



MPF Awards
For Management
Excellence
2018

HONOURING EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FIRMS

Law firm **Bird & Bird** was the big winner at this year's Managing Partners' Forum Awards, winning in three categories – *Best corporate culture*, *Best programme for leadership development*; and *Best collaboration with external specialists*. In addition, CEO **David Kerr** received the *Exceptional Achievement* award for an individual, sponsored by the *Financial Times*, for his 22 years in the role, during which a relatively small primarily London firm, best known as a specialist IP and TMT outfit, has become a formidable international player - whilst preserving its distinctive and widely admired culture.

Commented Forum Chair, Neville Eisenberg of BLP: "Now in their 16th year, our Management Excellence Awards, in partnership with *Harvard Business Review* and the *Financial Times*, uniquely provide leadership teams with independent evidence of their contribution to leadership & strategy; operational excellence; the client journey; and responsible business. Demonstrating this contribution puts our members at the heart of strategic conversations, and increases their personal influence and people's trust in their plans, while strengthening the reputation of their firms to clients."

Exceptional Achievement awards were also received by Foster + Partners and Deloitte:

- **Foster + Partners** won the Forum's own award for establishing itself as a truly global practice whilst maintaining its position as 'the most admired architectural practice' for the past 12 years.
- **Deloitte** won the award for a management team, sponsored by *Harvard Business Review*, for making great strides over the past six years in building a more diverse, strategic and collegiate culture, embracing external competition and demonstrating an increasing willingness to experiment.

Grant Thornton and **Smith & Williamson** won in two categories: *Most innovative client service* and *Most inclusive firm* (Grant Thornton) and *Best managed national firm* and *Best co-ordination in winning new work* (Smith & Williamson). These were the other winners (with categories) on a busy night: **A&L Goodbody** (*Best community engagement*); **ARC Pensions Law** (*Best strategic leadership*); **Brodies** (*Best use of systems or technology*); **Dentons** (*Best managed international firm*); **DLA Piper** (*Best provision of knowledge to clients*); **Korn Ferry** (*Best thought leadership*); **Prism the Gift Fund** (*Best philanthropy engagement*); **Thommessen** (*Best strategy implementation*); and **Xinfu** (*Best leadership of a mould-breaking firm*).

For more information on the Managing Partners' Forum Awards, please contact Forum Founder & Chief Executive, Richard Chaplin on +44 (0)20 7786 9786 or richard@pmint.co.uk

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

The Managing Partners' Forum (www.mpfglobal.com) brings together professional firm leaders to share ideas on strategic leadership and management excellence. Its goal is to support the growth, productivity and prosperity of the UK's largest business sector. This involves connecting and creating value in its own community, and also acting as the independent voice of professional services to Government, and providing direct access to policymakers.