



IT and Telecoms Disputes

IT and telecommunication services are business critical. It is of paramount importance for businesses to have at their disposal lawyers who understand the IT and telecoms sector, are experienced in handling large-scale commercial, regulatory and competition disputes and who can deliver value for money.

We have a large and dedicated international team of lawyers who work to resolve telecommunications and technology disputes and cover the complete range of cases in the sector worldwide.

We are fully experienced in all methods of dispute resolution including litigation, international arbitration, mediation and expert determination. All of our lawyers are trained in alternative dispute resolution and are skilled at identifying all available opportunities to resolve disputes.

CAPABILITIES

We advise clients on the complete range of cases in the IT and telecommunications sector including:

- Large scale contractual disputes
- Disputes over performance issues on major projects
- Interconnection and pricing disputes
- Litigation arising out of the termination of telecommunications and IT contracts
- Regulatory and competition disputes
- Freezing injunctions and search orders
- Outsourcing and public procurement disputes
- Major software disputes
- Insurance disputes
- Disputes involving the Internet and the conduct of e-business

EXPERIENCE

- Acting in one of the largest pieces of IT litigation before the Technology & Construction Court involving claims and counterclaims totalling in excess of £400m.
- Providing a bespoke litigation managed service to a global telecoms company around the world including resolving disputes in Egypt, Nigeria, Australia, Singapore, Taiwan and Venezuela.
- Advising a Government body in connection with a failure of a business critical IT System and resolving by mediation.
- Advising an Israeli telecoms company in respect of the failed launch of a satellite over Africa.

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- Telecom

- Advising an international telecoms company in Denmark against a company in the US (allegations included premium rate and long firm fraud) by way of International Arbitration
- Acting for a global IT supplier regarding a failed implementation of IT services and telecoms equipment in the Congo.
- Advising several telecoms companies by way of simultaneous consolidated action against a telecoms group suspected of fraud (including proceedings in Ireland, Switzerland and Madeira).
- Acting for a global technology company against a provider of subsea cables in Asia following an outage affecting a significant part of its network.
- Advising NHS Connecting for Health on various contractual disputes relating to the implementation for the NHS of the £12.8 billion National Programme for IT including advising on the termination of a £1.4 billion contract and the subsequent on-going arbitration proceedings.
- Advising a Government Department concerning a significant IT programme in relation to contracts with a number of major international IT suppliers engaged on the program.
- Acting for a major telecoms operator in a claim against an Isle of Man telecoms company for in excess of £6 million for the payment of Operation and Maintenance fees payable under a 20 year contract for the provision of circuits across Europe and advising on the termination of the contract.
- Acting on behalf of a distributor for the incumbent national telecommunications services provider in bringing claims for several million UK pounds in relation to commission payments which were being withheld on the basis of retrospective amendments to the terms of business and what we argued was anticompetitive behaviour.
- Acting for a multinational telecom company in a stream of regulatory and competition disputes for alleged discriminatory pricing and margin squeeze in the market for fixed-to-mobile interconnection services.
- Assisting a telecom company in several disputes in Italy before the National Regulatory Authority regarding numbering, calls and SMS origination and termination services, and pricing.

INSIGHTS

Publications

The Law Commission's review of the Arbitration Act 1996 - polishing "a gold standard"?

27 September 2022

The Law Commission of England and Wales is undertaking a once in a generation review of the Arbitration Act 1996. A recently published Consultation Paper provides valuable insight into the Law Commission's initial views on areas of potential reform to the Act.

Digital assets, their environmental impact, and litigation risk

7 September 2022

Following our recent Business Guide to Climate Disputes, in this article we examine some of the issues around the environmental impact of digital assets and the associated business and environmental risks.

Artificial Intelligence and how the courts approach the legal implications

16 September 2021

Through an analysis of significant cases, this article takes a close look at the contractual implications of artificial intelligence and how it can give rise to legal liability by exposing businesses to financial and representational risk.

Protecting Your Company's Competitive and Technological Advantage through Enforcing Restrictive Covenants Against Former Employees in China: Update on Recent Cases and Legislative Developments

26 January 2021

In this article, we discuss whether and how companies may enforce restrictive covenants and protect their confidential information and trade secrets by looking at some recent cases and legislative developments.

Disputes & Distributed Ledger Technology: A contract, no matter how smart, still needs to be legal and enforceable in the real world

21 December 2020

In September 2020, the Law Society of England & Wales published "Blockchain: Legal & Regulatory Guidance", providing technical guidance and suggestions on practice for legal practitioners dealing with blockchain and distributed ledger technology.

Current trends in investor state disputes in the telecommunications sector

9 November 2020

The telecommunications sector is one of the fastest growing sectors globally, and has played a critical role during the on-going Covid-19 pandemic in keeping the world interconnected. The high levels of activity in this sector have given rise to a corresponding increase in telecoms-related #disputes, including under investment treaties.

The Law Commission's review of the law on digital assets and smart contracts:

9 November 2020

On 21 September 2020, the Law Commission announced that it had begun work on two projects aimed at ensuring that "English law can accommodate two emerging technologies that could revolutionise commerce: smart contracts and digital assets."

[Events](#)

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Planning for an Uncertain World

16 November 2020

TechLaw Event Series

Webinar
