

Daily Journal

COVER STORY

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SHAPING THE FUTURE

TOP 100

Editor's Note

This is a season where talk of change is in the air — hot air, or fresh air — depending on where you stand.

But change is not just the latest buzzword in political rhetoric. It is essential, and it can also be deeply challenging. The lawyers and judges on our Top 100 are acutely aware of this. Through their work, they are shaping our future: what kind of air we will breathe, how we will define the institutions we share, how we will settle our disputes, how this business of law will operate.



Andrew Bridges

Winston & Strawn

San Francisco

A highly regarded litigator, he's been the lead counsel in a variety of notable intellectual property cases, including his successful defense of Diamond Multimedia Systems Inc. in a landmark case brought by the Recording Industry Association of America to ban distribution of the Rio MP3 music player. This year, he's been on a roll, winning a string of victories on behalf of defendants who were sued for copyright infringement by adult entertainment company Perfect 10. He defended Google and other defendants, arguing successfully that the thumbnail versions of nude models qualified for "fair use" protection and persuaded the U.S. Supreme Court not to consider an appeal. Earlier this year, he also convinced the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to reject Perfect 10's attempt to hold Visa and MasterCard liable for processing

payments to Web sites that had allegedly stolen the company's photos.