



Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell_{LLP}

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCKE LORD BISSELL & LIDDELL HOUSTON TEAM SECURES MULTI-MILLION VERDICT FOR BAKER HUGHES AGAINST VAREL

(HOUSTON) May 4, 2010 – Michael Sutton, a Partner based in the Houston office of Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell and Co-Chair of the Firm’s Intellectual Property Department, led a team of attorneys who received a favorable jury verdict on behalf of Houston-based Baker Hughes Inc., in a trade secret infringement lawsuit filed by Baker Hughes against competitor Varel International Energy Services and Varel Holdings. A jury in the 269th Judicial District Court of Harris County found that Varel illegally copied one of Baker Hughes’ best-selling oil and gas drill bit designs, and awarded Baker Hughes several million in damages. The decision is Sutton’s second favorable significant verdict in the past three months. In February, he also led a team that secured a \$25 million verdict on behalf of Houston-based ION Geophysical Corp. in a patent infringement lawsuit filed by ION against seismic equipment provider Sercel Inc.

Locke Lord attorneys working with Sutton include: Bruce Cannon, Tanya Chaney, Chris Dove, David Gregory and Genetha Turner.

Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP is a full-service, national law firm with offices in Atlanta, Austin, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, London, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Sacramento, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. With a vast geographic scope, and a national reputation in complex litigation, regulatory and transactional work, Locke Lord is focused on achieving client success as a team. Among Locke Lord’s many strong practice areas are appellate, aviation, corporate, class action litigation, employee benefits, energy, environmental, financial services, health care, insurance and reinsurance industries, intellectual property, labor and employment, public law, real estate, REIT, tax and technology.

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