proactive."

"Wiersholm provides an excellent service, and the team went above and beyond."

"The practice is a very trusted and knowledgeable adviser that delivers what it promises."

Work highlights Wiersholm assisted NorSea with the refinancing of its main credit facility.

Notable practitioners

Advancing to the top tier, **Atle Gabrielsen** frequently acts for lenders on a broad array of mandates, with particular expertise in acquisition and bridge finance deals. He is noted for his activity in finance transactions involving the energy sector.

Strengths: "Atle Gabrielsen is very knowledgeable and hands-on. He is one of the best in banking and finance." "His deliverables are beyond expectation, precise and on time." "He has in-depth knowledge in complex financing agreements, a practical approach and a high level of service." "His service level is exceptional and he has strong and comprehensive knowledge." "Atle Gabrielsen is one of the best in Norway." **Kjersti Trøbråten** continues to be a leader in the field, assisting financial institutions and insurance companies with complex regulatory mandates, including licensing matters and M&A within the finance sector. **Strengths:** "Kjersti Trøbråten is outstanding. She is the lawyer you want as your adviser for regulatory issues and dealing with the authority." Progressing in the rankings,

Petter Thomren Moltu represents lenders and borrowers in acquisition finance deals. He advises on term loans, capex facilities and revolving credit facilities. **Strengths:** "He is very hands-on and does very well on the commercial side." "Petter is good at understanding the transaction and the task quickly. He asks good questions and is quick and efficient when there is something to do." "He is tidy, on the ball and a pleasant guy to work with." "Petter Thomren Moltu offers a high level of service. He is commercial while making sure our interests are protected." "He is a problem solver who knows the industry."

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein receives acclaim for its banking and finance practice, advising borrowers and lenders on a broad range of mandates. The department is particularly knowledgeable in acquisition and corporate finance deals, as well as refinancing matters. The law firm also exhibits market-leading capabilities in DCM transactions, regularly acting for financial institutions on bond issuances.

Strengths

"Wikborg Rein is a well-established law firm that has had a strong position in this market for the last 50 years."

"The law firm is very quick to deliver, and with high quality."

"Wikborg Rein can handle transactions that involve several jurisdictions and complex structures very efficiently. The lawyers are very solution-driven and commercially aware."

"The law firm is very responsive and is able to deliver at short notice."

"Wikborg Rein is very strong in acquisition financing and DCM."

Work highlights Wikborg Rein assisted REQ Alternative Investments with the structuring and formation of the alternative investment fund REQ Fund 1.

Notable practitioners

Stian Tande Mortensen advances to the top tier of the rankings following outstanding recognition for his expertise in the DCM sphere. He frequently acts for financial institutions on high-value and cross-border bond issuances. **Strengths:** "Stian Tande Mortensen is solution-oriented and quickly understands complex situations." "He is fantastic: he's very skilled, incredibly good at giving clear advice and has a very good understanding of the balancing between the commercial, financial and legal." "He gets transactions completed, often under very high time pressure." "He has market-leading knowledge of all things related to the Nordic bond market." "Stian is solution-driven and keeps the commercial aspects high on the agenda." **Johan Rasmussen** is a highly recognised expert in the banking and finance market. He regularly assists lenders with acquisition, ship and real estate finance transactions, and is well versed advising agents on refinance mandates.

Strengths: "Johan is an excellent lawyer and offers a very strong level of service, sophistication and commercial awareness." "He is one of the most experienced lawyers in Norway. He is very strong – a good adviser and discussion partner." "He is a very hands-on lawyer who always delivers and is always available." "He is an experienced transactional lawyer who is very solution-oriented."

"Johan Rasmussen is very knowledgeable." **Alexander Ovesen** continues to be well regarded for his banking and finance practice, often acting for lenders on acquisition finance transactions. He is also known for his DCM knowledge, with experience representing financial institutions in bond issuances. **Strengths:** "Alexander Ovesen must be one of the most commercial lawyers in Norway. He immediately goes for commercial solutions, and is good at making things simple and not complicated. He is very pragmatic." "His service level is among the strongest in the industry. He handles the most complex structures and settings, and he is always eager to find the best solution." "Alexander has an understanding of the banking and finance side. This combination between bonds and financing is very important in the Norwegian market." "He is very up to speed." "He is very versatile across products and offers high quality." **Andreas Lund** further establishes his presence as an up-and-coming practitioner in the banking and finance market. He assists borrowers and lenders with acquisition finance, corporate finance and refinance mandates, and has additional experience in bond issuances. **Strengths:** "Andreas Lund is very conscientious and service-minded." "He is a very skilled up-and-coming lawyer who is very service-minded and willing to go the extra mile. He is also very

calm, balanced and very comfortable to deal with.” “Andreas can handle any level of complexity.” “He is very pragmatic and commercial, and doesn’t make stuff unnecessarily complicated.” “He is particularly skilled at the loan elements of bond issues and handling cross-border closings.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

New to the rankings, **Pia Sporstøl** leads the banking and finance department at SANDS. She represents alternative lenders in a range of financing and refinancing mandates, including convertible loans and syndicated lending. Her work often has cross-border aspects, and fre-

quently involves African jurisdictions.

Strengths:

“Pia has great experience and knowledge within the industry of banking and finance, and she provides excellent advice.”

“Pia Sporstøl is very good and gives precise feedback.”

Competition/Antitrust

Competition/Antitrust	Competition/Antitrust
Leading Firms	Public Procurement
Band 1	Leading Firms
BAHR	Band 1
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS
Band 2	Wiersholm
Wiersholm	Band 2
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Band 3	Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS	Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	Band 3
Kvale Advokatfirma DA	Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS
Band 4	Advokatfirmaet Grette AS
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Selmer	Leading Individuals
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig	Band 1
Leading Individuals	Fjellheim Goud Helge Homme Advokatfirmaet Haavind
Band 1	Goller Morten Wiersholm
Stemshaug Helge BAHR *	Band 2
Størdal Håkon Cosma Wiersholm	Amdal Gro Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Teigum Siri Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	Dragsten Marianne H Vaar Advokat AS (ORL) ◇
Band 2	Gulsvik Alf Amund CMS Kluge *
Klevstrand Simen Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	Band 3
Magnussen Mads Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	Andersen Arne Torsten BAHR *
Solberg Stein Ove Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS	Bakken Espen I Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Sundet Beret BAHR *	Braadland Marie Advokatfirmaet Grette AS
Valla Kristin Hjelmaas Kvale Advokatfirma DA *	Fløisand Åshild SANDS (ORL) ◇
Vesterkjær Eivind Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	Hesjedal Sending Anne Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Band 3	Hovelsen Vera Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS
Kolstad Olav Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Lund Robert Kvale Advokatfirma DA *
Langseth Jan Magne Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt	Melson Christina Paludan Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Terje Tveit Svein Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS	Naalsund Thomas G Wiersholm
Torgersen Ole-Andreas Selmer	Thue Anders Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Band 4	Trygstad Kristian Jåtog Advokatfirmaet (ORL) ◇
Alterskjær Bjørnar CMS Kluge *	Ullebust Silje Grimseth Advokatfirmaet Grette AS
Sæveraas Eivind Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	Up-and-coming individuals
Sando Thomas SANDS (ORL) ◇	Buan Anne CMS Kluge *
Stemsrud Odd Advokatfirmaet Grette AS	Oddbjørnsen Stian Hultin CMS Kluge *
Syrdal Monica Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS (ORL) ◇ *	Sædal Wenche Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Up-and-coming individuals	Associates to watch
Haugsdal Elisabeth Lian Wiersholm	Hellenes Ekre Oda Wiersholm
Jorkjend Heidi Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	
Nordling Henrik CMS Kluge *	
Thorbjørnsen Preben Milde Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma	

* Indicates individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Arntzen de Besche's procurement team moves up in the rankings this year following positive referee feedback. The

team has broad experience in procurement mandates, handling both contentious and non-contentious mandates for both public sector clients and construction companies. The law firm is also active on competition law matters, advising clients on merger clearance notifications, including phase II proceedings, as well as representing them in market inquiries, behavioural investigations, damages actions and state aid litigation.

Strengths

“The team is dedicated and efficient, with good business and industry understanding.”

“We are very satisfied with the knowledge offered by the team. Matters are always resolved in a satisfactory manner.”

“The team is flexible and commercial.”

“The lawyers are always on time and are eager to go the extra mile to solve the case for us.”

“The team is able to explain complex matters in an understandable manner.”

Work highlights Arntzen de Besche assisted the municipality of Grong with the procurement aspects of a project to combine the 'blue light services' in one building.

Notable practitioners

Gro Amdal advises public sector clients and construction companies on contentious and non-contentious public procurement mandates.

Strengths: “Gro Amdal did an excellent job for us.”

“We couldn't have asked for more. It was a great collaboration and perfect help.” “She was effective and hands-on at all time in the processes.”

Stein Ove Solberg often acts for clients on merger clearance mandates, including phase II investigations. In addition, he represents clients in high-profile sector investigations and damages actions.

Strengths: “He is very charismatic and personable, and also has that commercial acumen.”

“Stein Ove Solberg knows our business extremely well and is very on top of things, which is very good for us.”

“He is interested and very concerned that we have a good and open relationship, so he is easy to cooperate with and there is an open dialogue.”

Svein Terje Tveit assists clients with state aid disputes and merger control filings. He also represents clients in Norwegian Competition Authority sector inquiries and behavioural investigations.

Strengths: “He is on the ball and gives practical advice.” “He has a practical approach and good

communication skills. He is also efficient, friendly and proactive." "He quickly understands the complexity of the case, is sophisticated and has the ability to have the right commercial awareness on our behalf." "Svein Terje Tveit has strong expertise and competence. He is always service-minded and we enjoy working with him as a person."

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR continues to be widely regarded as having one of the leading competition law practices in Norway. The team is particularly well known for its ability to advise on high-value, multi-jurisdictional merger clearance filings, including those requiring a phase II investigation. The law firm is also strong in behavioural matters, representing clients in Norwegian Competition Authority (NCA) investigations and market inquiries, as well as leniency applications. Team members have further experience in state aid matters and contentious and non-contentious public procurement mandates. BAHR's prestigious clientele stems from a range of sectors, including energy and retail, as well as state-owned companies.

Strengths

"BAHR was able to draw on just the right local resources immediately, in addition to having very good EU competition law insight itself."

"The BAHR competition law team are highly knowledgeable of all relevant developments both on a national and a European level. They deliver tailor-made and ready-to-use advice based on their in-depth knowledge of our business."

Work highlights BAHR represented REMA 1000 in challenges to NCA decisions following its 'price hunter' investigation into the Norwegian grocery sector.

Notable practitioners

Helge Stemshaug (see p.1346) is highly regarded in the Norwegian market for his broad practice, which covers advising clients on merger clearance notifications and representing them in sector inquiries and leniency applications.

Strengths: "He is knowledgeable and easy to work with." "Helge Stemshaug is good at getting mergers through." "Helge Stemshaug is very experienced and has a very good overview of the case law. He is a very good lawyer." "He is one of the best for merger control."

Beret Sundet (see p.1346) is particularly noted for her ability to handle multi-jurisdictional merger clearance filings, including advising clients on phase II proceedings. She further represents clients in investigations into alleged abuses of dominance and in state aid matters. **Strengths:** "I know Beret Sundet has a broad knowledge in competition issues, so she can take that into account when advising." "We appreciate her insight into competition issues across Europe, and her understanding of processes and exactly where the limits lie and the possibilities are, and she is able to deliver these with significant authority when dealing with clients." **Arne Torsten Andersen** (see p.1337) often assists public sector clients with compliance with public procurement regulations. He also represents clients as both plaintiffs and defendants in challenges to procurement decisions. **Strengths:** "He is very knowledgeable, always on time and brings a good

perspective. Whenever we have procurement issues in Norway I would go to Arne."

CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for CMS Kluge offers a highly respected public procurement team that is a popular choice with public sector clients. The law firm represents government organisations and local municipalities in every step of high-profile procurement mandates from the initial contracts through to challenges to award decisions. It also has experience acting for bidders as plaintiffs in contentious mandates. Team members offer further expertise in competition law matters, particularly state aid issues.

Strengths

"The team recognises the objective and has the necessary knowledge and overview to pinpoint the details that need investigation."

"CMS has a large and extremely competent team which handles complex and sophisticated procurement matters in an excellent way."

"In my opinion the team is the best in Norway on state aid."

"The team are flexible and quick, and deadlines are met."

"CMS demonstrate a deep understanding of the nuances involved, and their commitment to achieving the best possible results for clients is truly impressive."

Work highlights CMS Kluge advised the Norwegian Coastal Administration on the procurement of a ship tunnel at Stadt and the procurement of a new harbour.

Notable practitioners

Alf Amund Gulsvik (see p.1340) assists government bodies and municipalities with the procurement aspects of large projects. He also has experience in contentious matters. **Strengths:**

"Alf Amund Gulsvik is an excellent lawyer who gives expert opinions. He is also very service-minded and quick to respond." "He represent his clients in the best possible way. He is very eloquent and polite."

"He is extremely well prepared and has in-depth knowledge in the case."

Bjørnar Alterskjær (see p.1337) is particularly known for advising Norwegian municipalities on state aid matters.

Strengths: "Bjørnar Alterskjær is a strong name for state aid matters." "He is skilled and experienced, and dives deep into the client's world to understand their reality and needs."

Anne Buan (see p.1338) enters the rankings this year following strong feedback from the market. She offers experience acting for both plaintiffs and contracting bodies on award reviews, as well as assisting with non-contentious mandates. **Strengths:** "It is a true pleasure to work with her and I would recommend Anne Buan without a doubt to anyone in need of support for public procurement."

"Anne is pragmatic, easy to collaborate with and solution-oriented." "Her legal skills and dedication are truly impressive."

Henrik Nordling (see p.1344) advises clients on state aid matters and merger filings, including phase II investigations. He also assists with the competition law compliance of joint venture agreements. **Strengths:** "He is absolutely a lawyer you can count on to go the extra mile for his clients."

"Henrik Nordling is very good. I think he is very pragmatic and strategically good." **Stian**

Hultin Oddbjørnsen (see p.1344) often assists clients with public procurement projects in the transport sector. He assists with the full life-cycle of procurement matters, from contract preparation to challenges against contract awards.

Strengths: "Stian Hultin Oddbjørnsen is very easy to relate to, very accommodating and provides clear advice that it is possible to relate to in practice." "He really understands the client's business and he always make us his priority."

Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS

What the team is known for Advokatfirmaet Føyen is particularly active advising municipalities and other public sector clients on procurement processes, including drafting contracts and requests for tenders. The law firm additionally represents clients in challenges and award reviews.

Strengths

"The team always responds quickly to our calls or emails, and tasks are always done within agreed timeframes."

"It's always pleasant to discuss our issues with the team, and we find that the lawyers go the extra mile when things get hectic."

Work highlights Føyen assisted Norwegian Nuclear Decommissioning with procurement proceedings to decommission two nuclear reactors.

Notable practitioners

Vera Hovelsen frequently assists municipalities and other public sector clients with procurement proceedings, including advising on the preparation of tender documents. **Strengths:** "She can adapt the advice to our issues."

Advokatfirmaet Grette AS

What the team is known for The procurement team at Grette is well versed in handling a broad array of mandates, often advising on large public transportation procurements. Tender procedures and framework agreements are also handled by the team, as are complex complaint proceedings. Grette further convinces with its expertise in large-scale PPP projects concerning the infrastructure sector. In addition to its expertise in the Norwegian procurement world, Grette also houses team members with experience in competition compliance matters, allowing for the comprehensive handling of mandates.

Strengths

"The team provides thorough analyses before decisions are made jointly with us."

"The team answers swiftly and on the right level."

"The team are very analytical, and fast in finding solutions."

"The lawyers are good at catching the tactical aspects quickly."

Work highlights Grette represented Johnson & Johnson in a dispute concerning a tender to provide cancer treatment.

Notable practitioners

Marie Braadland enters the rankings this year on the back of strong activity for clients from the health sector, particularly representing them in injunction proceedings. She also has experience advising clients on procurement competitions in the transport sector. **Strengths:** "She is always available and smart, and is always hunting for

good solutions.” “She is a very visible voice within the world of procurement.” **Silje Grimseth Ullebust** often assists contracting authorities with public procurement competitions, particularly in the transport sector. She also has experience representing clients in procurement disputes. **Strengths:** “Silje has deep and detailed knowledge that she combines with a good overview of the case she is working on.” **Odd Stemsrud** has a particular focus on assisting clients with competition compliance matters. **Strengths:** “He is always engaged, knowledgeable and provides sound, practical advice.”

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Advokatfirmaet Haavind is active in both public procurement and competition law matters. The law firm assists clients with every stage of procurement processes, including tendering and award decision reviews. It is notably active in proceedings involving the healthcare, technology, defence and transportation sectors, often acting for public sector clients. The team also assists clients with obtaining competition law clearance for proposed mergers, and represents them in competition authority investigations and follow-on damages actions.

Strengths

“We have been exceptionally pleased with the service, competence and swift actions.”

“It is a very knowledgeable team that carries out a thorough review and supplements the theme with more experts where necessary.”

“The lawyers are always very service-minded and we get an immediate response when we contact them for legal matters.”

“Haavind has excellent lawyers who can handle our complex and sophisticated matters in the best possible way.”

“Haavind has indeed delivered very high-quality work on the competition law issues.”

Work highlights Haavind represented Statens Vegvesen before the Supreme Court in a dispute concerning the annulment of deadlines following a possible breach of Construction Client Regulations.

Notable practitioners

Goud Helge Homme Fjellheim is highly esteemed for his ability to helping contracting authorities with public procurement processes in the transport, IT and healthcare sectors. He also offers notable experience in interim injunction cases.

Strengths: “Goud Helge Homme Fjellheim is always service-minded and acts quickly when we need expert advice on complex matters.” “He represents us in the best possible way in trials as he is well prepared and eloquent. He also makes sure that we as a client are well prepared.” “He’s very skilled and very knowledgeable about public procurement regulations so it’s very easy to pick up the phone and call him. He always has a good answer and has a good feeling for regulations and law. He knows when we need to investigate further.” “He’s good at thinking from a commercial perspective.” **Simen Klevstrand** particularly assists clients with merger control filings and foreign direct investment notifications. He also has experience in Norwegian Competition Authority requests for information and in high-profile follow-on damages actions.

Strengths: “Simen Klevstrand is a knowledgeable and skilled competition lawyer. He is thorough and makes great efforts to understand and contribute to complex economic assessments and evidence.” “Simen is generally positive and easy to work with. He is also good at demonstrating that he is attentive and responsive to input from the client.” “He is highly skilled in all aspects of competition law and has extremely good availability.” **Anne Hesjedal Sending** enters the rankings based on her work defending contracting parties in public procurement disputes. A number of her recent mandates have involved technology projects. **Strengths:** “She is very knowledgeable, with a good overview of the case. She is also very accessible and provided an excellent court performance.” “She offers excellent legal and strategic advice with a high level of integrity.” “Her assessment for us of our case has been strong, being both realistic but also identifying the legal case and arguments.” **Christina Paludan Melson** enters the rankings this year on the back of impressive activity in non-contentious procurement matters involving the healthcare, transportation and defence industries. **Strengths:** “Christina Paludan Melson is very service-minded. She acts quickly and gives us expert opinions on complex matters.” “She has deep fundamental knowledge of public procurement in Norway and, most importantly, the ability to translate this into clear strategic and risk-based advice with a commercial touch.”

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale Advokatfirma moves up in the rankings based on impressive market feedback. The law firm has a strong presence in behavioural mandates, representing clients in significant investigations and follow-on damages actions. It also advises on merger clearance notifications, state aid mandates and competition law compliance. Team members are also able to act on public procurement mandates.

Strengths

“The team always delivers good work within the time limits.”

“The lawyers are very responsive.”

“The team has excellent competence and capacity.”

“They deliver within short deadlines.”

“The lawyers are service-minded and it’s a pleasure to work with them.”

Work highlights Kvale advised the Norwegian Railway Directorate on state aid issues.

Notable practitioners

Kristin Hjelmaas Valla (see p.1348) has a broad competition law practice that covers both behavioural investigations and follow-on damages actions, as well as merger control filings and competition law compliance. **Strengths:** “She is always available, provides a deep insight into competition law and is always calm.” “I would choose Kristin Hjelmaas Valla again if we needed to. She is very knowledgeable.” “She demonstrates a good commercial understanding.” **Robert Lund** (see p.1343) assists clients with contentious public procurement mandates. **Strengths:** “He always delivers on time, and with sincere advice on how we should act in the specific challenges.” “We have received quick and good assistance from Robert Lund in matters of procurement law and contract law.” “He is an excellent litigator.”

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt’s competition team often assists clients with obtaining competition law approval for corporate transactions, including phase II proceedings. The law firm also advises clients on antitrust matters before the Norwegian and European authorities, including cartel investigations, abuse of dominance allegations and market inquiries. The team additionally assists with competition compliance matters.

Strengths

“What was impressive is that the firm had a lot of resources and it seemed like the departments worked well across disciplines.”

“The team are clear, concise and knowledgeable.”

“The lawyers are quite strategic, think outside the box and give very good insight.”

“Schjødt offers excellent, tailored and value-added legal advice on time.”

“We are very happy with Schjødt’s strong legal understanding and straightforward and no-nonsense advice.”

Work highlights Schjødt advised Axxess Logistics on the Norwegian Competition Authority’s phase II investigation into its proposed acquisition of Auto Transport Service.

Notable practitioners

Olav Kolstad is active on a range of competition law matters, advising clients on merger control filings, including phase II investigations, as well as behavioural investigations and challenges to authority decisions. **Strengths:** “He manages to explain things in an easy way.”

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer advises clients on merger clearance mandates, often acting for clients from the banking industry. In addition, the law firm represents clients in investigations into allegations of abuses of dominance and cartel involvement, as well as assisting with damages actions. It also acts on competition compliance matters, including in respect to the compliance of distribution agreements.

Strengths

“The lawyers show a strong understanding of the commercial aspects of cases and include this in advice and assessments.”

“It is a strong team with broad knowledge.”

“The team offer quick response times and are very service-minded.”

“We have a well-established business relationship with Selmer and have always had the experience of being a prioritised client.”

Work highlights Selmer defended Daimler in a damages action following the European Commission’s decision in its trucks cartel investigation.

Notable practitioners

Ole-Andreas Torgersen has a strong focus on assisting clients with merger clearance filings. In addition, he has experience in abuse of dominance investigations and follow-on damages actions, as well as advising clients on the compliance aspects of their distribution strategies. He is a popular choice with clients from the financial services industry. **Strengths:** “Ole-Andreas Torgersen provides precise and practical advice, showing strong commercial awareness and a focus on finding solutions.” “He provides sophisticated

and to-the-point assessments and advice in a timely and efficient manner.”

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig is active on both contentious and non-contentious procurement matters and has experience acting for both bidders and public sector clients. The law firm often handles large IT services, healthcare and transportation sector procurement matters. It also has experience in competition law, representing clients in a range of behavioural investigations, including sector inquiries, and follow-on damages class actions. The team offers further expertise in merger clearance notifications and competition compliance mandates.

Strengths

“The team manages in a good way to turn complex legal problems into practical action.”

“The company always delivers on time and has good availability.”

“It is a very deep and broad organisation with many competent employees.”

“The team provides a high level of understanding of client needs for support and advice.”

“The lawyers are able to understand complex technology matters.”

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig advised Helseplattformen on the procurement of a new system for patient journals and patient administration.

Notable practitioners

Espen Bakken acts on both contentious and non-contentious procurement mandates, representing bidders in complaints and advising contracting parties on tender competitions.

Strengths: *“Espen is a very competent and skilled resource.” “Espen Bakken is very focused with high competence and understanding of our cases.”*

“Espen is a service-oriented and highly skilled lawyer.” “He is fantastic in court and went deep into the case. He is really good at dialling into the case quickly, and he is clever and understands the case and products well.” “He is very knowledgeable and doesn’t waste my time. When I send a question he responds immediately. He is very to the point.”

Jan Magne Langseth assists clients with abuse of dominance and cartel investigations, as well as representing them in class action damages claims. He also has experience in merger control filings and sector inquiries. **Anders Thue** advises contracting parties on tender processes, often in the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** *“He is very sharp, competent and quick.” “He has very good awareness regarding commercial issues.” “Anders Thue is easy to work with and very responsive.”*

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Advokatfirmaet Thommessen maintains its position as one of the top competition law firms in Norway. The team is highly esteemed for its work before the Norwegian Competition Authority (NCA), representing clients in behavioural investigations and market inquiries. In addition, it assists clients with challenges to significant authority decisions before the Supreme Court and with high-profile follow-on damages actions. The law firm also offers

notable activity in merger clearance notifications. Team members have experience in both contentious and non-contentious public procurement mandates, often in the healthcare and transportation sectors.

Strengths

“It is a strong and efficient team with in-depth knowledge.”

“Advokatfirmaet Thommessen has been the market leader for many years, it has an excellent team.”

“Thommessen has a strong team and highly skilled partners who handle complex matters in a good way.”

“The team offers a high level of expertise, and the lawyers are very experienced in what they do.”

“The firm is responsive and good at balancing the team.”

Work highlights Advokatfirmaet Thommessen represented Gyldendal in a challenge to a fine imposed by the NCA following an investigation into an alleged cartel in the publishing industry.

Notable practitioners

Siri Teigum remains one of the leading competition law experts in Norway on the back of his strong behavioural practice. She has notable experience representing clients in NCA investigations, as well as in challenges to decisions or compliance with remedies. She is also highly regarded for her ability to act in high-profile follow-on damages actions. **Strengths:** *“She is very sharp and a strong strategic adviser.” “Siri Teigum is outstanding within competition law.” “She is known as the best in Norway.” “She always gives strong advice and good responsiveness.”* **Eivind Vesterkjær** regularly advises clients on merger control filings. He has further experience in NCA investigations and competition law compliance matters. **Strengths:**

“We benefit a lot from his experience.” “He has an in-depth knowledge of our business, and is efficient and delivers on time.” “He is a very good commercial lawyer who is good at dealing with clients, authorities and counterparties.” **Eivind Sæveraas** represents clients in investigations into allegations of exchanges of information. **Strengths:** *“He is an excellent competition lawyer.”* **Heidi Jorkjend** enters the rankings this year on the back of positive feedback and her work advising clients on merger clearance notifications. **Strengths:** *“She is talented.” “She provides the highest level of legal expertise, an astonishing overview of relevant case law and extraordinary work capacity.”* **Wenche Sædal** frequently acts for contracting authorities on public procurement disputes. She additionally advises bidders on preparing tender documents. She has a number of clients from the transport and healthcare industries. **Strengths:** *“She’s very competent within her area of expertise and is very easy to get in touch with.”*

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm remains one of the best law firms in Norway for public procurement matters. It is a popular choice for contentious matters, often acting for plaintiffs or intervenors on damages actions, injunctions and award reviews. The team is also strong in non-contentious matters for both bidders and authorities, assisting with tender processes. The law firm is additionally active on competition law matters,

representing clients in behavioural and market investigations, as well as in follow-on damages actions. The team further advises on merger clearance notifications and state aid mandates.

Strengths

“What has impressed me is that the team are pragmatic, practical in their advice, able to find solutions you can work with in practice, and willing to stick their necks out and give practical advice.”

“There is an excellent depth and breadth of team, from partners to associates.”

“The team is quick in response.”

“The team has a keen eye for detail in complex matters.”

“The firm has one of the most competent public procurement departments in Norway.”

Work highlights Wiersholm represented Every-Matrix Software in a damages action alleging unlawful exclusion from a tender procedure conducted by Norsk Tipping.

Notable practitioners

Morten Goller stands out for representing plaintiffs and third-party intervenors in contentious procurement matters, including before the Supreme Court. He often advises on damages actions and interim injunctions. He also assists public bodies and consortiums with tender processes and procurement competitions. **Strengths:** *“Morten Goller has an extraordinary knowledge and understanding of all aspects of the public procurement rules and the practical sides of both the tendering process and the procurement process.” “He shows great knowledge of the client’s business and always understands the need of the client.” “His expertise within the discipline of public procurement is second to none.” “He is always to the point, responsive and able to give practical advice to complex legal issues.”*

“In addition to his extraordinary legal skills, he is a very nice person and easy to get along with.” **Håkon Cosma Størdal** enters the top tier of the rankings this year on the back of his broad activity in competition law. He has notable experience in merger clearance filings, behavioural investigations, significant sector inquiries and high-profile damages actions. **Strengths:** *“Håkon Cosma Størdal has a good overview of case law and a good understanding of economics. He is friendly and good to work with. He respects what we say and has got through cases that were hard to win.” “He is strategically very good, with a keen eye for anticipating the views of the authorities.” “Håkon displays remarkable proficiency, sound judgment, and an unwavering commitment to achieving the best outcomes for his clients.”*

“For mergers he is fantastic.” **Thomas Naalsund** often acts for bidders and third-party intervenors in contentious procurement cases. He also advises contractors on public procurement tenders. **Strengths:** *“He understands the client and the client’s business, and his advice is always excellent.”*

“Thomas Naalsund is easy to get along with and is one of our preferred lawyers within public procurement.” “He is easy to work with and has a good understanding of our business.” **Elisabeth Lian Haugsdal** moves up in the rankings following her involvement in high-profile follow-on damages actions. She offers further experience in merger clearance filings and state aid matters. **Strengths:** *“Elisabeth is knowledgeable and pragmatic, and provides a high service level.” “She offers strong support and good*

knowledge on EU competition law.” **Oda Hellenes Ekre** enters the rankings on the back of assisting clients with several contentious public procurement cases, including damages claims and challenges to award decisions. She additionally assists consortiums with tender processes. **Strengths:** “She has excellent knowledge and understanding of all aspects of the public procurement rules and regulations. She also has excellent understanding of the client’s business and always puts the client’s interest first.” “She is efficient, and her advice is always excellent and well founded. When you combine her legal skills with her kind personality, you have a winner.” “She is dedicated to her work and will always follow up a request.”

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma offers clients a broad competition law practice. It is particularly active in behavioural matters, representing clients in investigations and market inquiries, as well as damages actions. In addition, it assists with merger clearance notifications and the compliance aspects of agreements. In addition to its competition law practice, the law firm also assists contracting authorities with procurement processes and represents bidders in injunction proceedings.

Strengths

“The team is able to develop more effective strategies for the clients and find new angles to legal argumentation, leading to better results for the client.”

“The team was very service-minded and responsive, with extremely quick turnaround times and quality service.”

“The team is very capable and commercial.”

“We are very pleased with the team supporting us. The lawyers are very practical, knowledgeable and solution-oriented, so it is a pleasure to work with them.”

“The cooperation has been outstanding. The team has been involved in the project, giving first-hand recommendations and really helping along the way.”

Work highlights Wikborg Rein defended Norges-Gruppen in the Norwegian Competition Authority’s investigation into the grocery sector.

Notable practitioners

Mads Magnussen has a broad competition law practice that encompasses merger control filings and behavioural investigations, as well as follow-on damages actions. **Strengths:** “Mads Magnussen is a lawyer who provides the highest level of expertise in the field.” “A particular strength of his is his dedication to understanding the client’s business, their needs and every aspect of the case and translating this understanding into effective legal strategies.” **Preben Milde Thorbjørnsen** represents clients in sector inquiries and appeals against competition law fines. He also assists clients with the competition law compliance aspects of commercial agreements. **Strengths:** “Preben Milde Thorbjørnsen delivers, understands us and is available when we need him. He gives solid legal advice without making things bigger than they need to be.” “Preben Milde Thorbjørnsen has done an excellent job as our adviser in a complex competition case.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Marianne Dragsten of Vaar Advokat AS assists contracting authorities with tender processes, as well as representing bidders in award review proceedings.

Strengths:

“She has managed to solve problems before they went too far.”

“She is quick and responsive.”

“She is very skilled and she responds quickly.”

“She has extensive knowledge of procurement law challenges.”

Åshild Fløisand of SANDS has a broad practice representing both bidders and public sector clients in contentious and non-contentious public procurement mandates.

Strengths:

“She is knowledgeable, nice, quick, thorough and gives very good advice.”

“She has very good knowledge and expertise in the area.”

“She is always on the ball and responds quickly, so we feel taken care of.”

Thomas Sando of SANDS assists clients with merger clearance notifications and with the competition law compliance aspects of commercial agreements.

Strengths:

“Thomas Sando understands our business and our needs. It is very comfortable for us to work with him when new cases come up.”

“He is attentive and good at understanding the issues.”

Monica Syrdal (see p.1347) of Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS has a broad competition law practice that covers behavioural investigations and challenges to Norwegian Competition Authority decisions, as well as merger control cases and competition law compliance, particularly with respect to distribution strategies.

Strengths:

“She sees the whole picture and has been a very good help.”

“She is available, on top of things and always prepared.”

“She is very pleasant to work with and knowledgeable, with a good ability to evaluate situations, and makes timely and good suggestions.”

Kristian Jåtog Trygstad of Advokatfirmaet Mageli ANS often acts for municipalities and other public sector clients on contentious public procurement mandates, frequently involving projects in the IT and healthcare sectors.

Strengths:

“He is well recognised in the market, very clever and knowledgeable.”

“He will always go the extra mile for his clients.”

Construction

Band 1

CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for CMS Kluge houses a distinguished practice recognised for its prowess in construction disputes. The team is adept at assisting clients with final settlements, disruption claims, ground conditions and building defects. CMS Kluge advises an enviable list of private companies and public entities on projects in the infrastructure, transport and leisure sectors.

Strengths

“The lawyers’ advice on strategic matters is unique,

and they can go deep into the details in complex issues.”

“The practitioners are quick, proactive and eager to take up discussions, guiding and streamlining decision-making processes and providing an exhaustive analysis.”

“The lawyers are very hands-on and efficient, and provide good advice.”

“The team invests a lot of time to understand the problem.”

Work highlights CMS Kluge defended MMB in a dispute against Hamar Municipality relating to alleged defects in the rehabilitation and construc-

tion works at the Ankerskogen public baths and waterpark.

Notable practitioners

Espen Nyland (see p.1344) comes highly recommended for his expertise across a wide range of construction mandates. He frequently assists with disputes and claims, with particular experience in cases relating to final accounts, cause of delay and building defects. He also advises on the execution and operation of development projects. **Strengths:** “Espen Nyland has an exceptional technical understanding.” “He invests time in understanding the case and all of its difficulties. He

Construction
Leading Firms
Band 1
CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Band 2
BAHR
Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS
Wiersholm
Band 3
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirma DLA Piper
Advokatfirmaet Grette AS
Selmer
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 4
Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS
SANDS
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Band 5
Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Barbo Jan Einar BAHR *
Engesæth Arne Advokatfirma DLA Piper *
Harris Sam E BAHR *
Pettersson Nils-Henrik Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS
Svarva Helge M Wiersholm
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Johansen Johnny Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Band 2
Bjørnvik Arve Martin Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Bull Jacob F Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Lund Ronny Wiersholm
Nyland Espen CMS Kluge *
Nyland Lars Ivar CMS Kluge *
Skage Arild CMS Kluge *
Vagle Peter Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS
Band 3
Fuglesang Mads Hoffmann Selmer
Holstrøm Erlend W Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Solheim Aron Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS
Band 4
Borgen Marius Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS
Brodtkorb Hans Christian Advokatfirma DLA Piper *
Brøndmo Mikal Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Egeberg Marius Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Gullhaug Grethe CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS *
Hunnskaar Are Advokatfirma DLA Piper *
Knudsen Knud Jacob Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt
Komissar Sofie Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS *
Meyer-Myklestad Johannes Selmer
Myhre Anders Advokatfirmaet Grette AS
Nordtvedt Henning Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Rostveit Andreas Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Up-and-coming individuals
Delvik Asbjørn Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS
Heimdal Stian Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Maartmann-Moe Wenche Arntzen de Besche
Neraal Helge Advokatfirma DLA Piper *
* Indicates individual with profile.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

is smart and gets results.” “Espen provides excellent advice on all legal matters that are important to us.” Advancing in the rankings, **Lars Ivar Nyland** (see p.1344) is regularly seen advising clients on final account and building defect disputes, including mediation proceedings. **Strengths:** “Lars Ivar Nyland is a very strong and skilled lawyer with a solid practice.” “He is an incredible asset to the litigation team due to his outstanding knowledge and strategy.” “Lars Ivar Nyland tries to find solutions.” “He is hard-working and solves the most complex issues by gaining a full command of the details.” **Arild Skage** (see p.1345) continues to offer a noteworthy practice assisting construction companies with disputes, as well as advising state-owned entities on construction mandates. He boasts particular expertise in infrastructure cases. **Strengths:** “Arild Skage provides excellent advice.” “He is a very good procedural lawyer.” The Stavanger-based **Grethe Gullhaug** (see p.1340) offers a noteworthy practice advising on infrastructure construction projects as well as representing clients in final settlement disputes.

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind has a pre-eminent practice offering expertise in a range of construction matters. The law firm advises on projects in a wide variety of sectors, with a particular focus on the infrastructure and energy industries. Haavind assists with litigation and arbitration cases concerning final settlement issues, damage compensation, disruption claims and the termination of contracts. The law firm mostly represents employers and clients such as municipalities, state-owned entities, energy companies and transport operators.

Strengths

“Haavind shows an impressive ability to understand a case and dive into the details and strategy.”

“The team’s methods for preparing a case before the trial is excellent.”

“It is a full-service law firm with everything from associates to partners, and can therefore adapt to the task.”

“Haavind is among the very best in the area and the size of its team and volume of work attests to this.”

Notable practitioners

Market-leading partner **Johnny Johansen** continues to act for clients on a wide array of construction disputes, particularly relating to large infrastructure projects. **Strengths:** “Johnny Johansen is one of the best construction lawyers in Norway.” “He is a brilliant legal counsel.” “He is able to grasp the central issues and extract the key elements of a case, providing useful advice.” “He is extremely good at communicating difficult things in an easy way.” **Arve Martin Bjørnvik** plays a key role advising clients on delay and disruption claims in construction, representing both public entities and private companies. He also assists with the development of construction projects. **Strengths:** “Arve Martin Bjørnvik is an efficient lawyer who is very commercially aware.” “His client service is impeccable and he is clearly a specialist in construction law in Norway.” “He always delivers work of the highest quality, exhibiting very strong knowledge and experience.” **Mikal Brøndmo** offers a solid practice advising clients on project develop-

ment, construction litigation and arbitration proceedings relating to large infrastructure projects, including railways. **Strengths:** “Mikal Brøndmo is a knowledgeable and skilled lawyer.” “He offers a very good client service, as well as a strong commercial awareness.” **Sofie Komissar** (see p.1342) continues to rise in the rankings after eliciting notable market praise. She regularly assists developers and site owners with construction projects, as well as representing clients in final accounts and damage disputes. **Strengths:** “Sofie Komissar is very clear and direct, and doesn’t sugarcoat anything.” “She is always well prepared and has a deep knowledge of the relevant issues in the field.” “She provides very good and useful advice.” **Henning Nordtvedt** acts for public authorities, including many instructions from the Norwegian Public Road Administration. He also represents companies in large infrastructure construction. **Strengths:** “Henning Nordtvedt is a very strong construction practitioner who offers great legal and strategic advice on very complex cases.” **Andreas Rostveit** is well placed to assist public authorities with construction disputes, particularly in infrastructure projects. **Strengths:** “Andreas Rostveit is clear-headed, analytical and experienced.” “He is thorough with his advice and it is very nice to work with him.”

Band 2

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR has a highly regarded team often acting on contentious construction matters. The practice frequently assists with disputes relating to delays, defects and final accounts. BAHR’s team is knowledgeable in mandates involving the energy, retail and infrastructure sectors, including railway projects. The client roster of the law firm includes public bodies, property developers and construction companies.

Strengths

“BAHR’s adeptness in handling complex and sophisticated matters is unparalleled.”

“The depth and breadth of the team is exceptional. It has a diverse array of skilled lawyers who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience from various facets of their domain.”

Work highlights BAHR assisted AVA Eiendom with the construction of Kirkegata 23 25, which will be wholly leased to Kristiania University College.

Notable practitioners

Jan Einar Barbo (see p.1337) is a seasoned practitioner who is highly respected for his practice assisting clients with contentious mandates as well as contract drafting and negotiations. His client roster includes construction and retail companies and state-owned entities. Senior statesperson **Sam Harris** (see p.1341) continues to be esteemed for his experience acting on construction disputes, particularly damages claims. **Strengths:** “Sam Harris is an excellent lawyer who has a very strong commercial awareness.”

Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS

What the team is known for Glittertind is an established boutique with a strong reputation in

the construction arena. The law firm is adept in contentious proceedings, often handling claims relating to final accounts and settlements as well as delays and disruption. Glittertind also assists with the review of construction contracts. The law firm's clients include international and domestic contractors and developers, including joint operations and ventures. Glittertind has particular experience in energy and infrastructure projects.

Strengths

"Glittertind has a team of highly skilled litigation lawyers who are down to earth and get to the point."
"The construction team isn't afraid to challenge the client's position to help them understand all aspects of a case."
"The law firm has an experienced team that is able to understand complex and technical issues."

Work highlights Glittertind represented EBA in a construction dispute before the Supreme Court related to the interpretation of the Norwegian standard form construction contract NS 8407 section 35.2 (b).

Notable practitioners
Nils-Henrik Pettersson continues to be a highly esteemed lawyer who acts for domestic and international construction companies on contentious mandates. He boasts noteworthy experience handling infrastructure mandates. **Strengths:** *"Nils-Henrik Pettersson offers a great level of service. He understands all aspects of a case and can easily identify the issues in a matter."* **He is a brilliant lawyer who continues to be active handling construction cases."** **Peter Vagle** is well placed to represent contractors in payment disputes. He is also frequently seen acting on hydroelectric power plant construction mandates. **Strengths:** *"Peter Vagle has extensive experience in the construction area. He is able to provide the best advice."* **He is always available and his advice is excellent."** **Aron Solheim** continues to offer a solid practice representing clients in construction disputes relating to roads, motorways and power plants. **Strengths:** *"Aron Solheim is an excellent lawyer who has a very good work capacity and an in-depth knowledge of the field."* **He is a very skilled partner."** **Marius Borgen** is frequently seen acting for construction companies on contract disputes involving high-value infrastructure projects. **Strengths:** *"Marius Borgen has good insight into the field, and is very oriented towards client service."* Up-and-coming partner **Asbjørn Dølvik** joins the rankings this year after receiving strong market praise for his experience in the construction field. He is well placed to represent clients in disputes related to final accounts, the interpretation of fundamental terms and risk allocation. **Strengths:** *"Asbjørn Dølvik has a very good commercial understanding, which allows him to offer good operational legal advice."*

Notable practitioners

Wiersholm
What the team is known for Wiersholm is regularly instructed on mandates pertaining to construction and public procurement-related issues. The team represents contractors, engineering companies and municipalities in cases concerning final account and defective work claims, as well as contract requirements. Wiersholm offers notable capability in infrastructure projects, as well as

assisting with developments in the energy sector.

Strengths

"Wiersholm is a notable law firm with a very strong construction disputes practice."
"The lawyers offer a good overview of complex cases as well as quick and clear advice."

Work highlights Wiersholm advised Skanska on its tender to the Norwegian government for the construction and operation of the new E10/Rv. 85 highway PPP project.

Notable practitioners

Seasoned practitioner **Helge Svarva** is recognised for his longstanding construction disputes practice. He is experienced handling arbitration and mediation proceedings. **Ronny Lund** boasts extensive experience acting on disputes related to final accounts, payments and defects. He is also well placed to handle mediations, representing clients who want to settle construction disputes.

Band 3

Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Arntzen de Besche handles a range of construction matters, acting for state-owned companies and private clients. The lawyers have experience assisting with roads, hospitals and energy infrastructure construction mandates. Arntzen de Besche also boasts expertise in cross-border litigation and arbitration proceedings.

Strengths

"Arntzen de Besche has a strong and service-minded team with practical business experience in the area."
"The law firm has a team of excellent lawyers with expertise in construction law. It has in-depth knowledge of the construction industry, which allows the lawyers to get to the core of an issue quickly."

Work highlights Arntzen de Besche advised Biokraft on the establishment of a 25 million cubic metre liquid biogas plant in Skogn.

Notable practitioners
Up-and-coming partner **Stian Heimdal** continues to offer a strong construction practice, regularly advising clients on developments and disputes. **Strengths:** *"Stian Heimdal has valuable and practical insight into the construction business that enables him to efficiently provide practical advice."* *"He has excellent legal skills, as well as an extraordinary understanding of the construction industry, which is of great value to his clients."* **He is efficient and his advice is always excellent and well founded."** **Wenche Maartmann-Moe** enters the rankings this year after eliciting notable praise from interviewees. She is adept at assisting state-owned companies and private clients with roads, hospitals and energy infrastructure construction mandates, as well as disputes. **Strengths:** *"Wenche Maartmann-Moe is analytical, prepared and skilled."* *"She is reflective and able to provide a good overview and perspective of the case."*

Notable practitioners

Advokatfirma DLA Piper
What the team is known for DLA Piper houses a prominent team offering a wide spectrum of construction expertise. The team advises on construction contracts as well as PPP and tender documents. DLA Piper is additionally proficient in contentious issues, including final settlements, building costs and professional liability claims. The law firm has experience in mediation and arbitration proceedings. DLA Piper is frequently involved in infrastructure and energy construction projects. The law firm utilises its international network to assist with cross-border mandates.

Advokatfirmaet Grette AS

What the team is known for Grette offers a substantial construction practice assisting private and state-owned clients with a range of matters. The team advises on final settlement and contract termination disputes as well as claims relating to delays and defects. Grette also assists with the drafting and negotiation of contracts. The law firm is regularly instructed by both domestic and international entities in energy projects and infrastructure developments, including procurement procedures and PPP matters.

Strengths
"Grette has a good grasp of cases and a high degree of flexibility."
"The team is outstanding."
Work highlights Grette represented HENT in a dispute against Frogn Municipality related to the construction of a new swimming facility and the rehabilitation of a sports hall.

Notable practitioners
Anders Myhre is frequently seen representing clients in a range of disputes, including contract

construction contracts as well as PPP and tender documents. DLA Piper is additionally proficient in contentious issues, including final settlements, building costs and professional liability claims. The law firm has experience in mediation and arbitration proceedings. DLA Piper is frequently involved in infrastructure and energy construction projects. The law firm utilises its international network to assist with cross-border mandates.

Strengths

"DLA Piper offers efficient and proactive support in the construction business."
"The team is always up to date regarding the industry and our business."

Work highlights DLA Piper represented Sichuan Road & Bridge Group in a final settlement dispute against subcontractor Shanghai Zhenhua Heavy Industries in relation to the Beitstadsund bridge project.

Notable practitioners
Senior statesperson **Arne Engesæth** (see p.1339) is renowned for his longstanding presence in Norway's construction industry. He regularly acts as mediator and arbitrator in construction disputes. **Strengths:** *"Arne Engesæth has a very strong level of client service and finds the core issues in a case very quickly."* **Hans Christian Brodtkorb** (see p.1338) is well placed to represent clients in contentious and non-contentious construction cases, often relating to tunnels and bridges. **Strengths:** *"Hans Christian Brodtkorb is a good lawyer who is capable of understanding the market."* **Are Hunskaar** (see p.1342) continues to assist clients with contentious construction matters, including professional liability claims relating to building defects and design errors. Head of department **Helge Neraal** (see p.1343) joins the rankings this year off the back of strong client feedback. He regularly assists contractors, developers and construction advisers on a wide range of construction matters, including litigation. **Strengths:** *"Helge Neraal provides prompt and detailed feedback."* *"He is efficient, understands that things need to happen quickly and has a broad knowledge of the market."*

Advokatfirmaet Grette AS
What the team is known for Grette offers a substantial construction practice assisting private and state-owned clients with a range of matters. The team advises on final settlement and contract termination disputes as well as claims relating to delays and defects. Grette also assists with the drafting and negotiation of contracts. The law firm is regularly instructed by both domestic and international entities in energy projects and infrastructure developments, including procurement procedures and PPP matters.

Strengths
"Grette has a good grasp of cases and a high degree of flexibility."
"The team is outstanding."

Work highlights Grette represented HENT in a dispute against Frogn Municipality related to the construction of a new swimming facility and the rehabilitation of a sports hall.

Notable practitioners
Anders Myhre is frequently seen representing clients in a range of disputes, including contract

construction contracts as well as PPP and tender documents. DLA Piper is additionally proficient in contentious issues, including final settlements, building costs and professional liability claims. The law firm has experience in mediation and arbitration proceedings. DLA Piper is frequently involved in infrastructure and energy construction projects. The law firm utilises its international network to assist with cross-border mandates.

Strengths
"DLA Piper offers efficient and proactive support in the construction business."
"The team is always up to date regarding the industry and our business."

Work highlights DLA Piper represented Sichuan Road & Bridge Group in a final settlement dispute against subcontractor Shanghai Zhenhua Heavy Industries in relation to the Beitstadsund bridge project.

Notable practitioners
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Advokatfirmaet Grette AS
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Strengths
"Grette has a good grasp of cases and a high degree of flexibility."
"The team is outstanding."

Work highlights Grette represented HENT in a dispute against Frogn Municipality related to the construction of a new swimming facility and the rehabilitation of a sports hall.

Notable practitioners
Anders Myhre is frequently seen representing clients in a range of disputes, including contract

terminations, delays and overrunning costs.

Strengths: “Anders Myhre is an effective lawyer with a strong commercial awareness.”

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer has a solid team advising on construction disputes pertaining to alleged defects and delays. The team also assists with public procurement and tender procedures. Selmer acts for a range of market participants on projects involving retail, office and infrastructure developments.

Strengths

“Selmer has excellent lawyers who can see the big picture and the small details.”

“The law firm provides advice of the highest class.”

Work highlights Selmer advised Møller on the development of the old Deichmanske city library in Oslo.

Notable practitioners

Mads Hoffmann Fuglesang rises in the rankings this year after receiving extensive praise for his construction practice. He is frequently seen assisting clients with transport infrastructure mandates, including railway projects. **Strengths:** “He is pleasant and accommodating, and understands our needs very quickly.” **Johannes Meyer-Myklestad** enters the rankings for the first time this year after eliciting notable market praise for his expertise handling a range of contentious and non-contentious construction issues. He is adept at handling construction disputes pertaining to alleged delays and final accounts. He is also well placed to assist clients with large-scale real estate projects. **Strengths:** “Johannes Meyer-Myklestad is an extremely clever lawyer who is highly efficient when assessing complex situations.” “In addition to his extensive commercial, contractual and legal knowledge of the industry, he has quickly learned so much about our business that he is able to act as an adviser to us in many areas.” “We especially appreciate his ability to seek practical solutions with his clients.”

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein's team assists with a range of construction law mandates, with particular experience in contentious proceedings. The practice handles disputes often related to final account claims. Wikborg Rein also advises on the drafting and negotiating of construction contracts. Its expertise extends to energy, infrastructure and building development projects. The law firm's impressive client roster includes major construction companies and municipalities.

Strengths

“Wikborg Rein boasts a team with strong depth and breadth across project structuring, organisation, stakeholder management and the execution of well-defined strategies.”

“The team's service level and responsiveness is outstanding.”

Work highlights Wikborg Rein acted for Base Property on the construction of Knud Holms gate 8 in Stavanger.

Notable practitioners

Marius Egeberg continues to garner extensive market praise for his expertise handling a range

of contentious and non-contentious cases. He is well placed to assist clients with the development of projects and also represents them in disputes. **Strengths:** “He is a very knowledgeable lawyer who is good at balancing arguments from both sides, offering a measured approach.” “Marius Egeberg provides an exceptional level of service, sophistication and commercial awareness.”

Band 4

Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS

What the team is known for Føyen has a notable practice frequently instructed in construction disputes relating to final settlement and disruption cases, ground condition claims, design faults and delays. The team also assists with the preparation of construction contracts, including procurement and PPP mandates. Føyen has considerable experience in road and infrastructure development projects.

Strengths

“Føyen's team is composed of both young and experienced lawyers.”

“The lawyers understand our challenges, quickly get into cases and offer good advice.”

Work highlights Føyen represented the Municipality of Lørenskog in a GBP5.7 million dispute with Trygge Barnehager related to the construction of Steinerud barnehage.

Notable practitioners

Stede Georg Nilsen is a key contact for clients.

SANDS

What the team is known for SANDS's construction team advises on a range of large infrastructure, transportation and energy projects, offering strategic advice on construction contract drafting and negotiations. The practice also handles contentious matters such as final account and settlement disputes, including arbitration proceedings. SANDS benefits from regional offices throughout Norway to offer substantial local expertise.

Strengths

“SANDS provides a team of lawyers that is able to handle any query and utilise not only the expertise of their partners, but also the input and knowledge from their senior staff and associates.”

Work highlights SANDS represented Frogn Municipality in a dispute against HENT regarding the termination of a construction agreement for the building of a water park.

Notable practitioners

Alf Johan Knag heads the department and is a key point of contact.

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt acts on contentious construction mandates relating to final accounts and contract termination disputes. The team is experienced in both litigation and arbitration proceedings. Schjødt's areas of expertise include residential and office buildings, as well as infrastructure projects.

Strengths

“Schjødt provides the best experience in all aspects.”

“The lawyers' knowledge and skills are out-

standing.”

Work highlights Schjødt represented KF Entreprenør in a dispute with the local government of Oslo concerning the final settlement of an EPC project.

Notable practitioners

Erlend Holstrøm has a strong practice advising clients on construction disputes relating to final accounts and contract terminations. **Strengths:** “Erlend Holstrøm is skilled and experienced, and has a strong understanding and insight into the construction industry.”

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Advancing in the rankings, Thommessen has vast experience handling matters relating to developments and construction disputes. The law firm advises high-profile clients on contracts and related negotiations as well as tender documents. Its expertise includes infrastructure, energy and transportation mandates.

Strengths

“Thommessen offers extensive knowledge of the legal frameworks and strategic legal advice, combined with balanced contract proposals.”

“The team has the depth and breadth to understand complex matters and provide high-quality advice.”

Work highlights Thommessen represented Vestland County Municipality in a dispute against contractor X Anlegg concerning the final account following three road construction projects.

Notable practitioners

Jacob Bull continues to rise in the rankings after eliciting strong praise from interviewees. He regularly assists clients with the development of energy infrastructure, including offshore projects. He is also active in arbitration and mediation proceedings. **Strengths:** “Jacob Bull is brilliant.” “He is experienced, knows the technical field and understands the context of the projects.” “He's pragmatic, finds practical solutions and has a commercial mindset.”

Band 5

Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS

What the team is known for Hjort's team is active in construction litigation and arbitration proceedings, with disputes relating to final settlement claims and building defects. The practice has experience in infrastructure construction projects, as well as developments in the retail and education sectors. Hjort acts for a range of clients, including municipalities and developers.

Strengths

“Hjort offers a great client service, always focusing on the client's needs.”

“The law firm has specialist expertise advising on property and construction mandates.”

Notable practitioners

Aslak Førde is the key client contact at the law firm.

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a broad construction practice including both contentious and non-contentious matters. The

lawyers handle disputes relating to design faults and defects, as well as final settlements. The law firm further handles contract drafting and follow-ups, and is also experienced in development work.

Strengths

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a team of lawyers who are able to handle complex matters."

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig represented Tromsø Vind and Raudfjell Vind in a dispute

against Risa concerning the infrastructure and turbine foundations in Kvittfjell Wind Park and Raudfjell Wind Park.

Notable practitioners

Knud Jacob Knudsen is frequently seen representing domestic clients in construction litigation pertaining to building defects, ground conditions and payments. **Strengths:** *"Knud Jacob Knudsen offers a very strong client service."*

Corporate Compliance & Investigations

Corporate Compliance & Investigations	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Wiersholm	
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	
Band 2	
BAHR	
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	
Selmer	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Brandt Thomas Steen Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	
Sviggum Geir Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	
Band 2	
Abusdal Engebretsen Georg Wiersholm	
Munthe-Kaas Hugo Advokatfirma DLA Piper (ORL) ♦ *	
Roscher Elisabeth Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	
Skridshol Nicolai SANDS (ORL) ♦	
Band 3	
Helsingeng Anne Bull (ORL) ♦ *	
Smørdal Morten P Bahr *	
Up-and-coming individuals	
Luterbacher Annina Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	
Vigmostad Tine Elisabeth Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma	
Associates to watch	
Bogen Helene Wiersholm	
* Indicates individual with profile.	
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

Band 1

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm boasts a market-leading practice providing a range of support in ESG and compliance matters. The law firm advises domestic and international companies on implementing compliance policies, including anti-money laundering topics, risk assessments and regulatory guidance. It also advises clients on investigations, including on compliance breaches and trade practices, as well as whistle-blower channels.

Strengths

"The team is highly skilled and its advice is to the point. It understands the client's needs and always provides added value."

"The team has good knowledge of the applicable laws and delivers good and sound advice on solu-

tions and follow-up."

Notable practitioners

Georg Abusdal Engebretsen acts on a broad range of compliance programmes and investigations, including whistle-blowing, breaches of labour law and regulatory requirements. He further advises on sanctions issues and ESG measures. **Strengths:** *"Georg Abusdal Engebretsen is highly skilled, always available and provides added value for the client." "He has a good understanding of matters and the implications they have for the client."* Senior associate **Helene Bogen** joins the rankings this year following notable market recognition. She is well equipped to assist with environmental investigations as well as anti-corruption, whistle-blowing and sanctions measures. **Strengths:** *"Helene Bogen is service-minded and knowledgeable." "Helene Bogen offers quick responses, a high service level and a good understanding of the subject."*

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein has a top-tier practice acting on all aspects of compliance, including sanctions and trade control, anti-corruption and money laundering and whistle-blowing. The law firm supports a diverse client base of public bodies and corporations on day-to-day compliance adherence, as well as internal and external investigations. The team is frequently highlighted for its international and cross-border expertise.

Strengths

"The lawyers are always very approachable, pleasant, quick and responsive."

"The team provides on-point and academically strong deliverables, and also has a strong commercial awareness."

Notable practitioners

Geir Sviggum advises clients on matters relating to complex crisis management, anti-corruption, export control and sanctions. He frequently acts on cross-border matters. **Strengths:** *"He has a lot of experience and gives good and business-related advice." "Geir Sviggum is clever and sophisticated and has good communication skills. He offers a high service level and strong intellectual capacity."*

Elisabeth Roscher handles investigations and compliance relating to anti-corruption, money laundering, whistle-blowing, economic sanctions

and export control. She often represents clients from the energy sector in cross-border mandates.

Strengths: *"Elisabeth Roscher is a pleasure to work with. She is academically strong and has a good understanding of the business." "She is very experienced and has been on different sides of the table." Tine Elisabeth Vigmostad makes her debut in the rankings on the back of impressive market support. She is recognised for her work advising on anti-bribery and money laundering measures, with additional expertise in sanctions and export control compliance. Strengths: "She has a broad understanding which she can use in different matters." "She's detailed when we ask her to be, but is also willing to listen and take on the pragmatic and commercial concerns."*

Band 2

BAHR

What the team is known for Bahr has a full-service approach to compliance and anti-corruption matters, with particular expertise in anti-money laundering regulations. The law firm also handles sanctions and trade control, as well as advising clients on establishing compliance programmes. It acts for an impressive list of domestic and multinational clients.

Strengths

"BAHR is able to quickly and coherently advise on complex matters involving novel and evolving areas of law."

"The team is very responsive and delivers on time."

Notable practitioners

Morten Smørdal (see p.1346) offers experience advising clients on the establishment of compliance programmes, sanctions and export control issues and corporate investigations. He further assists with anti-money laundering compliance.

Strengths: *"Morten Smørdal is able to handle complex issues in a short amount of time." "Morten is very commercially savvy, extremely successful, runs a good team and cuts to the chase."*

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt enters the rankings for the first time due to its growing presence in the corporate compliance and investigations sphere. The department is knowledgeable in

sanctions and export control mandates, in addition to anti-money laundering and anti-corruption measures. The team also advises on environmental regulation and the Norwegian Transparency Act.

Strengths

"The team is quick to respond and delivers high-quality services. The lawyers understand what we need."

"The compliance team is always ready to answer and help with our issues at short notice."

Notable practitioners

Thomas Steen Brandt maintains a top-tier reputation for his knowledge in anti-money laundering issues, export control matters, sanctions and risk analysis programmes. He has further expertise advising on the Norwegian Transparency Act. **Strengths:** *"He has enormous experience and very good understanding of compliance and anti-corruption topics."* *"Thomas Steen Brandt is an outstanding compliance and investigations lawyer."*

Annina Luterbacher assists with a range of compliance matters, including anti-money laundering, anti-corruption and environmental regulations. Her practice also covers advice on trade sanctions

and export control cases. **Strengths:** *"Annina Luterbacher has a comprehensive understanding of the law and a strong ability to apply legal standards to varied and complicated factual scenarios."* *"Annina is extremely smart and responsive as well as very pleasant and great to work with. She is also practical and swift, and has a good cross-border view of the world."*

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer acts on a range of corporate compliance and investigation matters. The law firm is knowledgeable in anti-corruption and money laundering mandates as well as sanctions violations and export control. It is also well versed in compliance and risk management programmes, as well as matters concerning corporate and transactional activities. The team additionally has a growing practice in relation to compliance with ESG regulations.

Strengths

"The law firm offers excellent judgement and very strong advisory work."

"The team is always quick to reply."

Notable practitioners

Liv Monica Stubholt is a key contact for the department.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Anne Helsingeng (see p.1341) of Bull is reputed for her expertise in corporate investigations, and handles whistle-blower cases and compliance matters.

Strengths:

"Anne Helsingeng is very skilled and experienced."

Hugo Munthe-Kaas (see p.1343) of DLA Piper advises clients on sanctions and export control matters. He is also active in relation to anti-money laundering and fraud investigations.

Strengths:

"Hugo Munthe-Kaas is an exceptional lawyer with a deep understanding of compliance issues."

Nicolai Skridshol of SANDS is noted for his work in anti-corruption and corporate investigation mandates.

Strengths:

"Nicolai Skridshol has in-depth knowledge of anti-corruption regulations in several jurisdictions."

Corporate/M&A

Corporate/M&A
Leading Firms
Band 1
BAHR
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Wiersholm
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 2
Advokatfirmaet CLP
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Selmer
Band 3
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Band 4
AGP Advokater AS
Advokatfirma DLA Piper
Kvale Advokatfirma DA
SANDS
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

AGP Advokater AS

What the team is known for AGP Advokater is an M&A boutique with a growing presence in the market. The law firm's client roster consists of a broad range of listed entities and private companies, including multinational corporations. In addition, AGP is recognised for its ECM capabilities,

assisting issuers and investment firms with IPOs, listings and private placements. The lawyers have experience in cross-border matters.

Strengths

"They are very good at understanding our view and they have a very strong network of connections internationally."

"The work is all very to the point, efficient and quick."

"AGP offers good availability and the lawyers are good at explaining complex matters."

"The team thinks out of the box to move projects towards closure."

"AGP has a commercial approach to all legal issues. The lawyers are concerned with finding good commercial solutions."

Work highlights AGP advised Colliers International on its acquisition of Nordic real property advisory company Pangea Property Partners.

Notable practitioners

Lars André Gjerdrum advises on private placements and listings, with experience acting for investment firms as well as issuers. **Strengths:** *"He has incredible knowledge of details in relation to big transactions."* *"He has strong project management skills, and offers great availability and an experienced hand across a range of transactions matters."* *"Lars André Gjerdrum is super flexible and customer-oriented, and goes the extra mile."*

Nils Olav Aarseth is a knowledgeable M&A practitioner who has experience in advising investment firms. **Strengths:** *"Nils Olav Aarseth is very commercially oriented."* *"He is our trusted adviser who we include in discussions."* *"I am impressed*

by the high standard of the service he offers and the professional handling of the client." **Gard Skogstrøm** (see p.1345) has experience acting on transactions for listed companies, often from the technology sector. **Strengths:** *"He is good at adapting to our knowledge level and explaining complex matters to non-legal people."* *"Gard Skogstrøm makes it easier to make actionable decisions based on his feedback."* *"He is commercially pragmatic and strong in negotiations with amazing availability."*

Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Arntzen de Besche advises a broad client base of energy and aquaculture companies and private equity houses on corporate and M&A matters, including cross-border deals. The law firm handles acquisitions and investments as well as joint ventures and reorganisations. It also assists with ECM mandates such as right issues and private placements.

Strengths

"The lawyers have broad experience and the ability to see several aspects of complex issues."

"They always offer quick and high-quality responses and they deliver on time."

"Arntzen de Besche has a strong team of lawyers who complement each other to ensure the best possible outcome."

"They have a unique commercial acumen."

Notable practitioners

Per Dagslet advises on a range of M&A transactions. He has experience acting for trading houses and energy companies on cross-border mandates.

Corporate/M&A	Capital Markets: Equity
Leading Individuals	Leading Firms
Band 1	Band 1
Arnesen Hans Cappelen Advokatfirmaet Thommessen	BAHR
Arnkvaern Anders Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Hellebust Harald Wiersholm	Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Opedal Sigurd Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	Wiersholm
Simonnæs Svein Gerhard BAHR *	Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 2	Band 2
Kaada Dag Sigvart Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	AGP Advokater AS
Kvam Jarle Wiersholm	Advokatfirmaet CLP
Sande Lars Kristian BAHR *	Band 3
Band 3	Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Aabø-Evensen Ole Kristian Aabø-Evensen (ORL) ◇	Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Aas Lars Gunnar Advokatfirmaet CLP *	Selmer
Bøe Ketil E Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Brecke Preben Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	Leading Individuals
Dagslet Per A Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS	Band 1
Hardeng Kjetil Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	Arnesen Hans Cappelen Advokatfirmaet Thommessen
Herrem Are Selmer	Arnkvaern Anders Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Lund Alexander S Advokatfirmaet CLP	Bakken Robin BAHR
Magnus Camilla Selmer	Bang-Hansen Viggo Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Romansky Robert Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Sandvik Sverre Wiersholm
Smith-Erichsen Knut Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Band 2
Sveen Robert Selmer	Christie Lars Knem BAHR *
Villum Jakob Advokatfirmaet CLP	Gryte Anne Lise E. Wiersholm
Band 4	Rasmussen Dag Erik Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Aarseth Nils Olav AGP Advokater AS	Band 3
Bjerknes Christoffer Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Bugge Amund Fougner Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt
Bugge Amund Fougner Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt	Fagerheim Bugge Solveig Advokatfirmaet
Dugstad Gunhild Wiersholm	Gjerdum Lars André AGP Advokater AS
Fenner Christian P.N. Advokatfirma DLA Piper *	Mejlænder Simen Wiersholm
Grüner Sagstad Christian Advokatfirmaet Thommessen	Ness Cornelius Sogn Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Gulbrandsen Terje SANDS	Østensen Tone Wiersholm
Guvåg Øystein BAHR *	Sæhle Per Anders Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Lykke Fredrik Advokatfirma DLA Piper *	Band 4
Martinsen Knut Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS	Bondkall Audun Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Sjåtil Jon Kristian Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Cock Edvard Advokatfirmaet CLP
Solheim Ingar Selmer	Kildal Andreas Advokatfirmaet CLP
Thøgersen Kai Wiersholm	Lind Sahl Marianne Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Torpp Bjørn Olav Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	Up-and-coming individuals
Wille Ole Henrik Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	Jarbø Andreas Advokatfirmaet (ORL) ◇
Up-and-coming individuals	
Lind Kristian Martin Wiersholm	
Skogstrøm Gard A. AGP Advokater AS *	
Teir Mathias Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	

* Indicates individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Strengths: “Per Dagslet is truly a team player and always offers a commercially strong approach.” “He is engaged in the process and is so responsive. He is also very good in negotiations and can read the counterparty.” “Per Dagslet is up to date, and he is succinct and practical in his advice.” A new addition to the ranking, **Knut Martinsen** heads the corporate and M&A department at Arntzen de Besche and advises clients in the technology and automotive industries on cross-border transactions across the Nordic region. **Strengths:** “Knut Martinsen keeps it simple and he finds solutions.” “He truly understands the commercial drivers and how to both safeguard and take advantage of the opportunities that come from M&A activity.” “His strength is definitely his responsiveness.” “He is a very talented lawyer and very hands-on. He is also very creative and incredibly focused on getting the right results.”

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR boasts an outstanding team offering expertise on all corporate and M&A matters, including both public and private transactions. The law firm possesses market-leading prowess in M&A and joint ventures involving the energy industry. It is highly experienced acting for financial institutions and private equity funds. BAHR also demonstrates particular strength in ECM mandates such as IPOs and private placements.

Strengths

“BAHR consistently delivers high quality and has resources available to turn things around quickly. When there are complex situations, time pressure or demanding counterparties, it is a comfort to know that you have the lawyers available.”

“They are responsive and accurate, and understand our need for speed well.”

“The lawyers are strategic and have intimate knowledge too.”

Work highlights BAHR advised Aker and Aker BP on the latter's NOK125 billion acquisition of Lundin Energy.

Notable practitioners

Robin Bakken is a leading ECM lawyer with experience in mandates involving IPOs, listings and private placements. **Strengths:** “Robin Bakken immediately delivers responses for complex issues and in a format that is tailored to the client's exact needs. He is supremely creative and experienced.”

Svein Gerhard Simonnæs (see p.1345) advises energy companies as well as private equity funds on M&A transactions. **Strengths:** “He is a specialist with a very strong skill set and experience.” **Lars Knem Christie** (see p.1338) focuses on ECM transactions, frequently handling private placements. He offers additional experience in block sales of shares. **Lars Kristian Sande** (see p.1345) is a well-regarded practitioner who regularly handles large transactions, including public M&A deals, often with cross-border elements. **Strengths:** “He is solution-oriented and good to talk to.” “Lars Kristian Sande is pragmatic and has a good overview.” Climbing in the rankings, **Øystein Guvåg** (see p.1340) is head of BAHR's corporate and M&A group. He has experience acting for private equity firms on transactions. **Strengths:** “Øystein Guvåg is fantastic. He is sharp, very reliable and he is very solid towards the counterparty as well.” “He is commercial and experienced in terms of where the market is. He is also hands-on, which makes him quite efficient.”

Advokatfirmaet CLP

What the team is known for CLP is an experienced M&A and ECM boutique advising clients on a wide range of corporate and transaction law, with a particular focus on private equity and venture capital deals. The law firm also acts on private placements and listings as well as IPOs. The lawyers often handle mandates with cross-border elements.

Strengths

“CLP has the ability to interact well with clients through well-structured and intelligent simplification of complex matters.”

“The service is very good and they are very proactive.”

“The lawyers have a good business understanding and they take into account the business side of issues when they give advice.”

“The law firm is very strong on both a partner and associate level.”

“They always provide a fast response.”

Work highlights CLP advised Fortum on the sale of its controlling stake in Fortum Oslo Varme to a consortium made up of Hafslund Eco, HitecVision and Infranode.

Notable practitioners

Lars Gunnar Aas (see p.1336) is well equipped to advise on M&A mandates, with a particular expertise in energy sector transactions. He also has experience in private equity matters. **Strengths:** “Lars Gunnar Aas guides the client through challenging negotiations while keeping a friendly tone with the counterparty.” “He knows everything to do with corporate law and especially M&A.” **Alexander Lund** advises companies from a wide range of sectors on sell- and buy-side M&A transactions, often with cross-border elements. **Jakob Villum** often acts for private equity firms on cross-border transactions. He is particularly well versed in transactions involving the technology sector.

Strengths: “He is a street-smart partner with a great ability to address the important issues.” “We get very good attention and follow-up from Jakob Villum.” “Jakob Villum is an extremely impressive business lawyer with excellent capabilities.” “He is pragmatic, he focuses on the right things and is solution-oriented.” **Edvard Cock** frequently advises on private placements and listings, and offers additional experience in rights issues. **Andreas Kildal** advises on IPOs and private placements as well as public M&A mandates. He often handles matters with cross-border elements.

Advokatfirma DLA Piper

What the team is known for DLA Piper possesses a broad corporate and transaction practice noted for its ability to handle cross-border M&A. The international law firm frequently advises on mandates involving private equity funds. The lawyers are experienced in deals pertaining to the energy and technology sectors.

Strengths

“They are always available and always deliver on time.”

“DLA Piper consistently delivers sound commercial advice and negotiation support.”

“They have a great overview and keep all ducks in a row although processes get complicated.”

Work highlights DLA Piper represented Equip Capital Fund and its portfolio company JUMP House Holding in the acquisition of Superfly Group.

Notable practitioners

Christian Fenner (see p.1339) frequently assists with private equity deals. He also has experience acting for listed companies on transactions. **Strengths:** “Christian Fenner has a lot of experience in negotiations and gives good insight and input.” **Fredrik Lykke** (see p.1343) regularly acts on transactions with cross-border aspects, including for listed companies. **Strengths:** “He is an experienced M&A lawyer.” “Fredrik Lykke is a very senior lawyer providing excellent advice.”

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind acts on a range of corporate and M&A topics, including auction processes and joint ventures, regularly involving international aspects. The law firm is knowledgeable in private equity mandates, and offers additional experience in equity capital markets matters, including private placements and offerings. It has particular experience in deals involving the energy and technology sectors.

Strengths

“The team at Haavind is comprised of very experienced transaction lawyers who are very commercial.”

“It is a very agile team of partners in the transaction department. They are always available, fast in production and take responsibility and initiative in driving the project forward in close cooperation with their clients.”

“They offer quick responses and deliver on time.”

“Haavind has a long tradition within renewable energy law and has a very solid team.”

Work highlights Haavind advised A.P. Møller Holding on its acquisition of diagnostics provider Unilabs.

Notable practitioners

Preben Brecke advises private equity firms and their portfolio companies on corporate and transactional mandates. **Strengths:** “Preben Brecke is genuine and good to relate to, and he focuses on what is important, which creates a good process.”

Kjetil Hardeng handles a variety of transactions, often with cross-border elements. He is experienced in joint venture mandates and advises clients from the energy and telecommunications sectors. **Strengths:** “He is a strategic thinker and the way he helps us with strategy is very good.” “Kjetil Hardeng is a very nimble, knowledgeable and creative lawyer.” “He has splendid people skills and is always positive and pleasant. His good understanding of settings and ability to observe, listen and compute make him a valued companion at the negotiation table, as he is often able to come up with suggested solutions on the spot that can drive negotiations forward.” **Cornelius Sogn Ness** is a highly active ECM practitioner who handles private placements and the subsequent listings and offerings. He also advises on IPOs. **Strengths:** “Cornelius Sogn Ness is experienced and solution-oriented.” **Bjørn Olav Torpp** heads the department and has experience acting on high-value transactions. He advises a broad range of state-owned and private sector clients, including listed entities. **Strengths:** “He is a very strong M&A lawyer.” “Bjørn Olav Torpp is very good at explaining complex situations. He also gives good advice for the specific situation, and is available when we need meetings.”

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale enters the ranking following excellent praise from clients. The team offers corporate and M&A expertise across a range of sectors, including life sciences, retail and telecommunications. The lawyers also advise private equity firms on cross-border transactions and has experience in the establishment of joint ventures.

Strengths

“Kvale is extremely capable at handling complex and sophisticated matters.”

“They have a very solid understanding of the practical business world and have the general cultural knowledge that is key for doing business.”

“The lawyers are always on top of the matter and respond promptly.”

“Kvale has an experienced team.”

Work highlights Kvale advised Pfizer on its establishment of a joint venture with Mylan.

Notable practitioners

Head of department **Anne Kjølholt Ekerholt** is a key contact for clients.

SANDS

What the team is known for SANDS acts on a range of corporate and M&A-related matters. The law firm represents a wide variety of clientele, including industrial companies, and state-owned entities. The lawyers advise on both domestic and cross-border transactions.

Strengths

“The lawyers have comprehensive M&A experience with financial as well as legal skills.”

“The lawyers have a very reasonable approach, they

dare to challenge the legal issues and make solid risk-reward considerations.”

“SANDS creates value by having the ability to allocate greater resources in processes with multiple work streams.”

Work highlights SANDS represented aquaculture supplier C-Feed in relation to its share issue and sale of shares to Swiss investment firm Kaltroco.

Notable practitioners

Terje Gulbrandsen acts for a range of clients on domestic and cross-border transactions.

Strengths: “He is available and interested.” “He offers quick and precise responses.” “Terje Gulbrandsen is very good in negotiations and handles high-level corporate politics well for complex transactions.” “He quickly understands the core of the issue and gives good commercial advice.”

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt enjoys a top-tier practice providing clients with a full M&A and corporate offering, assisting with both domestic and international matters, with increasing strength and presence across the Nordics. The law firm is noted for its capabilities in large, complex transactions. Schjødt's clients include private equity entities as well as blue-chip companies. The team frequently acts on transactions in the E&P, offshore and aquaculture industries. Schjødt also has an impressive offering in ECM mandates, supporting clients on matters such as listings, private placements and IPOs.

Strengths

“Schjødt has highly skilled and experienced lawyers. It is a full-service law firm that covers what you need in relation to M&A transactions.”

“They are creative and pragmatic in finding solutions to complex issues.”

“They have an international mindset and are good to use in processes with international actors.”

“The Schjødt team is both highly attentive and always responsive.”

“Schjødt provides extremely fast and high-quality advice. They are experts at driving processes and keeping clients informed and on track.”

Work highlights Schjødt acted for Infranode on its investment in Fortum Oslo Varme through a joint venture with Hafslund Eco and HitecVision.

Notable practitioners

Viggo Bang-Hansen is lauded for his expertise in complex ECM mandates. He has experience handling high-value IPOs and private placements.

Strengths: “He is a very good lawyer who clients trust.” **Dag Sigvart Kaada** is a revered M&A practitioner who has experience representing private equity firms and technology companies in complex transactions. He is based in the law firm's Stavanger office. **Strengths:** “Dag is extremely intelligent and commercial with a long track record in the M&A field.” **Robert Romansky** climbs in the ranking following excellent praise from clients. He has notable experience acting for private equity firms on transactions. **Strengths:** “Robert Romansky is creative, commercial and legally skilled. He is also good with people and is calm and balanced, which creates trust for his clients.” “With Robert in your team you always feel like your transaction is centre of attention and issues are being addressed with both urgency and skill.” “He is

pragmatic and good to work with." **Knut Smith-Erichsen** enjoys strong recognition for his M&A practice, with experience acting for private equity funds and blue-chip companies. **Strengths:** "He is very skilled and drives processes forward." **Knut Smith-Erichsen is a pragmatic and experienced lawyer.** **Christoffer Bjerknes** often acts on M&A mandates involving private equity and venture capital investments and acquisitions. **Strengths:** "Christoffer Bjerknes is a very strong, experienced, knowledgeable and trustworthy M&A lawyer. He has a strong commercial awareness and is always open and available to discuss legal topics." "He is always available and hands-on." Rising in the ranking, **Audun Bondkall** receives notable recognition for his ECM practice. His experience includes IPOs, de-listings and the transfer of listings. **Strengths:** "Audun Bondkall is very skilled and absolutely a good lawyer." "He always delivers on all aspects of a transaction." Entering the bands, **Marianne Lind Sahl** is knowledgeable in private placements and IPOs. **Strengths:** "Marianne Lind Sahl has a very good sense of urgency and commerciality." **Jon Kristian Sjøtøl** has experience in public takeovers and private M&A, often with cross-border elements. **Strengths:** "Besides having in-depth understanding of legal matters, Jon Kristian Sjøtøl has this ability to think strategically. He is always one step ahead, understands how a critical situation may play out and understands how to find a good solution for the client." **Mathias Teir** enjoys notable market endorsements. He has experience advising private equity firms on transactions. **Strengths:** "Mathias Teir is highly skilled, experienced, energetic and hard-working. He is always open for a discussion and is also very commercially oriented and street-smart, and has very good negotiating skills." "He always has the client's best interest in mind, while being pragmatic in order to find a good solution."

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer has a well-regarded practice assisting with public and private M&A transactions, often with cross-border elements. The law firm frequently acts for major private equity funds as well as industrial companies from a whole host of sectors. It is also active in ECM mandates, including private placements and IPOs.

Strengths

"The team at Selmer is always available and offers quick turnaround times."

"The lawyers have strong legal skills and a good business understanding, and are very hands-on throughout the whole process."

"Selmer operates as a structured, hard-working partner with the ability to handle complex matters."

Work highlights Selmer advised private equity fund Sequoia on its acquisition of Holzweiler Holding.

Notable practitioners

Are Herrem often assists private equity firms and energy companies with cross-border transactions. **Strengths:** "Are Herrem is strategic, commercial and pragmatic. He is an excellent lawyer and businessman, and knows exactly what to fix himself and what needs to be anchored with the client." "The service provided by Are Herrem is out-

standing." Rising in the ranking, **Camilla Magnus** heads the corporate department at Selmer and advises on transactions for a range of clients, including government enterprises, listed entities and private equity firms. **Strengths:** "Camilla Magnus is a strong negotiator, is pragmatic and understands all stakeholders and their desires." "She is a very strong, client-focused and business-oriented lawyer. She delivers at a very high standard and is very professional." "She is very experienced and skilled and is also good at balancing between being firm and also finding solutions that are legal and right for all parties." **Robert Sveen** offers private M&A assistance to a wide range of clientele, including listed companies. His mandates often have cross-border elements. **Strengths:** "He is very thorough and very diligent. He is impressive in his solution orientation." "He is very pragmatic." "Robert Sveen has a very good network of international lawyers." "He always delivers and is always available." **Ingar Solheim** assists with a range of corporate and transaction mandates. He has experience in cross-border M&A transactions. **Strengths:** "Ingar Solheim is always available for us throughout the process." "He has the legal skills, the business understanding and also a problem-solving ability." "He is very good at following up on topics."

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig assists clients with a range of M&A and corporate matters. The law firm has notable experience acting for private equity and venture capital entities. It has particular expertise concerning deals in the energy and TMT sectors. The team is also well equipped to offer advice on a range of ECM mandates, including private placements, IPOs and option plans.

Strengths

"The team has a broad commercial understanding and business orientation."

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig impresses in how it deals with complex legal matters. The lawyers are always focused on facilitating the deal and balancing the interests of the client."

"They are very hands-on and responsive."

"They consistently deliver on time and with high quality."

"The law firm stands out in the technology space."

Notable practitioners

Amund Fougner Bugge handles the full gamut of ECM mandates, including private placements, rights issues and dual-track listing processes. He offers additional experience in M&A transactions, notably with private equity elements. **Strengths:** "He is highly client-focused and responsive." "He consistently delivers a high-quality product, has great commercial abilities and is always hands-on." "Amund Fougner Bugge has a very pragmatic approach to transactions and is very aware of what is going on in the local market." "He has a very strong sense of responsibility to ensure clients get what they require immediately, correctly and to the point."

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen possesses an exceptional corporate law group han-

dling a broad range of mergers and acquisitions. The law firm's expertise includes public M&A and takeovers. It has an impressive reputation for ECM transactions such as IPOs, private placements and rights issues. The law firm often acts for private equity firms and financial institutions on transactions involving cross-border elements.

Strengths

"They offer good sector knowledge, strong M&A experience and efficient due diligence."

"It is by far the number-one firm for international banks."

"They offer a good balance in combining both a legal and commercial mindset."

"They are agile and responsive and the service level is always high."

Work highlights Thommessen advised Glitre Energi on its NOK56 billion merger with Agder Energi.

Notable practitioners

Hans Cappelen Arnesen is universally revered for his market-leading expertise in private and public M&A transactions as well as ECM mandates. He is highly experienced in private placements, and frequently acts for technology companies. **Strengths:** "Hans Cappelen Arnesen is a clear number-one lawyer in ECM in Norway." "He is very attentive and experienced." "He has both a legal and commercial understanding and empathy to understand what is important for the stakeholders."

Anders Arnkvaern is a highly acclaimed M&A practitioner highlighted for his expertise in both private and public transactions, representing clients in the energy and financial services sectors. He is also revered for his ECM practice, handling rights offerings and private placements.

Strengths: "He is very seasoned, and an excellent lawyer who is easy to work with." "Anders Arnkvaern is strategic and understands negotiations well. He is always calm, goes through issues thoroughly and methodically and creates a sense of security." "He is hard-working and efficient and offers exceptional responsiveness." "He has a deep understanding of economic and financial issues."

Solveig Fagerheim Bugge continues to be recognised for her growing presence in the ECM sphere. She handles IPOs, rights issues and private placements. **Strengths:** "She is very diligent and you can trust that she gets the work done." **Christian Grüner Sagstad** heads the law firm's transaction department and handles a broad range of mergers and acquisitions.

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm has a superb full-service corporate and M&A team handling large domestic and cross-border transactions. The law firm often advises on mandates with private equity elements. It commands outstanding ECM expertise, covering IPOs, uplistings and private placements. Wiersholm acts for funds and financial institutions as well as clients in the energy and technology sectors.

Strengths

"Wiersholm is invaluable when it comes to discussing and analysing complex issues and legal situations in Norway. The lawyers are very solutions-oriented."

"The lawyers offer timely responses, they are always available and service-minded."

"They are on top of commercial developments and very much open to discussing commercial opportunities."

"It is a full-service law firm with both depth and breadth."

"They are very knowledgeable and experienced within capital market transactions, which enables them to give quick and clear views of a situation and how to best adapt to different transaction elements."

Work highlights Wiersholm advised Nordax Bank on its EUR1.9 billion public to private acquisition of Bank Norwegian.

Notable practitioners

Harald Hellebust frequently handles high-value transactions with multi-jurisdictional components. He has notable experience in private equity deals.

Sverre Sandvik is a highly acclaimed practitioner who possesses expertise in a whole host of ECM transactions, including IPOs, private placements and block trades. **Strengths:** *"Sverre Sandvik is extremely legally skilled and very pragmatic. Processes are always good when he is involved."* *"He always makes himself available for discussions and offers quick turnaround with clear and trustworthy advice."* *"He is the best capital markets lawyer in Norway."* **Anne Lise Gryte** is noted for being highly active in the ECM market. She handles private placements, listings and block trades. **Strengths:** *"Anne Lise Gryte is very driven and extremely hands-on, and you can discuss every single detail with her, she will understand the matter and revert quickly."* *"She has a very good commercial attitude and continuously offers to go through different legal topics within capital markets."* *"She is there in the most complex processes and handles these in a very good way."* **Jarle Kvam** handles a broad range of M&A transactions and offers extensive experience in private equity mandates. **Strengths:** *"Jarle Kvam is very experienced. He is a good negotiator, well prepared and solution-oriented."* **Simen Mejlænder** is recognised for his ECM practice, with experience in private placements and listings. **Strengths:** *"He is a very strong and experienced capital markets lawyer."* *"Simen Mejlænder is a very good and commercial lawyer."* **Tone Østensen** is an experienced ECM practitioner handling rights issues and private placements. **Gunhild Dugsta** rises in the ranking and has

experience acting for large financial institutions on transactions, including public-to-private deals.

Strengths: *"Gunhild is clever, driven, solution-oriented and very responsive."* **Kai Thøgersen** assists private companies and listed entities with a broad range of M&A, including mandates with private equity elements. **Strengths:** *"Kai Thøgersen is a very experienced and knowledgeable lawyer with a great commercial attitude and vision."* **Kristian Martin Lind** frequently assists with private equity deals, with notable experience in joint ventures.

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein offers a well-respected M&A team that assists private equity and investment firms with a range of transactional mandates. The law firm has experience in public and private M&A, as well as advising on joint ventures. It is also active in ECM matters pertaining to IPOs, private placements and securities law. Wikborg Rein leverages an international network of offices in London, Singapore and Shanghai to handle cross-border matters.

Strengths

"They always deliver, are always on the ball and are also good at using the correct resources for the matter."

"The lawyers are good technically, highly available and pleasant to work with."

"The team's responsiveness is top-notch, and I am always confident in its top support, dedication and quality of work."

"Wikborg Rein's capital markets practice is second to none."

"The attorneys at Wikborg Rein think creatively to solve complex issues. They offer a realistic, measured, well-reasoned and practical approach to providing advice and legal services."

Work highlights Wikborg Rein advised Telenor on the demerger of its passive fibre infrastructure to Telenor Fiber and the subsequent divestment of a 30% minority stake in Telenor Fiber.

Notable practitioners

Sigurd Opedal leads Wikborg Rein's M&A practice group. He is an experienced and top-tier M&A practitioner with a particular focus on private equity mandates. **Strengths:** *"He works extremely hard, and is always available and very hands-on."* *"Sigurd Opedal is a trusted adviser with strong*

commercial perspectives." **Dag Erik Rasmussen** is highlighted for his knowledge in the ECM sphere. He regularly handles listings and private placements.

Strengths: *"Dag Erik Rasmussen is very commercial."* *"He is clearly a very experienced capital markets lawyer. He is very proactive and responsive."* *"He knows listing requirements intimately and is a pleasure to work with."* **Ketil Bøe** advises financial institutions and investment firms on M&A transactions. **Strengths:** *"He is always on top of the issues."* *"Ketil Bøe is commercial with a high capacity."* **Per Anders Sæhle** is a knowledgeable ECM practitioner who assists with IPOs, private placements and listings. **Strengths:** *"Per Anders Sæhle has a unique insight and understanding of capital markets."* *"He is very responsive and thoughtful and provides well-reasoned advice."* *"He is also consistent and has the ability to adapt."*

Ole Henrik Wille handles a range of private and public M&A, and often acts on deals involving private equity aspects. **Strengths:** *"Ole Henrik Wille is very responsive and pragmatic. He is a great lawyer."* *"He is very good in negotiations, he understands the law and also the combination between law and the economy, and knows what is important for the client."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Ole Kristian Aabø-Evensen of Aabø-Evensen & Co Law Firm assists with the full gamut of private and public M&A transactions, joint ventures and general corporate and commercial advice.

Strengths:

"He is very creative and solution-oriented in transactions. He is always present and well prepared."

"He provides great legal and commercial advice."

"Ole Kristian Aabø-Evensen is responsive and offers high-quality output."

A new addition to the rankings, **Andreas Jarbø** of PwC offers notable experience advising on listings, equity issues and employee offerings.

Strengths:

"Andreas Jarbø provides effective advice."

"He is very skilled in stock exchange and company law."

NORWAY: An Introduction to Dispute Resolution

Contributed by Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

Introduction

Norway is ranked second in the Overall Index Score of the World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index 2022. Norwegian state courts are deemed highly efficient in a European context, with an average time of 5.6 months from the writ to the judgment in District Courts and the same average time from the appeal to the judgment in the Courts of Appeal.

Arbitration is the predominant dispute resolution method for resolving larger commercial disputes. The Norwegian Arbitration Act is based on the UNCITRAL Model Law. While the use of institutional arbitration appears to be increasing, the majority of arbitrations are still ad hoc. The Arbitration Institute of the Oslo Chamber of Commerce handles a low caseload, so a variety of arbitrations under other institutional rules are seen quite frequently.

The Norwegian State Court System

The Norwegian state court system consists of 23 District Courts, six Courts of Appeal and the Supreme Court. The number of District Courts was significantly reduced (from 60 to 23) in May 2021 following the Norwegian government's court reform, with the aim of achieving higher quality and efficiency in legal proceedings. Civil proceedings are governed by the 2005 Norwegian Dispute Act, which includes the Convention on jurisdiction and the enforcement of judgements in civil and commercial matters (the "Lugano Convention").

The Norwegian court system has an efficient processing time, although this naturally depends on the length and complexity of the case. The hearings are conducted on the principles of orality and immediacy of proof, which means that Norwegian hearings are significantly longer than those in other countries. On the other hand, the judgment is normally rendered within two to three weeks after the hearing is concluded, and with the above-mentioned overall average time of 5.6 months from writ/appeal to judgment.

District Courts have a single judge, whereas Courts of Appeal are made up of three judges (unless the parties have also requested expert lay judges). Many cases are referred to the Courts of Appeal and only approximately 10% of ordinary civil appeal cases are dismissed from further proceedings.

The Norwegian Supreme Court only handles cases involving important matters that have implications going beyond the case itself. In the last three years only about 12% of civil appeal cases have been admitted to the Supreme Court.

Many cases are solved through mediation. In accordance with the Norwegian Dispute Act, both the District Courts and Courts of Appeal are obliged to suggest and highlight mediation as the preferable form of dispute resolution. In addition to traditional mediation, Norwegian courts offer court-initiated mediation. If accepted by the parties, the courts undertake the preparations for the mediation; that is, providing mediators and a venue. Court-initiated mediation was carried out in approximately 15% of cases before District Courts in 2022, and approximately 74% of those cases were registered as resolved.

Arbitration in Norway

Arbitral proceedings are governed by the 2004 Norwegian Arbitration Act, which is based on the 1985 UNCITRAL Model Law. Norway is also a contracting state to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards 1958 (the "New York Convention").

The Norwegian arbitration tradition differs from that in many countries as ad hoc arbitration is the predominant form. There are no formal registers to monitor ad hoc arbitrations, and it can be difficult to analyse the trends and developments in Norwegian arbitration – especially from outside.

Traditionally, arbitration is commonly used in the energy sector, especially oil and gas. We are currently witnessing an increase in arbitration within renewable energy, which has become more and more relevant considering the shift towards green energy. There has also been a distinct increase in post-M&A disputes in recent years.

Construction is split between the offshore sector (oil and gas), in which cases are largely referred to arbitration proceedings, and onshore construction contracts, which are usually referred to state courts. The main reason for the split is the difference in the dispute resolution clauses in standard Norwegian contracts, where the standard forms for offshore contracts refer to arbitration, while the standard forms for onshore contracts refer to state courts.

Even though many arbitration cases are still carried out ad hoc in Norway, the trend seems to be towards more institutional arbitration. The arbitration institution in Norway is the Oslo Chamber of Commerce (OCC), but other institutions such as the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC) are also frequently used. It should also be noted that arbitrations under the Rules of the Nordic Offshore and Maritime Arbitration Association (NOMA), which may be deemed semi-institutional, have increased every year since its launch in 2017.

Some Highlights From the Last Year

There have been several landmark cases over the last year and two high-profile cases within the areas of competition law and public international law/investment arbitration are outlined below.

In February 2023 Oslo District Court handed down its judgment in the first-of-a-kind Norwegian follow-on claim case against four truck manufactures (DAF, Volvo/Renault, Daimler and MAN). Posten Norge's claim for EUR47 million plus interest in damages was based on the European Commission's findings that the truck manufactures had colluded in the setting of gross list prices over a 14-year period. The case is one of many ongoing follow-on claims in the trucks cartel case around Europe, which includes cases in Germany, France, the UK, Spain, Portugal and the Netherlands.

The District Court found that the cartel's purpose had been to harm competition and achieve higher prices, and that it was likely that the cartel affected the prices customers paid. Although expressing substantial doubt, the District Court did not find sufficient evidence that Posten had been overcharged by the cartel

during the infringement period, and the claim against the truck manufacturers failed. The judgment has been appealed.

In March 2023 the Supreme Court of Norway rendered what is known as the Snow Crab judgment after 15 justices heard the case in a plenary session. The Supreme Court normally consists of five justices, and there are normally years between such plenary sessions. The case concerned the validity of a decision that refused a Latvian shipping company a licence to catch snow crabs on the Norwegian continental shelf outside Svalbard, a Norwegian archipelago in the Arctic Ocean.

The case questioned the geographical scope of the Svalbard Treaty. The main issue was the applicability of the provisions set

out in Articles 2 and 3, which address the equality of nationals of the High Contracting Parties and their ships on the continental shelf outside Svalbard. The Supreme Court concluded that neither the relevant decision nor Norwegian snow crab regulations were incompatible with the provisions on equality set out in Articles 2 and 3 of the Svalbard Treaty.

However, the last word may not have been said yet as Norway is a party in several on-going investment arbitrations involving similar issues. The decision in the first of these cases is expected in 2023.

Dispute Resolution

Dispute Resolution	Dispute Resolution
Leading Firms	Senior Statespeople
Band 1	Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Wiersholm	Eriksrud Sven Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	Pettersson Nils-Henrik Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS
Band 2	Sørleie Gunnar BAHR *
BAHR	Leading Individuals
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	Band 1
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Goller Morten Wiersholm
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	Hellesylt Magnus Wiersholm
Band 3	Innjord Frode Advokatfirmaet Hjord AS *
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS	Jansen Jan B BAHR *
Advokatfirmaet CLP	Jervell Stephan L Wiersholm
CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS	Nisja Ola Ø Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS	Ryssdal Anders Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS
Advokatfirmaet Hjord AS	Band 2
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig	Asbjørnsen Rasmus Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Band 4	Galtung Christian F CMS Kluge *
Kvale Advokatfirma DA	Harborg Henning Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
SANDS	Haugen Ola Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Selmer	Johansen Johnny Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
* Indicates individual with profile.	Naalsund Thomas G Wiersholm
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Shetelig Kaare Andreas Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Band 3
Band 1	Borch Alex Advokatfirmaet Hjord AS *
	Brøndmo Mikal Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
	Eggen Kyrre Advokatfirmaet CLP *
	Fjellheim Goud Helge Homme Advokatfirmaet
	Granvang Terje Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
	Jarslett Egil Advokatfirmaet CLP
	Perland Olav Wiersholm
	Reusch Christian Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
	Ristvedt Per M Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
	Skaldebø-Rød Atle BAHR *
	Band 4
	Andersen Per Conradi Kvale Advokatfirma DA *
	Berge Stig Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
	Bjelland Asle CMS Kluge *
	Roberts Carl E. Selmer
	Skoghøy Tage Brigt A. Advokatfirma DLA (ORL) ◇ *
	Sollund Trond E Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
	Steenstrup Morten SANDS
	Up-and-coming individuals
	Arvesen Nanette Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
	Feinberg Emanuel Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS
	Haukaas Ørjan Salvesen Advokatfirma DLA (ORL) ◇ *
	Ramani Mohsin Advokatfirma DLA Piper (ORL) ◇ *
	Riksfjord Vidar Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm is an outstanding and sizeable full-service law firm which advises clients on a wide range of disputes, including international matters, such as high-profile arbitration. It holds particular expertise in the IT, fisheries, oil and gas, and construction industries, as well as financial services. The team often represents clients in post-transactional disputes.

Strengths

"Wiersholm's team always responds in time and drives the case forward."

"The lawyers are pragmatic and practical in their advice. They find solutions you can work with in practice."

"Wiersholm has great expertise within a multitude

of areas."

"The depth and breadth of the team is strong."

Work highlights Wiersholm represented DNB in a dispute against the tax authorities relating to the allocation of interest costs for tax purposes to the company's permanent establishment in the USA.

Notable practitioners

Highly regarded by his peers, **Morten Goller** often assists clients with complex tax disputes. He is also proficient in damages disputes and disputes arising out of public procurement.

Strengths: *"Morten Goller is simply the best."*

"He is exceptional." "Morten is skilled." "He is a very good disputes lawyer." Magnus Hellesylt is a market-leading litigator who acts for a variety of clients, often from the IT sector. He is highly

proficient in handling post-transactional disputes and contractual litigation. **Strengths:** *"Magnus Hellesylt turns every stone." "He is very skilled."*

"His performance is excellent." Stephan Jervell

is a renowned practitioner who is experienced in international arbitration proceedings. He often represents clients in liability, real estate and post-M&A disputes, and has experience working with class action lawsuits. **Strengths:** *"Stephan Jervell is a brilliant litigator." "He is always available and very quickly gets into the matter at hand."*

"Stephan is outstanding." Thomas Naalsund is the head of Wiersholm's dispute resolution practice. He is well regarded for his expertise in post-M&A disputes, as well as for his experience working with clients in the energy sector. Strengths:

*"Thomas Naalsund is Norway's best procedural lawyer. He is well prepared, strong on the technical side, easy to listen to, and everything he says is substantiated." "He is good at communication and procedure." "Thomas is a very skilled disputes lawyer." "He is always impressive in litigation." **Olav Perland** has significant experience handling financial and corporate disputes. His expertise in post-M&A matters is often employed by banks and international corporations. **Strengths:** "Olav Perland is very experienced in M&A disputes and very helpful with litigation."*

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein is renowned for its ability to assist clients with a variety of disputes. Its skilled team of lawyers often advises on contractual and shareholder disputes. Cross-border disputes are another area of expertise for the department, including matters relating to the transport, tech, financial services and public sectors. The law firm also has experience in cases related to international sanctions regimes and represents clients in front of the Supreme Court.

Strengths

"Wikborg Rein offers quick responses, good follow-up and pragmatic advice. The team gives a commercial risk assessment as part of its advice."

"It is a strong team with a strategic mindset and a great ability to manage, plan and execute complex litigation."

"Wikborg Rein can find the little things that can turn a case around."

"The team is very efficient."

"The practice has an excellent ability to legally dissect the core issues under pressure and provide top-notch advice. It offers consistently strong and second-to-none client attention."

Notable practitioners

Ola Nisja is a skilled lawyer who often works on contractual disputes, and has extensive experience representing clients in highly complex domestic and international matters. **Strengths:** "Ola is just the best lawyer you can engage for complex litigation. He is on top of all issues and pragmatic when needed. He fully understands the needs of the client." "Ola Nisja has an excellent strategic mindset and is a great communicator." "He has a very good technical and commercial understanding of a case, and he is quick to understand the issues and the business's needs." "He is on the ball and goes right into the case." "He is very skilled, charismatic and pragmatic." **Ola Haugen** is an expert in contractual disputes. He often represents clients with domestic and international matters. **Strengths:** "His work is very efficient and he is very knowledgeable." **Kaare Andreas Shetelig** is an experienced lawyer who handles complex, cross-border contractual disputes. He has experience representing clients in front of the Supreme Court. **Strengths:** "When it comes to court proceedings, orally and in writing, he is impeccable." "Kaare is very personable; he is good to talk to and discuss things with." "Kaare Andreas Shetelig is very able in commercial disputes." "His ability to quickly grasp complex facts and legal analysis is impressive." "He is very skilled and very pedagogical."

Band 2

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR enjoys an impressive practice with experience in a broad range of domestic and cross-border commercial disputes. The team frequently advises on post-M&A and shareholder disputes in addition to breach of contract. The law firm also handles contentious mandates involving construction, insurance and tax. The department is well versed in arbitration proceedings.

Strengths

"The lawyers have an extraordinary commercial understanding and are very skilled."

"BAHR are responsive, well prepared for the meetings and cooperate seamlessly with other parties involved in the process."

"The team has very high quality at all levels, from partners to associates, with broad expertise in relevant areas of law. The service is always good and the response time is quick."

"The law firm has a good mix of junior and senior partners on the team, and they have a good understanding of the commercial aspects."

"The lawyers are accurate, creative, high-quality and well prepared."

Work highlights BAHR represented Coast Seafood in several cases against Blom Gruppen and Blom Fiskeoppdrett involving a shareholder agreement and claims for damages.

Notable practitioners

Well known and respected, **Gunnar Sørle** (see p.1346) continues to be recognised for his longstanding presence in the dispute resolution arena. He is highly experienced in compensation claims involving construction defects. **Jan Jansen** (see p.1342) is a leading litigator who garners acclaim for his expertise in contentious tax issues, often connected to the oil and gas sector. He also possesses experience in insurance disputes relating to loss of income. **Strengths:** "Jan Jansen is an extraordinarily good lawyer who is very good at formulating an argument." **Atle Skaldebø-Rød** (see p.1345) is a highly regarded practitioner with considerable experience in commercial litigation. He frequently handles shareholder disagreements, breach of contract and post-M&A disputes. **Strengths:** "Atle Skaldebø-Rød is an impressive lawyer." "He is amazingly skilled and produces very impressive work. He has a very good style, and if there are many emotions in a case he remains very to the point and stoic, which is impressive. He always focuses on the plan." "Atle is a very good procedural lawyer. He is skilled and has extraordinary presentation techniques." "He is very pedagogical and very good at building an argument."

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind maintains a strong arbitration and litigation practice with exceptional expertise in disputes connected to construction and infrastructure projects. It acts for both private clients and the Norwegian state authorities, advising clients on contentious matters often concerning shareholder agreements and contractual breaches.

Strengths

"Haavind has dedicated and skilled lawyers who

show great ability to go deep into the details of a case."

"Haavind offers great support in very difficult and complex cases. The team do an excellent job and are entirely focused on providing the best possible advice."

"Haavind are very responsive and service-minded."

"The lawyers at Haavind in general provide excellent counselling on a broad variety of complex issues."

"The law firm has solid lawyers who work well together."

Work highlights Haavind represented the Norwegian tax authority in five liability cases claiming damages against board directors from numerous companies.

Notable practitioners

Rasmus Asbjørnsen is a well-regarded litigator who represents clients in shareholder and post-M&A disputes. He also acts in follow-on damages claims from competition cases.

Strengths: "Rasmus Asbjørnsen is a highly experienced trial lawyer with excellent presentation skills. He provides clear answers and advice, making the client feel reassured and confident." "He is very client-friendly, always available and very patient."

"Rasmus is very good at summarising and putting the right arguments first."

Johnny Johansen is a highly esteemed practitioner who has notable expertise in construction cases. He also has experience in a variety of other contentious matters such as IT disputes and trade secrets issues. In addition to litigation proceedings, he is also well versed in mediation processes. **Strengths:**

"He is an extremely skilled lawyer who knows the law and sees the major points in an argument and focuses on them. He takes the time to go into all relevant factual elements of a case and he does not stop until he understands them." "He is calm, collected and in control. He manages to find solutions and see what is important at all times." "Johnny Johansen is a very skilled commercial lawyer who is very good with people, very respectful and extremely service-minded." "He is very good at procedure and has longstanding experience."

Mikal Brøndmo is well known for assisting clients from the shipping, fishing and construction sectors. He has ample experience in both domestic and international disputes. **Strengths:** "Mikal is very detailed and very good to work with." "He has very good follow-up and commitment to each case. He is strong at finding good solutions to complex issues and has good commercial awareness." "Mikal Brøndmo offers great client service." Advancing in the rankings, **Goud Helge Homme Fjellheim** has experience assisting clients with IT, tax and public procurement disputes. He often represents clients from the public sector in high-profile domestic and international cases. **Strengths:** "He provides a very good service and quick responses. He assists with necessary clarifications on an ongoing basis and does not make a case larger than it needs to be. He is very quick to get to the core of the issues and is very efficient." "He is a brilliant prosecutor." "Goud Helge Homme Fjellheim offers great service." "He is an excellent lawyer." "He is a very experienced procedural lawyer who is used to big, heavy cases."

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt is recognised for its ability to handle complex domestic and international cases. Its skilled team often assists clients from the energy, maritime and financial services sectors. The practice has particular experience in compensation and liability claims, shareholder disputes, post-M&A cases and breach of contract issues.

Strengths

"The team is extremely good to work with."

"Schjødt are able to combine technical understanding with the legal aspects."

"One of the biggest advantages is that the lawyers are always available, and even for more complicated questions they provide preliminary answers within hours."

"The team are extremely good at listening and understanding the issue."

"The lawyers take the time to learn about our business and the many technical variables that are important to the dispute. They are very thorough and commercially astute."

Work highlights Schjødt represented Golden-Tree Asset Management in a dispute against a daughter company of Ice Group regarding a PIK loan and breaches of covenants.

Notable practitioners

Senior statesperson **Sven Eriksrud** maintains his pre-eminent status. He assists clients with contractual disputes in the finance sector. **Per Ristvedt** is experienced in handling shareholder cases and liability disputes. He often represents clients from the financial services industry. **Strengths:** *"Per Ristvedt is truly pleasant to work with."* *"He offers valuable input into the strategic considerations for preparing a case."* **Trond Sollund** is well recognised for his work in the energy industry, handling post-M&A disputes and compensation claims.

Strengths: *"Trond Sollund is very skilled in offshore commercial issues."* *"He can handle a lot of information at the same time and see the connections. He is easy to cooperate with."* *"It is very impressive how he understands our business."* *"Trond Sollund is strong in court."* *"Mr Sollund easily understands and picks up the specific technical issues."*

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Rising in the rankings, Thommessen enjoys a large dispute resolution group that assists with commercial litigation across a range of industries, most notably the shipping and financial services sectors. The law firm often handles compensation claims connected to professional negligence cases, as well as representing clients in post-M&A, shareholder and liability disputes.

Strengths

"Thommessen's legal advice and service is high quality."

"The team uses a unique combination of highly experienced legal expertise and a pragmatic approach to resolve disputes, both in and out of the courtroom."

"The lawyers have a commercial mindset and are solution-oriented. They have a good understanding of our business and are proactive in their approach." *"The practice understands not only the legal but also the business elements."*

"The law firm has a strong team of lawyers who are experienced in large and complex disputes. It is one of the largest law firms in Norway and can put together a team with the depth and breadth required."

Work highlights Thommessen represented DNB, Eksfin, NIBC and Swedbank in a dispute against MYF Maximus following the enforcement of a shares pledge in Maximus.

Notable practitioners

Henning Harborg offers significant expertise in shareholder and contractual disputes. He often represents prominent clients in the banking sector in complex domestic and international matters. **Strengths:** *"Henning Harborg is very knowledgeable about dispute resolution matters."* **Stig Berge** has extensive experience handling shareholder and post-M&A disputes, as well as board and director liability cases. He represents clients at the Supreme Court. **Strengths:** *"Stig Berge is a very experienced and sharp-minded lawyer. He has become well known as a litigation expert in corporate and transaction-related matters, and he is also an extremely knowledgeable lawyer with respect to general company law."* *"Stig Berge is an excellent lawyer."* *"He has a strong legal understanding and offers a high level of service."* *"Stig is an experienced business lawyer."* **Nanette Arvesen** enters the rankings following strong recognition for her growing dispute resolution practice. She assists with post-M&A disputes, shareholder disagreements and director liability cases, and has experience in the Supreme Court. **Strengths:** *"Nanette is very tidy, easy to understand and convincing."* *"In addition to her excellent legal judiciary knowledge, she has fantastic organisational skills."* *"Nanette Arvesen is a very talented lawyer."* *"She is skilled and clearly an up-and-coming lawyer. She is thorough and knows her stuff."*

Band 3**Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS**

What the team is known for Arntzen de Besche has an experienced dispute resolution practice that is particularly active in shareholder disputes and contractual litigation. It also handles professional negligence and directors' liability cases. The lawyers are popular with clients from the insurance and financial services industries.

Strengths

"Arntzen de Besche's team was very strong – proactive, with strong negotiation tactics while showing creativity throughout the case."

"They are always available at any time and place. They answer immediately – it is impressive."

Work highlights Arntzen de Besche represented Diplom-IS and TINE in a legal action against members of an international truck cartel.

Notable practitioners

Terje Granvang is an established commercial litigator with experience in professional liability disputes, as well as insurance and white-collar crime litigation. **Strengths:** *"Terje Granvang has strong knowledge and is very responsive."* **Vidar Riksfjord** enters the rankings as a talented lawyer who receives impressive accolades for his dispute resolution expertise. He represents clients

in director liability claims, in addition to acting in insurance and product liability cases. He handles cross-border matters, including cases in front of the Supreme Court. **Strengths:** *"Vidar Riksfjord is a no-nonsense lawyer."* *"He is on the ball, has a good energy level and is engaged, easy to talk to and quick."* *"He is a very skilled disputes lawyer who is pretty tough; he is good if you have a demanding counterparty."* *"Vidar is a great lawyer and partner."*

Advokatfirmaet CLP

What the team is known for CLP is a boutique law firm that adroitly handles a variety of domestic and cross-border contentious matters, including international arbitration. It assists clients with disputes relating to transactions, shareholder agreements and professional liability. The law firm is also well placed to advise on real estate and construction cases.

Strengths

"It is easy to get in touch with senior partners who have skills and knowledge in any sector or department."

"The law firm's client service is excellent."

"The team at CLP is highly skilled and complemented by additional resources when needed."

"The lawyers are experienced and have busy practices, yet you always feel your case is prioritised and handled with the proper attention. They also have a keen understanding of the commercial realities."

"The lawyers are strong and flexible."

Work highlights CLP assisted Acciona Construcción with a dispute against Nye Veier connected to the construction of a motorway to Værnes Airport.

Notable practitioners

Kyrre Eggen (see p.1338) expertly handles a range of commercial disputes, from construction cases to breaches of duty of loyalty. He regularly acts in disputes involving the shipping, offshore and energy sectors, and has experience in international arbitration. **Strengths:** *"He is a really good litigator."* *"Kyrre Eggen is strong and agile."* *"Kyrre is a highly committed and intelligent lawyer."*

Egil Jarslett is highly active in domestic commercial litigation. He frequently acts in post-M&A and shareholder disputes relating to forced sales, appraisal and misrepresentation, as well as auditor liability cases. He also assists with contentious real estate and construction mandates. **Strengths:** *"Egil Jarslett is wonderful."*

CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for CMS Kluge has a well-regarded group handling mediation, litigation and arbitration proceedings, often with cross-border elements. The law firm has extensive experience in breach of contract, board member liability and shareholder disputes. The team is also knowledgeable in construction and insurance claims.

Strengths

"CMS Kluge is very well organised, has good systems and follows up in an excellent way."

"The CMS Kluge lawyers show a breadth of knowledge and demonstrate a good ability to cooperate."

"The balance between the lawyers' legal advice and commercial guidance is very good."

"The team are good at adhering to deadlines and response times."

"The law firm is able to provide excellent assistance in every aspect of a broad and complex court case, as well as the necessary negotiations."

Work highlights CMS Kluge defended Kongsberg Maritime in a claim for damages brought by the owner of the ship 'Cerulean' and 17 insurance companies alleging faulty design following two engine breakdowns.

Notable practitioners

Christian Galtung (see p.1339) is an expert litigator who specialises in shareholder and contractual disputes. He often assists clients with cross-border mandates. **Strengths:** *"Christian Galtung is one of the best procedural lawyers in Norway when it comes to civil law." "He is very skilled in court and also has a balance with the commercial aspects." "He is a very strong lawyer with a high degree of knowledge." "Christian is quick and concrete in his feedback."* **Asle Bjelland** (see p.1337) is well known for his work on an array of contractual disputes and damages claims. He is well versed in litigation, including at the Supreme Court, and is additionally noted for his experience in mediation and arbitration proceedings. **Strengths:** *"He is clearly very experienced." "He is balanced, pragmatic and offers good legal considerations." "Asle gives very good legal advice and his take on the problems raised." "He is skilled in handling matters and solving disputes in negotiations."*

Advokatfirmaet Glittertind AS

What the team is known for Glittertind houses a strong commercial disputes practice, with particular expertise in shareholder disputes and transaction-related cases. The team is also knowledgeable in professional liability and negligence issues, and has experience in recovery and damages claims. The department additionally acts on environmental and public law matters. The lawyers have experience representing clients in domestic and international arbitration proceedings, as well as acting before the Supreme Court.

Strengths

"Glittertind are efficient, including in their communication with clients."

"The lawyers work quickly and efficiently."

"The lawyers are very helpful."

"Glittertind has some of the most experienced disputes lawyers."

"The law firm is very much at ease with highly complex cases."

Work highlights Glittertind represented Ryde Technology in a dispute with Trondheim municipality regarding a ban on the rental of electric scooters on municipal grounds.

Notable practitioners

Nils-Henrik Pettersson is well known for his deep expertise in construction and infrastructure cases. He is also knowledgeable in post-M&A, board member liability and shareholder disputes. **Strengths:** *"Nils-Henrik Pettersson has extensive experience in litigating complex matters. He is also extremely efficient, with an ability to cut to the core of the matter at hand and communicate his arguments to the court."* **Anders Ryssdal** is a leading practitioner well regarded for his expertise in commercial disputes, including post-trans-

actional litigation and shareholder disputes. He also handles damages and recovery claims.

Strengths: *"Anders Ryssdal is one of Norway's best lawyers." Emanuel Feinberg is an up-and-coming practitioner who continues to impress the market with his growing dispute resolution practice, which includes acting before the Supreme Court. He regularly advises on post-M&A, professional liability and shareholder disputes. Strengths: "Emanuel Feinberg is thorough, well prepared, very tidy, good at presenting things, structured and reliable. He is also very easy to work with." "He is a very skilled lawyer who has the experience. He is a good procedural lawyer." "He is very analytical and goes into the case."*

Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS

What the team is known for Hjort handles a range of commercial litigation, such as breach of contract and shareholder disputes, representing clients in damages and compensation claims. The team also has a particular focus on professional liability mandates. The lawyers are well recognised for their focus on white-collar crime disputes.

Strengths

"Hjort has good and well-prepared disputes lawyers."

"The lawyers listen and take our input on board, and they are good at guiding us. They not only interpret the law but are also very up to date on the relevant cases."

"Hjort has very skilled lawyers."

"The practice makes efficient use of the teams in the relevant fields."

"The team has a good understanding of the matter at hand in combination with excellent dispute resolution skills. The lawyers are proactive and responsive."

Work highlights Hjort acted for Mo Industripark in a shareholder dispute against Celsa and Øijord & Aanes.

Notable practitioners

A longstanding market stalwart, **Frode Innjord** (see p.1342) is highly regarded for his work in professional liability and contractual disputes, as well as his expertise in arbitration proceedings. **Strengths:** *"Frode Innjord is splendid. He is Norway's best procedural lawyer; he is balanced and presents arguments in a very good way." "He is excellent in all areas. His legal knowledge is extremely good and he has a clear mind when it comes to finding the right angle for a case." "Frode is very good at formulating cases. He is a good procedural lawyer who is good at describing things in a precise way." "He is probably one of Norway's best dispute resolution lawyers." Alex Borch (see p.1338) often handles professional liability and contractual disputes. He is renowned for his expertise assisting clients from the finance sector, handling both domestic and international matters. Strengths: *"Alex Borch is very knowledgeable, service-minded and a delight to work with." "He is a very strong, experienced professional and a good and effective communicator who is very efficient." "He gives a very objective understanding of the dispute. He manages to handle complex cases and see them from an overall perspective." "He has longstanding experience."**

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig assists clients with damages claims connected to contractual and post-transaction disputes, as well as construction cases. The law firm is also well placed to advise on contentious matters related to competition, public procurement and tax law. The lawyers have experience representing clients in the Supreme Court in addition to arbitration proceedings.

Strengths

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig is well equipped to fulfil the client's requirements. The law firm provides swift responses to any questions and offers a superior service level."

"The team is very efficient. The practitioners know the cases very well and focus on the relevant issues, providing spot-on arguments."

"The law firm's client service is very good in terms of availability and staffing."

"The team are renowned for their dispute resolution skills. The lawyers are thorough, with attention to detail and a strategic approach."

"The lawyers are available and always respond."

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig acted for Alarmkundeforeningen in a group action against Sector Alarm and Verisure after the two companies were fined by the Norwegian Competition Authority for unlawfully acting in concert.

Notable practitioners

Christian Reusch is respected for his capabilities in contractual interpretation and corporate law disputes, as well as administrative law cases. He also has experience in group actions. **Strengths:** *"Christian Reusch provides solid guidance throughout, and shows a strong awareness of the commercial and other aspects of the case. He also shows great flexibility and creativity with regard to solving issues that arise." "He shows outstanding quality in structuring litigation cases and presenting them in and out of court." "Christian Reusch is a very skilled disputes lawyer." "He is a very skilled procedural lawyer who is involved in a lot of big cases."*

Band 4

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale represents clients from a broad range of sectors, including the construction, shipping and TMT industries. The law firm often assists companies and private individuals with cases relating to board member liability, contract and payment disputes, and claims for compensation and damages.

Strengths

"The team understand the client's needs very well and are very good at finding practical and creative solutions when faced with unexpected developments."

"The dispute resolution team are highly skilled and eager to understand complex business areas to assist clients with the best possible outcomes."

"The lawyers are able to communicate clearly regarding technical matters."

"The team always seeks to solve any task in the best way for the client."

"Kvale understand our business needs and adapt their advice accordingly."

Notable practitioners

Per Conradi Andersen (see p.1337) advises clients on litigation and arbitration proceedings. He assists with board member liability cases, contractual disputes and damages claims. **Strengths:** “Per Conradi is very pleasant to work with.” “Per Conradi Andersen is excellent.” “He is very sophisticated in court proceedings.”

SANDS

What the team is known for SANDS handles commercial litigation relating to damages claims, breach of contract and shareholder disputes. The lawyers are also particularly knowledgeable in construction, insurance and product liability cases. SANDS additionally acts on white-collar crime mandates and has experience representing clients before the Supreme Court.

Strengths

“The lawyers are always available and quick in both their answers and follow-up.”

“The team have a strong commercial mindset.”

“The lawyers are always available, very knowledgeable, hands-on and flexible.”

“The practice always provides prompt answers.”

“SANDS provides a good-quality and reactive service.”

Notable practitioners

Morten Steenstrup regularly represents clients in litigation regarding contractual disputes. He boasts experience acting in cases before the

Supreme Court. **Strengths:** “Morten Steenstrup is very quick.”

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer is known for handling contractual disputes, shareholder disagreements and professional liability cases. The law firm is also well placed to assist with contentious real estate mandates, including property tax issues. The team often represents clients from the energy, shipping and construction sectors, and handles disputes against public authorities.

Strengths

“Selmer has robust knowledge of our industry, top legal skills and an efficiency that we highly value.”

“The team has a high level of knowledge and the ability to see what is most important in a case and what to focus on to solve it.”

“The lawyers always provide very quick responses beyond the call of duty.”

Notable practitioners

Carl Roberts is knowledgeable in contractual and shareholder disputes. He is also well versed in real estate and property tax cases. He has experience representing clients in arbitration proceedings. **Strengths:** “Carl Roberts has a high-level approach towards what aspects are important in a case and then working to solve it. He is able to see the elements that the case is built on.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Ørjan Salvesen Haukaas (see p.1341) continues to be well regarded for his growing dispute resolution practice. He advises on post-M&A and contract disputes.

Strengths:

“Ørjan Salvesen Haukaas provides good support and advice.”

“He is an extremely good lawyer who is skilled.”

Mohsin Ramani (see p.1344) is well versed in breach of contract disputes, including contentious proceedings relating to share purchase agreements. He also represents clients in recovery claims.

Strengths:

“Mohsin Ramani is a truly outstanding jurist.”

“He is very skilled and up-and-coming.”

Tage Brigt Skoghøy (see p.1345) heads DLA Piper's dispute resolution department in Norway. He is well regarded for his work handling litigation and arbitration connected to M&A and share purchase agreements. He also advises on contract law and liability claims pertaining to contentious real estate and insurance mandates.

Strengths:

“Tage is an outstanding lawyer to work with.”

“He is skilled and has a good reputation.”

“Tage Brigt Skoghøy is very skilled and pedagogical.”

Employment

Employment
Leading Firms
Band 1
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS
Wiersholm
Band 2
BAHR
CMS Kluge
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Selmer
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 3
Kvale Advokatfirma DA
Littler advokatfirma AS
Band 4
Advokatfirma DLA Piper
Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS
Helmr
Hombø Solheim advokatfirma AS
SANDS
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>

Band 1**Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS**

What the team is known for Arntzen de Besche has a market-leading presence in employment law and is praised for its breadth of resources in this field. It maintains a strong reputation for its litigation practice and expertise in discrimination issues, additionally advising on the restructurings, downsizing and union negotiations. The law firm also has a strong practice in pensions law.

Strengths

“Arntzen de Besche is strategic, efficient and systematic, and looks for good solutions.”

“Arntzen de Besche's team is highly knowledgeable, always available, quick in its turnaround and very flexible.”

Notable practitioners

Ingeborg Moen Borgerud enjoys an impressive reputation for her longstanding employment and pensions law expertise. **Strengths:** “Ingeborg Moen Borgerud is excellent. She has broad experience and is very good at finding the most strategic perspective in difficult cases.” **Håvard Sandnes** advises on the appointment and termination of executives and directors. He also assists with

employment law pertaining to restructurings, remuneration and whistle-blowing cases. **Knut-Marius Sture** has particular experience in restructuring and downsizing mandates, including union negotiations, redundancies and terminations. He represents prominent international clients from the professional services and entertainment industries. **Strengths:** “Knut-Marius Sture is academically strong, skilled and experienced.” **Sven Iver Steen** is widely regarded as a leading pensions lawyer. He has experience representing pension funds in novel litigation and substantial restructuring mandates.

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind is a full-service law firm that covers all aspects of collective and individual employment law. It is well versed in reorganisation, outsourcing, M&A and downsizing projects as well as litigation and arbitration in connection with dismissals and collective agreements. The law firm also advises on wrongful dismissals, pensions matters, whistle-blowing and sexual harassment cases, and is well regarded for its work with employee data protection and pension issues.

Employment
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Borgerud Ingeborg Moen Arntzen de Besche
Fougner Else Bugge Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Leading Individuals
Star individuals
Dalheim Tron Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Fougner Jan Wiersholm
Thorkildsen Tarjei BAHR *
Band 1
Aasheim Eli Wiersholm
Egeland Lill Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Kvernaas Pål Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Skarning Nicolay Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Band 2
Benonisen Per Advokatfirma DLA Piper *
Due Anne Marie Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Foyen Sten Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Hansteen Christopher Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Istad Johansen André Selmer
Jetlund Martin Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Kimsås-Otterbech Stein Advokatfirmaet Thommessen
Kokkvold Lars Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Lerheim Tore Littler advokatfirma AS
Sandnes Håvard Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Søreide Christel Wiersholm *
Band 3
Bender Hans Jørgen Selmer
Bergeius Andersen Kari Ræder Bing Law Firm (ORL) ◇
Borch Alex Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Heitmann Henning SANDS
Homble Runar Homble Solheim advokatfirma AS *
Krokann Gaute Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Lenth Claude Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Lilli Marco CMS Kluge *
Mo Preben Haugmoen Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS
Olsby Ole Kristian Littler advokatfirma AS
Stenbrenden Anders CMS Kluge *
Sture Knut-Marius Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Band 4
Aschehoug Thorkil Advokatfirmaet Grette AS (ORL) ◇
Backe Christian Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Backer Jan L Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Berge Håkon Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Engh Einar Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Furesund Merete Littler advokatfirma AS
Johansen Jens Kristian Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Krabbe-Knudsen Johan CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS *
Kvalsnes Trond Erik Littler advokatfirma AS
Lie Nils Kristian CMS Kluge *
Lütken Magnus Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Meder Margrethe BAHR *
Sandnes Nina G. CMS Kluge *
Solheim Trond Erik Homble Solheim advokatfirma AS
Sverre Jan-Erik Kvale Advokatfirma DA *
Up-and-coming individuals
Oftebro Ole André CMS Kluge
Singh Bains Rajvinder Advokatfirma DLA Piper *
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Strengths

"Haavind is able to simplify matters that are legally complex, and thereby make them manageable."
 "Haavind always responds quickly and provides a quality service."

Employment: Pensions
Leading Individuals
Borgerud Ingeborg Moen Arntzen de Besche
Due Anne Marie Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Istad Johansen André Selmer
Kvernaas Pål Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Solheim Trond Erik Homble Solheim advokatfirma AS
Steen Sven Iver Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Thorkildsen Tarjei BAHR *

Work highlights Haavind assisted the Norwegian Armed Forces, the Norwegian Cyber Defence Force and the Norwegian Defence Material Agency on the labour law aspects of outsourcing part of their internal IT operations to a private strategic partner, including restructuring and TUPE issues.

Notable practitioners

Pål Kvernaas is highly regarded for his contentious and advisory employment expertise and is particularly notable for his work regarding transactions and reorganisations. He also offers experience assisting with pensions issues. **Strengths:** "Pål Kvernaas makes law easy to understand and always has good solutions. He is always quick to respond and very flexible." "Pål is always excellent in labour law and organisation issues." **Sten Foyen** handles contentious employment law proceedings, with experience in disputes pertaining to redundancies and dismissals. He also assists clients with non-contentious employment mandates including whistle-blower issues and compliance investigations. **Strengths:** "Sten Foyen is an excellent, knowledgeable employment lawyer." **Lars Kokkvold** enjoys a broad employment practice, assisting with contentious and advisory mandates. He is particularly experienced in the labour law aspects of reorganisations and restructurings, including advice on downsizing, pensions and temporary lay-offs. **Strengths:** "Lars Kokkvold is always on hand for well-founded legal and strategic advice. He is very knowledgeable, responsive and pragmatic, and keeps focused on what we are trying to achieve." "Lars always delivers a high level of service. He is solution-oriented and able to quickly understand the business and commercial issues." Advancing in the rankings, **Gaute Krokann** heads the practice and advises clients on terminations, reorganisations and downsizing. He also has experience in whistle-blowing investigations. **Strengths:** "Gaute Krokann always delivers the highest quality within the timeframe agreed on. He challenges our perception and provides excellent feedback and clear advice." "Gaute is always very responsive, very positive, and always delivers in a timely manner."

Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS

What the team is known for Hjort boasts an impressive team highly regarded for its experience in employment litigation as well as employee data privacy and individual and collective employment law. It additionally advises on restructurings and employee transfers. The law firm's clients include many blue-chip companies from various sectors, as well as unions and public institutions. The team is also experienced in advising on high-profile whistle-blowing investigations and pensions matters.

Strengths

"The law firm provides a good service and fast responses."

"Hjort has a strong insight into all relevant aspects of employment law."

Work highlights Hjort assisted Industri Energi with litigation concerning wage claims from approximately 675 employees against around 80 offshore companies.

Notable practitioners

Else Bugge Fougner (see p.1339) is a widely respected practitioner in the employment arena, with a wealth of experience in contentious and non-contentious labour law matters. **Anne Marie Due** (see p.1338) is regularly involved in a range of investigations and advisory matters, including whistle-blowing cases, reorganisations, pensions and terminations. **Strengths:** "She is capable in pensions and a good lawyer in employment generally." "Anne Marie Due is excellent." **Christopher Hansteen** (see p.1341) is well known for his expertise in collective labour law issues, regularly advising unions, employee organisations and public companies. He has prominent experience assisting with contentious employment issues, including representing clients before the Norwegian Supreme Court. **Strengths:** "Christopher Hansteen always follows up and keeps every deadline." "Christopher is brilliant in court." **Alex Borch** (see p.1338) has extensive experience in employment disputes, including termination cases and anti-competitive agreements. **Strengths:** "It is a pleasure to work with Alex Borch. His know-how is outstanding." **Claude Lenth** (see p.1342) has experience advising companies on HR processes and the employment aspects of organisational changes and redundancies. He also acts on investigations, including whistle-blowing cases. **Strengths:** "Claude Lenth has lots of experience and provides good insight." **Einar Engh** (see p.1339) is best known for his employment litigation capabilities. His experience covers unlawful strike action and whistle-blowing. **Strengths:** "Einar Engh is solution-oriented." **Jens Kristian Johansen** (see p.1342) is a well-recognised employment practitioner who assists clients with mandates relating to reorganisations, contracts, downsizing and whistle-blowing matters. **Strengths:** "Jens Kristian Johansen is a very good sparring partner who finds good solutions, delivers on time and is available when needed."

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm is highly commended for its work on a broad range of employment issues. It is active in labour issues related to reorganisations and M&A. The law firm also handles contentious proceedings regarding dismissals and terminations, and is further experienced in whistle-blowing cases pertaining to workplace environment, harassment and bullying issues.

Strengths

"Wiersholm's employment law team is resourceful and experienced. Its service level and responsiveness is always excellent."

"Wiersholm is pragmatic, practical in its advice and able to find solutions you can work with in practice."

Work highlights Wiersholm represented Norges

Bank Investment Management in a lawsuit brought by an employee alleging breach in equal gender pay.

Notable practitioners

Jan Fougner is a celebrated employment practitioner who has considerable experience in high-profile disputes, often relating to dismissals and terminations. He also has experience in whistle-blower investigations. **Eli Aasheim** has a strong focus on the employment aspects of M&A transactions and organisational restructurings. She acts for a prominent clientele including both Norwegian and international listed companies. **Strengths:** “*Eli Aasheim is an excellent adviser. Eli presents complex things in easily understandable language.*” **Christel Søreide** (see p.1346) heads Wiersholm’s employment team and advises on proceedings relating to redundancies, discrimination and reorganisations, as well as whistle-blowing cases. **Strengths:** “*Christel Søreide always provides great support. She is very knowledgeable and finds good solutions to complex issues.*”

Band 2

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHHR boasts a full-service offering that leverages the employment and pensions law expertise of key practitioners to assist with labour and HR issues. It acts as counsel to major employment confederations and blue-chip companies and offers considerable expertise in employment litigation, handling pensions, transfer of undertakings and terminations. The law firm also advises on downsizing and restructuring issues, as well as working hours, incentive schemes, collective agreements and industrial action.

Strengths

“BAHR has a magnificent team with very good depth and breadth.”

Notable practitioners

Tarjei Thorkildsen (see p.1347) offers pre-eminent expertise covering the full gamut of employment and pensions law, as well as frequently representing clients in high-profile disputes. **Strengths:** “*He is easy-going, calm and sharp. He is very aware of the client’s needs and is capable of delivering strong and pinpointed legal assessments in a short period of time, if needed.*” **Margrethe Meder** (see p.1343) enters the rankings following impressive recognition for her employment law expertise. She is an experienced lawyer who possesses particular knowledge in redundancies, hirings and working time matters, in addition to employment-related litigation. **Strengths:** “*Margrethe Meder is very knowledgeable and very to the point.*”

CMS Kluge

What the team is known for CMS Kluge has a respected employment team offering expertise in restructuring and downsizing processes. It also assists with collective agreements, transaction-related mandates and employee transfers, as well as advising on investigations and disputes. The practice benefits from an international net-

work of offices and is a frequent choice for multinational clients.

Strengths

“CMS Kluge has extensive experience to draw upon.”

“CMS Kluge’s client service is really good. The lawyers are very quick to respond and are really up to date with any changes in the regulations.”

Work highlights CMS Kluge represented the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation in a contractual dispute against an employee.

Notable practitioners

Marco Lilli (see p.1343) has experience working on a range of employment issues, including reorganisations, workforce reductions and TUPE matters. He often assists prominent private companies as well as state and public bodies. Head of department **Anders Stenbrenden** (see p.1346) progresses in the rankings. He handles a variety of employment law mandates, including restructuring and downsizing processes, employment disputes and whistle-blowing investigations. **Strengths:** “*Anders Stenbrenden is excellent.*” The Stavanger-based **Johan Krabbe-Knudsen** (see p.1342) has experience assisting clients with a variety of employment matters, including reorganisations, disputes and the transfer of employees. New to the rankings, **Nils Kristian Lie** (see p.1343) is particularly active in contentious employment law mandates pertaining to redundancies, dismissals and whistle-blowing cases. **Strengths:** “*Nils Kristian Lie is well up to date on changes in employment law and new judgments. His sophistication contributes greatly to mitigating conflicts and opening up new opportunities.*” Entering the rankings, **Nina Sandnes** (see p.1345) handles a variety of employment law matters ranging from reorganisations to termination disputes. She operates from CMS Kluge’s Bergen office. **Strengths:** “*Nina Sandnes is very service-minded and clear in her advice.*” **Ole André Oftebro** has experience handling both contentious and non-contentious labour topics, including reorganisations and internal investigations.

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt provides high-quality advice on TUPE and trade union negotiations. The law firm is additionally experienced in restructuring and workforce reduction projects, including temporary lay-offs, and is also active in whistle-blowing investigations. Lawyers in the team further act for clients on contentious employment issues.

Strengths

“Schjødt has very knowledgeable partners who are very efficient and prompt and always produce top-quality work.”

“Schjødt’s team is well balanced, with experienced lawyers and associates.”

Work highlights Schjødt assisted Mestergruppen with its reorganisation and workforce reduction processes.

Notable practitioners

Martin Jetlund is known for his expertise in transaction-related mandates and TUPE issues. He is also knowledgeable in matters relating to reorganisations, downsizing and whistle-blowing cases. **Strengths:** “*Martin Jetlund is very expe-*

rienced and highly skilled, especially in employment law.” **Magnus Lütken** primarily focuses on employment issues stemming from restructurings, workforce reductions and whistle-blowing cases.

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer has a well-reputed team with in-depth knowledge in individual and collective employment law. It is active in transactional and TUPE mandates and additionally acts on restructuring and downsizing processes, including redundancies. The law firm also assists employers with a range of investigations from dismissals to workplace environment issues, as well as advising on pensions and incentive schemes.

Strengths

“The team quickly comprehends the situation and gives tailored, clear advice.”

“Selmer is very responsive and service-minded. The lawyers are very commercially aware and up to date on our business needs.”

Notable practitioners

André Istad Johansen is knowledgeable in restructuring and downsizing processes, including temporary lay-offs, redundancies and terminations. He additionally advises on the alignment of benefit schemes and pensions disputes. **Strengths:** “*André Istad Johansen is highly knowledgeable about the law and how it applies to us and the commercial consequences. He is very service-minded.*” Managing partner **Hans Jørgen Bender** acts on both contentious and advisory matters, including cross-border movements, reorganisations, terminations and whistle-blowing cases. **Strengths:** “*Hans Jørgen Bender is a very strong and commercial employment lawyer.*”

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig assists clients with a broad range of individual and collective labour law mandates. The law firm frequently advises on restructuring and downsizing, terminations and dismissals. The team also acts on whistle-blowing cases and employment-related litigation.

Strengths

“Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a very strong team within employment law, covering all areas.”

“Simonsen Vogt Wiig demonstrates effective communication, sets clear expectations and provides secure guidance.”

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig represented IKEA in a duplex court case against LO Norway concerning the summary dismissal of a safety representative.

Notable practitioners

Lill Egeland has impressive expertise in temporary lay-offs, downsizing processes, terminations, workforce management and whistle-blowing cases. She handles complex employment litigation and has significant experience advising multinational clients from the tech, retail and pharmaceutical sectors. **Strengths:** “*Lill Egeland is excellent. She always delivers top-quality and practical solutions, and understands business.*” **Nicolay Skarning** is a highly regarded practitioner handling a range of individual and collective

labour law. He is experienced advising on reorganisation and downsizing processes as well as terminations. **Strengths:** "Nicolay Skarning always delivers the best legal services."

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen is a strong choice for transactional employment law as well as reorganisation and downsizing processes. It additionally advises companies on pensions, performance and disciplinary mandates as well as terminations and whistle-blowing cases, including litigation and mediation proceedings. The law firm also has expertise in discrimination and whistle-blower cases.

Strengths

"Thommessen's team has very good knowledge of the market and is up to date on all relevant topics. The lawyers are service-minded and always available."

"The employment law team is capable of handling a very broad spectrum of tasks, including very complex cases. The lawyers also have very good negotiation skills."

Work highlights Thommessen assisted Kahoot! with a court case regarding termination of employment due to sexual harassment.

Notable practitioners

Tron Dalheim heads Thommessen's employment team and often assists companies with a whole host of individual and collective labour issues, including whistle-blowing cases, reorganisations and dismissals. **Strengths:** "Tron Dalheim is highly able to handle very complex cases. In addition to his excellent legal skills within employment law, he is very good at involving the client and listening to their views, while being clear with his advice. He has excellent business understanding, always delivers on time and is a very good negotiator." **Stein Kimsås-Otterbech** is experienced advising on HR processes, workforce management and disciplinary matters. He is also active in contentious mandates such as whistle-blowing cases. **Strengths:** "Stein Kimsås-Otterbech is able to bring solid, practical advice." New to the rankings, **Håkon Berge** is active in a wide range of employment mandates, including bargaining agreements, reorganisations, downsizing and dismissals. He also handles contentious matters such as whistle-blowing cases. **Strengths:** "Håkon Berge is hard-working and always finds good solutions – a real problem solver."

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein is a full-service law firm with a broad employment practice advising on transactions, transfers of undertakings, reorganisations and pensions matters. It also handles a range of disputes and investigations, representing both employers and employees, including overtime compensation. The law firm advises a stable of major public sector employers as well as blue-chip companies.

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein is a full-service law firm with a broad employment practice advising on transactions, transfers of undertakings, reorganisations and pensions matters. It also handles a range of disputes and investigations, representing both employers and employees, including overtime compensation. The law firm advises a stable of major public sector employers as well as blue-chip companies.

Strengths

"Wikborg Rein provides great support in a number of different areas of law. The lawyers are always available and respond quickly."

Work highlights Wikborg Rein represented COSL Offshore Management in a dispute brought by

employees concerning overtime compensation and the legality of a rotation schedule.

Notable practitioners

Christian Backe handles advisory and contentious mandates, including whistle-blowing investigations, reorganisations and disputes, including those concerning dismissals. **Strengths:** "Christian Backe is highly skilled and experienced. He is quick on the uptake and has a strong business sense." **Jan Backer** is well versed in a broad spectrum of employment and labour law issues, including transaction-related matters and whistle-blowing investigations.

Band 3

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale advises on a wide variety of employment mandates and HR processes, from collective bargaining agreements to reorganisations and downsizing. The law firm also assists with terminations and dismissals, as well as whistle-blowing investigations, and counts employers and trade unions among its clients.

Strengths

"Kvale delivers great value every time. The lawyers have a very strong business awareness and are extremely hands-on."

Notable practitioners

Jan-Erik Sverre (see p.1347) acts on both collective and individual labour matters, including reorganisations, disputes and terminations, as well as representing clients in investigations. He often assists blue-chip companies and public bodies. **Strengths:** "Jan-Erik Sverre is always available for his clients and has a very strong, strategic mindset. He is great at thinking outside the box in order to find solutions."

Littler advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Littler possesses a broad offering in individual and collective employment matters. The team is knowledgeable in restructurings and downsizing processes as well as terminations and redundancies. Clients benefit from the law firm's litigation and whistle-blowing investigations experience. It represents employers, trade unions and municipalities.

Strengths

"Littler always covers all necessary aspects of an issue in its assessments and advice."

"The team is very quick, responds fast and is also proactive."

Work highlights Littler assisted the Municipality of Søndre Land in a restructuring process involving redundancies.

Notable practitioners

Tore Lerheim has experience representing employers, employees and unions in disputes relating to terminations and dismissals. He has also recently handled several restructurings. **Strengths:** "Tore Lerheim is a highly service-oriented and excellent attorney with impressive knowledge and experience." **Ole Kristian Olsby** is active in a variety of employment mandates, including terminations, hirings, contractual work and disputes. **Strengths:** "Ole Kristian Olsby is pragmatic, solution-oriented, resourceful and a

good adviser." **Merete Furesund** joins the rankings following notable market recognition. She advises on a variety of individual and collective employment law issues from terminations to contentious proceedings related to diversity and anti-discrimination. **Strengths:** "Merete Furesund is very experienced within employment law and covers the entire spectrum of both individual and collective labour law." **Trond Erik Kvalsnes** advises on a broad range of employment law, from whistle-blowing cases to downsizing and data protection. **Strengths:** "Trond Erik Kvalsnes is responsive, accurate and very helpful."

Band 4

Advokatfirma DLA Piper

What the team is known for DLA Piper is highly active in reorganisations and TUPE mandates. Its employment team also advises on temporary layoffs and redundancies, in addition to workforce management. The department's expertise also entails working hours, remote working and data protection. DLA Piper also handles contentious labour law issues such as discrimination cases. The international law firm regularly acts for large multinational clients.

Strengths

"DLA Piper has strong and relevant competence, and the lawyers are extremely service-minded and easy to contact."

Notable practitioners

Rising in the rankings, **Per Benonisen** (see p.1337) has experience in a wide range of employment matters, including reorganisations, employee transfers and temporary layoffs. **Strengths:** "Per Benonisen has strong and wide competence, is always available for discussions and delivers in a good timely manner." Joining the rankings as an up-and-coming practitioner, **Rajvinder Singh Bains** (see p.1345) advises on a variety of employment matters, including employee transfers and reorganisations.

Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS

What the team is known for Føyen often handles reorganisations, including downsizing processes and TUPE matters. It also assists with terminations, including those pertaining to performance issues. The law firm is additionally experienced in handling whistle-blowing cases and disputes, including those regarding temporary employment.

Strengths

"Føyen provides very quick feedback and delivers when it matters."

Notable practitioners

Progressing in the rankings, **Preben Haugmoen Mo** has a broad employment practice, assisting with reorganisations, terminations, whistle-blowing investigations and pensions matters. **Strengths:** "Preben Haugmoen Mo is highly skilled and offers a great level of service and efficiency."

Helmr

What the team is known for Helmr, formerly Advokatfirmaet Storeng, Beck & Due Lund, is a boutique law firm with notable expertise in a

plethora of employment law topics, from disputes to M&A-related matters. It frequently handles reorganisations, downsizing and terminations. The lawyers also have experience in whistle-blowing cases.

Strengths

"Helmr provides great support and advice."

"The lawyers are always easy to reach if needed."

Work highlights Helmr assisted Swisspearl Norge with the employment law aspects of its merger with Cembrit.

Notable practitioners

Thor-Arne Wullum is a key contact for the department.

Homble Solheim advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Homble Solheim is a newly established employment law boutique that handles the full gamut of contentious and non-contentious labour matters. The team's expertise extends to reorganisation, redundancy and downsizing processes. The lawyers are also experienced in dismissals and terminations as well as whistle-blowing cases.

Strengths

"Homble Solheim is very strong in handling complex and sophisticated matters. The law firm has a high level of service and response rate."

Work highlights Homble Solheim assisted NEP Norway with a reorganisation and redundancy process for its post-production department.

Notable practitioners

Runar Homble (see p.1342) offers expertise a broad range of employment matters, including reorganisations, terminations and contentious proceedings such as whistle-blowing cases. He acts for prominent public bodies as well as private companies. **Strengths:** *"Runar Homble is very quick to respond, very knowledgeable and experienced."* **Trond Erik Solheim** is an experienced employment lawyer, highly regarded for his pensions expertise, often handling contentious proceedings. He has experience working with employers, employees and unions. **Strengths:** *"Trond Erik Solheim understands our business very well."*

SANDS

What the team is known for SANDS offers a comprehensive practice covering contentious and non-contentious employment issues. It regularly advises on restructuring and redundancy processes. The law firm has notable experience in terminations and dismissals, and is also knowledgeable in whistle-blowing investigations and employment disputes.

Strengths

"SANDS offers quick responses, great service levels and good commercial awareness."

"SANDS demonstrates an incredible depth and knowledge."

Notable practitioners

Henning Heitmann advises on a wide range of employment matters, including restructurings, redundancies and compliance. **Strengths:** *"Henning Heitmann always has the client's perspective in mind and advises based on a broad legal understanding from many complex cases."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

New to the rankings, **Thorkil Aschehoug** heads the employment department at Grette and has particular expertise in contentious matters. He regularly handles terminations, investigations and whistle-blowing cases.

Strengths:

"Thorkil Aschehoug has a great ability to get into the necessary details of a case while also being aware of its totality."

Kari Bergeius Andersen maintains a notable and broad employment practice. She is experienced in reorganisations and M&A-related matters as well as redundancy mandates, terminations and dismissal cases.

Strengths:

"Kari Bergeius Andersen is highly knowledgeable and has a good reputation."

Energy Oil & Gas

Energy: Oil & Gas
Leading Firms
Band 1
BAHR
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Band 2
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Wiersholm
Band 3
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
CMS Kluge
Kvale Advokatfirma DA
Selmer
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 4
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>

Band 1

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR has an outstanding legal practice acting for an impressive range of Norwegian and international E&P companies as well as clients from the oil services sector. The law firm assists with a variety of corporate

and asset transactions. It is also knowledgeable in regulatory and licensing issues, petroleum tax topics and energy sector arbitrations.

Strengths

"The lawyers are able to see through complex matters and deliver high-level products on time that create the best value for the customer. If you want to get stuff done you use BAHR."

"The client service is absolutely superb, they have a good work capacity and can always bring the very best team on short notice."

"The lawyers are highly commercial and they always look for opportunities to create value."

"They have very strong problem-solving skills."

"The team is able to explain and take actions on complex matter in a very simple and effective way."

Work highlights BAHR advised INEOS on the USD615 million sale of its Norwegian oil and gas business to PGNiG Upstream.

Notable practitioners

Jan Jansen (see p.1342) is widely respected due to his market-leading experience in litigation and petroleum tax mandates. **Strengths:** *"Jan Jansen is extremely experienced in oil and gas, and due to that, he understands issues very quickly."* *"His work is very efficient and he is very good at providing input."* **Thomas Svensen** (see p.1347) is revered

as an outstanding practitioner who frequently assists E&P companies with transactional matters, as well as offering experience in regulatory mandates and disputes. **Strengths:** *"He is a top performer."* *"Thomas Svensen is extremely service-minded, he always follows through. He has a good overview and is highly knowledgeable. He is also highly commercial and understands business well."* *"He is a very skilled lawyer."* **Morten Smørdal** (see p.1346) enjoys a broad practice assisting with corporate and M&A mandates as well as regulatory issues, often acting for E&P clients. **Strengths:** *"He really knows his client's activity and decision-making processes."* **Jon Christian Thaulow** (see p.1347) advises clients on transactions and disputes in the oil and gas industry.

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt is an exceptional full-service law firm that possesses a large number of specialists and excels in all areas of the oil and gas sector. Its lawyers handle complex transactions, dispute resolution and regulatory matters. Its impressive roster of clients includes many leading E&P companies, operators and oil services entities. The law firm is strong in both domestic and international matters, serving cli-

Energy: Oil & Gas
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Hiorth Peter A <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>
Michelet Christian Fredrik <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bjelland Sverre <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>
Dyrland Sondre <i>Wiersholm</i>
Jansen Jan B <i>BAHR*</i>
Svensen Thomas K <i>BAHR*</i>
Band 2
Bakken Erlend <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>
Bustnesli Yngve <i>Kvale Advokatfirma DA*</i>
Stornes Audun <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS</i>
Band 3
Leerberg Bjørn-Erik <i>Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig</i>
Lieungh Pål <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS</i>
Michelet Thomas <i>Selmer</i>
Navestad Karl Erik <i>Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS</i>
Olimstad Øyvind <i>Selmer</i>
Omdahl Rune <i>Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS</i>
Willoch Preben T <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>
Band 4
Abrahamsen Thomas <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS</i>
Grytten Camilla <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>
Haga Aadne Martin <i>Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS</i>
Hetland Cathrine B. <i>Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS</i>
Madland Siv Veronika <i>CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS*</i>
Rødland Anders <i>Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS</i>
Smørdal Morten P <i>BAHR*</i>
Stakkestad Jone <i>Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS</i>
Sveen Christopher L <i>Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS</i>
Thaulow Jon Christian <i>BAHR*</i>
* Indicates individual with profile.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

ents through offices in Oslo, Stavanger, Stockholm, Copenhagen and London.

Strengths

"They have a very good commercial understanding. "Schjødt is a legal one-stop shop."

"They always have resources available to handle complex matters."

"They are responsive, proactive and skilled, and give good analyses."

"The team offers excellent support and subject matter expertise. It has extremely capable transactional lawyers with practical solutions to all issues."

Work highlights Schjødt represented Lundin Energy in relation to the USD14 billion sale of its Norwegian oil and gas business to Aker BP.

Notable practitioners

The Stavanger-based **Peter Hiorth** is highly regarded for his longstanding presence in the market, with particular expertise in transactions. He also assists with contentious proceedings, including matters involving petroleum tax. **Strengths:** *"Peter Hiorth is one of the top oil and gas lawyers, with vast experience and in-depth understanding of the business and its commercial aspects."* **Christian Fredrik Michelet** is reputed for his expertise in most aspects of the industry, ranging from regulatory matters to litigation and transactions. **Strengths:** *"He has very long and heavy experience in the areas we need."* Co-heading the department, **Sverre Bjelland** has a stellar reputation for advising E&P and infra-

structure companies on the full range of transactions, disputes and regulatory topics. **Strengths:** *"He is an excellent business-focused lawyer."* *"Sverre Bjelland is everything you need in an oil and gas lawyer."* *"He has great experience, and has a client-oriented attitude and is service-minded."* *"He knows the value chain and he understands the solutions, which is a balance between law, strategy and economics."* **Erlend Bakken** enjoys a strong reputation representing E&P companies in transactions, including financing mandates. **Strengths:** *"Erlend is excellent, focused and specialised in financing, and always focuses on the target solution."* **Preben Willoch** co-heads the department and assists E&P companies with transactions as well as corporate and regulatory topics such as gas transportation matters. **Strengths:** *"He combines deep legal knowledge with very good commercial understanding."* **Camilla Grytten** assists with a whole host of corporate and commercial mandates, often relating to development projects, including licence matters and drilling contracts. She works from the law firm's Stavanger office, and joined from CMS Kluge in February 2024. **Strengths:** *"She is very skilled and analytical. She is good at handling complex matters."* *"The work is on time. She is a very hard-working person and also very experienced."* *"She is good at placing herself in the counterparty's shoes."*

Band 2

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen's oil and gas practice has an impressive corporate offering, working closely with the law firm's M&A and ECM departments to assist with transactions and commercial agreements. The team also advises on the acquisition and sale of assets and licences on the NCS. The law firm has offices in Oslo, Stavanger and London, allowing it to service various national and international clients with cross-border work.

Strengths

"We have access to a wide range of specialists with all legal areas."

"The service is seamless. They deliver on time and the quality of the deliveries is good."

"Thommessen has a very strong and experienced team in offshore and contractual matters."

"They are very trusted legal advisers and also demonstrate valuable commercial experience and market understanding."

Work highlights Thommessen represented ResQ in relation to the sale of the ResQ business to Maersk.

Notable practitioners

Audun Stornes frequently acts for E&P companies on transactional mandates, with a particular focus on complex commercial agreements. He is based in Thommessen's Stavanger office. **Strengths:** *"He is an expert in commerciality."* *"Audun Stornes is very intelligent and has a good regulatory understanding."* *"He has long experience from the E&P business with a lot of relevant contacts both in the industry and within authorities. He knows the details."* **Pål Lieungh** assists clients from the offshore and oil services sphere with a whole host of commercial agreements.

Strengths: *"He is brilliant when it comes to negotiations. He makes things easier and is very tidy and proper."* *"Pål Lieungh is a very experienced contract lawyer with a high level of commercial awareness, who provides very valuable legal advice."* *"He is extremely experienced."* **Thomas Abrahamsen** is well regarded for his practice handling transactions in the oil service industry. He operates from the law firm's Stavanger office. **Strengths:** *"His biggest strength is that he is good at managing big mandates. He is extremely good at client management by keeping clients updated and speaking to all stakeholders."* *"He is very skilled, thorough and solid."* A new addition to the ranking, **Jone Stakkestad** advises E&P companies and oil and gas operators on a range of corporate and commercial mandates, including divestments and farm-in and tie-in agreements. **Strengths:** *"Jone Stakkestad has a lot of experience and is a very good discussion partner."* *"Jone's major strength is that he has very good industry knowledge. He gets up to speed quickly and will be familiar with the industry challenges or questions at hand."*

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm offers a full-service group advising on a range of transactions and financing arrangements. It is also well versed in regulatory topics pertaining to gas infrastructure and contentious proceedings concerning joint development as well as allocation issues. The team enjoys a diverse client roster of E&P and oil services companies as well as state entities.

Strengths

"Wiersholm has highly qualified lawyers with very good analytical skills and broad experience."

"They always respond quickly."

"Wiersholm has a great understanding of policy-making, incentives and business."

Work highlights Wiersholm advised OKEA on its USD117.5 million acquisition of a portfolio of assets from Wintershall Dea.

Notable practitioners

Department head **Sondre Dyrland** represents E&P companies and state-owned entities in a range of regulatory mandates, as well as commercial agreements and contentious proceedings. **Strengths:** *"He conducts very thorough analyses. He has seen a lot of different issues and knows petroleum law in all ways."* *"Sondre Dyrland has an excellent understanding of public policy, regulation and commercial questions."* *"He has a very good commercial understanding."* *"He is able to communicate and follow up with the client in a splendid way."*

Band 3

Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Arntzen de Besche handles a broad range of domestic and cross-border oil and gas mandates, serving clients through its offices in Oslo and Stavanger. The lawyers advise on a whole host of commercial and regulatory mandates connected to oil exploration and field development, including joint ventures and construction contracts. The law firm also

assists with M&A transactions, financing matters and dispute resolution services.

Strengths

"They are very responsive."

"Arntzen de Besche is proactive in all our processes."

The team discovers issues we have not thought about and is creative when finding solutions."

"They have a clear understanding of the client's priorities and needs."

Notable practitioners

Karl Erik Navestad advises E&P companies on a range of commercial agreements and regulatory topics, as well as disputes. **Strengths:** *"Karl Erik Navestad's strength is that he has good insight into regulated activities." "He is verbally strong, a smart guy and someone who has worked in the oil and gas industry for a long time. He knows our business well."* **Rune Omdahl's** broad practice covers corporate advisory and the acquisition of field interests as well as disputes in the energy sector. **Strengths:** *"Rune Omdahl is especially commercial. He is very skilled at finding solutions to complex commercial issues."* The Stavanger-based **Anders Rødland** advises E&P and blue-chip companies on field developments and M&A transactions, as well as the divestment of oil and gas assets. **Strengths:** *"He has as a lot of experience in negotiations and a broad knowledge base."* **Anders Rødland** has a good business understanding and knows what the client expects."

CMS Kluge

What the team is known for CMS Kluge advises on a broad range of commercial contracts and agreements, frequently pertaining to development projects and licensing matters. The department also assists with corporate transactions and disputes in the sector, and the team is well versed in cross-border aspects. The law firm services its clients from offices in Bergen, Oslo and Stavanger.

Strengths

"There is a short response time and they are good at connecting the correct resources to the task needed, without affecting the time or quality of the work. They offer good client care and you feel supported."

"The CMS Kluge team has a pragmatic and commercial approach, which is highly valuable for us."

"CMS Kluge has a very experienced team in a great variety of fields in order to tackle complex and demanding subjects. Their experience in the field of oil and gas allows one to very quickly get to the core of the subject. Additionally, CMS Kluge is always up to date with latest and specific legal matters."

"The diversity of the team certainly helps in tackling global issues and it gives a multitude of angles and views, which is always positive."

Work highlights CMS Kluge advised the state-owned company Petoro on the commercial process in relation to a unitisation agreement for production licences on the Norwegian Continental Shelf.

Notable practitioners

Based in Stavanger, **Siv Veronika Madland** (see p.1343) enjoys a broad practice, advising on rig-related contracts and licence issues. She also assists with M&A and dispute resolution matters. **Strengths:** *"She is very on the ball and very effi-*

cient." *"Siv Veronika Madland is good at taking care of the client. She has a close relation to her clients in a natural way."*

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale often handles contentious matters in the oil and gas sector, representing E&P and oil services companies, as well as state-owned enterprises. Its team assists with a range of topics, from petroleum and regulatory law to contract negotiations. It is also highly active in transactional mandates on the NCS with regard to participation interests in oil fields. It also handles disputes in the sector.

Strengths

"They always deliver in a timely manner and always exceed our expectations."

"Kvale offers well-informed, balanced and reasonable advice and guidance, based on the nature and scale of the matter."

"The firm has a strong and diverse team."

"The client service is very good. The lawyers are on the ball, they are proactive and follow up directly."

Notable practitioners

Rising in the ranking, **Yngve Bustnesli** (see p.1338) assists a host of E&P, oil service and private equity clients with regulatory mandates as well as transactions and contractual negotiations. **Strengths:** *"He knows the industry, which means he can give operational advice and understands what we need to make decisions."* *"Yngve Bustnesli always provides the highest level of service."* *"He has a solid understanding of our business alongside his long and good experience in regulatory issues."* *"He is proactive and goes far to meet our demands, both in terms of quality and timing."*

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer has a full-service practice advising E&P and oil services companies on a range of exploration and field development mandates. The law firm is particularly strong in the sale and acquisition of participation interests, as well as corporate transactions and joint ventures. It also offers notable regulatory expertise and dispute resolution capabilities.

Strengths

"The team at Selmer demonstrates strong business acumen."

"The lawyers always offer strong and fast responses."

"Their combining of expert legal advice on all areas of relevance together with their financial and strategic competence is of high value to us."

"They are very dedicated and very focused on aims, and have a very keen eye for detail."

Notable practitioners

Thomas Michelet advises on corporate transactions and the sale and acquisition of participation interests in oil fields. **Strengths:** *"Thomas Michelet is a very proactive guy. He finds solutions and is very skilled."* *"He has strong industry knowledge and combines this with impressive strategic and legal skills."* *"He is really good at catching all the details and he understands the business really well."* **Øyvind Olimstad** represents E&P and oil and gas services companies in a range of contentious and non-contentious mandates, including regulatory topics. **Strengths:** *"Øyvind Olimstad*

is a great lawyer and commercially skilled. He also gives great feedback that is to the point." *"He has an excellent profile, is well balanced and concise and has a high commercial awareness."* *"His response time is absolutely extraordinary."*

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a highly regarded practice, well known for its expertise in international oil and gas projects, particularly in emerging markets. The law firm frequently acts for domestic and foreign governmental bodies and state enterprises, advising on regulatory frameworks and compliance in connection with exploration and production matters. Its lawyers also have experience in local and cross-border transactions and contractual agreements, as well as energy-related dispute resolution mandates.

Strengths

"The legal assessments are delivered with high quality and on schedule."

"The law firm has a deep and broad team that is very flexible in order to work and deliver on time."

"They cover all possible scenarios and angles with realistic solutions. They always think laterally."

"The lawyers treat your business needs with care and urgency."

"They have very good knowledge of the upstream sector."

Notable practitioners

Bjørn-Erik Leerberg often assists domestic and foreign companies as well as state entities with regulatory matters and transactional mandates.

Strengths: *"Bjørn-Erik Leerberg has a wealth of experience in the sector and has a particular understanding of government matters."* *"He has solid knowledge and is very strong in his arguments in a discussion. He also combines theory and practice and finds practical solutions."*

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein offers a solid practice with particular expertise in litigation and arbitration proceedings, often relating to gas price disputes. The law firm also assists with commercial and regulatory gas supply mandates, as well as transactions involving licences and oil and gas assets on the NCS.

Strengths

"They have an excellent ability to legally dissect the core issues under pressure. They provide top-notch advice."

"The lawyers are very theoretically skilled. They are also very service-minded and quick at delivering what they should on time."

"Wikborg Rein offers excellent availability and cooperation."

"It is a very experienced team."

Notable practitioners

Aadne Haga has experience acting for multinational companies and state entities. He is particularly well known for his expertise in gas disputes, including arbitration proceedings. He also advises on the regulatory and contractual aspects of gas supply matters. **Strengths:** *"He offers a consistently strong performance and second-to-none client attention."* **Cathrine Hetland** is widely acknowledged for her growing presence in the

market. She advises on the sale and purchase of licences and field interests, as well as corporate transactions. **Strengths:** “Cathrine Hetland understands complex material very quickly and breaks it down to what is important and what is not.” “She is responsive, service-minded and always available. She seeks to find good solutions for her clients.” “Cathrine Hetland brings a lot of experience in oil and gas matters in Norway.”

Band 4

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind's oil and gas department is particularly well-versed in contrac-

tual mandates pertaining to the oil services and offshore construction industries. The law firm also advises on M&A and disputes. Its lawyers are experienced handling both domestic and cross-border matters.

Strengths

“Haavind is able to provide sound and pragmatic legal advice on technically and commercially challenging matters.”

“They approach the topics in depth and discuss and present the matters in an understandable way.”

“The lawyers are very efficient and flexible. They maintain timelines and offer clear communication.”

“They have an excellent understanding of the commercial drivers in the industry and market developments. They also have a good understanding of our

business concerns and help us maintain a commercial focus.”

Work highlights Haavind advised ABL Group on its acquisition of the offshore energy service provider Add Energy.

Notable practitioners

Christopher Sveen is active in domestic and multi-jurisdictional mandates in the oil services and offshore construction sectors. **Strengths:** “He is always open and gives a lot of energy. He is also interested in us as a client in order to understand our needs and approach.” “Christopher Sveen has a very solid industry understanding and commercial awareness. He is also pragmatic and focused, and understands the client's and counterparty's perspectives and drivers.”

Energy Renewables

Energy: Renewables
Leading Firms
Band 1
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Wiersholm
Band 2
BAHR
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 3
Advokatfirmaet CLP
Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS
Kvale Advokatfirma DA
Advokatfirmaet Lund & Co DA
Selmer
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind is instructed by domestic and international power and grid companies to act on the establishment and development of hydro and wind power projects. The law firm also assists with power plant upgrades and refurbishments. The team is noteworthy for its activity in wind farm transactions and power purchase agreements and is knowledgeable in regulatory and dispute resolution matters, with expertise in landowner and water rights as well as licensing issues.

Strengths

“Haavind has a unique, decades-long experience in the sector and with the market players.”

“The law firm has a broad pool of lawyers who revert back with precision and useful advice. They are very service-minded and respond quickly.”

“It is a well-aligned team with strong availability for

Energy: Renewables
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Svoren Rune BAHR *
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bartnes Inge Ekker Wiersholm
Christoffersen Bendik Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Martinsen Gunnar Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Naas-Bibow Jens F BAHR
Rabben Jon Wiersholm
Tannum Aksel Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Band 2
Bjella Kristin Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Sandvik Jøran Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Simonsen Peter Aall Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt
Thaulow Jon Christian BAHR *
Wasenden Odd-Harald Berg Arntzen (ORL) ◇
Band 3
Aas Lars Gunnar Advokatfirmaet CLP *
Bjørnebye Henrik BAHR *
Jakobsen Robin Aker Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt
Larsen Ulf Advokatfirmaet Lund & Co DA
Lund Caroline Advokatfirmaet Lund & Co DA
Nilsen Tormod Ludvik Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Ourom Kristin Kvale Advokatfirma DA *
Poulsen Christian Kvale Advokatfirma DA *
Sandbekk Håkon Selmer
Skaar Landsværk Caroline Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma
Stinessen Stein Erik Advokatfirmaet Lund & Co DA
Up-and-coming individuals
Bjerke Mari Reitzel Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Erdal Amund Berthelsen Advokatfirmaet CLP *

the client.”

“Haavind has excellent regulatory and commercial knowledge within the power market and can therefore handle complex cases. There is both breadth and depth within the law firm when needed.”

“It is a very solid team that has been involved in many cases. The lawyers are always ready to help

and do their best for the client.”

Work highlights Haavind acted for Hydro Energi on the merger of its hydro power assets with Lyse into the joint company Lyse Kraft.

Notable practitioners

Aksel Tannum's practice covers a wide range of mandates, including acquisitions, litigation and regulatory issues across renewable energy projects. He boasts additional expertise in power purchase agreement matters. **Strengths:** “Aksel Tannum knows our business area well and has a good level of customer service.” “Mr Tannum has excellent knowledge within the power area and appears with great credibility in negotiations.” “He is service-minded and has a broad knowledge.” “Aksel is particularly knowledgeable in the power industry, the regulation of power companies, concessions and the government's view on anything renewable.” “He is an exceptional energy lawyer.” Advancing in the rankings, **Jøran Sandvik** has strong regulatory and transaction expertise in the renewable energy sector. He assists with large-scale hydropower plant and wind farm projects.

Strengths: “Jøran is always available, understands the topics and replies in a useful and to-the-point way.” “Jøran is very service-minded.” “He is a skilled lawyer.” **Mari Reitzel Bjerke** enters the rankings as an up-and-coming practitioner with notable expertise in regulatory renewable energy topics. She has experience in the development of hydro and wind power projects in addition to matters related to grid development, connection and power supply mandates. **Strengths:** “Mari Reitzel Bjerke gives good service and strong advice.” “She is a very dedicated lawyer with a great working capacity. She contributes constructively to her clients' cases.” “Mari is service-minded, available and result-oriented.” “She is a solid lawyer who is good theoretically.” “She has very strong energy knowledge.”

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for The market-leading team at Thommessen is resourceful in all aspects of the renewable energy sector, with particular prominence in wind and hydroelectric power. The law firm provides expert advice to energy and utility companies on grid and infrastructure operations, project development, construction contracts and regulatory issues. It is also well known for its corporate expertise in M&A and financing matters. Thommessen is additionally active in commercial and regulatory disputes.

Strengths

"Thommessen has deep expertise and experience across the Norwegian renewables space, coupled with general solid commercial problem-solving capabilities and a broad M&A team."

"The lawyers have strong capabilities and capacity, and are always available when needed."

"It is a large law firm with a broad spectrum of specialists to support with almost anything."

"Thommessen has a good understanding of the hydropower sector and its commercial drivers and risks. It has an experienced team that offers good capacity and quick responses."

"It is the most knowledgeable law firm within the energy sector in Norway. The lawyers always respond immediately to our requests."

Work highlights Thommessen advised HitecVision on matters related to the establishment of Aneo as a jointly owned company with TrønderEnergi.

Notable practitioners

Bendik Christoffersen is highly sought after by domestic and international renewable energy companies and investment firms. He advises clients on M&A, project finance and development matters. **Strengths:** *"Bendik Christoffersen is specialised in power tax. He is fast, service-minded and skilled."* *"Bendik has in-depth knowledge in all relevant legal areas in relation to the sector. He is always available and supportive, and finds good solutions."* *"He has a very broad practice and experience. He has worked in the market for a long time; he is obviously very skilled and a strong profile in the market."* *"He is attentive to the client's needs and has a commercial and practical approach to problem-solving."* *"He has impressive experience and insights into the Norwegian renewables space, coupled with a strong ability to work out practical solutions to complex matters."* **Gunnar Martinsen** maintains an impressive practice acting for energy clients on large-scale M&A transactions in the sector. He is also recognised for his regulatory expertise. **Strengths:** *"Gunnar Martinsen is the number one lawyer in the energy sector."* *"He is very knowledgeable when it comes to energy sector regulation, and has in-depth knowledge of our business. He is hard-working, service-minded and always available."* *"He has an excellent combination of industry and juridical knowledge."*

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm's stellar practice is active in transactional and regulatory mandates. It offers strength in wind farm and hydropower plant transactions, acquisitions of utility companies and mergers of grid-operating businesses. The law firm also handles project

development matters, including financing and refinancing issues, and acts on power purchase agreements. Wiersholm represents domestic and international energy companies and investors.

Strengths

"The lawyers are proactive. They handle complex problems and come up with solutions to the different issues. The team has a thorough understanding of the energy and power market, in addition to project development."

"Wiersholm is available and provides outstanding advice and support."

"The team has a very detailed approach and very good expertise coverage. It is clearly a top-tier law firm."

"Wiersholm is an invaluable partner for drafting contracts to meet complex scenarios, as well as challenging us and coming up with ideas. The lawyers go to great lengths to understand where we are coming from commercially."

"The team offers excellent legal insight and a good structure to building an argument. It has good specialist expertise in addition to available partners for greater breadth."

Work highlights Wiersholm advised TrønderEnergi on its partnership with HitecVision, establishing the jointly owned renewable energy business Aneo.

Notable practitioners

Entering the top tier, **Inge Ekker Bartnes** has particular expertise in energy-related transactions. He advises clients on mergers, acquisitions and investments. Additionally, he supports his clients on hydropower licences, power purchase agreements and regulatory issues. **Strengths:** *"Inge Ekker Bartnes is a great sparring partner."* *"Inge is always available and solution-oriented. He is skilled at handling issues and follows up on matters as agreed."* *"He is always available for his clients. He has both a legal and commercial perspective on issues, and cooperates in a good manner."* *"Inge is our go-to person, both to find the right person to work with inside Wiersholm and also for the most complex matters."* *"He has extensive experience of the energy sector in Norway, and hence a deep understanding of things when solving legal questions."* **Jon Rabben** displays extensive transactional expertise in the renewable energy sector. He also regularly advises domestic utility companies and international investment funds on regulatory issues arising from wind projects. **Strengths:** *"Jon Rabben is in a league of his own."* *"He has a strong commercial awareness, is solution-oriented and has tons of experience."*

Band 2

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR's impressive energy practice is particularly well known for handling renewable energy transactions and tax issues, often acting for joint ventures. The law firm possesses a broad client base including wind farm and hydropower developers, grid owners and operators, power producers, funds and investors.

Strengths

"BAHR is on top of all commercial issues that come its way."

"BAHR is very commercial."

Work highlights BAHR advised the City of Oslo, Hafslund Eco, HitecVision and Infranode II as an investor consortium on its acquisition of Fortum's 50% stake in Fortum Oslo Varme, now known as Hafslund Oslo Celsio.

Notable practitioners

Rune Svoren (see p.1347) assists with mergers and divestments in the renewable energy sector. He acts for major domestic and regional energy companies. **Jens Naas-Bibow** offers extensive transactional expertise in the renewable energy sector. He also assists with hydropower projects and grid and infrastructure mandates. He joined BAHR in March 2024. **Strengths:** *"He is a really skilled lawyer."* **Jon Christian Thaulow** (see p.1347) acts on M&A transactions and commercial disputes in the renewable energy sector. He additionally assists with contractual and regulatory mandates in connection with wind farm and hydropower plant projects. **Strengths:** *"Jon Christian Thaulow is very theoretically skilled."* **Henrik Bjørnebye** (see p.1337) enters the rankings for the first time and is lauded for his knowledge in Norwegian and EU renewable energy law. He has deep expertise in a range of mandates, from wind farm transactions to CCS and regulatory grid operation topics. **Strengths:** *"Henrik Bjørnebye is perhaps Norway's best lawyer in EU energy law."* *"He knows the European framework. He is very academic and knowledgeable."* *"Henrik is a very academically skilled renewables lawyer."* *"He is a very knowledgeable lawyer in the field."*

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein's notable energy practice advises on transactions, financing and developments in the electricity sector, covering wind farms, hydropower projects and grid infrastructure. The lawyers also handle power purchase agreements and are skilled in contentious matters.

Strengths

"The law firm has many subject-matter experts that may be involved if needed."

"Wikborg Rein has a team of lawyers who have both breadth and depth in the different areas that are needed in complex negotiations and transactions."

Work highlights Wikborg Rein advised OW Offshore on establishing a joint venture with Statkraft and Mainstream Renewable Energy.

Notable practitioners

Tormod Ludvik Nilsen advises on transactional and regulatory matters within the electricity sector. **Strengths:** *"He understands complex issues in a very short time, and gives to-the-point advice in writing and verbally in a way that enables the client to act on it without delay."* *"Tormod is very responsive, intelligent and knowledgeable."* **Caroline Skaar Landsværk** assists clients with various matters relating to hydro and wind power agreements and grid-related regulatory issues. **Strengths:** *"She is a pleasant person to work with, and very quickly understands our needs so that it's efficient to initiate new tasks. She also challenges us and introduces new perspectives."* *"She advises on different alternative solutions to a commercial topic, as well as the connected risks and consequences. She offers both legal and commercial advice."*

Band 3

Advokatfirmaet CLP

What the team is known for CLP's esteemed practice regularly represents utility companies, energy producers and investment funds based in Norway and across the Nordic region. The law firm is noted for its strong transactional capabilities and is frequently seen advising on sales, investments and joint venture creations. It also assists clients with power purchase agreements.

Strengths

"It is a hands-on and experienced team."

"CLP gives high-quality advice whenever needed. The team always advises on and solves issues quickly and effectively."

Work highlights CLP acted for Agder Energi Vannkraft on the negotiation of a PPA with Yara Norge for its ammonia plant at Herøya.

Notable practitioners

Lars Gunnar Aas (see p.1336) advises domestic and international clients on a variety of transactional mandates, including joint ventures and investments in renewable energy companies.

Amund Berthelsen Erdal (see p.1339) advises on renewable energy matters, assisting investors and energy companies with share transactions, joint ventures and power purchase agreements.

Strengths: *"He always follows up on the issues brought to him and makes sure it is understood."* *"Amund Berthelsen Erdal provides a high level of service and quality."*

Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS

What the team is known for Hjort's full-service renewable energy practice has expertise in hydroelectric power, wind farm projects and grid connections. It frequently advises on regulatory matters, whilst also assisting with transactions and litigation relating to concessions, energy tax issues and rights of use to land. Its client base includes energy, power and utility companies.

Strengths

"The team is solution-oriented and responds quickly to questions."

"The practice is very strong, with broad and relevant experience."

Work highlights Hjort assisted Å Energi with matters connected to the concession and acquisition of property for the development and building of power production plants and infrastructure in the Åsersdal region.

Notable practitioners

Kristin Bjella (see p.1337) is active in a wide variety of mandates, ranging from mergers and acquisitions in the renewable sector to land rights and regulatory issues. She offers additional expertise in contentious cases. **Strengths:** *"Kristin Bjella has been in the energy sector for several years, and has a broad knowledge of the issues and regulations that come into play when handling matters in the sector."* *"She knows the industry extremely well."*

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale's renewable energy group has a noteworthy practice in hydroelectric power generation. It advises clients on corporate and transactional matters, including

acquisitions, financings and restructurings. The law firm also assists with disputes and regulatory issues relating to electricity certificates, power purchase agreements, concession agreements and grid connections.

Strengths

"Kvale has a dedicated team that is solution-oriented. The lawyers always provide fast and constructive responses."

"The team is responsive and service-minded, and the practitioners are commercially good and strategic within their fields."

Work highlights Kvale assisted Gismarvik Vindkraftverk with the construction and financing of an onshore greenfield project on the west coast of Norway.

Notable practitioners

Kristin Ourom (see p.1344) enters the rankings for the first time following noteworthy market recognition. She regularly advises on transactions and mergers involving hydropower and grid portfolios, including structuring and restructuring topics. **Strengths:** *"Kristin has a unique ability to create trust in processes with different parties. She has a strong ability to find constructive, commercial solutions, and she has a deep insight into the customer's various challenges."* *"She is an experienced lawyer within the energy industry, providing a broad network and fast response times."*

Christian Poulsson (see p.1344) is the head of Kvale's Electricity & Renewable Energy practice. He covers disputes and electricity regulatory mandates, as well as hydropower plant projects and transactions. **Strengths:** *"Christian is a true specialist who is practical in his approach. He is also a great litigator."* *"He is solution-oriented and goes to great lengths to satisfy his clients' needs."*

Advokatfirmaet Lund & Co DA

What the team is known for Lund & Co is a highly admired boutique representing host municipalities and small owners in power production matters, often involving water resources and hydroelectric power. The law firm is praised for its prowess in contentious energy cases, often advising on disputes concerning regulatory matters, such as concessions and tax issues.

Notable practitioners

Ulf Larsen maintains a solid reputation in the market, routinely representing municipalities in energy-related disputes. **Caroline Lund** is well regarded in the energy market and has considerable experience acting for municipalities on regulatory and contentious issues. **Strengths:** *"Caroline Lund is very skilled, enthusiastic and knowledgeable."* **Stein Erik Stinessen** maintains a leading practice in the energy sector, mostly acting for public authorities on regulatory and contentious issues.

Selmer

What the team is known for The well-regarded practice at Selmer acts for a variety of entities in the renewable energy sector. The team is experienced in matters relating to wind, solar and hydropower production. It offers noteworthy advice on commercial and contractual mandates such as transactions, restructurings and joint ventures, as well as power purchase and wind turbine supply

agreements. Selmer acts for major regional and national operators, developers and energy companies.

Strengths

"The team has strong breadth and depth, and offers a very good service level and fast responses. The lawyers have strong commercial awareness."

"Selmer always responds promptly and explains any answers to any questions we have very well."

Work highlights Selmer advised TechnipFMC on establishing the joint venture and related agreements for the Deep Purple pilot project.

Notable practitioners

Håkon Sandbekk heads the practice at Selmer and has significant expertise in relation to renewable energy matters. He often acts on project developments within the solar, wind, hydropower and hydrogen spaces. **Strengths:** *"He has a high level of understanding regarding the market, the legal structures and government issues."* *"His commercial awareness coupled with sound legal judgement is an unusually strong combination."*

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for The strong renewable energy department at Simonsen Vogt Wiig possesses significant knowledge in transactions, financing and development projects in the wind power market. The law firm also assists with mandates in the hydropower and biofuel sectors. Simonsen Vogt Wiig advises investment banks, funds and energy companies on a range of topics, including regulatory, power grid and concession matters. It is also noted for its expertise in electricity certificates and property rights issues.

Strengths

"The team has a solid grip of the Norwegian renewable energy sector."

"The lawyers are able to cut to the chase very quickly and give very sound advice."

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig advised NAEV Solventus on the negotiation of an option agreement securing the rights to the Stavro wind farm project.

Notable practitioners

Peter Aall Simonsen has expertise in transactional and regulatory matters in the electricity space. He also advises clients on power project developments and guarantee issuances. **Strengths:** *"He is an extremely strong adviser."* *"Peter Aall Simonsen is an excellent lawyer who is very good at giving advice that solves our legal challenges."* **Robin Aker Jakobsen** possesses strong expertise in grid projects. He advises clients on transactions as well as regulatory matters. **Strengths:** *"He demonstrates a high level of awareness regarding the quality of work, speed of delivery and client service."* *"Robin is always hands-on and effective, and always finds time for the client when they need legal assistance."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Odd-Harald Berg Wasenden of Arntzen de Besche is noted for his regulatory expertise. He also advises clients on M&A transactions and licence applications.

Strengths:

"Odd-Harald is unique in the way he can see simple solutions to very complex problems."

"He has an academic background and understands the issues of the field. He is a good discussion partner for complex issues."

Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property
Leading Firms
Band 1
Advokatfirmaet GjessingReimers AS
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Band 2
BAHR
Kvale Advokatfirma DA
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Wiersholm
Band 3
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 4
Bull
CMS Kluge
SANDS
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
* Indicates individual with profile.
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Advokatfirmaet GjessingReimers AS

What the team is known for GjessingReimers is a boutique practice with an impressive bench of IP practitioners. The law firm has particular experience in contentious mandates, covering the full range of trade mark, copyright and patent disputes, as well as non-contentious contractual agreements. The team boasts especially strong knowledge in mandates involving the retail, energy, aquaculture, and food and beverage sectors.

Strengths

"GjessingReimers has a lot of skilled lawyers."

"The lawyers at GjessingReimers are IP specialists."

"The team is very thorough and detailed. The lawyers are always fast in response and ready to help and support when needed. They quickly understand the market situation and are not afraid to ask questions to gain an even deeper understanding. They have a good grasp of the commercial ramifications."

Work highlights GjessingReimers acted for Welltec on patent infringement proceedings against Altus Intervention.

Notable practitioners

Amund Brede Svendsen (see p.1347) is a highly esteemed IP litigator with notable expertise in contentious and non-contentious patent matters. The market-leading **Ida Gjessing** is a highly acclaimed patent and trade mark litigator, acting

Intellectual Property
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Meyer Gunnar Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Sørlie Gunnar BAHR *
Svendsen Amund Brede Advokatfirmaet *
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Gjessing Ida Advokatfirmaet GjessingReimers AS
Hanssen-Bauer Ingvild Kvale Advokatfirma DA *
Manshaus Halvor Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Vislie Camilla Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Band 2
Iversen Vejbjørn Krag Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Reimers Felix Advokatfirmaet GjessingReimers AS
Sejersted Anne Marie Wiersholm
Band 3
Bleken Håkon Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Greaker Magnus Hauge Advokatfirmaet Thommessen
Johnsen Hans Erik Wiersholm
Opdahl Rune Wiersholm
Raanes Eirik W. Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Rieber-Mohn Thomas CMS Kluge *
Vaale-Hallberg Marie Kvale Advokatfirma DA *
Band 4
Holter Torp Sigurd Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Steinkjer Lars Erik Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Syrdal Monica Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS (ORL) ◊ *
Up-and-coming individuals
Andersen Kyrre Tangen CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS
Andresen Knut Sverre Skurdal Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Barbantoni Nicholas Foss Advokatfirmaet Simonsen
Ellingsen Eirik Basmo BAHR *
Hagen Thomas Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Opsvik Yngve Øyehaug Advokatfirmaet
Associates to watch
Bratheim Nora Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

for clients from the aquaculture, oil and gas and pharmaceutical sectors. **Strengths:** "Ida Gjessing is incredibly skilled, very thorough and understands the commercial side." "She is a brilliant lawyer." "She is very theoretically skilled." **Felix Reimers** has considerable experience in multi-jurisdictional contentious trade mark matters. He also assists clients with patent disputes. **Strengths:** "He is a super skilled lawyer, but he has been a lawyer for a long time so he also has a high degree of commercial understanding." "Felix Reimers is good in negotiations and good in court. He has a good style." **Yngve Øyehaug Opsvik** has experience in patent infringement matters as well as contentious mandates involving the Marketing

Act. **Strengths:** "Yngve Øyehaug Opsvik is very active and visible in the IP environment."

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen's full-service IP practice assists clients from a broad range of sectors, including media and pharmaceuticals. The department is highly active in contentious mandates relating to patent, trade mark and copyright disputes. The lawyers offer additional experience in cases related to trade secrets.

Strengths

"The lawyers are very experienced, see the whole picture and provide creative solutions."

"The law firm has the capacity to assess complex topics."

"The team's responsiveness is sublime."

"Thommessen has a highly skilled team that is always available and has a hands-on attitude."

"The lawyers have a strong ability to identify and address matters. They always deliver on time and adjust to the client's needs."

Work highlights Thommessen defended BioMar in a dispute with MariCal and STIM at the Borgarting Court of Appeal against claims of patent infringement.

Notable practitioners

Head of department **Camilla Vislie** is a market-leading IP expert with particular experience in litigation, representing clients in patent, trade mark and copyright disputes. **Strengths:** "She is a renowned IP lawyer who understands the client's problems and is good at knowing the law and how to structure things. She is solution-oriented." "Camilla Vislie is a very high-profile lawyer acting on a lot of big court cases." "Camilla is top-quality in every aspect: knowledge, communication skills, experience, kindness and service." "Camilla Vislie is a very smart lawyer." "She is a knowledgeable and very thorough practitioner." Advancing in the rankings, **Magnus Hauge Greaker** possesses notable experience in contentious matters, regularly handling patent infringement and revocation proceedings. He is also knowledgeable in trade mark and copyright disputes, whilst also advising on non-contentious IP matters. **Strengths:** "He is very quick to understand new theoretical areas." "His strength is that he has such an overview of the law; there's nothing he doesn't know." "Magnus Hauge Greaker is very skilled." "He is a very strong IP and patent lawyer." **Eirik Raanes** advises clients in the technology and energy sectors on a range

of IP protection mandates. He is particularly highlighted for his expertise in contentious proceedings, and has experience in patent and copyright topics. **Strengths:** “He really understands our commercial needs and the business.” “Eirik Raanes is a very good procedural lawyer who is very practical, diligent and skilled.”

Band 2

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR’s IP practice has extensive experience in patent litigation, and has particular expertise in validity and infringement disputes. It also houses a strong non-contentious practice covering franchise and licensing agreements, as well as sponsorship matters. The department also has capabilities in copyright and trade mark mandates. The team represents clients in the pharmaceutical, retail, technology and energy fields.

Strengths

“It is a diverse team with international skills. It is very responsive and always able to meet the agreed deadlines.”

“BAHR is very practical, strategic and thoughtful. It provides excellent client service, is very responsive and understands our business.”

“The team does a brilliant job. Both the junior and senior lawyers are very good and always provide a top service.”

“The lawyers are very practical and to the point. They are straight shooters.”

“The practice has a very good understanding of the complexity of matters and the business needs. It has excellent lawyers who are always responsive and provide an excellent service.”

Work highlights BAHR represented Bayer in litigation against Sandoz regarding the dosage patent for the active ingredient rivaroxaban.

Notable practitioners

Gunnar Sørli (see p.1346) has a strong reputation for his longstanding experience in high-profile patent disputes and enforcement proceedings. The up-and-coming **Eirik Basmo Ellingsen** (see p.1339) enters the rankings this year following impressive recognition for his growing IP practice. He heads the department at BAHR and is knowledgeable in patent validity and infringement cases, and also advises on the IP aspects of commercial agreements. **Strengths:** “Eirik Basmo Ellingsen is theoretically skilled.” “He is a very skilled lawyer and is good to work with.” “He is very responsive.” “Eirik is hands-on, service-minded and very skilful.”

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale’s strong IP practice handles all issues concerning trade mark and patent disputes, as well as offering expertise in brand protection issues. The department has additional experience in commercial and non-contentious mandates, including R&D projects. The team acts for clients in the energy, TMT, pharmaceutical and food and beverage sectors.

Strengths

“The lawyers always respond quickly and make the client feel supported. They are also very approach-

able and pleasant to cooperate with, and they concentrate on creating a good relationship with clients. They understand the needs of the client.”

“It is a strong team with extensive experience.”

“Kvale has very good knowledge in relation to the trade mark authority and its work is high quality.”

“The lawyers provide high-quality service levels and good responsiveness.”

Work highlights Kvale represented Viatrix in patent revocation and infringement proceedings against Biogen.

Notable practitioners

Advancing to the top tier, **Ingvild Hanssen-Bauer** (see p.1340) frequently represents pharmaceutical and energy companies in patent litigation. She also has experience handling the IP aspects of corporate transactions. **Strengths:** “Ingvild Hanssen-Bauer is one of the most experienced patent litigators in Norway for high-profile cases.” “She puts the client first and is very skilled and pedagogical.” “She is a very good lawyer; she understands cases and complicated technology very well and is good at formulating arguments.” “Ingvild Hanssen-Bauer is an excellent IP litigator who always stands out. She manages to balance between the technical evidence and the legal issues in an impressive way. She always presents the various issues of the case combined with a knowledge of the Norwegian procedural system and case law in a way that gives the client confidence in how to proceed. She is also excellent in her ability to cross-examine highly qualified technical experts.” “She is incredibly thorough.” **Marie Vaale-Hallberg** (see p.1348) is a popular choice for clients from the FMCG sector for trade mark portfolio protection matters. She also has experience in contentious and non-contentious patent mandates. **Strengths:** “Marie has a very good understanding of the food market. She has an eye for detail, but doesn’t lose the bigger perspective.” “Marie Vaale-Hallberg is super responsive.” “She is an incredibly skilled lawyer who has very good knowledge of all relevant legislation, not only IPR, but also food regulatory. She is a very skilled lawyer who also has that commercial orientation and is able to understand the legal risk and the commercial gain.” “She is very pragmatic and easy to cooperate with.” “Marie Vaale-Hallberg is excellent in her commercial awareness and understanding.”

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt’s strong practice is focused on contentious IP. Its particular areas of strength include trade mark and patent infringement cases. It appears in both domestic and international litigation. Schjødt also advises on non-contentious matters, including strategic mandates and those that pertain to transactions. The law firm regularly acts for clients in the life sciences and technology sectors.

Strengths

“The team has an impressive understanding of our business and the technical aspects. The lawyers always answer emails immediately and if they give you a deadline then they always adhere to it.”

“Schjødt has a strong IP team with a good mix of older and younger partners.”

“The lawyers are always highly responsive.”

“The practitioners always respond in time and are

also proactive in their communication and actions. They show an excellent understanding of our business, our processes and our team, and are willing to listen and learn about the company so that they can go deep into the challenges of the case.”

“The department leverages its high-level understanding of business, the law and jurisprudence to find the sweet spot in complex environments. The team ensures that we are supported holistically.”

Work highlights Schjødt represented Altus Intervention in a patent infringement case brought by Welltec.

Notable practitioners

Halvor Manshaus is highly regarded for his work on IP litigation, especially in relation to trade mark and patent infringement cases. **Strengths:** “He is an exceptional lawyer. He is bright, good at providing innovative and strategic advice, a great team leader and good at working under pressure.” “Halvor Manshaus is a superb litigator.” “Mr Manshaus shows an excellent understanding of complex cases and his performance before and in court is outstanding. He shows excellent tactics and is very clear and strong when he appears in court.”

“He is a good discussion partner on the business elements, and he is also very solid when it comes to procedure. He manages to utilise all his skills and versatility, and he is very focused on finding solutions outside the courts.” “Halvor is really excellent at setting the legal strategy and finding a solution when everything is very difficult.”

Sigurd Holter Torp has experience advising on patent litigation. He also represents clients in trade secret disputes. **Strengths:** “He is very quick to understand information and can give good advice based on this information. He writes very well and is very sharp in court.” “Sigurd is thorough and has a very strong ability to handle complex matters. He presents a persuasive and sharp line of arguments.” “Sigurd Holter Torp is very forward-leaning in his cases.” “He is an excellent litigator with excellent analytical skills, and is very dedicated.” “He is skilled, service-minded and friendly.”

New to the rankings, the up-and-coming **Knut Sverre Skurdal Andresen** frequently advises clients from the pharmaceutical and life sciences sectors on contentious and non-contentious matters related to patents and SPCs as well as licensing and partnering agreements. **Strengths:** “Knut Sverre Skurdal Andresen is very skilled.” “Knut is very good and diligent.”

“He is absolutely superb: easy to work with, strong, clear and always prepared.” **Thomas Hagen** leads the law firm’s intellectual property practice. He advises clients on matters related to trade secrets as well as the IP aspects of joint ventures. He also assists with IP strategy and trade mark protection.

Strengths: “Thomas Hagen is a commercially savvy lawyer who goes the extra mile to deliver results. He is very solution-oriented and has a creative mindset that brings value to his clients from day one.” “Mr Hagen shows excellent skills regarding both the commercial and technical parts of a business.” “He is a talented lawyer with a friendly demeanour and is dedicated to his clients. He is always up to date on recent legal developments and is a name to be reckoned with amongst Norwegian IP lawyers.” “He is to the point in his reviews.”

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm boasts a well-regarded practice with significant experience in the full gamut of intellectual property. The team is knowledgeable in proceedings related to the opposition and infringement of trade marks and copyright. The department's expertise additionally covers trade secrets and patent litigation, as well as non-contentious matters concerning licensing and distribution agreements. The lawyers also have notable prowess in marketing law.

Strengths

"The team has thorough knowledge and the ability to support us when needed."

"Wiersholm always provides quick, same-day responses."

Work highlights Wiersholm advised Kappa Bioscience on the protection of its patent and business secrets related to the manufacturing of synthetic vitamin K2, including drafting and negotiating external agreements.

Notable practitioners

Anne Marie Sejersted covers a broad range of IP mandates, advising on contentious and non-contentious trade mark matters, patent litigation and trade secrets. She represents clients in the life sciences and food and drinks industries.

Strengths: *"Anne Marie Sejersted is very skilled."*

Hans Erik Johnsen advises clients on non-contentious patent mandates such as distribution and licensing agreements. He also has experience in trade mark opposition and infringement issues, as well as matters involving breach of the Norwegian Marketing Act. He is additionally knowledgeable in copyright and media law topics. **Strengths:** *"Hans Erik Johnsen is very skilled in his field." "He is sharp and very experienced." "He is very hands-on and service-minded." "Hans Erik has longstanding experience in the industry and combines this with advice in a very balanced way. He understands the commercial considerations very well."*

Rune Opdahl enjoys a broad IP practice. He acts on patent infringement and trade mark disputes, in addition to copyright issues and unfair marketing practices. He also advises clients on the transfer of IPR. **Strengths:** *"Rune Opdahl is very skilled. He is high-profile and visible in the market." "He is sophisticated, smart, experienced and pleasant to work with."*

Band 3**Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS**

What the team is known for Haavind has a respected IP team with strong capabilities in both contentious and non-contentious matters. It offers particular expertise in copyright mandates to clients from film, TV and other media. It acts for companies in the pharmaceutical and aquaculture sectors on patent disputes and trade secrets issues.

Strengths

"The team has a great understanding of the legal and practical sides."

"Haavind provides advice very efficiently."

"The law firm has a high level of general knowledge across several fields. The lawyers are quick to react to questions and thorough in their preparation."

"The department provides answers quickly and is very good commercially."

"It has specialists in all the required fields. The lawyers offer quick responses and thorough work."

Work highlights Haavind acted for Sandoz on a patent validity dispute against Biogen.

Notable practitioners

Rising in the rankings, **Vebjørn Krag Iversen** deals with a wide range of IP mandates, including contentious patent, trade mark and trade secrets matters, as well as licensing agreements. **Strengths:** *"Vebjørn Krag Iversen is service-minded and very smart." "He provides excellent counsel and advice." "Vebjørn is down in the details on patent rights."* **Håkon Bleken** is a well-known figure in the Norway IP field, offering particular expertise in contentious patent cases. He is a popular choice for clients in the pharmaceutical industry.

Strengths: *"Håkon Bleken is a very skilled lawyer." "He is a very meritorious procedural lawyer."*

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein represents clients in contentious trade mark matters, as well as in the registration of new trade marks. It acts on patent litigation, brand protection matters and the IP aspects of corporate transactions. The team serves numerous clients in the pharmaceutical, oil and gas and technology sectors.

Strengths

"The law firm has strong expertise in the intellectual property area, with a strong understanding of the needs of industry and an ability to analyse matters deeply."

"The lawyers have a lot of experience and quickly understand the commercial implications as well as the technical area, which is quite impressive."

"The team is simply excellent."

"The department is on top of both the practical and legal issues. The lawyers understand the different commercial needs of clients."

"The law firm is very experienced in patent validity and infringements matters, and provides very good client service."

Work highlights Wikborg Rein represents Ocean Sun in patent enforcement proceedings against Inseanergy.

Notable practitioners

Gunnar Meyer is a highly regarded litigator with longstanding experience in trade mark and patent disputes. He represents clients from the energy, pharmaceutical, retail and technology sectors.

Strengths: *"Gunnar Meyer gives helpful advice and is commercially aware." "Gunnar is very good: knowledgeable, responsive, and he gives practical advice." "He is one of Norway's most experienced patent litigators. He is very strong on strategy and has strong negotiating skills." "He may now have the longest and most impressive experience in IP litigation in Norway."*

Lars Erik Steinkjer enters Band 4 this year following impressive plaudits for his knowledge and experience in intellectual property, with particular prowess in patent rights, often representing clients from the pharmaceutical industry. **Strengths:** *"His understanding of the technical aspects is particularly helpful." "Lars is very good; he is responsive and gives commercial advice." "He has deep patent knowledge. He is a highly skilled practitioner with valuable in-house*

experience." "Lars Erik Steinkjer is so intelligent. He understands things quickly and is to the point; he says what he means in a very clear and good way." "He has a PhD in patent rights and long-standing experience in big patent cases." **Nora Bratheim** receives outstanding praise for her growing practice and expertise in IP. She acts on patent enforcement, validity and infringement issues, in addition to providing trade mark advice. She also assists with IP-related contracts such as R&D and license agreements. **Strengths:** *"Nora Bratheim is a good communicator." "She is becoming a rising star in her own right." "Nora has a very good technical understanding and is strong in looking at the bigger picture." "She is impressively quick and precise." "Nora Bratheim is a leading star of the junior lawyers in Norway. In a short time, she has become a valuable player in IP litigation. She has a unique understanding of complex legal matters combined with an eye for important details that is extremely impressive."*

Band 4**Bull**

What the team is known for Bull boasts a growing practice that frequently acts for clients in the media sector. The team handles mandates pertaining to trade mark, copyright and marketing law. The department also advises on portfolio protection and anti-counterfeiting matters.

Strengths

"Working with Bull is a pleasure. The lawyers are responsive and have no problems with deadlines."

"The lawyers provide excellent advice and are always efficient."

"Bull rises to the challenge and demonstrates a remarkable ability to handle sophisticated matters with ease and confidence. The lawyers show exceptional attention to detail and a deep understanding of the complexities."

"The lawyers are always available and provide quick feedback."

Notable practitioners

Lisa Digernes heads the department and is a key contact for clients.

CMS Kluge

What the team is known for CMS Kluge acts on a range of contentious mandates, including patent, trade mark and trade secrets disputes. It also offers experience in non-contentious copyright matters and IP rights agreements. The team represents clients in the public sector as well as energy companies.

Strengths

"The law firm has great litigation capability, particularly within the entertainment industry. The lawyers are really thorough, take things really seriously and ask a lot of great questions."

"The team handles matters efficiently and smoothly, taking advantage of being part of the CMS international network."

"The client service is very good and the lawyers are very responsive to our needs."

"The lawyers go straight to the core of the matter and always keep a close eye on the client's needs."

"The CMS Kluge team is clearly experienced and

knowledgeable within IP-related issues. They provide excellent and prompt advice."

Work highlights CMS Kluge acted for Bohus and Interstil on a design infringement dispute against Hay.

Notable practitioners

Bergen-based **Thomas Rieber-Mohn** (see p.1344) is well versed in trade mark disputes and copyright matters. He also advises on commercial IP mandates pertaining to R&D and licensing agreements. **Strengths:** "Thomas has a comprehensive global perspective, making him an invaluable adviser for navigating complex business environments." "Thomas Rieber-Mohn is very responsive. When there are urgent matters, he is there, and he always has a calm, authoritative demeanour." "He is very good at following up and is very quick to answer. He is also good at explaining the counterparty's documents. He is very on the ball." Based in Stavanger, **Kyrre Tangen Andersen** is praised by the market for his IP expertise. He represents clients in patent litigation, boasting particular experience of the energy and technology sectors. **Strengths:** "Kyrre Tangen Andersen is very approachable, creative and flexible." "He is a super good IP lawyer."

SANDS

What the team is known for SANDS offers support in a broad array of topics pertaining to the management, protection and infringement of intellectual property. The team is well versed in contentious and non-contentious proceedings involving trade marks, copyright and royalties. The practice also assists with breach of NDAs and trade secrets.

Strengths

"SANDS has a comprehensive approach to issues and possesses strong expertise within all areas of law. The lawyers provide quick but careful and thoughtful answers that take into account various

perspectives, approaches, needs and interests."

"It is a strong team that is available and quick in its responses."

"The lawyers have a good variety of expertise and strong people skills."

"The practitioners are quick to respond, have very good availability and show great understanding of our day-to-day business. They are good with deadlines and follow up; they are very punctual and tidy."

Work highlights SANDS represented Pest Control in opposition proceedings and an administrative review against Dyrehotell Pets Paradis and its two trade mark registrations in Norway involving Banksy's name.

Notable practitioners

As head of department, Katrine Malmer-Høvik is a point of contact for clients.

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Entering the rankings, Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a growing intellectual property practice which covers a broad scope of contentious and non-contentious mandates. The department frequently assists with trade mark opposition and infringement as well as copyright enforcement and advocacy. Unfair market practices is another area of expertise possessed by the team.

Strengths

"The practitioners are extremely skilled."

"The lawyers are always available when you need them. They know our business well and are very engaged in understanding how it works."

"The team is incredibly dependable and committed. Even when the deadlines are very short, the lawyers prioritise the needs of the client and offer prompt, precise guidance in any circumstance."

"The law firm has a very strong ability to understand the specific situations and develop solutions. The lawyers are always fast and available."

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig acted for

IOTA Foundation in a dispute regarding copyright ownership and usage rights to the technology platform used for the functioning of the company's cryptocurrency.

Notable practitioners

New to the rankings, **Nicholas Foss Barbantonis** is an up-and-coming practitioner who receives considerable acclaim for his growing IP practice. He represents clients in disputes involving trade mark opposition and infringement, copyright issues and unfair market practices. **Strengths:** "Nicholas Foss Barbantonis is extremely commercial and incredibly quick. He is a very good discussion partner regarding trade marks, and he is also very good in court." "He is an exceptional intellectual property lawyer with excellent communication skills. Nicholas' dedication and perseverance in defending his client's interests are remarkable, and his expertise and guidance are invaluable in navigating the complexities of the legal process." "He is responsive and clear in all communication." "Nicholas Foss Barbantonis' ability to navigate the intricacies of intellectual property law is truly remarkable." "Mr Barbantonis provides excellent legal advice, has a high awareness of the client's vision and always delivers within the agreed timelines."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Monica Syrdal (see p.1347) of Hjort assists clients from the TMT sector with copyright issues and is particularly well known for handling matters relating to the media sector. She also has experience in anti-counterfeiting matters, trade mark disputes and licensing agreements.

Strengths:

"Monica Syrdal is punctual, follows deadlines and is efficient. She understands both the commercial and legal issues."

Real Estate

Band 1

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR has a market-leading real estate practice acting primarily on commercial and industrial transactions. The law firm represents investors, developers and funds in transactions and developments across Norway. BAHR is also active on real estate finance mandates. The law firm additionally possesses expertise in lease agreements, tax-related matters and zoning issues.

Strengths

"The lawyers at BAHR are very solution-oriented in their work."

"They handle things very smoothly for us as clients

and cooperate in a professional and good way."

"The lawyers have strong commercial awareness and are able to focus on essential matters."

"BAHR deliver above our expectations and are always on budget."

"BAHR are very good at solving complex problems."

Notable practitioners

Top-ranked **Anne Sofie Bjørkholt** (see p.1337) is lauded for her unrivalled expertise in the full gamut of real estate law. Her knowledge extends to transactions, lease agreements, development projects and tax-related mandates. **Strengths:** "Anne Sofie is very friendly. She has a good sense of humour but is professional." "Anne Sofie knows what she's doing and is always trying to find solutions." **Andreas Rørvik** (see p.1345) is a highly

regarded lawyer handling large-scale real estate investments and financing transactions. He primarily represents investors and developers.

Strengths: "Andreas is a competent lawyer with good negotiation skills who is respected within the real estate market. He focuses on what's important to us when it comes to the most important issues." "We feel completely secure when using Andreas Rørvik's services, both for problem solving and strategic questions." **Ole Andreas Dimmen** (see p.1338) assists with the sale and purchase of real estate companies, assets and portfolios. **Strengths:** "Ole Andreas possesses an exceptional level of competence and has a strong ability to focus on essential matters." "Ole Andreas is a really good lawyer. He's commercially oriented and

Real Estate
Leading Firms
Band 1
BAHR
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Wiersholm
Band 2
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Selmer
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 3
Advokatfirmaet CLP
Advokatfirma DLA Piper
Advokatfirmaet Grette AS
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Band 4
CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS
Deloitte Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS
Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA
SANDS
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

pleasant to work with."

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind boasts an excellent commercial real estate practice advising an admirable list of property developers, investment funds and companies, as well as large public bodies. The law firm acts on high-value acquisitions and disposals of properties and real estate portfolios, including cross-border transactions. Haavind is also knowledgeable in finance-related mandates.

Strengths

"The team at Haavind have an excellent understanding of complex matters and are highly service-minded and solutions-driven."

"The lawyers are always very responsive and I never doubt their ability to act on short notice when needed."

"Haavind handle complex matters in a swift and efficient manner. Their multidisciplinary team can easily handle all matters from tech to employment law and real estate in the same team."

"Haavind offers a high level of skills and insight in complex processes. Its lawyers are able to discuss large questions and engage broadly."

"Haavind are very efficient at using a variety of internal resources to answer complex matters."

Work highlights Haavind assisted Statskog with its NOK2.65 billion acquisition of Meraker Brug.

Notable practitioners

Erling Timm handles a range of real estate matters including sales and acquisitions of properties, lease deals and the financing of real estate transactions. **Strengths:** "Erling Timm is good at reading the room. He is always available, one step ahead, and will call if you have forgotten something. The fact that he is so forward-looking makes him stand out from other lawyers." "Erling Timm is an experienced lawyer who is able to handle multiple issues at the same time while always having a clear vision of achieving results and progression." "Erling Timm is

Real Estate
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Bech Stig L. Wiersholm
Kværne Hans Henrik Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma
Sand Geir Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Vislie Mikkel Selmer
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bjørkholt Anne Sofie BAHR *
Borch Christopher Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Lian Tom Rune Wiersholm
Rørvik Andreas BAHR *
Band 2
Bjørn-Hansen Christian Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Høstmælingen Ingrid Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Skogvoll Håvard Advokatfirmaet CLP *
Timm Erling Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Ulleberg Jensen Lars Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Wetting Thomas Reppe Selmer
Band 3
Bratsberg Even Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Koch Eilif S. Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Kristiansen Lunne Camilla Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Løvdal Elin Mack Advokatfirmaet CLP *
Nordlie Sverre Selmer
Ravlo-Losvik Line Apex Advokatfirma AS (ORL) ◇
Band 4
Aarvik Gøran Mjelde Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt
Bergli Håvard Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Brudvik Pål Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Caspersen Einar Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Dannow Naja CMS Kluge *
Dimmen Ole Andreas BAHR *
Hansson Nils Petter Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA *
Lindboe Jørgen Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Meisingset-Haug Magnus Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Meleng Ståle O. Wiersholm
Nyquist Thorvald Deloitte Advokatfirma AS
Øslebo Thomas Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Råmunddal Lars David Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS
Røksund Herman Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Thaulow Ditlef Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Torsteinsen Dag Henden Advokatfirmaet Grette AS
Up-and-coming individuals
Taubøll Henrik Botten Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

solutions-oriented, positive, competent, and able to establish good climates for negotiation. He achieves good results for his clients." "He makes negotiations easier and has a profound understanding of the market." "Erling Timm is great to work with. He is trustworthy and commercially minded." **Magnus Meisingset-Haug** advises clients on commercial real estate transactions, including offices, logistics assets and retail properties. **Strengths:** "Magnus is a diligent and thorough lawyer who is extremely service-minded." "Magnus is a very nice guy who is good with his clients. He has lots of good commercial skills and is very likeable." "Magnus's work is of a high quality level. He is a pragmatic and solutions-oriented lawyer." "Magnus is a commercially oriented lawyer. He is very pleasant to work with." "Magnus is very commercially and solutions-oriented. In complex transactions he takes the role as a negotiation partner and problem solver. Magnus's level of service is outstanding. It is always professional, on time and enjoyable." **Herman Røksund** often acts on the sale, purchase and restruc-

turing of real estate portfolios. He also advises clients on land transactions. **Strengths:** "Herman Røksund is a smart negotiator on real estate deals. He knows the sector well and knows what's good for both parties." "His performance throughout our process was exceptional." "Herman is a really great lawyer. He knows his clients well, adjusts to each of them, and dares to make a challenge if something is really good for you." **Henrik Botten Taubøll** enters the rankings this year as an up-and-coming lawyer following impressive market recognition. He focuses on high-value transactions, property development projects and lease negotiations. **Strengths:** "He is without a doubt our go-to lawyer in the market for all complex matters." "Taubøll's work always exceeds my expectations. I will always get help quickly with a high level of professionalism. He solves tense matters with a smile." "Henrik is professional and skilled, highly committed and motivated to do a good job. He is comfortable to work with and confidence-building in relationships. He makes communication with the other parties clear." "Henrik is extremely knowledgeable, responsive and hard-working. He brings added value through his commercial insight and large corporate network." "Henrik has a unique energy and enthusiasm, and he handles complex issues in a very competent way. He is strategic and follows all leads swiftly."

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen has an impressive real estate practice active in commercial and residential property transactions, including the acquisition and sale of assets, shares and portfolios. The law firm also assists with substantial property development projects, and has additional expertise in lease agreements. The law firm acts for real estate and property development companies as well as investors.

Strengths

"The team at Thommessen have a good commercial mindset and market overview, and are professional, forward-thinking, proactive and solution-oriented."

"Thommessen is a large law firm with a range of expertise. They are good at putting the customer in contact with the right resource."

"Thommessen works in extremely short turnaround times, which has been important for us on large and complex transactions with limited time frames."

"Thommessen offers great advice which is quick and of a super quality."

Work highlights Thommessen assisted Mustad Eiendom with the development of Lilleakerbyen at Lilleaker.

Notable practitioners

Top-ranked **Christopher Borch** is an expert in commercial and residential property transactions, as well as development projects. **Strengths:** "Chris is a great guy. He is a very competent and responsive lawyer." "Christopher Borch offers very strong levels of client service, sophistication and commercial awareness. He is a ten out of ten lawyer, any day." **Even Bratsberg** is noted for his impressive practice representing large clients in high-profile deals. He is experienced in the acquisition, investment and disposal of properties and portfolios. **Strengths:** "Even Bratsberg has intellectual insight and negotiates very well." "Even Bratsberg has a great commercial understanding."

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm offers a significant real estate team acting on commercial mandates. The law firm is particularly adept at handling issues relating to transactions and development projects, including financing aspects. Wiersholm's team also advises on lease contracts. The law firm acts for a range of clients including property investors and developers.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Wiersholm are good at listening and providing me with their assessments and solutions." "The team at Wiersholm covers all matters we are interested in to any depth."

"Wiersholm have an in-depth knowledge of commercial real estate that is highly appreciated."

"The team at Wiersholm have knowledge of complexity on many levels, and an understanding of financial, strategic and urban aspects, which makes them extremely competent at handling all kinds of interfaces and collaborations."

Notable practitioners

Stig Bech remains a prominent lawyer in the Norwegian real estate market. He regularly acts on matters involving large developments and is especially regarded for his work in high-value transactions. **Strengths:** "Stig Bech is always up to date and prepared." "Stig Bech is known for being extremely skilled in getting people to meet, talk and solve matters in the best way possible way for all parties." **Tom Rune Lian** receives acclaim for his market-leading real estate practice. He handles the purchase and sale of properties as well as development projects. He also assists with lease agreements. **Strengths:** "Tom Rune combines in-depth knowledge with pragmatism and is always well prepared, with these skills highly appreciated." "Tom Rune is a very good lawyer who is easy to work with." **Ståle Meleng** advises on the divestment of real estate companies and assets. He also has experience assisting clients with lease agreements. **Strengths:** "Ståle is an extremely competent, to-the-point lawyer. He manages to make complex juridical cases understandable." "Ståle is bright, analytical and has a good way of getting to grips with difficulties. He understands our business – not only the legal part – and is very commercial."

us in both directions commercially, always with our best interests in mind, to brilliant results."

"Our team was a beacon of light in a complex transaction. They guided all parties through to a successful transaction and laid the ground for a fruitful partnership going forward, based on a clear, fair and sound foundation of legal agreements."

"Arntzen de Besche is a full-service house with good depth and breadth in all the fields we need."

Notable practitioners

Senior practitioner **Hans Henrik Kværne** is a highly respected lawyer who acts on real estate transactions, leasing matters and development projects. **Strengths:** "Hans Henrik has a great business understanding and is strategic and good at seeing long lines." "Hans Henrik has always been a favourite lawyer of mine. He is very skilled, pragmatic and commercial." **Eilif Koch** advises clients on real estate transactions and development projects. He also assists with lease negotiations. **Strengths:** "Eilif always upholds a high level of service and maintains the level of sophistication required. His commercial awareness is always top." "Eilif is a simply brilliant legal adviser. His business acumen, situational awareness and ability to unite the parties involved in a deal is probably only matched by his legal competence. Having him in our corner makes for a calm and happy life, while business is treated right." **Håvard Bergli** advises clients on the acquisition, sale and restructuring of properties and portfolios, advising funds, investors and developers. **Strengths:** "Håvard Bergli has a very good commercial understanding of our needs and the legal understanding to give us good advice and close deals. He is always available and his response times are outstanding." "Håvard is a really good adviser because he has this commercial eye, and he has practical experience working in property development as well so he adds a lot of skills." **Thomas Øslebø** is a well-regarded practitioner who assists with property transactions and development projects involving a range of asset classes. **Strengths:** "Thomas Øslebø is always helpful and responds quickly at all times with an in-depth understanding of every transaction." "Mr Øslebø is full of competence. He's street smart, knows everyone in the real estate market and is an excellent adviser on transactions. His service is very smooth."

datations and are always pragmatic in seeking fast and reliable solutions."

Work highlights Schjødt advised Tjelta Eiendom on its divestment of its portfolio of 22 properties and SPVs in Stavanger and Sandnes.

Notable practitioners

Senior practitioner **Geir Sand** is a highly regarded lawyer who acts for real estate developers on portfolio transactions and developments.

Strengths: "Geir is a highly skilled and committed lawyer who always works to ensure that his clients get the best possible result. He has great knowledge and uses experts when necessary." **Christian Bjørn-Hansen** advises on the sale and purchase of real estate shares, assets and portfolios, representing both international and domestic investors.

Strengths: "Christian is a very skilled lawyer. He is easy to work with, commercial, good on the risk side and a good negotiator. It is always very good to have him there." "Christian is always professionally up to date and is skilled at finding commercial solutions. He is quick-witted and always has a positive attitude." "Christian is an excellent lawyer. He is knowledgeable and solution-oriented, and in several cases he found us sophisticated solutions to complex problems." "Christian is very responsive and service-minded. You always feel prioritised. He has a very commercial mindset and delivers with strong impact in negotiations." "Christian is deal-oriented and a highly skilled negotiator. He has a strong ability to understand commercial matters." **Camilla Kristiansen Lunne** is well regarded for her real estate practice. She has particular experience in development transactions as well as in portfolio investments. **Strengths:** "Camilla is very experienced, intelligent and can quickly see the right way to go. She always delivers things as soon as possible, has a good team around her and gives good advice." "Camilla is proactive and is not afraid to give her opinion on how to solve an issue. She has a good tone and brings a good atmosphere to negotiations. She brings transactions forward."

Einar Caspersen is best known for his work on real estate fund transactions. He is also adept at complex deal structures and financing issues.

Strengths: "Einar has a unique blend of commercial awareness, a mastery of legal questions and experience from M&A and private equity that serves him very well when handling real estate transactions." **Ditlef Thaulow** enters the rankings following excellent market plaudits. He assists both domestic and international investors with the acquisition, structuring and financing of real estate transactions in Norway. **Strengths:** "Ditlef has outstanding skills. He makes complex matters seem simple and is extremely efficient and to the point. This is the person you want to have by your side on any complex real estate transaction." "Ditlef is amazing. I would trust him with my personal money! He offers quality and timely delivery, and goes the extra mile for us." "Ditlef is a very competent lawyer. He knows us better than we know ourselves." "Ditlef understands our business, delivers direct and clear, high-quality responses, and has a high degree of commercial vision."

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer boasts a strong real estate team that acts for a client base

Band 2

Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Arntzen de Besche houses a notable real estate practice offering advice on high-value transactions, as well as complex lease agreements. The law firm additionally advises on major development projects. Arntzen de Besche offers a comprehensive multidisciplinary service that draws on the expertise of professionals from tax, finance and dispute resolution. The law firm regularly represents property developers and investment companies.

Strengths

"The team are always available at short notice and their response times are outstanding."

"Arntzen de Besche's finger is on the pulse of the Norwegian market, and its lawyers' ability to read our situations through a commercial lens is simply superb. Time and time again they have challenged

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt has a strong transaction-focused practice frequently advising on pan-Nordic deals. The law firm assists with the acquisition and sale of residential and commercial real estate, including portfolios of development projects and real estate funds. It is also active in real estate financing deals.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Schjødt think creatively and have a strong grasp of the market (and the law) that makes for excellent handling of complex matters."

"The team at Schjødt are efficient, very accurate and deliver high quality."

"Schjødt has sufficient resources to ensure it can always meet our needs."

"The lawyers at Schjødt are service-minded and solution-oriented."

"The team at Schjødt make clear legal recommen-

of property developers, managers and investors. The law firm is noted for its strong support on the full scope of transactional and project development matters, including the acquisition and sale of property portfolios and land plots. Selmer offers additional strength in assisting with real estate financing mandates.

Strengths

"The team at Selmer are extremely competent and focused on solving problems."

"The lawyers are always hands-on and very responsive to our enquiries and requests, and they are also proactive and service-oriented."

"We have not come across any case where they didn't have a lawyer who is a specialist in the field. They have lawyers there for all our different tasks."

"Selmer handles complex matters with great precision."

Notable practitioners

Mikkel Vislie is admired for his longstanding presence in the real estate sector, with notable experience in property transactions and developments. **Strengths:** *"Mikkel is a very good lawyer and a great guy."* **Mikkel is a solid lawyer who helps us in the most complex real estate development situations, and the results are always at the top."** **Thomas Reppe Wetting** is an outstanding practitioner with a vast amount of experience assisting with real estate fund structuring as well as portfolio transactions. **Strengths:** *"Thomas Reppe Wetting is very good with people. He doesn't try to pontificate. He is very smart but he doesn't have to let people know that. He is a modest and very capable lawyer."* *"Thomas Reppe Wetting is extremely competent and focused on finding good solutions."* **Sverre Nordlie** advises clients on real estate transactions, including development projects and land acquisitions. **Strengths:** *"Sverre is always available and professional in all aspects."* *"Sverre Nordlie sees the bigger picture and has a good sense for commercial matters as well."*

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein has a noteworthy practice known for handling commercial real estate mandates. Typical work for the law firm includes property and portfolio transactions, development projects and lease agreements. Wikborg Rein also furnishes clients with financing assistance. The law firm is regularly instructed by major developers and investment companies.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Wikborg Rein are pragmatic, confident and loyal."

"Wikborg Rein has a good team that is always trying to find solutions. Its lawyers are not afraid to say that they have to check with a specialist within the firm, and their response back is quick."

"Wikborg Rein's ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters is one of their main strengths. They have the ability and desire to get involved in complex matters and provide advice together with actionable products to present to counterparties."

"The team at Wikborg Rein are professional, competent, skilled, respond quickly and always take our interests into consideration."

"Wikborg Rein has a good ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters."

Work highlights Wikborg Rein assisted the share-

holders of Bo Coliving with the sale of their shares to Heitman for NOK1.8 billion.

Notable practitioners

Ingrid Høstmælingen is a respected practitioner who handles a broad range of real estate transactions as well as lease negotiations. **Strengths:** *"Ingrid is very commercial, on the ball and good with details."* *"It is always a pleasure working with Ingrid. She is a genuine, engaged lawyer for her clients and has a good commercial understanding."* *"Ingrid is a skilled lawyer who has a strong knowledge of her subject in general. She is a strong professional in the legal field and with regards to commercial elements. She is extremely service-minded, always takes care of our needs and is available when we need her to be."* *"Ingrid is extremely dedicated to everything she does and has an outstanding level of engagement. She combines an unparalleled effective approach to new projects with tons of experience from a variety of legal issues."* *"Ingrid's service level is perfectly matched with her top-tier competence. She is able to handle any issue at whatever speed and level of detail we require."* **Lars Ulleberg Jensen** is active on real estate transactions and divestments, including financing aspects. He also assists with fund structuring and joint ventures in the real estate industry. **Strengths:** *"Lars is a knowledgeable professional who is always well prepared and seeking new challenges and developments."* *"Lars is a highly competent and sympathetic real estate lawyer who has significant transactional experience."* *"There's no issue we wouldn't trust Lars with. He is also great at providing access to the rest of Wikborg Rein when needed, ensuring we get the right advice for the issue at hand."* *"Lars is always helpful, easy to reach and works quickly."*

Band 3

Advokatfirmaet CLP

What the team is known for CLP houses a strong practice advising on the sale and acquisition of real estate and development projects, including forward transactions and sale and leaseback deals. The law firm also assists with leasing mandates. Its clientele comprises investments funds, developers and corporates as well as family offices.

Strengths

"CLP have become our go-to attorneys for pretty much everything. Their lawyers help us to think about different things and suggest good ideas. They are good at raising the issues that need to be discussed and coming up with good solutions."

"CLP display the ability to prioritise matters in a good manner and in alignment with commercial considerations."

"CLP handles complex real estate transactions with an experienced approach. On deals, CLP always delivers simple, well-argued and safe solutions. CLP is always in line with its values, and puts its customers first."

"CLP has the ability to work with complex issues and solve them with creativity and high skill."

"As a firm, CLP has good breadth in its consulting and covers all relevant subject areas in real estate matters. They stand out particularly for their very good commercial insight, close and personal fol-

low-up with their customers, solution-oriented mindset and efficient service."

Work highlights CLP assisted CapMan with its off-market purchase of a high-rise office building at Majorstua in Oslo from Entra.

Notable practitioners

Håvard Skogvoll (see p.1345) acts on real estate transactions, including sale and leaseback mandates, often with cross-border aspects. He is also experienced in advising on land purchases.

Strengths: *"Håvard offers a very good service. He is easy to work with and good at explaining things, and he is commercial, competent and efficient."*

"Håvard Skogvoll is an excellent lawyer who is target-oriented, gives fast responses and has good commercial understanding. Working with him is a great experience." *"Håvard provides us with excellent legal advice with a commercial and friendly mindset."* *"Håvard has a unique understanding of the commercial aspect, which is important for the client. He has exceptional skills in negotiation and in handling counterparties."* **Elin Mack Løvdal** (see p.1343) assists with a range of mandates pertaining to development projects and real estate transactions, including divestments, establishing joint ventures and lease contracts.

Strengths: *"Elin is very market-oriented, finds the right solution and is efficient."* *"Elin Mack Løvdal has an extraordinary ability to understand and solve complex matters within the field of finance and real estate development. She project-manages each assignment and mobilises the necessary resources."* *"Elin is strategically good, with unique commercial insight and a very good network in the industry. She has a strong professional skill set, brings confidence into situations and always helps to find good solutions for the parties involved."* *"Elin is both tough and gentle, and represents our values in a really good manner. We really like working with her."*

Advokatfirma DLA Piper

What the team is known for DLA Piper has an experienced team with a strong offering in real estate transactions and development projects. The practice is also well placed to advise clients on finance-related questions. DLA Piper assists with the drafting and negotiation of commercial leases. Clients include investment funds as well as property developers and management companies. DLA Piper remains a strong choice for cross-border mandates due to its international network.

Strengths

"The lawyers at DLA offer unique solutions, are efficient, proactive, good with numbers, well prepared, and take in specialist expertise from departments when necessary."

"DLA has specialists in all fields related to real estate. It is much more service-minded and responsive than other law firms we have worked with."

"DLA Piper has proven able to handle matters with many variables within very short timeframes. Its lawyers respond quickly and put aside the necessary time and capacity for our projects. We feel prioritised by them."

Work highlights DLA Piper advised Stor-Oslo Eiendom on its acquisition of a 57-acre property in Bragernes, Drammen.

Notable practitioners

Magnus Løvlien Lutnæs heads the department and is a key contact.

Advokatfirmaet Grette AS

What the team is known for Grette's team acts on a range of transactional and regulatory mandates concerning development projects, including zoning aspects. The law firm also assists with the sale and purchase of real estate companies and assets. Grette is additionally well placed to advise clients on lease contracts.

Strengths

"I am more than pleased with Grette's service levels and responsiveness. Its lawyers' commitment to promptly addressing my concerns and keeping me informed at every stage of the process exceeded my expectations. I always felt valued as a client due to their attentive and proactive approach. Whether it was a quick question or a detailed update, their responsiveness demonstrated their dedication to providing an exceptional service."

"I am truly impressed with Grette's exceptional ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters. Its lawyers' in-depth knowledge, strategic thinking and meticulous attention to detail shine through in every aspect of their work. They navigate intricate legal issues with ease, providing me with confidence and peace of mind throughout the process."

"Grette are both helpful and skilled when handling complex and sophisticated matters. The lawyers are very pleasant and efficient, respond quickly when we make contact and follow up unsolicited when needed."

"The lawyers at Grette are always on standby and ready to contribute. They have great insight and understanding of their clients' needs and points of view."

Work highlights Grette assisted Olav Thon Eiendomsselskap with its purchase of 50% of the shares in Sørlandssenteret from DNB Livsforsikring.

Notable practitioners

Dag Henden Torsteinsen is active on real estate transactions and development projects, often involving zoning issues. He also advises clients on lease agreements. **Strengths:** "I like Dag's approach. He has good people skills and gets to know the person." "Dag is a highly competent, great lawyer with an excellent commercial understanding as well as an in-depth understanding of real estate law, not only from a transactional perspective but all its odds and ends from lend lease to property development as well as general lease and transaction law."

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig's team handles a broad range of real estate transactions from its bases spanning six of Norway's largest cities. Its expertise includes sales, acquisitions, financing and project planning. The law firm's client roster comprises investors, developers and construction companies.

Strengths

"The lawyers at SVW who have been involved in our cases have performed their job to our full satisfaction. They have shown that they know their job and solved our questions and challenges impeccably."

"I find the real estate team at Simonsen Vogt Wiig to be highly competent and to possess intricate knowledge regarding unique issues. They have a firm grasp on legal complexities and how to efficiently resolve them. Following this, the team maintain a close and effective client relationship, consistently going the extra mile for their customers."

"I want to highlight the practical and commercial solutions provided by Simonsen Vogt Wiig. They offer valuable feedback and legal solutions to address our complex issues, often ones that we are not even aware of."

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig advised Wilog on its acquisition of 11 logistics properties in the greater Oslo region for approximately NOK1.05 billion.

Notable practitioners

Goran Mjelde Aarvik operates from the law firm's Bergen office, acting on real estate transactions, development projects and lease agreements. **Pål Brudvik** advises on real estate M&A, investments and financing deals, representing investors and syndicates. **Strengths:** "Pål is both legally educated and financially smart, and always available when I try to contact him." **Jørgen Lindboe** heads the law firm's real estate department in Oslo and has vast experience in real estate transactions and developments. **Strengths:** "Jørgen provides us with expert advice and result-oriented guidance on real estate matters." "Jørgen is solution-oriented and good at focusing on what needs to be done. He also focuses on his clients' best interests." "Jørgen is very sharp and likeable. He thinks before he speaks and has a commercial mindset. He is very responsive and works efficiently and with a high quality." "Jørgen provides us with sound, clear and practical legal advice on various issues. I guarantee that once you have used his service you too will look no further." "Jørgen is never afraid of speaking his mind. He will always say his opinion even if it doesn't necessarily please the person he's working for. He always takes care of us properly, and you feel that you can't do anything wrong because he will stop you from saying something that won't be wise."

Band 4

CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for CMS Kluge frequently advises on matters relating to property development, including zoning, planning and valuation issues. The law firm is additionally active on real estate transactions and lease agreements. The department is bolstered by the law firm's market-leading construction practice.

Strengths

"CMS Kluge's service is excellent. They seem to be very aware of customary practice and what is required to get the job done."

"CMS Kluge has a variety of lawyers with in-depth skills for most matters. Their responsiveness is far above the expected, and they always deliver on or before our agreed deadline."

"The team at CMS Kluge displays a high level of professional expertise no matter what challenges we encounter along the way. Its lawyers' responses are always prompt, and they are very service-minded."

"The team at CMS Kluge is competent and has

broad commercial experience. Its lawyers can handle very complex matters."

"The lawyers at CMS Kluge are competent, strategic and responsive."

Work highlights CMS Kluge advised Bodø municipality on its purchase of property from Avinor and the Norwegian armed forces, valued at NOK1.38 billion.

Notable practitioners

Naja Dannow (see p.1338) handles development projects and property transactions. She is also well placed to advise on lease negotiations.

Strengths: "Naja is a very skilled lawyer and adviser who understands her customers' needs." "Naja knows her stuff. She knows what her clients' needs are. We have been very impressed with her." "Naja Dannow is an extremely competent individual with extraordinary capacity." "Naja Dannow has good knowledge about many topics related to real estate. She provides holistic advice that takes care of all aspects of the case." "Naja Dannow has a strong combination of experience in commercial and real estate law. She understands our needs in a commercial sense, and can offer immediate and succinct advice. She is an absolute pleasure to work with."

Deloitte Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Deloitte's real estate practice in Norway handles a range of development projects and transactions. The lawyers also assist with the negotiation of lease agreements, and are additionally experienced in landowner and ground lease issues, including contentious proceedings.

Strengths

"Deloitte is able to allocate resources to meet our needs and can dig deep into complex matters when needed."

"With high competence and interdisciplinary exchange of experience and knowledge, the team at Deloitte handles complex cases with a high degree of quality and speed."

"When using Deloitte, we are confident that our best interests are being taken care of, also from a commercial point of view. Its lawyers always let us know what is moving in the market and what we should expect when negotiating, as well as giving us advice on what issues are commercially important for us specifically."

Work highlights Deloitte assisted Helliik Teigen with its development of the Fjordbyen area in Lier.

Notable practitioners

Thorvald Nyquist advises on real estate transactions, lease agreements and development projects. He is also well placed to handle contentious mandates, with particular knowledge in planning issues. **Strengths:** "Thorvald Nyquist impresses with his broad knowledge of most aspects of real estate. Furthermore, he is a pleasant person who represents us in a good way and is widely respected. In negotiations, he has a good and balanced appearance, and looks after his clients' interests in a very good way." "Thorvald is very trustworthy and therefore great in negotiations. He is always very honest in evaluating our case and gets straight to the point. We never receive long memos from him unless we ask for them. He is always available and has a great team assisting him." "Thorvald is a very skilled

lawyer with high integrity. He is service-minded and very good at communicating and establishing an understanding on what to do."

Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS

What the team is known for Føyen's team handles an array of transactional work, often acting for real estate developers. The team is well placed to advise on planning matters and contentious mandates. The law firm also assists clients with lease agreements.

Strengths

"The team at Føyen has a broad knowledge of different types of case, and its lawyers always give fast responses to our questions and good advice that is within time."

"The lawyers at Føyen are very skilled and solution-oriented, and their ability to deliver to budget and provide value for money is strong due to their way of helping us find constructive and financially attractive solutions."

"The team at Føyen is professionally strong and responds quickly to our requests."

Work highlights Føyen assisted Boligbygg Oslo with its purchase of shares in Sinsenveien Panorama.

Notable practitioners

Lars David Råmunddal is an experienced real estate lawyer with a particular focus on portfolio management and transactions.

Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Ro Sommernes' team assists with real estate transactions involving office and retail assets, as well as residential and logistics properties. The law firm is instructed by a range of clients, including real estate developers and service companies, as well as real estate investors.

Strengths

"Ro Sommernes handles complex and sophisticated matters, and its lawyers are solution-oriented."

Notable practitioners

Nils Petter Hansson (see p.1341) is active on real estate transactions advising investors and corporates on sales and acquisitions. **Strengths:** "Nils is a fantastic lawyer and discussion partner. He is very commercially up to date, fair and has excellent people skills." "Nils is solution-oriented and has excellent commercial awareness. He is always available and responsive."

SANDS

What the team is known for SANDS advises on the sale and acquisition of properties and real estate companies. The lawyers are additionally active on development projects and transactions, including advising on zoning issues. SANDS also assists with lease agreements.

Strengths

"SANDS's commercial awareness is of the absolute highest level."

"SANDS are a very good discussion partner. They often present solutions based on a wide knowledge base within the field."

Work highlights SANDS advised Capio Norge Holding and Volvat Medisinske Senter on the development property deal at Borgenveien 2 in Oslo, including negotiating the purchase and lease agreements.

Notable practitioners

Christian Hartmann heads the department and is a key contact for clients.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Line Ravlo-Losvik assists with real estate transactions and joint ventures related to the acquisition and sale of portfolios, often with cross-border elements. She is also well placed to advise clients on development projects. She moved to Apex Advokatfirma from DLA Piper in November 2023.

Restructuring/Insolvency

Restructuring/Insolvency	Restructuring/Insolvency	Restructuring/Insolvency
Leading Firms	Senior Statespeople	
Band 1	Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	Ottesen Tom Hugo Kvale Advokatfirma DA *
BAHR	Gisvold Marius M Advokatfirmaet Gisvold AS (ORL) ◇	Ro Knut Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	Madsen Leif Petter Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	
Kvale Advokatfirma DA	Leading Individuals	
Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA	Band 1	Sandtrø Erik Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA *
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	Hegdahl Kristoffer Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS	Tønseth Magnus BAHR *
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	Koefoed Nils Holger Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA *	Band 4
Band 2	Schult Ulriksen Ellen Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS	Aase Frank Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Sjøqvist Richard BAHR *	Aasebø Kristoffer Bull *
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig	Snertingdalen Stine Kvale Advokatfirma DA *	Gaski Klemet Ingvar Bull *
Band 3	Wiker Håvard Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA	Grimsbu Joar Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirma DLA Piper	Band 2	Herdlevær Tor Selmer
Wiersholm	Gjengset Ståle Wiersholm	Nossum Johan Henrik Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Band 4	Sandvik Siv Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Opdal Erling Ræder Bing Law Firm
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS	Skjørshammer Jon Langseth Advokatfirma (ORL) ◇	Simonsen Peter Aall Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt
Bull	Tapper Kaare Christian Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS	Skiaker Karianne Evje Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS	Band 3	Stensholdt Hans Ingvald CMS Kluge *
Ræder Bing Law Firm	Bugge Hjorth Peter Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Wettre Anne Christine Ræder Bing Law Firm
Selmer	Hamre Bjørn Åge Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig	Up-and-coming individuals
* Indicates individual with profile.	Hatling Egil Advokatfirma DLA Piper *	Vikse Sofie Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Horstad Egil Advokatfirmaet Schjødt	Associates to watch
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Piro Thomas Kvale Advokatfirma DA *	Sommernes Harald Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA *

Band 1

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR has an impressive practice reputed for its capabilities in restructuring matters. The law firm handles

issues relating to corporate reorganisation, financial restructuring and recoveries. The team is particularly well known for representing bondholders, banks and distressed companies. The practice advises on contentious cases, including cross-border enforcement proceedings.

Strengths

"BAHR's service levels and responsiveness are superb."

"Besides being calm and attentive to legal questions and potential challenges, the lawyers at BAHR are also very active in guiding me on commercial

strategy and financial products, which is a good combination."

"BAHR has a very commercial, tightly knit team that is truly hands-on. Its lawyers are very good at managing the complex processes involved in restructurings."

"BAHR are super good at restructurings. It's always a pleasure working with them."

Work highlights BAHR advised PGS on its financial restructuring and the refinancing of its financial commitments.

Notable practitioners

Richard Sjøqvist (see p.1345) heads the department and is a market-leading practitioner who regularly advises bondholders and distressed companies on a broad range of restructuring mandates. **Strengths:** "What I like about Richard is that he is a practical guy who knows the law and asks how we can be creative and make things happen." "He is a deal-maker who understands commercial aspects as well as legal aspects, and he can use the law to make his clients' objectives happen." **Magnus Tønseth** (see p.1348) advises lending syndicates and bondholders on restructuring matters involving the offshore and energy sectors. **Strengths:** "Magnus Tønseth offers a first-class delivery." "Magnus makes things happen. He always promptly answers me and provides me with feedback and suggestions." "Magnus is very likeable; he's a good guy to work with."

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind has a respected practice assisting clients with a range of matters in both restructuring and insolvency, including multi-jurisdictional financial restructurings. The law firm regularly acts as trustee for bankruptcy estates and also represents industrial creditors and board members. The law firm offers in-depth expertise in board liability cases, acting for clients in the financial services, transportation and TMT industries.

Strengths

"The team at Haavind exhibits precision and thoroughness while addressing complex issues in a practical manner."

"Haavind provides us with clear, helpful and timely advice."

"Haavind has a very strong restructuring team who are always ready to provide simple answers to complex financial restructuring and bankruptcy cases. Their delivery is fast and friendly in tone."

"I would recommend Haavind because of their ability to be commercial, efficient and proactive. The lawyers are highly skilled, deliver according to budget and offer excellent client service."

"They are well known for their ability to handle complex and large matters effectively, and their response levels are very good both in terms of quality and time-wise."

Work highlights Haavind acted as trustee of J. Choo Norway and assisted with the reversal of the Oslo District Court's order to dissolve the company.

Notable practitioners

Ellen Schult Ulriksen is a leading practitioner who has outstanding experience representing clients in debt negotiations, restructurings and bankruptcy proceedings. **Strengths:** "Ellen is con-

fident in the way she handles cases both commercially and from a legal perspective. She is always open-minded and aims to find common ground for a settlement." "Ellen did an amazing job for us on a highly complex matter. We could not be happier with her advice and service." "Ellen provides us with clear and helpful advice." "Ellen Schult Ulriksen is a highly skilled lawyer who is always a pleasure to work with. She's solution-oriented, pragmatic and commercial." "Ellen Schult Ulriksen is fast to respond and will always seek to find smart solutions. She is an expert who will provide you with tailor-made, easily understandable solutions to very complex issues." **Karianne Evje Skiaker** enters the rankings this year following impressive market recognition. She is regularly appointed as trustee of bankruptcy estates, advising on ownership rights, recovery claims, directors' liability and the reversal of dissolution orders. **Strengths:** "Karianne is pleasant to work with and incredibly service-minded." "Karianne Evje Skiaker is always hands-on and has great negotiation skills." "Karianne is a highly skilful lawyer who is a pleasure to work with. She finds practical solutions in an efficient manner."

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale has a highly accomplished bankruptcy and insolvency group with an impressive reputation for acting as bankruptcy trustee over distressed entities, debt settlement and recovery. The law firm is experienced in contentious matters including cross-border proceedings. The team regularly acts for an array of impressive clients, including major financial institutions, as well as energy suppliers and retail clients.

Strengths

"The team at Kvale are always available and service-minded, and structure their communications well."

"Kvale can put together strong teams to handle various work streams. The lawyers are very hands-on and take the lead in the process."

"In all cases where we have been connected, Kvale has given us its best team. Its lawyers always find solutions that fit the clients."

Work highlights Kvale acted as trustee for the bankruptcy estate of Flyr.

Notable practitioners

Tom Hugo Ottesen (see p.1344) is a leading lawyer in the market who is regularly appointed as trustee in complex bankruptcies. He provides substantial expertise in sectors such as retail and manufacturing. **Strengths:** "Tom is an experienced lawyer who is good at finding consensus with different stakeholders." "Tom is a fantastic person in all ways. He is generous and nice, and is a very good lawyer who has contacts everywhere."

Stine Snertingdalen (see p.1346) is a top-ranked lawyer who acts as bankruptcy trustee on offshore industry mandates, as well as acting for syndicated lenders on financial restructurings.

Strengths: "Stine is a very efficient lawyer who is able to find solutions in complex situations." "Stine Snertingdalen is pragmatic, solution-oriented and easy to work with." "Stine Snertingdalen is a brilliant lawyer." "Stine is a creative and hands-on lawyer. We are very happy with her." **Thomas Piro**

(see p.1344) handles a range of bankruptcy cases, including those involving international elements. He advises on the sale of distressed assets, debt recovery processes and pre-insolvency investigations.

Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Ro Sommernes has an exceptional insolvency practice, handling reconstruction plans and liquidation mandates. The law firm serves as bankruptcy trustee and administrator for a range of clients including bondholders, management and creditors. The team is also experienced in advising on the sale and purchase of distressed assets.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Ro Sommernes are quick to respond, service-minded and proactive."

"Ro Sommernes are strong on complex matters and take a pragmatic approach to getting issues solved."

"Ro Sommernes engage in complex restructurings and bankruptcies and always deliver high-quality work for their clients."

Work highlights Ro Sommernes was appointed by the Oslo County Court on the reconstruction plan for Hammerfest Industriservice.

Notable practitioners

Knut Ro is highly experienced in handling complex restructuring mandates. **Strengths:** "Knut Ro is a real pleasure to work with. He is extremely knowledgeable and can handle very hardcore insolvency law. He is absolutely up to the task." Advancing to the top tier, **Nils Holger Koefoed** (see p.1342) is regularly appointed as trustee in bankruptcy proceedings, and is experienced in the sale of assets as well as distressed M&A. He assists clients with filing for bankruptcy, and also handles pre-insolvency negotiations with creditors and potential buyers. **Strengths:** "Nils Holger always finds alternative solutions. Where others say something would be too difficult, he always finds an angle and moves things along." "Nils Holger Koefoed is extremely solution-oriented and creative, and will find new angles to make work go smoothly." "Nils Holger is a commercial and solution-oriented practitioner." "Nils Holger Koefoed is very energetic and on the ball. He has an extremely high work capacity and is very commercial in his approach." Head of department **Håvard Wiker** is an outstanding practitioner who frequently acts as a court-appointed trustee or reconstructor in formal proceedings. He has considerable experience negotiating with creditors as well as employees. **Strengths:** "Håvard Wiker is a very goal-oriented, efficient and calm lawyer who commands a lot of trust." "Håvard Wiker has an excellent legal mind while also being pragmatic." "Håvard Wiker is a really excellent lawyer. I can call him anytime to discuss a very hard legal question and he is always available." "He is extremely hands-on and calm in the way he performs his work, and is open-minded and solution-oriented." **Erik Sandtrø** (see p.1345) regularly advises on financial restructuring matters as well as bankruptcy mandates and distressed M&A transactions. **Strengths:** "Erik is very efficient in his approach when solving issues." "Erik is a diligent, knowledgeable and hard-working lawyer who is easy to work with." **Harald Sommernes** (see

p.1346) focuses on restructuring and bankruptcy proceedings, often acting for creditors.

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen has a premier restructuring practice assisting banks and creditors as well as debtors and bond issuers. The law firm is active on restructuring mandates in the shipping and offshore sectors. The legal team remains heavily involved in cross-border restructuring cases, often representing large bank syndicates and other clients from the financial sector. The practice possesses expertise in foreign insolvency procedures.

Strengths

"We use Thommessen due to the complexity of our matters and our requirement for speed, quality and a holistic approach."

"The team at Thommessen are very hands-on and can manage complex processes and relations in an excellent way."

"The lawyers are capable of thinking about both finance negotiation tactics and diplomacy in addition to the legal skills you would expect, which makes their delivery quite impressive."

"The team at Thommessen are quick to identify key issues and propose solutions. Their service levels were above our expectations."

Work highlights Thommessen assisted DNB, GIEK and DVB as the secured lenders in the USD300 million financial restructuring of Polarcus.

Notable practitioners

Kristoffer Hegdahl has market-leading expertise representing lenders and borrowers in financial restructuring matters. **Strengths:** *"Kristoffer is a very good technical and commercial lawyer. He is able to dive into complex financial issues and apply either his financial or legal skills or both."* *"Kristoffer is a very likeable person and a well-rounded lawyer who is always available and both advises and asks questions."* *"Kristoffer is extremely business-oriented and commercial. He is very good with people and is good at finding solutions."*

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein has an exceptional restructuring and insolvency team with a significant international footprint. The team has a strong offering in financial restructuring mandates, including bond and loan restructuring as well as in-court reconstruction matters. The practice is very active in the offshore and shipping sectors, as well as in Nordic restructurings and cross-border projects involving the Asia-Pacific markets through its offices in Singapore and Shanghai. Wikborg Rein also advises clients in the aviation, banking, manufacturing, real estate and retail sectors.

Strengths

"Wikborg Rein has a highly skilled team of experienced and talented people who always respond quickly and provide a good service."

"The lawyers at Wikborg Rein are proactive and offer clear and effective communication and short response times."

"Wikborg Rein has skilled employees at all levels who have the capacity to handle all types of legal problems."

Work highlights Wikborg Rein assisted 15 Norwe-

gian and international banks and financial institutions as senior secured lenders with the financial restructuring of DOF.

Notable practitioners

Leif Petter Madsen handles large-scale debt restructuring mandates, court-led reconstruction proceedings and substantial Norwegian bankruptcies. **Strengths:** *"Leif Petter Madsen is an outstanding lawyer."* **Kaare Christian Tapper** heads the department and handles a broad range of debt restructurings, representing both lenders and debtors in proceedings. **Strengths:** *"Kaare is an efficient, smart and articulate lawyer."* **Sofie Vikse** enters the rankings this year as an up-and-coming lawyer following outstanding market plaudits. She often advises clients on financial restructurings and acts as trustee in bankruptcy cases. **Strengths:** *"Sofie Vikse has in-depth knowledge of the law and finds practical solutions, always with a friendly approach."* *"Sofie Vikse is skilled, service-oriented and always available."*

Band 2

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt has a strong restructuring team with particular experience within the oil and gas, aviation and natural resources sectors, along with activity in the retail sector. The law firm advises both lenders and borrowers on complex financial restructuring mandates, and is especially known for its bond restructuring work and experience advising bondholders. The practice has particular strength acting for banks, institutional investors and global hedge funds, as well as receiving appointments by the court as administrator.

Strengths

"The Schjødt team has the ability to combine expertise in different areas into a single and implementable strategy. The team is top notch and strategic, and its lawyers work around the clock to provide the best service."

"The team at Schjødt are very knowledgeable and hands-on. They offer to help us in all areas necessary and are very quick in responding to our questions and needs."

"We are very happy with Schjødt's support. The lawyers are very efficient, skilled, friendly and flexible to work with."

Work highlights Schjødt acted for DOF as administrator on its reconstruction proceedings and bankruptcy estate.

Notable practitioners

Siv Sandvik is active in significant domestic restructuring mandates and has additional expertise in bankruptcy cases. She is often appointed as an administrator by the courts. **Strengths:** *"Siv is a skilful, flexible, responsive and pragmatic lawyer. She is nice, polite and composed."* **Peter Bugge Hjorth** advises both lenders and borrowers on debt restructuring matters and recovery proceedings. **Strengths:** *"Peter is very good at advising on complex situations. He has helped us a lot."* **Egil Horstad** is recognised for handling contentious matters. He acts as bankruptcy trustee and advises on a broad range of restructuring mandates. **Strengths:** *"Egil is an extremely skilled*

lawyer."

Johan Henrik Nossum advises on liability issues, as well as debt recovery matters and distressed acquisitions.

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for With offices spanning the country and a roster of clients in the banking and finance, construction and energy sectors, Simonsen Vogt Wiig is well regarded for its expertise in handling bankruptcy estates and regularly advises on related contentious claims. The law firm also participates in restructurings in the shipping, oil and offshore sectors. The team regularly acts as administrator or trustee on large-scale insolvency cases.

Strengths

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig provide us with clear advice and support."

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig do a really great job for us. The lawyers are solution-oriented and available at all times."

"The team at Simonsen Vogt Wiig are skilled, to the point and give us realistic feedback regarding our cases' possible outcomes."

"The team at Simonsen Vogt Wiig have good knowledge of issues and are solution-oriented and fast. Their service and response times are perfect, and their commercial awareness is impeccable."

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig acted as an expert witness in Norwegian insolvency law on a lawsuit under Chapter 15 of the US Bankruptcy Code on behalf of the bankruptcy estate of Norske Skogindustrier.

Notable practitioners

The Bergen-based **Bjørn Åge Hamre** continues to progress in the rankings. He is frequently appointed as administrator in matters involving the shipping and offshore sectors, as well as retail. He also acts as an expert witness in restructuring and insolvency cases. **Strengths:** *"Bjørn Åge Hamre is a result-oriented lawyer."* *"Bjørn Åge Hamre is an experienced lawyer who fights for his clients."* *"We are very pleased with Bjørn Åge Hamre's advice and have recommended him to business friends."* **Frank Aase** offers experience in financial restructuring matters. He moved from Brækhus Advokatfirma to Simonsen Vogt Wiig in January 2024. **Strengths:** *"Frank is a solution-oriented lawyer who knows the law well and understands our business."* **Peter Aall Simonsen** advises on debt restructuring and enforcement proceedings, especially in the offshore and energy sectors. **Strengths:** *"I am pleased with the support Peter brings to my team."* *"I would like to highlight his precise, strategic and tactical legal knowledge and experience in this field of legal advice related to bankruptcy and restructuring processes."*

Band 3

Advokatfirma DLA Piper

What the team is known for DLA Piper has a solid restructuring and insolvency team which is often active on cross-border matters, with overseas clients benefiting from the global law firm's international network. The practice advises clients in a range of industries including insurance, investment funds, manufacturing and technology, and

frequently works as trustee in bankruptcies as well as handling liability claims.

Strengths

"The team at DLA Piper is quick and effective."

"DLA Piper offers excellent client service and great value for money."

"DLA Piper's service level is very high. Its lawyers are always willing to go the extra mile to ensure timely and fast responses."

Work highlights DLA Piper advised SAS on its filing for Chapter 11 protection in the US Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York.

Notable practitioners

Egil Hatling (see p.1341) advises clients on domestic and cross-border restructuring and bankruptcy mandates. He also handles contentious insolvency-related issues. **Strengths:** *"Egil Hatling quickly forms a picture of the matter, how it can be resolved and at what level. He is good at bringing in various resources that are necessary to handle the assignment in a good way."* *"Egil has strong business acumen and commercial understanding."*

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm often advises distressed companies and bondholders, as well as assisting companies with the purchase of distressed assets, including both domestic and cross-border transactions. The team acts for clients from a range of industries, including construction, aviation, shipping and the offshore sectors.

Strengths

"Wiersholm's team is very impressive. They always respond to us quickly and concisely."

Work highlights Wiersholm acted for SFL Corporation as creditor, and Hemen Holding and Sterna Finance as shareholders and creditors, in the restructuring of Solstad Offshore.

Notable practitioners

Ståle Gjengset leads the practice at Wiersholm. He advises debtors as well as creditors, including bondholders, on restructuring processes. **Strengths:** *"Ståle Gjengset is a very good deal-maker."*

Band 4

Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Arntzen de Besche acts as administrator and trustee in bankruptcy proceedings, in addition to representing banks and creditors in connection with refinancing mandates. The law firm also provides transactional advice, assisting with distressed M&A and debt restructuring mandates. The practice frequently acts for clients from the offshore, construction, finance and insurance sectors.

Strengths

"The team at Arntzen de Besche have good theoretical and practical knowledge regarding insolvency work. The lawyers are service-minded and quick to respond."

Notable practitioners

Joar Grimsbu is appointed administrator in bankruptcy cases, with a focus on the oil and offshore industries, as well as construction. **Strengths:** *"Joar Grimsbu has good theoretical knowledge and takes a practical approach."*

Bull

What the team is known for Bull provides restructuring and insolvency legal advice in the Norwegian market, representing both debtors and creditors. Team members are regularly appointed as administrators. The firm takes on various assignments involving companies in the hospitality, manufacturing and construction sectors, among others. It also handles restructuring matters with white-collar crime elements.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Bull are skilled and hard-working."

"Bull's client service is great. The law firm has a well-reputed and experienced insolvency team."

"Bull reaches extremely good legal conclusions in complex cases."

Notable practitioners

Kristoffer Aasebø (see p.1336) represents both creditors and debtors in restructuring matters, including court-led proceedings. **Strengths:** *"Kristoffer offers very profound knowledge of the relevant topics and is also able to read between the lines."* *"Kristoffer is very easy to work with and knowledgeable about the subject matter."* *"Kristoffer has strong theoretical knowledge and is a service-minded lawyer."* **Klemet Ingvar Gaski** (see p.1339) enters the rankings this year following notable feedback. He assists companies with restructuring processes. He also represents clients in professional liability cases connected to distressed situations. **Strengths:** *"Klemet is a really good lawyer and is pleasant to work with."*

CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for CMS Kluge assists clients from the banking sector with restructuring matters, particularly handling matters for companies experiencing financial distress and market difficulties. The law firm is heavily involved in matters within the energy, shipping and construction sectors. The team also has experience in dealing with assignments in connection with disputes regarding liability matters.

Work highlights CMS Kluge represented Cool Company in a bankruptcy pleading filed by one of its creditors.

Notable practitioners

Hans Ingvald Stensholdt (see p.1346) acts for creditors and debtors on restructuring mandates and insolvency proceedings as well as distressed asset transactions. **Strengths:** *"Hans Ingvald Stensholdt is exceptionally skilled at devising strategies that enable cases to be resolved before they reach the courts. As his client, you are well taken care of and provided with the assurance that cases are resolved in your best interest."*

Ræder Bing Law Firm

What the team is known for Ræder Bing Law Firm is particularly notable for bankruptcy work and is regularly appointed to act in relation to bankruptcy estates and insolvency cases by the courts. The law firm also works with debtors, creditors and corporate boards on debt settlement and restructuring, and handles directors' liability matters.

Strengths

"I am very satisfied with the entire team at Ræder Bing. They provide us with excellent legal advice."

"The lawyers at Ræder Bing have the ability to see atypical solutions and follow up in a reasonable manner."

Work highlights Ræder Bing Law Firm advised Elivery Sport on its reconstruction plan, working closely with the court-appointed reconstructor.

Notable practitioners

Erling Opdal acts in notable bankruptcy cases that involve criminal proceedings, audits and directors' liability claims. **Strengths:** *"Erling Opdal has strong theoretical knowledge and a practical approach."* **Anne Christine Wettre** regularly acts as an appointed administrator on insolvency mandates. **Strengths:** *"Anne is a hard-working and persistent lawyer."*

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer has an established practice advising financial institutions and distressed companies on both domestic and cross-border restructuring cases. The law firm regularly advises on corporate and debt restructuring matters, and has experience in matters relating to the shipping and offshore sectors. The practice offers further experience in the construction and manufacturing industries. The team works closely with the law firm's reputable banking and finance practice.

Strengths

"Selmer's team are proactive and have the great ability to see the greater picture."

Work highlights Selmer advised Convene Holding on the restructuring of its bond debt.

Notable practitioners

Tor Herdlevær frequently acts on restructuring mandates as well as distressed M&A transactions, including a focus on offshore and shipping-related restructuring processes. **Strengths:** *"Tor has strong strategic and negotiation skills, is easily available and is very commercially oriented."* *"We are very satisfied with Tor. He is proactive, on duty and available at all times, and is working more with us than for us."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Marius Gisvold of Advokatfirmaet Gisvold is an experienced practitioner who advises both creditors and debtors on debt restructuring mandates. **Jon Skjørsammer** of Langseth Advokatfirma handles refinancing and restructuring mandates, and is often appointed as reconstructor by the courts.

Shipping

Shipping
Leading Firms
Band 1
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Wiersholm
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 2
BAHR
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Band 3
Gjelsten Herlofsen Advokatfirma AS
Kvale Advokatfirma DA
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig benefits from an impressive team in ship finance matters, which is supported by an increasingly highly regarded commercial shipping practice. It demonstrates distinct expertise in finance matters, including lease and acquisition financing transactions. Furthermore, the group advises on the drafting and negotiation of contracts for the acquisition, charter or building of vessels. The law firm also acts on high-profile collisions that are litigated against the Norwegian state, and has experience in charter-related disputes as well as international arbitration proceedings and investigations.

Strengths

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig has experts in many fields, which the team does not hesitate to use when niche expertise is needed. The law firm is outstanding when it comes to service levels and responsiveness."

"The partners have a deep understanding of the commercial aspects of a transaction."

"The team has strength, depth and experience. Its depth of experience means that the lawyers have seen most things before and have excellent tactical awareness."

"The practice offers clear and useful advice."

"Within maritime law, shipping transactions and financing across the world, Simonsen Vogt Wiig has strong breadth in its team and also the depth to handle legal issues when disputes arise."

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig advised Grieg Shipping II on the negotiation of four ship-building contracts for the construction of specialised bulk carrier vessels.

Notable practitioners

Christine Rødsæther is an outstanding lawyer who advises lenders on finance transactions and loan portfolios in the shipping and offshore sectors, often with cross-border aspects. **Strengths:** "Christine Rødsæther is Norway's best shipping lawyer." "She knows how to do business; she sees it from the owners perspective and also the bank's, as well as the legal side. She absolutely has a very commercial mindset, and that has to do with her long experience as well." "Christine is very

Shipping: Finance
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Hasle Kristine Wiersholm
Rødsæther Christine Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt
Band 2
Gabrielsen Atle Wiersholm
Heyerdahl Ellen Teresa Advokatfirmaet Thommessen
Band 3
Lous Erlend Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Mørkve Camilla Skøie Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Up-and-coming individuals
Fjærvoll-Larsen Andreas Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma
Østerbo Lars-Erik Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

Shipping: Corporate/Commercial

Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Lind Erling Ro Sommeres Advokatfirma DA (ORL) ◇ *
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Gustavsson Geir BAHF *
Hagberg Henrik Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Band 2
Aadnesen Henrik BAHF *
Axe Øyvind Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Even Rygh Karl Wiersholm
Haavardsholm Mads Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Band 3
Litinas Yannis Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Lous Erlend Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Slinning Oddbjørn Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Up-and-coming individuals
Fjærvoll-Larsen Andreas Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma
Frisak Anne Dahl BAHF *

solution-oriented and pragmatic, and she doesn't complicate things. She is extremely experienced."

"She is not only an expert in her field, but she is also extremely service-minded and welcoming; no question is too small, and no time is inconvenient."

"Christine is brilliant in her field." **Yannis Litinas** advises clients on a range of commercial shipping mandates, including vessel sales and purchases, acting for domestic as well as international companies from the shipping and offshore sectors.

Strengths: "Yannis Litinas has great knowledge and is hard-working." "We rate Yannis highly not only due to his legal and commercial skills but also because he understands our company's approach and values." "He works very hard to get deals closed within tight timeframes." **Erlend Lous** is a versatile practitioner acting on finance, corporate and commercial matters. He often advises clients on vessel sale and purchase transactions, and is well versed in sustainability-linked financing mandates. **Strengths:** "Erlend Lous really knows the shipping market well." "Erlend is very responsive and provides great value for money with his unique blended focus on both the key commercial and legal aspects of a transaction." "Erlend is very dedicated and commercially minded."

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen boasts a broad client roster comprising P&I clubs, ship-

Shipping: Dispute Resolution
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Lund Mathisen Morten Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Gjelsten Gaute Gjelsten Herlofsen Advokatfirma AS *
Herlofsen Frithjof Gjelsten Herlofsen Advokatfirma AS *
Band 2
Færden Anders W Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Hauge Christian Wiersholm
Meidell Andreas Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Band 3
Andersen Jon Ræder Bing Law Firm (ORL) ◇
Hagberg Henrik Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Lindhartsen Kristian Kvale Advokatfirma DA *
Slinning Oddbjørn Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Steen Herman Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

ping companies and suppliers to the shipping industry. It has full-service capabilities, with lawyers ready to assist with a plethora of matters. The group advises on newbuild contracts for, and the financing of, container vessels and bulk carriers, and also handles sale and leaseback transactions. The team is equally strong in disputes, particularly in complex marine insurance claims.

Strengths

"The department has an outstanding ability to manage nuanced and complex issues, with a keen eye for detail whilst keeping a holistic, business-oriented perspective. It is always very responsive, service-minded and skilled at keeping up momentum throughout the project."

"Thommessen has probably the best marine insurance law team in Norway. It is always well prepared, available and quick to respond."

"It is definitely one of the best teams in Norway. It has a wide range of industry experts with excellent knowledge and understanding of our business."

"The depth and breadth of the team is excellent."

"The practice knows us well and has excellent knowledge with regard to ship finance. Being one of the biggest law firms in Norway, it can also draw on colleagues with specific knowledge if needed."

Work highlights Thommessen advised Hunter Group on the disposal of four VLCCs.

Notable practitioners

Henrik Hagberg is a top-tier practitioner in corporate and commercial mandates in the maritime sector. He is frequently seen advising on sale and leaseback transactions, and he offers additional experience in contentious shipping matters, representing clients before the Oslo District Court and the Court of Appeal. **Strengths:** "Henrik Hagberg is the best shipping lawyer in Norway." "He is very good on all maritime-related topics." "Henrik is the perfect lawyer in all aspects." "He is a top shipping lawyer with particular expertise in commercial contracts and transactions." "He is creative with a strong commercial understanding."

Advancing in the rankings, **Mads Haavardsholm** has experience assisting ship owners with sale and leaseback transactions. He demonstrates additional expertise in M&A in the shipping sector. **Strengths:** "Mads always walks the extra mile to

take care of his client's interests." "Mads Haavardsholm is very strong." "He is our go-to counsel for shipping-related questions. He is very responsive."

Ellen Teresa Heyerdahl is renowned for her experience acting on finance and restructuring mandates in the sector, including assisting clients with the financing of shipbuilding contracts. **Strengths:** "Ellen Teresa Heyerdahl has a unique understanding of the client's needs." **Andreas Meidell** is well known as an insurance specialist with notable experience in shipping cases. He acts for major international marine insurers and their insureds on disputes arising from collisions or groundings. He also handles arbitration mandates. **Strengths:** "Andreas Meidell is the pre-eminent insurance lawyer in Norway." "He is probably the best marine insurance lawyer in Norway."

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm demonstrates experience across a broad range of contentious and non-contentious shipping mandates. The group earns praise for its work on ship finance matters. Its lawyers win instructions to act either for selling ship owners or purchasers on sale and leaseback transactions. The team assists with the drafting or negotiation of newbuild contracts with foreign shipyards. It also represents clients in disputes relating to damage caused to cargo or vessels.

Strengths

"Wiersholm has a very good market presence and sees a lot of deals, so it can deliver market-tested creativity."

"The team provides a good quality of work and fast response times."

"Wiersholm has Norway's best lawyers in maritime law. Both the partners and associates have very good knowledge, and they provide fast, precise and relevant answers."

"Wiersholm's team has special knowledge in maritime and insurance law, and gives good guidance in issues related to marine claims. It has strong industry knowledge."

"It is an experienced and trained team that gives prudent insight into the industry."

Work highlights Wiersholm assisted Tidewater with the acquisition of 37 platform supply vessels from Solstad Offshore.

Notable practitioners

Outstanding practitioner **Kristine Hasle** handles a variety of ship finance matters ranging from bond issuances and acquisition financing to the agreement of sale and leaseback transactions. She also attracts attention for her work on restructuring mandates. **Strengths:** "Kristine is a rock star in shipping deals and finance." "Kristine Hasle is a top lawyer." "She is dedicated and understands what clients need." "She offers an extremely high-quality service, is always quick to respond and is concise with her expert advice." "Process-wise, Kristine Hasle is very well organised and her expectation management is excellent." **Karl Even Rygh** is well reputed for his presence in the law firm's commercial shipping practice. He assists shipping companies with the negotiation of shipbuilding contracts and advises on vessel sales and purchases as well as M&A transactions in the sector. **Strengths:** "He delivers a high level of service for his clients."

He is always available and has a high level of commercial awareness. He is solution-oriented and we always feel like we're in good hands when he is assisting us." "He has this calm presence that spreads throughout the entire process of discussions with counterparties, which de-escalates it and finds solutions." "Karl Even Rygh is very skilled and pleasant to work with." "He is a very strong legal adviser on shipping-related matters." "Karl Even is a very capable lawyer." **Atle Gabrielsen** has a strong finance practice that extends into the shipping sector. He is recognised by market commentators for his activity in acquisition finance transactions. **Strengths:** "He has a good commercial understanding and is very steady on the technical side. He has experience and has seen a lot of deals, and he is good at using this. He is good at seeing the commercial angle." Progressing in the rankings, **Christian Hauge** has broad experience in litigation proceedings relating to cargo damage as well as insurance liability claims. **Strengths:** "Christian Hauge is a highly skilled lawyer who delivers as expected." "He has a high level of knowledge and is very service-minded. He combines legal expertise with operational and technical knowledge."

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein is a renowned powerhouse that showcases strength across many areas of shipping law, with a particularly strong reputation for handling wet shipping matters. Its emergency response team wins instructions from insurers to assist with the earliest stages of shipping casualties, while the litigation team handles subsequent cargo, salvage or wreck removal claims. The law firm also advises on the negotiation of commercial contracts for the offshore oil and gas sector, and assists with any subsequent disputes arising under the same. It further acts for major Norwegian offshore companies on the restructuring of their corporate debt. The team is also strong in cross-border matters due to a notable international network.

Strengths

"Wikborg Rein has long been Norway's leading maritime law firm and has the size and varied competencies to handle any type of maritime matter, ranging from complex litigation and large casualties to high-profile transactions. No other firm in Norway provides a similar breadth of maritime legal services. The lawyers work seamlessly across its offices, with the London office being a particularly helpful addition."

"The lawyers are practical in approach and pragmatic about issues."

"Wikborg Rein not only provides legal feedback but also looks into the technical aspects, with an ability to adopt the mindset of owners or insurers."

"It is a very good maritime law team that is always available and offers quick responses."

"Wikborg Rein has lots of experience and a team of very hands-on and forthcoming lawyers. It is strong in both wet and dry cases."

Work highlights Wikborg Rein advised Solstad Offshore on the sale of its PSV fleet of 37 vessels to Tidewater.

Notable practitioners

Morten Lund Mathisen is best known for assisting with investigations into major casual-

ties in the offshore and shipping sectors, and also handles wreck removal cases. **Strengths:** "Morten Lund Mathisen is a firm and solid partner in complex casualty situations." "He is a truly international lawyer with a unique standing in casualty and wreck removal work. We appreciate his problem-solving ability. His standing in the market is incredibly high, and he is respected by clients and opponents alike." "Morten is a true resource and very adaptable to teamwork." Bergen-based **Øyvind Axe** has a wide commercial shipping practice. He attracts particular attention for his work on M&A transactions for companies active in the shipping and offshore oil and gas sectors. Head of the law firm's global insurance group from Oslo, **Anders Færden** assists international marine insurers with high-value cases. He acts for hull insurers on total loss claims under marine insurance policies. **Strengths:** "Anders has a very broad understanding of insurance matters, with specialist knowledge in hull insurance. He always provides useful advice." **Oddbjørn Slinning** advises on charter party disputes as well as damages and insurance claims. He is also experienced in non-contentious matters relating to transactions. **Strengths:** "Oddbjørn is great at smoothing difficult situations." "Oddbjørn Slinning is a very good maritime and litigation lawyer." **Herman Steen** advises insurers and their insured ship owners on litigation arising from collisions or other accidents at sea. He is head of the law firm's shipping and offshore disputes practice. **Strengths:** "He shows incredible attention to detail." "Herman Steen is a very good lawyer." "Herman is the go-to lawyer for all marine insurance matters." "He is a superb lawyer and the only port of call necessary when it comes to marine casualties." Active in both the corporate and finance areas, **Andreas Fjærvoll-Larsen** offers experience in refinancing and restructuring matters, as well as charter contracts and vessel sales. **Strengths:** "Andreas Fjærvoll-Larsen always has time and serves his client in the best possible way." "He has broad experience within corporate finance and shipping law matters, and an in-depth knowledge of the shipping and offshore industry." "Andreas is responsive and actively involved in all matters." **Lars-Erik Østerbø** offers experience in vessel financing, including for newbuilds, often handling matters with multi-jurisdictional implications. **Strengths:** "He is one of the best young lawyers in Norway. He is very easy to work with, technically strong, very commercial and offers strategic insight." "Lars-Erik Østerbø is an excellent lawyer and has a very strong level of service, sophistication and commercial awareness."

Band 2

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHF has experience in a variety of corporate and finance mandates in the shipping sector, frequently advising on M&A deals and capital markets transactions. The group also acts for buyers on the negotiation of newbuilding contracts. The team works closely with the law firm's significant dispute resolution practice to assist clients with cargo damage claims.

Strengths

"The department is very good at simplifying matters and getting difficult things resolved. It has both senior and junior lawyers in all required fields who provide quick turnaround on matters."

"The team always has the commercial facets and implications on its radar."

"The lawyers are proactive and provide different alternatives for the challenges faced."

"BAHR has in-depth knowledge of the industry. The team is highly skilled and complemented by additional resources when necessary. It will immediately address any urgent matters and always delivers a very strong service."

"The lawyers have good industry knowledge. They are commercial and able to see the whole picture. The team has strong depth and breadth, and responds quickly with high-quality deliverables."

Work highlights BAHHR represented Norwegian Hull Club in a direct action brought by West of England P&I Club related to a claim of cargo damage.

Notable practitioners

Market-leading practitioner **Geir Gustavsson** (see p.1340) has substantial experience advising clients on a range of shipbuilding matters. He offers additional expertise in the purchase of newbuilds, as well as charterparty negotiations. **Strengths:** "Geir Gustavsson is excellent; he is very commercial and a very safe pair of hands." "Geir has a great commercial sense, but it is his ability to see the solutions to get the deal across the line that makes him the go-to person in shipping." "Geir has a unique ability to think commercially and strategically as well as legally."

Henrik Aadnesen (see p.1336) is noted for his corporate and commercial practice in the sector. He leads a range of mandates, including those relating to the sale and purchase of vessels or the negotiation of new charter parties. **Strengths:** "Henrik Aadnesen is very diligent in his work." **Anne Dahl Frisak** (see p.1339) advises prominent domestic and international companies on corporate transactions in the shipping sector. **Strengths:** "One of her great strengths is managing complex transactions with multiple parties and jurisdictions." "Anne Dahl Frisak is very good to work with and constructive."

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt fields a strong team able to assist with an array of corporate mandates in the shipping field. The law firm advises key shipping investors on their participation in sale and leaseback transactions. Its lawyers act for ship owners and builders on all issues concerning the negotiation, financing and delivery of newbuilds.

Strengths

"The team is very proactive and on the ball, providing good advice when needed."

"It is a very good team in ship finance. Schjødt is always good at including young and skilled lawyers and there is good access to partners."

Work highlights Schjødt represented West of England P&I Club in a direct action against Norwegian Hull Club regarding a cargo damage claim.

Notable practitioners

Camilla Skøie Mørkve advises ship owners on financing mandates connected to the acquisition of vessels.

Band 3

Gjelsten Herlofsen Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Entering the rankings for the first time, Gjelsten Herlofsen Advokatfirma is a compact boutique with niche expertise in contentious maritime and insurance law. Its lawyers have market-leading expertise in disputes pertaining to cargo damage, collisions, groundings and total loss wreck removals, in addition to pollution claims. The law firm also assists clients with ship arrests.

Strengths

"It is a boutique law firm comprised of some of the very best maritime litigators in Norway. The internal quality control means that the lawyers provide top-quality legal advice on the most complex matters."

"The lawyers are analytical, knowledgeable and able to summarise and give clear advice on complex issues. They are also swift at responding."

"It is a very experienced and specialised team that has handled some of the most complex litigations and contractual negotiations within maritime and shipping law."

"The law firm offers excellent service and follow-up."

"The team has a high degree of knowledge in the applicable law and relevant jurisprudence."

Work highlights Gjelsten Herlofsen Advokatfirma advised Gard P&I and the owners of the MV "Server" on the global limitation fund arising after the total loss of the ship following its grounding off Fedje.

Notable practitioners

Market leader **Gaute Gjelsten** (see p.1340) is a deeply experienced lawyer with proven expertise in complex insurance disputes, including acting before the Supreme Court. He is highlighted for his knowledge in limitation of liability issues, pollution claims and wreck removals. **Strengths:** "Gaute Gjelsten is the top maritime legal mind in Norway." "He is highly sophisticated within particular disputes and litigation in the shipping area, with vast international experience."

Frithjof Herlofsen (see p.1341) is a distinguished lawyer who is recognised among market commentators as a skilled shipping litigator. He has extensive experience in complex insurance claims, often arising from damaged cargo. **Strengths:** "He is very bright and able to create a clear structure for the most complex legal facts." "He is a very knowledgeable lawyer who provides clear and actionable advice, and is an excellent litigator." "Frithjof Herlofsen is a good mix of a pragmatic and highly sophisticated shipping lawyer. He displays a good understanding of the client's business and commercial goals, enabling him to tune his recommendations to a satisfactory outcome." "Within his fields of expertise in maritime and insurance law, he is perhaps the best

lawyer in Norway." "He is able to quickly understand the commercial and technical aspects that are relevant to the case."

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale offers a strong shipping practice from its offices in Ålesund, Oslo and Tromsø. The law firm stands out for its experience in direct actions filed against Norwegian insurers. Its lawyers act on both the debtor and creditor sides of shipping sector restructurings. The team also handles a wider range of commercial and contentious shipping matters.

Strengths

"Kvale has skilled lawyers who provide excellent assistance on thorny issues. The depth of its shipping expertise continues to expand."

"The team consists of experienced lawyers who are real experts in their field."

"The law firm has a good understanding of the market and good experience in litigation."

"The lawyers show a good understanding of the client's needs."

"The team has great multi-jurisdictional capacities, and is solution-oriented and efficient."

Work highlights Kvale represented Compagnia Italiana di Navigazione in an insurance dispute under the Nordic Marine Insurance Plan following damage sustained to vessels during chartering.

Notable practitioners

New to the rankings, **Kristian Lindhartsen** (see p.1343) is well versed in maritime insurance claims and is noted for his experience in limitation of liability issues. He is knowledgeable in cases involving breakdowns, collisions and damage to vessels. He also advises on insolvency-related topics in the shipping industry. **Strengths:** "He is a really sound lawyer who knows his stuff and is quick. He is a commercial adviser." "Kristian Lindhartsen is a skilled tactician you need in your corner." "It is a pleasure working with Kristian, who is very approachable and reliable." "He is a great lawyer who always thinks outside the box and is creative." "He is our first port of call for anything big and complex in shipping in Norway."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jon Andersen is a partner at Ræder Bing Law Firm who handles a diverse range of cases on behalf of insurers, ship owners and salvors.

Strengths:

"Jon is very experienced and always delivers first-class advice."

Highly regarded practitioner **Erling Lind** (see p.1343) of Ro Sommernes Advokatfirma boasts a long-standing presence in the Norwegian market and counts foreign and domestic ship owners among his key clients. He advises on newbuilding contracts and vessel purchases.

Strengths:

"He has so much experience and knowledge of the market."

Tax

Tax
Leading Firms
Band 1
BAHR
Ernst & Young Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Wiersholm
Band 2
Deloitte Advokatfirma AS
Advokatfirmaet PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 3
Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
CMS Kluge
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Harboe & Co
KPMG Law Advokatfirma AS
Selmer
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Backer-Grøndahl Finn Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Banoun Bettina Wiersholm
Bjerke Joachim BAHR *
Bullen Andreas Wiersholm
Kristiansen Ståle R Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Band 2
Hauge Harald Harboe & Co
Heieren Anders CMS Kluge *
Jansen Jan B BAHR *
Leegaard Thor KPMG Law Advokatfirma AS
Myklebust Anders Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Saastad Rolf J Deloitte Advokatfirma AS
Band 3
Amdahl Cecilie Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Bakko Einar Selmer
Ekern Knut BAHR
Grydeland Aleksander Ernst & Young Advokatfirma AS
Hveding Sverre Selmer
Nordbø Espen Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Noss Amund CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS *
Sandli Morten Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Tovsen Bjørn Christian Lilletvedt Advokatfirmaet
Vold Nicolay Wiersholm
Zachariassen Are Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 4
Bull Nils Flesland BAHR
Grevstad Christian Harboe & Co
Haberer Anfinssen Fredrik Advokatfirmaet Simonsen
Jøtun Camilla BAHR *
Melsom Gjert Ernst & Young Advokatfirma AS
Sandvik Eyvind Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS
Thorstad Hilde Advokatfirmaet PricewaterhouseCoopers
With Alexander CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS *
Up-and-coming individuals
Nordli Anders Advokatfirmaet Grette AS (ORL) ◇
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

BAHR

What the team is known for BAHR boasts a pre-eminent department that is especially well versed in tax litigation, including disputes relating to environmental taxes and transfer pricing. It additionally maintains strength in non-contentious mandates, where the firm benefits from the clout of its corporate department. The law firm advises on tax-efficient structuring, VAT issues and transfer pricing, and often acts for funds, oil and gas corporates and real estate companies.

Strengths

"The team provides clear advice and is able to explain pros and cons. The team is also excellent at writing to the tax authorities on complex issues."
"They are best in class and practical and commercial, without losing sight of the relevant rulings."

Notable practitioners

Joachim Bjerke (see p.1337) heads the practice from the firm's office in Oslo and is a standout practitioner in the market, boasting an excellent track record in international taxation mandates. He is highly sought after by domestic and international oil and gas companies. **Strengths:** "He is extraordinarily thorough and he really has an eye for details, as well as being very knowledgeable and very good to work with." *"Joachim is one of the top tax lawyers in Norway and has excellent business understanding. He is extremely service-minded and quick to respond, and also very solution-oriented."* **Jan Jansen** (see p.1342) is recognised for his expertise in tax disputes, especially acting on behalf of oil and gas clients. **Strengths:** "Jan is top-notch." *"Jan has a very strong commercial understanding and excellent legal analysis."* **Knut Ekern** offers extensive support in both advisory and contentious tax matters. He is recognised for his expertise in the renewable energy sector. He joined BAHR from Harboe & Co in January 2024. **Strengths:** "Knut has a very capable legal mind." *"Knut always provides a high level of service and well-prepared assessments, and has a good knowledge of the industry."* **Nils Flesland Bull** is experienced in handling indirect tax matters and advises on the tax aspects of M&A transactions. He joined BAHR from Harboe & Co in January 2024. **Camilla Jøtun** (see p.1342) rises in the rankings on the basis of an increased market profile and high levels of activity. She is noted for her tax and structuring advice to asset management and private equity clients. **Strengths:** "Camilla has been deeply involved in many processes over the past years and we are very satisfied with her work." *"Camilla is practical, available and commercial."*

Ernst & Young Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Ernst & Young fields a market-leading corporate tax practice, providing high-quality advice to aviation and energy clients as well as major private equity houses. The firm is especially praised for its tax-efficient corporate structuring expertise, where the team also advises on cross-border mandates. It houses further expertise in tax matters arising from cor-

porate transactions, with growing experience in blockchain and cryptocurrency matters, and additionally advises on litigation relating to VAT exemption.

Strengths

"The firm has strong knowledge and an international network of experts, with quick responses and a high service level."

"They are active in seeking new knowledge and on top of new developments and regulations."

Work highlights Ernst & Young advised Bo Coliving on the acquisition of four different properties in Ålesund, handling financial and tax due diligence, in addition to tax structuring and other transaction support services.

Notable practitioners

Aleksander Grydeland advises a range of domestic and international clients on corporate tax issues. **Strengths:** "I think he is a very capable lawyer." *"Aleksander has broad experience, and is highly skilled and very efficient when providing advice."* **Gjert Melsom** assists clients with cryptocurrencies and blockchain tax mandates. He additionally acts on the tax aspects of cross-border corporate restructurings and VAT. **Strengths:** "Gjert is proactive, with leading knowledge."

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Advokatfirmaet Thommessen fields a tax group highlighted for the quality of its work. It handles a broad range of litigation, including contentious transfer pricing, VAT and international tax disputes. The firm is also involved in non-contentious tax matters, including the tax implications of corporate structuring mandates and transaction structuring. Thommessen is further sought out for its expert handling of cross-border issues. The law firm acts for major corporates, especially in the shipping and energy spaces, and has additional experience representing the Norwegian Tax Appeal Board.

Strengths

"They have a very competent team with great depth and breadth."

"I find them to be pragmatic, easy to work with, highly skilled and able to give practical and actionable advice."

Work highlights Thommessen represented Fresenius Kabi Norge in a dispute regarding VAT on stability studies provided to pharmaceutical companies.

Notable practitioners

Finn Backer-Grøndahl provides extensive experience in complex tax disputes and often acts on behalf of energy sector clients. He assists Norwegian and international clients. **Strengths:** "Finn is a pleasure to work with." *"He offers in-depth insight into tax and is able to simplify and get the message over."* **Ståle Kristiansen** has experience representing clients in tax disputes before domestic courts, particularly in transfer pricing and allegations of refund abuse. **Strengths:** "He is extremely diligent, precise and efficient." *"He is highly skilled, and available when needed, and gives practical and actionable advice."* **Bjørn Christian Lilletvedt** **Tovsen** works on both litigation and restructuring

matters, acting for a variety of public and private organisations. He is head of the firm's indirect tax practice and has notable expertise in VAT matters.

Strengths: *"I have a very good impression of him; he seems to be establishing a very good VAT practice." "He is always a pleasure to work with and is solution-orientated."*

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm houses a sizeable team with considerable tax litigation capabilities, regularly representing clients in disputes with tax authorities. It possesses significant expertise in transfer pricing, tax structuring and VAT matters on both a domestic and an international scale. The law firm advises prominent clients in the offshore and petroleum sectors, with additional experience acting for auditors in professional liability claims.

Strengths

"The team has extensive knowledge of tax law and is very fair and professional."

Work highlights Wiersholm assisted Ramme Eiendom Petter Olsen with a case regarding deductions of costs and of input VAT related to the construction of a new combined museum and hotel facility, with investments amounting to more than a billion kroner.

Notable practitioners

Bettina Banoun heads the practice from the firm's office in Oslo and remains a popular choice for advice regarding tax avoidance, auditors' liability, succession planning and property tax. She represents clients before tax authorities and up to the Supreme Court. **Strengths:** *"I am very satisfied with all service from Bettina Banoun." "Bettina is excellent."* **Andreas Bullen** stands out for his expertise in contentious mandates, including administrative appeal cases, asset transfers and transfer pricing disputes. He routinely represents clients active in the energy sector. **Strengths:** *"Andreas is very academic and knowledgeable." "He provides excellent legal analysis and knowledge of our industry."* **Nicolay Vold** has a broad tax practice which sees him advise on M&A transactions and international tax structuring, as well as on wealth planning. **Strengths:** *"Nicolay has a great commercial mindset."*

Band 2

Deloitte Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Deloitte Advokatfirma boasts a highly reputable tax department with a team of experienced advisers. It regularly assists leading domestic and international corporates, including those from the energy, real estate and telecoms sectors. The firm is active in transactional matters, with expertise in tax-efficient structuring, corporate restructurings, VAT and transfer pricing issues, and it remains a popular choice for its broad experience in due diligence work.

Strengths

"They are very professional, punctual, tidy and efficient. Both the administrative and customer processes are very streamlined."

"They have a very strong team on all key spots."

Work highlights Deloitte advised Schlumberger on the tax aspects of a new joint venture between the client, Aker Solutions and Subsea 7.

Notable practitioners

Rolf Saastad is the managing partner of the practice and has enviable expertise in international tax matters and cross-border transactions.

Strengths: *"I have a very good impression of him; he's got a good reputation."*

Advokatfirmaet

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) AS

What the team is known for PwC fields a well-established non-contentious team providing corporate and transactional tax advice. It is known for its handling of VAT issues, as well as tax structuring and transfer pricing matters. The firm leverages its global network to handle both domestic and international taxation mandates, frequently advising on the tax aspects of cross-border M&A.

Strengths

"PwC demonstrates adept competence in tackling intricate legal issues, swiftly penetrating to the core of matters with their robust team."

"The PwC team has a deep understanding of the challenges our company has in setting up new operations in new jurisdictions."

Work highlights PwC provided Summa Equity with tax and VAT due diligence and structuring advice in regards to its investment into Oda Group.

Notable practitioners

Hilde Thorstad has experience working on matters concerning cross-border restructuring, EU and EEA tax and tonnage tax. **Strengths:** *"Hilde is approachable and quickly understands issues. She knows the business well and aligns her advice to my needs." "Hilde's very strong technical understanding combined with a strong commercial understanding provides us with the perfect tax partner to assist us with our global reach."*

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Advokatfirmaet Schjødt has an active tax department with established transactional and litigation capabilities. It is well placed to advise on a range of tax matters including corporate restructuring mandates, VAT and tax-efficient transaction structuring. The practice also offers expertise in tax planning and transfer pricing issues, with clients stemming from a variety of sectors including oil and gas, technology, real estate and finance.

Strengths

"I'm extremely happy with their ability to handle multinational matters. They have strong professionals with the ability to communicate complex legal matters to non-legal executives."

"The team is very responsive, reliable and efficient, demonstrating a proactive approach."

Work highlights Schjødt's tax team advised Cermaq Group on its response to the newly introduced resource rent tax on aquaculture.

Notable practitioners

Cecilie Amdahl provides support to clients on income matters and transfer pricing issues. She is particularly active in the shipping sector.

Strengths: *"Cecilie has great depth, oversight and cleverness in her analysis and communication with all involved. She has a strategic approach."*

Morten Sandli heads the practice from the firm's office in Oslo, advising on restructurings and transfer pricing issues. His clients include professional and financial services clients. **Strengths:** *"Morten's legal advice is always delivered in a short timescale, with easy to understand explanations. He provides good solutions to protect us with a pragmatic approach." "Morten is an outstanding resource and is very committed to our success. He converts complex tax matters into easily accessible information. He combines proactiveness, reliability and detail with commercial insights to clients."*

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma boasts a well-respected tax department, providing high-quality assistance in relation to disputes, with further notable experience in tax questions arising from corporate activities. It is well versed in handling tax structuring and transfer pricing issues as well as VAT mandates and M&A matters. The law firm is particularly experienced within the energy, shipping and telecommunications sectors.

Strengths

"I find the firm very strong on complex international tax situations."

"The team has excellent skills and knowledge of complex issues."

Work highlights Wikborg Rein advised Norsk Hydro and Elkem on an appeal before the Supreme Court relating to whether the metal industry in Norway is exempt from electricity tax.

Notable practitioners

Anders Myklebust heads the practice from the firm's office in Oslo and has extensive experience in tax disputes, including VAT and transfer pricing cases. He additionally assists with the tax aspects of M&A transactions. **Strengths:** *"Anders has a high level of technical skill in relation to tax law." "Anders has a great knowledge of tax law, very good analytical skills."* **Are Zachariassen** is well versed in handling tax matters on behalf of energy and shipping clients. He is adept at advising on cross-border cases. **Strengths:** *"Are is a very strong professional with long experience and a high understanding of the commercial aspects."*

Band 3

Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma regularly advises leading domestic and international clients, with a focus on transactional tax issues, as well as tax litigation. The firm is also active in areas such as tax structuring and transfer pricing, with experience in the real estate, oil and gas, shipping and finance sectors. It further assists with issues relating to property tax and VAT.

Strengths

"I find them knowledgeable and receive balanced responses. I collaborate with them in a way similar to a colleague, on a seamless basis."

Work highlights Arntzen de Besche advised GoFundMe on the tax and VAT implications of its activities in Norway.

Notable practitioners

Eyvind Sandvik heads the practice from the firm's office in Oslo and routinely advises on international taxation matters and restructurings. He additionally handles transfer pricing as well as tonnage tax disputes. **Strengths:** *"Eyvind has been important in terms of our dialogue with the tax authorities." "Eyvind acts as if he was part of our internal team, understands our expectations and adapts his responses to match our client's needs."*

CMS Kluge

What the team is known for CMS Kluge is noted for its experience in handling contentious as well as transactional tax advice, representing both corporate clients and tax authorities in disputes. The firm also boasts significant petroleum tax expertise, along with a strong track record of advising on VAT, transfer pricing and real estate tax. CMS Kluge assists clients operating in sectors such as energy and TMT.

Strengths

"We are very well satisfied with the overall service and the results of the cases."

Notable practitioners

Anders Heieren (see p.1341) boasts expertise in a wide range of tax mandates, including transfer pricing issues and international structurings. He is often sought out by clients from the oil and gas and TMT sectors. **Strengths:** *"Anders is very good on transfer pricing matters and offshore oil services." "Anders has in-depth knowledge and excellent experience in transfer pricing and international tax matters, with short turnaround times and excellent service."* **Amund Noss** (see p.1344) is well regarded for his expertise in tax litigation. He represents public entities as well as corporates. **Strengths:** *"Amund is very clever and skilled." "He has a very good ability to explain complex matters in an understandable way for the judges."* **Alexander With** (see p.1348) assists corporates with international structuring and customs issues.

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Advokatfirmaet Haavind has an established team providing a comprehensive tax offering, encompassing litigation and corporate restructuring, including advising on international tax matters. It is noted for its experience in customs and VAT issues and additionally advises on tax-efficient M&A mandates.

Strengths

"They handle all types of tax matters and are skilled and professional, with good communication."

Work highlights Haavind represented the Municipality of Alstahaug before the Appeal Court of Hålogaland concerning the interpretation of Norwegian law and the impact of EU state aid legislation in relation to VAT compensation schemes.

Notable practitioners

Espen Nordbø heads the practice from the firm's office in Oslo and advises on the tax aspects of M&A transactions, tax auditing and cross-border corporate restructurings. **Strengths:** *"Espen is very reputable."*

Harboe & Co

What the team is known for Harboe & Co is a tax boutique with experience of contentious matters, including disputes relating to tax deductibility and

transfer pricing. The law firm is additionally experienced in indirect tax, the structuring of transactions and investments, as well as VAT issues. Harboe & Co often acts for prominent corporate and individual clients, including those within the oil and gas, private equity and shipping sectors.

Strengths

"They provide honest and straightforward advice, and they respond quickly."

"They have a very good ability to familiarise themselves with the facts and combine this with deep knowledge of tax legislation."

Notable practitioners

Harald Hauge showcases a reputable practice with a particular focus on tax issues relating to private equity funds and the financial sector. **Strengths:** *"He has a very good understanding of tax law and further developments within this field."* *"Harald combines his strong professional expertise with the ability to understand facts. He comes across as very credible and is able to conduct a good dialogue with the tax authorities."* **Christian Grevstad** mostly advises on tax matters in the energy sector. He also represents clients in disputes with tax authorities. **Strengths:** *"Christian shows impressive knowledge and business understanding." "He is a highly skilled and experienced lawyer with good commercial awareness."*

KPMG Law Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for KPMG Law Advokatfirma boasts a robust tax offering with substantial expertise in transactional and advisory issues for both personal and corporate taxation. It handles non-contentious due diligence, tax planning and corporate structuring mandates, and advises on transfer pricing and VAT. Additionally, the firm maintains a solid litigation practice, handling disputes relating to exemptions for dividends and gains, as well as those concerning tax deductibility. KPMG advises clients across a wide range of business sectors, including energy, IT and financial services.

Notable practitioners

Thor Leegaard is a seasoned practitioner who advises on transfer pricing, M&A transactions and multi-jurisdictional restructurings. He acts for multinational and leading Norwegian financial services firms. **Strengths:** *"Thor Leegaard is very capable."*

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer is well equipped to handle a broad range of tax services, covering tax structuring, corporate restructurings, audits, VAT mandates and due diligence. It additionally acts on contentious mandates, including disputes relating to net wealth tax, real estate tax and transfer pricing. The team's client base includes financial services clients, construction and shipping companies, banks and IT firms.

Strengths

"Selmer has the expertise to meet all our needs and respond to a variety of complex questions, with high service levels and a direct line to partners."

"Selmer provides solid tax advice that ultimately allows us to grow our business without spending resources on litigation with the Norwegian tax authority."

Work highlights Selmer advised Gramo, Norwaco, TONO and the International Federation of Phonographic Industries on securing practical ways to handle VAT when collecting contributions on behalf of musicians and other holders of intellectual property rights.

Notable practitioners

Einar Bakko ably advises on the tax elements of real estate transactions. He also offers expertise in tax disputes and restructurings. **Strengths:** *"I like him; he's very knowledgeable and very experienced, and puts difficult tax analysis in very simple terms." "Einar is a great adviser and discussion partner with the ability to come up with sophisticated solutions to a complex challenge."* **Sverre Hveding** heads the practice from the firm's office in Oslo and advises on cross-border tax structuring, transfer pricing issues, VAT and tax litigation. He is active across the construction, finance and energy sectors. **Strengths:** *"He's very practical, very pleasant and has a good way of navigating any problem. He's good to talk to, and understands the picture and how a company works from the inside." "Sverre is always there for us. He is a good lawyer who is able to assist us not only with tax matters, but also project management, drafting of agreements, etc."*

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig offers a highly experienced tax team with experience advising clients on tax compliance, due diligence, transactions, corporate structuring, VAT, as well as representation on tax appeals before the courts. The team regularly provides services for clients both domestic and multinational, with significant experience in cross-border tax matters. The firm often acts for clients in the telecoms and renewables sectors, as well as advising private equity firms and other investors.

Strengths

"The team is highly effective in handling legal complexities across the domain of legal requirements that our organisation has."

"They are very able to handle sophisticated matters. Our experience regarding their depth and breadth was very good and there was no question about the accessibility of their key tax lawyers."

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig acted for Telenor Norge before the Court of Appeal on a matter concerning a decision by the Tax Appeal Board regarding balance group costs for draft pipes used in connection with the laying of cables for telecommunications.

Notable practitioners

Fredrik Haberer Anfinssen leads the practice from the firm's office in Oslo. He has particular experience in providing advice on VAT, corporate structuring and tax due diligence on M&A and investments. **Strengths:** *"We are 100% satisfied with the care and attention Fredrik gives us. We have complete confidence in the counsel that he provides us." "Fredrik is a very strong tax lawyer that has a rare ability to mix commercial thinking with tax advice. This is a very rare trait amongst tax lawyers. I give him my highest recommendations."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Anders Nordli of Advokatfirmaet Grette AS is well noted for his expertise on tax matters, including advising on tax investigations, transactions and VAT.

Strengths:

"He is fun to work with, grasps the issues and problems to be resolved and finds the solutions."

"Anders is very knowledgeable and hard-working; he is truly an up-and-coming star in the tax field. He provides sophisticated advice on highly complex matters, always with an eye on the commercial side."

TMT

TMT
Leading Firms
Band 1
Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Band 2
Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS
Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Selmer
Wiersholm
Band 3
Bull
Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS
Kvale Advokatfirma DA
Advokatfirmaet Schjødt
Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Band 4
CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS
Ræder Bing Law Firm
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig

What the team is known for Simonsen Vogt Wiig houses one of Norway's first-class TMT practices. The team is particularly renowned for its excellence in complex IT procurements and the establishment of platforms. Digitalisation projects, cloud transformations and the implementation of nationwide IT infrastructures also fall within the law firm's outstanding offering. An additional strength lies in the handling of product launches for prominent international technology companies and fintech-related mandates. Its team members also regularly advise on data protection issues including GDPR compliance and proceedings in front of Norway's Data Protection Authority. It has further expertise in media law mandates including broadcasting rights.

Strengths

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a unique ability to blend legal expertise with the understanding of our business and the technology landscape."

"The technology team at Simonsen Vogt Wiig provides exceptional services. The law firm's expertise and commitment to protecting our interests keep exceeding expectations."

"Simonsen Vogt Wiig has a team of experienced experts who handle matters within short timelines."
"The team covers cross-border issues very well, and

TMT: Information Technology
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Føyen Arve Arve Føyen (ORL) ◇
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Riisnæs Rolf Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS
Werring Espen A Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS
Band 2
Byberg Arne Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Giske Lars Folkvard Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS
Hagen Ståle L Selmer
Stokke Tor Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Thrane Leif Eirik Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Band 3
Clausen Christopher Sparre-Enger Advokatfirmaet
Opdahl Rune Wiersholm
Band 4
Arendt Torstein CMS Kluge *
Brodschöll Stephan Advokatfirmaet CLP (ORL) ◇ *
Einstabland Nils Kristian Selmer
Foss Kristian Bull *
Haram Førde Kristin Bull *
Schilvold Stian Sørensen Bull *
Vabog Trine Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig
Up-and-coming individuals
Oddbjørnsen Stian Hultin CMS Kluge *
Associates to watch
Schumacher Walberg Theresa Wiersholm

is responsive and always available."

"The law firm's detailed knowledge and service-minded approach is impressive."

Work highlights Simonsen Vogt Wiig assisted One Grid Operation with the procurement of a platform for managing smart power grids.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Olsen is widely considered one of Norway's top data protection experts. He advises on GDPR compliance and represents clients in front of data protection authorities. **Strengths:** *"Thomas Olsen is extremely knowledgeable and very service-minded."* **Espen Tøndel** remains one of Norway's top telecommunications experts, and regularly advises on national roaming agreements and network access negotiations. **Strengths:** *"Espen Tøndel has longstanding experience in the telecoms sector. He has a hands-on approach and is service-minded."* *"Besides his legal skills, Espen has a very good understanding of business. He is very pleasant to work with."* **Tor Stokke** has a strong presence in IT mandates ranging from new IT platform establishments to procurements

TMT: Media
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Johnsen Hans Erik Wiersholm
Syrdal Monica Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *
Band 2
Bernt Andreas Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS
Wessel-Aas Jon Advokatfirmaet Lund & Co DA (ORL) ◇
Band 3
Evertsen Jan Morten Bull *
Pettersen Stine Helen Ræder Bing Law Firm
With Christian Ræder Bing Law Firm

and contract negotiations. **Malin Tønseth** is particularly active in all data protection issues from GDPR compliance to data breaches and cybersecurity. **Strengths:** *"Malin Tønseth is always on top of the latest developments and has a cross-border understanding of the subject matters."* *"Malin has a longstanding background with large industrial companies, so she is very practical."* **Trine Vabog** enters the rankings as a result of her noteworthy activity in the IT space. She is well placed to assist with the procurement of ERP systems and data analytics platforms. **Strengths:** *"Trine is very quick and responsive, and will always go the extra mile to ensure a high-quality service."* *"Her excellent expertise and ability to foresee challenges are invaluable."*

Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS

What the team is known for Thommessen is widely considered one of Norway's top TMT law firms. Large IT outsourcings and procurements are regularly handled for its clients from the banking, technology and insurance sectors. The team also offers strength in IT contract negotiations including SaaS and master service agreements. GDPR compliance, cybersecurity and international data transfers equally fall within the law firm's excellent offering. Fintech mandates and system implementations constitute further strengths of Thommessen. Clients also benefit from the team's experience in media law, especially gaming-related mandates.

Strengths

"Thommessen's knowledge and ability to deliver is really impressive."

"The lawyers have a good overview of both international and national legislation and regulatory frameworks. They are also very capable in terms of strategy and negotiation skills."

"The service from Thommessen is high quality. The

TMT: Telecommunications	TMT: Data Protection
Leading Individuals	Leading Individuals
Band 1	Band 1
Svendsen Per-Kaare <i>Kvale Advokatfirma DA *</i>	Jarbekk Eva <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>
Tøndel Espen <i>Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig</i>	Olsen Thomas <i>Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig</i>
Band 2	Band 2
Risung Kaare Magnus <i>Advokatfirmaet Schjødt</i>	Opdahl Rune <i>Wiersholm</i>
Veierød Kristin <i>Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS *</i>	Tønseth Malin <i>Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig</i>
Band 3	Band 3
Gjesti Jens Christian <i>Kvale Advokatfirma DA *</i>	Gjesti Jens Christian <i>Kvale Advokatfirma DA *</i>
Glad Knut <i>Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS</i>	Haram Førde Kristin <i>Bull *</i>
<i>* Indicates individual with profile.</i>	Hvidsten Gry Cathrine Steen <i>Wikborg Rein</i>
<i>◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.</i>	Sandtrø Jan <i>Jan Sandtrø Teknologadvokat (ORL) ◇</i>
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>	

lawyers are reliable, understand our business and are a great team."

"Thommessen cover a broad range of legal topics and have good business understanding."

"The law firm has a strong ability to translate technical problems into legal solutions."

Work highlights Thommessen advised Eika Gruppen on the outsourcing of its core digital banking services.

Notable practitioners

Espen Werring advises on a broad array of technology mandates from large IT outsourcings and SaaS agreements to IT infrastructure expansion and system implementations. He also assists with GDPR compliance. **Strengths:** "Espen is the best in Norway in this area of expertise in terms of his knowledge, his ability to work hard, his network and the way he leads projects." "Espen is a strategic adviser with an overview of national and international trends." "He is very knowledgeable and pleasant to work with." **Christopher Sparre-Enger Clausen** is highly active in a variety of IT mandates including GDPR compliance, procurement mandates, contract negotiations and fintech issues as well as cybersecurity. **Strengths:** "Christopher is very responsive and definitely practically-minded to help find business-friendly solutions to our issues." "He has a sharp legal mind."

Band 2

Advokatfirmaet Føyen AS

What the team is known for Føyen is widely respected for its excellent technology offering. The team frequently advises on large IT procurements, contracts and outsourcings as well as ERP system implementations. IT product launches and digitalisation projects are also handled by the law firm, as is GDPR compliance. Føyen also assists with cloud computing mandates. Another field of expertise is telecommunications, with the team assisting with nationwide 5G and fibre network rollouts.

Strengths

"Føyen is a solid law firm with a lot of experience. They provide fast replies on every matter."

"Føyen handle matters in a pragmatic way, focusing on what is important."

"The law firm has a skilled personnel who have a good ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters. The group is highly responsive and service-minded."

"The team always finds a solution."

Work highlights Føyen acted for Statens Vegvesen on the implementation of new systems for toll collection.

Notable practitioners

Lars Folkvard Giske regularly advises high-profile clients on IT contracts, system implementations and cloud strategies as well as procurements.

Knut Glad's expertise lies in telecommunications mandates, especially those requiring regulatory advice, where he often assists mobile operators.

Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS

What the team is known for Haavind houses an impressive department with noted strength in the media and technology arenas. The team enjoys a strong market reputation for handling large IT outsourcings and procurements, acting for domestic and foreign technology and energy companies. Contract negotiations and GDPR compliance are equally handled by the law firm. Its strength in the media world ranges from broadcasting rights to film production and music-related issues. The law firm also handles media litigation. Clients equally benefit from Haavind's expertise in TMT-related M&A transactions.

Strengths

"Haavind are always solution-oriented and creative in their approach. They have a business mindset which allows them to understand the right drivers and outcomes."

"The lawyers are extremely hands-on and manage to steer complex negotiations towards a successful outcome while still maintaining a good relationship between the parties."

"Haavind are very up to date on industry knowledge."

"The lawyers respond in a timely manner."

Work highlights Haavind assisted Monterro with its purchase of BI Builders.

Notable practitioners

Andreas Bernt rises in the rankings due to his impressive expertise in film production, distribution agreements and online streaming issues. He is also well placed to handle media-related litigation. **Arne Byberg** regularly assists with contract negotiations and software procurements, with further expertise in IT-related disputes.

Strengths: "Arne has outstanding legal and commercial skills." **Leif Eirik Thrane's** expertise in the IT world ranges from large outsourcings to procurements, where he advises public entities and private companies. He also assists with technology-related M&A transactions. **Strengths:** "Leif Eirik Thrane always delivers with speed and a unique commercial awareness." "Leif demonstrates

and balances his willingness to take risks in order to achieve the best possible settlement in an outstanding manner." "Leif is very industry-focused, with a great understanding of the commercial realities." "He offers an impressive service level, very good commercial understanding and to-the-point legal advice."

Selmer

What the team is known for Selmer fields a technology-focused practice which is noted for its experience in outsourcing and procurement matters, with a particular strength in ERP projects. Additional expertise lies in the handling of complex IT-related disputes. Clients also benefit from the law firm's capabilities in data protection, regulatory and compliance issues. Broadcasting rights and media licensing agreements fall within the law firm's offering. Its client base comprises software developers, IT service providers and media outlets.

Work highlights Selmer represented Wilh. Wilhelmsen in renegotiations for its enterprise resource planning contract with Tech Mahindra and IFS.

Notable practitioners

Ståle Hagen advises on complex IT agreements, large transformation projects and procurement, with further strength in IT-related disputes, particularly in relation to ERP systems. **Strengths:** "Ståle provides a high level of service with a good insight into our business." **Nils Kristian Ein-stabland** assists with regulatory IT issues, transformation projects, and IT contract negotiations. He also advises on IT-related M&A transactions.

Wiersholm

What the team is known for Wiersholm is held in high esteem for its strength in all areas of TMT. The team is particularly active in large and nationwide IT outsourcings, licensing agreements and procurement. GDPR compliance and data processing as well as digitalisation projects are also handled by the law firm. Wiersholm also houses a well-reputed media practice, advising on distribution agreements, marketing law and television production. Additional strength lies in its handling of contentious matters across the field of TMT. Prominent international technology companies, public entities and domestic retailers beside market-leading media outlets belong to Wiersholm's client roster.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Wiersholm are very knowledgeable about the industry and can provide sound and practical legal advice, as well as commercial advice."

"The law firm is quite sophisticated and has a great understanding of complex matters."

"Wiersholm provide high-quality advice within short deadlines and are always available and ready to handle urgent matters."

Notable practitioners

Hans Erik Johnsen is a seasoned practitioner within the media industry and regularly advises prestigious clients on complex TV distribution agreements and media subscriptions and strategies. **Rune Opdahl** regularly advises on IT contracts, with particular expertise in outsourcing. He is also strong in data protection, especially

with data processing and collections and related disputes with authorities. **Strengths:** "Rune Opdahl has a holistic view of the technology area and really understands the technical aspects of the business." "Rune has a good character for when it comes to negotiation; he is very commercial and solution-minded." "Rune is sophisticated, smart, experienced and pleasant to work with." Managing associate **Theresa Schumacher Walberg** joins the rankings this year following impressive recognition for her IT expertise. She assists with the review of IT contracts as well as agreements pertaining to nationwide 5G networks. **Strengths:** "Theresa is a really talented lawyer who knows her stuff and is a good person to have in negotiations. She is commercially good, knows the business and is quick to learn new things."

Band 3

Bull

What the team is known for Bull houses a well-known TMT department with particular expertise in the media and IT landscape. TV and film studios regularly seek the law firm's assistance with all media-related issues including production agreements. The team also advises on IT transformation projects and outsourcings, with a notable strength in data protection issues such as GDPR compliance and the cross-border sharing of data. IT contracts and cloud service issues are also handled by the team. Besides catering to well-known domestic and foreign media, pharmaceutical and technology clients, Bull also assists public entities.

Strengths

"The Bull team is thorough and is very capable in complex matters."

"The lawyers' service is top notch and their responsiveness is unparalleled; they are always prompt and attentive to every detail."

Work highlights Bull assisted Aize with the development of the contractual framework for its SaaS product Aize Workspace.

Notable practitioners

Jan Morten Evertsen (see p.1339) is noted for his expertise in all film and TV production-related issues, including the clearing of rights and agreement frameworks. **Kristian Foss** (see p.1339) assists clients with cloud service agreements and IT outsourcings as well as procurement.

Strengths: "Kristian is available, prepared and service-minded." "Kristian consistently demonstrates expertise and dedication that distinguishes him." **Kristin Haram Førde** (see p.1341) is appreciated for her expertise in IT and data protection, advising on outsourcings, data sharing and SaaS platforms as well as GDPR compliance. **Stian Sørensen Schilvold** (see p.1345) advises well-known Norwegian corporates on GDPR compliance and IT-related issues.

Advokatfirmaet Hjort AS

What the team is known for Hjort houses a well-reputed team with expertise across media and telecommunications law as well as IT. The team regularly advises on broadcasting agreements, football rights, marketing for media com-

panies and media-related disputes. A further strength lies in IT mandates ranging from nationwide procurements to framework agreements and the launch of new IT solutions, as well as new IT infrastructure acquisitions. GDPR compliance and data protection issues are also handled by the law firm. Media houses, state-owned companies and service and network providers are key clients of Hjort.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Hjort are very experienced and have deep knowledge. They are creative and well connected to solve regulatory challenges involving other countries."

Notable practitioners

Monica Syrdal (see p.1347) demonstrates excellence in media mandates ranging from broadcasting rights to marketing issues. Her strength in regulatory work is complemented by her experience in proceedings in front of authorities.

Strengths: "Monica Syrdal knows our business very well. Her strongest skill is that in complex situations she can understand the impact on our company. She is solution-oriented, pragmatic and can make unclear things very clear." **Kristin Veierød** (see p.1348) is held in high esteem for her strength in telecommunications mandates, especially regulatory cases. She has further expertise in telecommunications-related litigation. **Strengths:** "Kristin Veierød understands our needs. She always offers high quality and is always on time."

Kvale Advokatfirma DA

What the team is known for Kvale offers particular strength in telecommunications law, assisting with regulatory as well as contentious matters. Furthermore, clients benefit from Kvale's expertise in large GDPR compliance projects and data usage for new internet-based products. The law firm also handles licensing agreements, digitalisation projects and TMT-related M&A transactions. Another area of expertise lies in marketing law and film production-related issues. Clients from the energy, technology and telecommunications sectors often seek the law firm's assistance.

Strengths

"Kvale provides high-quality advice and very fast response. The law firm has a very experienced team."

"The law firm gives clear, helpful and immediately actionable advice."

"Kvale combines an in-depth understanding of Norwegian and EU law with an excellent understanding of business needs."

Notable practitioners

Top-ranked **Per-Kaare Svendsen** (see p.1347) is recognised for his strength in telecommunications mandates ranging from disputes and damages claims to licensing agreements. He is well versed in regulatory issues. **Strengths:** "Per-Kaare responds in a timely fashion. His advice is clear and actionable." **Jens Christian Gjesti** (see p.1340) regularly advises on large GDPR compliance projects and international data transfers, where he acts for well-known domestic and foreign energy and technology companies. He is also adept at handling contentious and regulatory matters for telecommunications companies. **Strengths:** "Jens Christian finds good, commercial

and viable approaches. He communicates in a good way and is very flexible and diligent."

Advokatfirmaet Schjødt

What the team is known for Schjødt has strength across IT, media and telecommunications law. The team regularly advises on large network infrastructure projects across Norway and beyond and also assists with MVNO transitions. Its expertise in proceedings regarding telecommunications networks further strengthens the law firm's offering. Clients also benefit from the team's strong expertise in media-related work including libel and defamation mandates. Schjødt also handles joint venture set-ups for telecommunications companies. Large media outlets, telecommunications providers and software companies belong to Schjødt's strong client roster.

Strengths

"The Schjødt team are solid and experienced. They have considerable experience in privacy issues and a very good overview of legal developments."

"The lawyers at Schjødt give very concise and pragmatic advice, delivered in a timely manner."

"The lawyers offer strategic, innovative solutions to deliver optimal results. They are exceptional advocates."

"Schjødt is always available when needed."

"The lawyers' responsiveness is always top notch."

Work highlights Schjødt advised Statistics Norway on its response to the Norwegian Data Protection Authority's conclusion that one of its projects was not compliant with data protection laws.

Notable practitioners

Eva Jarbekk is widely appreciated as one of Norway's top data protection practitioners, working on GDPR compliance, data privacy regulations and proceedings before the Data Protection Authority.

Strengths: "Eva Jarbekk is skilled and has a good overview on privacy and data protection." **Kaare Magnus Risung** is well versed in handling a broad range of telecommunications mandates from MVNO transitions to procurement. Clients also benefit from his expertise in regulatory issues.

Strengths: "Kaare Magnus Risung is wonderful to work with. He is very savvy and responsive, and renders concise and pragmatic advice." "Kaare is very hands-on and service-minded."

Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for Wikborg Rein is sought after by clients for its strength in large IT projects. The team regularly advises on nationwide IT procurements, outsourcings and contracts including cloud agreements. A further strength lies in digitalisation projects and data protection, with the law firm assisting with GDPR compliance and international data transfers. Besides its robust advisory work, Wikborg Rein handles IT-related disputes. The law firm is a particular go-to for public sector clients as well as corporates from a broad range of industries.

Strengths

"Wikborg Rein are always available and provide prompt feedback."

"The law firm has expertise in many areas. The team members complement each other and build on each other's competencies when problems cross various

legal and regulatory areas.”

“The law firm is well prepared, responsive and able to work to our timelines.”

“The law firm is able to help with complex matters, with a focus on providing advice that suits the company.”

Work highlights Wikborg Rein advised Aker Solutions on a Schrems-II and Transfer Impact Assessment project.

Notable practitioners

Highly appreciated adviser **Rolf Riisnæs** assists prominent public entities with large IT infrastructure projects, cloud service agreements and digitalisation projects across Norway, with further expertise in data protection. **Strengths:** “He always strives for balanced advice, considering not only the client’s needs but also the impacts on all parties involved.” “Rolf is very knowledgeable and able to explain the complexities in a very understandable way.” “Rolf Riisnæs is able to give understandable explanations and advice on complex matters.” **Gry Cathrine Steen Hvidsten** joins the rankings this year due to her expertise in data protection and transfers. She frequently advises international corporates. **Strengths:** “Gry is customer-focused.” “Gry provides fast and sophisticated advice, taking into consideration the commercial aspects. She understands the industry and also understands how to push for change without losing track of the commercial aspects.” “She is able to keep an overview while going into the important details of complex cases.”

the procurement of IT services as well as cloud framework agreements. Blockchain projects, data transfer projects and impact assessments are also handled by the team. Additionally, the law firm shows strength in media disputes and agreements, acting for publishers and TV production companies, among others. Clients also benefit from CMS Kluge’s international office network.

Strengths

“CMS Kluge offers an extremely high level of service and responsiveness.”

“The lawyers are really thorough.”

“The team’s advice is always linked to the commercial perspectives of a matter and highlights the risks and rewards.”

“The law firm combines great service and legal knowledge with in-depth knowledge of the industry.”

Notable practitioners

Torstein Arendt (see p.1337) is appreciated for his expertise in advising public entities on large platform procurements and IT contracts. **Strengths:** “He is good at quickly getting to grips with the customer’s problems.” New to the rankings, the up-and-coming **Stian Hultin Oddbjørnsen** (see p.1344) frequently advises public sector clients and corporates on IT projects, contracts and cloud services, as well as disputes. **Strengths:** “Stian Hultin Oddbjørnsen offers very impressive quality, service and availability.”

Ræder Bing Law Firm

What the team is known for Ræder Bing Law Firm is recognised for its strength in media law, often representing clients in media litigation pertaining to copyright and IP law. The team also enjoys a strong standing among TV and film production companies. Music streaming issues, e-gaming and broadcasting agreements equally fall within the law firm’s expertise. Other areas covered by

the law firm include ICT agreements, IT procurements and data security.

Strengths

“Ræder Bing is very effective and always available.”

Notable practitioners

Joining the rankings, **Stine Helen Pettersen** is commended for her expertise in media law. She assists Norwegian and international clients with mandates involving music, film and TV. **Christian With** enters the rankings due to his strong activity in the media sector. He handles film and TV production mandates, as well as e-sports and gaming matters.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Stephan Brodschöhl (see p.1338) of Advokatfirmaet CLP assists with IT contracts as well as M&A transactions and negotiations, where he advises domestic software companies.

Strengths:

“Stephan is very experienced and willing to work hard towards deadlines.”

“He is very service-minded, knowledgeable and efficient.”

Arve Føyen is a sole practitioner who enjoys an excellent reputation in the TMT world, with expertise in IT contracts and data protection issues.

Jan Sandtrø is appreciated for his expertise in data protection and GDPR issues.

Jon Wessel-Aas of Advokatfirmaet Lund & Co is particularly acclaimed for press law and freedom of expression cases, with further expertise in broadcasting distribution agreements.

Band 4

CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS

What the team is known for CMS Kluge houses a well-reputed TMT practice. The team regularly advises public bodies and private companies on

Leaders’ Profiles in Norway

AADNESEN, Henrik

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Featured in Shipping (Norway)

Practice Areas: Shipping and Offshore

Career: Henrik’s primary expertise is in transactions, finance, project management and other advisory services within the shipping, offshore and oilfield services sectors, advising shipping companies, yards, brokers, contractors, lenders and merchant banks. He also has considerable experience in Norwegian and international arbitration and litigation.

AAS, Lars Gunnar
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway), Corporate/M&A (Norway)

Practice Areas: Lars Gunnar Aas specializes in M&A and private equity,

and his extensive experience covers a wide range of international and domestic transactions, strategic investments and cooperation between shareholders, where he represents corporates, private equity/venture capital funds and other financial sponsors and investors. Clients rely on Aas for advice on transactions in all sectors, with a particular focus on technology and knowledge businesses and the renewable energy sector. His competencies also include capital markets and financial regulatory matters, and he regularly advises on acquisition financing. Aas is recommended by all major international rankings for his transaction work, including Chambers & Partners, Legal 500 and IFLR 100. Legal 500 ranks Aas as one of the “Leading Individuals” in Norway for Corporate and M&A. He is also specifically lauded for his work in the renewable energy sector where IFLR 1000 rates him as “Highly Regarded”.

Career: Partner, Advokatfirmaet CLP DA (2008), Senior Associate, Wikborg Rein (2007-08), Resident Lawyer (Senior Associate), Wikborg Rein, London (2005-07), Secondment with Allen & Overy LLP, London, Corporate Department, Financial Institutions Group (2005), Associate, Wikborg Rein (2001-04), Compliance Officer and board secretary in E*TRADE Norge ASA (2001)

Professional Memberships: The Norwegian Bar Association

AASEBØ, Kristoffer

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Practice Areas: Kristoffer Aasebø mainly assists with contentious and non-contentious matters within restructuring, bankruptcy/insolvency and real estate. Kristoffer has been involved in several transactions concerning larger

properties and real estate companies. He assists real estate companies and similar businesses with legal issues related to rent, real estate management, operations and maintenance. Kristoffer also provides legal advice to companies, board members, and Norwegian and foreign creditors on issues related to insolvency and board members liability. He regularly litigates cases before the courts, both real estate and insolvency and bankruptcy cases, and he is a permanent bankruptcy trustee at Oslo District Court. Kristoffer is a specialist in restructuring real estate companies and other companies facing financial difficulties, and he is a sought-after lecturer within the bankruptcy and real estate specialties. He has published several articles that address issues on the borderline between administrative law and contract law.

Career: 2011–Partner, Bull 2010 Senior attorney, Wikborg Rein, Oslo 2006–2009 Attorney, Wikborg Rein,

Oslo 2003–2005 Associate, Wikborg Rein, Oslo 2001–2003 Associate judge, Ytre Follo tingrett, Dråbak 2000–2001 Associate, Wikborg Rein, Oslo 1998–1999 Research assistant, Instituttet for offentlig rett, Universitetet i Oslo

ALTERSKJÆR, Bjørnar

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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Norway)

Practice Areas: Managing partner in Kluge from 2018 to date. Partner in Kluge from 2016. EU law, EEA law, State aid law, Competition law, Public procurement law, free movement of goods, services, labour and capital, business law.

Career: 2018 – YTD Managing Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2016 – YTD Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2011 – 2015 Partner, ALT advokatfirma AS 2008 – 2010 Deputy Director, Legal Department, EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA) 2004 – 2008 Senior Legal Officer, EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA) 2001 – 2004 Advisor, State Aid and Public Procurement Unit, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries

Publications: EEA State aid law, Fagbokforlaget (2008), Articles in European State aid Law Quarterly (2007 and 2012), Article on EEA law and Norwegian Administrative law (2006).

ANDERSEN, Arne Torsten

BAHR, Oslo
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Norway)

Practice Areas: Works with all parts of EEA law, including public procurement, state aid, competition and free movement.

Career: Arne Torsten Andersen has been practising law for more than 20 years. He is recognised as one of Norway's leading lawyers, especially in the fields of public procurement and state aid, although he also has a strong general EU/EEA law reputation. He has more than 15 years' specialised professional experience in these disciplines. In addition to his professional experience from private law practice, which includes BAHR over the period 2007 – 2013, Andersen has experience from the EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA), where he worked for five years on all aspects of EEA law. He conducted litigations before the EFTA Court and the European Court on a regular basis during his time in Brussels. He has in recent years been litigating extensively, with a special focus on public procurement litigation. Arne Torsten Andersen has also advised on major competition law investigations.

Personal: Languages: Scandinavian languages, English, German, French.

ANDERSEN, Per Conradi
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway)

Practice Areas: Litigation, Mediation and alternative dispute resolution, Renewable energy

Career: 2011 – Partner, Kvale 2003 – 2011 Partner, Bjerknes Wahl-Larsen 1995 – 2003 Lawyer, Wiersholm, Mellbye & Bech 1993 – 1995 Deputy Judge, Flekkefjord District Court 1990 – 1992 Executive Officer, Ministry of Oil and Energy

Personal: Per Conradi Andersen has worked as a lawyer since 1995. He has substantial competence and experience in counselling and procedures within norwegian power supply, IPR, including patents, trademarks and cases of copying, and contracts/property. Per was co-author on the Commentary issue to the Law of Energy, 1 and 2 Edition, and has written a number of articles for journals. He has for several years been a member of the Law Committee for Planning and Building legislation of the Norwegian Bar Association and was admitted to the Supreme Court in 2005. Per Conradi Andersen have several board positions in businesses within industry and trade.

ARENDT, Torstein

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Featured in TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: TMC, Public procurement, Intellectual property Specialist in procurement of complex technology projects where both IT contracts and procurement skills are vital, Intellectual Property, ICT contracts, Procurement, Outsourcing, Strategy and Negotiation.

Career: 2000 – Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma 1996 – 2000 Advokatfirma Selmer DA 1999 Holland & Knight LLP Florida, USA 1987 – 1992 IT Consultant 1984 – 1987 ICS Service AS, Sales Manager 1982 – 1984 Braathens AS, Data Operations Manager 1979 – 1982 IBM Oslo, Computer engineer

Professional Memberships: Norwegian Bar Association

BARBO, Jan Einar

BAHR, Oslo
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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Career: Jan Einar Barbo has many years of broad experience with fabrication contracts and other contract types in the oil and gas industry, as well as in onshore construction. He is primarily instructed on contract law and contentious matters, and is also sought after as a lecturer, mediator and arbitrator.

BENONISEN, Per

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/benonisen> for further information.

BJELLA, Kristin

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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway)

Practice Areas: Kristin Bjella provides legal advice and assists in litigation within the areas of energy and natural resources, as well as infrastructure, transactions. Her experience is derived from her work with legal and strategic advice in major renewable energy and distribution projects, including infrastructure such as ports. Kristin has extensive experience from licensing processes, land rights acquisition and expropriation law. She is known for her in-depth knowledge of international law and administrative law frameworks for land acquisition rights in reindeer herding areas. Kristin is admitted to the Supreme Court and regularly conducts cases before Norwegian courts. She was a member of the expert committees drafting the proposal for the Norwegian Dispute Act and the Arbitration Act. She is experienced in arbitration, both as an arbitrator and counsel. In 2018, she acted as counsel for Finnmarkseidommen before the Supreme Court in a plenary session on the right to land and natural resources in Finnmark. Kristin is continuously ranked by The Legal 500 for her expertise in energy and renewable energy law.

Career: 2023 Head of Energy practice area, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 2011 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 2008 – 2011 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Bjella AS 2000 – 2008 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Haavind AS 2000 Admitted to the Norwegian Supreme Court 1996 – 2000 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Vislie, Ødegård & Kolrud 1992 – 1996 Attorney, Advokatfirmaet Vislie, Ødegård & Kolrud 1991 – 1992 Deputy judge, Lier, Røyken og Hurum District Court/Drammen District Court 1988 – 1991 Senior Executive Officer/Legal Adviser, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Justice

BJELLAND, Asle

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway)

Practice Areas: Dispute resolution, Energy/Oil&Gas, Construction, Infrastructure & Projects Asle Bjelland is mainly working with dispute resolution, specializing in energy, industry and infrastructure. He has more than 20 years of experience as a lawyer within dispute resolution and litigation in all courts and in arbitration. Also, he has previously been a judge and is regularly used as a mediator and arbitrator. Bjelland has extensive experience in complex projects, both within offshore development, hydropower, industry, infrastructure and construction. He has assisted a large number of major public and private players, both nationally and internationally.

Career: 2019 – Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS (prev. Kluge Advokatfirma AS) 2018 – 2019 District Court

Judge 2012 – 2018 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Thommessen 2006 – 2012 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Mageli 2001 – 2006 Lawyer, Office of the Attorney General (Civil Affairs) 1996 – 2001 Associate, Legal department, Norsk Hydro ASA 1998 – 1999 Legal Counsel, Norsk Hydro (UK) Limited, London 1996 – 1997 Military service, Norwegian national defense high command (FO), legal department 1994 – 1995 Legal adviser, Nordic Institute of Maritime Law/Kværner 1992 – 1993 Research Assistant, Department of Petroleum law, University of Oslo

BJERKE, Joachim

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Featured in Tax (Norway)

Practice Areas: Tax

Career: Joachim M. Bjerke is head of our Tax Group and advises a number of large enterprises on a broad range of domestic and international tax issues, including the special tax regimes for the petroleum, energy and aquaculture businesses, as well as M&A transaction structuring and other tax aspects related to private and public mergers, acquisitions and disposals. Joachim regularly represents a number of clients in administrative appeal cases and in tax disputes before the courts. Joachim is one of the leading transfer pricing advisors in Norway and assists clients on miscellaneous transfer pricing instructions, including contentious matters. Finally, Joachim also advises a small number of ultra high net worth individuals and their family offices on tax and structural issues. Joachim is also much in demand as a lecturer on various tax topics.

BJØRKHOLT, Anne Sofie

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Featured in Real Estate (Norway)

Practice Areas: Real Estate & Construction

Career: Anne Sofie Bjørkholt has extensive experience with real estate law, planning and building law, company law, tax and duties, as well as transactions. She was formerly with the Directorate of Taxes, where she was responsible for the Lignings ABC tax handbook. Her practice encompasses major property development projects (residential and commercial), structuring of real estate companies, property leases and transactions/negotiations. Bjørkholt will in such projects also advise on tax, VAT, stamp duty and company law issues, in addition to real estate law.

BJØRNEBYE, Henrik

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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway)

Practice Areas: Energy and Climate Change

Career: Henrik Bjørnebye is a member of BAHR's practice group for Environment & Energy. He advises energy sector clients, specializing in energy and climate law, electricity market law,

EU and EEA law and other regulatory matters relating to the energy sector. He has previously held a position as Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Oslo, where he was head of the Department of Energy and Resources Law, Scandinavian Institute of Maritime Law. Henrik has more than 20 years' experience relating to the energy sector, has published extensively and is a regular speaker at national and international conferences.

BORCH, Alex
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway), Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Dispute Resolution and Litigation Civil Litigation Employment Law

Career: Alex Borch is a partner in Hjort's employment law department. Alex assists both employers and employees with legal advice and in legal disputes in the practice area of employment law. He has comprehensive litigation experience and has negotiated a large number of termination agreements for both employers and employees. Additionally, Alex has special experience involving employees who start up a competing business – or transfer to competing businesses. He has edited the book "Konkurransereguleringer i arbeidsforhold" and been asked by the Ministry to contribute to the legislative process that resulted in new legislation being adopted in the area.

Publications: Konkurransereguleringer i arbeidsforhold» 2016 (Editor) Norwegian law commentary, author of the comments pertaining to the Statutory Limitations Act and the debt collection law «Konkurranseskulder, kundeklausuler og ikke-rekrutteringsklausuler», report to the Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion 2008 (co-authors Else Bugge Fougner, Claude A. Lenth and Marie Ljones Fjulsrud) «Hjemmevakt og arbeidsfri», Arbeidsrett nr. 4/2006 «Konkurransen med nåværende eller tidligere arbeidsgiver», Lov og Rett nr. 2/2000 (Co-author Jan Fougner) «Romatraktatens artikkel 37 – Særlig om bestemmelsens betydning for A/S Vinmonopolet ved et norsk EF-medlemskap», IUSEF nr. 4/1991

BRODSCHÖLL, Stephan
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Featured in TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: Stephan Brodschöll advises clients in the internet-, IT-, telecommunications-, technology- and media sector with an emphasis on intellectual property law, contract law, competition law, privacy law and regulatory law. Brodschöll has experience as general counsel of Opera Software and advises a number of Norwegian technology companies with an international focus. Brodschöll is also an experienced competition lawyer, and he has for many years worked with digitalization

projects and with legal issues in relation to Artificial Intelligence and Big Data.

Career: Partner, Advokatfirmaet CLP DA (since 2009), General Counsel, Opera Software ASA (2005-2009), Senior Associate, Wikborg Rein (2003-2005), Associate, Wikborg Rein (2001-2003), Senior Executive Officer, Norwegian Competition Authority (1998-2000)

BRODTKORB, Hans Christian
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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/hans-christian-brodtkorb> for further information.

BUAN, Anne
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Norway)

Practice Areas: Public procurement, TMC, Data protection & privacy

Career: 2023 – Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2008 – 2023 Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig AS Associate Partner Senior Lawyer Senior Associate Associate 2010 – 2011 Deputy Judge, Fosen District Court

BUSTNESLI, Yngve
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway)

Practice Areas: Oil, gas and energy and offshore construction

Career: 2009 – Partner, Kvale 2006 – 2009 Non-equity partner, Advokatfirma Selmer 2004 – 2006 Senior associate, Advokatfirma Arntzen de Besche 2001 – 2004 Associate, Advokatfirma Wikborg, Rein & Co 2001 Trainee, CMS Cameron McKenna, London 1999 Trainee, EU-Commission, Directorate-General for Energy 1995 – 2001 Senior executive officer and advisor, Ministry of Petroleum and Energy 1995 Associate, Office of the City Advocate in Oslo

Professional Memberships: Norwegian Bar Association.

Personal: Yngve Bustnesli is one of the leading practitioners within oil & gas transactions and regulatory and contractual work related to the petroleum activities. Yngve has previously formed part of the core team in the Ministry of Energy drafting the Petroleum Act with complementary Regulations. He is the co-author and co-editor of several highly recognised text-books in petroleum law and model contracts. Yngve has been leading the legal team in a number of the largest oil & gas transactions, and is frequently involved in regulatory and contractual work related to field developments. He advises on new energy projects related to electrification of petroleum installations, offshore wind projects, carbon capture & storage (CCS), and is assisting companies exploring the potential future realization of nuclear power plant projects in Norway.

CHRISTIE, Lars Knem
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Featured in Capital Markets (Norway)

Practice Areas: Finance and Capital Markets, Corporate M&A

Career: Lars Knem Christie is recognised as one of Norway's leading experts in capital markets deals and corporate governance. Lars has for more than 23 years advised issuers, investment banks and investors in this market, as well as prospectus and listing processes as lawyer at Oslo Børs, and has advised on many of the largest stock exchange transactions in Norway. Lars has for a number of years been ranked one of Norway's leading lawyers in the "IPOs and share offerings" lawyer survey of the Finansavisen newspaper. He has also lectured in the Oslo Stock Exchange' capital market seminar for non-executive directors, been on the Norwegian Bar Association's legislative committee for capital markets rules, and been a member of the editorial board of the Norwegian Journal of Business Law (Tidsskrift for forretningsjus).

DANNOW, Naja
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Featured in Real Estate (Norway)

Practice Areas: Real estate, Corporate/M&A Works primarily with transactions/M&A and has in recent years focused particularly on real estate transactions, including leasing agreements and agreements regarding purchase/sales/development of real estate.

Career: Law degree 2000; Studies in Int. Corporate Governance and Common Law, University of Melbourne 2004; MBA, Copenhagen Business School 2004-2005. Joined Kluge as Associate in 2000, Partner from 2015.

Professional Memberships: Member of the Norwegian Bar Association.

Publications: Getting the Deal Through 2010-2012 – Corporate Governance in Norway, co-writer.

Personal: Languages: English, Danish. Member of the Board of several companies.

DIMMEN, Ole Andreas
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Featured in Real Estate (Norway)

Practice Areas: Real Estate & Construction, Tax, Corporate M&A

Career: Ole Andreas has worked in the real estate group of Bahr since 2008, focusing on real estate transactions. He is experienced in leading a variety of transactions, including large portfolios and development projects. Ole Andreas has over the last few years been singled out as one of the "up and coming" lawyers within the real estate sector, and also has expertise in tax law.

DUE, Anne Marie
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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment Inquiries and Compliance Dispute Resolution

Career: Anne Marie is experienced within employment law, including the law for government employees, pensions, privacy, administrative law and litigation. Anne Marie assists clients in both the private and public sectors and has broad experience in the particular problems that are relevant for public sector entities. Anne Marie assists clients both with legal advice and as legal counsel in connection with most issues in employment law, pensions, privacy and administrative law. Notably, she has conducted several cases before the Norwegian Supreme Court during the last few years concerning issues such as the limitations to the employer's management prerogative when relocating or making changes in senior policy measures; the issue of whether the loss of contractual early retirement pension scheme (AFP) implies a right to vote in the transfer of a business, and whether employers are entitled to use information from waste disposal vehicles' satellite navigation system to detect possible employment irregularities.

Professional Memberships: The Norwegian Bar Association

Publications: Co-author of "Arbeidsrett. Særlig om omstilling i offentlig sektor" Due has written several articles about subjects in employment law.

EGGEN, Kyrre
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway)

Practice Areas: Kyrre Eggen is an expert on litigation and dispute resolution and is acknowledged as a leading litigator in Norway. He has litigated many high-profile cases before the Supreme Court, and are one of the lawyers in Norway who has litigated most civil cases before the Supreme Court (19 cases by 2023). He has experience in ICC-arbitrations and have pleaded cases before the European Court on Human Rights. Kyrre Eggen is also frequently engaged in giving strategic advice in complex situations. Highlights include representing Acciona in construction disputes against Nye Veier with total value exceeding a billion NOK (2022-23), representing AGC Equity Partners and AGC Maritime Yield Fund in a complex case against Norwegian Banks (2021 and ongoing) with a total value of around NOK 1 billion, advising and representing the DNO-group (DNO ASA, DNO Iraq AS and DNO Yemen AS) (since 2015 and ongoing) in various international arbitrations and Norwegian disputes with a total value of several billion NOK, representing Scandza in a principled case against Orkla foods relating to marketing of products (2022), representing Sparebanken Vest in a case with a total value of MNOK 150 (2022 and ongoing), representing Molgas and its Norwegian subsidiary Gasnor, in relation to various gas-contracts (2023 and ongoing), successfully defending Skeie Technology before the

Supreme Court in a very principled case concerning a MNOK 500+ claim from the Ministry of Oil and Energy under the standard parent company guarantee used in the Norwegian Continental Shelf (2020), successfully defending Skeie Technology and Bjarne Skeie in a MNOK 500+ recourse claim that followed after the successful outcome of the Supreme Court case (2021), representing Floatel International AB (2021) in matters of strategic importance, representing seven former employees of ST1 Norge AS (Former Smart Fuel AS) in a dispute regarding the right to early retirement before the Supreme Court (November 2020), successfully defending Tribe Hotels and the Board of Tribe Invest against a MNOK 150 claim from the bankruptcy estate of Tribe Invest (2019) before Oslo City Court and Borgarting High Court (favorable settlement late 2020) and representing Silxgas, Infragas and Solveig gas before the Supreme Court in the Gas-led-case (one of the biggest commercial cases that has been pleaded before the Supreme Court, 2018). Kyrr Eggen is dr. juris and has published several books and articles, and is ranked as one of Norway's most prominent lawyers on his areas of expertise "Kyrr is a highly committed and intelligent lawyer." "He is a really good litigator." "Kyrr Eggen is strong and agile." Chambers Global **Career:** Partner, CLP (2016), Partner, Wiersholm (2004), Lawyer, Wiersholm (2001)

Professional Memberships: The Norwegian Bar Association

ELLINGSEN, Eirik Basmo
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Norway)

Practice Areas: Technology and Intellectual Property

Career: Eirik is the head of BAH's IP practice and deputy head of BAH's Technology group. Eirik has substantial experience with IP disputes and litigation. He has proved himself to be an eminent patent litigator and has acted as lead counsel on high profile cases in recent years. Eirik's practice is primarily focused on contentious matters and advice relating to technology, including technology development, R&D agreements, license agreements, as well as the acquisition and divestment of technology companies. He advises Norwegian and international clients within a range of sectors, including energy, fisheries and aquaculture, life sciences, IT and digital innovation.

ENGESÆTH, Arne
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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/arne-engesæth> for further information.

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Einar Engh is a partner and works with employment law. Engh provides legal advice to various types of businesses in both the private and public sectors, as well as to private individuals. He has comprehensive expertise within the practice areas of employment law and litigation.

Career: Professional experience 2012Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 2010Partner, Advokatfirmaet Schjødt AS 2009Attorney, Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees 2008Admitted to the Supreme Court 2001Attorney, The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions, Legal department, 1998Associate, Advokatfirmaet Smith Grette Wille DA

ERDAL, Amund Berthelsen
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway)

Practice Areas: Amund Erdal assists Norwegian and international clients with acquisitions and investments, project development and corporate and regulatory matters, focusing mainly on renewables, infrastructure, including investments in battery, hydrogen and circular economy projects, and green technologies. Amund has extensive experience with acquisitions, investments, and restructurings, as well as the development of renewable projects and negotiation of PPA structures. Amund is ranked by Chambers & Partners and Legal 500, and is also ranked as one of the ten leading lawyers in the renewable energy sector in the Norwegian Financial Daily's (Norwegian: Finansavisen) annual peer review.

Career: Partner, CLP (2019-) Senior Lawyer/Senior Associate/Associate, CLP (2009-2018)

EVERTSEN, Jan Morten
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Featured in TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: Jan Morten Evertsen has extensive experience with contract negotiations in connection with film, media, and entertainment for Norwegian and international film and TV production companies, as well as the music industry. In addition, his counsel includes trade mark and patent issues, as well as general and specific marketing law for entertainment, media, music, and merchandising clients. He has also dealt with issues related to intellectual property law in connection with a number of acquisitions and other transactions.

Career: 2020-Partner, Bull 2017-2019 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Ræder 2016 Senior partner, Zacco 2013-2015 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 2006-2013 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Thommessen 2000-2006 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Arntzen de Besche 1991-2000 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Grette 1988-1991 Associate, Advokatfirmaet Meltdvedt, Kommæs & Co 1987-1988 Deputy judge, Tromsø district court 1986 Associate,

Advokatfirmaet Hjort 1985-1986 Executive Officer, Ministry of Justice

FENNER, Christian P.N.
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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/christian-pn-fenner> for further information.

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Featured in TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: Kristian Foss assists with technology agreements and privacy issues. This includes agreements for international sales, procurement of IT systems, and the definition of new business models. Kristian is one of the few Norwegian IT lawyers with litigation experience and in-depth knowledge of free software (open source). He also focuses on finding solutions to privacy challenges. Kristian achieves results through a negotiation style that preserves relationships and is interest-based. Kristian's long career as a lawyer and entrepreneur has given him a unique commercial, technical and strategic understanding. His extensive experience from international and domestic negotiations on technology deliveries creates value-added results. Kristian can also quickly resolve issues outside of Norway through his large network of international lawyers.

Kristian is a member of the Expert committee for ICT law, Norwegian Centre for Continued Legal Education, former president of IT IP Law Group Europe, and he regularly attends international conferences on IT law and data protection. Kristian also gives lectures on topics within his specialty.

Career: 2015-Partner, Bull 2007-2015 Managing partner, Gille advokat DA 2001-2007 Attorney/Associate, responsible for technology, IT and telecom, Advokatfirmaet Haavind Vislie AS 1999-2001 Associate/Attorney, Legal department, EVRY 1999 Co-founder, Idium AS

FOUGNER, Else Bugge
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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Else Bugge Fougner is a senior partner and works with employment law. She has considerable experience both as an investigator and as defense counsel for persons subject to investigation and prosecution. Else has extensive litigation experience from all courts in civil and criminal law and has presented a large number of cases in the Supreme Court. Else's practice includes extensive legal counseling to the corporate branch in both business and criminal law matters. Her counsel is based upon her background experience as chairman and board member from a wide range of different businesses, which include the chairman of the board at Kommunalbanken AS, Eksportkredit

Norge AS and a five-year period as deputy chair of the board of Kredittilsynet.

Career: Professional experience 2017Senior partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 1991-2016Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 1990-1991Lecturer, University of Oslo 1989-1990Minister of Justice 1975-1989Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 1975Admitted to the Supreme Court 1972-1975Associate, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 1971-1972Committee secretary, Ministry of Social Affairs

FRISAK, Anne Dahl
BAHR, Oslo

Featured in Shipping (Norway)

Practice Areas: Shipping and Offshore, Corporate M&A

Career: Anne is a Partner in BAH's OCEAN group. She has broad experience from advising on M&A and corporate matters, company law, governance, joint ventures and restructurings within the shipping, offshore and aquaculture markets, as well as other industry areas. She also has extensive experience on traditional shipping and offshore transactions such as sale and purchase of vessels, sale leaseback, charter parties and construction contracts. She advises both listed and unlisted companies. Anne focuses on shipping and offshore transactions, as well as traditional shipping and offshore matters. Anne combines her shipping practice with a general corporate and M&A practice, and has advised on a number of M&A transactions over the years.

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway)

Practice Areas: Specializes in dispute resolution, public administrative law and company law. Work also includes conversion of public enterprises, general corporate law and corporate finance law.

Career: Admitted to the Bar in 1994. Associate at the Office of the Attorney general 1994-2006. Qualified to litigate before the Supreme Court in 1999. Extensive experience from banking, insurance and securities commission and as a Deputy Judge. Joined Kluge in 2006, partner from 2007.

Professional Memberships: Chairman for University of Oslo's Complaints Committee for additional employments.

GASKI, Klemet Ingvar
Bull, Oslo

Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Practice Areas: Klemet Gaski offers consultancy within business law, with a main emphasis on liability issues, especially for company board members, lawyers and auditors. Klemet is a permanent member of the panel of bankruptcy administrators at Oslo City Court and has significant experience assisting companies and their management throughout times of economic challenges, restructuring and/or insolvency. Klemet regularly litigates high-profile liability cases in court,

such as insurance cases. His many such experiences over the years, combined with his cutting-edge expertise within insolvency, has given him the ability to analyse numbers and apply them toward specific legal issues. Clients and auditors alike point to this skill as one of Klemet's key strengths as a lawyer. In addition, he is known for finding and negotiating out-of-court solutions that benefit the client(s).

Career: 2016–Partner, Bull 2004–2016 Associate, attorney and senior attorney, Advokatfirma DLA Piper Norway DA 2000–2004 Associate, Rime & Co Advokatfirma AS 1999–2000 Senior legal consultant, Direktoratet for Arbeidstilsynet

GJELSTEN, Gaute

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Featured in Shipping (Norway)

Practice Areas: Gaute has 25 years of experience specialising in international shipping and offshore law, including marine and energy, insurance law. He handles large claims arising out of marine and offshore casualties acting for insurers and owners. Gaute acts in complex jurisdiction and conflict of laws issues/disputes. He advises international insurers in complex on-shore and offshore claims in the energy insurance sector, including substantial losses under construction and operational policies, all-risks covers, reinsurance and general coverage disputes. Gaute acts for Nordic and international insurers under protection and indemnity (P&I) policies, hull and machinery covers, mortgagee's interest, war, loss of hire, cargo and charterers' liability insurers. Gaute is admitted to the Norwegian Supreme Court and has extensive litigation experience before the Norwegian courts and in arbitration proceedings.

Career: 2022–Present: Partner, Gjelsten Herlofsen Advokatfirma AS 2005–2022: Partner, Wikborg Rein, Oslo 2003–2004: Senior Associate, Wikborg Rein, Oslo 2000–2002: Japan Representative, Wikborg Rein, Kobe, Japan 2000–2002: Norwegian Consul-General, Kobe/Osaka, Japan 1998–1999: Associate, Wikborg Rein, Oslo/London 1995–1997: Lecturer on contract, sale of goods and administrative law, University of Oslo 1994–1995: Research assistant, Institute of Private Law, University of Oslo

GJESTI, Jens Christian

Kvale Advokatfirma DA, Oslo

Featured in TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: TMT, Information technology and data sharing, Data and communications protection, Technology and digital innovation, Sanctions and export control, EU law

Career: 2023 Head of Tech & IP, Kvale 2018–Partner, Kvale 2013–2017 Senior Lawyer, Kvale 2012–2013 Senior Lawyer, Legalteam 2010–2012 Lawyer, Advokatfirmaet Selmer DA 2008–2010 Associate, Advokatfirmaet Selmer DA 2007–2008 Senior Adviser, Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority

2006–2007 Adviser, Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority

Personal: Jens Christian Gjesti specializes in sanctions and export control, privacy, security competition law, technology, telecommunications, and compliance. He heads up our Tech & IP department and our expert teams for privacy and cybersecurity/information security. Gjesti provides clients with strategic and operational advice on compliance, management of regulatory risk, dispute resolution, incident management, handling of supervisory cases, entering and following up on technology contracts, compliance with sector-specific market regulation, transactions, in negotiations, and projects related to the use of data and artificial intelligence.

GRØTTJORD, Børge

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://nordics.dlapiper.com/en/people/borge-grottjord> for further information.

GULLHAUG, Grethe

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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Practice Areas: Construction law, public procurement and dispute resolution

Career: 2013–Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2011–2013 Associate partner, Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2002 Licensed to practice law 2000–2002 Deputy judge, Bergen District Court 1999 Employed, Kluge Advokatfirma AS

Professional Memberships:

2016–Member of the Norwegian Bar Association's legal committee for Civil Litigation and Arbitration 2012–2013 President of the Hordaland og Sogn og Fjordane circuit of the Norwegian Bar Association (member of the Board for several years previously)

Publications: -Byggherreforskriften med kommentarer [Construction Client Regulations, with comments], Gyldendal forlag, 2016. Co-authored with Kjetil Sangolt. The book is currently being revised. Flukten fra domstolen og gjeldende rett – rettssteoretiske konsekvenser av at rettsvister i økende grad avgjøres av andre organer enn domstolen [The flight from the courts and prevailing law – legal theory consequences of legal disputes increasingly being decided by bodies other than the courts], included in the Faculty of Law publications, no. 75 (University of Bergen, 1998).

GULSVIK, Alf Amund

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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Norway)

Practice Areas: Public procurement, Life sciences & healthcare, Dispute resolution One of Norway's leading procurement lawyers and has worked extensively with procurement law and contract law for several years. He is

currently a board member of KOFA (the Norwegian complaints board for public procurement). Used to handling large and complex procurement projects both at the buyer and supplier side, and during the procurement and at the complaints/dispute stage.

Career: 2023–Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2021–2023 Associate Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2017–2021 Specialist Counsel, Wikborg Rein 2014–2017 Senior Lawyer, Wikborg Rein 2014 Teaching Supervisor, University of Bergen 2011–2013 Senior Associate, Wikborg Rein 2008–2010 Associate, Wikborg Rein 2007 Structural Stagiare, European Commission, External relations team 2005–2011 Lecturer and examiner, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo 2005–2008 Adviser, Ministry of Government Administration and Reform 2004 Trainee, BAHR 2002–2004 Trainee, Wikborg Rein 2002–2003 Research assistant and editor of the publication 'Eurorett', Centre of European Law

Professional Memberships:

2019–Member of the Public Procurement Complaints Board (KOFA) 2009–Deputy board member, the Alcohol monopoly procurement complaints board 1999–2001 Member of central board European Youth (YEF) 1997–1998 Organizational Deputy Chairman of the Central Board of the Norwegian Upper Secondary School Association (NGS)

Publications: Anskaffelsesrett i et nøtteskall, 2nd edition, co-author, Gyldendal legal Public procurement – Norway Chapter, International Comparative Legal Guides 2017 (published December 2016) with Line Camilla Werner Anskaffelsesrett i et nøtteskall, co-author, Gyldendal legal

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Featured in Shipping (Norway)

Practice Areas: Shipping and Offshore, Corporate M&A

Career: Geir Gustavsson has extensive experience from a broad range of shipping- and offshore-related matters, with a special focus on international shipbuilding projects, joint ventures and project finance. Gustavsson assists Norwegian and international clients with strategic planning, contract and document drafting, contract negotiations and ongoing advice. Gustavsson also serves as an arbitrator in contract disputes, most frequently in shipping- and offshore-related matters. Gustavsson was the chairman of the Norwegian Bar Association's legislative committee for marine, air and other transportation law, including marine insurance law until 31 December 2018.

GUVA, Øystein

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Norway)

Practice Areas: Corporate M&A,

Asset Management & Private Equity

Career: Øystein heads BAHR's Corporate M&A group and is also a member

of BAHR's Asset Management & Private Equity group. He is a recognised expert on mergers & acquisitions and private equity matters and has for nearly two decades been advising leading Nordic and international private equity sponsors, their portfolio companies and other participants in the market. Guvåg has extensive experience from cross-border and domestic transactions, typically involving acquisitions, divestments, spin-offs, co-investments, joint ventures as well as other types of transactions. He also advises sponsors and their portfolio companies on corporate matters and establishment of management incentive programs. He also acts for family offices, banks and international industrial companies as well as sellers of entrepreneur-owned companies.

HAMMERICH, Peter

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Norway)

Practice Areas: Asset Management & Private Equity, Corporate M&A, Tax

Career: Peter Hammerich has been a partner and head of BAHR's Asset Management & Private Equity practice group since 2005, currently consisting of 25+ lawyers specialising in asset management. Since 2022 Peter is also chair of BAHR. Peter advises leading Norwegian and international asset managers, including fund managers within all alternative asset classes (such as private equity, venture, infrastructure, debt and real estate), financial institutions, investment banks, insurance companies, pension funds, and sovereign wealth funds. He is frequently instructed on compliance, fundraising, human capital, ESG/sustainability, M&A, tax and regulatory matters for all types of asset managers, as well as disputes involving asset managers. He is recognised in independent ratings as one of the leading Nordic advisors in these fields. Peter is an active participant in regulatory discussions and policy matters affecting the Norwegian asset management industry, and frequent speaker at seminars. He is chairman of the Norwegian Alternative Investment Association and chairman of several of the leading asset managers in Norway. Given the impact of the AIFMD on the industry, it is also worth noting that Peter was a member of the Working Group appointed by the Ministry of Finance to draft a proposal for the Norwegian Act implementing the AIFMD in Norwegian law.

HANSSEN-BAUER, Ingvild

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Norway)

Practice Areas: Intellectual property rights, patents, trademark, trade secrets, dispute resolution

Career: 2017–Partner, Kvale 1994–2017, Specialist Counsel, Partner, Senior Associate, Associate, Wikborg Rein

Personal: Ingvild Hanssen-Bauer is specialized within intellectual property rights, with a particular focus on patents, trademarks and matters related to the Norwegian Marketing Act, such as protection of trade secrets and unlawful copying. She has extensive litigation experience within these fields of law, and has represented clients in a large number of complex cases, both before the District Court and the Court of Appeal. Ingvild assists both Norwegian and international clients, especially within the pharmaceutical industry, oil/gas and aquaculture industry. Ingvild also assists our clients with agreements related to intellectual property rights, such as license agreements, research and development agreements, agreements on transfer of intellectual property rights and confidentiality agreements. Her practice also includes assistance related to ICT-contracts and data protection.

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Norway)

Practice Areas: Banking and finance, Corporate/M&A, Restructuring/Insolvency, ESG

Career: 2019–Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS (prev. Kluge Advokatfirma AS) 2015–2019 Partner, DLA Piper Norway 2013–2015 Senior Lawyer, Schjødt 2005–2013 Senior Associate, Thommessen 2005 Associate, Bull & Co Advokatfirma 2002 Legal practitioner, Nordic Trustee 2001–2002 Senior Executive Officer, Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate

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Featured in Real Estate (Norway)

Practice Areas: Partner Nils Petter Hansson primarily works with corporate law and real estate, with emphasis on transactions, operation and development of commercial real estate. Hansson also has extensive experience assisting landowners in legal disputes related to real estate legal matters, including expropriation. Nils Petter Hansson is head of technical estate agency matters at the commercial real estate brokerage firm Heilo Eiendom AS. He also holds several board positions in various business areas (including one of the major residential development companies in Oslo).

HANSTEEN, Christopher

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment Pension Dispute Resolution

Career: Christopher Hansteen specialises in employment law, trade union law, civil servant law, pension law and litigation. He also has considerable experience working with human rights law issues. Hansteen is admitted to the Supreme Court and he has compre-

hensive experience as a litigator. He has assisted enterprises, employers and employees in all business sectors, and is a frequent lecturer and author of books and articles on collective and individual employment law. Hansteen has been a member of the board of the Norwegian Employment Law Association and of several human rights organisations.

Professional Memberships: Member of the drafting committee of the publication "Arbeidsrett" Board member of Human Rights House Foundation The Norwegian Bar Association

HARAM FØRDE, Kristin

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Featured in TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: Kristin Haram Førde's focus is technology and privacy. Throughout her career, she has drafted and negotiated a variety of commercial technology agreements, tailored for use in Norway and abroad. She also assists with privacy issues and helps companies in facilitating the processing of personal data. In addition, Kristin renders advice on questions related to securing the ownership and value of business-critical data. She also has extensive expertise with cyber security and assists companies that have been exposed to cyberattacks with risk-reducing measures. Kristin's long career as both an in-house lawyer and outside counsel for technology companies, has provided her with a unique understanding of the IT industry's "tribal language", the game-changing technological development that has formed the industry, and contracts for technology deliveries and digitization. This allows Kristin to draft and negotiate technology contracts for customers and suppliers alike, based on her insight into the parties' needs. Kristin has also assisted in several major national and international IT dispute negotiations.

Career: 2016–Partner, Bull 2014–2016 Director, Legal Nordics CSC 2014 Principal Lawyer, Legal Nordics CSC 2010–2014 Senior Attorney, Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig AS 2006–2010 Associate and Attorney, Simonsen Advokatfirma DA 2004–2006 Senior Legal Manager, Oracle Norge AS

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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Practice Areas: Real Estate & Construction, Dispute Resolution

Career: Sam Harris is one of Norway's most distinguished lawyers. He is a highly skilled and versatile litigator, with a broad practice encompassing general litigation and arbitration, as well as judicial and extrajudicial mediation. Sam has acted as leading counsel on several hundred legal disputes, which have been pleaded before both ordinary courts and arbitration panels. These include a great number of large and complex construction cases. Sam has

a particularly high standing in the construction and real estate sectors, and his practice is focused on onshore and offshore construction law and property law. Additionally, he has extensive experience with post-M&A issues, as well as disputes over allegations of unfair business practices and broker's fees. He was admitted to the Supreme Court in 1994 and has pleaded more than ten cases for the Supreme Court.

HATLING, Egil

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/egil-hatling> for further information.

HAUKAAS, Ørjan Salvesen

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://www.dlapiper.com/en-nl/people/h/haukaas-orjan> for further information."

HEIEREN, Anders

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Featured in Tax (Norway)

Practice Areas: Corporate taxation, including special regimes for petroleum taxation and shipping, tax structuring, contractual regulation of tax, transfer pricing, tax appeals and legal proceedings. Assists a number of major global companies with both planning and dispute resolution, has successfully argued major court cases on transfer pricing.

Career: 2019–Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS (prev. Kluge Advokatfirma AS) 2011–2019 Partner, Arntzen de Besche 2007–2010 SVP Head of Tax, Petroleum Geo-Services ASA 1997–2007 Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers 1992–1997 Senior Associate, Wikborg Rein 1989–1992 Advisor, Finance Ministry, Tax Law Department 1986–1987 Scientific Assistant, University of Oslo

Professional Memberships: International Fiscal Association (IFA), The Norwegian Bar Association.

Publications: Published thesis on partnership taxation, articles on international tax matters in a.o. Skatterett and Revisjon og Regnskap, regular columnist in the financial newspaper Finansavisen.

Personal: Leader of Norwegian network for tax professionals <https://juc.no/nettverk/-nettverk-i-skatterett.aspx>, speaker at IFA and IBA events as well as a number of tax seminars, previous lecturer in tax law at University of Oslo.

HELSINGENG, Anne

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Featured in Corporate Compliance & Investigations (Norway)

Practice Areas: Anne Helsingeng works with investigations, whistleblowing cases and factual investigations,

both as a public investigator and in investigations for private and public clients. She also works broadly with corporate governance, compliance and lawyer's ethics. Anne is a permanent member of the panel of bankruptcy administrators at Oslo County Court in bankruptcies and has extensive experience as an adviser to companies that are struggling financially, as well as generally to boards of directors and management. In addition, she assists in probate and estate cases. Anne's focus is on ensuring that the investigation is perceived as justifiable and fair. She is valued among clients and others for her honest and clear feedback. Anne has extensive board experience and is currently appointed to the board of the Norwegian Courts Administration. In addition, she is head of JUC's Governance, Compliance and Risk Management network.

Career: 2019–Partner, Bull 2017–2019 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort DA 1999–2017 Partner, Deloitte Advokatfirma/ Deloitte AS 1993–1999 Attorney/Partner, Simonsen Advokatfirma 1992–1993 Deputy judge, Drammen District Court 1990–1993 Attorney, Advokatfirmaet Selmer DA 1988–1990 Deputy director, The Ministry of Environment 1986–1988 Senior executive officer, The Norwegian Export Credit Guarantee Agency (GIEK)

HERLOFSEN, Frithjof

Gjelsten Herlofsen Advokatfirma AS, Oslo
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Featured in Shipping (Norway)

Practice Areas: Frithjof Herlofsen is a leading specialist in arbitration and litigation, focusing on shipping, offshore and marine insurance disputes. Frithjof has more than 25 years of experience specialising in all aspects of shipping and transport law, including salvage, GA settlements, cargo claims, charter party disputes, bills of lading, MOAs, shipbuilding and repair contracts, marine insurance (cover disputes, P&I, FDD, H&M, cargo insurance etc), marine incidents, arrest, forced use and sales as well as tort and contract disputes. Frithjof is admitted to the Norwegian Supreme Court and heads the Norwegian Bar Association's Committee on Insurance Law. Herlofsen has argued more than 100 cases in arbitrations and before the Norwegian courts, including seven cases before the Norwegian Supreme Court. Herlofsen is also frequently appointed as arbitrator, both in ad hoc arbitrations as well as under the NOMA Procedural Rules.

Career: 2022–Present: Partner at Gjelsten Herlofsen Advokatfirma AS 2013–2022: Partner at Advokatfirmaet Simonsen Vogt Wiig AS 2002–2013: Partner at Advokatfirmaet Vogt & Wiig AS 1999–2002: Senior Associate at Vogt & Co. DA/Vogt & Wiig AS 1994–1999: Associate at Vogt & Co. DA

HOMBLE, Runar

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Runar Homble is one of three founding partners at Homble Solheim. He handles the entire spectrum of employment law advice. Runar offers, among others, expertise in handling disputes involving redundancies, reorganisation of enterprises, terminations, and whistle-blowing. He also has extensive experience in various disciplines such as data protection law, company law, contract law, negotiations, and litigation. Runar has comprehensive experience in analysing complex issues and possesses the ability to explain his advice in a professional and understandable manner. He is sought-after in subject matters that require knowledge and understanding of the client's business and culture combined with outstanding legal and people skills. His business mindset, strategic and legal expertise combined with a popular and humorous undertone makes him in great demand by top executives and high-ranking leaders who are in challenging and complex situations. Perhaps especially when they are in need of a skilled sparring partner with a cold head, warm heart, and high execution ability. He frequently holds lectures in employment law and is a columnist in one of the leading newspapers in Norway. He has more than 20 years experience, and has been ranked in Chambers Europe since 2014 and in Legal 500 EMEA since 2016.

HUNSKAAR, Are

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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/are-hunskaar> for further information.

INNJORD, Frode

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway)

Practice Areas: Frode A. Innjord works with real estate and construction law. Frode provides both the private and public sectors with advice and dispute resolution within the field of real estate law. His professional experience includes assisting the largest public and private real estate developers in cases related to hydropower development, ground pollution, property disputes, expropriation and land regulation. His professional portfolio also includes advising the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment for a number of years in matters related to compensation settlements after the establishment of nature conservation areas. Frode is the editor of Gyldendals legal commentary on the Planning and Building Act. He has also written several articles on various topics related to real estate law, and serves as a member of the editorial

board for the Journal of Property law. Frode has extensive experience with litigation and commercial dispute resolution. He has been admitted to the Norwegian Supreme Court since 1994, and throughout the years has litigated a number of cases that raised issues on private and public matters in the ordinary courts, as well as the Courts of arbitration. The nature of the cases range in a broad spectrum, from cooperation agreements on the shelf, via cases concerning franchise agreements, securities management and property taxes, to international indigenous rights. Frode is a highly acclaimed lawyer with in dispute resolution in national and international lawyer rankings. In addition to his own litigation activities, Frode has also served as an arbitrator in a number of commercial disputes. In several of the cases, he has been appointed as the head of the arbitral tribunal, and he has also acted as the sole arbitrator.

Career: Professional experience 1997Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjord 1994Admitted to the Supreme Court 1990-1997 Office of the Attorney General

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway), Energy & Natural Resources (Norway), Tax (Norway)

Practice Areas: Tax, Dispute Resolution, Energy: Oil & Gas

Career: Jan B. Jansen is a prominent and respected lawyer, who specializes in dispute resolution, tax and insurance law, as well as the oil and energy sector. Jan has worked closely with oil and energy since 1986 and has acted for his clients in many capacities: such as advisor on regulatory matters and transactions, and as counsel in litigation. His clients include many of the largest companies active on the Norwegian Continental Shelf, as well as the Norwegian State. Jan has a thorough understanding of the oil and gas business and the challenges facing the actors involved. He has represented most of the large E&P companies in tax litigation and has successfully pleaded many of the most notable tax cases for the industry. Additionally, Jan has represented a number of law firms in professional indemnity claim cases. He also assists on insurance matters, where he advises insurance companies on policy issues and claims handling, and represents them in insurance and reinsurance disputes. As a litigator, Jan acts on a large variety of commercial cases before the courts and arbitral tribunals. He is also sought-after as arbitrator. For many years, he taught General Tax Law and Petroleum Tax Law at the University of Oslo. Jan was admitted to the Supreme Court in 1997 and has since pleaded numerous landmark cases. He is head of the Norwegian Bar Association's Legislative Policy Committee for Energy, Hydropower, Oil and Gas law.

JOHANSEN, Jens Kristian

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Jens Kristian Johansen specializes in individual and collective employment law, discrimination law, pension law and dispute resolution. His experience is extensive and he advises both private and public companies in Norway and abroad, and also employees and employees' unions. He works broadly within employment law issues, and has conducted one of the most comprehensive restructuring and downscaling assignments in recent years.

Career: Professional experience 2022Head of Employment Law practice area, Advokatfirmaet Hjord 2020Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjord 2009Partner, Advokatfirmaet Grette AS 2006Senior Attorney, Advokatfirmaet Grette AS 2004Partner, Advokatfirmaet Storeng, Beck & Due Lund 2003Attorney, Advokatfirmaet Storeng, Beck & Due Lund 2001Associate, Advokatfirmaet Storeng, Beck & Due Lund 2000Senior Executive Officer, Norwegian Board of Health Supervision

JØTUN, Camilla

BAHR, Oslo

Featured in Tax (Norway)

Practice Areas: Asset Management & Private Equity, Corporate M&A, Tax
Career: Camilla Jøtun has since 2008 been part of the firm's asset management and private equity practice group, and is today responsible for the group's focus on tax and structuring. Through BAH's legal advice to some of the leading players within the Nordic asset management industry, Camilla has had the opportunity to establish an extensive experience on tax and structuring related questions relevant for the industry. Both the asset management industry and the tax discipline are areas in which we see great development and an increasingly amount of work.

KOEFOED, Nils Holger

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Practice Areas: Main practice area is insolvency and restructuring. Nils Holger Koefoed is a court-appointed trustee in bankruptcy and has handled many of the largest and most complex matters in Norway in recent years, including for companies operating on a global scale which have benefited from his considerable experience with cross-border insolvency issues. He regularly represents debtors and creditors complex restructuring proceedings.
Professional Memberships: Nils Holger Koefoed is a board member of the Norwegian Legal Education Association ("JUS") for the legal areas of Bankruptcy, Debt Negotiations and Security. He is a recognised speaker within his area of law, both domestic and abroad.

Publications: Koefoed has co-written (together with colleague Harald Sommeres) the law commentary on the Norwegian Bankruptcy Act, the Creditors Security Act, and the temporary Act on Reconstruction, for Karnov Group.

KOMISSAR, Sofie

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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Practice Areas: Real Estate & Construction, Dispute Resolution

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment law
Worked with labor law issues for almost 20 years and assists a large number of major listed global and national companies. This has mainly been aimed at the oil & gas industry, as well as major employers in the construction industry and the public sector.

Career: 2006 - Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS (prev. Kluge Advokatfirma AS) 2002 - 2006 Senior Associate, Kluge Advokatfirma 2001 - 2002 Deputy judge, Sandnes District Court 2001 - Deputy judge, Stavanger Office of the City Recorder 1998 - 2000 Associate, Kluge Advokatfirma 1996 - 1997 Researcher assistant, Institute of computer Law, University of Oslo
Professional Memberships: Member of the Norwegian Bar Association.

LENTH, Claude

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment Privacy law and General Data and Protection Rights

Career: With over twenty years of experience as a lawyer Lenth has extensive experience within the employment law practice area, data privacy law and GDPR. His expertise has gained him recognition by the international ranking bureaus the Legal 500 and Chambers Europe. Lenth advises in various matters such as restructuring and reorganization, business transfers, employment termination and dismissals, non-compete and restrictive covenants, temporary staffing procedures, termination agreement negotiations, as well as working environment conditions. Working environment conditions include whistleblowing cases and internal investigations. Lenth also has experience from the Norwegian courts and the Court of Arbitration.

Professional Memberships: The Norwegian Bar Association Norwegian Association for law and computer science

Publications: Editor and Co-author of Arbeidsrett.no, kommentarutgave til ny arbeidsmiljølov (www.arbeidsrett.no) which is a commentary to the Norwegian Working Environment Act, for practitioners Co-author of "Konkur-

ransebegrensninger i arbeidsforhold", Universitetsforlaget 2016, which details restrictive covenants in employment relationships, for practitioners. Co-author of Personopplysningsloven – en håndbok, Kommuneforlaget i 2000, which is a legal presentation of the former Norwegian Data Privacy Act, for practitioners. Research dissertation at The University of Oslo: "Adgangen til å behandle personopplysninger," Institute for Legal Science, Complex 2/2000

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment
Career: 2021 – Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2017 – 2020 Partner, Law firm Ræder 2011 – 2016 Senior associate, Law firm Arntzen de Besche 2004 – 2011 Associate, Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees 2003 – 2004 Junior associate, Norwegian Union of Municipal and General Employees 1999 – 2003 Legal counsel and junior associate, Norwegian Union of Health and Social Services Employees

LILLI, Marco
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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment law, Energy & Climate More than 25 years of experience in consulting and litigation related to labour law. Advises major Norwegian and international employers, as well as several of the largest Norwegian public employers. Advice includes all aspects of employment law; downsizing, transfer of undertakings, outplacement, employment contracts, incentive schemes, and collective agreements.

Career: 1998 Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 1994 – 1998 Attorney, Kluge Advokatfirma 1993 – 1994 Deputy judge, Nedre Romerike District Court 1990 – 1993 Associate and senior associate at the Attorney General of Oslo, civil cases in Oslo 1988 – 1989 Research assistant, Institute of Public Law, University of Bergen

Professional Memberships: Norwegian Bar Association. Director of various companies. External examiner, University Bergen.

Publications: Publications in legal journals on employment law, public administration law and intellectual property law.

LIND, Erling
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Featured in Shipping (Norway)

Practice Areas: Erling Lind is primarily advising clients in the shipping and oil service sector. Focus areas are financing and transactional work, both in Norway and other, relevant markets. Mr. Lind has more than 30 years practical experience from the capital markets (including mergers & acquisitions) in Norway.

LINDHARTSEN, Kristian
Kvale Advokatfirma DA, Oslo

Featured in Shipping (Norway)

Practice Areas: Shipping, offshore, insurance, dispute resolution
Personal: Kristian Lindhartsen has a wide background in maritime law, with emphasis on marine insurance disputes, including cover disputes and direct-action matters. He also advises shipowners and charterers on operational issues, hereunder issues related to charterparties and other contracts of carriage, commercial agreements, collisions and other marine casualties. Lindhartsen is an experienced litigator. He has advised in and pleaded complex cases in both ordinary courts and arbitrations, including arrest and other asset securing, as well as international jurisdiction issues. He also works with vessel-related transactions, particularly with sale/leaseback transactions of ships.

LØVDAL, Elin Mack
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Featured in Real Estate (Norway)

Practice Areas: Elin Mack Løvda's main focus and expertise is relating to real estate; transactions, development, leases, asset management, corporate law, financing and investment structuring. She is specialized in M&A, with a clear focus on all types of real estate transactions, including sale lease back transactions, forward transactions, syndicated investment structures with tailor-made fee arrangements and other forms of co-investments. She also has extensive experience in both property management and property development, including structuring of larger developments projects. In addition she advises on corporate law including advising board members and management on risk and leverage for distressed companies, and has board experience from both bank and real estate related businesses. Elin Mack Løvda is also assisting clients with financial transactions, including high yield bonds, bank loans and hybrid capital, and assessing possible capital structures from a legal perspective. Mack Løvda is recommended by all major international rankings, including Chambers & Partners, Legal 500 and Who's Who. She is listed as one of the ten best real estate lawyers in Norway by the newspaper Finansavisen. Mack Løvda is a co-founder of Styrelisten – a pro-bono diversity project linking potential board members and boards – www.styrelisten.com

Career: Partner, Advokatfirmaet CLP DA (2016), Senior associate, Advokatfirmaet BA-HR (2015-2016), Attorney/associate, Advokatfirmaet BA-HR (2008-2014), Advisor/senior advisor, Norwegian Ministry of Defence (2003-2007)

Professional Memberships: Member of the Norwegian Bar Association

Personal: Master of Law, University of Oslo (2003)

LUND, Robert
Kvale Advokatfirma DA, Oslo

Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Norway)

Practice Areas: EU law, Public procurement, State aid

Career: 2020 Partner, Kvale 2016 – 2019, Partner, Kluge Advokatfirma 2011 – 2015 Lawyer / Partner, ALT advokatfirma 2006 – 2010 Lawyer / Associate, BAHR 2007 – 2008 Deputy Judge, Oslo District Court 2003 – 2006 Advisor / Senior Executive, Konkurransopolitisk avdeling i Nærings- og handelsdepartementet/Fornyingsdepartementet 2005 National expert in the European Commission, DG Competition DG Competition, State Aid Directorate

Personal: Robert is considered one of the country's leading procurement and state aid experts. He has a number of support and procurement law publications to refer to, in addition to being ranked among the foremost lawyers in his field of expertise in Finansavisen's annual bar of lawyers the last years. Robert also has extensive experience in dispute resolution in the above-mentioned disciplines and in contract and contract law and pension law. Much of Robert's assistance in recent years has been provided in connection with complex projects for the state, county councils, municipalities and publicly owned companies. This has provided unique insight into how clients and sponsors think and work, which is of great value when advising private companies, for example in connection with submitting tenders or complaints to the public. Robert has advised in many sectors, such as research, development and innovation, public transport, rail, port, aviation, broadband, land, ICT, energy, toll, public sector, non-profit and cultural and sports. Robert is also a widely used speaker in his field of expertise.

LYKKE, Fredrik
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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/fredrik-lykke> for further information.

MADLAND, Siv Veronika
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway)

Practice Areas: Oil&Gas, Energy and Climate Change, Infrastructure & Projects. Madland primarily advises energy-related clients, and has her core competence from oil & gas industry. She has extensive experience in petroleum transactions, petroleum law and its regulatory framework conditions. Madland has specialized in contracts law, with vast experience with various offshore contracts and offshore projects within the entire value chain.

Career: 2020 – YTD Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2012 – 2020 Senior Le-

gal Manager / Legal Manager / Senior Legal Adviser, Repsol Norge AS (prior Talisman) 2008 – 2012 Senior Legal Counsel / Commercial & Procurement Manager, Subsea 7 Norge AS 2003 – 2007 Associate, Kluge Advokatfirma 2001 – 2002 Subcontracts Administrator / Senior Subcontracts Administrator, Halliburton AS

MEDER, Margrethe
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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment and Pension

Career: Margrethe is a member of BAHRs Employment practice group. She joined BAHR as a partner in 2022 and has many years of experience as a lawyer with a broad range of labour law issues, both individual and collective employment law. Margrethe's experience includes ongoing advice to enterprises on all types of labour law issues, including questions relating to collective issues as well as collective bargaining. Margrethe has extensive litigation experience, and has handled a significant number of legal proceeding, including before the Supreme Court and the Labour Court of Norway.

MUNTHE-KAAS, Hugo
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Featured in Corporate Compliance & Investigations (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://nordics.dlapiper.com/en/people/hugo-b-munthe-kaas> for further information.

NEDRELID, Audun
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Norway)

Practice Areas: Finance and Capital Markets, Restructuring

Career: Audun Nedreid is a part of the finance group at BAHR and is a debt capital markets financing specialist both within the bank and bond market. He regularly acts for issuers/borrowers, advising both major corporate clients and private equity clients on some of their most substantial transactions both within traditional bank lending and capital markets issues of bonds and other private placement debt. His experience range from corporate loans for blue chip borrowers, asset-based financings (with a particular emphasis on shipping and offshore loans as well as infrastructure financings), leveraged/acquisition financings, to combined bank and bond/direct lending structures with apurtenant intercreditor issues.

NERAAL, Helge
Advokatfirma DLA Piper, Oslo
Featured in Construction (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://www.dlapiper.com/en/people/n/neraal-helge> for further information.

NILSSEN, Markus

BAHR, Oslo
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*Featured in Banking & Finance (Norway),
Capital Markets (Norway)*

Practice Areas: Finance and Capital Markets

Career: Markus Nilssen is a capital markets lawyer with a special focus on financial regulations. He regularly advises clients on various regulatory matters and corporate finance transactions in the DCM and ECM markets. Markus is an expert on Norwegian covered bonds legislation and regularly acts for several of Norway's largest covered bond issuers. He also has a broad experience from advising on various types of corporate and financial arrangements and transactions, including securitisation and other structured finance transactions, factoring, public M&A, corporate restructurings and general corporate finance work.

NORDLING, Henrik

CMS Kluge, Oslo

*Featured in Competition/Antitrust
(Norway)*

Practice Areas: Expertise in Competition Law, EEA Law, anti-corruption and Life Sciences & healthcare.

Career: 2023–Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2019–2023 Associate partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS (prev. Kluge Advokatfirma AS) 2018–2019 Senior lawyer, BAHN 2014–2017 Lawyer, BAHN 2011–2014 Lawyer, Schjødt 2009–2011 Attorney, Darrois Villey Maillot Brochier, Paris 2008–2009 Elève avocat, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, Brussels & Paris 2008 Elève avocat, Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP, Paris

Professional Memberships: Bar Admissions: 2015 Norway 2009 France (Paris)

Personal: Languages: Norwegian, English, Swedish, French, German, Dutch

NOSS, Amund

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Featured in Tax (Norway)

Practice Areas: Litigation and dispute resolution, including cases related to tax law, company law, energy law, contract law and public administration Law.

Career: 2016–Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS (prev. Kluge Advokatfirma AS) 2012–2016 Director General and head of the Tax Law Department, Ministry of Finance 1999–2012 Lawyer, the Office of the Attorney General (Civil Affairs) 1997–1999 Associate, Advokatfirmaet BA-HR 1993–1994 Research Assistant, Department of Private Law, University of Oslo

NYLAND, Espen

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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Practice Areas: General business law/dispute resolution, in particular within Real estate, Construction and

Building law. Works primarily with property and construction and contract law. Assists a number of Norway's largest construction clients, property developers and property owners on an ongoing basis – both in the private and public sectors – several of Norway's largest consulting engineering firms and several of Norway's largest contractors. Broad expertise in procurement law. Nyland also has substantial litigation expertise and is qualified to appear before the Supreme Court.

Career: 2005–Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2003–2005 Senior Lawyer, Kluge Advokatfirma 2002–2003 Holland & Knight LLP. Trainee at Holland & Knight's Fort Lauderdale office in the United States 1999–2003 Associate and subsequently attorney, Kluge Advokatfirma 1995–2003 University of Oslo. Correcting assignments, lecturer/course instructor (specialising in contract law, consumer law, monetary claims law, real estate and tort law) and external examiner 2000 The Norwegian High Command. Executive Officer (compulsory military service) 1996–1997 University of Oslo. Research Assistant, Department of Private Law

Publications: Foreldelse av fordringer. Universitetsforlaget 2011. Co-author. Kolliderende standardvilkår. Tidsskrift for Forretningsjuss; 2001, pp. 152–170 Ad Notam Gyldendal. Formuleringen av internasjonale kontraktsrettslige grunnprinsipper og betydningen for norsk rett. Tidsskrift for Rettsvitenskap; 2000, pp. 252–324 Universitetsforlaget. Forhåndsfastsett normalerstatning – konvensjonalbøter m.v. Tidsskrift for Forretningsjuss; 2001, pp. 313–345 Ad Notam Gyldendal. Foreldelsesfristens utgangspunkt for krav som oppstår ved mislighold. Tidsskrift for Forretningsjuss; 2001, pp. 14–33 Ad Notam Gyldendal. Falkangers "fast eiendoms rettsforhold" – en studentpresentasjon. Jussens venner; 1996, pp. 32–50 Universitetsforlaget.

NYLAND, Lars Ivar

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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Practice Areas: Construction/real estate and dispute resolution. Nyland works mainly with construction law, public procurement law and dispute resolution/litigation. Nyland is involved in several major building projects, road projects and other infrastructure projects. He is considered as one of the most valuable litigators in Norway, especially with regard to construction law.

Career: Partner in Kluge since 2011, 2004–08 senior lawyer Kluge, 2004–2008 Senior lawyer/lawyer in Thommessen

Professional Memberships: Norwegian Bar Association

ODDBJØRNSSEN, Stian Hultin

CMS Kluge, Oslo
Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Norway), TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: Public procurement, Technology and media law,

Intellectual property Specialised in technology and media law, as well as in intellectual property rights and public procurement and different commercial contracts. He represents a wide range of public and private clients in these areas.

Career: 2020–YTD Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2018–2020 Associate Partner, Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2016–2017 Senior Attorney, Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2013–2015 Deputy Judge, Drammen District Court 2012–2013 Lawyer, Kluge Advokatfirma DA 2010–2012 Associate, KLUGE Advokatfirma DA 2009–2010 Research assistant, Department of Public and International Law, University of Oslo 2007–2008 Intern, Kvale & Co Advokatfirma ANS 2007 Junior Consultant, NAV Wage Guarantee

OTTESEN, Tom Hugo

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*Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency
(Norway)*

Practice Areas: Bankruptcy, Investigations, Reconstruction

Career: 1996–Partner, Kvale 1989–1996 Partner, Thune & Co 1984–1988 Associate, De Beshe & Thune

Personal: Tom Hugo Ottesen has particular experience in (re)financing, credit security, credit recovery, insolvency and restructuring of hard pressed companies. He is also an experienced arbitrator and is occasionally appointed as arbitrator in insolvency-related disputes. Ottesen is frequently appointed as bankruptcy administrator by Oslo Bankruptcy Court and is appointed as administrator in a number of the largest bankruptcies in Norway each year. Ottesen holds several directorships. He regularly lectures and participates in panel discussions on key emerging areas of the law in bankruptcy, restructuring & insolvency.

OUROM, Kristin

Kvale Advokatfirma DA, Oslo
*Featured in Energy & Natural Resources
(Norway)*

Practice Areas: Renewable energy, corporate law

Career: 2015–, Partner, Kvale 2011–2014, Senior Lawyer, Kvale 2001–2011, Lawyer, Kvale 1996–2001, Concern Lawyer, Nordea Bank ASA, Concern Legal Section

Personal: Kristin Ourom assists in general business law, with emphasis on energy law, corporate law, bank and finance, and contract law including IT/Telecommunication and property law. Kristin assists in a wide specter of transactions within different business sectors and she has long experience working with all phases in the transactions, including advisory service linked to transactions, financing, negotiations, and determination of transactions structures and drafting of contracts.

PIRO, Thomas

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*Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency
(Norway)*

Practice Areas: Restructuring, bankruptcy

Career: 2004–Partner, Kvale 2001–2004 Senior Associate, Kvale 1998–2001 Associate, Kvale

Personal: Thomas Piro Heads Kvale's restructuring, insolvency and investigation team. He has substantial experience as a lawyer in the field of restructuring, insolvency and credit assurance. He is regularly appointed as trustee for bankruptcy estates by Oslo Court of Probate and Enforcement. He provides legal assistance regarding purchase and sale of businesses and corporations and provides general business law advice.

POULSSON, Christian

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*Featured in Energy & Natural Resources
(Norway)*

Practice Areas: Renewable energy, dispute resolution

Career: 2011–Partner, Kvale 2004–2011, Partner, Bjerknes Wahl-Larsen 2001–2004, Lawyer, Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS 2000–2001, Lawyer, Norsk Hydro ASA 1999–2000, Deputy Judge, Asker and Bærum District Court 1996–2000, Associate, Norsk Hydro ASA

Personal: Christian Poulsson has considerable experience within the energy sector. He covers all areas of electricity production, sale and transport of renewable energy as well as litigation. Christian is an acknowledged expert on physical and financial power trading, including regulatory matters related to commodity derivatives. He is also an experienced transactions attorney. Poulsson has previously worked for large power companies in the Nordic power sector. Poulsson was admitted to the Norwegian Supreme Court in 2016.

RAMANI, Mohsin

Advokatfirma DLA Piper, Oslo
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/mohsin-ramani> for further information.

RAMM, Erik

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/erik-ramm> for further information.

RIEBER-MOHN, Thomas

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Norway)

Practice Areas: Intellectual property law, corporate law, litigation. Advises companies and authorities on all types of IPR-matters within a broad range of

industries, including oil & gas, technology, industry, media & entertainment, software, design & communication, etc. Extensive experience on contracts and dispute resolution/litigation. An experienced and highly respected advisor, negotiator and litigator.

Career: 2008 Partner, associate Kluge Advokatfirma DA, 2004-08 Research Fellow, University of Oslo, 1998-2004 Lawyer, Advokatfirma Schjødt AS, 1991-92 Navy officer.

Professional Memberships: Norwegian Bar Association.

Publications: Various books and articles on IPR-related issues.

RØRVIK, Andreas

BAHR, Oslo
aro@bahr.no

Featured in Real Estate (Norway)

Practice Areas: Real Estate

Career: Andreas is a member of BAHRs practice group for Real Estate. He joined BAHR as a Partner in 2021. Andreas has extensive experience with real estate law, company law, stock exchange and securities law, financing, framework conditions for finance institutions and tax and duty issues related to transactions. He has a special focus on transactions and development projects within the real estate industry, including structuring of transactions and shareholders agreements. He mainly provides advice to private and public real estate companies, family offices, private equity companies, securities institutions, banks, insurance companies, funds and investment companies.

SANDE, Lars Kristian

BAHR, Oslo
lks@bahr.no

Featured in Corporate/M&A (Norway)

Practice Areas: Technology and Intellectual Property, Corporate M&A, Aquaculture and Fisheries, Finance and Capital Markets

Career: Lars Kristian joined BAHR in 2010, prior to which he spent three years in the legal department at Telenor. Lars Kristian has a particular focus on the telecoms industry and technology companies, but works within a broad range of sectors, and advises both private equity and industrial investors on both public and private M&As, as well as on other ECM-related matters.

SANDNES, Nina G.

CMS Kluge, Bergen

Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment

Career: 2012 - Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2011 - 2012 Associate Partner, Kluge Advokatfirma 2001 - 2010 Associate/Senior Associate/Senior Attorney, Kluge Advokatfirma 1997 - 2001 Associate, Norwegian Employers' Association for the Financial Sector 1996 - 1997 Senior Consultant, Norwegian Ministry of Education, Research and Church Affairs

SANDTRØ, Erik

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Practice Areas: Erik Sandtrø works with business law in general, focusing on bankruptcy and restructuring, real estate and corporate law. He is regularly appointed as trustee by the Probate and Bankruptcy Courts in Norway.

Career: Erik Sandtrø became partner in 2008 and served as managing partner from 2012 - 2019. He was re-elected as managing partner in 2023. From 2012-2018 he also served as chairman of the board of Ro Sommerne. Sandtrø has given lectures in bankruptcy law for law students at Treider College and held a seat as moderator for the JUC network for insolvency.

SCHILVOLD, Stian Sørensen

Bull, Oslo

Featured in TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: Stian Sørensen Schilvold works within technology law and transactions. Within technology law, Stian has expertise within privacy law, different types of agreements (such as licensing, service, and cooperation agreements and outsourcing), intellectual property rights, e-commerce, negotiations and dispute resolution. He also assists investors, companies and founders within all business areas with their transactions. A big part of his transactional assistance is related to technology businesses due to his expertise within this industry. Stian is focused on working closely with his clients and providing practical and value-generative advice, taking into consideration the overall context of the advice and not necessarily only the legal aspects. His previous experience from public administration and as in-house counsel in the technology and media business creates a solid basis for providing such advice.

Career: 2017 - Partner, Bull 2015 - 2017 Senior Attorney, Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS 2010 - 2015 In-house counsel, Schibsted ASA 2006 - 2010 Associate and Attorney, Wikborg Rein Advokatfirma AS 2000 - 2006 Adviser and Project manager, The Consumer Authority

SIMONNÆS, Svein Gerhard

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Norway)

Practice Areas: Corporate M&A, Energy and Climate Change

Career: Svein Gerhard Simonnæs' practice is primarily focused on advising executives, directors and owners of Norwegian and international businesses on a broad range of issues and projects, both in Norway and abroad. Svein Gerhard has extensive experience from miscellaneous transaction and market types, involving listed and unlisted businesses, including joint ventures, M&A, IPOs and other securities offerings, as well as the negotiation of such transactions. His legal fields of expertise are

contracts and contract law, company law and securities law.

SINGH BAINS, Rajvinder

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://www.dlapiper.com/en/people/b/bains-rajvinder-singh> for further information.

SJØQVIST, Richard

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Practice Areas: Finance and Capital Markets, Restructuring

Career: Richard Sjøqvist is head of BAHR's Finance practice group and his broad practice includes syndicated lending and acquisition finance, bond issues, restructuring and insolvency. He also chairs the firm's Restructuring Group. Before joining BAHR, Richard was in-house counsel at leading Nordic bank DNB (formerly DnB NOR), where he headed the bank's legal debt capital and restructuring team, whose remit included shipping, aviation, property, financial institutions and industrial enterprise. Richard has been involved in several high-profile restructurings in recent years, and has also been in charge of some of the firm's largest financial transaction instructions.

SKAGE, Arild

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Featured in Construction (Norway)

Practice Areas: Construction law, Contract law, Dispute resolution, Public Procurement. Extensive experience with both consulting and procedure within construction and contracting and general contract law. Extensive experience with proceedings before both the district court and the court of appeal and has himself been an assistant judge for a period and he has also been appointed as an arbitrator. In recent years, he has prosecuted several major lawsuits in construction and contracting.

Career: 2016 - Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2012 Associate partner, Kluge Advokatfirma 2007 Senior Associate, Kluge Advokatfirma 2005 - 2007 Deputy judge, Tønsberg District Court 2005 - External examiner, University of Oslo 2005 Lecturer at Trondheim Adult Education Association 2003 Associate, Kluge Advokatfirma 2002 - 2003 Assistant lecturer, Department of Private Law, University of Oslo 2000 - 2002 Trainee at various law firms in Oslo

Professional Memberships: Member of the Norwegian Bar Association Leader JUC Construction law network

SKALDEBØ-RØD, Atle

BAHR, Oslo
(+47) 922 87 727
atska@bahr.no

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway)

Practice Areas: Dispute Resolution
Career: Atle Skaldebø-Rød is head of BAHR's Dispute Resolution team and is

a highly experienced and acclaimed all-round litigator. He represents BAHR's clients in cases before the ordinary courts and in arbitration, as well as in alternative forms of dispute resolution, both nationally and internationally.

Atle handles complex disputes within a broad field of expertise, including commercial contracts, marine insurance, post-M&A issues, D&O liability, insolvency, and shareholder rights, in addition to public law matters such as tax, charges and general administrative law. Atle is also experienced with specialized procedures like interim measures and securing of evidence. Further, he assists clients which operate in Norway and abroad on anti-corruption and compliance issues, as well as cases regarding corporate penalties. Atle was admitted to the Supreme Court in 2008. He has been leading counsel on five civil cases that were pleaded orally before the Supreme Court. He is member of the Norwegian Bar Association's Legislative Policy Committee for Civil Proceedings and Arbitration and ICC Norway's Commission for Arbitration and ADR. Additionally, he is a board member of the Norwegian Maritime Law Association.

SKOGHØY, Tage Brigt A.

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway)

Practice Areas: Please see <https://www.dlapiper.com/en/people/s/skoghoy-tage> for further information.

SKOGSTRØM, Gard A.

AGP Advokat AS, Oslo
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gard@agpadvokater.no

Featured in Corporate/M&A (Norway)

Practice Areas: Gard advises clients on M&A processes, equity and debt financing, corporate law/shareholder matters and general contract law. With approx. 20 years' experience, as in-house and in private practice, Gard combines strong legal skills with a commercial and pragmatic approach.

Career: Partner AGP Advokat AS January 2020 - Chairman of the board. Lipscore February 2020 - December 2021. Lawyer/Partner Aabø-Evensen & Co February 2017 - December 2019. Senior Lawyer, Corporate/M&A Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS July 2012 - January 2017. Associate, Corporate/M&A Arntzen de Besche Advokatfirma AS August 2010 - June 2012. Legal Adviser Imarex ASA January 2009 - June 2010. Legal Adviser Voss of Norway ASA March 2004 - December 2008

SKOGVOLL, Håvard

Advokatfirmaet CLP, Oslo
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Featured in Real Estate (Norway)

Practice Areas: Håvard Skogvoll works mainly with real estate transactions, financing, operation and development. He is ranked as one of the leading real estate lawyers in Norway by Chambers, Legal 500, IFLR1000 and The Norwegian Financial Daily. Skogvoll

also serves as arbitrator in commercial disputes.

Career: Partner, Advokatfirmaet CLP DA (2013), Partner, Haavind (2008-2013), Associated Partner, Haavind (2006-2007), Associate, Thommessen (2001-2006), Associate, Office of the City Advocate in Oslo (1999-2001), Research Fellow, Faculty of Law, University of Bergen (2000), Associate, Evensen & Co (1998-1999)

Professional Memberships: The Norwegian Bar Association

Personal: Master of Law, University of Bergen (1997)

SMØRDAL, Morten P

BAHR, Oslo
+47 2283 0270
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway), Corporate Compliance & Investigations (Norway)

Practice Areas: Compliance, Risk Management & Privacy, Corporate M&A, Energy and Climate Change

Career: Morten P. Smørdal has extensive experience from the energy and oil services sectors and specialises in Corporate M&A and Contract Law. Smørdal has previously served as Legal Director of Aker Kværner and Kværner Oil & Gas, as well as in-house lawyer at Telenor. He has been research assistant at the University of Oslo and deputy judge of the Kristiansand District Court.

SNERTINGDALEN, Stine

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Practice Areas: Banking and Finance, Bankruptcy, Reconstruction

Career: 2011-Partner, Kvale 2005-2011 Senior Associate, Kvale 2001-2003 Associate, Kvale

Personal: Stine D. Snertingdalen is specialized within in and out of court restructurings, including reconstruction proceedings, and she assist board of directors and businesses in navigating various issues arising in financial distress situations. Snertingdalen also advises financial institutions with securing their positions in problem cases and turnarounds, collecting secured and unsecured debt and to minimize their losses. She furthermore advises financial institutions in banking and finance issues, i.e. negotiating and drafting credit facility agreements, intercreditor agreements and various guarantees and security documentation. Snertingdalen is on a regular basis appointed as trustee in bankruptcy estates/insolvent liquidations, of which some are large international business. In this way, Snertingdalen is well equipped to understand the interests of all parties involved upon negotiating solutions in a case where there are not enough funds to fully satisfy all stakeholders. She is also part of Kvale's cross-professional team on distressed M&A, recognizing that a sale of business may be beneficial both as part of an in court and an out of court restructuring. Snertingdalen was one

out of four lawyers in the reference group assisting the researcher in drafting a proposal for a new Reconstruction Act. She is also appointed by the Justice Department as member of the Norwegian Advisory Council of Bankruptcy, and she is a member of the restructuring and bankruptcy committee of The Norwegian Bar Association. Stine is a member of the International Insolvency Institute (IIL), and co-chair of iii EMEA committee. Snertingdalen is invited as speaker on a regular basis for the Norwegian Bar Association, finance institutions, brokerages and auditors, to mention a few.

SOMMERNES, Harald

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Practice Areas: Main practice area is restructuring and insolvency. Harald Sommerne is a senior associate at Ro Sommerne and has been part of the firm's insolvency and restructuring team for the last thirteen years. Sommerne is regularly court-appointed as trustee in bankruptcy proceedings and has broad experience in representing creditors and debtors in debt negotiations and restructuring cases.

Publications: Harald Sommerne has co-written (together with colleague Nils Holger Koefoed) the law commentary on the Norwegian Bankruptcy Act, the Creditors Security Act, and the temporary Act on Reconstruction, for Karnov Group.

SØREIDE, Christel

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Partner Christel Søreide has extensive experience within employment law and dispute resolution, and assists Norwegian and international clients with processes such as reorganisation and downsizing, business transfers, hiring and termination of employment, as well as litigation and negotiations. She is an experienced lecturer on employment law issues, and she has published articles in a Norwegian periodical on employment law regarding temporary employment and employment leasing.

Career: Partner, Wiersholm, 2018, Managing Associate, Wiersholm, 2014 Senior Associate, Wiersholm, 2012 Deputy judge, Asker and Bærum district court, 2010-2012 Associate, Wiersholm, 2008

SØRLIE, Gunnar

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Norway), Intellectual Property (Norway)

Practice Areas: IP

Career: Gunnar Sørli is a respected lawyer who has broad experience with dispute resolution and commercial law advice in general. While Gunnar's expertise spans most areas of commer-

cial law, his litigation and arbitration practice has largely been focused on complex legal and technical issues in fields such as patent law, onshore and offshore construction law, consultants' professional liability, product liability and general contract law. He also has experience as an arbitrator. Gunnar was admitted to the Supreme Court in 1988 and has pleaded 15 cases before Norway's precedent court. He is managing director of the Norwegian mandatory scheme for insurance of product liability for pharmaceuticals. Previously, Gunnar has served as non-executive chairman of the Norwegian Building and Construction Law Association and has taught marketing law at the University of Oslo.

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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Norway)

Practice Areas: Competition and EU Law, Technology and Intellectual Property, Aquaculture and Fisheries

Career: Helge Stemshaug has extensive competition law experience and has as a former Director of Legal Affairs at the Norwegian Competition Authority assisted in the clearance of many of Norway's largest and most complex mergers. Helge has extensive experience with state aid law and regulatory issues. Helge sits on the Norwegian Bar Association's practice committee for European Law and Competition Law and the Center for Continuing Legal Education's practice committee for Competition Law and State Aid Law. His strong academic background and close relations with various educational institutions make Helge a popular guest lecturer at the University of Oslo, the Norwegian School of Economics and BI Norwegian Business School.

STENBRENDEN, Anders

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment Law, Data Protection Law, Pension Law. Main working area is employment law, data protection law and pension law. Extensive experience in counseling and litigation in all aspects of the individual and collective labour law. Advises employers and employers' organizations on a wide range of labour law issues, including employment contracts, incentive schemes, downsizing, transfer of undertakings, hiring-in, posting and collective agreements. Advises clients on data protection law, such as how to establish and maintain an internal control system, employer's right to examine an employee's email box, control measures etc. and on various questions regarding pension law. Broad employment law litigation experience.

Career: 2016 - Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS (prev. Kluge Advokatfirma AS) 2014 - 2016 Associate partner, Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2010 - 2014 At-

torney, NHO, Employment Law Division 2012 - 2013 Acting District Court Judge, Oslo District Court (4 months) 2008 - 2010 Attorney, Group Legal Department at Nordea 2004 - 2008 Deputy Judge, Sør-Østerdal District Court and Oslo District Court 2003 - 2004 Associate, Kvale & Co

Publications: 2021 Karnov, kommentar til statsansatteloven (publication date in 2021) Stenbrenden is preparing comments for the Civil Service Act i collaboration with three other authors. 2014 Aldersgrenser og aldersdiskriminering [Age limits and age discrimination] Arbeidsrett VOL XI no. 1, 2014, p. 139, Universitetsforlaget. 2004 Arbeidsbok i Menneskerettigheter [Handbook in human rights] Njål Høstmælingen, Robert Lund, Anders Stenbrenden, Ken Uggerud, Cappelen Akademiske Forlag.

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Practice Areas: Company law, restructuring and insolvency. In addition considerable experience with litigation assignments before Norwegian courts and arbitration, and is admitted to the Norwegian Supreme Court. Also experience in monetary claim law and guarantee law, whereby he assists financial institutions and companies on an ongoing basis through advisory services and litigation.

Career: 2018 - Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS (prev. Kluge Advokatfirma AS) 2016 - 2017 Associate Partner, Kluge Advokatfirma 2014 - 2015 Senior Lawyer, Kluge advokatfirma 2009 - 2014 Senior Associate, Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS 2008 - 2009 Corporate Legal Counsel, Det Norske Veritas (DNV GL) 2005 - 2008 Associate, Advokatfirmaet Thommessen AS 2002 - 2004 Part-time position at Sandefjord district court

Professional Memberships: Member of the Norwegian Bar Association

SUNDET, Beret

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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Norway)

Practice Areas: Competition and EU Law, Public Sector, Technology and Intellectual Property

Career: Beret Sundet advises primarily on competition law issues. She has extensive experience from all areas of competition law, including the conduct rules, merger control, state aid and public procurement. Sundet has previous experience from the Ministry of Labour and Public Administration (Competition Policy Section) and as a national expert with the European Commission, DG Competition, Merger Task Force. Beret has many years of experience with the handling of competition law proceedings, both before the courts, whether national courts of law or the

EFTA Court, and before the competition authorities (the Norwegian Competition Authority, the ESA and the Commission). In addition to her competition law focus, Beret Sundet has extensive experience from assisting life science clients with various regulatory issues, including documentation protection, marketing authorisation, price and reimbursement, as well as substitution-related issues.

SVENDSEN, Amund Brede

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Norway)

Practice Areas: Partner Amund Brede Svendsen's practice area is IP. He litigates patents (especially pharmaceutical, biosimilar and oil and gas services industry patents) and other IP rights. He advises on patents, trademarks, employee inventors' rights, trade secrets, unfair competition and marketing law, and represents clients in disputes in these areas, and also in IP-related commercial litigation. He is a qualified arbitrator and has arbitrated international commercial disputes. He is admitted to the Supreme Court of Norway.

Career: Partner, GjessingReimers 2019–; Partner Grette (1986–2019), Associate Smith, Grette, Eide, Midelfart and Vik (1981–1986) Research assistant, University of Bergen (1980–1981). Admitted to the Supreme Court (2009). Appointments: Panelist in the Board of appeal for Industrial Property Rights 2016–.

Professional Memberships: The Norwegian Bar Association; The Norwegian Association for the Protection of Industrial Property (Chair, 2004–2020); AIPPI (President of the Norwegian Group, 2004–2020); European Patent Lawyers Association (EPLAW)

Publications: The Norway Chapter in Patent Claim Interpretation—Global Edition, Edward Manzo Editor-in-Chief, Thomson West 2009–17. Chambers Global Guides—Trade Secrets 2020: Law and Practice in Norway (with Julius Berg Kaasin)

SVENDSEN, Per-Kaare

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Featured in TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: Head of Technology and Digital Innovation. Technology Sourcing. Regulatory communications. Datasourcing. Data Services. Digital Services. Artificial Intelligence.

Career: 2013–current: Partner, Kvale 2008–2013: Partner, Legalteam 2002–2007: Lawyer, Wiersholm 2000–2002: Partner, TLP 1997–2000: Advisor/Lawyer, Telenor ASA 1997: Law degree (Oslo)

Professional Memberships: The Norwegian Bar Association I TechLaw

Personal: Per-Kaare Svendsen is an internationally recognized TMT-expert and skilled negotiator. He specializes in TMT-law, digitalisation, privacy, digital media distribution, regulatory

communications, competition law and contract negotiations. He is particularly acknowledged for complex strategic, regulatory and contractual issues for firms with a strong focus on digitalisation and electronic communications. He has worked on numerous domestic and cross-border projects, including access agreements, digitalisation, sourcing and outsourcing projects, and transactions involving technology businesses. Combining legal and economic training with experience as in-house counsel and strategic advisor to various technology-firms, gives him a thorough understanding of commercial/technological issues.

SVENSEN, Thomas K

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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway)

Practice Areas: Corporate M&A, Energy and Climate Change

Career: Thomas K. Svensen is the Managing Partner of BAHR. He is one of the most prominent energy lawyers in Norway and acts for numerous both domestic and international energy-related clients. Thomas has previously served in the Office of the Attorney General and as a management consultant with McKInsey & Co. His practice encompasses both energy-related transactions and dispute resolution, in addition to being involved in major development projects and issues related to governmental relationships. He has been involved in a number of the largest energy-related transactions in Norway in recent years. He also has extensive dispute resolution experience and has acted in numerous national and international energy-related disputes.

SVERRE, Jan-Erik

Kvale Advokatfirma DA, Oslo

Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment, investigations, dispute resolution

Personal: Jan-Erik Sverre primarily advises on employment law, litigious matters and real estate transactions. As a specialist in employment law, he is frequently invited to lecture on current topics in the field. Jan-Erik has extensive practical experience of matters such as reorganisations and downsizings, transfers of undertaking, permanent appointment, temporary appointment/hiring of workers, personnel conflicts, dismissal with and without notice, whistleblowing cases, temporary lay-offs, working hours, corporate democracy, data protection and pension issues, as well as collective labour law. Jan-Erik has in-depth knowledge of the Civil Service Act and the Working Environment Act, and frequently advises public and private undertakings on the various sanctions and penalties available under employment law. Jan-Erik is regularly engaged to assist with whistleblowing cases, and acts as the whistleblowing secretariat for various businesses. He has previously advised

on a number of high-profile whistleblowing cases.

SVOREN, Rune

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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway)

Practice Areas: Energy and Climate Change, Aquaculture and Fisheries, Corporate M&A, Public Sector

Career: Rune is a broadly experienced generalist. He has practised in numerous fields of law, covering several sectors. Rune has non-industry specific expertise in the handling of negotiations involving multiple parties/interests, often characterised by complex interrelations between various entities, and/or the stakeholders (or some of them) also having non-commercial interests (typically public sector bodies), etc. The foundations for Rune's transactional experience were his involvement in a number of high-profile estates administered by BAHR in the 1980s and 90s. Rune's practise has over time evolved an energy sector focus.

SYRDAL, Monica

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Norway), Competition/Antitrust (Norway), TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: Monica Syrdal works with a combination of EEA/competition law and intellectual property rights, including copyright, trademark, marketing law and GDPR. Monica has in-depth knowledge of communication, technology, media and retail sectors and practical experience with many of the legal matters that are relevant to these sectors including intellectual property rights and competition law. Within competition law, she specializes in issues relating to the prohibitions on anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominant positions. She has particular experience in handling alleged infringement cases before the Norwegian Competition Authority, the Competition Appeals Board ("Konkurranseklagenemnda") and the EFTA Surveillance Authority. She has also practical competition litigation experience before the ordinary court in respect of private competition law enforcement. Within the media sector, Monica has extensive experience with respect to copyright issues pertaining to audio-visual content, including films, sports and other content licensing and questions in the nexus of competition law and intellectual property rights. Monica has hereunder experience with copyright and other IPR litigation before the courts and various alternative dispute resolution bodies, including but not limited to the Appeals Board for Industrial Rights and the Remuneration Board ("Vederlagsnemnda"). She also advises on regulatory issues involving broadcasting and audiovisual on-demand services. She has for a number of years worked extensively with adoption

of new legislation within the copyright and broadcasting field both on a national and EU/EEA-level. Another part of her practice involves consumer marketing legislation, unfair marketing in relation to other businesses and privacy/GDPR. In addition to English, Monica also speaks German.

Career: Professional experience 2010 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 2008–2009 Managing Associate, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 2000–2008 Attorney, In-house counsel in Telenor, Telenor ASA 1999–2000 Attorney, Advokatfirmaet Thommessen 1998–1999 EFTA Surveillance Authority, Department of Competition and State aid 1997–1998 Deputy Judge, Nedre Romerike District Court 1996–1997 Associate, Advokatfirmaet Thommessen

THAULOW, Jon Christian

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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Norway)

Practice Areas: Energy and Climate Change, Compliance, Risk Management & Privacy

Career: Jon Christian Thaulow is the head of BAHR's practice group for Environment & Energy. He advises energy sector clients, providing expertise in relation to electricity markets, renewable energy, infrastructure, as well as oil and gas. He has extensive experience with company law and corporate governance, M&A, regulatory issues relating to the energy sector, contentious matters and anti-corruption issues. He advises several leading energy groups and investors in Norway and internationally. Recent experiences include advising Aker and Aker BP on the acquisition of Lundin Energy Norway AS, and advising Freyr Battery in connection with transactions, corporate governance and project development related matters for its battery business. He has deep experience with a wide range of energy transition projects, such as hydrogen, district heating, carbon capture, wind power, solar power and e-fuels.

THORKILDSEN, Tarjei

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Featured in Employment (Norway)

Practice Areas: Employment and Pension

Career: Tarjei Thorkildsen is head of BAHR's Employment practice group and has many years of experience with national and international labour law issues, including, in particular, the provision of ongoing advice to large (Norwegian and international) enterprises on all types of labour law issues. He is also editor of the labour law journal Arbeidsrett and co-author of the annotated edition of the Working Environment Act. Thorkildsen also has extensive litigation and arbitration experience, encompassing a broad range of cases.

TØNSETH, Magnus

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Norway)

Practice Areas: Finance and Capital Markets, Restructuring

Career: As a restructuring and financing specialist, Magnus advises creditors and debtors on restructuring and debt financing, including bank and bond financing. On the restructuring side, Magnus has lead the firm's work on several high-profile, complex cross-border processes over recent years, involving in and out of court processes, Norwegian and international. The restructurings regularly involve intricate structures and complex stakeholder constellations and cover a range of industry sectors, including renewable energy, shipping, offshore, telecom and technology companies. On the debt side, Magnus has broad experience with cross-border bank and bond financing structures within a range of different industry sectors, including telecom, renewable energy, NPL, shipping and offshore. Magnus has previously worked as an in-house legal advisor in DNB Bank ASA's department of shipping and offshore on a secondment lasting two years where he amongst other things worked on financing and restructuring within shipping, offshore and aviation.

VAALE-HALLBERG, Marie

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Norway)

Practice Areas: Intellectual property rights and trade secrets, Trademarks, Food law and other regulatory assistance

Career: 2016 – Partner, Kvale 2011 – 2016 Senior Lawyer, Haavind 2007 – 2011, Group Legal Counsel, TINE SA 2003 – 2007 Lawyer, Wiersholm

Personal: Marie Vaale-Hallberg is specialized in intellectual property law, in addition to having solid experience with contracts and contract negotiations. She has broad IP judicial practice, involving research and development agreements, protection and enforcement of trademarks, patents and designs, IP strategies and marketing

law. Marie has extensive knowledge of the food industry, especially regarding regulatory issues related to foodstuffs. Marie is frequently used as lecturer in Norway and abroad. She is a member at Food Lawyers Network.

VALLA, Kristin Hjelmaas

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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Norway)

Practice Areas: Competition law, EU/EEA law, Public procurement, Retail and merchandising

Career: 2012 Partner, Kvale 2009 – 2012 Senior Associate, Thommessen AS 2001 – 2009 Associate, Lawyer and Senior Lawyer, BA-HR 2001 Leader of the Secretariat of the Expert Committee for a new Competition Act 1999 – 2001 Advisor, The Ministry of Labour and Government Administration (the Department of Competition Policy) 1996 – 1999 Senior Executive Officer/Advisor, The Norwegian Competition Authority

Personal: Kristin Hjelmaas Valle works primarily within competition law. She has extensive experience and competence within all aspects of competition law assignments, including mergers and acquisitions, cartel assignments and leniency processes, dominance questions, compliance questions, assessments of different kinds of cooperation agreements, and joint ventures as well as forms of distribution. In addition Kristin assists within the fields of i.a. public procurements, state subsidies and other EU/EEA related problems, regulatorian question within life science, telecom and energy, marketing law and administrative law. She has also experience with corruption issues and investigations. Kristin has advised clients within a range of fields and branches i.a. telecom, the pharmaceutical industry, the food industry, trade, media, oil-, gas and offshore industry, energy and shipping.

VEIERØD, Kristin

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Featured in TMT (Norway)

Practice Areas: Kristin Veierød is chairman for the board of directors at

Advokatfirmaet Hjort, as well as being a partner. Kristin assists clients in a broad range of corporate law matters, such as contracts, clarifying legal framework conditions, board and management liability issues, and dispute resolution. Kristin not only has extensive litigation experience, she is also an arbitration judge and has worked on various investigative inquiry assignments. Most notably, she led Hjort's investigation in the so-called Panama papers case for the board of DNB ASA. Kristin specializes within the practice areas of technology, media and communication, and has in-depth knowledge of the electronic communication sector, where she offer ongoing legal advice, assists in complaints and has conducted a number of landmark litigation cases. Kristin assists government agencies and other public enterprises, as well as private businesses subject to regulations under public law. Kristin holds lectures and seminars covering a broad range of topics, including digitalization and new corporate models, the use of cloud services and regulatory framework conditions, as well as administrative law issues, specifically on legal impartiality, confidentiality, and complaints.

Career: Professional experience 2000 Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 2011–2017 Managing Partner, Advokatfirmaet Hjort 1998–2000 Corporate attorney, Telenor ASA 1992–1997 Associate / Senior Associate, Advokatfirmaet Hjort

WINDRUP, Ida Marie

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Norway)

Practice Areas: Finance and Capital Markets

Career: Ida Marie heads BAHR's Debt Capital Markets group which includes Banking and Finance, and is a member of BAHR's Finance team. Ida has a broad international practice covering general bank finance and other debt finance transactions, acquisition finance and asset finance across a variety of sectors and industries, including infrastructure, ocean-related industries, technology and real estate. She has extensive experience acting for banks and borrowers in high-profile financ-

ings, in particular within the maritime sector as well as sustainability-linked and green finance, and is now focusing on BAHR's bank and investment bank clients. Prior to returning to BAHR in 2021, she worked in London at law firm Watson Farley & Williams for over 8 years, where she qualified as a Solicitor in 2013.

WITH, Alexander

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Featured in Tax (Norway)

Practice Areas: Tax, Corporate/M&A, Real Estate Alexander With is a partner in CMS Kluge's tax team. He specialises in indirect tax and real estate.

Career: 2022 – Partner, CMS Kluge Advokatfirma AS 2021–2022 Partner, Head of Indirect Tax, Deloitte Nordic 2020 – 2021 Partner, Head of Indirect Tax, Deloitte Norway 2007 – 2010 Partner, Head of Tax Department, Advokatfirmaet Selmer 2004 – 2007 Lawyer, Advokatfirmaet Selmer 1999 – 2003 Associate, Ernst & Young AS

Professional Memberships: 2015 – Network leader, JUC Network for Indirect tax 2017 – Member of standardization committee SN/K 367 Development agreements, Standards Norway

Publications: «Lønnstaker eller næringsdrivende», Cappelen akademisk (2000) «Merverdiavgift i EU-en innføring», 1. edition, Revisorforeningens Forlag (2002), co-author «Justeringsreglene for fast eiendom», Estate Media Forlag (2008), co-author «Merverdiavgiftshåndtering for entreprenører», Entreprenørforeningen – Bygg og Anlegg (2016), co-author

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Norway)

Career: Please see <https://norway.dlapiper.com/en/people/camilla-wollan> for further information.