

## Partners Notes

### IP Attorney Joins King & Spalding

Continuing its aggressive expansion in the intellectual property arena, King & Spalding has announced that Richard Pettus, a patent litigator with significant experience in the pharmaceutical, medical device and consumer products sectors, has joined the firm's New York office as a partner in its intellectual property practice group.

Mr. Pettus is the seventh new partner to join King & Spalding's IP group in the past four months and the third new partner to join the firm's New York office at that time period.

In addition to Mr. Pettus, IP litigators Tony Askew, Steve Schaezel, Jim Johnson and John Harbin have joined the practice in the firm's Atlanta office, and patent lawyers Ken Sonnenfeld and Peg Brivanlou joined the firm's New York office. Mr. Sonnenfeld's arrival marked the establishment of a patent prosecution capability in the firm's New York office, which now has a full complement of IP capabilities and more than 30 lawyers and patent agents. In all, the firm's IP group now numbers more than 100 lawyers and patent agents.

Mr. Pettus joins King & Spalding from McDermott Will & Emery, where he was a partner. His practice focuses on the litigation and licensing of patents, with particular expertise in pharmaceutical matters.

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King & Spalding has announced that it has added three lawyers to its new Dubai office as part of its expansion in the Middle East, bringing the total number of King & Spalding lawyers in Dubai to seven.

The increase in staffing in the firm's

new office in Dubai is in response to growing client demand in the areas of Islamic finance, energy, real estate, private equity and international arbitration in the Middle East, Asia and North Africa. The King & Spalding office in Dubai opened last month after receipt of a license from the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) in November.

The firm also announced it intends to establish an affiliation with a Saudi Arabian lawyer based in Riyadh, which will enhance the firm's ability to handle transactions in Saudi Arabia. Details of the Saudi Arabia affiliation are being finalized.

King & Spalding has hired three senior attorneys from Baker Botts' Dubai office as part of its next step in expanding in the Middle East: Nabil Issa, an Arabic speaker focusing on Islamic finance and investment who has worked in both Riyadh and Dubai; Patrick Campos, whose practice focuses on international project development and finance and who has worked in both Riyadh and Dubai, and Wael Wahbeh, a native Arabic speaker specializing in corporate and private equity work who has worked in Riyadh, Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

These three new attorneys join partner Philip Weems, the leader of King & Spalding's international energy practice, who has relocated from Houston to serve as managing partner of the Dubai office. Jawad Ali, a partner in the firm's Islamic finance and investment practice, will relocate to Dubai from London, and Benjamin Newland, a partner in the firm's private equity practice, will relocate from Atlanta to Dubai.

### IBM Gives RPost Top Rating

RPost has announced that that IBM has selected RPost's REGISTERED E-MAIL solution among the top three Best Messaging and Collaboration Solutions available world-wide for 2007.

IBM conducts an annual world-wide search for the IBM/Lotus compatible solutions that set the standard for business excellence, ingenuity, and customer satisfaction. IBM received 370 company submissions for this award category.

The category, Best Messaging and Collaboration Solutions, recognizes a solution that provides a company with improved productivity through increased real-time collaboration and

human interaction. The winning solutions must bring people – employees, customers, and/or suppliers – together through messaging, calendaring and scheduling, and collaborative applications, while helping to lower the total cost of ownership of the company's messaging and collaboration infrastructure.

Solutions include competitive migrations, new installations to address unserved or under-served users, delivery of messaging services to mobile users, as well as other innovative applications of Lotus messaging and collaboration solutions.

## Corporate Counsel Organization Highlights

### ABA Corporate Counsel Committee Schedules Annual Seminar

The American Bar Association Litigation Section's Committee on Corporate Counsel this month will present its annual CLE Seminar.

The conference will take place Thursday-Sunday, February 15-18 at the Amelia Island Plantation, Amelia Island, FL. Sessions will run from 5 to 6:15 p.m. on the first day, 8 to 10:30 a.m. on the second, 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on the third, and 8:15 to 11 a.m. on the fourth.

The program will include a variety of plenary and breakout sessions covering issues of interest to corporate counsel. Among them are: Advanced Ethics for the New Age; Deepening Insolvency – Contours of a New Tort; Employment Landmines: Avoiding Steps That Explode Into Discrimination, Retalia-

tion and Other Employment Claims; Employee Raiding: What to Do When the Pied Piper Strikes, and Making Friends With the Media: Marketing Your Message Effectively and Ethically.

Among the speakers are Eric Dreiband, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP; Stacey Mobley, senior vice president, chief administrative officer and general counsel, DuPont; Susan Guerette, Saul Ewing LLP, and Arvin Maskin, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP.

For detail on registration fees, see the Bulletin Board on *The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel* website at [www.metrocorpccounsel.com](http://www.metrocorpccounsel.com).

For registration information, visit [www.abanet.org/litigation/committee/corporate](http://www.abanet.org/litigation/committee/corporate).

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Budget constraints make it essential to hire an outside counsel or legal service provider who does not charge you for reinventing the wheel. How can you identify the leading experts in the legal profession who can provide you with the advice that you need without reinventing the wheel?

Readers of *The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel* are long familiar with the wealth of information that our publication makes available at their fingertips. Its many resources help corporate counsel to keep abreast of general legal trends, stay current in their fields and identify the outside counsel and legal service providers for the specific help they need.

*The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel's* resources are available through subscription to our print publication (complimentary to in-house counsel) as well as online at [www.metrocorpccounsel.com](http://www.metrocorpccounsel.com) (complimentary to all visitors).

Visitors to our website can access a wealth of information in a variety of ways. Our home page features our current issue and archives prior issues from January 2004. You can scroll through the online index to learn about hot topics and click on the title of the articles that you'd like to read.

Here's a hypothetical demonstration of how you can use our site to delve more deeply into a topic and to find the help you need.

### What Do I Do Now?

ActionInvent is a company that offers online visitors a service which allows them to interact with each other and stream video or audio files. Its founder and current CEO wanted to provide a vehicle for up-and-coming musicians and movie producers to reach a broader audience. ActionInvent's service has been growing in popularity among college and high school students. While many of the website's users use the website to upload original content, there are others who have been using the site to share their favorite television shows and songs with their friends.

A few weeks ago, ActionInvent's in-house counsel, Sara Abel, received a letter from a large national television broadcaster informing her of several copyrighted shows that were currently on ActionInvent's system.

Sara remembered reading an article about the obligations of an online service provider under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act when it receives an allegation

of copyright infringement from a copyright owner in a recent issue of *The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel*. She went to [www.metrocorpccounsel.com](http://www.metrocorpccounsel.com) and entered the words "copyright internet" in the search box. She found a number of other relevant articles.

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu at the top: Issue, Career Corner, Resources, Advertise With Us, About Us. Below the menu, there are links for [Print], [View PDF], and [Back]. The main heading is "New Online Challenges For Copyright Owners" by Ann Sur Read & Wright, LLP. A "Links" section is visible, containing links for "Firm: Read & Wright, LLP" (with sub-links for [Other Articles] and [Website]), and "Author(s): Ann Sur" (with sub-links for [Email], [Bio], and [Other Articles]). A red arrow points to the [Bio] link. At the bottom of the screenshot, it says "Ann Sur is a Partner in the Intellectual Property Department of Read & Wright, LLP."

She then checked out the authors who wrote the law firm articles. She found by clicking on the links to their "Bios" in the "Links" tool bar at the top of their articles at [www.metrocorpccounsel.com](http://www.metrocorpccounsel.com) that their backgrounds indicated that they had the expertise that she needed. She could also have clicked on "Other Articles" under the authors' names, which confirmed their expertise. By clicking "Other Articles" and "Website" under their firms' names, she found that the lawyers' firms met her law department's diversity and other standards.

Her next step was to send RFPs to each attorney's law firm. The rest is history!

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