



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

Tim Marshall

Partner

London

T: +44 (0)20 7796

6617

CAPABILITES

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

- 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

DLA Piper advises Wipro Limited on the acquisition of International TechneGroup Incorporated

10 July 2019

DLA Piper has advised Wipro Limited on its acquisition of International TechneGroup Incorporated (ITI), a global digital engineering and manufacturing solutions company.

DLA Piper advises Rolls-Royce on acquisition of Siemens' eAircraft business

21 June 2019

DLA Piper has advised Rolls-Royce plc on the acquisition of Siemens' electric and hybrid-electric aerospace propulsion activities, eAircraft. The acquisition will accelerate the delivery of Rolls-Royce's electrification strategy and boost its ambition to play a major role in the "third era" of aviation. The completion of the transaction is expected in late 2019, following a period of employee consultation.

New report finds retail sector leadership diversity deficit will affect future competitiveness

5 JUN 2019

DLA Piper and executive recruitment and diversity consultancy Green Park today launch *The Retail Leadership 700* report, which reveals for the first time the extent of the lack of diversity within the leadership teams of the top US, UK and European retailers.

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.

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.

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.

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.

\$name

12 Apr 2018

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2018

3 APR 2018

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.

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.

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.
