



## Richard Skipper

**Partner**

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Richard has a broad range of international asset finance and leasing experience, particularly in aviation and shipping.

He advises airlines, banks, lessors, operators, manufacturers and other financial institutions.

In 2019 Richard acted on the first sustainable finance transaction for an international airline to secure funding for a project based on its compatibility with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

- Finance
- Asset Finance
- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure
- Restructuring
- Tax
- Aviation Litigation and Regulation

- Advising AviaAM Financial Leasing China on the acquisition, financing, leasing and delivery of five Airbus A320 family aircraft for circa USD300 million. The deal has been named Asia Pacific Deal of the Year by Airline Economics 2018.
- Advising Bank of America on a EUR60 million facility for the manufacturer of a new beverage concentrate facility in Ireland by a major international drinks company.
- Advising CHC Helicopters on various matters relating to operating agreements and restructurings involving Airbus Helicopters AS332 and EC225, Sikorsky S-92, Leonardo AW139 helicopters.
- Advising Deep Sky Holding Leasing Limited on the USD500 million acquisition, financing, leasing and delivery of 8 A320 family aircraft to Aeroflot financed by China Development Bank.
- Advising Etihad Airways on the first sustainable finance transaction for an international airline to secure funding for a project based on its compatibility with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.
- Advising GTLK Europe on the construction, financing and time charter arrangements in respect of a number of Expedition Cruise Ships with the Helsinki Shipyard; the leasing of barge vessels to the Pola Group and the financing of several bulk carriers to Gravelor.
- Advising International Airlines Group on airframe and engine manufacturer purchase contracts worth up to USD18.6 billion in respect of fixed and option Boeing 777x aircraft.
- Advising Investec Asset Finance on its maiden container finance deal with South Korea shipping operator Sinokor Merchant Marine.
- Advising Saudi Arabian Airlines and the Ministry of Finance in Saudi Arabia on the structuring on its entire aircraft fleet including

purchase contracts with manufacturers.

- Serco on its contract with the Scottish Government to operate the Caledonian Sleeper Rail Franchise, the GBP275 million procurement of 75 new state-of-the-art coaches and the financing by Lombard of the rolling stock.

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## Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

## Recognitions

- "Enthusiastic, knowledgeable and creative" and an "exceptionally talented aviation finance lawyer." *Legal 500*
- Asia Pacific Finance Deal of the Year 2018 - Airline Economics
- Shortlisted for the 2017 Finance Monthly Deal Maker Awards
- Listed in *Who's Who* on Aviation Finance
- Listed in Euromoney Expert Guide for Aviation
- Listed in Corporate Jet Investor as a "Leading Business Jet and Helicopter Lawyer"

## Education

- Newcastle University (Hons)