

JUVE :\*

LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR  
2005/2006  
PATENT LAW

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"The kick-off into independence of the former Clifford Chance Düsseldorf patent law department around Dr. Thomas Reimann and Dr. Christian Osterrieth last year was marked by breathtaking success. Apparently having freed itself of many conflicts of interest, the team of seven lawyers showed a much stronger presence in the court rooms than one and a half years ago, as competitors confirm. This culminated in the much-heeded victory Osterrieth gained for Wilkinson Sword in the "blade dispute" against Gillette: the first judgment ever pronounced by the Düsseldorf patent infringement courts directly after the oral hearing.

Reimann is one of the most well-known patent litigators in Europe, and Osterrieth has made an excellent name for himself in licensing. Still at an early stage of their careers, Dr. Martin Köhler and Klaus Haft already leave their mark as representatives of the younger generation within the team.

This rapid success was not without effect, and already in its first year the law firm expanded by two new lawyers with IP background: Thomas Schmitz (coming from Prof. Jacobs' law firm) joined the trademark practice of the firm to put it on a level with the still stronger patent law practice.

With its 'boutique' approach and its initial success, the law firm seems to have a certain attractiveness for senior associates. Also, many clients who had placed their trust in the law firm in 2004, now see their choice confirmed and remain faithful."

\*JUVE  
Handbuch  
2005/2006,  
p. 326  
(German  
lawyer's  
directory)"