

REGULATORY COMMUNICATIONS LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

Winner: **THOUVENIN**rechtsanwälte

Thouvenin rechtsanwälte is a partner driven Swiss law firm. It has built up its expertise in the telecommunication sector already prior to the liberalisation of the market in Switzerland, which occurred in 1998 and secured the first license for a city network in 1997. Its telecommunication practice is headed by David Känzig and Hansjörg Stutzer.

The firm maintains close contacts with the Swiss regulator and the telecommunication industry on all levels and has assisted its clients and industry associations in the promotion and consideration of their interests in the legislative process, which lead to the revision of the Swiss Telecommunication Act in April 2007.

The firm's unique expertise extends from fixed line, mobile, VOIP to satellite providers. It assists its clients on all regulatory issues in Switzerland, including licensing and notification, data protection and lawful interception in the new technological environment, as well as on acquisitions, outsourcing managed services agreements and other technology related contracts. It regularly advises clients on new web-based services offered to customers in Switzerland

as to their conformity with Swiss law. Recently, it completed a large restructuring with the separation of the infrastructure and customer business into two distinct legal entities for one of their clients.

Thouvenin rechtsanwälte is regularly engaged in regulatory proceedings for and on behalf of their clients for the determination of cost-oriented prices for interconnection charges and other access services such as co-location, leased lines and the unbundling of the local loop. Unlike other countries, the Swiss regulator determines cost-oriented prices only at the request of the party seeking access.

The firm's profound industry expertise and international practice make it a first choice also for arbitration and litigation in telecommunication and technology related matters, as well as acquisitions. Hansjörg Stutzer can rely on his extensive expertise in arbitration and litigation and David Känzig can look back at over two decades of experience in the mergers and acquisition business and successful transactions in the telecommunication and technology industry. **ACQ**