

## PRESS RELEASE MARCH 23, 2010

## LUKOIL'S CHIEF LAWYER RECOGNIZED AS EUROPEAN GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE YEAR

Ivan Masliaev, Head of the Main Division of Legal Support of OAO LUKOIL, became winner in the category General Counsel of the Year during the European Counsel Awards 2010 ceremony hosted by the International Law Office in conjunction with the Association of Corporate Counsel Europe.

This was the first time in its history that the European Counsel Award's General Counsel of the Year was given to a representative of a Russian company.

In 2010, the General Counsel of the Year was chosen from among 54 candidates nominated by 18 law firms.

The European Counsel Awards are the annual awards given to the most distinguished representatives of the European corporate lawyers community, whose professional activities comply with the highest world standards, who apply state-of-the-art concepts of legal support system organization to their business practice and are considered recognized leaders in their area of law. The General Counsel of the Year title is the highest individual distinction among nine categories of the European Counsel Awards. The title recognizes the prize winner's great achievements as viewed by his/her peers within the professional community of lawyers.

For more details, please visit: http://www.europeancounselawards.com/2010/.

Ivan A. Masliaev was born in 1958. He graduated from Lomonosov Moscow State University in 1980 with a degree in legal sciences. He became an honored lawyer of the Russian Federation. In 1992-1993 he occupied the position of Head of the Legal Support Department of the Langepasuraikogalymneft oil concern, in 1994-1999 he was Head of OAO LUKOIL's Legal Support Division, and since 2000 has been Head of the OAO LUKOIL's Main Division of Legal Support. He is a member of the OAO LUKOIL Management Committee.