



Representatives of 14,000 lawyers elected their new Board of Directors in Prague.

Ondřej Peterka re-elected the member of the Board and Co-Vice-Chair for Europe.

Prague, 15 September 2006 – For the first time behind the former iron curtain, 220 lawyers representing their 15,000 colleagues from 155 firms worldwide met in the Prague Castle to elect the 24 new members of the Board of Directors of TerraLex[®], the second biggest law firm network in the world.

Ondřej Peterka, the Managing Partner of PETERKA&PARTNERS was **re-elected** the member of the 24-member Board of Directors. Mgr. Peterka represents purely Czech-origin law firm established in 2000, presently operating in Prague, Bratislava and newly also in Kyiv. It employs over 60 lawyers specializing mainly in mergers and acquisitions, real estate, litigation and arbitration.

“We are honoured that Prague was chosen for the election. This is the first time that we have met here, behind the former iron curtain, with our colleagues from the whole world to elect our new Chairman of the Board and the Board itself, and simultaneously, to discuss the ways in which our network can grow and provide the best services possible. It is our great advantage that TerraLex[®] is an association of the best local law firms each solely representing its country” states **Charles E. McCallum, the new CEO TerraLex[®]**. “In the Central and Eastern Europe, we have a strong partner in the team of Ondřej Peterka of PETERKA & PARTNERS.”

“Our network is a true alternative to the international law firms. We are happy to be a part of TerraLex[®], an association of carefully selected best local law firms,” states **Ondřej Peterka, the Regional Co-Vice-Chair for Europe and the Managing Partner of PETERKA & PARTNERS**. “Over the past six years, our team has grown and developed, as shown not only by the number of our specialized lawyers and our expansion to Slovakia and Ukraine, but mainly by the importance and variety of our clients. At present, our clientele is 80% international and 20% Czech. It is positive that the number of the Czech clients is growing.”

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Since its establishment in 2000, **PETERKA&PARTNERS** belongs to the leading law firms in the Czech Republic. It also operates in Slovakia (since 2001) and, as the first Czech law firm to do so, in Ukraine (since June 2006). With its three (3) integrated branch offices in Prague, Bratislava and Kyiv and a team of 60 lawyers and tax advisors, it ranks among the biggest law firms in the Central European region.

The main professional specializations of the law firm PETERKA&PARTNERS include:

- **Mergers and acquisitions**, e.g.
VEOLIA WATER, AUSTRIA HOTELS (UNIQA), VINCI Construction Grand Projets, IBEROFON PLASTICOS, ATLAS COPCO, ICOPAL, S&T System Integration & Technology Distribution
- **Real estate, construction and development**, e.g.:
ECE European City Estates, DELVITA, ORCO, GEFCO, RENAULT
- **litigation and arbitration**, e.g.:
RENAULT, AIR FRANCE, GLOBAL RECOVERY ALLIANZ, CEGELEC, POCLAIN HYDRAULICS

For more details, see www.peterkapartners.cz

TerraLex[®] is an independent network of leading independent law firms established in 1990 in Florida, USA.

Since then, TerraLex[®] has grown to a network of independent law firms of approximately 15 000 attorneys in 100 countries worldwide. TerraLex[®] has more than 40 strong member firms in the USA only. After Lex Mundi, it is the second biggest network of its kind.

The network aims to associate leading independent law firms and their clients whose personal and business activities extend beyond their states and thereby also beyond the scope of the common services of the independent law firms. TerraLex[®] allows them to exceed the scope, erudition and effectiveness of the services provided.

The main belief of the network is that, with respect to erudition, detailed knowledge of the local language, culture and legal environment, a leading independent local firm is better prepared to provide clients from other jurisdictions with quality services than any branch of an international law firm. This philosophy is reflected in the motto of the network: Global Reach – Local Expertise.

Quality is another key factor. The member law firms must meet high professional criteria and the membership is by invitation only. Moreover, the membership is exclusive. Each country (each US state) is represented by a single law firm.

A good operation of the network is supported by the fact that the TerraLex[®] members attend three regional meetings and one annual meeting every year. These meetings provide opportunities for members to meet their colleagues from other member firms and discuss the key issues and problems affecting their work.

TerraLex[®] is a voluntary association. Each member firm retains its independence, operates as a separate enterprise responsible for its own staff and work products and has the right to cooperate with any law firm or client.

For more details, see www.terralex.org.