



May Ng

Partner

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May's practice concentrates on construction dispute resolution, the drafting and negotiation of construction contracts, and commercial litigation.

May's clients range from large blue chip, multinational companies to medium-sized enterprises, she regularly represents developers, contractors, engineers, suppliers and manufacturers in construction claims. May has handled major disputes and litigation involving a wide variety of construction projects, including infrastructure projects, shopping centers, residential buildings, office buildings, schools, casinos and hotels. May's tenacity, creativity and trilingual capability are an unbeatable combination that allows her to create innovative, successful legal strategies for her clients at all stages of construction.

- International Arbitration
- Construction and Engineering

Chinese (Cantonese)
Chinese (Mandarin)
English

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- Chinese (Cantonese)
- Chinese (Mandarin)
- English

- Advising the leading global design and consultancy firms in a joint venture regarding a claim for professional negligence by the Hong Kong Government on a major infrastructure project in Hong Kong. The claim amounts are over HK\$428 million. There are numerous complex issues and sensitive relationships in this case. The scale of the project was extremely large with voluminous project/claim documents.
- Representing one of the leading contractors in Mongolia's mining industry in two Hong Kong High Court actions against a Hong Kong listed company to enforce a parent company guarantee over a mining project in Mongolia. There are complex legal and technical issues on contractual standard of coal production, interpretation of contract on formula for progress payment and exclusion of liability clauses. The amount in dispute is over US\$20 million.
- Acting for an international hotel group which had entered into agreements with a PRC local developer to provide consultancy services for the development and management of a hotel under its brand in Hangzhou, PRC. Prior to the opening of the hotel, the Owner terminated the agreements alleging that our client was in material breach of the hotel development services agreement. The

Owner commenced arbitral proceedings against our client in Hong Kong. This matter involves complex PRC legal issues on termination and loss of profits, and disputes over the applicable procedural law and substantive law for the challenge on the tribunal's jurisdiction. We have successfully defended the jurisdictional challenge by Owner, which prompted the Owner to initiate settlement negotiation.

- Acting for an international specialist subcontractor in a project in Djibouti, Africa, for the construction of military defence force base in its dispute with the main contractor. The dispute relates to the calculation of the Final Account for the project and covers a broad area of construction law, including the valuation of the variations, damages for delay and contra charges by the main contractor as well as economic duress. The amount in dispute was over US\$9.4 million.
- Acting for two high net worth individuals in parallel proceedings in California and Hong Kong. May has successfully assisted the client to discharge a Hong Kong mareva injunction initiated by a high profile US billionaire on misrepresentation claims. The amount in dispute was US\$54 million.

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor of the High Court of Hong Kong
- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

Recognitions

- Recognised as a leading individual by the *Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2020* (Hong Kong Construction) and is singled out as being “extremely hands-on, with excellent technical industry knowledge”.
- Recognised by the *Chambers and Partners 2020* as having won “high praise from clients, who extol her dedication”.
- Named as “Top 100 Women in Litigation 2020” by the *Benchmark Asia-Pacific* and also one of the finalists in the category of “Woman Lawyer of the Year” in the *ALB Hong Kong Law Awards 2016*.

Education

- The University of Hong Kong, PCLL
- University of Sydney, LLB, B.Com

INSIGHTS

May has provided training and seminars to different professional organisations on construction law, including the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors, Hong Kong Construction Association, Hong Kong Institute of Construction Managers and Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association, and the Chartered Institute of Buildings (Hong Kong).

Publications

Hong Kong Court declined to grant interim interim injunctions under Section 45(2) of the Arbitration Ordinance in the absence of any arbitration on foot

30 March 2021

In the recent case of *Onwel Sales Limited v Skechers S.A.R.L. and Skechers Southeast Asia Limited* [2021] HKCFI 790, the Hong Kong Court of First Instance has refused to grant an interim interim injunction under Section 45(2) of the Arbitration Ordinance. In this case, the Hong Kong Court discussed some common issues in applications for injunctive reliefs in aid of arbitrations concerning shareholders'/ joint venture disputes.

Climate change convergence? The potential for global collaboration following China's momentous announcement

17 December 2020

With the election of Joe Biden, it is widely expected that the US will reengage with the international community in the fight against climate change and in efforts to reduce overall emissions.

HK Case Alert - Duties of a contractor as proprietor and employer to ensure safe system of work at construction sites

28 October 2020

In the recent Hong Kong Court of Appeal judgment of HKSAR v Gammon Construction Limited (HCMA 97/2019) [2020] HKCA 752, the Court has endorsed the stringent statutory duty imposed on the proprietor of a construction site to ensure the safety of a construction site.

Construction delays arising out of the Novel Coronavirus outbreak (AsiaPac)

7 February 2020

Since the first case of coronavirus was confirmed in Hong Kong in early February 2020, the government has imposed various measures in an attempt to contain the spread of the coronavirus. The resulting impact of the novel coronavirus is far-reaching and affects every industry and business in Hong Kong. This alert considers some of the key issues that construction contractors and developers in Hong Kong may face. If you need any specific advice, please contact May Ng or Sandy Au for further details.

[Events](#)

[Previous](#)

The Hong Kong Arbitration Week 2021 is open for registration

25 October 2021

Hong Kong

“Collaborative contracting and procurement: a better way?”

4 November 2020

Webinar
