



Alan Cunningham

Partner

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Alan Cunningham leads DLA Piper's Asset Finance practice in the UK.

His practice covers all asset classes including aviation, shipping, container box financing, rail equipment finance and leasing, IT finance, power generation and energy infrastructure, vehicle financing and the financing of receivables relating to asset finance deals.

Alan acts for banks, leasing companies, airlines, business jet operators, ship owners, rail operators, brokers, arrangers and high net worth individuals (particularly on business jets and superyachts).

EXPERIENCE

AVIATION

- Representing an Asian airline on its re-fleeting strategy including the lease, purchase and sale of B737-700s, Bombardier Q400s, BAe RJ85s and Saab 340B.
- Acting for a UK listed company on the tax based lease financing of 10 King Air B200 aircraft used for training the British military at RAF Cranwell.
- Acting on the back-to-back sale of a Boeing 777 aircraft from an Asian flag carrier to a US based UHNW.

EQUIPMENT, ENERGY AND DATA CENTRES

- Advising a US bank on the funding of a CHP facility for installation on site at a bank owned data centre in the UK.
- Advising the asset finance division of a UK funder on the leasing of £15m of plant and machinery (including coal washing plant) for a JV between a South Wales mining co-operative and major mining business.
- Acting for an investment bank on debt financing and equity participation on a data centre start-up business in the UK.

SHIP AND YACHT FINANCE

- Acting for a Greek shipping company on the €46m financing of two newbuild pure car and truck carriers.
- Acting on the financing of many of the UK's leading offshore, tug and towing operators including work boats, bunker vessels and windfarm catamarans.

RELATED SERVICES

- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure
- Finance
- Transport

RELATED SECTORS

- Industrials
- Financial Services

VEHICLE FUNDING

- Acting for an Australian owned UK contract hire and fleet management provider on the development of a new tax based lease structure.
- Representing a leasing company on the £10m operating lease financing of a fleet of Volvo HGVs for a leading supermarket chain.

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales
- Solicitor of the High Court of Hong Kong

Prior Experience

Prior to joining DLA Piper Alan worked in Paris and Hong Kong for multinational law firms, as well as a spell in-house at Virgin Atlantic.

Recognitions

Alan is considered to be "very popular with brokers." "He's got a good business jet practice," says an interviewee, adding that Cunningham is "a respected name in the London and European market." Sources recognise his knowledge of the industry and its practitioners, describing him as "very visible in the market" and "really very established." - *Chambers UK 2018*

Education

- London School of Economics, LL.M.
- Manchester Metropolitan University, LL.B. (Hons)