

## Firm Overview

### A Unique Global Service

Baker & McKenzie is unique in the world of legal services. The firm was founded in Chicago in 1949 and opened its first foreign office in Caracas in 1955. With that global vision, Baker & McKenzie remains a single partnership, now spanning 35 countries, with offices in 64 cities, a total of 3,055 lawyers including over 618 international partners. Today, in an era when operating seamlessly is essential to success, Baker & McKenzie has the single largest global network of any law firm.

Our growth has been driven by assisting our clients as they grew domestically and internationally. In the 1950s and 1960s, much of our growth was occurred in World War II Europe as U.S. multi-nationals led the recovery. In the 1970s and 1980s, the Asia boom led our clients and our growth into Asia. In the 1990s, the fall of Communism sparked the new frontier of economic development in Central and Eastern Europe. Throughout all 50 years, our growth has been consistent throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and South America.

Some firms have one or two strong practices; others have a strong office or two. Over many years, Baker & McKenzie has built both strong practices and strong offices throughout the world. The recent wave of U.K.-led law firm mergers has created patchworks of lawyers who have as their long-term goal an integrated global network. Baker & McKenzie already offers this.

Baker & McKenzie has global balance of approximately 1/3 in each of the hemispheres led by significant hubs. Chicago anchors the 9 U.S. offices, with 24 total offices in the Western Hemisphere. London leads our European and Middle East regions with their 27 offices. Hong Kong drives our 15 Asia and Pacific Rim offices. Each region has grown to provide consistent and complete legal coverage while housing approximately 1/3 each of our attorneys and generating 1/3 each of our revenue.

Using the latest practice models and technology, Baker & McKenzie provides clients with the type of resources and legal skills needed to conduct complex, multi-jurisdictional business transactions. Our unparalleled geographical coverage enables us to deliver legal solutions whenever and wherever our client's business requires.

Baker & McKenzie has been single-minded in its dedication to creating a global practice and consequently has the strongest infrastructure to move legal resources and knowledge swiftly across borders.

Baker & McKenzie offers an uncommon blend of capabilities and characteristics – cutting-edge cross-border and local legal and business knowledge coupled with a personal, detailed understanding of a client's specific business, no matter where the client has business operations.

As a single worldwide partnership, we can assure that our clients will receive consistent, high-quality service throughout the world. Baker & McKenzie has lawyers who share a common culture, speak a common language, follow uniform procedures and share a common training background.

Our uniformity provides the highest degree of accountability in all locations, ensures timely communications and contributes significantly to cost efficiencies. It also means that our global resources and access to international 'best practice' are available to our clients.

### **Baker & McKenzie's Key Facts**

- Founded in 1949
- 64 offices, 35 countries
- 618 partners, 3,055 qualified lawyers
- total of over 4,100 legal professionals

