

GAR 30 revealed

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Global Arbitration Review has published its annual ranking of the world's busiest international arbitration practices, with a new firm taking the number one spot for the first time.

The ranking of the top 30 firms appears in the 2015 edition of the GAR 100, which is now in its eighth year. The book was unveiled last night at the fifth annual GAR Awards ceremony, held at the luxury W Hotel in Washington, DC.

For the first time in the publication's history, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer has been displaced from the top of the table, moving to second place. White & Case now occupies first position, having held fast to the number two spot since 2012.

Shearman & Sterling, counsel to the winning side in the high-profile *Yukos* case against Russia, remains in third place, followed by Hogan Lovells and King & Spalding.

White & Case is one of 11 firms to have risen in this year's list. Among these, Lalive is the highest riser, having jumped 13 places to 12th position. Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan meanwhile rose nine places to number seven after making its debut in the *GAR 30* last year.

An equal number of firms have come down in the table, including CMS, which fell eight places to 29th, and Curtis Mallet-Prevost Colt & Mosle, down to 21st from 15th last year.

Of the three firms that didn't appear in last year's ranking, Linklaters is the only completely new entrant. Latham & Watkins and Squire Patton Boggs make their return to the *GAR 30* this year, having last appeared in 2011 and 2013 respectively.

Five firms – Shearman & Sterling, Hogan Lovells, DLA Piper, Jones Day and King & Wood Mallesons – hold on to the same positions as last year.

The full list of firms in this year's *GAR 30*, as well as a link to the full table of publishable data used in deciding the rankings, is below:

1. White & Case
2. Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
3. Shearman & Sterling
4. Hogan Lovells
5. King & Spalding
6. Debevoise & Plimpton
7. Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan
8. Herbert Smith Freehills
9. Allen & Overy
10. Norton Rose Fulbright
11. Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr
12. Lalive
13. Baker & McKenzie
14. Clifford Chance
15. Eversheds
16. Dechert
17. DLA Piper
18. Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
19. Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
20. Clyde & Co
21. Curtis Mallet-Prevost Colt & Mosle
22. Jones Day
23. Dentons
24. Derains & Gharavi
25. Linklaters
26. Latham & Watkins
27. Weil Gotshal & Manges
28. King & Wood Mallesons
29. CMS
30. Squire Patton Boggs

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The *GAR 30* ranking is based primarily on the number of arbitral hearings that a firm is involved in as counsel over a two-year period. The research assesses merits and jurisdictional hearings and the amount of money at stake in each case, as well as the number of hours billed to arbitration by the firm's lawyers.

In addition, the ranking takes into account the number of pending cases in which the firm's lawyers are sitting as arbitrator; and the number of individuals who feature in *GAR*'s sister publication, *Who's Who Legal: Arbitration* – a guide to the leading practitioners in the field as recognised by their peers.

“The same criteria apply to all firms and we try to ensure there are enough categories of data in the mix to suit all firms,” says *GAR* managing editor David Samuels: “The difficulty is that we’re attempting to compare apples and oranges – high-volume practices that turn over small and medium-sized cases, with those that only go after very high value, complex, often multi-dimensional disputes – in a way that gives everyone an equal chance to shine.”