One legal practice has emerged as a preferred choice among parties involved in the media, sports and entertainment sectors who demand superior representation and client service.

DLA Piper understands the way the media, sport and entertainment industries work. We are trusted legal advisors, with the experience and reach to advise in any major jurisdiction. Our clients benefit from our deep industry knowledge and experience, and from our creative, solution-oriented and responsive approach.

We have a market-leading international team of media, sport and entertainment lawyers throughout the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe, Africa and the Middle East. We offer the benefits of a global business law firm, with a network of experience extending across the world.

DLA Piper is at the forefront of advising the media, sport and entertainment industries on finance, borrowing, investment and corporate issues, production and rights acquisitions, exploiting media rights, staging and exploiting live sports and other events, intellectual property protection and enforcement, regulatory and administrative issues, antitrust and competition law, stadium and arena development and on the resolution of disputes.

We advise leagues, clubs, franchise owners, broadcasters, advertisers, international and national governing bodies, rights holders, agencies and promoters, studios, distributors, event promoters, sponsors, investors, banks and other leading corporations and individuals. Our lawyers are also well positioned to provide a full range of business legal services to the emerging eSports industry.

Our team is regularly recognized as a leading legal team and recent highlights include:

- Band 1 in Media (Chambers Europe 2017)
- Tier 1 in Sport and Media & Entertainment (Legal 500 UK 2016)
- Band 2 in Sports Law: Nationwide (Chambers USA 2017)
- Band 2 in TMT (Chambers Global 2017)
- Band 2 in Sport (Legal 500 US 2016)
- Band 1 in TMT (Chambers UAE 2017)
- Entertainment Law Firm of the Year (Who's Who Legal 2015)

Recent experience
Premier League with its broadcasting and media rights activities
A.S. Roma and its affiliates with the construction, planning, real estate and corporate matters for the new Stadio della Roma and related mixed-use development
Los Angeles Chargers in connection with their relocation from San Diego to Los Angeles
NBA China regarding its complex matters, including responding to a shifting audio-visual regulatory landscape (primary re: the European Digital Single Market), virtual advertising issues and a wide variety of other commercial arrangements
Qatar's Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy on partnership arrangements for the development of a stadium and tournament infrastructure and the legacy redevelopment of one of the 2022 Football World Cup tournament sites
Vice Media on the creation of ‘VICELAND’, a series of linear television channels
Los Angeles Football Club in connection with corporate, tax, finance, employment and commercial matters relating to its run up to its first MLS match and new stadium
Dentsu Aegis, the world's leading, focused media and digital communications group, with various transactions
Discovery on its pan-European acquisition of rights to the Summer and Winter Olympic Games for 2018-2024. US and international sporting organisations on trademark, athlete rights of publicity, and ticket resale issues relating to the Olympic Games
Australian Football League on the landmark acquisition of Melbourne's Etihad Stadium
Lenders' counsel in connection with a new stadium for Raiders Las Vegas
Lenders' counsel in connection with a new stadium for Tottenham Hotspur
Germany's leading broadcasters in connection with important regulatory issues, including advertising regulation on product placement or insertion of adverts, license obligations to carry third parties and the protection of minors

INSIGHTS

Publications

Supreme Court Corner

24 July 2019

The Court clarifies a circuit split over copyright in *Fourth Estate* and, in *Mission Product Holdings*, says a licensee’s rights survive the licensor’s bankruptcy.

Who's that bot? California requires clear disclosure starting 7/1/2019

20 June 2019

A California law attempts to tackle the problem of automated online accounts that simulate conversation – and that are used to confuse or deceive.

*District of Columbia v. Facebook*: General Consumer Protection Statute can serve as vehicle for state attorney general seeking redress for data privacy violations

12 June 2019

This case should be carefully examined by entities that collect data for a number of reasons.

Mexico: Anti-money laundering rules / self-correction program

8 MAY 2019

Mexico’s new rules aim to encourage non-compliant taxpayers to meet their reporting obligations.

DLA Piper is a global law firm operating through various separate and distinct legal entities. Further details of these entities can be found at www.dlapiper.com. This may qualify as
EU Policy & Regulatory Alert - EU Publishes Artificial Intelligence Ethics Guidelines

12 APR 2019
On 8 April 2019, the EU's High-Level Expert Group ("AI HLEG") on Artificial Intelligence ("AI") published the much-anticipated "Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI", setting out a horizontal framework for the development and deployment of ethical and robust AI systems across the EU.

In-venue streaming and broadcasting of live sporting events – key legal issues for sports clubs and leagues

25 MAR 2019
Approaches to consider for US sporting event organizers seeking to combat peer-to-peer broadcasting of live events.

EU Policy & Regulatory Alert: EU Mechanism for Foreign Investment Screening to Enter into Force in April

21 MAR 2019
Today, on 21 March 2019, the new Regulation establishing a framework for the screening of foreign direct investments into the Union was published in the Official Journal of the European Union (EU).

March 2019 - Key issues in brand cross-licensing in China

20 MAR 2019
In recent years, Chinese brands have been increasingly gaining global recognition, especially in the technology, e-commerce, and consumer goods sectors. In this context, an increased number of foreign businesses are considering branded partnerships with a Chinese counterparty as a way of operating in China (e.g., co-branded joint venture). In recent years, Chinese brands have been increasingly gaining global recognition, especially in the technology, e-commerce, and consumer goods sectors. In this context, an increased number of foreign businesses are considering branded partnerships with a Chinese counterparty as a way of operating in China (e.g., co-branded joint venture).

Top of Mind: Litigation

20 MAR 2019
In this issue, our coverage of 10 big topics businesses have been thinking about this quarter.

Fourth Estate Public Benefit Corp. v. Wall-Street.com: when can a copyright claimant sue for infringement?
Supreme Court says not until the copyright has been registered

5 MAR 2019
This decision will have an immediate impact on both pending and future copyright infringement lawsuits.

Major Sporting Events - The Legal Requirements

13 FEB 2019
The world’s major sporting events continue to grow when it comes to the number of countries, participants and visitors involved,
as well as the money invested and revenues generated. These events also involve a broad spectrum of legal issues, and high-quality legal advice is of immense importance.

Fairness by Design

31 JAN 2019
The "net impression" created by the consumer's entire online interaction with a site will be reviewed by regulators and the courts when evaluating regulatory compliance.

DOJ reverses its 2011 Opinion, concludes Wire Act prohibitions “sweep beyond sports gambling”

18 JAN 2019
An opinion that will have a significant effect on the Internet gaming and lottery industries.

DLA Piper Slovakia: Online gambling liberalisation

14 JAN 2019
Slovakia is planning to liberalize the online gambling market. The planned effectiveness of the proposed act is 1 March 2019.

Sport Now: DLA Piper’s Media, Sport and Entertainment sector magazine

10 JAN 2019
We've collated articles from a wide variety of countries to provide you with an overview of what's pertinent in the sector in your country and to show how this compares to sector in other parts of the world.

The Music Modernization Act: stronger protections for artists and publishers

21 DEC 2018
The MMA revamps the Copyright Act in three major aspects.

Supreme Court Corner Q4 2018

20 DEC 2018
A trademark case concerning the Lanham Act’s prohibition of "immoral" marks; a patent case asking whether the government is a "person" under the AIA.

DLA Piper grows Entertainment Finance and Transactions capabilities in Los Angeles

21 DEC 2018
DLA Piper recently welcomed seasoned entertainment and media attorneys Tom Ara and David Markman to the growing Los Angeles office and IPT group.
Stadium development can breathe life into urban areas

12 DEC 2018

Sports teams and their development partners are moving facilities closer to urban areas or to urbanized "edge cities," with athletic venues anchoring large, adjacent transit-oriented neighborhoods within communities as "arena districts."

EU Policy & Regulatory Alert: New Regulation on Foreign Direct Investment Screening in the EU

22 NOV 2018

The European Union is moving fast towards establishing a joint regulatory and policy framework for Europeans to seize the opportunities provided by Artificial Intelligence (AI) and to reinforce Europe's competitiveness in this field.

While midterm elections prove mixed results for gambling advocates, sports betting is the clear winner

9 NOV 2018

Implications of the November 2018 US elections for the gaming sector.

Real Estate Gazette: Sports and Stadia

7 NOV 2018

REAL ESTATE GAZETTE SERIES

This issue highlights the various legal issues related to sports and stadium development.

Recent Landmark Case on Comparative Advertising in Hong Kong

12 OCT 2018

On 5 September 2018, the Hong Kong Court of First Instance handed down a significant win to Hong Kong Broadband Network Limited (HKBN) in dismissing a trade mark infringement claim brought against it by the PCCW-HKT group (PCCW). The case is the first decision the Hong Kong Court has made on section 21 of the Trade Mark Ordinance (Cap. 559) (TMO) and provided important guidance on the use of trademarks in the context of comparative advertising.

HKBN was represented by the legal team from DLA Piper Hong Kong led by May Ng, Partner, assisted by Queenie Chan, Associate.

Intellectual Property and Technology News (Asia Pacific) September 2018

27 SEP 2018

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS SERIES

Intellectual Property and Technology News (Asia Pacific) is our annual publication designed to report on worldwide developments in intellectual property and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.
Copyright in esports: a top-heavy power structure, but is it legally sound?

27 SEP 2018

Central to the esports industry are novel intellectual property issues arising from the structure of the esports ecosystem.

Embedding content: uncertainty about the Copyright Statute undermines digital media

27 SEP 2018

Companies creating digital content have to more carefully weigh the potential risks of embedding copyrighted content into their sites.

Ben Mulcahy and Gina Reif Ilardi recognized in Variety’s 2018 Legal Impact Report

27 SEP 2018

Benjamin Mulcahy and Gina Reif Ilardi have been recognized in the 2018 Variety Legal Impact Report.

eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

14 SEP 2018

ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS

In this issue, remote notarization – US state requirements, plus blockchain, the new stablecoin, the validity of esignatures, and more.

California amends Consumer Privacy Act to clarify exemptions and fix some technical deficiencies, but significant work remains

10 SEP 2018

SB 1121 clarifies only a handful of the dozens of drafting ambiguities and drafting errors in the CCPA.

Online gaming and gambling are changing

28 JUN 2018

Two recent federal court decisions have disrupted the online and mobile gaming and gambling industry in the United States. Shifts are taking place in other jurisdictions as well.

New York joins the #MeToo fray with sweeping legislation
New York-based employers should be aware of the numerous new requirements in New York State and New York City anti-sexual harassment legislation.

PASPA unconstitutional; states free to legalize sports betting: top points about the landmark Supreme Court decision

Many states are moving to define their positions relative to sports betting, driving regulatory activity at the federal and state level.

The decision paves the way for each of our states and territories to legalize, tax, regulate and even participate themselves in the multibillion-dollar sports gambling industry.

The decision paves the way for each of our states and territories to legalize, tax, regulate and even participate themselves in the multibillion-dollar sports gambling industry.

We've collated articles from a wide variety of countries to provide you with an overview of what's pertinent in the sector in your country and to show how this compares to sector in other parts of the world.

DLA Piper's new Global Media Sector Trends 2018 report explores how new commercial opportunities are being created by disruption, specifically in relation to the rise of over-the-top (OTT) content, virtual / augmented reality (VR/AR) and the internet-of-things (IOT).

A booming market with rising demand for connectivity and capacity.

DLA Piper is a global law firm operating through various separate and distinct legal entities. Further details of these entities can be found at www.dlapiper.com. This may qualify as...
China's outbound investment in football

Proposed additional restrictions on gambling

During broadcast (including online platforms) in Australia

Sport Now: DLA Piper's Media, Sport and Entertainment sector magazine

Welcome to our inaugural edition of Sport Now, our new Sports magazine that will keep you up-to-date with what's happening in the sector around the world.

Foul play by illegal state aid?

A sword of Damocles: public financing of professional sports

Ticketing lawsuits point to further turmoil in the US

Recent years have seen a number of lawsuits concerning clubs and ticketing policies

Intellectual Property and Technology News (Asia Pacific) December 2017

Intellectual Property and Technology News (Asia Pacific) is our biannual publication designed to report on worldwide developments in intellectual property and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

Intellectual Property and Technology News (Asia Pacific) June 2017

Intellectual Property and Technology News (Asia Pacific) is our biannual publication designed to report on worldwide developments in intellectual property and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

Supreme Court Corner: Q4 2015

A recent fair use decision, plus three significant cases to watch
Penn State Ninth Interim Report

5 DEC 2014
This is the ninth quarterly report of Senator George J. Mitchell - the Independent Athletics Integrity Monitor - on Penn State's progress in implementing the requirements of the Athletics Integrity Agreement among Penn State, the NCAA and the Big Ten Conference.

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Tax incentives in Puerto Rico: a quick introduction

13 JUN 2017
Puerto Rico offers a spectrum of economic incentives aiming to promote many key industries. This handbook offers a quick look at ten of the most significant of these incentives.

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Penn State Third Annual Report

21 SEP 2015
This is the third annual report of the Independent Athletics Integrity Monitor – Charles P. Scheeler - on Penn State’s progress in implementing the requirements of the Athletics Integrity Agreement among Penn State, the NCAA and the Big Ten Conference.

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Penn State Eleventh Interim Report

29 MAY 2015
This is the eleventh quarterly report of the Independent Athletics Integrity Monitor - Charles Scheeler - on Penn State's progress in implementing the requirements of the Athletics Integrity Agreement among Penn State, the NCAA and the Big Ten Conference.

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Penn State Tenth Interim Report

27 FEB 2015
This is the tenth quarterly report of Senator George J. Mitchell - the Independent Athletics Integrity Monitor - on Penn State's progress in implementing the requirements of the Athletics Integrity Agreement among Penn State, the NCAA and the Big Ten Conference.

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Penn State Second Annual Report

8 SEP 2014
This is the second annual report of Senator George J. Mitchell - the Independent Athletics Integrity Monitor - on Penn State's progress in implementing the requirements of the Athletics Integrity Agreement among Penn State, the NCAA and the Big Ten Conference.

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Penn State Seventh Interim Report
This is the seventh quarterly report of Senator George J. Mitchell - the Independent Athletics Integrity Monitor - on Penn State's progress in implementing the requirements of the Athletics Integrity Agreement among Penn State, the NCAA and the Big Ten Conference.

This is the sixth quarterly report of Senator George J. Mitchell - the Independent Athletics Integrity Monitor - on Penn State's progress in implementing the requirements of the Athletics Integrity Agreement among Penn State, the NCAA and the Big Ten Conference.

The Endorsement Guides apply equally to all types of media and forms of endorsement.

Law à la Mode

1 MAY 2012
LAW À LA MODE SERIES

1 DEC 2011
LAW À LA MODE SERIES

UK: The real risk of cyber attack

1 AUG 2011

EVENTS
Previous

TopCo liability panel

25 JUN 2019
London

Corporate Joint Ventures in the Media, Sport And Entertainment Sector
17 JAN 2019
Webinar
Football Club Financing

29 NOV 2018
Webinar
The Impact of the Trade Secrets Directive on the Media, Sport & Entertainment industry

18 OCT 2018
Webinar
FT Future of Football 2018

16 OCT 2018
Doha
Global Media Trends Insight Webinar 2018

25 APR 2018
Webinar
Sports Technology Conference

NEWS

DLA Piper advises StoryBots in its acquisition by Netflix

23 MAY 2019
DLA Piper represented StoryBots, a children's educational media brand, in its acquisition by Netflix, Inc.

DLA Piper lawyers and practices ranked in latest Chambers edition

30 APR 2019
DLA Piper today announced that 158 of the firm's lawyers and 64 of its practices were ranked in Chambers USA’s 2019 guide.
DLA Piper lawyers and practices ranked in latest Chambers edition

30 APR 2019

DLA Piper today announced that 158 of the firm's lawyers and 64 of its practices were ranked in Chambers USA's 2019 guide.

Six DLA Piper lawyers named to Variety's 2019 Legal Impact Report

9 APR 2019

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that six of its lawyers have been selected for the 2019 Variety Legal Impact Report highlighting the top attorneys in the entertainment business.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.

Travis Leach joins DLA Piper’s Corporate practice in Phoenix

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper announced today that Travis Leach has joined the firm's Corporate practice as a partner in Phoenix, bringing new talent to the well-established group.

Tom Ara named to Hollywood Reporter's 2019 Power Lawyers list

28 MAR 2019

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Tom K. Ara has been named to the Hollywood Reporter's 2019 Power Lawyers list, which highlights the 100 top attorneys in Hollywood.

Patrick Anding joins DLA Piper’s Corporate practice in Los Angeles and San Diego

20 MAR 2019

DLA Piper announced today that Patrick Anding has joined the firm's Corporate practice as a partner in Los Angeles and San Diego.

DLA Piper advises Lantern Entertainment in launch of Spyglass Media Group in partnership with Gary Barber

14 MAR 2019
DLA Piper represented Lantern Entertainment, an affiliate of Lantern Capital Partners, in the launch of Spyglass Media Group LLC, an independent premium content company focused on developing, producing, financing and acquiring motion pictures and television series for worldwide audiences, in partnership with former studio head Gary Barber.

DLA Piper advises Raven Capital Management in US$87.5 million acquisition of Open Road Films
7 FEB 2019
DLA Piper represented Raven Capital Management in its US$87.5 million acquisition of certain assets of Academy Award®-winning Hollywood studio Open Road Films.

Five DLA Piper partners recognized in Variety's 2018 Dealmakers Impact Report
5 DEC 2018
DLA Piper is pleased to announce that five of its partners have been selected for Variety's 2018 Dealmakers Impact Report. The list honors the year's most accomplished dealmakers across all sectors of the entertainment industry who "keep the wheels of Hollywood turning, the content flowing and the money coming in."

David Markman joins DLA Piper's Media, Sport and Entertainment sector in Los Angeles
14 NOV 2018
DLA Piper announced today that David Markman has joined the firm's Media, Sport and Entertainment sector and Intellectual Property and Technology practice as a partner in Los Angeles, and will also serve as co-chair of the firm's Entertainment Transactions practice.

Seasoned entertainment and media attorneys Tom Ara and Robert Sherman join DLA Piper as co-chairs of Entertainment Finance practice, Ara to chair Entertainment Transactions practice
25 OCT 2018
DLA Piper announced today that accomplished attorneys Tom Ara and Robert Sherman have joined the firm to lead the Entertainment Finance and Transactions practices based out of the firm's Century City office in Los Angeles.

Benjamin Mulcahy and Gina Reif Ilardi named to Variety's 2018 Legal Impact Report
20 APR 2018
DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Los Angeles-based partner Benjamin Mulcahy and New York-based partner Gina Reif Ilardi, co-chairs of the firm's National Advertising team, have been selected for the 2018 Variety Legal Impact Report.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2018
3 APR 2018
DLA Piper is proud to announce that 62 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of 1

DLA Piper is a global law firm operating through various separate and distinct legal entities. Further details of these entities can be found at www.dlapiper.com. This may qualify as
April 2018 in the United States and 1 May 2018 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm’s practice areas in 42 different offices throughout 20 countries.

All eyes on OTT content in 2018 – DLA Piper report

6 MAR 2018
Over the top (OTT) content is emerging as the main growth area for media companies, according to a new report – ‘Global Media Sector Trends 2018’ – by global law firm, DLA Piper.

DLA Piper expands Media, Sport and Entertainment capabilities with addition of Ben Mulcahy and Gina Reif Ilardi

26 FEB 2018
DLA Piper announced today that Ben Mulcahy has joined the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology practice as a partner in Los Angeles and Gina Reif Ilardi has joined the IPT practice as a partner in New York.

DLA Piper continues growth in Los Angeles with expansion of Media, Sport and Entertainment practice

29 JAN 2018
DLA Piper announced today that Michael Garfinkel and Miles Cooley have joined the firm's Media, Sport and Entertainment practice as partners in Los Angeles.

Maxine Hicks named Law360 Real Estate MVP

21 DEC 2017
DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Law360 has named the head of the Atlanta office's Real Estate practice, Maxine Hicks, a 2017 Real Estate MVP. The publication's editors received more than 1,000 submissions with the final awards recognizing 157 attorneys spanning 32 practice areas.

DLA Piper completes merger with Liner LLP

2 OCT 2017
DLA Piper is pleased to announce that its combination with Liner LLP, a Los Angeles-based boutique law firm, is now effective.

DLA Piper adds leading entertainment and IP litigator Douglas Emhoff in Los Angeles, Washington, DC

25 SEP 2017
DLA Piper announced today the addition of Douglas Emhoff as a partner in the firm’s Intellectual Property and Technology practice and its Media, Sport and Entertainment sector. Emhoff will be based in DLA Piper’s Los Angeles and Washington, DC, offices.
DAL Piper represents Tilman J. Fertitta in acquisition of the Houston Rockets NBA franchise

6 SEPT 2017

DAL Piper represented Tilman J. Fertitta in his acquisition of the Houston Rockets NBA franchise, including the operating rights to the Toyota Center Arena. The $2.2 billion transaction is a record purchase price for an NBA franchise.

eSports

The eSports economy is expanding, with forecasts that by 2020 it will be in the billions of dollars. Growth is expected in all categories: media rights, advertising, sponsorship, merchandise, tickets and game publishing fees.

With those predictions in mind, DLA Piper has formed an eSports Team to advise on all facets of the industry. We provide a full range of business legal services to many of the world's major stakeholders in the global intersection of sports, media and entertainment. Among our clients are sports leagues, bodies and teams; media and entertainment companies; organizers of world events; corporate sponsors, financiers, developers and investors; and other commercial parties.

They come to us for advice on broadcast and media rights sales; IP protection and licensing; mergers and acquisitions; disputes and controversies; development of and compliance with international and domestic regulations; development and financing of stadiums and arenas; and other finance and transactional matters.