



Construction and Engineering

As the cost and complexity of construction continue to dramatically increase, success depends on strategic advice that supports our clients' plans and mitigates risk.

The successful completion of any construction project depends on the quality of the project documents and ensuring that the project is delivered to the required standard, on budget and on time. We are experienced in all sectors of the construction and engineering industry including energy, infrastructure and development. We advise on all manner of procurement methods, from commercial developments to major international, domestic, civil and process engineering and energy projects.

We assist clients in analysing the risk profile of their projects and selecting the best type of delivery method for the project. After selection of the desired construction method, we assist clients in negotiating the contracts.

Disputes are a fact of life in the construction and engineering industry and we help clients avoid them by advising on potential issues at the earliest stages of projects. If a dispute does arise, we have skilled construction lawyers who can manage all of the litigation, arbitration, adjudication and alternative dispute resolution processes.

Find out more about our contentious capabilities.

CAPABILITIES

Contracts and advisory

Well-crafted contracts are key to legal risk management, minimizing the likelihood of disputes arising later in the project. Our contracts advisory service covers all aspects of contract drafting and negotiation, transaction due diligence and risk analysis and management. We have experience in the contracts used across all sectors including all the major standard forms of contract (including JCT, NEC, ICE, FIDIC and IChemE), adapting these to our clients' specific needs – controlling risk while maximizing profit.

Procurement

Procurement, tendering and competition procedures are vital components of construction and engineering projects. We assist clients in a wide range of sectors on the procurement, drafting, negotiation and management of alliancing and partnering arrangements and frameworks.

KEY CONTACTS

Robert L. Crewdson

Partner
Atlanta
T: +1 404 736 7827
robert.crewdson@dlapiper.com

Anthony L. Meagher

Partner
Baltimore (Mount
Washington)
T: +1 410 580 4214
anthony.meagher@dlapiper.com

Stephen Malley

Partner
London
T: +44 (0)20 7796
6685
stephen.malley@dlapiper.com

RELATED SERVICES

- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure

RELATED SECTORS

- Energy and Natural Resources

Litigation and alternative dispute resolution

Disputes frequently arise in the construction industry. When our clients face a dispute situation that cannot be avoided, we help them develop the appropriate course of action. We advise and explore the wide range of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods with our clients before litigation becomes necessary. ADR is a cost-effective method of avoiding protracted and costly litigation proceedings, and many countries require parties to attempt ADR or mediation before taking a dispute to court. Should litigation be the only course of action, we guide our clients through the process.

International arbitration

International arbitrations are often the preferred route for large, complex, cross-border construction disputes and we are familiar with all of the major institutions including the ICC, AAA and LCIA and in conducting UNCITRAL arbitrations. Using our extensive international network we work seamlessly with other jurisdictions and overcome barriers such as the need to work in two or more languages.

Adjudication

Adjudication is a legally binding tribunal process. It is a fast, 28-day form of dispute resolution, but also one where both sides will incur legal and expert witness fees. There is also only one opportunity to present your case to the tribunal, with no opportunity to appeal decisions. Our contentious construction team includes lawyers with extensive experience of adjudication who can advise whether this is the right option for you, and navigate you through the complexities and nuance of the adjudication process.

EXPERIENCE

- One of the principal legal advisers for the Olympic Delivery Authority for the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, including procurement and construction advice on the numerous venues and many of the infrastructure and transport projects undertaken on and around the Olympic Park.
- Advising Leonhard Nilsen & Sønner AS, one of Norway's largest construction companies, in a final settlement dispute against The Royal Norwegian Ministry of Transportation and Communications in respect of outstanding claims for tunnel and road construction contract work.
- Advising Jack Hills Iron Ore Mine, Western Australia on an iron ore mine expansion in Western Australia, in relation to the contracting and procurement strategy and drafting the EPCM Contract, mining contract and preparation of a suite of standard construction and procurement contracts.
- Advising Standard Bank of South Africa on the Nungua desalination plant in Ghana, the first desalination plant in western Africa.
- Advising Petroleo Brasileiro SA (Petrobras) on four large offshore oil field development projects in Angola.
- Acting for BP as the operator on the US\$4 billion Tangguh LNG project, including drafting and negotiating the EPC contract for the liquefaction plant and also for the two platforms and pipelines.
- Advising on the financing of the development, construction and operation of two port terminals on the Orinoco River, Venezuela.
- Advising two National Football League franchises in connection with the construction of their new football stadiums, including defense of two multimillion-dollar claims, negotiation of a complex closeout agreement and pursuit of substantial design claims.
- Advising both contractors and owners in connection with several renewable energy and power related projects.
- Advising contractors and owners in connection with several significant airport projects in multiple countries.

INSIGHTS

Publications

Contracting for the climate: The Climate Contract Playbook is a trove of climate clauses

11 November 2020

Contracts have become an essential vehicle for companies seek to mitigate their environmental risks and limit their carbon footprints.

DLA Piper Collaborative Contracting and Procurement Paper 2020

22 October 2020

The construction industry has suffered for ages from contracts and procurement processes that crudely allocate various risks resulting in misaligned incentives and consequent disputation.

It was from a desire to overcome this misalignment of interests that 'collaborative contracting' was born.

Read more in our paper.

The 2019 rail franchising litigation - procurement: Legal privilege and a duty to give sufficient reasons

4 August 2020

Mr Justice Stuart-Smith handed down judgment in the 2019 Rail Franchising Litigation, one of the largest and most complex procurement and commercial judicial review claims litigated to date in the UK. In this, our second article, we examine the Court's findings as they relate to legal privilege and the duty to give sufficient reasons.

Contract analysis in a crisis: flowcharts

7 April 2020

Flowcharts providing considerations for analyzing commercial contracts in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic through a logical process flow that can serve as a practical checklist.

Cost-cutting considerations in the time of COVID-19 (Part 3 – employment issues outside the US)

7 April 2020

A deeper dive into various cost-saving measures and their viability for employers outside the US.

COVID-19 and the "essential business" designation: Practical guidance for businesses that fall in the gray area between "essential" and "non-essential"

6 April 2020

Certain frequently asked questions as well as practical guidance.

Beyond social distancing: What employers need to know to keep their workplaces safe and manage privacy obligations in the face of COVID-19

2 April 2020

Guidance from OSHA, EEO and CDC to help employers seeking to protect the health, safety and privacy of their on-site employees.

Coronavirus: Cybersecurity considerations for your newly remote workforce (United States)

31 March 2020

Cyber risk management involves balancing the productivity of a workforce with ensuring confidentiality, integrity and availability of the company's own systems and data, as well as that of their supply chain.

Coronavirus: DHS Response to COVID-19 - What US Employers Need to Know

29 March 2020

Key questions and answers related to the new DHS guidance.

Coronavirus: Employee furloughs, reductions-in-force and similar temporary cost-saving measures (Part 2 – Employment issues outside the US)

25 March 2020

A general overview of key employment issues to consider outside of the US in light of COVID-19.

Coronavirus: Employee furloughs, reductions-in-force and similar temporary cost-saving measures in the US - Part 1

25 March 2020

Key employment-related issues for US-based employers in relation to cost-saving measures due to COVID-19.

Coronavirus: Several state and local governments issue “shelter in place” orders (United States)

23 March 2020

Between March 17 and 22, state and local governments have promulgated at least a dozen “Stay-at-Home” / “Shelter-at-Home”-type Orders. This alert provides details on a number of state and local government orders.

Coronavirus and construction: Q&A (United States)

19 March 2020

With the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) reaching pandemic levels across the world, construction industry clients have been particularly focused on how the outbreak will impact their ongoing and future developments.

Coronavirus and the US commercial real estate sector

13 March 2020

Considerations on the impact of COVID-19 on commercial real estate agreements already in place.

Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) – potential effects on international arbitration, sale of goods, shipping and shipbuilding (AsiaPac)

10 February 2020

The current outbreak of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is causing widespread concern. This article will discuss the potential impact on international arbitration, sales of goods, shipping and shipbuilding contracts.

Events

Previous

Webinar: FIDIC in the context of COVID-19

3 November 2020

Webinar

COVID-19 and construction: touching all the bases now

14 April 2020 | 1:30 – 2:30 ET

Webinar

NEWS

DLA Piper strengthens Real Estate offering in Asia with new partner hire

17 November 2020

Global law firm DLA Piper announced today that Ed Sheremeta is re-joining the firm's Asia Pacific Real Estate practice as a Senior Partner in the Hong Kong office. Ed was previously a partner at DLA Piper in Hong Kong, having joined the firm in 2013.

DLA Piper named Law Firm of the Year for Real Estate and Insurance at the JUVE Awards

30 October 2020

DLA Piper has been named Law Firm of the Year for Real Estate and Insurance at the JUVE Awards, in a ceremony which took place on Thursday 29 October.

DLA Piper advises The Carlyle Group on the acquisition of prime French and German distribution logistics assets

29 October 2020

DLA Piper has advised global investment firm The Carlyle Group (NASDAQ: CG) on its acquisition of a portfolio of 27 distribution logistics assets in France and Germany. The transaction is structured as a sale-and-leaseback.

DLA Piper's 2020 Annual Global Real Estate *State of the Market Survey:*

28 October 2020

DLA Piper's survey examines the views of CRE experts on the trajectory of the economic recovery, investment trends, geographic hotspots and general market outlook, and demonstrates a shift in thinking since 2019, when 50 percent of survey respondents were moderately bullish and confident that the economy would continue to grow in the next 12 months.

DLA Piper launches Real Estate AI/automation platform Release

22 October 2020

DLA Piper today announces the launch of Release, an online, secure portal and platform for real estate clients which can be used to view and manage each step of a standard transaction and all the legal elements of a deal in one place – resulting in considerable time savings.

As well as providing clients with a dedicated dashboard that provides a simple, transparent and accessible way to view the progress of a matter and outstanding actions, Release will greatly improve the way clients instruct and provide information to DLA Piper. Through this, the document processing time will be reduced by over 90% and the platform allows for an overview of a matter to be quickly shared with other advisers and the DLA Piper team.

DLA Piper advises P3 Logistic Parks on the rental of commercial space to Makita Werkzeug GmbH

27 August 2020

DLA Piper has advised P3 Logistic Parks GmbH on the rental of commercial space to Makita Werkzeug GmbH.

DLA Piper advises Katoen Natie on the acquisition of Nijhof Wassink

7 July 2020

DLA Piper has advised Katoen Natie, an international logistics service provider and port operator, on the acquisition of the warehousing activities of Nijhof-Wassink in Poland, a family-owned company specialising in logistics.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2020

30 April 2020

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 67 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2020 in the United States and May 1, 2020 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions have been made across many of the firm's practice areas in 35 different offices throughout 13 countries.

Across the firm's practices globally, Corporate saw the largest intake of new partners with 19 promotions, followed by Litigation and Regulatory with 15. Intellectual Property and Technology and Finance and Projects had ten and eight promotions respectively, while there were six in Real Estate. Tax and Employment both had four, and there was one in Restructuring.

DLA Piper advises Daiichi Sankyo on its new UK headquarters

22 April 2020

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised pharmaceutical company Daiichi Sankyo UK, on the letting of its new UK headquarters, located in West London.

DLA Piper lawyers named Acritas Stars

10 March 2020

Acritas has named over 200 DLA Piper lawyers as 2020 Acritas Stars. Now in its fourth year, Acritas Stars highlights the stand-out lawyers in private practice as nominated by clients around the world. More than 3,000 senior in-house counsel feed into the

nomination process to give a comprehensive view of highly recommended lawyers across the globe.

DLA Piper advises Hahn Group on sale of Campus Center Lübeck

18 December 2019

DLA Piper has advised Hahn Group on the sale of Campus Center Lübeck to real estate investment manager Nuveen Real Estate, which acquired the property for its German core retail platform.

CRE executives cautiously optimistic: DLA Piper's 2019 *State of the Market Survey*

24 September 2019

Despite concerns about a possible recession and the impact of global trade conflict, commercial real estate (CRE) executives are cautiously optimistic about the US CRE market over the next 12 months, according to DLA Piper's 2019 Global Real Estate *State of the Market Survey*.

CRE executives cautiously optimistic: DLA Piper's 2019 *State of the Market Survey*

24 Sep 2019

Despite concerns about a possible recession and the impact of global trade conflict, commercial real estate (CRE) executives are cautiously optimistic about the US CRE market over the next 12 months, according to DLA Piper's 2019 Global Real Estate *State of the Market Survey*.

DLA Piper announces launch of Artificial Intelligence practice

14 MAY 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Artificial Intelligence practice, which will focus on assisting companies as they navigate the legal landscape of emerging and disruptive technologies, while helping them understand the legal and compliance risks arising from the creation and deployment of AI systems.

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.

Non-resident real estate investors bullish on Capital Gains Tax changes

19 MAR 2019

Non-resident real estate investors are holding their nerve on UK investment strategies despite impending capital gains tax (CGT) changes coming into force next month and uncertainty around Brexit. According to a DLA Piper report, more than half (58 percent) of those polled expect the new tax code will have no impact on their investment strategy.

DLA Piper announces launch of Blockchain and Digital Assets practice

26 FEB 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Blockchain and Digital Assets practice, which will offer strategic advice on a global basis to address the needs of companies implementing blockchain technology solutions and creating and deploying digital assets.

DLA Piper's Global Real Estate Annual *State of the Market Survey*

14 FEB 2019

According to DLA Piper's Global Real Estate's Annual *State of the Market Survey*, a significant shift in cross-border investment in US commercial real estate is taking place, with a new country predicted to become the major source of non-US capital for US commercial real estate.
