

ÉVÈNEMENT



AUGUST & DEBOUZY CELEBRATES ITS 15TH ANNIVERSARY

Private Equity M&A Employment and Social Security Law | 20/09/10 | Gilles August Emmanuelle Barbara

August & Debouzy is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year.

15 years of commitment to its clients to offer them a service based on the triptych: technical excellence; availability; and fighting spirit.

15 years of entrepreneurial ambition driven by our desire to create a modern vision of legal support for our clients.

Since the firm was created in 1995 by Gilles August and Olivier Debouzy, it has experienced **unprecedented growth for a French law firm**. The firm has grown from 6 to 115 lawyers including 19 partners at present. Turnover has grown twenty-fold, rising from EUR 2M to 40M.

August & Debouzy's growth is now continuing. In 2009, despite the financial crisis, the firm advised 243 new clients and handled 1,261 new cases. August & Debouzy was also recently ranked in Thomson Reuters' Top 10 of M&A Legal Advisors for the first half of 2010.

"I still remember when we set up the firm with Olivier and took this wonderful gamble", says Gilles August, founding partner. "We already had a very clear-cut idea of our strategy: create a full-service firm meeting the requirements of French and international clients and supported by autonomous administrative services to enable the lawyers to work in optimal conditions."

August & Debouzy has built itself around an **atypical structure that focuses both on business law and government and regulatory affairs**. Drawing inspiration from the law firms in Washington, August & Debouzy has always endeavoured to offer companies a highly technical practice in all areas of business law and government/regulatory law or lobbying.

To take a lead in these two sectors, August & Debouzy has always chosen **lawyers from a wide range of backgrounds**: former CEOs, former ministers and ambassadors, senior civil servants, etc. "This variety of profiles has become the firm's trademark: we aim to offer our clients more than just law", points out Emmanuelle Barbara, Managing Partner.

The firm's success also hinges upon **modern management methods**. August & Debouzy has been structured like a company from the outset, with efficient management systems giving the lawyers time to focus on their work and to manage the firm strategically. "For us, the ambition, initiative and involvement of the younger members is key", adds Emmanuelle Barbara, "we do everything to enable the talents in our team to come to surface and develop."

To celebrate this anniversary, it will be a pleasure for all of August & Debouzy's teams to invite their clients, contacts and friends to an evening at the Palais de Chaillot on September 23.

"We are delighted to invite and thank all those who have trusted us over the past 15 years", enthuses Gilles August. "This evening will be an occasion to mark the beginning of a new decade for the firm and reiterate that we are committed to always supporting our clients pragmatically and creatively."

