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GCR's editorial team then spent weeks debating and consulting widely within the competition community, eventually whittling down the many

worthy nominations to create our list of finalists.

The shortlist was posted on the *GCR* website in March and the voting began. Antitrust counsel, economists, academics and government officials were all asked to vote for which matters, firms and individuals they believed were the best of 2013. Another amazing response saw around 1,800 ballots cast by *GCR* readers.

On 9 April, at a charity dinner in

Washington, DC, the winners were announced. The event was held in support of Swawou School, to which all proceeds were donated.

In this special awards issue, we profile the award winners and the recipient of *GCR*'s Lifetime Achievement Award, honoured for their decades of outstanding contribution to the field of competition law and policy. We also take a look at a gala evening enjoyed by all at the W Hotel in Washington, DC.

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STIKEMAN ELLIOTT

### Europe

# Merger Control Matter of the Year



#### Winner

### Glencore/Xstrata

The merger between global mining companies Glencore and Xstrata was one of the most high-profile deals of the year for many aspects, also beyond the world of competition law. But the European Commission's investigation of the deal was one of the key issues for the companies. DG Comp began by looking at whether Glencore already had control of Xstrata and ended up by requiring structural commitments. The companies obtained clearance in Phase I after conducting extensive negotiation on the scope of the remedies, which focused on the European zinc supply market.

#### **Counsel to Glencore**

Linklaters

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati

#### **Counsel to Xstrata**

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

#### **Counsel to Glencore and Xstrata**

Werksmans Attorneys King & Wood Mallesons

### **Finalists**

Orange Austria/Hutchison 3G Austria

IAG/BMI

Lafarge/Anglo American

Interveners in UPS/TNT

## Matter of the Year



#### Winner

### FTC investigation of Google

On 3 January 2013, the US Federal Trade Commission closed its 19-month investigation of Google's online search and advertisement practices. Despite huge pressure from Google's rivals and from the public, and even though the European Commission appeared to take a tougher stance in its parallel probe, Google and its counsel convinced the FTC to accept limited voluntary commitments and wrap up the investigation. The FTC concluded that "the documents, testimony and quantitative evidence the commission examined are largely consistent with the conclusion that Google

likely benefited consumers by prominently displaying its vertical content on its search results page".

#### FTC's search investigation

In-house Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati Williams & Connolly Legal Policy Solutions

## FTC standard-essential patent investigation

In-house
Axinn Veltrop & Harkrider
Quinn Emanuel Urguhart & Sullivan

### **Finalists**

Sony/EMI & Universal/EMI

UTC/Goodrich

Defence of Chunghwa in global CRT and LCD cartel investigations

Watson/Actavis

## GCR Global Elite 2013



# Lawyer of the Year



#### Winner

## Susan Creighton, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati

In 2012 Creighton served as lead outside counsel for Google in the FTC's high-profile conduct investigation of the company. In January, the commission decided unanimously to drop its two-year investigation of Google after finding its search results had not violated US antitrust laws on any grounds. Her work on the case is described as "masterful" by one nominating party. Creighton also wrote the white paper for Netscape that is credited with triggering the Department of Justice's investigation and eventual abuse of dominance suit against Microsoft.

### **Finalists**

David I Gelfand, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton

Clifford Aronson, Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom

> Christopher Curran, White & Case

Jon Lawrence, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

> Arthur J Burke, Davis Polk & Wardwell