



Media, Sport, Gaming and Entertainment

DLA Piper's team has emerged as a top choice for those involved in the media, sport, gaming and entertainment industries—industries which demand the very best representation and expect superior client service.

Our lawyers understand the way the media, sport, gaming and entertainment industries work. We are trusted key advisors, with the experience and reach to advise in any major jurisdiction. Our clients benefit from our deep industry knowledge and experience, and from our creative, solution-oriented and responsive approach.

We have a market-leading international team of lawyers throughout Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, the Middle East and North America. We offer the benefits of a global business law firm, with a network of experience extending across the world.

DLA Piper is at the forefront of advising the sports, media and entertainment industries on finance, investment and corporate issues, production and rights acquisition, the exploitation of media rights, the staging and exploitation of live sports and other events, intellectual property protection and enforcement, regulatory and administrative issues, antitrust and competition law, theme park and stadium and arena development and management, and the resolution of disputes.

We advise film studios and producers, distributors, broadcasters, promoters, advertisers, rights holders, leagues, clubs, franchise owners, international and national governing bodies and agencies, event promoters, sponsors, investors, banks and other leading corporations and individuals. We also provide a coordinated hub for advising the leading gaming operators and suppliers in the gaming sector in respect to the myriad of local laws and regulation pertaining to the activities.

Our extensive experience covers:

- Advertising and marketing
- Audio-visual piracy
- Broadcasting/television
- Computer games
- Digital media
- Film
- Finance
- Gambling
- Gaming

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- Corporate
- Data Protection, Privacy and Security
- Patent Litigation
- Trademark and Copyright

- Hospitality and Leisure
- Media, Sport and Entertainment
- Technology

- International sports federations
- Live events
- Media
- Music
- Olympic and world-level events
- Publishing
- Sponsorship, licensing and merchandising
- Sports data
- Sports media rights
- Stadium development
- Theme park development and management

EXPERIENCE

- Advising the Premier League on all aspects of its broadcasting and media rights strategy and its landmark decoder card litigation. The Premier League's domestic and international media rights deals are the largest in world sport outside the United States and are innovatively structured to allow cross-platform, technology neutral exploitation by licensees while providing sophisticated protections against the threat of piracy.
- Representing Al Jazeera Media Network, a leading media company with more than 20 channels covering news, documentary and sports, in its acquisition of Current Media, LLC, operator of US-based cable network Current TV. Also counselling BeIN Sport, an affiliate of Al Jazeera Media Network, in connection with its US launch and providing intellectual property, corporate, tax, talent/employment advice as the network grows its US subscribership. DLA Piper continues to counsel Al Jazeera Media Network and BeIN Sports with its ongoing media, entertainment and business needs and acts as general outside counsel.
- Advise many of the world's leading gambling operators and suppliers regularly. We provide advice to the sector across a variety of practice groups, including commercial, IP, tax and, of course, gambling regulatory matters. With respect to regulatory understanding, DLA Piper is the only global law firm with genuine experience across all the major regulated markets.
- Advising a major Hollywood studio on a US \$400 million, multi-jurisdictional, structured financing for a slate of more than 10 films. We assisted with the development of the complex and cutting edge structure which involved regulatory, tax and numerous cross-border issues. The structure provided a return to investors based on the box office performance of the films in question.

INSIGHTS

Publications

Exploring the metaverse: What laws will apply?

22 June 2022

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

For those intrigued by the metaverse, and for creators building metaverse projects, here are practical considerations.

Ukraine: Sanctions in sport

10 March 2022

GLOBAL SANCTIONS ALERT

As a result of the conflict in Ukraine, the UK, the US, the EU and their allies have imposed additional sanctions on Russian state actors and entities of economic and strategic significance to the Russian state, along with targeted restrictions on certain commercial activities with Russia.

Brands and influencers in the spotlight as FTC focuses on civil penalties for deceptive advertising

13 December 2021

More than 700 warning letters sent in just one month.

Is the state lottery the new online casino?

September 2021

A turf war may be smoldering between state lotteries and the private-sector casino industry.

Canada legalises single event sports betting, and Ontario is all in

16 August 2021

Global gaming revenue is expected to reach US\$525 billion by 2023. Online gaming and betting activities represent a significant portion of this revenue at an estimated market size of \$66.72 billion USD in 2020. Canadians have shown an incredible appetite for iGaming, despite the fact that regulatory roadblocks to private businesses looking to enter the iGaming industry in Canada leave Canadians with limited options.

This article discusses Bill C-218, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (sports betting)*, which will come into force on August 27, 2021. While C-218 signals the legalisation of single sports betting in Canada is a significant step towards the liberalization of Canada's legal framework applicable to gaming, its impact on private businesses may be limited until provinces and the federal government solidify and clarify their approach to iGaming.

Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

25 February 2021

BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS

Canada's AML regime amendments: is your interactive entertainment service or platform operating a "money service business"?

Gems, coins, bells and bottle caps: Canadian AML regime amendments affect some video game and social media virtual currencies

25 February 2021

Providers of video games and online entertainment that offer virtual currency as part of game play may be "money service businesses" under Canada's anti-money laundering rules.

Inventions behind the music: From Eddie Van Halen to Michael Jackson and beyond

22 December 2020

Music innovation offers fertile ground for patent protection.

Canadian Government introduces legislation that would fundamentally transform the broadcasting system

25 November 2020

In early November, Bill C-10 – entitled “*An Act to amend the Broadcasting Act and to make related and consequential amendments to other acts*” – was introduced to the House of Commons by the Minister of Canadian Heritage. The Bill was a direct response to changes in how Canadians source their entertainment, how they stay informed, and how they share information with each other.

Sports betting and the protections of "enhanced" sports data in the US

30 September 2020

A supply of reliable, available data is the fuel needed for sportsbooks to create and compile odds, bet types, and risk management products.

Celebrity endorsements on social media: 7 tips for navigating the right of publicity

26 JUN 2014

How far can you leverage the names and images of celebrities when promoting your brand online?

Law à la Mode - Edition 14

24 OCT 2014

[LAW À LA MODE](#)

A quarterly e-magazine from our Fashion, Retail & Design Group with the latest industry news, comment and legal updates, with a particular focus on technology in this edition.

Law à la Mode

13 MAY 2014

[LAW À LA MODE](#)

A quarterly e-magazine from our Fashion, Retail & Design Group with the latest industry news, comment and legal updates, with a particular focus on technology in this edition.

Law à la Mode Edition 12 - Winter 2013/14

13 JAN 2014

[LAW À LA MODE](#)

The Middle East editorial team is delighted to bring you the Winter edition of Law à la Mode, the quarterly legal magazine from our

global Fashion, Retail, and design group.

UK: The real risk of cyber attack

1 AUG 2011

NEWS

DLA Piper Canada welcomes associate Joshua Sved

28 June 2021

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP welcomes Joshua (Josh) Sved to the firm's Vancouver office as an associate in the Corporate Group.

DLA Piper Canada acted for Pepper Esports Inc.

23 December 2020

TGS Esports Inc. ("TGS") (TSXV: TGS) announced the completion of its acquisition of Pepper Esports Inc. ("Pepper") on December 21, 2020. The acquisition included Pepper executives Guy Halford-Thompson, Jackson Warren and Ben Hoffman joining the TGS executive team. DLA Piper Canada is pleased to have acted as legal advisors to Pepper.

DLA Piper wins landmark broadcasting dispute at the Federal Administrative Court for SAT.1

21 July 2020

DLA Piper has obtained two landmark decisions on central broadcasting law issues for ProSiebenSat.1 TV Deutschland GmbH and Sat.1 SatellitenFernsehen GmbH in a dispute with the state media authorities of Rhineland-Palatinate (LMK) and of Hesse (LPR) at the Federal Administrative Court (BVerwG).
