



## Protecting Business Assets

Confidential information is often one of the most valuable assets of a business. In this challenging economic climate, there has never been a greater need for employers to protect that information.

Confidential information is subject to threats from outside the business such as theft, hacking or commercial espionage. However, the biggest threat to confidential information often comes from inside the business. Many employees have access to valuable knowledge about customer contacts and financial and strategic business intelligence, all of which is an attractive asset to any competitor.

There has been significant growth in recent years in the number and type of disputes about misuse of confidential information and unlawful competition by employees and directors.

Changes within the workplace have given rise to new challenges in protecting confidential information, particularly the growth of new technology and social media. With employees bringing their own electronic devices to work and social media allowing employees access to client contact information both inside and outside work, it makes protecting confidential information a constantly evolving area. Privacy and cross border data protection laws add a further layer of complexity. Litigation has highlighted the difficulties associated with cross-border protection of confidential information.

### KEY CONTACTS

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### CAPABILITES

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#### Our services include:

- Confidential information and restrictive covenants audit
- Advising on protecting confidential information and restrictive covenants
- Patents / intellectual property
- Social media
- Global mobility
- Advising on obtaining evidence
- Non-disclosure agreements
- Restrictive covenants
- Data protection
- Enforcement nationally and internationally

## EXPERIENCE

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- Acted for clients on the strategy in poaching and defending the departure of teams and staff to competitors including advising on the enforceability of restrictive covenants and confidentiality provisions, the strength of the evidence and the impact of social media.
- Acting for a global healthcare company in a cross border investigation and litigation involving the misuse of highly confidential information and a staff poaching in multiple jurisdictions.
- Acted for financial services clients in defending potentially significant team moves to rivals. Advice has covered advising on enforceability of restrictive covenants and other contractual provisions and putting together strategies for dealing with the moves.

## NEWS

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### **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.

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### **DLA Piper expands new Dublin office with four-partner hire**

9 JAN 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of four new partners from highly-regarded Irish firms to its newly opened Dublin office into four key practice areas of Finance and Projects (F&P), Corporate, Intellectual Property and Technology (IPT) and Employment. These hires follow the appointment of Corporate partner David Carthy as Ireland Country Managing Partner in May 2018.

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### **DLA Piper appoints two directors in South Africa**

12 SEP 2018

DLA Piper has strengthened its office in Johannesburg, South Africa with the appointment of two directors. Hendré Human joins the Corporate team from Webber Wentzel in Johannesburg, where he was a partner. Monique Jefferson joins the Employment team from Bowmans in Johannesburg, where she was a senior associate.

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### **DLA Piper named International Law Firm of the Year in Ukraine for fifth year running at The Legal Awards 2018**

24 MAY 2018

DLA Piper has been named International Law Firm of the Year in Ukraine at the 2018 Legal Awards, held by Yuridicheskaya Practika Publishing House. This is the fifth time the office has won the award.

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### **DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2018**

3 APR 2018

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

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### **DLA Piper hosts Employment Seminar in Romania**

5 FEB 2018

DLA Piper has hosted an Employment Workshop in Bucharest, Romania, to discuss some of the main hot topics and developments in Employment Law.

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### **Businesses still not fully aware of Data Protection issues**

31 JAN 2018

DLA Piper has released its second Data Privacy Snapshot report, finding that once again, company global privacy programs have gaps in meeting increasingly demanding global privacy principles. Significantly, it appears that many companies are falling short of data protection obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which will start to apply from 25 May 2018.

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### **Six months until GDPR: companies still reporting low levels of preparedness**

15 Nov 2017

For the over 200 organisations responding to DLA Piper's Data Privacy Scorebox online survey tool since the start of the year, the average alignment score with all key international data privacy principles was 31.5%, as against an 38.3% average score for respondents in the 2016 calendar year.

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### **DLA Piper launches new platform for *Guide to Going Global* series**

20 SEP 2017

DLA Piper has launched a new platform featuring its *Guide to Going Global* series, an online resource designed to help companies operating and growing their international businesses.

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### **DLA Piper advises Link Group on £888 million (AU\$1.49 billion) acquisition of Capita Asset Services**

10 Jul 2017

DLA Piper has advised Australian company Link Group (ASX: LNK) on the acquisition of UK-based Capita Asset Services division (CAS) of Capital Plc for £888 million (AU\$1.49 billion). Link Group was selected as the successful bidder following a competitive sale process. DLA Piper also advised Link Group on the related acquisition debt financing of £485 million (AU\$815 million).

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### **DLA Piper advises HOYER on the acquisition of the intermediate bulk container business of Ermewa**

7 Jul 2017

DLA Piper has advised the international logistics company HOYER, which is headquartered in Hamburg, on the purchase of the worldwide intermediate bulk container (IBC) business of the French company Ermewa Intermodal SAS. Ermewa Intermodal SAS is

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part of the Ermewa Group, which is a subsidiary of the state-owned enterprise SNCF Logistics.

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#### **DLA Piper advises Beijing BDStar Navigation Co., Ltd on the purchase of an interest in the in-tech Group**

19 Jun 2017

DLA Piper has advised BDStar as part of a bidding procedure on the acquisition of an interest in the company in-tech GmbH, a supplier for the digitization and the development in the area of automotive, machinery and transportation systems.

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#### **DLA Piper berät Beijing BDStar Navigation Co., Ltd beim Erwerb von Anteilen an der in-tech Gruppe**

19 Jun 2017

DLA Piper hat die BDStar beim Erwerb einer Beteiligung an der in-tech GmbH, einem international agierenden Spezialisten für Digitalisierung und Entwicklung in den Branchen Automotive, Maschinenbau und Verkehrssysteme, beraten.

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