

## Latham & Watkins promotes in Brussels

Malina McLennan  
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Rita Motta will become a counsel at Latham & Watkins in January 2017.

Motta, 40, will be one of two Latham competition counsel in Brussels alongside 14 partners. She focuses on international cartels, abuse of dominance and state aid.

“Latham offers the best resources to practice competition law with its global platform, cross-border cases and talented team,” said Motta.

Motta is qualified in both Brazil and the European Union. She began her career in São Paulo before moving to Latham as an associate in Brussels in 2007.

“For me specifically, the firm provides the opportunity to contribute my European and Latin American expertise to represent clients in complex, multijurisdictional cases,” she said. “I look forward to continuing to help expand and strengthen the competition group practice.”

Motta recently acted for shipping company Neptune Orient Lines in its successful acquisition by French competitor CMA GCM.

Motta also acted for Toshiba in the European Commission’s first-ever cartel settlement in 2010, and in the separate optical disk drives investigation.

She was part of a team that helped car parts supplier Sumitomo Electronic Industries avoid a €292 million fine during DG Comp’s wire harnesses cartel investigation.

In a statement, Brussels Latham competition practice head Sven B Völcker said: “Rita’s promotion is reflective of the tremendous job she has done on global investigation and merger matters.”

“Rita combines strong EU antitrust expertise with a deep understanding of the antitrust landscape in some of the most active antitrust regimes in Latin America, which is a strong asset to our globally operating clients,” Völcker added.