

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **CMS wins at FT Innovative Lawyer Awards 2017 ranking 8<sup>th</sup> in the Top50**

CMS were shortlisted in five categories at this year's FT Innovative Lawyer Awards winning for their work advising the Electronic Sports League in the creation of a new governing body, the World eSports Association (WESA). The firm was shortlisted in the following categories:

- Most Innovative Law Firm in Europe
- Driving talent management through the firm
- Creating new and innovative rolling stock funding
- Reforming the Mexican Electricity Market
- Establishing the World eSports Association

Overall, CMS is now ranked 8th in the FT's Top 50 Ranking of Europe's most Innovative Law Firms and Legal Service Providers. The firm's ground-breaking three way merger was recognised in taking the best strategic elements of each to develop agile working, enhanced maternity policies and advanced technologies.

Penelope Warne, The Senior Partner of CMS UK comments, "These prestigious awards are hugely competitive, and we are very proud of the recognition received not only for our merger but also for our innovative work in energy and finance. Congratulations go to all the individuals and teams involved."

Commenting on the win CMS Germany partner Dr. Pietro Graf Fringuelli adds: "We are delighted to win this award. The eSports industry is growing at an explosive pace. Working with our CMS colleagues in Brussels, Germany and Switzerland, we created new

legal structures and commercial rights bidding processes from scratch as part of the establishment of WESA. It is the eSports equivalent of a mainstream governing body.”

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**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**About CMS**

CMS provides clients with specialist, business focused advice in law and tax matters. With over 4,500 legal professionals across the world, working in sector-based teams and expert in project management, our focus is on our clients and fulfilling their objectives.

CMS is a full-service top 10 global law firm, based on the number of lawyers (Am Law 2016 Global 100). With 72 offices in 41 countries across the world, revenues totalled €999m in 2016. CMS acts for the majority of the DAX 30, a large number of the FT European 500 and a number of Fortune 500 companies.

CMS provides a wide range of expertise across 19 expert practice and sector areas including Banking and Finance, Commercial, Competition, Corporate, Dispute Resolution, Employment, Energy, Funds, Intellectual Property, Life Sciences/ Pharmaceuticals, Real Estate & Construction, Tax and TMT.

For more information, please visit [www.cms.law](http://www.cms.law)

**CMS offices and associated offices:** Aberdeen, Algiers, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Barcelona, Beijing, Belgrade, Berlin, Bogotá, Bratislava, Bristol, Brussels, Bucharest, Budapest, Casablanca, Cologne, Dubai, Dusseldorf, Edinburgh, Frankfurt, Geneva, Glasgow, Hamburg, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Kyiv, Leipzig, Lima, Lisbon, Ljubljana, London, Luxembourg, Lyon, Madrid, Manchester, Medellín, Mexico City, Milan, Monaco, Moscow, Munich, Muscat, Paris, Podgorica, Prague, Reading, Rio de Janeiro, Riyadh, Rome, Santiago de Chile, Sarajevo, Seville, Shanghai, Sheffield, Singapore, Sofia, Strasbourg, Stuttgart, Tirana, Tehran, Utrecht, Vienna, Warsaw, Zagreb and Zurich.