



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.

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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.

INSIGHTS

Publicações

HK Government considers designating coronavirus as an “occupational disease” (Hong Kong)

12 February 2020

On 10 February 2020, the Hong Kong Labour Department issued a press release clarifying the position on whether the coronavirus amounts to an “occupational disease” within the meaning of the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO).

Hong Kong Government introduces mandatory quarantine measures

11 February 2020

On 9 February 2020, the number of deaths due to the rapidly spreading coronavirus in Mainland China officially surpassed the figure seen during the 2002/2003 SARS epidemic.

Numerous governments have been implementing restrictions barring entry to those with recent travel history through Mainland China, including Singapore, Japan, Australia and the United States. Following pressure from public health workers, the Hong Kong Government has now followed suit and has begun a mandatory two-week quarantine for anyone arriving from Mainland China.

How to resume business amid the coronavirus outbreak (China)

11 February 2020

As reported in our previous article, China has extended its Chinese New Year holiday and work suspension period as a result of the novel coronavirus outbreak which has now infected more than 40,000 people around the world.

This is a summary of the Back to Work Day and compensation for working before Back to Work Day in key cities and provinces across China.

APAC employment issues arising out of the Coronavirus (AsiaPac)

31 January 2020

On 29 January 2020, the number of confirmed cases of the rapidly spreading coronavirus in Mainland China officially surpassed the figure seen during the 2002/2003 SARS epidemic.

Multinationals with local operations around the APAC region have been significantly affected. As staff return to the office following the Chinese New Year holiday period, businesses are now considering what they can do to minimise any risk to health and safety and support staff through this challenging period where anxiety and uncertainty is rife, whilst at the same time complying with their employment obligations and maintaining business continuity. Putting in place detailed business and contingency plans and ensuring careful communications with staff to address key topics and concerns is key, as is keeping such plans and communications under frequent review given the fluidity of the current situation.

This alert considers some of the key issues that HR and business leaders should be considering across the APAC region.

Harsher penalties on discriminatory employment practices in Singapore

29 January 2020

The Fair Consideration Framework was updated in January 2020 to impose harsher penalties on employers found to be engaging in discriminatory practices such as by favouring the hiring of foreigners over Singaporeans.

China extends holidays for workers amid coronavirus outbreak (China)

28 January 2020

Learn about how the widely publicised corona virus outbreak affects business in Greater China.

Corporations need to remain vigilant amidst the rise of cyberattacks and cyberfrauds

2 December 2019

Recent figures show that Hong Kong and China remain the top destinations of fraudulent funds, most of which are the result of cyberfrauds. Read our article which gives helpful tips on how to avoid falling victim to these attacks.

NOTÍCIAS

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's Holly R. Lake named Labor and Employment Lawyer of the Year by Century City Bar Association

3 March 2020

The Century City Bar Association has named DLA Piper partner Holly R. Lake its Labor and Employment Lawyer of the Year.

DLA Piper's Holly R. Lake and Miles Cooley named Top Minority Attorneys by the Los Angeles Business Journal

28 January 2020

The Los Angeles Business Journal has named two DLA Piper partners with strong community ties to its 2020 Top Minority Attorneys list.

Kim Askew joins DLA Piper's Employment practice in Dallas

21 January 2020

DLA Piper announced today that Kim Askew has joined the firm's Employment practice as a partner in the Dallas office.

DLA Piper achieves trial victory for Applied Underwriters

22 November 2019

DLA Piper recently represented Applied Underwriters, Inc. in a bench trial victory in California state court.

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.

Ciara McLoughlin joins DLA Piper's Employment practice in Dublin

20 MAR 2019

DLA Piper announced today that Ciara McLoughlin has joined its Global Employment practice as a partner in the firm's newly opened Dublin office.

Two DLA Piper lawyers listed in *D Magazine's* 2019 Best Lawyers Under 40 list

8 JAN 2019

Crystal Woods and James C. Bookhout were recently named to *D Magazine's* 2019 Best Lawyers Under 40 list, which recognizes outstanding young lawyers in Dallas.

Dean Fealk named honorary senator of German economy

6 DEC 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Dean Fealk has been named an honorary senator of the German economy (Senat Der Wirtschaft) in recognition of his efforts to strengthen transatlantic relations by leading trade, investment and innovation initiatives between Germany and California.

DLA Piper advises Columbia Capital, LLC in its US\$21 million equity investment in Resilience360

13 NOV 2018

DLA Piper represented Columbia Capital, LLC in its US\$21 million equity investment in Resilience360 GMBH.

Janine Guzman joins DLA Piper's Employment practice in San Juan

17 OCT 2018

DLA Piper announced today that Janine Guzman has joined the firm's Employment practice as a partner in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Holly Lake has joined DLA Piper's Employment practice in Los Angeles

17 SEP 2018

DLA Piper announced today that Holly Lake has joined the firm's Employment practice as a partner in Los Angeles.

DLA Piper advises Nemetschek on acquisition of MCS Solutions

31 AUG 2018

DLA Piper has advised the software supplier Nemetschek SE on the acquisition of the real estate and facilities technology firm MCS Solutions in Belgium, Sweden, India and the USA. The acquisition sees Nemetschek SE gain access to the rapidly growing market in building management.

Brooke Kim and Evan Parness named *Law360* Rising Stars

16 AUG 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that *Law360* has named Brooke Kim and Evan Parness to its 2018 list of Rising Star attorneys.

DLA Piper wins significant victory for New York University

31 JUL 2018

DLA Piper won a significant victory for its client, New York University (NYU), in an Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA)- related class action.

Mary Dollarhide and Ute Krudewagen named *Daily Journal* Top California Labor and Employment Lawyers

23 JUL 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that the *Daily Journal* has named Mary Dollarhide and Ute Krudewagen to its 2018 list of Top California Labor and Employment Lawyers.

Ryan Vann joins DLA Piper's Employment practice in Chicago

10 JUL 2018

DLA Piper announced today that Ryan Vann has joined the firm's Employment practice as a partner in Chicago.

Cecilia Guzmán-Barrón joins DLA Piper's Labor and Migratory practice in Peru

3 JUL 2018

DLA Piper announced today that Cecilia Guzmán-Barrón has joined DLA Piper Pizarro Botto Escobar in Peru as a partner and leader of the Labor and Migratory practice.

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.

Dean Fealk elected chair of the Northern California District Export Council

17 MAY 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Dean Fealk, a partner in the San Francisco office, has been elected chair of the Northern California District Export Council (DEC).

DLA Piper announces new US Employment practice leadership

11 MAY 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that New York-based partner Brian Kaplan has been named US chair and global co-chair of the firm's Employment practice.
