

# REINFORCING INTERNAL DEPARTMENTS

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## **In a high profile move, Miguel Klingenberg, a former Managing Partner of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Spain has joined Repsol SA as Deputy Secretary General.**

Klingenberg spent 14 years at Freshfields and also headed the firm's Tax Group, acting for clients that include Gas Natural, a company owned by Repsol.

This follows recent moves in-house including Uría Menéndez Corporate Partner, Javier Illescas, to Banco Santander as Head of Legal for Business Affairs. This comes after Santander split its legal department in two - business and internal legal affairs - and former Head of Legal, Jaime Pérez Renovales, took up the post of Under-Secretary for the Presidency. Illescas has also been named as one of the bank's Senior Vice Presidents.

In-House Counsel say that companies are seeking to spend less on outsourcing to external law firms. While these recent notable moves could be seen as a way of reinforcing internal departments and bringing their outside counsel, inside, the likelihood is they are simply based on company reorganisations.