

Award	Law firm	Originality	Rationale	Impact	Total innovation score	Comment
Standout	Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman and Virginia Conservation Legacy Fund	8	10	8	26	The firm covered every aspect of an unusual transaction to allow non-for-profit client Virginia Conservation Legacy Fund take over Patriot Coal operations in West Virginia. Pillsbury advocated extensively to work out a deal, taking a commercial risk on its cash-strapped client. The deal saw VCLF reopen mines providing work for more than 400 mineworkers near Morgantown, West Virginia, and freeing up millions of dollars to reinvest in clean-up and reforestation.
Standout	Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg	8	9	8	25	Designed a streaming agreement to give Barrick Gold upfront and continuing cash payments in return for future silver and gold produced. Unique features of the deal help the client reduce short-term debt, while protecting it from political risk and ensuring it benefits from increases in gold and silver prices.
Highly Commended	Baker McKenzie	8	8	7	23	To enable the split of Hewlett Packard, the firm managed seven work streams including employment and real estate, with a team of 600 lawyers in more than 100 countries.
Highly Commended	Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman	7	8	8	23	Designed a three-tier strategy to hold consulting companies accountable for failed enterprise resource platform implementations. It has helped companies recover substantial costs and changed public procurement practices. Commended: Mark Ressler
Highly Commended	Paul Hastings	9	8	6	23	When pharmaceutical company Acorda faced a patent challenge brought by a hedge fund that was looking to short its stock, the firm exploited an old loophole in patent law to defeat the challenge in the initial review stage. Commended: Gerald Flattmann
Commended	Cravath, Swaine & Moore	8	8	6	22	Crafted a financially attractive and tax-efficient deal to help Olin Corporation win its bid to buy Dow Chemical's chlorine products division.
Commended	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	7	8	7	22	Advised the US government's Overseas Private Investment Corporation on providing a fully secured \$250m loan to Apollo Towers Myanmar, a telecommunications provider. Commended: Melissa Raciti-Knapp
Commended	Goodwin Procter	7	8	7	22	The firm guided Citrix through a strategy which resolved a dispute with an activist investor and implemented his proposal to spin-off part of the business and sell it back to shareholders as a separate entity. Commended: Stuart Cable
Commended	Mayer Brown	7	8	7	22	When restaurant company Yum! Brands wanted to reduce its cost of financing, lawyers helped it do three concurrent deals including an unprecedented whole securitisation of one of its subsidiary businesses, Taco Bell. Their work ensured the instruments behind the unique trio of transactions could work together and enabled Yum! to enter the securitisation market. Commended: Barbara Goodstein
Commended	Weil, Gotshal & Manges	7	8	7	22	Created an overarching restructuring strategy to coordinate bankruptcy proceedings for Vantage Drilling in the US and Cayman Islands, preserving the company's value through a quick resolution.