

Boutique Commercial Law Firm of the Year

Achsnick Pape Opp Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

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For over two decades, Achsnick Pape Opp Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH (APO) has served as a leading German boutique law firm from their office in Cologne. Founded by Norbert Landwehr (a prominent lawyer, crisis mentor and expert in crisis management), the firm currently comprises seven lawyers and three back-office employees, specialising in business law expertise based upon over 25 years' consultancy experience, with particular focus on insolvency law and corporate law. Each of the firm's lawyers are lecturers in restructuring subjects for tax advisors and professional audiences, and are regularly published in specialist journals, demonstrating their exceptional value as experts within their field.



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APO's main activities are; restructuring advice, security pool administration, trusteeships and litigation, especially in regards to insolvency contesting or director's liability. The company act on a nationwide basis and – in particular cases – even instances of cross-border cooperation. As one of the top three Security Pool Administrators (Suppliers Pools) in Germany, APO is mandated to enforce suppliers' security rights in insolvency proceedings and avoid damages for credit insurers. For that reason, they are also a member of ACQUES Law Network, a multi-jurisdictional global network of highly experienced law firms created to service the legal advisory needs of trade credit and surety insurers.

The company's strongest adjudicating factor is its extensive level of expertise; APO'S advisors are equipped with economical know-how and high legal expertise that allows them to offer advice and assistance with exceptional reaction times. Their advisors are present on site, providing fast, creative and pragmatic solutions which give clear and understandable recommendations to their clients. Each client can expect high commitment, efficient work, and trustworthiness in every interaction; the restructuring sector in Germany is still highly based on networking, meaning that the importance of a robust support network and experience pool is paramount to the success of each client.

APO have carefully nurtured their network to ensure that each case further develops the abilities of the wider company, something which greatly impressed the Corporate LiveWire judging panel. The panel recognised that the company's ability to seamlessly integrate both precedent and innovation into their offer (via the development and incorporation of legal tech, including the implementation of digitalisation in the legal sector) was key to their ability to stay abreast of the latest developments in both domestic and international law.