#### CLIENT

applEcon

### **PROJECT**

applEcon, an economics consulting firm in Ann Arbor, Michigan, engaged Q LTD in a research and re-branding project that led to the development of a new brand identity, web site, e-newsletter, stationery package, corporate brochure, and recruiting brochure.

## **CHALLENGE**

Our challenge was to help the client move forward with improved marketing materials to better reflect the firm's expertise, professional stature, and high-profile client base after more than ten successful years in business. The firm was considering a name change; they needed to better understand their specialized target audience of litigation attorneys and academic experts nationwide; and they needed greater insight into the decision-making process of law firms seeking an outside consultant.

### **OUR APPROACH**

Q began the project with a workshop with applEcon staff and stakeholders. This provided us with the foundation for the brand positioning and identity development, the reference for questions

that needed answers through research surveys, and a basis for building the information architecture of the firm's new web site. Q determined that finding answers would require speaking with attorneys one-on-one and therefore developed a plan for interviewing academic experts and key personnel from select law firms across the country. Q also conducted a competitive analysis and secondary research/insight-gathering regarding anti-trust litigation and high-level economics expert consultants.

## **RESULT**

- Resolved consideration of potential name change by validating name equity and relevance.
- Answered key questions regarding the target audience and decision process of law firms seeking an expert-level economic consultant.
- Developed a new brand identity that accurately reflects the firm's personality.
- Designed communications materials that enhance both usability and the client's image in the marketplace.
- Provided recommendations for long-term business growth, based on analysis of the research findings.
- > applecon.com

New branding and web site

# appl**Econ**



