



Raf Schoefs

Senior Lead Lawyer
raf.schoefs@dlapiper.com

Brussels

T: +32 (0) 2 500 15 75
F: +32 (0) 2 500 16 00
M: +32 (0) 475 42 93 36

Raf Schoefs practices in all areas of information technology and intellectual property law, with a particular focus on technology and outsourcing transactions, and has over eight years of experience.

Raf assists clients in the drafting and negotiating of complex IT and outsourcing agreements. He also advises clients on e-commerce related topics, such as cloud computing, electronic signatures, intermediary liability, data protection, cookies and consumer protection.

Raf also has extensive experience in a wide range of intellectual property related matters, and advises clients in relation to all IP rights (including but not limited to patents, trademarks and copyright).

Raf assists IT providers, buyers of IT services and public sector organisations in all types of technology transactions. Moreover he advises public and private sector clients on all kinds of other IT and IP related matters.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- Dutch
- English
- French

EXPERIENCE

- Assisting a Belgian governmental company on the outsourcing of its entire IT infrastructure and all of its IT applications to multiple global service providers in a multi-sourcing model
- Assisting a Belgian governmental company on the outsourcing of all of its IT functions to one global outsourcing partner
- Assisting a major insurance company in the negotiation of multiple IT agreements regarding the provision of business-critical

RELATED SERVICES

- Intellectual Property and Technology
- Technology Transactions and Strategic Sourcing
- Data Protection, Privacy and Security
- Trademark and Copyright

RELATED SECTORS

- Media, Sport and Entertainment
- Technology

RELATED SITES

- Technology's Legal Edge
- Media, Sport and Entertainment Blog

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

Dutch English French

applications and infrastructure in a cloud-based model

- Assisting a large Belgian MVNO in the preparation and negotiation of an MVNO-agreement with a mobile network operator
- Assisting a leading IT service provider with the negotiation of a cloud services agreement with a Belgian bank
- Assisting a leading energy provider with the preparation and negotiation of a data center agreement
- Assisting a railway operator joint venture in the preparation and negotiation of an IT services agreement regarding the provision of an innovative ticketing system
- Advising a European manufacturer of electronic signature equipment on the compliance of its products with the European data protection legislation
- Advising a telecom provider on the impact of the upcoming ePrivacy legislation on its activities
- Preparing GDPR-compliant privacy policies and cookie statements for a new online platform

CREDENTIALS

Prior Experience

- 2014 - onwards, Lead Lawyer, DLA Piper UK LLP
- 2013 - 2014, Trademark and Design attorney, renowned IP firm
- 2010 - 2013, Associate, Brussels based international law firm

Education

- University of Brussels (HUB), LL.M in Intellectual Property and Information Technology law, *magna cum laude*, 2013
- Vlerick Business School, Master in General Management, *cum laude*, 2010
- University of Leuven (KUL), Master of Laws, *cum laude*, 2009

INSIGHTS

Publications

Tips & tricks: Successfully negotiating ERP software contracts

12 March 2021

Companies that use ERP systems, at some point, will need to replace or upgrade their ERP systems or switch to the cloud, and engage in commercial and contractual discussions with (large) ERP software vendors. Here are tips and tricks for customers and ERP software vendors that can help to successfully negotiate ERP software contracts.

VG Bild-Kunst: the saga on legality of linking continues

12 March 2021

In a new judgment of 9 March 2021 (C-392/19), the EU Court of Justice (CJEU) confirmed that copyright holders can contractually impose the implementation of effective technological measures on their licensees to restrict access to their works before they allow the publication of their work on their website.

One year into the pandemic: How does COVID-19 impact service and supply contracts?

11 March 2021

At the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, we noticed that many contracts did not specifically cover for epidemics, pandemics or health issues. Many questions arose as to whether or not the COVID-19 outbreak could be regarded as force majeure. Until now questions remain, yet we have noticed different approaches being used in practice.

Outsourcing: A Practical Guide, Second Edition

16 February 2021

We are proud to launch our latest publication, Outsourcing: A Practical Guide, Second Edition. This book is a fully updated edition of the key text on outsourcing, written by our market-leading Global Technology and Sourcing team.

Contract Law: Technology contract exits and disputes: Belgium

10 April 2020

Global business faces huge, and in some cases potentially existential, challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic sweeping across the world. Many companies are resorting to force majeure in order to potentially avoid liability under their contracts.

What if the coronavirus leads to an interruption of your company's IT functions? (Belgium)

25 February 2020

The ongoing global coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak is significantly affecting international business and cross-border commercial operations. Whereas the possible impact of coronavirus COVID-19 on the IT functions of a company active in Belgium might, at first sight, seem limited, the risk of such an impact is real in particular when parts or all of a company's IT functions is outsourced to one or more IT service providers.
