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FORBES: THE BRIBERY LAW RACKET



New York, NY (May 5, 2010) – In the last few years, as the Federal government has cranked up the enforcement of the 33-year-old Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, (FCPA), a thriving and lucrative anti-bribery complex has emerged (**The Bribery Law Racket, p. 70**). But is this initiative having any impact on reducing bribery? *Forbes'* latest cover story reports that instead of bribery decreasing, companies instead find themselves getting extorted in foreign lands, only to get extorted again by Washington; among the several Washington insiders who have cashed in on the government's new emphasis on anti-bribery enforcement: Robert Bennett, Louis Freeh and Mark Mendelsohn. The five biggest cases under the FCPA law have taken place in the last four years, and include Siemens, Halliburton, and Daimler. The Justice department has 150 open FCPA investigations and the next targets include ABB, Weatherford, ENI, Technip and Alcatel-Lucent.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Too Big To Thrive? (p. 24) – Citigroup is doing a good job fixing itself up, but like most big banks, it will have a difficult time sustaining the current exuberance.

Extreme Hiring (p. 44) – Psychological scrutiny and rigorous simulations are fast becoming a requisite part of the interview process. *Forbes* reports how two-day-long assessments, including personality testing and simulations are changing the way people get hired. *Plus:* how to beat the system if you are asked to take a personality test as part of an interview process.

Silicon Safecracker (p. 32) – Cracking codes is one of the interesting challenges that pushed human ingenuity to invent computers. Today, Pico Computing, a Seattle startup, sells a desktop-size supercomputer aimed at military and government agencies that need to turn scrambled messages into actionable intelligence, along with anyone else who needs to solve mathematically monstrous tasks quickly.

Estate Tax Limbo (p.40) – With Washington gridlocked, *Forbes* breaks down the steps you can take now to protect your heirs and assets.

Mr. Foreclosure (p. 50) – Recent headlines suggest a housing market recovery. But James Dolan thinks foreclosures won't peak for at least a year, despite new rules designed to delay or prevent them. This is good news for Dolan's legal services business, but bad news for homeowners and lenders.

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