



ALB SE ASIA LAW AWARDS 2016

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY SUMMARY

PART I: GENERAL GUIDELINES

- All nominations must be written in the ALB nomination form. The same must be submitted **not later than 10 March 2016**. ALB will not accept entries written in any other forms.
- Every work entry must be completed **between 1 January and 31 December 2015**.
- Clients or contact persons provided in the nomination form may be contacted by ALB without prior notice to the nominating organisation. It is advisable that only clients whose consent for this purpose has been obtained are listed in the form.

PART II: DEFINITION OF TERMS

For purposes of these Awards, unless the context otherwise requires -

Breadth - the degree to which the work spanned different jurisdictions, practice areas, parties and industries;

Complexity - the degree to which the work requires intricate legal principles or advanced techniques and structures;

Impact or significance - the degree by which the stakeholders, the bench and bar or the SE Asian community at large is affected;

Improvement - the degree to which the work involved improved techniques and structures;

Innovation - the degree to which the work involved original techniques and structures or innovative legal rules or regulations;

SE Asian element - any or all of the following: (a) one of the law firms involved must be based in SE Asia; (b) one of the parties to the deal must be based in SE Asia; (c) the contract/deal was executed/completed in SE Asia; or (d) the contract/deal must, in any way, be related to SE Asia;

Third-party award or recognition - that which is given by any award-giving organisation, public or private, other than ALB; and

Work - any transactions, cases or matters handled, and other legal services provided within the organisation or otherwise.

PART III: CATEGORIES

A. DEAL CATEGORIES

- **Asset and Corporate Finance Deal of the Year**
- **Debt Market Deal of the Year (Midsize)**
- **Debt Market Deal of the Year (Premium)**
- **Equity Market Deal of the Year (Midsize)**
- **Equity Market Deal of the Year (Premium)**
- **Islamic Finance Deal of the Year**
- **M&A Deal of the Year (Midsize)**
- **M&A Deal of the Year (Premium)**
- **Project Finance Deal of the Year**
- **Deal of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- **SE Asian element:** Every entry submitted in the deal categories must have a SE Asian element.
- **Asset and Corporate Finance Deal of the Year and Project Finance Deal of the Year:** An organisation may submit up to two (2) deals for each category. Each deal must have a deal size of at least USD700 million.
- **Debt Market Deal of the Year:** Every organisation may submit a total of three (3) deals in Midsize and Premium categories, provided that not more than two (2) deals are submitted for either the Midsize or Premium category.
 - a. **Debt Market Deal of the Year (Midsize):** Each deal must be at least USD200 million but not greater than USD700 million in size.
 - b. **Debt Market Deal of the Year (Premium):** Each deal must be greater than USD700 million in size.
- **Equity Market Deal of the Year:** Every organisation may submit a total of three (3) deals in Midsize and Premium categories, provided that not more than two (2) deals are submitted for either the Midsize or Premium category.
 - a. **Equity Market Deal of the Year (Midsize):** Each deal must be at least USD200 million but not greater than USD700 million in size.
 - b. **Equity Market Deal of the Year (Premium):** Each deal must be greater than USD700 million in size.

- **M&A Deal of the Year:** Every organisation may submit a total of three (3) deals in Midsize and Premium categories, provided that not more than two (2) deals are submitted for either the Midsize or Premium category.
 - a. **M&A Deal of the Year (Midsize):** Each deal must be at least USD200 million but not greater than USD700 million in size.
 - b. **M&A Deal of the Year (Premium):** Each deal must be greater than USD700 million in size.
- **SE Asia Deal of the Year:** The winners from other deal categories will automatically become finalists for SE Asia Deal of the Year.

Criteria

The evaluation of entries for deal categories will be based on the following factors:

- Complexity
- Innovation/improvement
- Breadth
- Impact/significance
- Third-party awards/recognition

PART III: CATEGORIES

B. IN-HOUSE CATEGORIES

- **Banking and Financial Services In-House Team of the Year**
- **Construction and Real Estate In-House Team of the Year**
- **Technology, Media and Telecommunications In-House Team of the Year**
- **In-House Lawyer of the Year**
- **SE Asia In-House Team of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- **Physical office:** All in-house teams with physical office in SE Asia are qualified to join the nominations for any in-house categories.
- **Banking and Financial Services In-House Team of the Year:** Investment banks, commercial banks, insurance companies, accounting firms, stock brokerages and other entities in the finance industry may nominate for this category.
- **Construction and Real Estate In-House Team of the Year:** In-house teams of companies engaged in construction, engineering, real estate and other related fields may nominate for this category.

- **Other industries:** In-house teams from industries other than banking and financial services, TMT, and construction and real estate may nominate their teams for SE Asia In-House Team of the Year.
- **SE Asia In-House Team of the Year:** The winners from industry-related categories and the in-house teams from other industries referred to immediately above, will automatically become finalists for SE Asia In-House Team of the Year.

Criteria

The evaluation of entries for in-house categories will be based on the following factors:

- Complexity
- Innovation/improvement
- Breadth
- Impact/significance
- Third-party awards/recognition (when applicable)

PART III: CATEGORIES

C. FIRM CATEGORIES*

- **Arbitration Law Firm of the Year**
- **Banking and Financial Services Law Firm of the Year**
- **Boutique Law Firm of the Year**
- **Commercial Litigation Law Firm of the Year**
- **Construction and Real Estate Law Firm of the Year**
- **Corporate Citizenship Law Firm of the Year**
- **Energy and Resources Law Firm of the Year**
- **Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year**
- **Maritime Law Firm of the Year**
- **Matrimonial Law Firm of the Year**
- **Offshore Law Firm of the Year**
- **Tax and Trusts Law Firm of the Year**
- **Thailand Law Firm of the Year**
- **Vietnam Law Firm of the Year**
- **SEA Deal Firm of the Year**
- **India Deal Firm of the Year**
- **India Energy and Resources Law Firm of the Year**
- **India Managing Partner of the Year**
- **International Deal Firm of the Year**
- **Managing Partner of the Year**
- **SE Asia Law Firm of the Year**

Specific Guidelines

- **Physical office:** All law firms based in SE Asia are qualified to nominate for any categories, except those that are exclusively for law firms based in Thailand, Vietnam and India.
- **Boutique Law Firm of the Year:** This category is open for nomination to SE Asian law firms with less than 15 members or limited practice areas only.
- **Minimum financial value (MFV):** No MFV is required for deals submitted for any firm categories, except as may be provided below.
- **SE Asia Deal Firm of the Year:** Only law firms headquartered in SE Asia that have completed at least seven (7) cross-border deals may join the nomination for this category. Each deal must have an MFV of USD200 million.

- **International Deal Firm of the Year:** Only law firms headquartered outside SE Asia that have completed at least seven (7) cross-border deals may join the nomination for this category. Each deal must have an MFV of USD200 million and must have a “SE Asian element” as defined in Part II above.
- **SE Asia Law Firm of the Year:** The winners from firm category numbers 1-15 in Part C will automatically become finalists for SEA Law Firm of the Year. Also, the recent winners for Indonesia Law Firm of the Year and Malaysia Law Firm of the Year will be included as finalists for this category.

Criteria

The evaluation of entries for firm categories will be based on the following factors:

- Key hires and departures (when applicable)
- Complexity
- Innovation/improvement
- Breadth
- Impact/significance
- Third-party awards/recognition
- Number of completed transactions (when applicable)
- Volume of completed transactions in USD (when applicable)

**We will launch the ALB Philippine Law Awards in July. As such, we will not be including the Philippine Deal Firm of the Year category for ALB SE Asia Law Awards 2016.*

PART IV: JUDGING PANEL

The judging panel consists of approximately 40 reputable members from the legal academe, in-house teams, law firms, legal associations or business leagues, whose identities are kept confidential prior to the awarding ceremony.

The panel of judges will be given about one week to evaluate the accomplishments of nominees based on a research summary provided by ALB. The judges choose the top three finalists for every category. A score allocated by a judge to a finalist with which or with whom he has an apparent conflict of interest is considered void.

The finalist in every category that obtains the highest score wins.

PART V: FURTHER INFORMATION

IMPORTANT DATES

10 February 2016	Opening of nominations*
10 March 2016	Deadline for nominations
4 th week of April	Online announcement of finalists
26 May 2016	Awards ceremony

* Submit nomination forms to yvonne.lau@thomsonreuters.com.

CONTACT PERSONS

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