

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart)

ADJUGA

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart)

Comment: This respected Heidelberg firm advises the Mittelstand on investments, transactions and distribution law with international aspects, occasionally acting as an outsourced legal department. For example, AdjugA advised a German special machine manufacturer on outsourcing its distribution activities in Lebanon. Most work, however, is for regular client Heidelberger Druckmaschinen. AdjugA suffered a blow when salary partner Dr. Michael Keilpflug moved to an in-house legal department. In employment, the firm closed a gap with Samuel Gruber from Gruber Biegert.

Strengths: Strong knowledge of the plant construction and engineering sectors.

Development potential: Main client Heide Druck's plans to expand its legal department pose a challenge. Hiring an employment lawyer was an important step towards widening the firm's client base and reducing its dependence on this client.

Recommended: Dr. Tilo Jung.

Practice: Corporate/M&A, restructuring, commercial and distribution, product liability, banking and finance, IP. Often active as an outsourced legal department. (3 equity partners, 3 salary partners)

Clients: ●● Ongoing advice to Heidelberger Druckmaschinen, incl. on establishing JV with Neo7even and sale of subsidiary; contract manufacturer for pharmaceuticals on winding up contracts in closure of business and international arbitration concerning damages claims; various Mittelstand clients on international distribution issues.

BARTSCH

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart)

Comment: This recommended firm in the southwest has grown from six to fifteen lawyers since the 2011 breakup of the original firm under name partner and IT luminary Bartsch. The expansion into Stuttgart with lawyers from Diem & Partner bears witness to the firm's confidence. The initial focus here is the same as in Karlsruhe: IT, with the aim of growing in corporate. Beyond its well-known IT specialty, Bartsch covers a wide spectrum and acts as a full-service advisor for its technology-oriented client base. Public construction and inheritance law are new fields. Bartsch stepped up corporate advice to a large family office.

Strengths: Focus on IT companies.

Recommended: Prof. Dr. Michael Bartsch.

Practice: Focus on ► IT. Regionally strong practices in corporate and M&A, employment and private construction. Also IP and inheritance law/company succession. (5 partners, 6 associates; 4 lawyers in Stuttgart)

Clients: ●● ICON Supply Chain Management on sale of shares; German city on setting up WiFi in an urban area; state authority on reviewing Microsoft model contracts; IT company on restructuring Chinese subsidiary; German technology company on construction of headquarters.

BENDER HARRER KREVT

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart)

Comment: Since its launch in Karlsruhe in 2011, this highly recommended firm in the southwest has consolidated its client relationships and expanded real estate and IT capacities. In IT, BHK now has lawyers at all three offices and thus covers the entire region – a USP in Baden. Work continues to focus on all-round advice to the regional Mittelstand, but increasingly extends beyond the region in employment, real estate, criminal law and IT; e.g., BHK advised a large software house in a

BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG (OUTSIDE STUTTART)

SZA Schilling Zutt & Anschütz	Mannheim
Friedrich Graf von Westphalen & Partner	Freiburg
Caemmerer Lenz Rittershaus	Karlsruhe, Mannheim Mannheim
Bender Harrer Krevet Melchers Rowedder Zimmermann Hass	Lörrach, Freiburg, Karlsruhe Heidelberg Mannheim
Schlatter Tiefenbacher Voelker & Partner	Heidelberg, Mannheim Heidelberg Reutlingen
Bartsch Kullen Müller Zinser Ladenburger Neifeind Schmücker & Homann Nietzer & Häusler Nonnenmacher Reeg Zinnböcker	Karlsruhe Sindelfingen Pforzheim Heilbronn Karlsruhe Mannheim Mannheim
Adjuga Kuentzle	Heidelberg Karlsruhe

The selection of law firms in the above table reflects the research of the editorial staff at JUVE and is based on interviews with clients, lawyers and academics. It remains a subjective view and implies no disparagement of any firm not mentioned here but which is nevertheless active in this field. The firms are alphabetically listed within the groups.

dispute over license structuring and a hospital on an employment precedence case regarding temporary employment. Last year's addition of a criminal law practice was wise – the Lörrach office's proximity to Switzerland leads to work in voluntary declarations.

Strengths: Work with international elements, IT law.

Recommended: Dr. Jochen Scholz (IT), Dr. Gerson Trüg (white collar crime), Dr. Jörg Vogel (employment).

Practice: Focus on international contracts and ongoing corporate advice (restructuring, company succession, often with international elements) as well as public law, IT/IP, employment and tax. White collar crime. Industries: auto supply, measuring technology, chip industry, machine tools, IT, media, pharmaceuticals and insurance. Also advises a number of municipalities on public law. (24 partners, 6 counsel, 9 associates)

Clients: ●● Vermögen und Bau Baden-Württemberg on warranty claims concerning Offenburg jail; ProPartner Zeitarbeit on copyrights/trademarks; all-round IT advice to Bibliographisches Institut; automotive bank on operating agreement for core banking system; north German IT company on contract drafting in cloud segment.

CAEMMERER LENZ

Baden-Württemberg (outside Stuttgart)

Comment: This highly recommended firm in the southwest is considered an institution in Karlsruhe. The full-service approach is underscored by pre-eminent lawyers in virtually every field who have always fully leveraged the potential offered by interdisciplinary cooperation. CL has a strong reputation beyond the region for banking and capital markets litigation, esp. thanks to Pap and his enormously successful practice. The latter was boosted by renowned banking lawyer Fritz from Kuentzle, who

brings experience in Franco-German activity. His arrival underlines the huge expansion of the practice in recent years, both for litigation and advice (e.g. to Swiss banks) and in corporate rescue. The corporate practice is strong in the region and boasts good contacts in Switzerland. By developing an affiliated compliance advisory firm, CL again has the edge over many regional competitors.

Strengths: Litigation experience (esp. class actions) in the banking and capital markets sectors.

Recommended: Dr. Oliver Melber (corporate), Dr. Michael Pap ("highly respected, top banking lawyer in the region", competitor; banking and capital markets), Dr. Eberhardt Meiringer ("pre-eminent expertise", competitor; construction), Bernhard Fritz (banking).

Practice: Class action lawsuits for financial service providers (► commercial litigation and liability/ ► securities and funds litigation (defendants)). Banking and capital markets, corporate (restructuring, change of corporate form, D&O liability, company sales, succession advice, corporate litigation), construction and architects' law, employment and public law. Also medicine and healthcare, hospital law, IP. Clients: credit institutes, insurers, Mittelstand companies (mostly owner-managed) from the healthcare, real estate, retail and services sectors, municipalities. (11 equity partners 1 salary partner, 20 associates) **Clients:** ● Regional bank and Irish subsidiary on settlement of series of proceedings regarding media fund; home-loan bank on action for injunction by consumer protection association; 2 regional banks and German subsidiary of large Swiss bank on defense against numerous investor claims (regarding real estate, media funds and certificates); tire manufacturer on planning approval procedure under rail transport law; hotel agency on municipal tax law.

- No client names for publication.
- Clients named for publication.

The number of lawyers is provided by the firm and concerns this particular office. Numbers do not necessarily reflect the size of the firm as a whole.