



Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP (commonly referred to simply as **Nelson Mullins**) is a U.S. law firm and lobby group based in Columbia, South Carolina. Nelson Mullins has over 1000 attorneys, policy advisors, and professionals across 33 offices serving clients in more than 100 practice areas. In 2023, the American Lawyer ranked the firm as the 68th largest law firm in the nation based on 2022 gross revenue. It is the largest law firm in South Carolina by number lawyers.^[3]

History

The firm was founded by Patrick Henry Nelson II (1856-1914) of Camden and Columbia, S.C. Nelson was the Fifth Circuit Solicitor, President of the South Carolina Bar Association (1911-1912), and member of the South Carolina House of Representatives (1885-1887). His son, William Shannon Nelson (1881-1939) ran the firm after his father, as did William's son, Patrick Henry Nelson III (1910-1964).^{[4][5][6]}

Patrick Henry Nelson II became a key player in one of South Carolina's most famous criminal trials, *State v. Tillman*. Nelson defended Lt. Gov. James Tillman for the murder of the editor of The State newspaper in Columbia.

Nelson Mullins opened its 18th office in Baltimore, MD in February 2018.^[7] On January 24, 2022, it announced the addition of 22 partners to the firm's national litigation practice including new offices in Minneapolis, San Diego, and Richmond, with nine additional partners expected to be added in Dallas in the near future.^[8] As of 2023, Nelson Mullins had 33 offices including in Atlanta, Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, New York, and Washington, D.C.^[1]

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP celebrated 125 years of legal service in 2022.^[9]

Practice Areas

- Corporate Law
- Venture Capital
- **Intellectual Property**
- Litigation

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP



Headquarters	<u>Columbia, South Carolina</u>
No. of offices	33 ^[1]
No. of attorneys	More than 930 (2022)
Major practice areas	General practice including <u>Corporate Law</u> , <u>Litigation</u> , <u>Products Liability</u> , and more.
Key people	James K. Lehman, Managing Partner ^[2]
Date founded	1897
Founder	<u>Patrick Henry Nelson II</u>
Company type	<u>Limited liability partnership</u>
Website	<u>nelsonmullins.com</u> (<u>http://www.nelsonmullins.com/</u>)

- [Life Sciences](#)
- [Mergers and Acquisitions](#)
- [Products Liability](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Trusts and Estates](#)

Notable lawyers and alumni

- [Butler Derrick](#), former [U.S. representative for South Carolina's 3rd congressional district](#)
- [Trey Gowdy](#), former federal prosecutor who served as the [U.S. representative for South Carolina's 4th congressional district](#) from 2011 to 2019. Currently a frequent [Fox News](#) contributor.
- [William C. Hubbard](#), currently dean of the [University of South Carolina School of Law](#), former [President of the American Bar Association](#) (2014-2015) and member of the council of the [American Law Institute](#).
- [Philip Lader](#), former [U.S. Ambassador to the Court of St. James's \(1997-2001\)](#).
- [A. Marvin Quattlebaum Jr.](#), currently the [United States circuit judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit](#). He was formerly a [United States district judge of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina](#).
- [Marco Rubio](#), American politician and former speaker of the [Florida House of Representatives](#) sought the Republican nomination for president of the United States in 2016 and is currently serving as senior [U.S. Senator](#).
- [Richard Riley](#), served as the [United States Secretary of Education](#) under [President Bill Clinton](#) (1993-2001) and the [111th Governor of South Carolina](#) (1979-1987).
- [Dennis Wicker](#), former [Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina](#) (1994-2001).
- [David Wilkins](#), former [U.S. Ambassador to Canada](#) during the administration of [President George W. Bush](#).
- [Solomon L. Wisenberg](#), served as [Deputy Independent Counsel](#) in the [Whitewater/Lewinsky Investigation](#) and selected by Judge [Kenneth Starr](#) to conduct grand jury questioning of [President Bill Clinton](#).
- [George Wolfe \(CPA\)](#), former employee of the [United States Government](#), worked for the [Coalition Provisional Authority](#) in 2003–2004.
- [Jim Moran](#), served as the mayor of [Alexandria, Virginia](#) from 1985 to 1990. He is a member of the [Democratic Party](#) and chaired the [New Democrat Coalition](#) from 1997 to 2001.

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3. AmLaw Profile (<https://www.law.com/law-firm-profile/?id=220&name=Nelson-Mullins>)
4. "Patrick Henry Nelson II" (<https://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=donevanell&id=I51084>). *wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com*. Retrieved November 13, 2013.
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7. "Nelson Mullins Takes 11 Miles & Stockbridge Partners for Baltimore Launch" (<https://www.law.com/nationallawjournal/2018/02/22/nelson-mullins-takes-11-miles-stockbridge-partners-for-baltimore-launch/>). *law.com*. Retrieved 19 March 2022.
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External links

- [Nelson Mullins Homepage](http://www.nelsonmullins.com/) (<http://www.nelsonmullins.com/>)
 - [EducationCounsel](http://www.educationcounsel.com/) (<http://www.educationcounsel.com/>)
 - [Nelson Mullins Encompass](http://www.encompassediscovery.com/) (<http://www.encompassediscovery.com/>)
 - [Assureg](https://www.assureg.com/) (<https://www.assureg.com/>)
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Philip Lader

Philip Lader (born March 17, 1946), is a former US Ambassador to the Court of St. James's and former chairman of **WPP plc**, the global advertising/communications services firm (including Ogilvy & Mather, J. Walter Thompson, Young & Rubicam, Grey, Hill & Knowlton, Burson-Marsteller, Kantar, and Group M, with 205,000 people in 112 countries).

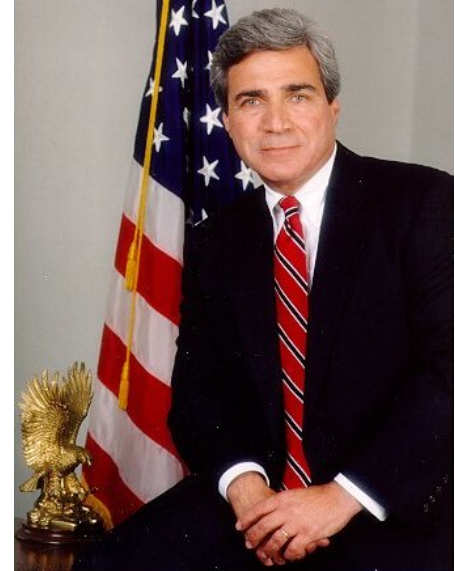
As a senior adviser to **Morgan Stanley**, he serves on several of its investment committees and boards of its private equity portfolio companies in addition to investment banking responsibilities. He is also a retired partner in the **Nelson Mullins** law firm.

In government, he also served as a member of President Clinton's Cabinet as administrator of the **US Small Business Administration**, assistant to the president, **White House Deputy Chief of Staff**, and deputy director of the **US Office of Management and Budget**.

Ambassador Lader serves, or has served, on the boards of **RAND Corporation** (formerly vice chairman), **Lloyd's of London**, **Marathon Oil**, **AMC Entertainment**, **AES Corporation**, **UC Rusal**, **Songbird (Canary Wharf)**, **Duck Creek Technologies**, and **Minerva Corporations**, **the British Museum**, **American Red Cross**, **the Smithsonian Museum of American History**, **St. Paul's Cathedral Foundation**, **Atlantic Council**, and **Bankinter Foundation for Innovation**.

He is a member of the **Council on Foreign Relations**, an Honorary Fellow of **London Business School** and **Oxford University's Pembroke College**, and an Honorary Bencher of the **Middle Temple (British Inns of Court)**.

Philip Lader



United States Ambassador to the United Kingdom

In office

September 22, 1997 – February 28, 2001

President Bill Clinton
George W. Bush

Preceded by William J. Crowe

Succeeded by William Stamps Farish III

19th Administrator of the Small Business Administration

In office

October 8, 1994 – February 18, 1997

President Bill Clinton

Preceded by Erskine Bowles

Succeeded by Aída Álvarez

White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations

In office

January 20, 1993 – October 3, 1994

President Bill Clinton

Preceded by Robert Zoellick

Succeeded by Erskine Bowles

In 1981, he and his wife, Linda LeSourd Lader, founded Renaissance Weekends, the non-partisan retreats that seek to build bridges between innovative leaders from diverse fields. They continue to host five Renaissance Weekends each year around the U.S.

Early life and education

Lader graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Duke University in 1966, received the Master of Arts in History from the University of Michigan in 1967, completed graduate studies in law and English constitutional history at Oxford University from 1967 to 1968, and received his JD as a Leopold Schepp Scholar from Harvard Law School in 1972.^{[1][2]}

Personal details	
Born	March 17, 1946 <div>New York City, <u>New York</u>, U.S.</div>
Political party	<u>Democratic</u>
Spouse	Linda LeSourd
Children	2 daughters
Education	<u>Duke University</u> (BA) <div><u>University of Michigan</u> (MA)<div><u>Pembroke College, Oxford</u><div><u>Harvard University</u> (JD)</div></div></div>

Career

During his studies at Harvard Law School, Lader was an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Newton College of the Sacred Heart (subsequently merged with Boston College) and a teaching assistant to Harvard Law Professor Paul Freund and Harvard Political Philosophy Professor Louis Hartz. After graduation, he was a law clerk to the late Judge Paul Roney, Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit (formerly Fifth Circuit) and was associated with the New York law firm of Sullivan & Cromwell. He served in the U.S. Army (JAG) Reserves from 1969 to 1975.

Lader was president of Sea Pines Company, a developer/operator of large-scale recreation communities including Hilton Head Island, Amelia Island, and Kiawah Island. Upon sale of that company in 1983, he was president of Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina, which was awarded the National Gold Medal for "general improvement in programs" by the Council for Advancement & Support of Education during his tenure, and served until becoming a candidate in the 1986 South Carolina gubernatorial election, finishing second to then-Lieutenant Governor Michael R. Daniel and foregoing the run-off in support of Daniel, who narrowly lost to Republican Carroll A. Campbell Jr. in the general election.

From 1986 to 1989, Lader was executive vice president of Sir James Goldsmith's U.S. holdings – which included America's then-largest private landholdings, sixth-largest forest products company, largest computer supplies supplier, and oil and gas interests. After the assets' restructuring and sale, he was president and Vice-Chancellor of Bond University, Australia's first private university.

Under President Bill Clinton, described by The New York Times as "a longtime friend," Lader was confirmed unanimously three times by the U.S. Senate for his State Department, SBA and OMB roles. Returning to the private sector in 2001, Lader joined Morgan Stanley and WPP. In addition to board services, he also was the John West Professor of International Studies at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina from 2001 to 2006.

He has served as president of Business Executives for National Security, chairman of the Board of Visitors of Duke University's Sanford Institute of Public Policy and the Royal Academy of Arts American Trust, a member of Harvard Law School's Visiting Committee, Columbia University's International Advisory Board, Yale Divinity School's advisory board, and Brown University's Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs Advisory Board, and the founding Council of the Rothermere American Institute at Oxford University. In South Carolina, he was a trustee of Middleton Place Foundation (America's oldest landscaped gardens) and Liberty Fellows and was chairman of the South Carolina Small & Minority Business Council, a trustee of South Carolina State Colleges, and a director of the South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority, First Carolina Bank, and the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce.

Honors

Lader has been awarded honorary doctorates by 14 universities. For his **contributions to trans-Atlantic relations**, the **Royal Society for the Arts, Manufactures and Commerce** awarded him the 2001 Benjamin Franklin Medal, and he received the Rotary International Foundation's 2007 Global Service to Humanity Award and British-American Business' 2016 Founders Award.

Personal life

He is married to Linda LeSourd Lader, who is associate pastor of Gardens Presbyterian Church in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. A graduate of **Yale Divinity School** and fifth-generation graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, she was associate pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. Her editing work continued the tradition of her parents, Leonard LeSourd, longtime editor of Guideposts Magazine and Catherine Marshall, author of A Man Called Peter, Christy, and other best-selling books. She received the International Women's Foundation Leadership Award in 2000 and the 2012 Humanitarian Award from Emma Willard School, her alma mater.

Ambassador and Mrs. Lader have two daughters. Mary-Catherine Lader, who holds JD/MBA degrees from Harvard University, is chief operating officer of the decentralized finance platform Uniswap and previously was a managing director at BlackRock (and chief operating officer of the firm's Digital Wealth business and head of its climate tech business, Aladdin Sustainability). Whitaker Lader, who holds the MBA from Stanford University and leads actor Nicholas Hoult's film/TV production company, previously worked with Ron Howard's and Brian Grazer's Imagine Entertainment and Sundance Institute; and her credits include "The World to Come" (starring Vanessa Kirby and Katherine Waterstone) and "Light of My Life" (Casey Affleck and Elisabeth Moss). Both daughters are also graduates of Brown University.

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2. [file:///Users/benjaminfalk/Downloads/NominationofPhilipLader_10574999.pdf Nominationn of Philip Lader]

External links

- [Council of American Ambassadors biography \(http://www.americanambassadors.org/members/philip-lader\)](http://www.americanambassadors.org/members/philip-lader)
 - [Nelson Mullins law firm biography \(http://www.nelsonmullins.com/attorneys/philip-lader\)](http://www.nelsonmullins.com/attorneys/philip-lader)
 - [Renaissance Weekend - Founders \(http://www.renaissanceweekend.org/aboutus/founders.htm\)](http://www.renaissanceweekend.org/aboutus/founders.htm)
 - [Appearances \(https://www.c-span.org/person/?32535\)](https://www.c-span.org/person/?32535) on [C-SPAN](#)
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WPP plc

WPP plc is a British multinational communications, advertising, public relations, technology, and commerce holding company headquartered in London, England. It is the world's largest advertising company, as of 2023.^[4] **WPP plc owns many companies**, which include advertising, public relations, media, and market research networks such as AKQA, BCW, CMI Media Group, Essence Global, Finsbury, Grey, Hill+Knowlton Strategies, Mindshare, Ogilvy, Wavemaker, Wunderman Thompson, and VMLY&R. It is one of the "Big Four" agency companies, alongside Publicis, The Interpublic Group of Companies, and Omnicom Group.^[5] WPP has a primary listing on the London Stock Exchange, and is a constituent of the FTSE 100 Index.^[6]

On 14 April 2018, Martin Sorrell retired 33 years after founding the company. Roberto Quarta is chairman.^[7] Mark Read is the CEO.^[8]

History

The company was founded as **Wire and Plastic Products plc** to manufacture wire shopping baskets in 1971. In 1985 Martin Sorrell and Preston Rabl,^[9] searching for a listed company through which to build a worldwide marketing services company, bought a controlling stake.^{[10][11]}

In 1986, WPP became the parent company of Picquotware, a manufacturer of teapots and jugs, based in Northampton. In November 1987 a fire destroyed the Northampton factory, so production was restarted at Burntwood in Staffordshire. On 25 November 2004 WPP closed the Burntwood factory, and stopped manufacturing Picquotware; all assets were sold on 14 December 2004.^[12]

In the 1980s, WPP began its strategy of growth via acquisitions.^[13] In later years, WPP regularly acquired dozens of companies annually.^[13] In January 1987, the company acquired Scott Stern Associates, at the time Scotland's largest design and advertising company.^[14] In the same year (1987), the company acquired J. Walter Thompson (including JWT, Hill & Knowlton,

WPP plc



Company type	<u>Public</u>
Traded as	<u>LSE: WPP</u> (https://www.londonstockexchange.com/stock/WPP/) <u>FTSE 100 Component</u>
ISIN	<u>JE00B8KF9B49</u>
Industry	<u>Communications</u> <u>Advertising</u> <u>Public relations</u>
Founded	1971 (<u>Wire and Plastic Products plc</u>) 1985 (<u>Sorrell acquisition and entry into advertising</u>)
Founders	<u>Martin Sorrell</u> <u>Preston Rabl</u> (as an advertising company)
Headquarters	<u>London, England, UK</u>
Area served	<u>Worldwide</u>
Key people	<u>Roberto Quarta</u> (chairperson) <u>Mark Read</u> (CEO)
Services	<u>Integrated networks</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · <u>media</u> · <u>data and insights</u> · <u>public relations and public affairs</u> · <u>brand consulting</u> ·

and MRB Group) for \$566m.^[10] The company was listed on the NASDAQ in 1988 (and later switched its secondary listing to the NYSE).^[15] In 1989, it acquired Ogilvy Group for \$864m.^[10]

WPP's acquisitions continued into the 1990s, when WPP bought firms in the healthcare advertising, digital-marketing, online shopping, digital media, data management, retail and corporate consultancy, and sports-marketing industries. This included the 1999 acquisition of Lambie-Nairn.^[13] In 1998, WPP formed an alliance with Asatsu-DK Inc. of Japan.^[10]

In May 2000, WPP agreed to acquire the United States-based Young & Rubicam Group for \$5.7 billion, in what was at the time the largest ever takeover in the advertising sector.^[16] The takeover made WPP the largest advertising company in the world measured by billings and revenue, overtaking Omnicom Group and Interpublic.^[16]

In the 2000s, WPP Digital was created to develop the group's digital capabilities.^[17] In October 2008, WPP acquired market research firm Taylor Nelson Sofres for £1.6 billion.^{[18][19]} During 2009 WPP reduced its workforce by around 14,000 employees, or 12.3% of its then total staff numbers, in response to the onset of the 2008–2012 global recession.^{[20][21]}

In June 2012, WPP agreed to acquire the digital advertising agency AKQA for US\$540 million.^{[22][23]} In November 2015, WPP agreed to acquire a majority stake in Essence, a global digital agency.^[24]

In November 2016, WPP announced it will be acquiring **PEP, LLC**, a project management and procurement company that oversees shopper marketing promotions for clients, in the US.^[25]

Many of WPP's constituent agencies use Microsoft Windows, and the organisation was among those hit by the 2017 cyberattacks on Ukraine, with some staff's computer access limited to webmail only as much as ten days later.^{[26][27]}

WPP merged Burson-Marsteller with Cohn & Wolfe to become BCW (Burson Cohn & Wolfe) in February 2018.^[28]

In April 2018, Martin Sorrell retired after 33 years, following allegations of personal misconduct and misuse of company assets. Sorrell has denied the allegations.^[7] Chairman Roberto Quarta was temporarily named executive chairman.^[7] In September 2018, Mark Read, who was the global CEO of Wunderman,^[29] was named CEO.^{[30][31]}

In the late 2010s, the advertising industry faced significant challenges. Changes in the industry landscape included financial pressure on global clients, in particular fast-moving consumer goods clients, companies taking work in-house, the ability to directly advertise on tech platforms, and

	production · health and wellness ^[1]
Revenue	▲ £14,844.8 million (2023) ^[2]
Operating income	▼ £531.0 million (2023) ^[2]
Net income	▼ £197.2 million (2023) ^[2]
Number of employees	115,000 (2024) ^[3]
Subsidiaries	<u>AKQA</u> <u>BCW</u> <u>CMI Media Group</u> <u>Essence Global</u> <u>Grey</u> <u>Hill+Knowlton Strategies</u> <u>Mindshare</u> <u>Ogilvy</u> <u>Wavemaker</u> <u>UWG</u> <u>VML</u>
Website	<u>www.wpp.com</u> (http://www.wpp.com)

competition with consultancies.^{[32][33][34]} While WPP had previously outperformed other companies in the industry, its growth slowed starting in 2017 and its market value dropped in 2018.^[35] Critics said WPP needed to become "nimbler" and "leaner".^[32] At the time, many WPP agencies operated mostly independently and competed for accounts.^{[36][37]} In late 2018, Read said the company had grown "unwieldy with too much duplication".^[30] He instituted a plan to reposition WPP as a "creative transformation company" and make its offer simpler.^[30] Read emphasized the importance of technology^[38] and also merged several WPP agencies:^[30] J. Walter Thompson merged with Wunderman to create Wunderman Thompson^[39] and Y&R merged with VML to create VMLY&R.^[30] Within Read's first year as CEO, he trimmed WPP by selling more than 30 subsidiaries,^[40] including a majority stake in Kantar.^[40] By selling a majority stake of Kantar to **Bain Capital**, WPP is believed to have generated **\$3.1 billion to help pay down debt**.^[41] Read also sold the original Wire and Plastic Products company that Sorrell had purchased to create his business empire.^[42]

The sale of 60% of the shares in Kantar was completed in December 2019. \$1.9bn was used to reduce WPP's debt, and \$1.2bn was returned to shareholders.^{[43][44]}

In July 2022, WPP acquired Corebiz, a Latin American ecommerce agency, for an undisclosed amount.^[45]

Operations

WPP is a large holding company involved in communications, advertising, public relations, and other businesses.^[13] It is considered the world's biggest advertising agency group.^[38] WPP focuses on communications, experience, commerce, and technology.^{[46][47]} Headquartered in London, England, WPP has approximately **130,000 employees** throughout its portfolio of businesses across more than **100 countries**, as of 2018.^[30]

WPP's notable advertising agency company holdings include Grey, Ogilvy,^[13] VMLY&R, and Wunderman Thompson.^[48] The XM Gravity Indonesia subsidiary company was founded in 2008.^[49]

WPP's digital company holdings include AKQA.^[13] WPP's public relations and public affairs company holdings include Hill+Knowlton Strategies, BCW (Burson Cohn & Wolfe), and Ogilvy.^[13] WPP's media investment management company holdings include GroupM, Mindshare, Wavemaker and Essence.^[50] WPP's research insight and consulting companies include Kantar.^[40] Hogarth Worldwide is a WPP-owned production company.^[47]

WPP's shopper marketing promotions company is PEP, LLC (formerly Promotion Execution Partners).^[25] WPP-owned brand consultancies include Superunion (a combination of Brand Union, Lambie-Nairn, and three other brand consulting businesses)^{[51][52]} and Landor.^[13]

Controversies

Cillit Bang viral marketing controversy

In 2005 advertising agency Cohn & Wolfe (later merged into WPP) was contracted by Reckitt to operate a blog as the fictional character Barry Scott, advertising mascot for Reckitt's cleaning fluid Cillit Bang, as a viral marketing platform. In October of that year blogger Tom Coates wrote an emotional post to his own blog about his long-estranged father. Among the expressions of condolences and sympathy in the post's comment section was one from a user identifying themselves as Barry Scott, with a link back to Cohn & Wolfe's in-character blog as Barry Scott. Offended by the apparent use of his blog comments on such a personal post as a spam advertising venue, Coates traced the comment's originating IP address through addresses owned by Young & Rubicam and back to Reckitt. Reckitt initially denied responsibility for the message, but wrote Coates an apology acknowledging the message's inappropriateness, and Cohn & Wolfe issued a statement of remorse for their misuse of the "experimental" blog which they then ceased operating.^{[53][54]}

The controversy and its fallout led to further discussions among the blogger community as well as the advertising industry on the ethical issues surrounding blogs being "operated" by fictional characters for the purposes of advertising without being clearly labeled as such, and the extent to which those blogs should be allowed to participate in the greater blogosphere.^{[55][56][57]}

2012 shareholder revolt on executive remuneration

With a number of shareholder revolts over executive pay having already happened at other public companies' AGMs earlier in the year, the media coverage of Martin Sorrell's intended £12.93m compensation package drew increasing public attention in 2012.^{[58][59]} The result was a 59.52% shareholder vote to reject the resolution.^{[59][60]}

Taxation

It has been reported that WPP goes to great lengths to lower its own corporate tax bill. *The Guardian* reported that between 2003 and 2009 the company paid £27m in UK corporation tax, compared to what the newspaper "might expect" based on reports of the firm making 15% of its profit in the UK, of around £126m.^[61]

Television audience measurement

In 2012, the Indian broadcasting NDTV filed a lawsuit against Television Audience Measurement (TAM), a joint venture of the former competitors Nielsen and Kantar Media Research which for years has provided the only TV audience measurement system in India. The lawsuit alleged that viewership data were manipulated in favor of broadcasters willing to provide bribes.^[62] WPP Plc was listed among the defendants as the holding group of Kantar and IMRB.^{[63][64][65][66][67]}

The lawsuit was dismissed in its entirety on 4 March 2013.^[68]

Work for fossil fuel companies

WPP handles the accounts of many major oil companies.^[69] Asked by Reuters to disclose their client list, WPP refused to do so.^[69] WPP has defended its work for fossil fuel companies.^[69] Lawsuits have alleged that four of WPP's advertisement campaigns for fossil fuel companies have been misleading or

16. "Young & Rubicam Agrees to \$5.7 Billion Takeover by WPP" (<https://www.nytimes.com/2000/05/09/business/young-rubicam-agrees-to-5.7-billion-takeover-by-wpp.html>). *The New York Times*. 9 May 2000. Retrieved 12 July 2012.
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