



Government Contracting

Our clients who provide products and services to governments must contend with ever-changing procurement rules and regulations. Many opportunities are open to them but they are accompanied by legal consequences for everyone involved.

The global financial crisis has placed intense pressure on governments to tackle major budget deficits and debt burdens. As a result, competition for contracts is fierce, bid costs are high and the financial terms imposed on contractors are demanding. International procurement regimes bring their own challenges for non-compliance for both contractors and government customers.

To help our clients meet these challenges, our government contracting practice has grown to become one of the largest of its kind in the world. Unlike many others, we act for both governments and global contractors on their contracting and procurement requirements.

We provide tailored advice and legal services on virtually every aspect of government contracting and public procurement, from bid strategy through to potential challenge. These services include: preparation of strategic alliance agreements and teaming arrangements; bid protests and challenges; and contract administration and claims. Our lawyers also litigate contract disputes and claims involving contractors.

- IT procurement: The UK government turned to us for advice on the world's largest civil information technology procurement
- IP: When two federal contractors went to court in a dispute between them, we were called by the defense to testify as an expert witness on its intellectual property. The US jury found in favor of the defense on all nine counts, including all government contract IP issues.
- Data protection: We advised a global aviation company on the data security and protection survey of data protection requirements in public contracts covering 40 countries
- PPP: We advised a global defense company on a public-private partnership with the UK's Ministry of Defense to modernize their search and rescue helicopter program
- Procurement: A Canadian pharmaceuticals company needed help dealing with various aspects of European Union procurement law. We helped it prepare and submit a vaccines tender to the UK Purchasing and Supply Authority.
- Defense: We advised the Australian Defense Force on the US\$3 billion Amphibious Ships

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RELATED SERVICES

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- Restructuring
- Tax

RELATED SECTORS

- Technology
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Project

- FCPA: Our lawyers represented a global defense contractor facing an FCPA subpoena concerning allegations of improper payments in Africa over six years. The US government dropped all charges.

Resources

INSIGHTS

Publications

A balance between the government, the private sector and the needs of the people: Invocation of rarely used provisions to ensure public safety during the COVID-19 pandemic

6 April 2020

The Defense Production Act, compulsory licensing and march-in rights are means for authorizing the government to step in and assert rights against private companies.

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: executive summary - key highlights from Washington (March 19, 2020) (United States)

19 March 2020

Key highlights for March 19, 2020.

Coronavirus: federal and state tax relief (United States)

16 March 2020

Congress and state legislatures and administrative agencies are working hard to provide necessary tax relief for those affected by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): ten practical steps for global employers, right now (Global)

13 March 2020

These steps are not based on laws of any one jurisdiction but rather are designed to provide a global employer with themes to consider, understanding that what may be suitable for each employer may vary greatly depending on the employer’s unique circumstances.

Understanding the NEC4 suite of contracts

6 March 2020

Despite its immaturity in the Australian market, the New Engineering and Construction Contract (NEC) suite of contracts has been used around the globe for many years. The new NEC4 suite is becoming increasingly relevant in the Australian and Asia

Pacific construction market, as project owners look for alternatives to existing, outdated standard form contracts.

Coronavirus COVID-19 and corporate governance (Australia)

18 February 2020

The coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak and ensuing government restrictions raise corporate governance concerns and create areas of risk across the ESG spectrum that should be considered by companies and their directors and officers.

Coronavirus COVID-19: The legal impact on force majeure events (Australia)

12 February 2020

Key considerations for parties that may wish to declare a force majeure event or dispute the declaration of a force majeure event by a counterparty in relation to coronavirus COVID-19.

An update on the impact of the coronavirus on business in Singapore

12 February 2020

Due to the evolving 2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease (the COVID-19) situation, the Ministry of Health (the MOH) and the Ministry of Manpower (the MOM) have, since January 2020, issued advisories which employers will need to be aware of. In particular, the MOH and MOM have, since our last update on February 12 2020, updated and issued new advisories due to the increased risk of importation of COVID-19 into Singapore.

Commerce imposes export licensing requirement on geospatial imagery software

8 January 2020

Companies that produce, design, test, manufacture, fabricate, or develop a software described in the new controls may now be operating within the category of "critical technologies" as defined in CFIUS regulations.

EU launches preparatory work for a global sanctions regime for human rights violations

17 December 2019

On 9 December 2019, High Representative/Vice-President of the European Union Josep Borrell announced that the Foreign Affairs Council has agreed with strong consensus to start the preparatory work for a global sanctions regime to address serious human rights violations.

Congressional hearing to focus on facial recognition and national security

12 December 2019

AI OUTLOOK

Technologies controlled by foreign governments and their implications for privacy and national security are expected to be a major topic.

Crimes Legislation Amendment (Combating Corporate Crime) Bill 2019

5 December 2019

On 2 December 2019, as part of its on-going commitment to strengthen Australia's foreign corporate bribery framework, previously discussed in [December 2017](#) and [April 2018](#), the Federal Government introduced the Crimes Legislation Amendment (Combating Corporate Crime) Bill 2019 (Cth) (the **Bill**). The Bill purports to address challenges associated with detecting and addressing serious corporate crime and is, with few exceptions, an identical reincarnation of its 2017 equivalent ([discussed here](#)) which lapsed earlier this year because of the Australian federal election.

Australian Law Reform Commission releases Discussion Paper on Corporate Criminal Responsibility

2 December 2019

On Friday 15 November, 2019 the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) released a discussion paper on corporate criminal responsibility (Discussion Paper). The ALRC invited submissions from stakeholders on 23 proposals and 11 questions relating to the reform of Australia's corporate criminal law regime.

Australian Government overhauls its procurement legislation to give better protection to suppliers, contractors and consultants

30 October 2019

Australia's federal, state and territory governments are variously in the process of adjusting their procurement frameworks to give effect to Australia's obligations under international free trade agreements (FTAs). Each government has its own procurement framework, and so the approach to implementing the international FTAs differs in each jurisdiction.

ASIC consults on whistleblower policy requirements

7 August 2019

ASIC has published its long awaited consultation paper on the requirements of whistleblower policies for public companies, large proprietary companies and proprietary companies that are trustees of registrable superannuation entities operating in Australia.

Trump issues Executive Order on securing information and communications technology and services – key points

16 MAY 2019

The order is issued pursuant to the National Emergencies Act and the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, the latter creating potential civil and criminal liability for those violating EOs and regulations issued under its authority - liabilities that can expand to include those who facilitate a violation.

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

EU Policy & Regulatory Update: First Designations under EU's Chemical Weapons Sanctions Regime

24 JAN 2019

On 21 January 2019, the Council of the European Union (EU) adopted Decision (CFSP) 2019/86 amending Decision (CFSP) 2018/1544 concerning restrictive measures against the proliferation and use of chemical weapons, listing nine individuals and one entity under the EU's Chemical Weapons Sanctions regime.

EU Policy & Regulatory Update - EU Adds Three Iranian Persons to EU Terrorist List

14 JAN 2019

On 8 January 2019, the Council of the European Union (EU) adopted Decision (CFSP) 2019/25 amending and updating the list of persons, groups and entities subject to Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP.

First Round of US Sanctions Reintroduced and EU Blocking Statute Updated

7 AUG 2018

US President Donald Trump announced on 8 May 2018 his decision to withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), commonly known as the "Iran Nuclear Deal", reached in Vienna on 14 July 2015. The US provided 90- and 180-day wind-down periods before the US nuclear-related secondary sanctions would be reintroduced.

Oil and gas licensing round now opened for Danish part of the North Sea

29 JUN 2018

The Ministry for Energy, Utilities and Climate has just opened for applications for licences for exploration and production of oil and gas (hydrocarbons) in the 8th Danish Licensing Round for the Danish North Sea area.

EU Policy and Regulatory update: EU Legislation to Block US Extraterritorial Sanctions against Iran

21 MAY 2018

On 18 May 2018, the European Commission has launched the process to "activate" EU Council Regulation No 2271/96 (EU Blocking Statute) and to expand the scope of the EU Blocking Statute to include the US sanctions against Iran.

Is collaborative working improving in operational PPPs?

16 MAR 2018

An in-depth look at some of the key questions facing the PPP market, with direct input from those at the coalface of the industry.

EU Impact - Issue 4

30 APR 2018

Edition 4 of our monthly update on the latest EU policy and regulatory developments.

The Cybersecurity Framework: Administration, Congress move to incentivize private-sector cooperation, strengthen federal acquisition process

12 SEP 2013

EVENTS

[Previous](#)

TechLaw

5 March 2020

[TECHLAW EVENT SERIES](#)

Sydney

TechLaw

3 March 2020

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Melbourne

WIN In-House Counsel Day 2020, Perth

27 February 2020

[WIN IN-HOUSE COUNSEL DAY 2020](#)

Perth

WIN In-House Counsel Day 2020, Melbourne

20 February 2020

[WIN IN-HOUSE COUNSEL DAY 2020](#)

Melbourne

WIN In-House Counsel Day 2020, Brisbane

19 February 2020

[WIN IN-HOUSE COUNSEL DAY 2020](#)

Brisbane

WIN In-House Counsel Day 2020, Sydney

18 February 2020

[WIN IN-HOUSE COUNSEL DAY 2020](#)

Sydney

TopCo liability panel

25 JUN 2019

London

TechLaw Event - "M&A for the New Digital Economy"

7 MAR 2019

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Amsterdam

TechLaw Event - Online platforms - beyond playing innocence?

17 JAN 2019

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Amsterdam

TechLaw London 2018

5 DEC 2018

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London

TechLaw Event - Virtual Competition

22 NOV 2018

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Amsterdam

Middle East Tech Summit 2018: The Digital Imperative

5 NOV 2018

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Dubai

TechLaw in Germany

14 JUN 2018

TECHLAW EVENT SERIES

Munich

NEWS

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 BrewDog on acquisition of iconic Berlin brewery

6 MAY 2019

DLA Piper has advised BrewDog, a multinational craft brewery and pub chain based in Scotland, on the acquisition of World Bistro & Gardens in Berlin from Stone Brewing, one of the largest craft breweries in the US.
