



## ACC Fast Facts

ACC is the in-house bar association<sup>SM</sup>, a specialty bar association comprised solely of attorneys who practice law as employees in corporations and other private sector organizations.

ACC promotes the common interests of its members, contributes to their continuing education, seeks to improve understanding of the role of in-house attorneys, and encourages advancements in the standards of corporate legal practice.

ACC operates in six primary business lines:

- **Advocacy** (as voice of the in-house bar on issues such as corporate responsibility and ethical culture, attorney-client privilege, ethics and professionalism, attorney conduct guidelines, multijurisdictional practice, and civil justice reform; our principal activities include filing *amicus* briefs, educational backgrounders, providing comments and testimony);
- **Education/CLE** (Annual Meeting, Corporate Counsel University, joint programs with others, webcasts (online CLE) and local Chapter programs);
- **Knowledge management** (Knowledge exchange: benchmarking and “how to” materials, including forms, guidelines, and policies, delivered through InfoPAKs<sup>SM</sup>, ACC’s Virtual Library<sup>SM</sup>, ACC’s Leading Practice Profiles, Inhouse Caselaw<sup>SM</sup>, and NewsNet – customized daily slip opinions);
- **Networking** (MemberToMember<sup>SM</sup>, listservs and discussion groups, 46 Chapters, 12 Committees);
- **Publishing** (*ACC Docket*, ACC Online<sup>SM</sup>, electronic newsletters, internal leadership publications; and
- **Services** (unique offerings provided by 12 ACC Alliance<sup>SM</sup> partners).

### Some Points to Note:

- **How ACC Started:** ACC was founded in 1982 by a group of general counsel who believed that in-house counsel needed their own organization focused exclusively on in-house issues and networks. ACC’s organizational network includes 46 Chapters (including Chapters in Europe and Israel) and 12 Committees.
- **Membership:** ACC supports a membership base of more than 17,500 house counsel, representing over 7,500 organizations, and hailing from over 54 Countries, of which more than 215 are enrolled in the Large Law Department membership. 50 percent of the GCs from the top 200 law departments are ACC members. Members are also represented in 98 of the Fortune 100 Companies.
- **What Do We Offer? Solutions to Your Problems.**

ACC is focused on providing in-house attorneys with knowledge (networks plus practical resources) they can use to solve their daily problems; enhance their management skills; and develop a productive and cost-efficient legal department. In other words, we help you do your job better!

**Online Resources:** No time to search journals? Not interested in racking up more outside counsel fees by asking a quick question? Need answers fast? Then go to ACC Online Resources:

- **Centralized Databank of Sample Forms, Guidelines, and Knowledge from Other In-house Counsel:** ACC's **Virtual Library**<sup>SM</sup> offers one-stop shopping for those seeking to benchmark with their peers or obtain sample forms, policies, and information. ([www.acca.com/vl/](http://www.acca.com/vl/))
- **A Virtual Rolodex of In-House Attorneys at Your Disposal:** **MemberToMember**<sup>SM</sup> a powerful networking tool, links members seeking advice with volunteer "member experts" in more than 100 substantive areas. Whether it is a substantive question, management issue or recommendations of outside counsel, this service is a quick and cost-effective way to obtain guidance from your peers. ([www.acca.com/MemberCentral/membertomember/search.php](http://www.acca.com/MemberCentral/membertomember/search.php))
- **Specialized "Most Frequently Asked" Issues in One Compact Package:** **ACC InfoPAKS**<sup>SM</sup> provides you with customized information packages that include articles, sample forms and policies, caselaw, and contact names on such sought after topics as corporate compliance, starting a legal department; managing a law department; attorney-client privilege; managing outside counsel and records retention. (<http://www.acca.com/vl/infopak>)
- **Chief Legal Officer ("CLO") Resources** provide you with information on how your peers are handling the executive, legal, and department management roles of today's CLO? Some of what you'll find includes ACC's new *Law Department/Attorney Conduct Manual*, global law department resources, surveys on CEO expectations of the CLO, and **Leading Practice Profiles** ([www.acca.com/vl/practiceprofiles.php](http://www.acca.com/vl/practiceprofiles.php)) , which examine best practices at work in a variety of industries and legal departments. ([www.acca.com/networks/clo](http://www.acca.com/networks/clo))
- **Locate Other ACC Members:** ACC's virtual **Membership Directory** puts networking at your fingertips. The cyberversion of ACC's member directory provides real time searches on name, title, company name, law school, city, state, Chapter, Committee, or any combination thereof. ([www.acca.com/protected/memberdirectory.php/](http://www.acca.com/protected/memberdirectory.php/))
- **Assistance in Hiring Legal Staff:** ACC's **Inhouse Jobline**<sup>SM</sup> lists in-house counsel positions in the U.S. and around the world. (<http://jobline.acca.com>)
- **Pro Bono Opportunities: CorporateProBono.Org,** ACC's joint project with the Pro Bono Institute, offers online and technical assistance resources that address specific corporate practice setting concerns; customized training materials and information on local training clinics; partnering assistance, member pro bono best practices; mentor and peer networks; and a searchable database of information about available local legal services pro bono projects that need volunteers. ([www.CorporateProBono.Org](http://www.CorporateProBono.Org))
- **Enhancing the Future of the Legal Profession:** The **ACC Pipeline Project** seeks to increase the number of minorities entering the legal profession. Working with Street Law Inc. ([www.streetlaw.org](http://www.streetlaw.org)), an internationally recognized non-profit, ACC's initiative places corporate counsel in junior and senior high school classrooms in communities of color, where they teach classes on corporate and constitutional law, inspiring kids to consider law as a positive force, and a future career option. ([www.acca.com/diversity/pipeline/](http://www.acca.com/diversity/pipeline/))

- **Ethics/Professionalism:** ACC remains a leader in developing materials and information on ethical and professional issues directly affecting in-house counsel. Our Inhouse Caselaw<sup>SM</sup> library ([www.acca.com/vl/caselaw.php](http://www.acca.com/vl/caselaw.php)) provides members with references to cases that define in-house practice. Coupled with resources and policy initiatives in our advocacy homepages, corporate counsel will find all they need to answer common in-house ethics and professionalism questions.
- **Useful Practice Information:** Our award-winning journal, the *ACC Docket*, is filled with practical information in-house counsel need for their daily practice. It is the only corporate counsel publication featuring articles written *by* corporate counsel *for* corporate counsel and provides you with valuable and useful information and not theoretical postulations. ([www.acca.com/p-docket.php](http://www.acca.com/p-docket.php))

#### Networking and Training Opportunities:

- **Annual Meeting:** Our 2005 Annual Meeting themed” Legal Underdog to Corporate SuperHero: Using Compliance for a Competitive Advantage” held (October 15-17 in Washington DC) offers corporate practitioners more than 100 CLE-approved sessions to choose from. 13 tracks of programming developed by in-house counsel for in-house counsel cover a wide range of legal and management topics including intellectual property, litigation, labor & employment, corporate & securities, ecommerce, and new this year, a leadership and management skills track. ([www.acca.com/am/05/](http://www.acca.com/am/05/))
- **Corporate Counsel Institute.** ACC’s 2006 Corporate Counsel Institute will be held in Baltimore on May 21–23. The program features two tracks: one for members new to in-house practice, and another for members who are new managers in the law department. CCU offers hands-on training covering the basic skills needed for each of these tracks.

**A Professional Perspective:** ACC is continually striving to collect knowledge that helps enhance the visibility and recognition of the profession and also provides valuable feedback to our members on how in-house counsel are perceived. For example, ACC released the results of a CEO Survey concerning expectations of their in-house counsel. The research focused on two categories of performance: (1) the roles that both in-house and outside counsel are expected to play and (2) the characteristics respondents expect each to exhibit. This study found that top management expects much more of its in-house counsel than of outside counsel and, in general, these expectations are well met. While nearly nine out of ten respondents use outside counsel, they are much more likely to rate overall performance of in-house counsel as “excellent.” This is just one example of the information we collect to assist in-house counsel in their professional responsibilities.