

FOUR LAWYERS LAUNCH ANOTHER FRENCH BOUTIQUE



Four Paris-based lawyers, including the general counsel of drug discovery company Genset, have formed a new independent practice named HBC Avocats.

Jonathan Burnham, Jean-Luc Elhoueiss, Damien Challamel and Erwan Cosse have joined forces to launch the firm. HBC will cover corporate matters, including focus on the technology and biotech sectors.

Burnham has been general counsel at Genset since 2001. He previously worked at Shearman & Sterling and served as a trainee at the Legal Service of the European Commission. Elhoueiss worked at Vizards Staples & Bannisters and Hoche, Kahn & Associés & Alérion, with Challamel practising at La Giraudière & Associés and Freshfields Burckhaus Deringer. Finally, Elhoueiss hails from the Robert Schuman University in Strasbourg and l'Institut d'Etudes Politiques

de Paris.

HBC becomes the latest in a line of French start ups in 2008. These include: Laude Esquier Champey, headed by the former Paris managing partner of the pre-merger Dewey & LeBoeuf (Olivier Laude); Lefèvre Société d'Avocats, created by two lawyers from Lamy Lexel; Raphael, formed by a team from Flichy Avocats; and four lawyers from Linklaters, Lefèvre Pelletier & Associés, Touzet Bocquet & Associés and Racine establishing a practice called Kalliopé.

30/09/2008