



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

KEY CONTACTS

Richard Bonnar

Partner

London

T: +44 (0)20 7796

6094

richard.bonnar@dlapiper.com

Richard P. Rector

Partner

Washington, DC

T: +1 202 799 4400

richard.rector@dlapiper.com

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RELATED SECTORS

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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

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.

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.

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: Cyber hygiene practices

25 March 2020

While the world is responding to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and individuals are increasingly focused on personal hygiene and social distancing, augmenting cyber hygiene efforts at home and at work are increasing in importance too.

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: 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.

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.

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.

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.

EU Policy & Regulatory Alert

3 February 2020

On 29 January 2020, the new European Commission has adopted its 2020 annual Work Programme, announcing 43 new concrete policy and legislative measures to be introduced over the course of the year of 2020, and thereby translating into practice the Political Guidelines of new European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

Iran nuclear deal: the launch of the 'Dispute Resolution Mechanism' and the 'potential snapback' of UN and EU sanctions

17 January 2020

This week, France, Germany and Britain have triggered the Dispute Resolution Mechanism against Iran under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). Will this process lead to the re-imposition of UN and EU sanctions on Iran?

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.

New European Commission Assumed Office on 1 December 2019

2 December 2019

The new leadership of the European Commission has officially assumed office yesterday, Sunday, 1 December 2019, for a five-year term. The newly assembled College of Commissioners obtained a comfortable majority in an approval vote in the European Parliament plenary session on Wednesday, 27 November 2019.

Procurement Pulse

25 July 2019

PROCUREMENT PULSE SERIES

An interesting selection of case law this month, two of which look at the extent to which a contracting authority can control aspects of its procurement procedure.

Procurement Pulse

31 MAY 2019

PROCUREMENT PULSE SERIES

Further evolution of the efficacy of judicial review as a remedy in below threshold procurements is seen in the Kenson case this month. The case sought to make a distinction between obligations of contracting authorities as they are mandated by law, and those parts of the procurement procedure which are no more than their exercise of commercial judgment.

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.

Procurement Pulse - Our view on developments this month

3 MAY 2019

[PROCUREMENT PULSE SERIES](#)

In case law this month the courts have looked at long established issues - that re-negotiating essential contract terms risks being a substantial modification which requires a new procurement, that the utilities rules apply to passenger transport suppliers operating on a fixed network, and that exempting ambulance services from the procurement rule.

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

Procurement Pulse - Our view on developments this month

6 MAR 2019

[PROCUREMENT PULSE SERIES](#)

Procurement Pulse - Our view on developments this month

Procurement Pulse - Our view on developments this month

4 FEB 2019

[PROCUREMENT PULSE SERIES](#)

This month we look at the draft regulations which will effect changes to the UK procurement rules on Exit Day - attempting to maintain business as usual, and to take responsibility for those administrative issues currently within the remit of the EU. Evaluation methodologies continue to be brought before the courts.

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.

Procurement Pulse - December 2018

10 DEC 2018

[PROCUREMENT PULSE SERIES](#)

Monthly update of procurement case law and other relevant intelligence for procurement practitioners

EU Impact: Monthly update on the latest EU policy and regulatory developments, issue 11

5 DEC 2018

Edition 11 of our monthly update on the latest EU policy and regulatory developments

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.

EU Impact - Issue 10

31 OCT 2018

Edition 10 of our monthly update on latest EU Policy and regulatory developments.

UK Budget 2018

29 OCT 2018

On 29 October 2018, the UK Chancellor Philip Hammond delivered the final UK Budget before the Brexit deadline.

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

12 SEP 2013

EVENTS

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TechLaw

5 March 2020

[TECHLAW EVENT SERIES](#)

Sydney

TechLaw

3 March 2020

TECHLAW EVENT SERIES

Melbourne

TopCo liability panel

25 JUN 2019

London

What Next for the ICT Sector in 2019?

12 JUN 2019

Manchester

Media, Sport and Entertainment: Media Summit

7 MAR 2019

[SECTOR EVENTS](#)

London

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

7 MAR 2019

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Amsterdam

Life Sciences - The Future of Medicinal Cannabis

6 MAR 2019

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London

Jetro - Africa Investment Forum

4 MAR 2019

[SECTOR EVENTS](#)

London

Boardroom Advisory Service seminar and Portrait Exhibition

28 FEB 2019

[SECTOR EVENTS](#)

London

Life Sciences - Equity Fundraising in Difficult Times

26 FEB 2019

[SECTOR EVENTS](#)

London

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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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

[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.
