# Nishith Desai(Associates

LEGAL AND TAX COUNSELING WORLDWIDE

MUMBAI SILICON VALLEY BANGALORE SINGAPORE MUMBAI BKC NEW DELHI MUNICH NEW YORK GIFT CITY

www.nishithdesai.com

-distinctly different.

#### International Bar Association

#### **Nishith Desai**

nishith.desai@nishithdesai.com

Boston\*

To the eminent Managing Partners of Global Law Firms

<sup>\*</sup>updated from the presentation made in 2013

#### The Firm of the Future

#### Quiet Revolution:

# How the Law Firm Business Model Is Evolving from India

Nano Firm: stay small, think Big, do Big...

#### FT Innovation Award

# "Asia-Pacific's Most Innovative Law Firm"

Financial Times, London



#### Accolades

Tier 1: International Tax Law Firm (Chambers & Partners, Legal 500, ITR Directory)

Tier 1: Private Equity Law Firm (IFLR)

Tier 1: TMT Law Firm (Chambers & Partners)

Tier 1: Employment Law Firm (Chambers & Partners)

Fastest growing Mergers and Acquisitions Law Firm (Merger Market)

Best Dispute Management Law Firm (IDEX)

# "Best Performing Indian Law Firm"

RSG Client Satisfaction Survey, UK\*

\*RSG Consulting is an international research and strategy consultancy for the legal profession. Established in 2001, it is the architect and research partner to the Financial Times Innovative Lawyers programme and the author of a number of ground-breaking research studies, including the RSG India Reports.

#### Who we are

"We are a strategy driven research focused law firm providing legal, regulatory and tax counsel to clients which are or aspire to be global"

#### **Our Select Clients**



#### Mission

#### Our mission is to be trusted advisors to our clients and help:

- i. achieve their BIG vision and strategic objectives
- ii. assist them in complex and high value transaction or litigation
- iii. rescue them from crisis

In performing our mission we seek to experience the joy of changing the world around us — for the better.

We do this by our thought leadership, academics, research, advocacy, creativity, technology, organisational behavior and by better understanding the legal, regulatory and political environment and industries in which we and our clients operate.

#### Vision

# To be distinctly different, a role model, and a 'dream firm' for professional firms — globally

To be a Nano\* firm - stay small, think big, do big:

- i. Where clients take pride in engaging us
- ii. Where members receive best rewards
- iii. Which upholds the nobility of the legal profession
- iv. Which commands respect of its competitors

To be a joyous and happy home for professionals

'One Nano meter is one billionth or  $10^9$  of a meter: to put that scale in another context, the comparative size of a nanometer to a meter is the same as that of a marble to the size of the earth.

## **Our Core Competencies**

# INTERNATIONAL TAX

Tax Strategy & Structuring Tax Litigation Private Client

Globalization

# CORPORATE & SECURITIES

Fund Formation
Fund Investments
M&A
Competition Law

Joint Ventures
Corporate Governance
Capital Markets

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

IP Strategy & Structuring

HR (Employment & Labour)

Global IP Portfolio Management

Technology Transfer & Licensing

Trade Secrets & Confidentiality

Franchise

#### DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Global Litigation Management Arbitration

REGULATORY & PUBLIC POLICY

## **Industry Focus**

#### **INDUSTRY**

Alternate enegy Insurance

Agriculture Internet of things

Automobile IT & BPO

Aviation Media & Entertainment

BFSI Medical Devices

Bit coin Mining

Chemical Nanotechnology

Cleantech Oil & Gas
Education Outer space

e-Money Pharma & Life Science

Fashion Power

Food & Beverages Real Estate Investments

Funds Retail

Gaming Social Sector

Healthcare Sports
Hotels Telecom
Infrastruture Water

For more information visit our knowledge-site www.nishithdesai.com

# Representations (Transactions)

#### INDIAN LEGAL, TAX AND REGULATORY COUNSEL

	Cisco's acquisition of NDS Group	US\$ 5 billion	M&A/Technology
	Rohatyn Group's acquisition of Citi Group's AMC Business	US\$ 4.3 billion	M&A / Funds
	Cognizant acquisition of Trizetto	US\$ 2.7 billion	M&A/Technology
•	BlackRock Inc's. acquisition of stake in DSP Merrill Lynch Fund Managers Ltd.	US\$ 2.55 billion	PE/Funds
	Special counsel to Vodafone International Holdings BV	over US\$ 2.2 billion	Tax Litigation/Telecom
	Telcordia Holdings' stake sale to Ericsson	US\$ 1.15 billion	M&A/Telecom
	General Atlantic and Oak Hill's stake sale in Genpact	US\$ 1 billion	PE/ITES
•	Clyde Bowers acquisition of the fluid and power division of Textron	US\$ 645 million	M&A/Aviation
	Providence Equity's investment in Aditya Birla Telecom Ltd.	US\$ 640 million	PE/Telecom
	Special counsel for Blackstone Intelenet deal	US\$ 634 million	PE/BPO
	Osaka Gas Chemicals' acquisition of Jacobi Carbons Group	US\$ 400 million	M&A/Gas
	Flipkart acquisition of Myntra	US\$ 330 million	M&A
	SingTel's investment in Bharti Telecom	US\$ 250 million	M&A/Telecom
	Goldman Sachs' investment in ReNew Wind Power	US\$ 250 million	PE/Renewables
	Siemens' stake sale in Bangalore International Airport	US\$ 125 million	M&A/Aviation
•	Oman Investment Fund's exit in Viom Towers 51% stake sale to ATC	US\$ 1.2 billion	PE
	Birla Corporation's acquisition of Lafarge Cement Units	US\$ 765 million	M&A

# Representations (Litigation)

#### INDIAN LEGAL, TAX AND REGULATORY COUNSEL

•	All foreign investors in defending India-Mauritius Tax Treaty in the Supreme Court — Azadi Bachao Andolan Case	multibillion US\$	Tax/Litigation
•	Developed the jurisprudence governing the taxation of e-commerce in India by obtaining a favourable ruling in D&B	_	Advance Rulings/Tax
	A large MNC Pharma in regulatory litigation	multimillion US\$	Litigation / Pharma
	Six largest PE Firms' consortium's investments in power projects	multimillion US\$	Litigation / Power
•	Assisted Synopsys on the post-acquisition employment integration	-	HR/Tech
•	Saarum's JV with The Apollo Hospitals in developing bio-bank and research	-	JV/Life Sciences
•	Represented KSPG before the AAR — first tax case of beneficial ownership	-	Tax/Automobile
	Advised a Telecom Giant in an investment arbitration against GOI	multibillion US\$	Arbitration / Telecom
	India's largest post production house against a PE investor	multimillion US\$	Arbitration / M&E
	An Indian cables manufacture in a joint venture dispute	multimillion €	Litigation / Electricals
	A private equity investment in a FCCB default dispute	multimillion US\$	Litigation/PE
	Advised the Investors in NSE on minority shareholder rights	_	GCL/BFSI
-	JV between Merck Co and Welcome Trust to form MSD Hilleman Lab	_	JV/Life Sciences

# Approach to Practice

#### **INTEGRATED APPROACH**

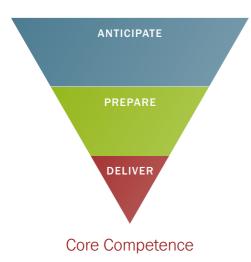


## Research Philosophy

Every new development in science, society, politics and economics brings along with it new legal, tax and regulatory challenges.

In our research based approach we anticipate trends ahead of time, undertake secondary and primary research, develop deep insights, find solutions, build new business models, manage crisis and deliver high quality services at the speed of thought.

#### Research Process



- Trend assessment
- Forecasting technology, new financial istruments etc.
- Short listing of trends
- Secondary and primary research with focus on industry clusters
- Comparative law analysis
- Identification of legal, tax & policy issues
- Development of simulted models
- Finding creative solutions
- Developing unique insights & core competencies
- Providing value at the speed of thought

#### NDA Research Centre Campus



NDA Research Center Alibag, Mumbai, India

#### **LEGEND**

- Temple
- Research Center
- Housing
- GYM/Lockers
  - Swimming
- Tennis Court
- Staff Quarters
- Amphitheatre
- Arbitration Center
- Meditation RM

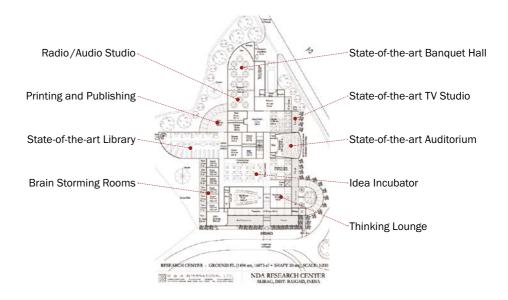
- Gazebo
- Watch Tower
- Golf Cart Parking
- Car Parking
- Bus Parking
- Fountain
- Lake
- Green Wall
- TV.Studio

# Blue Sky thinking Center



NDA Research Center Alibag, Mumbai, India

# Blue Sky thinking Center



#### Talent

Talent can come from anywhere — from a city to a remote village, from a ranked law school to an unranked law school. Many of our lawyers have diverse background — from engineering to MBA and accountancy, from medicine and surgery to social sciences. Industry insight is the key to solving problems.

We are fortunate to have attracted best intellect from top law schools world over.





































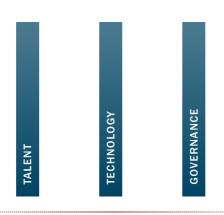






# We believe in **brain count** and **not** head count.

#### 3 Pillars of the Firm



Nishith Desai(Associates

# Technology



Globally connected by state-of-the-art technology, interactive screens, advanced knowledge management... For more details visit our Knowledge site <a href="https://www.nishithdesai.com">www.nishithdesai.com</a>







# Nishith Mobile App





Home screen



Accessing Videos



Accessing Options



Accessing Videos



Accessing Content



Accessing Updates

#### Nishith.TV



#### Governance



Organizational Behavior as a Competitive Advantage

# Organizational Behavior

#### **OUR VALUES**

Culture of creativity and discipline (culture adds 30% value)
Research and education
Treat competition as a sport not as war (Co-opetition)
Policy of no 'headhunting' and no 'poaching'
Open, transparent, fair and judicious compensation process including appeals
Develop technically sound inspirational leaders
Ethics & Integrity.

### Operating Philosophies

#### DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT

- 1. Board of Trusted Advisors unique experiment
- 2. Strategy focussed law firm
- Secondary and Primary research
- 4. Technology business at the speed of thought
- Moving towards being a virtual law firm to do complex deals
- 6. Intangible brand is far more powerful and long-term than tangible
- Established number of think tanks be the change we want to see
- 8. Organizational behavior a competitive advantage
- 9. Offices in strategic locations
- 10. Powered by spirit, driven by processes
- 11. Open, transparent and fair
- 12. Competition a sport not a war

- 13. Play against big players, and win
- 14. Play to win, not to kill
- 15. Coopetition cooperate and compete
- Measure everything through the eye of Balanced Scorecard
- 17. Leadership Model less of leverage model
- 18. Clients belong to the firm and not to individuals
- 19. Do not accept clients who do not fit into the firm strategy or get rid of them
- 20. Make clients take pride in hiring us
- 21. Service Excellence NDA Project Management Module
- A melting pot for inter-disciplinary talent Engineers, MBAs, social scientists, doctor have turned into lawyers

### Operating Philosophies

#### DISTINCTLY DIFFERENT

- 23. There is only functional leadership and no feudalistic or power centric hierarchy. Hierarchy is merely for discharging responsibility and accountability with a sense of leadership. People are not wedded to titles
- 24. Inverted T everyone must have one or two focus areas but lateral knowledge of other subjects
- Seamless mobility ability to move across teams, across verticals, and across geographies with minimal efforts
- 26. 70-20-10 principle
- 27. No head-hunting, poaching
- Meritocracy based on Performance, Attitude and Loyalty (PAL) formula
- 29. Blue Sky Thinking Center a unique campus by a law firm
- Document, document, document when you find a solution to a problem, document

- 31. When you confront a problem for the first time, don't take a shortcut, try to find a permanent solution; we believe that if you do not solve it permanently, it will keep repeating; only in exceptional circumstances, take a shortcut
- 32. Communicate, communicate, communicate
- 33. Daily continuing education be in the state of preparedness all the time
- 34. Knowledge site not just a website to reach out to the world, excavate inner most instinct, to pursue knowledge and enlightenment and be inspirational
- Use of new media, such as Nishith.TV, to create, maintain and distribute knowledge internally and externally
- 36. Work-life balance use technology
- 37. Happiness billing
- 38. Pro bono
- 39. Work hard, play hard, and have lots of fun

#### **Balanced Scorecard**



Measure everything through Balanced Scorecard

The **business** of law?

No, we are in the **profession** of law.

# Value Billing



# **Price** or **Value**?

Painting by Lyubov Popova, 1915

# Value Billing

**Price** is a function of demand and supply. **Value** is a matter of perception.

# Happiness Billing

#### SOME AWARDS

- Ranked as the Most Innovative Law Firm (2014, 2015) by the Financial Times RSG Consulting
- Ranked as the Second Most Innovative Asia Pacific Law Firm (2014) at the Innovative Lawyers Asia Pacific Awards by the Financial Times – RSG Consulting
- Awarded Best use of Innovation & Technology ,Best Dispute Management Firm and Best Dispute Management Lawyer (Vyapak Desai) at the IDEX Legal Awards 2015
- Recognized for M&A deal of the year at the IDEX Legal Awards 2015
- Awarded Managing Partner of the Year (Nishith Desai) at the IDEX Legal Awards 2014
- Awarded Excellence in Gaming Law and Top Tier in Labour & Employment Law at the Corporate LiveWire Legal Awards 2015
- Recommended Tax Firm in India by World Tax 2015 (International Tax Review's directory)
- IFLR1000 has ranked Nishith Desai Associates in Tier 1 for Private Equity (2014)
- Best performing Indian law firm of the year by the RSG India Consulting in its client satisfaction report (2011, 2013)
- Nishith Desai (Best Tax Lawyer of the Year) and Best Law Firm Of the Year by Legal Era (2013), a reputed Legal Media Group
- Chambers and Partners (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015): No.1 for Tax and Technology-Media-Telecom (TMT)
- Chambers and Partners (2015): No.1 for Employment
- Chambers and Partners (2011, 2012, 2013); No.1 for Private Equity
- Chambers and Partners (2011): No.1 for Real Estate-FDI
- Asia Pacific Legal 500 (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015); No. 1 for International Tax, Investment Funds and TMT
- Asia Pacific Legal 500 (2014, 2015); No.1 in the Private Equity and Venture Capital practices
- ASIAN-MENA COUNSEL 'IN-HOUSE COMMUNITY FIRM OF THE YEAR' in India for Life Sciences practice (2012)
- International Financial Law Review (a Euromoney publication): Indian "Firm of the Year" (2012, 2011, 2010) for TMT practice
- Nishith Desai Associates has been named an ASIAN-MENA COUNSEL 'IN-HOUSE COMMUNITY FIRM OF THE YEAR' in India for International Arbitration (2011)
- Financial Times-RSG Consulting survey of Indian law firms (2009, 2011): Ranked highest on 'Quality'
- Nishith Desai: Featured in the Lex Witness publication 'Witness Hall of Fame: Top 50' August 2011
- Honourable mentions by Asian-Counsel 2011 for Alternative Investment Funds, International Arbitration, Real Estate and Taxation
- India Business Law Journal (2015): Employment
- India Business Law Journal (2014,2015): Employment, Private Equity & Venture Capital, Structured Finance & Securitization, TMT & Taxation
- Tax Business, a UK-based international tax journal: Nishith Desai ranked No. 28 in a global Top 50 "Gold List"

Our **limit** to growth, is where our **happiness** ends.

#### License to practice Indian law from

The State Bar of California The State Bar of New York The Attorney-General of Singapore Rechtsanwaltskammer München, Germany

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-distinctly different.



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