



## Technology

DLA Piper works with many of the world's leading technology companies, offering advice throughout a broad range of areas - from corporate transactions to IP protection, patent law and litigation, and including regulatory, compliance, employment and contracting issues.

DLA Piper's global technology sector lawyers work across practice areas and offices to support technology clients wherever they do business. From startups to fast growing and mid-market businesses to mature global enterprises, our clients are companies that develop or create technology, are enabled by technology, or whose business model is fundamentally based on technology. Our technology sector clients include companies in the following areas:

- Software
- Computer hardware
- [FinTech](#)
- PayTech
- InsureTech
- [PropTech](#)
- [Artificial intelligence and robotics](#)
- [Blockchain](#)
- [Unmanned Aerial Systems and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles](#)
- [Telecommunications](#)
- Games and entertainment
- Online commerce and new media
- IT and outsourcing services
- CleanTech
- Semiconductors
- [Internet of Things](#)
- [Automated, Connected and Electric Car](#)

We advise technology companies throughout the business life cycle. We help startups get organized and funded and assist both growing and established technology companies in employment matters, commercial and technology transactions and IP patent protection strategies.

Continued growth means a steady need for legal support in such areas as M&A, IPOs and dispute resolution. As companies expand their business internationally, we help with international tax planning, regulatory compliance, establishment of new entities and compliance with local laws for employment, benefit plans and company policies. For the largest companies, we partner with in-house legal departments, providing additional experience and capacity to address all these areas.

- More than 600 dedicated lawyers globally
- Ranked Band 1, Technology Media & Technology, (*Chambers Global*, 2020)

### KEY CONTACTS

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- Data Protection, Privacy and Security
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital
- International Tax Counsel
- IT and Telecoms Disputes
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Patent Litigation
- Patent Prosecution and Strategic Patent Counseling
- Private Equity
- Public Company and Corporate Governance
- Technology Transactions and Strategic Sourcing
- Transfer Pricing
- Telecom

- Ranked Tier 2, Technology Transactions, (*US Legal 500*, 2020)
- Ranked Tier 1, Telecoms and Broadcast: Transactional and Regulatory (*US Legal 500*, 2020)
- Ranked #2 in brand "awareness" and #3 in brand "favorability" for global TMT sector (*Acritas*, 2020)
- Named one of the top five "Most Tech-Savvy Law Firms", ( *BTI Consulting*, 2019)
- The only law firm to be ranked in the top five for venture capital, private equity, and M&A, (*Pitchbook*, 2019)
- #1 Global M&A deal volume for tenth consecutive year, (*MergerMarket*, 2019)
- #1 in Europe and #3 in the US
- #5 Most active global firm for VC deals (*Pitchbook*, 2019)
- #2 in Europe and #5 in the US
- Twice named "Law Firm of the Year" in corporate venture, (*Global Corporate Venturing*, 2015-2016)

- Corporate Disputes

## RELATED SECTORS

- Media, Sport and Entertainment

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

18 October 2021

Non-fungible tokens: What are the legal risks?

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#### An interview with Aldersgate Funding

11 October 2021

In this podcast, DLA Piper partner Henry Quinlan interviews Jim Holding and Matthew Lo at Aldersgate Funding Limited, who shed some light on the advantages of litigation and arbitration funding; the types of claims eligible for funding; the process of funding a case; and the jurisdictional constraints on this type of financing.

DLA Piper · Aldersgate Funding on how litigation funding can help your business

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#### OECD announces global deal on international tax reform with its Two-Pillar solution

11 October 2021

In addition, the OECD sets out a detailed implementation timeline aiming to have parts of the plan ratified in 2022 and effective as early as 2023.

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#### Man vs Machine: Legal liability in Artificial Intelligence contracts and the challenges that can arise

7 October 2021

In the second article of this series, we look at the key legal and contractual risk points that businesses using, or supplying, artificial intelligence need to consider .

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#### Tech innovation for a happier future

28 September 2021

### TECHLAW PODCAST

Part two of Episode 46 in our TechLaw podcast series sees Mo Gawdat, former Chief Business Officer for Google X, bestselling author, serial entrepreneur and founder of the One Billion Happy movement, resume his conversation with DLA Piper partner and co-chair of the Technology Sector, Kit Burden. Following on from their discussion around AI, ethics and regulation, they also look at the relationship between innovation and technology when it comes to our happiness. Make sure you register to attend our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021 to catch Mo's keynote speech. Register at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Part 2: Tech innovation for a happier future

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## The global landscape of data privacy: Important points about new laws in three key jurisdictions

21 September 2021

### PRACTICAL COMPLIANCE

New data privacy requirements in three important jurisdictions – the European Union, China, and Brazil – with an emphasis on action steps for compliance officers.

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## Can an AI system be named the inventor? In wake of EDVA decision, questions remain

23 September 2021

### AI OUTLOOK

Artificial intelligence is notable among the new technologies posing fundamental questions about the viability of the inventor's oath.

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## Part 1: Raising responsible AI

23 September 2021

### TECHLAW PODCAST

In part one of Episode 46 of our TechLaw podcast series, Mo Gawdat, former Chief Business Officer for Google X, serial entrepreneur, founder of the One Billion Happy movement and author of the new book Scary Smart: The Future of Artificial Intelligence and How You Can Save Our World, explains to our partner and co-chair of the Technology Sector, Kit Burden, how we as humans have a responsibility to educate and parent AI in order to raise responsible beings. Topics discussed include the extent to which we can maintain control over AI, regulation and its opportunity to solve some of humanity's biggest challenges. Mo will be a keynote speaker at our fifth European Technology Summit, taking place on the 5th October 2021. Register your interest at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Part 1: Raising responsible AI

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

17 September 2021

### BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS

Proposed infrastructure bill would subject cryptocurrencies to wash sale and constructive sale rules.

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## Man versus machine: Working together in the age of AI

21 September 2021

## TECHLAW PODCAST

Podcast 45 of our TechLaw podcast series sees award-winning presenter, best-selling author and Professor in the Mathematics of Cities at University College London, Hannah Fry, speak to Kit Burden, Partner and Global Co-Chair of the Technology Sector at DLA Piper. Focusing on AI, its strengths and flaws and the need for the human factor, their conversation touches on a variety of topics including algorithm bias, data, privacy as well as the opportunities for digital transformation post-pandemic. Hannah will also be a keynote speaker at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Man versus machine: Working together in the age of AI

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### Proposed infrastructure bill would subject cryptocurrencies to wash sale and constructive sale rules

17 September 2021

The move comes as part of the Ways and Means Committee's attempt to raise revenue to finance infrastructure spending.

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### 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.

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### SESG: Building start-ups to fight climate emergency

16 September 2021

#### TECHLAW PODCAST

In episode 44 of our TechLaw podcast series, Dylan Kennett, Senior Associate and member of the Emerging Growth and Venture Capital team, joins Dr. Chris Coleridge, Founder and CEO at Carbon13, a venture builder, in a revelatory discussion on the role start-ups can play in fighting the climate emergency. With a particular focus on the entrepreneurs' journey and ensuring a holistic approach to ESG factors. Dr. Chris Coleridge will be resuming these discussions at the SESG panel during our fifth European Technology Summit, being held virtually on the 5th October. Join us by registering at fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · SESG Building start-ups to fight climate emergency

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### Embracing Digital Evolution: Our new business report

14 September 2021

Our new report - *Embracing Digital Evolution* - shows how businesses can succeed in Industry 4.0, with contributions from digital revolutionaries such as Microsoft, Salesforce, Rolls-Royce and DocuSign.

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### Duvdevani named *Law360* Intellectual Property MVP

September 2021

She is one of only six attorneys to be so honored this year.

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### Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 51, Q3 2021

September 2021

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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### 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.

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### Please join us for these coming events

September 2021

We look forward to spending time with you virtually this fall.

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### Protecting your company from supply chain cyber attacks

September 2021

Today, virtually all companies rely on third-party technical solutions to manage their business. The downside is that incorporating new third-party technology into business operations creates new vectors for cyberattacks.

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### Supreme Court Corner

September 2021

The Court chose to enhance the Director's power to review PTAB decisions directly.

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### The Pharmaceutical Corner

September 2021

*Teva v. Amicus* is the first lawsuit to test the reach of the CREATES Act. Expect more.

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### New workplace sexual harassment laws passed – (some) Respect@Work recommendations become law

8 September 2021

After months of anticipation, the Australian Federal Government's Sex Discrimination and Fair Work (Respect at Work) Amendment Act 2021 has now passed both houses of Parliament. The amendment contains important reforms to address workplace sexual harassment.

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### Data privacy and security within smart cities

7 September 2021

## TECHLAW PODCAST

Episode 43 of our TechLaw podcast series features Principal Analyst for Thematic Research at GlobalData, David Bicknell, in discussion

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with our Amsterdam-based Senior Associate, Floris de Wit. Their conversation focuses on the delicate balance of keeping populations safe when it comes to data privacy and cyber security, but also adopting innovative measures that move smart cities forward to take advantage of new technology. Don't forget to join us on the 5th October 2021 at our fifth European Technology Summit where David will continue the conversation on the smart cities of tomorrow. Register your interest at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Data privacy and security within smart cities

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### **Special competition rules on digital ecosystems: Greece joins the club**

7 September 2021

On 6 August 2021 the new draft Greek Competition Bill (the "new Bill") was published for a two-week consultation. It amends the Greek Competition Law (L.3959/2011) and aims to transpose Directive (EU) 2019/1 in order to enhance the enforcement powers of the Hellenic Competition Authority.

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### **Website accessibility for persons with disabilities: minimum harmonization creates fragmentation**

6 September 2021

The importance of universal website accessibility guidelines cannot be denied. The EU took a comprehensive approach by introducing the EU Web Accessibility Directive 2016/2102 to harmonize the internal market and increase digital inclusion particularly for people with disabilities.

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### **Consumer Em-Power-ment: Treasury proposes draft rules for the Consumer Data Right in the Australian energy sector**

3 September 2021

The Australian Government Treasury has released for industry consultation, draft amendments to the Consumer Data Right rules and regulations made under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth), seeking to expand the Consumer Data Right regime into the energy sector.

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### **Smart Cities and the future of Real Estate**

25 August 2021

#### **TECHLAW PODCAST**

In podcast 42 of our TechLaw podcast series, Jeroen Lokerse, Head of the Netherlands at global real estate firm, Cushman & Wakefield, joins DLA Piper Partner, Daphne Bens, to talk about the population explosion and its impact on the creation of smart cities that provide habitable, sustainable and safe spaces to live and work. They also discuss the crucial role urban development and real estate plays in the transformation of these areas. Jeroen will be joining the smart cities panel at our fifth European Technology Summit, taking place on the 5th October 2021. Register your interest at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Smart Cities and the future of Real Estate

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### **Subject to the EAR: When is a non-US product free from the EAR?**

25 August 2021

When does a non-US-made product incorporating US-origin components or technology escape the technical jurisdiction of the EAR?

This article outlines the exemptions possible, and explains the application of the second incorporation rule.

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## When are non-US products incorporating US products free from US jurisdiction?

25 August 2021

### [DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS](#)

This summary article provides key points to consider as well exemptions possible if your non-US manufactured products are subject to US reexport authorization requirements.

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

23 August 2021

### [BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

New information reporting requirements for cryptocurrency transactions; CFPB involvement in cryptocurrency oversight; NCUA seeks comments on use of DLT and DeFi by credit unions.

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## Israel Group News August 2021

16 August 2021

### [ISRAEL GROUP NEWS](#)

In this issue, our global activities, latest publications, recent events and more.

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## LatAm: Tax authorities address negative effects of the pandemic on national coffers

12 August 2021

The tax authorities' revenue-generating approaches vary from incentives to additional taxation.

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## The state of HealthTech and future opportunities

03 August 2021

### [TECHLAW PODCAST](#)

Podcast 41 of our TechLaw podcast series sees David Bell, Director at Hampleton Partners, leading M&A and corporate finance consultancy for companies with technology at their core, and DLA Piper Partner, Mark O'Connor, engage in an exciting conversation on the current innovations in HealthTech, as well as a futuristic outlook on the industry. Key highlights include the benefits of software as a medical device, macro factors influencing innovation and investment opportunities. Join David and Mark at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021 where they will be resuming this conversation. Register at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · The state of HealthTech and future opportunities

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## **Green -v- Betfred – online gaming platform unable to rely on exclusion of liability clauses to avoid pay-out to winning customer**

2 August 2021

The growth of online gaming in England means that gamblers are now more likely to be found at computer screens than casino tables. This was illustrated by the case of *Andrew Green v Petfre (Gibraltar) Limited t/a Betfred* [2021] EWHC 842 (QB).

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

19 July 2021

### BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS

IRS says tax-deferred like-kind exchange is not available for cryptocurrency trades; copyright issues plague NFTs; crypto venture investments continue to accelerate.

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## Blockchain is spreading its chains

19 July 2021

Over the past few years, use of blockchain technology has grown, particularly in the financial sector. The most well-known application of blockchain technology is the bitcoin cryptocurrency. Blockchain technology, however, is also expanding rapidly beyond the financial sector.

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## IRS concludes Section 1031 tax-deferred "like-kind" exchange treatment is not available for cryptocurrency trades

19 July 2021

It seems reasonable to assume that the IRS will apply its analysis to most cryptocurrencies.

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## SESG: Venture capital for good and software solutions with a purpose

08 July 2021

### TECHLAW PODCAST

In episode 40 of our TechLaw podcast series Sunita Grote, Lead at UNICEF Ventures, and DLA Piper partner, Luca Gori, speak about emerging technologies and trends in the marketplace, as well as opportunities and outcomes from previous UNICEF Ventures' investments. Join Sunita and Luca at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · SESG: Venture capital for good and software solutions with a purpose

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## Tips and tricks: Contracting with cloud providers in the aftermath of the Schrems II judgment

8 July 2021

In 2020, the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) issued its Schrems II judgment. The CJEU ruled that the adequacy decision on the EU-US Privacy Shield was invalid and that the standard contractual clauses (SCCs) may need to be supplemented by supplementary measures to ensure an adequate level of protection.

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## EDPB's final Recommendations on Supplementary Measures confirm a subjective approach to assessing personal data transfer risks



2 July 2021

The Recommendations' detailed guidance will be useful to businesses and privacy practitioners as they conduct or update their transfer assessments, but the scope and detail of those assessments will require a sustained effort.

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## Digital infrastructure in a post-pandemic world

01 July 2021

### TECHLAW PODCAST

In episode 39 of our TechLaw podcast series Sean Williams, Chairman of London-based fibre networks, G.Network Communications and Grain Connect Limited, joins DLA Piper partner, Mike Conradi, to discuss the recent explosion in demand for fibre networks in light of the pandemic. This fascinating exchange sheds light on the ever growing need for stable and resilient broadband connectivity along with the investment opportunity it presents over the next five years. Join Sean and Mike as they continue the conversation at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Digital infrastructure in a post-pandemic world

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## Austin and Washington, DC offices bolster patent litigation capabilities with new arrivals

June 2021

Jennifer Nall and Helena Kieपुरa have joined our Intellectual Property and Technology practice's patent litigation team.

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## CJEU YouTube judgment: Do platform operators communicate to the public and are they liable for illegal user content?

29 June 2021

The question whether an online intermediary, such as a platform operator, can be held liable for illegal user content is at the center of the political debate: the European Commission's proposal for a Digital Services Act is at this very moment being discussed in the European Parliament.

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## Claim drafting strategies for artificial intelligence innovations

June 2021

Depending on your innovation, a variety of strategies are available.

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## Fending off phishing attacks: Some simple steps using trademark law

June 2021

We often think about how to respond once a breach has occurred, but rarely do we consider how to prevent a breach or scam entirely.

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## Highlighted as a leading IP and Technology firm by *Chambers USA*

June 2021

*Chambers USA's* 2021 edition names DLA Piper among the leading intellectual property and technology firms in United States.

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## Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 50, Q2 2021

29 June 2021

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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#### Supreme Court Corner

June 2021

The issue at hand in *Unicolors v. H&M* turns on a question of inaccuracies in the copyright registration certificate.

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#### The Pharmaceutical Corner

June 2021

We look at the underlying decision in *Immunex v. Sandoz* and the potential implications on pharma patent licensing strategies.

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#### Trial by eligibility

June 2021

In the history of the United States, every single jury trial on patent eligibility under 35 U.S.C. § 101 has resulted in a defense verdict.

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#### What the Biden Cybersecurity Executive Order means for technology vendors and service providers in the federal ecosystem

June 2021

Steps technology vendors should consider as they prepare.

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#### When will Washington regulate artificial intelligence?

June 2021

Seeking to ensure a leading global role for the US in AI development and implementation is a prime motivator for American policymakers.

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#### Global M&A Intelligence Report 2021

23 June 2021

Our annual Global M&A Intelligence Report is based on an analysis of key deal terms in over 3,200 private M&A transactions on which we advised since 2015.

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#### SESG: Building back better through diversity

22 June 2021

### TECHLAW PODCAST

Podcast 38 of our TechLaw podcast series sees Gary Stewart, Founder & CEO at FounderTribes, a platform connecting and empowering entrepreneurs, join Luca Gori, partner and Corporate M&A lawyer at DLA Piper, to discuss the role of diversity in global corporate venture capital investing. They discuss how to use strategic alliances, not just to help restart economies or build back to 'normal', but to use this opportunity to "build back better" than before. Join Gary Stewart at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · SESG: Building back better through diversity

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## **Biden Administration tax compliance plan targets cryptocurrency assets**

21 June 2021

The plan would give the IRS greater authority and resources to collect information on Americans' financial assets and transactions, including cryptocurrency transactions.

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## **Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends**

21 June 2021

### **BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS**

Biden tax plan spotlights cryptocurrency transactions; FTC announces spike in cryptocurrency investment scams; El Salvador is first country to adopt bitcoin as legal tender.

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## **FinTech: Cashless societies and post-pandemic growth**

10 June 2021

### **TECHLAW PODCAST**

In podcast 37 of our TechLaw podcast series, Tom Hambrett, Group General Counsel & Company Secretary at FinTech banking app, Revolut, joins Bryony Widdup, partner at DLA Piper, in preparation for our European Technology Summit, taking place on the 5th October 2021. Together they discuss how Revolut and the wider FinTech, payment services and eCommerce industries will play an instrumental role in enabling growth post-pandemic while also mitigating against amplifying risk. Join Tom Hambrett at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · FinTech: Cashless societies and post-pandemic growth (Bryony Widdup And Tom Hambrett)

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## **European Commission's standard contractual clauses: extensive new requirements coming for US businesses receiving EU personal data subject to GDPR**

8 June 2021

Adopting and complying with the New SCCs may require considerable effort for importers, particularly those that are not otherwise directly subject to GDPR.

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## **Biden's FY 2022 budget and Treasury Green Book – additional details on international tax proposals**

2 June 2021

Fleshing out revenue proposals in the White House's American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan.

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## Episode 5: How is technology disrupting the construction industry?

2 June 2021

### THE DLA PIPER INFRASTRUCTURE PODCAST

In this episode, DLA Piper's Construction Disputes Partner, Suzannah Newbould is joined by Barry Lewis, Managing Director, Construction at ALEC, one of the UAE's leading construction groups and Petar Mladenovic, Enterprise Account Director from the construction tech company Disperse.

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## Tips and tricks: Ensuring business continuity - source code or cloud escrow?

21 May 2021

Many companies are dependent on on-premise software or cloud solutions built and maintained by (external) suppliers. It is therefore not surprising that many want to ensure continuity of their activities and protect themselves against certain situations.

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

20 May 2021

### BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS

SEC issues Staff Statement on investments in the bitcoin futures market, plus latest legal developments governing the use and acceptance of blockchain technology, smart contracts and digital assets.

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## Green IP: the interplay between IP law, sustainability and ESG in the EU

20 May 2021

On 29 April 2021, the EU Commission announced that the initiative to update the EU rules on design protection is now open for public consultation until 22 July 2021. One of the main reasons for revision is to ensure that the design protection regime better supports the transition to the digital and green economy.

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## Thailand postponed the implementation of the data protection act until 1 June 2022

10 May 2021

The Personal Data Protection Act B.E. 2562 (2019) (PDPA) came into effect since 28 May 2019 with most provisions scheduled to take full effect on 27 May 2020. Previously, the enforcement of the PDPA for 22 types of businesses has been postponed to 31 May 2021.

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## IBM's spinoff: key contractual considerations for existing IBM clients

3 May 2021

This is not the first time a technology company has decided to streamline its operations through a spinoff, but this particular spinoff raises interesting contractual issues.

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## Israel Group News May 2021

1 May 2021

## ISRAEL GROUP NEWS

In this issue, our global activities, latest publications, recent events and more.

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### **Africa Connected: Digital transformation trends and challenges**

27 April 2021

## AFRICA CONNECTED

### ISSUE 6

Digital transformation trends and challenges in Africa is the theme of this edition. We have articles on issues ranging from the use of artificial intelligence tools in the legal sector as well as regulatory challenges to satellite broadband providers, to open banking and financial inclusion across the continent.

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### **Aiscension: AI in the legal sector**

27 April 2021

## AFRICA CONNECTED

One area of risk which AI can help mitigate, and detect, is cartel activity. DLA Piper has recently launched Aiscension to help detect and prevent cartel activity in collaboration with Reveal Data.

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### **Data collection in the health and education sectors: An African perspective**

27 April 2021

## AFRICA CONNECTED

There is no doubt that the pandemic has adversely affected education and health services in Africa and elsewhere. The accelerated digitization has led to increased collection of data in all its ramifications. All of these have raised privacy and data protection concerns due to the sheer volume of personal data being collected.

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### **Decision Support Systems: Using technology to enhance decision-making in the African legal industry**

27 April 2021

## AFRICA CONNECTED

To meet the difficulties of decision-making in the digital information age, the global legal industry is gradually transitioning to automated systems that use predictive algorithms to support and enhance the decision-making process, generally referred to as decision support systems (DSSs).

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## Digital transformation and financial inclusion in Nigeria

27 April 2021

### AFRICA CONNECTED

Innovations such as blockchain, mobile payments and savings, peer-to-peer lending platforms, crowdfunding and similar internet-based solutions have radically transformed the financial services landscape in Nigeria. However, beyond the noteworthy advancements in this sector, a key concern is giving the country's growing population access to these innovative solutions.

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## Digitization: Facilitating the implementation of AfCFTA

27 April 2021

### AFRICA CONNECTED

Digitization and the use of technology presents a major opportunity for the African continent in the implementation of AfCFTA. Pre-existing challenges in the nature and extent of infrastructure on the continent can be avoided, efficiencies can be leveraged and innovative solutions suitable to the African continent can be harnessed.

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## Expanding into Africa: Regulatory challenges for satellite broadband providers

27 April 2021

### AFRICA CONNECTED

In this article, we set out some examples of challenges for satellite broadband service providers expanding into Africa, by reference to specific African jurisdictions and identify potential workarounds, where available.

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## Open banking in Africa after COVID-19

27 April 2021

### AFRICA CONNECTED

Anchored on providing better customer experiences, open banking has stirred a lot of interest in Africa, including banking apps with detailed analytics of finances, the ability to send money from one bank to another using mobile phones, or the ability to transfer money from one telecoms network to another.

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## Smart contracts and trust in Africa's e-commerce revolution

27 April 2021

### AFRICA CONNECTED

The focus of this article is trust, and the question of whether smart contracts offer a unique opportunity for the issue to be addressed in African e-commerce.

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## The development of the digital economy: Competition regulation in Africa

27 April 2021

### AFRICA CONNECTED

Business is characterized by new competitive practices in the digital market, mergers and acquisitions of market shares and new forms of monopolies by major global companies. The question arises as to the state of the digital economy in Africa in the face of these new

competitive practices and whether regulation of competition in Africa takes them into account.

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## Hong Kong Judgment affirms importance of properly documenting repatriation terms

26 April 2021

In the recent Hong Kong case of *Zhang Qiang v Cisco Systems (HK) Ltd* (HCA 1497/2010) [2021] HKCFI 694, the Court of First Instance upheld the binding nature of a repatriation agreement which meant a particularly uncooperative employee was not entitled to receive significant sums in connection with his repatriation back to Hong Kong.

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## Tips and tricks: Dealing with third-party vendors in IT agreements

26 April 2021

Many companies engage suppliers to deliver IT services. Whereas many years ago, most suppliers provided services on the basis of their own capabilities, systems and solutions, the situation today is significantly different.

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

23 April 2021

### [BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

SEC revises token safe harbor proposal; UK updates tax treatment of cryptoassets.

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## SEC Commissioner Peirce issues revised token safe harbor proposal

23 April 2021

The proposed rule provides two paths to an exit that would allow the company to keep operating without registration of the tokens.

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## US government announces sweeping sanctions against Russia

16 April 2021

The newly imposed sanctions represent a significant escalation and addition to the sanctions architecture put in place by the Obama and Trump Administrations.

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## Digital Services Act: EDPS's opinion and public consultation

15 April 2021

On 15 December 2020, the European Commission (EC) published its proposal for a Digital Services Act (DSA). On 10 February 2021, the EDPS published its Opinion 1/2021 on the proposal for a Digital Services Act. In its opinion, the EDPS focuses on the due diligence obligations that are set out in the Digital Services Act.

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## So you want to go digital...

April 2021

This article assists businesses in identifying the core issues that must be addressed to ensure the legal sufficiency of transactions conducted on eSignature platforms.

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## **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 49, Q1 2021**

30 March 2021

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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## **Non-fungible tokens: Emerging issues in the emerging marketplace**

30 March 2021

Any digital asset, or a right in an underlying asset, can be tokenized to make an NFT.

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## **The Lanham Act's makeover – Congress gives new clarity and tools to trademark owners and applicants**

30 March 2021

The Trademark Modernization Act of 2020 gives new certainty for litigants and new tools for challenging current registrations.

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## **The Pharmaceutical Corner**

30 March 2021

The opinion may render functional claiming more difficult, but functional claims that follow its guidance may still have an important role to play in pharmaceutical patents.

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## **Understanding the USPTO guidance on patenting AI technologies**

30 March 2021

The USPTO guidance opens the door for applicants to obtain patent protection for their AI technologies.

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## **Washington, DC grows telecoms capabilities with a new arrival**

30 March 2021

Tony Lin has joined our Washington, DC office and award-winning Telecom group, bringing his vast experience in satellite and communications law.

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## **SEC interim final amendments signal stricter regulation on Chinese and other emerging market companies**

29 March 2021

Under the new requirements, certain companies must establish that they are not owned or controlled by a foreign government entity and must disclose any foreign government influence.

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## Episode 15: Comprehensive New E-Commerce Rules Introduced

23 March 2021

### [NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)

Operators of e-commerce platforms, websites and apps in China, and those using third party e-commerce, social media or livestreaming platforms to sell their products and services in China, must update their operations, services and systems in advance of wide-ranging new rules.

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## CFTC's new Climate Risk Unit: Another tool in the Biden Administration's "whole of government" campaign against climate change

23 March 2021

With this move, the US joins governments across the globe in recognizing the vital role derivatives markets will play in developing new solutions to address climate and sustainability challenges.

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## United States imposes significant new export controls and sanctions on Russia and China

23 March 2021

Reflecting a further hardening of US foreign policy and national security policy positions with those two countries.

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

22 March 2021

### [BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

Wyoming moves to clarify legal status of DAOs; court dismisses class action against a cryptocurrency exchange.

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## Wyoming takes a step ahead to clarify the legal status of decentralized autonomous organizations

22 March 2021

If the bill becomes official law, Wyoming will be the first US state to clarify the legal status of a DAO.

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## Antidumping and countervailing duty petition against imports of certain Chinese mobile access equipment and subassemblies: Consequences for exporters and US importers

16 March 2021

Foreign producers, exporters and importers may consider having a strategy for addressing AD and CVD investigations, including possible participation.

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## Tips and 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.

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## 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.

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## Country-specific guidance on the transfer pricing implications of the COVID-19 pandemic

4 March 2021

Businesses may wish to consider the guidance from several countries on the appropriate transfer pricing treatment for governmental subsidies related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## M&A and the Middle East digital economy

01 March 2021

### [TECHLAW PODCAST](#)

In Episode 36 of our TechLaw podcast series, Dubai-based partners and M&A lawyers at DLA Piper, Will Seivewright and Eamon Holley, are joined by Directors at Control Risks, Courtenay Smith and Will Brown, in an invigorating discussion on the latest M&A trends in the GCC. In this conversation, they analyse the recent impact and acceleration of technology trends derived from COVID-19, as well as the roll-out successions of M&A trends across the European Markets.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · [M&A and the Middle East digital economy](#)

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## FinTech Middle East: Innovations in payments and beyond!

26 February 2021

### [TECHLAW PODCAST](#)

In Episode 35 of our TechLaw Podcast Series, Middle-East based DLA Piper partner, Paul Latto, joins an incredible panel of experts including Tony Chacko Joseph, from UAE's Ministry of Finance; Khalid Saad, Board Member at CoinMENA; and Phil Reynolds, Board Director and Co-founder at Pyypl, to discuss the rapid growth in mobile payments and platforms the UAE's FinTech has experienced. Other topics for discussion also include FinTech regulations, trends and innovations swiftly approaching the UAE.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · [FinTech: Innovations in payments, and beyond](#)

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## Antitrust in the digital age: rethinking the regulation of big tech

25 February 2021

## TECHLAW PODCAST

In Episode 34 of our TechLaw Podcast Series, our partner, Alexandra Kamerling, talks about antitrust law in the digital age with Laura Petrone, Senior Analyst of Technology Thematic Research at GlobalData Plc. Their conversation delves into how traditional regulations are being evolved to allow for a fair playing field that also fosters innovation, as well as looking at how these regulations are being applied in numerous jurisdictions across the globe.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Antitrust in the digital age: rethinking the regulation of big tech

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## 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"?

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### 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.

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## 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.

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## Corruption Perceptions Index 2020 - a regional perspective

11 February 2021

Last week Transparency International launched the 2020 edition of its Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), which ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption, according to experts and business people, using a scale of zero to 100 (100 being very clean and zero being highly corrupt).

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## Announced, proposed and implemented: Developments in Digital Services Tax in key European jurisdictions

9 February 2021

While the OECD and G20 work toward a global agreement on digital services taxes, some European countries have forged ahead on their own.

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## Announced, proposed and implemented: Key features of France's DST

9 February 2021

The French definition of "taxable service" under the DST differs from the definition of "taxable services" as used for VAT purposes.

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### **Announced, proposed and implemented: Key features of Italy's DST**

9 February 2021

The Italian DST applies only to revenues deriving from the provision of tax-relevant digital services linked to Italian-located users.

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### **Announced, proposed and implemented: Key features of Spain's DST**

9 February 2021

The annual worldwide revenue threshold is not limited to revenues generated by the provision of digital services, meaning that non-tech businesses may also need to comply.

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### **Announced, proposed and implemented: Key features of the United Kingdom's DST**

9 February 2021

The UK's DST is intended to be an interim measure pending a long-term global solution to the tax challenges arising from digitalization.

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### **Part 2: Hybrid Future- shifting the workplace in a post-pandemic world**

28 January 2021

#### **TECHLAW PODCAST**

The second part of Episode 33 of our TechLaw Podcast Series, features an insightful discussion between DLA Piper partner, Paul Allen, and author of Future Fit, Andrea Clarke. With Covid-19 having accelerated the shift from physical to virtual working, how do businesses connect its people to its strategy and motivate, educate and inspire them through this new hybrid model?

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Part 2: Hybrid Future- shifting the workplace in a post-pandemic world

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### **Supreme Court dives into circuit split over the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act**

28 January 2021

What does it mean to "exceed authorized access" to an Internet-connected device?

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### **OECD publishes guidance on the tax impact of cross-border working arrangements during the COVID-19 pandemic**

27 January 2021

Our observations on the new OECD guidelines and their implications for employers.

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### **The Qualified Maquiladora Approach Agreement has been renewed: Implications for multinationals' transfer pricing**

26 January 2021

US-based multinationals using the maquiladora structure to manufacture goods in Mexico are taking note.

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## China's Blocking Rules: New trade-compliance dilemmas for third-country companies

25 January 2021

The Blocking Rules respond to the increased use of "secondary" economic sanctions and export controls by the US.

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## Part 1: Becoming Future Fit - Adapting for digital evolution

20 January 2021

### TECHLAW PODCAST

Part one of Episode 33 in our TechLaw Podcast Series sees Andrea Clarke, author of Future Fit: How to Stay Relevant and Competitive in the Future of Work, draw on her fascinating life experience to advise on how to stay secure in the future of work and create value as we undergo a digital evolution. Creating a strong sense of self in the workplace through connecting employees with a business' purpose, strategy and leadership is critical to future success.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Part 1: Becoming Future Fit – Adapting for digital evolution

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## Israel Group News January 2021

19 January 2021

### ISRAEL GROUP NEWS

In this issue, our global activities, latest publications, recent events and more.

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## Launch of first edition of DLA Piper's Influencer Marketing Guide

12 January 2021

We introduce you to DLA Piper's Influencer Marketing Guide. Download the full guide for DLA Piper's overview of the legal framework for influencer marketing in 22 countries around the world.

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## Founders Factory Africa Part 2: The power of collaboration for startups

14 January 2021

### TECHLAW PODCAST

In part two of Episode 32 of our TechLaw Podcast Series, Alina Truhina, Chief Strategy Officer at Founders Factory Africa, resumes her conversation on business collaborations between corporates and startups with one of our partners, Chris Baird. Shifting the conversation to the challenges and opportunities for startups when joining with established corporate companies, Alina and Chris also discuss the areas of focus when working with entrepreneurs in Africa and what to expect in the next five years.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Founders Factory Africa Part 2: The Power Of Collaboration For Startups

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## Founders Factory Africa Part 1: Opportunities for corporate investments

11 January 2021

### TECHLAW PODCAST

In part one of Episode 32 of our TechLaw Podcast Series, Alina Truhina, Chief Strategy Officer at Founders Factory Africa, talks

business collaborations between corporates and startups with one of our partners, Chris Baird. Their conversation focuses on the impact of COVID-19 on FFA's portfolio investment strategy, fund flows in Africa and misconceptions of investing in Africa.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Founders Factory Africa Part 1: Opportunities For Corporate Investments

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## **The UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement: Implications for technology services**

11 January 2021

The TCA includes a chapter relating to digital services which provides some key details relevant to both providers and customers of technology-related services.

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## **Boardroom Brexit: What the deal means for business**

31 December 2020

### **[BOARDROOM BREXIT](#)**

Welcome to this last edition of Boardroom Brexit, marking the end of the negotiations and the agreement of a new trade deal, the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA). In this edition, we summarise the impact of the deal on all aspects of business operations in one place – please use the hyperlinks below to help you navigate the report.

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## **Boardroom Brexit: What the deal means for intellectual property**

31 December 2020

### **[BOARDROOM BREXIT](#)**

The TCA is not radical in terms of its immediate impact on holders of IP rights in the UK or the EU. It does not, for example, affect the post-2020 status of EU trade marks in the UK.

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## **Boardroom Brexit: What the deal means for personal data and digital trade**

31 December 2020

### **[BOARDROOM BREXIT](#)**

The TCA allows personal data to transfer from the EU-UK, for a period of up to six months from 1 January 2021. This 'bridging' period is designed to allow the EU time needed to adopt a formal adequacy decision which will allow the continuing flow of personal data to the UK.

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## **Boardroom Brexit: What the deal means for trade in services**

31 December 2020

### **[BOARDROOM BREXIT](#)**

The TCA has substantial sectoral coverage, including professional and business services (e.g. legal, auditing, architectural services), delivery and telecommunication services, computer-related and digital services, financial services, research and development services, most transport services and environmental services.

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## **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 48, Q4 2020**

22 December 2020

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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### Supreme Court Corner

22 December 2020

A quick look at two cases.

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### Who's responsible for content posted on the Internet? Section 230, explained

22 December 2020

What the law does, what people are saying it should do, and what might happen next.

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### 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.

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### When a threat actor strikes: Legal considerations and challenges in a ransomware attack

21 December 2020

Evidence suggests that having employees working remotely significantly increases the risk of a successful ransomware attack.

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### Cyberfrauds and Cyberattacks: Remote Working Posing Increased Risks and How to Stay Protected

14 December 2020

Cybercriminals are becoming more sophisticated in the ways they facilitate cyberfrauds, with the increasing use of personalised messages on instant messaging platforms such as WeChat or WhatsApp and socially engineered phishing emails to deceive recipients to transfer funds, disclose sensitive information or click on malicious links.

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### US DOT issues groundbreaking proposals for regulation of automated driving systems, seeks input

11 December 2020

The rulemaking initiates an important new chapter in autonomous vehicle development and commercialization in the US.

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### Blockchain: Background, challenges and legal issues

8 December 2020

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Blockchain and distributed ledger technology offers significant and scalable processing power, high accuracy rates, and apparently unbreakable security at a significantly reduced cost compared to the traditional systems the technology could replace, such as settlement, trading or accounting systems.

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## **Enterprise Cloud Disruption and rethinking the standard contracting model**

7 December 2020

In this paper we explore the key contractual themes when seeking to deploy an enterprise cloud solution, and suggest some approaches to managing the associated risk.

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## **Agile Contracting: Balancing flexibility with certainty**

4 December 2020

Agile contracting is on the rise, bringing with it requests for contracts which support the flexible approach of iterative development while including the legal contractual protections and certainty that customers (and their lawyers) usually demand. This paper explores how procurement and legal functions can rise to this challenge.

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## **Artificial intelligence, robotics and automation: The best or the worst thing to ever happen to humanity?**

2 December 2020

We examine some of the business opportunities and challenges faced, as well as providing our insight on how to manage these issues both in strategic sourcing programmes and in transformative, technology-enabled projects.

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## **Building a full fibre future: European fibre-to-the-premises (FTTP) investment trends 2021**

2 December 2020

Our new study, conducted in partnership with TMT Finance, indicates that the recent rise in FTTP investment is set to continue over the next two years. The insight gathered through this report highlights key factors for the rise and appeal of FTTP to investors, as well as the potential risks they see in this industry.

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## **Fintech: Navigating challenges to benefit from innovation**

2 December 2020

This note briefly highlights some of the challenges that fintech/financial institution procurements commonly reveal. We also consider how best to navigate those challenges from the perspective of both the financial institution and the fintech.

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## **5G Contracts: Features and challenges of the new Colombian infrastructure programs**

30 November 2020

Historically, relied on as an anti-cyclic economic boost, infrastructure development has found a renewed role in reactivating the Colombian economy recently affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Colombian government's launch of the 5G concession program sets forth an opportunity to reactive the Colombian economy.

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## Projects Global Insight Issue 4, 2020

30 November 2020

### PROJECTS GLOBAL INSIGHT

In what is undoubtedly one of the most testing periods for the infrastructure and construction industry, key stakeholders continue to focus on delivering resilient, adaptable and fit-for-purpose assets and services in extremely challenging conditions.

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## Brexit: Choice of Law, Jurisdiction, Enforcement, and Service

27 November 2020

This article looks at the impact of reaching the end of the Brexit transition period (at 11pm on 31 December 2020) on governing law, jurisdiction, enforcement, and service in contracts between UK entities and EU member state entities.

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## AI Trends Part 2: Security compliance, 5G and the war for talent

25 November 2020

### TECHLAW PODCAST

In part two of Episode 31 of our TechLaw Podcast Series, Santeri Kangas and Jeremy Otis from CUJO AI, resume their conversation on artificial intelligence trends with one of our partners, Mathias Schulze Steinen. Using findings from our recent European Technology Index 2020, the discussion focuses on topics including security compliance and standardization, data processing, robotics and 5G. The group also debates whether there is a war for talent in the AI arena.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · AI Trends Part 2 Security Compliance, 5G And The War For Talent

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## AI Trends Part 1: IoT privacy and security risks

23 November 2020

### TECHLAW PODCAST

Part one of Episode 31 of our TechLaw Podcast Series features Chief Technology Officer at CUJO AI, Santeri Kangas, along with General Counsel, Jeremy Otis, discussing the latest trends in artificial intelligence with one of our partners, Mathias Schulze Steinen. The changing digital landscape forms the basis of this conversation in relation to the security of connected devices, user privacy and data collection.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · AI Trends Part 1 IoT Privacy And Security Risks

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

23 November 2020

### BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS

IMF issues report on regulatory framework for CBDs and GSCs, SEC invites feedback on application of custody rule to digital assets.

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## Regulatory framework for CBDs and GSCs: IMF's policy paper, "Digital Money Across Borders: Macro-Financial Implications"

23 November 2020

The Report discusses the pros and cons of two important virtual currencies: central bank digital currencies and global stable coins.

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## SEC invites feedback on application of Custody Rule to digital assets

23 November 2020

Specifically, Staff is asking whether non-depository firms such as state-chartered trust companies can act as qualified custodians for digital assets.

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## UK Tech Startups Part 2: ESG, talent acquisition and AI in the future of tech

17 November 2020

### [TECHLAW PODCAST](#)

In part two of Episode 30 of our TechLaw Podcast Series the discussion continues between Transaction Services Partner at Deloitte, Duncan Down, Chief Strategy Officer and Founder of StarLeaf, Will MacDonald, and the Managing Partner from our London Office, Tom Heylen. As well as insights from our European Technology Index 2020 and mention of the upcoming Deloitte UK Technology Fast 50, the conversation focuses on the integral importance of ESG in all aspects of business, the challenges of acquiring talent remotely and some of the opportunities presented by AI.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · UK Tech Startups Part 2: ESG, talent acquisition and AI in the future of tech

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## Contracting for the climate: The Climate Contract Playbook is a trove of climate clauses

11 November 2020

Contracts have become an essential vehicle for companies seek to mitigate their environmental risks and limit their carbon footprints.

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## UK Tech Startups Part 1: The impact of COVID-19 and the challenges facing M&A and 5G

11 November 2020

### [TECHLAW PODCAST](#)

In the first part of Episode 30 of our TechLaw Podcast Series Transaction Services Partner at Deloitte, Duncan Down, and Chief Strategy Officer and Founder of StarLeaf, Will MacDonald, discuss the impact of COVID-19 on the UK tech startup scene with the Managing Partner from our London Office, Tom Heylen. The conversation includes insights from our European Technology Index 2020, the upcoming Deloitte UK Technology Fast 50 and the current challenges facing M&A, whilst also addressing the question of whether the adoption of 5G will really make that much difference to the consumer experience.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · UK Tech Startups Part 1: The impact of COVID-19 and the challenges facing M&A and 5G

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## 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.

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## 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."

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## **Coronavirus: Directors' duties and making decisions in a crisis**

2 November 2020

Directors need to carefully consider how to address the risks of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic within their business, given its impact on the global economy. As many companies are continuing to face significant, and increasing, cash flow pressure, directors should carefully consider their actions in the context of the legal framework.

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## **Navigating China Episode 14: New draft national, harmonised data protection law for Mainland China**

23 October 2020

### **NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY**

A first national level personal information protection law for Mainland China has been published, reinforcing and heightening existing data protection compliance obligations for organisations doing business in China.

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## **Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends**

21 October 2020

### **BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS**

SDNY finds Kin token is a security; unpacking the DOJ's cryptocurrency guidance – plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments.

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## **Fintech in Africa Part 2: The role of regulation in problem solving and cybersecurity**

20 October 2020

### **TECHLAW PODCAST**

Part two of Episode 29 of our TechLaw Podcast Series concludes this discussion on Fintech in Africa between Professor Olayinka David-West, Academic Director at Lagos Business School, and Sandra Oyewole, a partner at DLA Piper Africa, Nigeria. Their conversation looks at the role of regulation in problem solving and the critical importance of focusing on data protection and cybersecurity as we continue to respond to the challenges set by COVID-19.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Fintech in Africa Part 2: The role of regulation in problem solving and cybersecurity

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## **Germany's New Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) Act took effect on 11 October 2020**

19 October 2020

In addition to the intended amendments to the Foreign Trade and Payments Act Germany's Federal Government on 20 May 2020 has decided on a bill that broadens the scope and the scrutiny with regard to foreign investments.

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## **China Enforces Tax Collection on Employees Working for Chinese-invested Enterprises Overseas**

16 October 2020

With the recent IIT reform in 2019, and the introduction of a number of implementation rules (particularly the tax policy on overseas income), it appears the China tax authorities are taking a harder stance on how overseas income derived by China tax residents will be taxed in China, starting with Chinese expatriates working for Chinese state-owned enterprises.

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## **Fintech in Africa Part 1: The impact of COVID-19 and the issue of gender imbalance**

16 October 2020

### **TECHLAW PODCAST**

Part one of Episode 29 of our TechLaw Podcast Series features a fascinating discussion on Fintech in Africa between Professor Olayinka David-West, Academic Director at Lagos Business School, and Sandra Oyewole, a partner at DLA Piper Africa, Nigeria. Their conversation focuses on the recent impact of COVID-19 as well as the ongoing issue of gender imbalance in Fintech in Africa.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Fintech in Africa Part 1: The impact of COVID-19 and the issue of gender imbalance

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## **Singapore: Imminent Changes to the Personal Data Protection Act 2012 (PDPA)**

16 October 2020

On 5 October 2020, the Singapore Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill (Bill) was tabled in Parliament for the first reading. It is expected that the Bill will be passed before the end of the year if not sooner.

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## **Israel Group News October 2020**

7 October 2020

### **ISRAEL GROUP NEWS**

In this issue, our global activities, latest publications, recent events and more.

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## **Mass layoffs and collective redundancies guide**

6 October 2020

As COVID-19 continues to impact the global economy in unprecedented ways, companies that have had to scale back or shut down operations are bracing for what the next few months will bring, and what this means for their workforces. In this guide, we examine key considerations for employers looking to make permanent reductions in force across APAC.

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## **Fintech: Surviving a pandemic, technology drivers and fostering innovation**

5 October 2020

### **TECHLAW PODCAST**

Episode 28 of our TechLaw Podcast Series features Executive Co-Chair at Global Digital Finance, Lawrence Wintermeyer, discussing the Fintech sector with one of our partners, Martin Bartlam. The recent findings from our European Technology Index 2020 focus the discussion on the key drivers to success in this space and the importance of regulatory collaboration.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Fintech: Surviving a pandemic, technology drivers and fostering innovation

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## **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 47, Q3 2020**

30 September 2020

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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### 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.

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### Supreme Court Corner

30 September 2020

A quick look at two cases - *USPTO v. Booking.com* and *American Axle & Manufacturing v. Neapco Holdings*.

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### Smart cars, cities and 5G - what does the future hold for the IoT and connectivity

28 September 2020

#### TECHLAW PODCAST

Episode 27 of our TechLaw Podcast Series features CEO and Co-Founder of Transatel, Jacques Bonifay, discussing the IoT and connectivity with one of our partners, Mathias Schulze Steinen. Insights from our European Technology Index 2020 inform the conversation around the future of connected cars, smart cities and 5G.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · Smart Cars, Cities And 5G – What Does The Future Hold For The IoT And Connectivity

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### The impact of COVID-19 on digital transformation and the importance of continued innovation

22 September 2020

#### TECHLAW PODCAST

Rosy Cinefra, Vice President, Head of Legal and Compliance at NTT Data, speaks to one of our partners, Giulio Coraggio about how digital transformation has been accelerated by the COVID-19 emergency.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · The impact of COVID-19 on digital transformation and the importance of continued innovation

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### A new EECC coming into play: Key points for electronic communications service providers

15 September 2020

Entities providing an electronic communication service, such as email or video streamed over the Internet, may need to register as an ECS provider in relevant EU nations.

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### Cybersecurity and data protection within the context of COVID-19 and the IoT

14 September 2020

## [TECHLAW PODCAST](#)

Episode 25 of our TechLaw Podcast Series features CEO and founder of Context IS, Mark Raeburn, discussing cybersecurity and data protection with one of our partners, Ross McKean. The recent findings from our European Technology Index 2020 highlighting the importance of the relationship between cybersecurity and IoT is a key focus.

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### **Human rights compliance programmes in the Technology sector**

10 September 2020

The risk of adverse environmental, social or human rights impacts is one that Technology businesses will be familiar with.

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### **Human rights compliance programmes: Why now?**

10 September 2020

Businesses are increasingly required to identify and manage their involvement in adverse environmental and social impacts throughout their organisations and supply chains. Previously, drivers for developing human rights compliance programmes have included reputation risk and compliance with best practice and “soft law” standards.

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### **Details of the second tranche of Hong Kong’s Employment Support Scheme released**

24 August 2020

On 18 August 2020 the Hong Kong government announced details surrounding the second tranche of the Employment Support Scheme. While the majority of the rules surrounding the second tranche remain largely the same as the first tranche, there are new penalties for employers who have fallen foul of a number of nebulous terms.

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### **Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends**

21 August 2020

## [BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

California appellate court affirms judgment for Coinbase in lawsuit over Bitcoin Gold – plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments.

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### **The evolution and accountability of Diversity and Inclusion within the tech industry**

12 August 2020

## [TECHLAW PODCAST](#)

Jiun Kimm from Samsung NEXT joins one of our partners, Luca Gori, to explore the importance of technology in the evolution and accountability of diversity and inclusion and how the findings from our European Technology Index 2020 relate to this highly topical subject.

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### **Release of exposure draft legislation for major reforms to Australia’s Foreign Investment Framework**

10 August 2020

Many governments around the world have been strengthening their laws relating to foreign investment. Australia is no exception to this development and has just released proposed sweeping reforms to its foreign investment regime. In this article, we provide a high level overview of the key proposed amendments and our thoughts on how some of those proposals are likely to affect foreign investment into Australia.

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### **Vlog series: How to raise equity capital during the Coronavirus pandemic (UK)**

4 August 2020

The first half of 2020 has seen an unprecedented volume of activity by companies raising capital through follow-on equity offerings on the London Stock Exchange in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. There have been over 140 equity issues on the London Stock Exchange's main market or AIM since 20 March 2020 raising more than GBP14 billion.

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### **Schrems II: Now what? New FAQs from EU data protection supervisors provide guidance on data transfers**

28 July 2020

Organizations relying on Privacy Shield for transfers to the US of personal data subject to GDPR must immediately implement an alternative mechanism or cease transfers.

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### **Tax manoeuvre for the Russian IT sector**

22 July 2020

Following the speech by the President on 23 June 2020 about far-reaching support measures for the Russian IT sector, in little less than a month, the Government prepared and introduced to the State Duma draft law No. 990337-7 "On Amending Part Two of the Tax Code of the Russian Federation (to the Extent Related to Supporting Organisations Doing Business in the Area of Information Technology)".

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### **WIN Wise: Top tips for making the most of your IT contracts**

20 July 2020

There can sometimes be a disconnect between lawyers who draft contracts, and those with primary responsibility for implementing them. Through smart collaboration, effective communication and shared vision, in-house lawyers and their commercial counterparts can work together to maximize value and generate extra revenue.

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### **Hong Kong Government increases statutory entitlement for maternity leave**

16 July 2020

On 10 October 2018, the Chief Executive stated in her policy address that the government proposed to increase the statutory maternity leave entitlement from ten to 14 weeks.

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### **Israel Group News July 2020**

8 July 2020

**ISRAEL GROUP NEWS**

In this issue, our global activities, latest publications, recent events and more.

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### **Are you ready for the USMCA? Customs-related takeaways on key changes from NAFTA**

30 June 2020

Claiming USMCA duty advantages – practical considerations.

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### **Changes to Hong Kong anti-discrimination legislation**

30 June 2020

Anti-discrimination laws in Hong Kong have undergone a series of changes over the past few years.

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### **Hatch-Waxman Litigation 101: The Orange Book and the Paragraph IV Notice Letter**

30 June 2020

A few of the key issues that must be addressed before a Hatch-Waxman suit is filed.

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### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 46, Q2 2020**

30 June 2020

#### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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### **Supreme Court Corner**

30 June 2020

A quick look at three cases: *Thryv, Inc.*; *Lucky Brands*; and *Romag Fasteners*.

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### **New Section 301 investigations into digital services taxes involving multiple countries**

29 June 2020

The US Trade Representative will investigate whether these DSTs discriminate against or place an unreasonable burden upon or restrict US commerce.

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### **First emerging technologies identified and controlled for export in the EAR**

26 June 2020

The designation also makes these a "critical technology," giving CFIUS jurisdiction over foreign investments in US businesses that engage with these items.

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## CFIUS encourages public to provide tips and referrals

24 June 2020

The new webpage encourages tips and referrals about non-notified deals, violations of CFIUS mitigation measures, and other matters that raise national security risk.

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## Dublin office anniversary

19 June 2020

Our people in the Irish practice are celebrating our first anniversary and the substantial growth that has been achieved in just 12 months.

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends June 2020

18 June 2020

### [BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

World Economic Forum announces Presidio Principles as a foundation of blockchain ecosystem design – plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments.

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## World Economic Forum announces Presidio Principles as a foundation of blockchain ecosystem design

18 June 2020

WEF's foundational values for a decentralized future.

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## Australia tightens rules on foreign investment

17 June 2020

In this article we summarise the tax-related developments from early June 2020, as Australia takes a more stringent approach towards compliance procedures involving foreign investments.

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## Navigating China Episode 13: (More) Important Developments in China's Privacy and Cyber Laws

10 June 2020

### [NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)

China's privacy and cyber authorities have been busy in the last month enacting substantial enhancements and clarifications to data protection compliance obligations; and even more changes are expected before the end of 2020.

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## New Chinese Civil Code Introduces Greater Protection of Privacy Rights and Personal Information

9 June 2020

China's top legislature, the National People's Congress, recently enacted the PRC Civil Code (the Civil Code), which will come into force on 1 January 2021. This first ever "codified" legislation covers a wide spectrum of rights and issues such as property rights, contracts, matrimonial and family law and tort liability.

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## Preparing for global class actions arising from COVID-19

28 May 2020

The risk to companies of global and cross-border class action and collective redress proceedings is rising.

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## Chinese and other emerging market companies listed in the US face increased scrutiny from Congress and Nasdaq

27 May 2020

Within a span of two days, the US Senate, House and Nasdaq each took steps to safeguard investors in the US capital markets.

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## Third edition of *The Price of Data Security*, a guide to the insurability of GDPR fines across Europe

27 May 2020

We've partnered with global broker Aon for the third year running for the updated edition of *The Price of Data Security*, a guide to the insurability of GDPR fines across Europe that includes common issues faced by organisations in international cyber scenarios and illustrated with practical case studies.

GDPR has undeniably revolutionised the data protection regime and significantly affects how organisations worldwide collect, use, manage, protect, and share personal data that comes into their possession – with significant fines for non-compliance. Within the last year alone, a EUR18 million fine was issued against a national postal operator and a EUR14.5 million fine against a real estate company.

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

20 May 2020

### [BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

California may limit application of securities laws to tokens, French court says bitcoins are fungible assets – plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments.

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## California bill proposes limits on application of securities laws to tokens

20 May 2020

The proposed changes are likely to be well received by those considering issuing tokens.

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## French court clarifies the nature of bitcoins: A consumable, fungible, intangible asset

20 May 2020

The dispute arose in the wake of the August 2017 hard fork split.

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## Important changes proposed to Singapore's Personal Data Protection Act

19 May 2020

Organisations should plan ahead for significant changes to Singapore's Personal Data Protection Act, which were proposed in a

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consultation paper published on 14 May 2020.

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### Latin America digital services tax update

18 May 2020

For businesses that are non-resident digital service providers in Latin America.

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### WIN WISE: IT Projects and dispute avoidance

14 May 2020

Underestimated costs, unexpected delays and poor governance are just a few of the reasons why some IT projects fail. COVID-19 has now potentially created the perfect storm. This dispute-avoidance checklist highlights what parties can do during the lifetime of an IT project to minimise the risk of disputes.

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### COVID-19: Using technology to address compliance

13 May 2020

How can compliance routines be improved in a time of social distancing via technology?

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### Facial recognition technology: Supporting a sustainable lockdown exit strategy?

8 May 2020

Technology has played a dominant role during the lockdown and will be a key aspect of ensuring the transition back to normality is successful. This article discusses recent trends, particularly in Ireland, Denmark and China, regarding the adoption of facial recognition technology (FRT) as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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### Coronavirus: Changes to rules governing meetings and the execution of company documents (Australia)

7 May 2020

Certain requirements in the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) (**Corporations Act**) relating to shareholders meetings, and document signatures, are not compatible with public health requirements for social distancing during the coronavirus pandemic. In order to facilitate these important corporate functions during this period, on May 6, 2020 the Australian Federal Government introduced the Corporations (Coronavirus Economic Response) Determination (No. 1) 2020.

This determination modifies the legislative requirements regarding meetings and execution of company documents. These changes come into force on 6 May 2020, and will expire after six months, on 5 November 2020.

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### COVID-19: New York and Other Northeast Council states take phased approach to reopening economy

6 May 2020

These developments raise a number of immediate questions and considerations for businesses operating in the region.

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## CFIUS filing fees effective as of May 1, 2020: What you need to know

5 May 2020

The filing fees go into effect and must be paid for transactions filed on or after May 1, 2020.

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## Coronavirus: Directors' duties and making decisions in a crisis (Australia)

4 May 2020

Directors need to carefully consider the risks of the COVID-19 outbreak within their business, given its impact on the global economy. As many now face significant, and increasing, cash flow pressure, directors should carefully consider their actions in the context of the legal framework.

In this new guide we have set out the practical steps directors should be taking to protect their company and its business going forwards.

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## Israel Group News May 2020

4 May 2020

### [ISRAEL GROUP NEWS](#)

Providing access to valuable business resources in real time.

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## Relief for startups from COVID-19: do I qualify for funding?

4 MAY 2020

As COVID-19 continues to impact the Canadian economy, a number of financial support initiatives have been announced by provincial and federal governments to aid small and medium sized businesses (SMEs). While business may have slowed down for many SMEs, it is likely operational costs have not and many of these aid programs have been introduced in recognition of this fact.

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## eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

30 April 2020

### [ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

Some key considerations for lenders looking to close loans electronically, either in person or remotely, plus latest regulatory, legal and case law developments around eSignatures and ePayments.

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## Top of Mind: COVID-19 technology sector insights

28 April 2020

In this time of growing uncertainty, we recognize that many tech businesses are facing significant disruptions and unprecedented challenges arising from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

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## US telehealth update: New federal guidance to state Medicaid agencies suggests more coverage is coming

27 April 2020

A powerful signal that CMS is ready to support targeted interventions in favor of telehealth.

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### **What COVID-19 could mean for the future of the Big Tech investigations**

24 April 2020

#### **ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION: NOVEL ISSUES IN A POST-CORONAVIRUS WORLD**

Rather than hampering the investigations over the long term, the pandemic may open new lines of inquiry for antitrust investigators.

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### **Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends**

23 April 2020

#### **BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS**

The FSB report on global stablecoin frameworks and related cryptoassets reflects views inside G20 governments – plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments.

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### **The Financial Stability Board Report on Stablecoins – implications for the international regulation of cryptocurrencies and other cryptoassets**

23 April 2020

The report reflects views within G20 governments regarding both national and international regulation of cryptoassets.

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### **FCC now accepting applications for CARES Act telehealth grants**

16 April 2020

To ensure as many applicants as possible receive funding, the FCC noted it does not anticipate awarding more than \$1 million to any single applicant.

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### **Puerto Rico's Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act is in force**

16 April 2020

The Act will also apply in case of future epidemics in which the Puerto Rican government declares a state of emergency.

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### **Adapting to a new consumer market**

15 April 2020

As consumer-facing businesses consider changes in their business models, avoiding legal pitfalls in some key areas is necessary for a successful transition.

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### **Anticipated increase in website and mobile application litigation as a result of COVID 19-pandemic: 12 practical steps toward compliance**

15 April 2020

Companies are urged to take notice of these lawsuits, because the number of these cases is increasing and some have been very costly.

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### **Paradigm Change in Germany's Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) Law**

14 April 2020

Germany's FDI rules so far had a reputation of not being very strong. In the past few years, only three transactions have been prohibited. This is set to change under a new bill.

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### **COVID-19: New York State provides new guidance on essential businesses**

13 April 2020

The Guidelines raise a number of immediate questions and considerations for New York businesses.

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### **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.

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### **FINRA publishes COVID-19 information notice providing suggested measures to strengthen cybersecurity controls**

10 April 2020

FINRA provides numerous suggested measures for strengthening cybersecurity controls regarding increased risks associated with employees working remotely.

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### **US \$2T stimulus COVID-19 package includes significant R&D funding**

10 April 2020

A summary of R&D funding in the CARES Act broken out by federal departments and agencies.

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### **Episode 12: More obligations on Chinese mobile app operators to comply with**

9 April 2020

#### **NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY**

Following the crackdown by Chinese authorities against non-compliant mobile apps in late 2019 (please see Episode 8 in this series), the authorities have issued a series of app compliance guidelines (including the Guide to Self-Assess Illegal Collection and Use of Personal Information by Apps, Methods for Identifying Unlawful Acts of Apps to Collect and Use Personal Information, and Draft Specification for Collecting Personal Information in Mobile Applications). These guidelines imposed detailed obligations and practical

actions to urge mobile app operators to conduct self-assessments and to rectify any non-compliant data processing practices. Organisations may have noted that some of these guidelines contain conflicting requirements.

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## **UK government to provide additional financial support measures for mid-market business impacted by COVID-19**

9 April 2020

On 3 April 2020 the Chancellor announced a new scheme for larger companies, with the creation of the new Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CLBILS) to ensure that more firms are able to benefit from government-backed support during this difficult time.

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## **Ten practical tips for dealing with anticipated financial distress of your business or your clients, customers or vendors**

8 April 2020

What businesses can consider doing to address the impact of conducting business in a financially distressed climate in light of COVID-19.

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## **Contract analysis in a crisis: flowcharts**

7 April 2020

Flowcharts providing considerations for analyzing commercial contracts in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic through a logical process flow that can serve as a practical checklist.

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## **Cost-cutting considerations in the time of COVID-19 (Part 3 – employment issues outside the US)**

7 April 2020

A deeper dive into various cost-saving measures and their viability for employers outside the US.

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## **COVID-19 and the "essential business" designation: Practical guidance for businesses that fall in the gray area between "essential" and "non-essential"**

6 April 2020

Certain frequently asked questions as well as practical guidance.

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## **Coronavirus COVID-19 - IPT Q&A: France**

6 April 2020

This Q&A relates to France IPT matters, such as termination right due to force majeure, data privacy, remote work and privacy issues, outsourcing arrangements, business continuity and disaster recovery provisions, suppliers fixed costs, supply chain relationships, impact on RFP processes, and more.

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## **Issue 2: The governance of IT systems - a board level issue**

6 April 2020

## **LESSONS LEARNED FROM *BATES V POST OFFICE* IN AN INCREASINGLY SOFTWARE DEPENDENT WORLD: “BUGS, ERRORS AND DEFECTS”**

In the latest judgment in the legal dispute *Bates v Post Office*, the judge was tasked with determining both the extent to which the ‘operation’ of the system employed by the Post Office across its post-master network was robust, and the effective cause of the electronic accounting shortfalls that had affected a number of Post Office branches.

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### **ASX and ASIC make it easier for companies to raise capital during COVID-19**

3 April 2020

The economic shock caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted companies across all sectors, with many needing to raise capital urgently to sustain them until the pandemic passes. The Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) and Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) have recognised this, and on 31 March 2020 announced temporary emergency capital raising relief to help facilitate capital raisings in the short term.

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### **Beyond social distancing: What employers need to know to keep their workplaces safe and manage privacy obligations in the face of COVID-19**

2 April 2020

Guidance from OSHA, EEO and CDC to help employers seeking to protect the health, safety and privacy of their on-site employees.

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### **The barbarians are coming ... time for public companies to reinforce the gate**

2 April 2020

While it is far too early to understand or evaluate the true impact that the COVID-19 outbreak may have on the M&A market, for so long as market prices remain depressed, public companies are encouraged to remain cognizant of the potential threat of coercive takeover attempts.

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### **eSignature and ePayment News and Trends**

March/April 2020

## **ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS**

COVID-19 special edition

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### **EU Data Protection: COVID-19**

1 April 2020

The world is facing unprecedented challenges in its fight to contain Coronavirus (COVID-19). Various countries are in lockdown and emergency measures being implemented to contain the pandemic, with European countries currently at the epicentre of the outbreak.

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### **UK Supreme Court upholds appeal in class action against Morrisons**



1 April 2020

Today the Supreme Court allowed an appeal in *Morrisons v Various Claimants*, a significant class action decision addressing the extent of an employers' liability for data breaches maliciously committed by an employee.

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### **Coronavirus: Cybersecurity considerations for your newly remote workforce (United States)**

31 March 2020

Cyber risk management involves balancing the productivity of a workforce with ensuring confidentiality, integrity and availability of the company's own systems and data, as well as that of their supply chain.

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### **DLA Piper's seventh annual Global IP Symposium in Japan**

30 March 2020

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### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 45, Q1 2020**

30 March 2020

#### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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#### **Issue 1: The need for “robustness” and what this means**

30 March 2020

#### **LESSONS LEARNED FROM *BATES V POST OFFICE* IN AN INCREASINGLY SOFTWARE DEPENDENT WORLD: “BUGS, ERRORS AND DEFECTS”**

As businesses process and store increasingly vast volumes of data, so the reliability and robustness of their IT infrastructure becomes increasingly critical. The recent decision in *Bates and others v Post Office Ltd* is a salutary reminder that IT the systems in place can be far from infallible.

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### **Supreme Court Corner**

30 March 2020

Notable cases involve trademark protectability and federal preclusion principles.

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### **Coronavirus: DHS Response to COVID-19 - What US Employers Need to Know**

29 March 2020

Key questions and answers related to the new DHS guidance.

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## Episode 11: Important clarifications and changes to China's data privacy standards

27 March 2020

### NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY

Important updates to China's de facto data privacy regulations will come into force on 1 October 2020. The amendments to the Personal Information Security Specification (PIS Specification) comprise important clarifications rather than substantial changes to the existing regulations.

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## Teledentistry update: Navigating teledentistry during the COVID-19 pandemic (United States)

27 March 2020

As part of its efforts to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 18, 2020, the American Dental Association provided essential guidance on emergency vs. nonemergency dental care and the use of teledentistry.

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## Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

25 March 2020

### BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS

The age of viral outbreaks – key contract considerations in a post-COVID-19 world, plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments around blockchain and digital transformation.

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## Coronavirus: Competition and regulatory measures in Ireland

25 March 2020

### ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION: NOVEL ISSUES IN A POST-CORONAVIRUS WORLD

An unprecedented challenge calls for unprecedented measures. The competition and regulatory world has reacted rapidly to the challenge of COVID-19 with bold legal solutions. We discuss how EU and Irish regulators are responding with support for business, exploring the relaxation of competition laws and adopting temporary measures for merger review.

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## Coronavirus: Cyber hygiene practices

25 March 2020

While the world is responding to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and individuals are increasingly focused on personal hygiene and social distancing, augmenting cyber hygiene efforts at home and at work are increasing in importance too.

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## Coronavirus: Employee furloughs, reductions-in-force and similar temporary cost-saving measures (Part 2 – Employment issues outside the US)

25 March 2020

A general overview of key employment issues to consider outside of the US in light of COVID-19.

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## Coronavirus: Employee furloughs, reductions-in-force and similar temporary cost-saving measures in the US - Part 1

25 March 2020

Key employment-related issues for US-based employers in relation to cost-saving measures due to COVID-19.

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### **Coronavirus: Several state and local governments issue “shelter in place” orders (United States)**

23 March 2020

Between March 17 and 22, state and local governments have promulgated at least a dozen “Stay-at-Home” / “Shelter-at-Home”-type Orders. This alert provides details on a number of state and local government orders.

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### **90-day deferral for US federal income tax payments**

20 March 2020

Those who decide to defer their federal tax payments will be able to do so on a penalty-free and interest-free basis, with penalties and interest beginning to accrue for payments submitted after July 15, 2020.

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### **COVID-19's (likely) impact on the US M&A market**

19 March 2020

Certain considerations that participants in the M&A market may wish to keep in mind as we progress through these unprecedented times.

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### **COVID-19: The benefits of US chapter 11 relief in a time of economic crisis**

19 March 2020

Highlighting some of the most significant benefits of US chapter 11 for companies facing severe challenges under the current circumstances.

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### **Coronavirus: Federal government stimulus response – Massive stimulus package may move through US Congress at “warp speed”**

19 March 2020

The economic stimulus package taking shape may be the biggest one ever.

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### **Coronavirus: business resilience and continuity planning**

19 March 2020

Prudent companies understand that their response to the COVID-19 pandemic should be consistent with their business resilience plans.

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### **Coronavirus: executive summary - key highlights from Washington (March 19, 2020) (United States)**

19 March 2020

Key highlights for March 19, 2020.

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## Podcast: UK Airlines Insolvency

17 March 2020

The aviation industry is facing unprecedented challenges, not helped by the entirely unforeseeable impact of Covid-19. In a recent podcast with Reorg, Chris Parker and Tony Payne discussed the U.K. government's 2019 Airline Insolvency Review.

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## US employee benefits and the coronavirus

17 March 2020

Some of the many benefit plan issues that employers are facing.

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## Coronavirus: Congress expected to pass expanded paid leave (United States)

16 March 2020

The paid leave requirements in the current version of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

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## Coronavirus: federal and state tax relief (United States)

16 March 2020

Congress and state legislatures and administrative agencies are working hard to provide necessary tax relief for those affected by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

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## Coronavirus (COVID-19): ten practical steps for global employers, right now (Global)

13 March 2020

These steps are not based on laws of any one jurisdiction but rather are designed to provide a global employer with themes to consider, understanding that what may be suitable for each employer may vary greatly depending on the employer's unique circumstances.

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## Episode 10: Stricter data localisation and security rules for financial and insurance data in China

06 Mar 2020

### [NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)

The People's Bank of China has released new guidelines on the collection and processing of personal financial information (PFI Guidelines), which provide much-needed clarity on how personal financial information in China should be processed, secured, and transferred. While the PFI Guidelines do not impose an outright ban on personal financial information leaving China, mandatory compliance steps (including consent and impact assessments) must be taken.

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## Europe initiates regulations on artificial intelligence; industry presented with opportunity to provide inputs

5 March 2020

### [AI OUTLOOK](#)

The White Paper on AI initiates a process that could potentially establish the world's first far-reaching regulatory framework for AI.

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## PropTech in the United States – where we're heading

2 March 2020

### PROPTech INSIGHTS

The legal implications of operating smart buildings.

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## Important changes proposed to Hong Kong's data protection law

27 February 2020

Any organisation processing Hong Kong personal data must plan ahead to anticipate significant new compliance obligations requirements. These are proposed in a recent consultation paper to amend Hong Kong's Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (PDPO), and would – if passed – constitute the first changes to the PDPO since 2012.

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## 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.

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## Coronavirus COVID-19 and corporate governance (Australia)

18 February 2020

The coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak and ensuing government restrictions raise corporate governance concerns and create areas of risk across the ESG spectrum that should be considered by companies and their directors and officers.

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## Coronavirus COVID-19 and other supply chain disruptions (UK)

14 February 2020

In a world of increasingly long, international and interdependent supply chains, the coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak is just the most recent event to highlight the ever more complex considerations arising from a disruption to supply.

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## Huawei Temporary General License extended for third time

14 February 2020

The extension applies to Huawei and the 114 other non-US Huawei affiliates on the Entity List.

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## **Opportunities arising from Asia's data protection frameworks (AsiaPac)**

14 February 2020

The media controversy surrounding China's coronavirus COVID-19 detection app, the "close contact detector," has highlighted a common misapprehension about how data protection law is universally applied around the world.

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## **An update on the impact of the coronavirus on business in Singapore**

12 February 2020

Due to the evolving 2019- nCoV acute respiratory disease (the COVID-19) situation, the Ministry of Health (the MOH) and the Ministry of Manpower (the MOM) have, since January 2020, issued advisories which employers will need to be aware of. In particular, the MOH and MOM have, since our last update on February 12 2020, updated and issued new advisories due to the increased risk of importation of COVID-19 into Singapore.

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## **Coronavirus COVID-19: The legal impact on force majeure events (Australia)**

12 February 2020

Key considerations for parties that may wish to declare a force majeure event or dispute the declaration of a force majeure event by a counterparty in relation to coronavirus COVID-19.

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## **Hong Kong Government introduces mandatory quarantine measures**

11 February 2020

On 9 February 2020, the number of deaths due to the rapidly spreading coronavirus in Mainland China officially surpassed the figure seen during the 2002/2003 SARS epidemic.

Numerous governments have been implementing restrictions barring entry to those with recent travel history through Mainland China, including Singapore, Japan, Australia and the United States. Following pressure from public health workers, the Hong Kong Government has now followed suit and has begun a mandatory two-week quarantine for anyone arriving from Mainland China.

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## **How to resume business amid the coronavirus outbreak (China)**

11 February 2020

As reported in our previous article, China has extended its Chinese New Year holiday and work suspension period as a result of the novel coronavirus outbreak which has now infected more than 40,000 people around the world.

This is a summary of the Back to Work Day and compensation for working before Back to Work Day in key cities and provinces across China.

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## **Italy's new Digital Services Tax is now in force**

11 February 2020

Not all digital services will be taxed – only those entailing a high degree of users' involvement in value generation.

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## Israel Group News February 2020

10 February 2020

### ISRAEL GROUP NEWS

In this issue, our global activities, latest publications, coming events and more.

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## Foreign ITAR cloud storage now permitted

4 February 2020

This may provide ITAR-registered companies some flexibility with the virtual storage and transmission of their technical data, but using non-US based cloud storage is still not without risk.

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## EU Policy & Regulatory Alert

3 February 2020

On 29 January 2020, the new European Commission has adopted its 2020 annual Work Programme, announcing 43 new concrete policy and legislative measures to be introduced over the course of the year of 2020, and thereby translating into practice the Political Guidelines of new European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

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## OECD statement of Digital Tax Initiative highlights progress, sets timeline for consensus – key points on Pillar One and Pillar Two

3 February 2020

The development of a new taxing right is a major initiative, and the OECD continues to work at a brisk pace.

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## APAC employment issues arising out of the Coronavirus (AsiaPac)

31 January 2020

On 29 January 2020, the number of confirmed cases of the rapidly spreading coronavirus in Mainland China officially surpassed the figure seen during the 2002/2003 SARS epidemic.

Multinationals with local operations around the APAC region have been significantly affected. As staff return to the office following the Chinese New Year holiday period, businesses are now considering what they can do to minimise any risk to health and safety and support staff through this challenging period where anxiety and uncertainty is rife, whilst at the same time complying with their employment obligations and maintaining business continuity. Putting in place detailed business and contingency plans and ensuring careful communications with staff to address key topics and concerns is key, as is keeping such plans and communications under frequent review given the fluidity of the current situation.

This alert considers some of the key issues that HR and business leaders should be considering across the APAC region.

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## Harsher penalties on discriminatory employment practices in Singapore

29 January 2020

The Fair Consideration Framework was updated in January 2020 to impose harsher penalties on employers found to be engaging in discriminatory practices such as by favouring the hiring of foreigners over Singaporeans.

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### **Argentina suspends Promotional Regime of the Knowledge-based Economy**

28 January 2020

The regime aims to promote digital, information and communication technologies and the highly skilled human capital that creates and advances those technologies.

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### **China extends holidays for workers amid coronavirus outbreak (China)**

28 January 2020

Learn about how the widely publicised corona virus outbreak affects business in Greater China.

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### **DLA Piper GDPR Data Breach Survey 2020**

20 January 2020

According to DLA Piper's latest GDPR Data Breach Survey, data protection regulators have imposed EUR114 million (approximately USD126 million / GBP97 million) in fines under the GDPR regime for a wide range of GDPR infringements, not just for data breaches.

France, Germany and Austria top the rankings for the total value of GDPR fines imposed with just over EUR51 million, EUR24.5 million and EUR18 million respectively. The Netherlands, Germany and the UK topped the table for the number of data breaches notified to regulators with 40,647, 37,636 and 22,181 notifications each.

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### **Iran nuclear deal: the launch of the 'Dispute Resolution Mechanism' and the 'potential snapback' of UN and EU sanctions**

17 January 2020

This week, France, Germany and Britain have triggered the Dispute Resolution Mechanism against Iran under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). Will this process lead to the re-imposition of UN and EU sanctions on Iran?

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### **New regulations reinforce CFIUS's expanded role with respect to foreign investments in the United States**

16 January 2020

The new CFIUS regulations become effective on February 13, 2020.

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### **Taxation of cryptocurrency: reporting charitable contributions in the US and new developments in the UK**

16 January 2020

Charities that accept donations of cryptocurrency face a number of administrative challenges; plus new guidance from HMRC.

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### **Top of Mind: Life Sciences**



16 January 2020

Eight big topics that life sciences businesses have been thinking about and how DLA Piper has been covering those stories.

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## **Episode 9: 2020 - Privacy, Security and Content Regulation to Increase in China**

10 January 2020

### **NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY**

China's authorities have published a much-anticipated brand new directive on internet content regulation and governance, which will come into force on 1 March 2020. This law will require organizations which host websites in China to make fundamental changes to their website governance frameworks.

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## **PRA Consultation Paper on Outsourcing and Third Party Risk Management: CP30/19**

10 January 2020

Key points and differences from the EBA Guidelines on Outsourcing

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## **Commerce imposes export licensing requirement on geospatial imagery software**

8 January 2020

Companies that produce, design, test, manufacture, fabricate, or develop a software described in the new controls may now be operating within the category of "critical technologies" as defined in CFIUS regulations.

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## **Digital assets services: New level 2 regulation by the AMF**

20 December 2019

The French administrative order dated 5 December 2019 has provided amendments to the AMF General Regulation to provide specific provisions related to digital asset services providers, a new category of services providers set forth in the French PACTE Law with a national ambit.

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## **DLA Piper named a top-scoring firm for gender diversity and inclusion in IP and firm leadership by ChIPs**

19 December 2019

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## **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 44, Q4 2019**

19 December 2019

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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## **Panels examine trademark litigation and the CCPA at our 13th annual Women in IP Law CLE Luncheon**

19 December 2019

Most of the more than 180 guests were leading IP counsel] for some of the Bay Area's largest tech companies.

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## Supreme Court Corner

19 December 2019

We are watching two key cases – *Romag Fasteners v. Fossil* and *Thryv, Inc. v. Click-to-Call Technologies*.

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## EU launches preparatory work for a global sanctions regime for human rights violations

17 December 2019

On 9 December 2019, High Representative/Vice-President of the European Union Josep Borrell announced that the Foreign Affairs Council has agreed with strong consensus to start the preparatory work for a global sanctions regime to address serious human rights violations.

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## 2019 Sourcing and Commercial contracts case law round-up

16 December 2019

A summary of key 2019 cases relevant to sourcing and commercial contracts.

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## Triple Point Technology v PTT Public Company Ltd [2019] EWCA Civ 230

16 December 2019

This case illustrates how carefully liquidated damages clauses need to be drafted. The Court of Appeal found that a particular liquidated damages clause for delay did not apply to an abandoned IT project (abandonment being a different scenario than late completion). It also commented that, where delay liquidated damages do apply, it is possible for them to continue to accrue after contract termination until a replacement supplier completes the work. The case is also a reminder to consider whether liquidated damages operated within, or outside of, the general liability cap.

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## Stricter outsourcing rules for Singapore's banking sector

13 December 2019

Banks and credit card providers in Singapore should consider updating their outsourcing arrangements in anticipation of stricter new laws. Singapore's Government has proposed new powers to regulate more closely the outsourcing arrangements of banks and credit card providers regulated by the MAS, and to impose stricter sanctions.

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## Congressional hearing to focus on facial recognition and national security

12 December 2019

### AI OUTLOOK

Technologies controlled by foreign governments and their implications for privacy and national security are expected to be a major topic.

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## The EU Commission trailblazing towards a sustainable future

12 December 2019

The European Green Deal is a holistic approach to delivering transformational change and leading the transition towards a new paradigm.

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## Penalties for violations of Data Localization Rules dramatically increased

6 December 2019

Many companies have scrambled to comply with Russia's peculiar Data Localization Rules since their enactment in 2015. While these rules apply to a wide range of companies handling Russian personal data both in Russia and abroad, the penalties for non-compliance were traditionally limited to just blocking the data operator's websites.

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## New European Commission Assumed Office on 1 December 2019

2 December 2019

The new leadership of the European Commission has officially assumed office yesterday, Sunday, 1 December 2019, for a five-year term. The newly assembled College of Commissioners obtained a comfortable majority in an approval vote in the European Parliament plenary session on Wednesday, 27 November 2019.

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## Real Estate Gazette: Finding profit in uncertain times

22 November 2019

### [REAL ESTATE GAZETTE](#)

This issue highlights the various legal issues related to finding profit in uncertain times.

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## Israel Group News November 2019

18 November 2019

In this issue, IP considerations in augmented reality and virtual reality, plus our global activities, latest publications, coming events and more.

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## Episode 8: Crackdown on infringing China apps

13 November 2019

### [NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)

China's authorities have launched a crackdown against non-compliant mobile apps. The crackdown is taking place during November and December 2019, so businesses operating apps in China must take urgent action or else face sanctions.

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## Hong Kong's SFC introduces strict conditions on cloud data storage

8 November 2019

All entities licensed by the Hong Kong SFC and storing data in the cloud must urgently review their data storage arrangements in light of a new circular from the SFC on "Use of external electronic data storage". This circular introduces strict new conditions on both cloud users and cloud vendors.

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## **Argentina: Promotional Regime of the Knowledge-based Economy comes into force 1.1.2020 – key points**

7 November 2019

The new tax regime seeks to put Argentina at the forefront of the knowledge economy in Latin America.

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## **Episode 7: New China encryption law passed**

6 November 2019

### **[NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)**

The new PRC Encryption Law will come into force on 1 January 2020. It will bring fundamental changes to the sale, import and use of encryption technologies in China by foreign and domestic organizations.

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## **Episode 6: Further developments in PRC data privacy regulations**

1 November 2019

### **[NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)**

An updated draft of China's Amended Personal Information Security Specification (Amended PIS Specification) and proposed new amendments to the privacy specification for mobile apps (App Privacy Specification) were published this week, alongside brand new draft regulations for the banking sector.

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## **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 43, Q3 2019**

30 Sep 2019

### **[INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS](#)**

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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## **Law à la Mode: Beauty Trends: 5 Key Beauty M&A deals; Street art and fashion; Word from the industry's mouth; The rise in innovative retail services; and more**

20 MAY 2019

### **[LAW À LA MODE](#)**

The Moroccan editorial team is delighted to bring you the 28th edition of Law à la Mode, the legal magazine produced by DLA Piper's Consumer Goods & Retail Sector Group for clients and contacts of the firm worldwide.

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## **Law à la Mode: Word of the industry's mouth; Enforcement of IP rights through Ukrainian customs register; E-commerce in Poland; The development of artificial intelligence in the fashion industry; and more**

26 NOV 2018

### **[LAW À LA MODE](#)**

The US editorial team is delighted to bring you the 27th edition of *Law à la Mode*, the legal magazine produced by DLA Piper's Retail Sector Group for clients and contacts of the firm worldwide.

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**Law à la Mode: Social Media Influencers & Effective Disclosures, IP and E-Commerce: Your basic checklist, Longchamp's Handbag Copyright Saga, IP Protection of Fashion Shows in Italy and more**

21 MAY 2018

**LAW À LA MODE**

The UK editorial team is delighted to bring you this special edition of *Law à la Mode*, produced by DLA Piper's Retail Sector group for distribution to clients and contacts of the firm worldwide and marking the 140th Annual Meeting of INTA in Seattle.

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**Law à la Mode: Social Media Influencers & Effective Disclosures, IP and E-Commerce: Your basic checklist, Longchamp's Handbag Copyright Saga, IP Protection of Fashion Shows in Italy and more**

21 MAY 2018

**LAW À LA MODE**

The UK editorial team is delighted to bring you this special edition of *Law à la Mode*, produced by DLA Piper's Retail Sector group for distribution to clients and contacts of the firm worldwide and marking the 140th Annual Meeting of INTA in Seattle.

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**Blockchain: background, challenges and legal issues**

2 FEB 2018

Blockchain and distributed ledger technology offers significant and scalable processing power, high accuracy rates, and apparently unbreakable security at a significantly reduced cost compared to the traditional systems the technology could replace, such as settlement, trading or accounting systems. Like all new technology however, it poses challenges for suppliers and customers. So what are the key issues in relation to blockchain and distributed ledger technology?

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**Text, blood and rock 'n' roll**

27 DEC 2017

You are not a "free bird" – the duty to preserve text messages may extend to third parties.

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**Law à la Mode: Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality; Insta-worthy or Insta-infringement; E-commerce in Poland; Harnessing hidden advertising; and more**

20 DEC 2017

**LAW À LA MODE**

The Asia Pacific editorial team is delighted to bring you the 24th edition of *Law à la Mode*, the quarterly legal magazine published by DLA Piper's Retail Sector group for clients and contacts of the firm worldwide.

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**Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 30, Q2 2016**

28 JUN 2016

## [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS](#)

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 29, Q1 2016**

29 MAR 2016

## [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS](#)

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 28, Q4 2015**

2 DEC 2015

## [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS](#)

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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### **US companies: EU data regulation means new oversight**

2 DEC 2015

Many US companies are about to experience new regulatory oversight.

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### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 27, Q3 2015**

25 AUG 2015

## [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS](#)

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (North America), Issue 26, Q2 2015**

9 JUN 2015

## [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS](#)

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (United States), Issue 25, Q1 2015**

24 MAR 2015

## [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS](#)

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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#### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (United States), Issue 24, Q4 2014**

18 DEC 2014

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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#### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (United States), Issue 23, Q3 2014**

10 SEP 2014

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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#### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (United States) Issue 22, Q2 2014**

26 JUN 2014

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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#### **Patent litigation heats up in the Southern District of Florida: practical implications for brand owners**

26 MAR 2014

Patent litigation is on the rise nationally, with a record number of cases being filed every year. In 2013, over 6,800 cases were filed in the United States, the highest number ever and about a 10 percent increase from 2012.

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#### **Intellectual Property and Technology News (United States) Issue 21, Q1 2014**

26 MAR 2014

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS**

Our Intellectual Property and Technology News reports on worldwide developments in IP and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

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#### **Tax incentives in Puerto Rico: a quick introduction**

13 JUN 2017

Puerto Rico offers a spectrum of economic incentives aiming to promote many key industries. This handbook offers a quick look at ten

of the most significant of these incentives.

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### **Law à la Mode: The dangers of unused trademarks; demonstrating reputation; lowering the cost of retail rent in Hong Kong; Brexit update; and more**

22 MAY 2017

#### **LAW À LA MODE**

The Belgian editorial team is delighted to bring you this special edition of Law à la Mode, marking the 139th INTA Annual Meeting in Barcelona.

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### **Law à la Mode: The future of retail; Green fashion; E-commerce in China; Brexit update: trademarks and design; and more**

3 APR 2017

#### **LAW À LA MODE**

The UK editorial team is delighted to bring you the 22nd edition of Law à la Mode, the quarterly legal magazine published by DLA Piper's Retail Sector group for clients and contacts of the firm worldwide.

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### **Japan exempts virtual currencies from consumption tax**

31 MAR 2017

Comparable treatment can be found in Europe, where EU member states exempt virtual currencies from taxation as a result of a CJEU ruling.

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### **Artificial intelligence: patentability of an interface between the human brain and a computer**

30 MAR 2017

Drafted appropriately, inventions that allow interaction between the human brain and a computer can indeed be patent-eligible.

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### **Blockchain - a revolution for the insurance sector with some risks**

9 MAR 2017

Blockchain is "the most important invention since the Internet itself" according to Marc Andreessen. And there is no doubt that there are huge potentials for the insurance sector to exploit such technology, but as any new technology, it will also lead to new legal risks.

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### **Brexit and MiFID II implementation in the UK – impacts on foreign markets**

14 SEP 2016

Brexit prompts legal uncertainty regarding the implementation of pending EU financial regulations.

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## European Commission tackles financing risks linked to virtual currencies

13 SEP 2016

The proposal seeks to bring greater transparency to the virtual currency market in the European Union by imposing customer due diligence requirements on certain market participants, now considered “obligated entities.”

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## Can blockchain live up to the hype?

28 JUL 2016

Is blockchain the revolutionary technology that will rewrite the rules for the finance industry, identifying authenticity and verifying payment flows that arise at a business-to-business level or between business and consumers and peer-to-peer? The consequences of the blockchain evolution would significantly open the field for technology platforms and reduce operational costs.

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## Global Financial Markets Insight - Issue 10, 2016

28 JUL 2016

### FINANCE AND MARKETS GLOBAL INSIGHT

On 23 June 2016, the UK electorate voted to leave the European Union in a so-called Brexit referendum. The exit result was a surprise for many working in the finance sector. The change will impact the position of the UK under critical legislation such as the Capital Requirements Regulation, European Market Infrastructure Regulation, Market Abuse Regulation and many other Regulations and Treaties applicable in the UK. We will also see a change as to the role of the UK in significant market initiatives such as the Capital Markets Union. It is likely that these changes will present both threats and opportunities. Until policy is clearer, we will comment on some of the existing challenges caused by EMIR and similar EU Regulations.

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## EU: new obligations for digital services providers and operators of essential services

28 JUN 2016

In line with the EU's broader Cyber Security Strategy, the NIS Directive is a significant step towards a more secure cross-border cyberspace with a high shared level of network and information system security.

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## US and EU reach an important agreement on CCP global equivalence: how will it affect you?

10 MAY 2016

This historic agreement allows market participants to use clearing infrastructures in both the US and Europe and assures a level playing field for US and EU CCPs.

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## Insurance Review May 2016

5 MAY 2016

Welcome to *Insurance Review May 2016*. DLA Piper's annual publication dedicated to the insurance industry. In this issue we look at the following topics:

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## The blockchain revolution, smart contracts and financial transactions

26 APR 2016

Blockchain-based smart contracts have enormous potential to streamline financial transactions and reduce counterparty risks.

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### **GST to be removed from Bitcoin transactions – how best to fix the "double taxing" of digital currency?**

1 APR 2016

The Treasurer, Scott Morrison, recently announced that the Government is committed to working with the FinTech industry on legislative solutions for the GST "double tax" issues that can arise on domestic transactions involving digital currencies such as Bitcoin.

In this update we outline the issues that the Government and industry will need to consider as a part of any reform process. Given the "Netflix Tax" is intended to apply from 1 July 2017, and would apply to relevant inbound supplies of digital currency, any reforms should ideally commence prior to that date.

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### **Law à la Mode: Co-branding of wearable technologies; Internet of Things and the retail sector; 3D printing and more**

9 JUN 2015

#### **[LAW À LA MODE](#)**

The US editorial team is delighted to bring you the sixteenth edition of Law à la Mode, the quarterly legal magazine produced by DLA Piper's Fashion, Retail and Design Group.

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### **Law à la Mode: Falling foul of China's trademark system; Retailers need to prepare for the new EU Data Protection Regulation; and New developments in the framework of the copyright protection of handbags**

2 FEB 2015

#### **[LAW À LA MODE](#)**

A quarterly e-magazine from our Fashion, Retail and Design Group with the latest industry news, comment and legal updates. This edition has been edited by our Italian colleagues.

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### ***The Cybersecurity Framework: Administration, Congress move to incentivize private-sector cooperation, strengthen federal acquisition process***

12 SEP 2013

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### **The future of DNA patents**

4 SEP 2013

The US Supreme Court rules on the patentability of a test for breast cancer related genes - a decision that, we find, is a partial victory for all involved.

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### **The right of publicity in college sports**

4 SEP 2013

College athletes' right-of- publicity claims have the potential to dramatically alter current business models.

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### **Trade Dress Watch - the value of trade dress litigation is on the rise**

4 SEP 2013

Do you need an enforcement strategy to protect your trade dress?

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### **Congress, Administration move forward to secure critical US infrastructure**

11 JUL 2013

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### **Cybersecurity and US federal public procurements: what contractors need to know**

11 MAR 2013

Practical considerations for US federal contractors

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### **Corporate governance also means protecting your technology and information**

7 MAR 2013

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### **EU releases cybersecurity strategy**

15 FEB 2013

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### **What companies need to know about the Obama Administration's Cybersecurity Order**

14 FEB 2013

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### **Auditing Colombia's agriculture IP**

10 Dec 2012

A DLA Piper team audits Colombia's agriculture-related IP and sought to identify Colombian agricultural innovations which are not protected by patents and may have export value.

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### **Colombia: gateway to South America's Patent Prosecution Highway**

10 Dec 2012

Understanding the need for more robust patent laws, the Colombian government is aggressively reshaping its IP system.

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## Law à la Mode

20 SEP 2012

### LAW À LA MODE

This issue of Law à la Mode is brought to you by our German editorial team, in the midst of a month in which fashion capitals around the globe are enjoying Fashion Week S/S 2013.

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## Federal agencies, Congress accelerate defense against cyber attacks – every private company will be affected

21 Mar 2012

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## UK: The real risk of cyber attack

1 AUG 2011

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## Spiders, bots and other creepy crawlers: protecting your company website

10 Mar 2010

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## EVENTS

### Upcoming

#### AI projects: Dispute prevention and resolution

20 October 2021

Webinar

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### Previous

#### The European Technology Summit 2021

5 October 2021

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#### Embracing Digital Evolution

15 September 2021

Webinar

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## **Smart cities and circular economy: Industries, experts and organizations**

22 April 2021

Webinar

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## **Outsourcing: A Practical Guide, Second Edition**

24 March 2021

Webinar

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## **Data Breaches: International Trends, Enforcement Tips & Insights from the Regulator**

24 March 2021

Webinar

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## **European tech companies reach new highs: optimising exits and financings**

9 March 2021

Webinar

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## **When collaboration drives innovation: Opportunities offered by the Abraham Accords**

3 March 2021

Webinar

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## **2021 Venture capital in the Middle East: The mini boom**

March 2021

Webinar

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## **DLA Piper GDPR fines and data breach survey launch 2021**

21 January 2021

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## **Vision of Hanoi Smart City Webinar**

3 December 2020

Webinar

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## **EDPB recommendations for safeguarding data transfers after Schrems II**

19 November 2020  
Webinar

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### **Planning for an Uncertain World**

16 November 2020  
[TECHLAW EVENT SERIES](#)

Webinar

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### **A practical guide to privilege in cyber investigations**

15 October 2020  
Webinar

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### **Health tech market midst and post COVID-19**

14 September 2020  
Webinar

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### **DLA Piper European Technology Index 2020**

31 July 2020  
Webinar

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### **TechLaw**

31 July 2020  
[TECHLAW EVENT SERIES](#)

Webinar

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### **The Global Pandemic – Implications for the Tech Sector**

12 May 2020  
Webinar

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### **Data Ethics 101**

1 May 2020

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### **The Open COVID Pledge and other IP reactions to the COVID-19 pandemic**

14 April 2020 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. PST

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Webinar

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### **The Open COVID Pledge and other IP reactions to the COVID-19 pandemic**

9 April 2020 | 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. CDT  
Webinar

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### **Webinar: Skyscrapers for the masses: Real Estate Tokenisation and the future of STOs**

25 March 2020  
Webinar

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### **TechLaw**

5 March 2020  
[TECHLAW EVENT SERIES](#)  
Sydney

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### **TechLaw**

3 March 2020  
[TECHLAW EVENT SERIES](#)  
Melbourne

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### **OurCrowd Global Investor Summit**

13 February 2020

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### **Axis Tel Aviv**

12 February 2020  
Tel Aviv-Yafo

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## **NEWS**

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### **DLA Piper advises FinLab EOS VC on participation in EUR2m funding round in TAIKAI**

29 September 2021  
DLA Piper has advised FinLab EOS VC Fund as lead investor in a EUR2 million funding round in Portuguese blockchain-based open innovation platform TAIKAI.

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### **DLA Piper advises EQT Ventures on Series A financing round in tech start-up Linearity**

23 September 2021

DLA Piper has advised EQT Ventures on its investment in Berlin-based tech start-up Linearity on a EUR20 million Series A financing round. In addition to EQT Ventures, other investors include 468 Capital.

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### **DLA Piper publishes Embracing Digital Evolution report**

17 September 2021

DLA Piper has published a comprehensive global report on what it takes for businesses to prosper in the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

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### **DLA Piper advises BASF Venture Capital on investment in Ag-tech start-up Equinom**

12 August 2021

DLA Piper has advised BASF Venture Capital, the venture capital arm of BASF SE, on its new investment in Israeli Ag-tech start-up Equinom. The investment was part of Equinom's Series C financing round.

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### **DLA Piper advise Graphite Capital on acquisition of personalised children's book publisher Wonderbly**

29 July 2021

DLA Piper has advised Graphite Capital, a leading UK mid-market private equity specialist, on its acquisition of Wonderbly, the world's leading publishing platform for personalised children's books.

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### **DLA Piper advises insightsoftware on its acquisition of Australia-Based Bi and CPM platform Calumo**

23 July 2021

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised insightsoftware, a global provider of financial reporting and performance management solutions for the Office of the CFO on the acquisition of Australia-based business intelligence and corporate performance management (CPM) platform CALUMO.

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### **DLA Piper advise CoinShares on acquisition of Global Blockchain Equity Index**

22 July 2021

DLA Piper has advised CoinShares International Limited, Europe's largest digital asset investment firm, on its acquisition of the ETF index business, Global Blockchain Equity Index, from Elwood Technologies.

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### **DLA Piper advises Azrieli Group on acquisition of Norwegian data centre developer**

21 July 2021

DLA Piper has advised Israeli real estate investor Azrieli on its acquisition of Green Mountain, a Norwegian data centre developer, for NOK7.6 billion.

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### **DLA Piper advises Cloudflight on financing round for HR tech startup TeamEcho**

9 July 2021

DLA Piper has advised Cloudflight as an existing investor in a financing round totaling EUR1.3 million for HR tech startup TeamEcho based in Linz, Austria.

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### **DLA Piper advises on the acquisition of French identity technology Provider ARIADNEXT by IDnow**

30 June 2021

DLA Piper has advised ARIADNEXT, a French company specializing in remote identity verification and digital identity creation, on its acquisition by IDnow, a German-based leader in identity verification-as-a-service solutions.

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### **DLA Piper advises Baker Hughes on its investment in bio-methanation company Electrochaea**

29 June 2021

DLA Piper has advised US stock-listed energy technology company Baker Hughes on its investment in Electrochaea, a growth stage company developing novel proprietary bio-methanation technology.

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### **DLA Piper advises Citi Ventures on investment in Forto GmbH**

23 June 2021

DLA Piper has advised Citi Ventures, the corporate venture capital arm of Citi, on an investment in Forto GmbH as part of a Series C financing round led by SoftBank.

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### **DLA Piper advises team.blue on the acquisition of Dutch e-commerce hosting specialist Hipex**

16 June 2021

DLA Piper has advised team.blue on the acquisition of Dutch e-commerce hosting specialist Hipex. Hipex will be joining forces with e-commerce specialist Hypernode which is also part of team.blue.

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### **DLA Piper advises EQT Ventures on a seed round in start-up Origin.Bio**

2 June 2021

DLA Piper has advised EQT Ventures on its investment in Munich-based start-up Origin.Bio in a USD15 million seed round.

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### **DLA Piper advises Zip Co Ltd on acquisitions of UAE's Spotii and Czech-based Twisto**

26 May 2021

DLA Piper has advised leading digital retail finance and payments company Zip Co Ltd on the conditional acquisition of the remaining ~78% of Spotii, and ~90% of Twisto, two buy now, pay later (BNPL) payments platforms.

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## **DLA Piper advises Stillfront Group on acquisition of Game Labs Inc.**

13 May 2021

DLA Piper has advised Stillfront Group AB (publ) (Stillfront), a leading free-to-play powerhouse of gaming studios, on the acquisition of 100% of the shares in Game Labs Inc (Game Labs). The sellers are the joint founders and management of Game Labs.

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## **DLA Piper advises Siemens AG on the acquisition of OneSpin Solutions Group from Azini Capital**

26 April 2021

DLA Piper advises Siemens Digital Industries Software on the planned acquisition of the OneSpin Solutions Group from Azini Capital. OneSpin Solutions is a leading provider of formal verification software that helps ensure integrated circuit (IC) integrity and enables functionally correct, safe, trustworthy and secure IC designs.

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## **DLA Piper advises team.blue on the acquisition of Enartia**

7 April 2021

DLA Piper has advised team.blue on the acquisition of Enartia Group, a market leader in web hosting and domain registration in Greece with additional subsidiaries in Serbia and Albania.

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## **DLA Piper advises Wipro Limited on USD1.45 billion acquisition of Capco**

29 March 2021

DLA Piper has advised Wipro Limited, a leading global information technology, consulting and business process services company, on all non-US and non-India aspects of the USD1.45 billion acquisition of Capco.

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## **DLA Piper advised Box Inc who will acquire SignRequest**

10 February 2021

We are delighted to have advised Box Inc, who entered into a definitive agreement to acquire SignRequest, a cloud-based electronic signature company.

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## **New intellectual property partner joins DLA Piper's intellectual property and technology practice in Paris**

11 January 2021

DLA Piper is appointing Frank Valentin as partner to its Intellectual Property and Technology (IPT) Practice in Paris, joining with a team of four others on 15 January.

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## **DLA Piper advises ATI Global on GBP170 million acquisition of Groundsure**

21 January 2021

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised ATI Global on its GBP170 million acquisition of UK based location intelligence business Groundsure, a leading supplier of environmental searches, data, mapping and reports for the UK property market, from Ascential plc (Ascential) (LSE: ASCL).

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## **DLA Piper advises Zip on investment in Twisto Payments**

19 January 2021

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised ASX listed Zip Co Limited (ASX: Z1P), a leading player in the digital retail finance and payments industry, on its investment in Twisto Payments a.s, a leading payments platform based in the Czech Republic and Poland.

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## **EUR272.5m in fines imposed by European regulators under GDPR - Survey by international law firm DLA Piper**

19 January 2021

EUR272.5 million (about USD332.4 million / GBP245.3 million) of fines have been imposed for a wide range of infringements of Europe's tough data protection laws according to international law firm DLA Piper.

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## **DLA Piper advises Elisa on the acquisition of camLine Group**

18 January 2021

DLA Piper has advised the Finnish telecommunications and digital services company Elisa on the acquisition of German-based industrial software provider camLine Group.

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## **DLA Piper advises Nemetschek on acquisition of DEXMA by subsidiary Spacewell**

18 December 2020

DLA Piper has advised the Nemetschek group, one of the world's leading software providers for the Architecture, Engineering, Construction and Owner-operated (AECO) industry, on the acquisition of 100% of the shares in DEXMA by its subsidiary Spacewell.

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## **DLA Piper advises team.blue on the acquisition of website builder Webnode**

17 December 2020

DLA Piper has advised team.blue on the acquisition of Webnode, a pan-European website builder company. For team.blue the transaction serves as another strategic acquisition to further expand its presence in the CEE region following its growth strategy.

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## **DLA Piper wins TMT Finance M&A Global Telecom Deal of the Year**

8 December 2020

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that they have received the TMT Finance M&A Global Telecom Deal of the Year for their representation of T-Mobile and Deutsche Telekom in the T-Mobile-Sprint merger.

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## **DLA Piper advised Meltwater on its IPO at Euronext Growth Oslo**

7 December 2020

DLA Piper has advised Meltwater B.V., a leading global provider of media intelligence and social analytics Software-as-a-Service solutions, on its IPO at Euronext Growth Oslo.

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## **DLA Piper partners with Reveal to develop suite of groundbreaking AI solutions**

23 November 2020

DLA Piper and Reveal, a groundbreaking eDiscovery technology company, have entered into a collaboration agreement to develop innovative solutions for law using Reveal's artificial intelligence platform and DLA Piper's global legal expertise. The agreement provides DLA Piper with expanded access to Reveal's artificial intelligence (AI) platform with Reveal's recently announced acquisition of NexLP, a leader in the legal artificial intelligence space. Reveal's artificial intelligence platform turns disparate, unstructured data into meaningful insights that can be used to deliver operational efficiencies and strategic advantages for use with eDiscovery cases and Investigations.

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### **DLA Piper sponsors 2020 UK Technology Fast 50**

20 November 2020

DLA Piper is pleased to sponsor the 2020 Deloitte UK Technology Fast 50, for the fourth year running. As one of the UK's foremost technology award programmes and now in its 23rd year, it ranks the country's 50 fastest-growing technology companies, based on revenue growth.

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### **DLA Piper advises FinLab EOS VC on investment in Spark Change**

16 November 2020

DLA Piper has advised FinLab EOS VC Europe I GmbH & Co. KG on its investment in Spark Change Group Inc. as part of the second closing of a Series A financing round. The round, led by Barclays, raised a total of more than USD4.5 million. Other investors included Solactive AG.

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### **DLA Piper advises insightsoftware on the acquisition of IDL Group**

12 November 2020

DLA Piper has advised US-based insightsoftware, a portfolio company of TA Associates and Genstar Capital, on the acquisition of the German financial performance management software provider IDL Group from LEA Partners.

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### **DLA Piper advises BearingPoint on sale of RegTech Unit to Nordic Capital**

11 November 2020

DLA Piper has advised BearingPoint on the sale of its independent Regulatory Technology (RegTech) unit to leading private equity investor Nordic Capital as part of a share deal. The closing of the transaction with Nordic Capital is subject to customary regulatory approvals. The financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

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### **DLA Piper and Aldersgate DLS launch TOKO, a fast, secure and cost effective solution for buying and selling high value assets using blockchain technology**

5 November 2020

Global law firm DLA Piper in collaboration with Aldersgate DLS (Digital Ledger Solutions), has launched TOKO, a unique tokenisation engine and vital component in the digital asset ecosystem. Developed with Aldersgate DLS, TOKO provides smart contract functionality and digital asset creation functionality and assurance.

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## **DLA Piper advises Authada on financing round**

23 September 2020

DLA Piper has advised Darmstadt-based cybersecurity company Authada GmbH on a financing round that raised a mid-seven-digit amount in total. The lead investor was InfoCert, a subsidiary of the Tinexta Group, which has acquired a 16.7% stake in Authada.

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## **DLA Piper advises team.blue on the acquisition of Bulgarian webhosting company SuperHosting**

9 July 2020

DLA Piper has advised team.blue on the acquisition of SuperHosting, a Bulgarian market leader specialising in professional web hosting, domains and VPS services. The transaction serves as a strategic acquisition to further establish and expand team.blue's presence in the CEE region and to strengthen its growth strategy.

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## **DLA Piper advises GM Cruise on acquisition of Astyx**

8 July 2020

DLA Piper has advised GM Cruise Holdings LLC (GM Cruise) in connection with the acquisition of Astyx GmbH (Astyx) from Zukunft Ventures GmbH, a subsidiary of ZF Friedrichshafen AG, and the founders of Astyx.

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## **DLA Piper advises LPKF on successful placement of all shares owned by entities related to Bantleon-Group**

29 May 2020

DLA Piper has advised LPKF Laser & Electronics Aktiengesellschaft, listed on the SDAX of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange, on the successful placement of all LPKF shares owned by the Bantleon-Group.

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## **DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2020**

30 April 2020

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 67 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2020 in the United States and May 1, 2020 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions have been made across many of the firm's practice areas in 35 different offices throughout 13 countries.

Across the firm's practices globally, Corporate saw the largest intake of new partners with 19 promotions, followed by Litigation and Regulatory with 15. Intellectual Property and Technology and Finance and Projects had ten and eight promotions respectively, while there were six in Real Estate. Tax and Employment both had four, and there was one in Restructuring.

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## **DLA Piper advises ControlExpert shareholders on the sale of a majority stake to Allianz X**

17 March 2020

16 March 2020 - DLA Piper has advised the minority shareholders of ControlExpert on the sale of a majority stake to Allianz X. ControlExpert will maintain its business model and operational autonomy. Together with Allianz X, the company will focus on further enhancing digitalization and customer focus to achieve growth in Germany as well as in global markets. The transaction is subject to approval by the relevant competition authorities.

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## **DLA Piper lawyers named Acritas Stars**

10 March 2020

Acritas has named over 200 DLA Piper lawyers as 2020 Acritas Stars. Now in its fourth year, Acritas Stars highlights the stand-out lawyers in private practice as nominated by clients around the world. More than 3,000 senior in-house counsel feed into the nomination process to give a comprehensive view of highly recommended lawyers across the globe.

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### **DLA Piper advises Surplus Invest on EUR2 million investment in Scaled Robotics**

10 February 2020

DLA Piper has advised German venture capital firm Surplus Invest on a EUR 2 million seed investment together with Norwegian fund Construct Venture in the Spanish deep-tech start-up company Scaled Robotics.

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### **DLA Piper advises Rolls-Royce Power Systems on acquisition of majority stake in German power storage specialist Qinous**

24 January 2020

DLA Piper has advised Rolls-Royce Power Systems on its acquisition of a 73.1% majority stake in Berlin-based electricity storage specialist Qinous GmbH.

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### **DLA Piper advises Space Capital on investment in technology start up Mobius Labs**

24 January 2020

DLA Piper has advised US venture capital investor Space Capital on its investment in German technology start up, Mobius Labs. The investment is part of a Seed 2 financing round led by Space Capital.

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### **DLA Piper advises on Maxon Computer merger with Red Giant**

21 January 2020

DLA Piper has advised software provider Nemetschek SE on the merge of its 100% subsidiary Maxon Computer GmbH and Red Giant LLC under the Media & Entertainment division of the Nemetschek Group to create the global market leader in software solutions for digital content creation.

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### **DLA Piper gets approval from German Federal Cartel Office for EWE and Telekom Deutschland joint venture**

7 January 2020

In merger control proceedings, DLA Piper has achieved approval from the German Federal Cartel Office for the establishment of a joint venture between Telekom Deutschland GmbH and the energy and telecommunications company EWE AG. The joint venture, Glasfaser NordWest, is to supply up to 1.5 million households and company sites in parts of Lower Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia and Bremen with fibre to the home (FTTH).

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### **Investors expect boom in European data centres in the next two years**

3 December 2019

The vast majority (92%) of debt and equity investors surveyed expect the overall value of investment into Europe's data centre infrastructure to increase over the next 24 months, according to research commissioned by DLA Piper and published today.

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Data centres are used by organisations for the remote storage, processing and distribution of large amounts of data and are currently estimated to use 3-4% of world's power<sup>1</sup>. According to DLA Piper's report *European Data Centre Investment Outlook: Opportunities and Risks in the Months Ahead*, investors anticipate an investment increase in data centres of between 10% and 29% over the next two years.

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## DLA Piper advises MiddleGame Ventures on the set up and launch of new fintech fund

25 November 2019

DLA Piper has advised fintech venture capital firm MiddleGame Ventures (MGV) on the structuring, setting up and launching of the MGV Fund I. The new fund will invest in early stage fintech startups developing new business models powered by advanced technologies.

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## Sustainability and ESG

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The global technology sector is poised to lead the transition to a sustainable future. Technology companies are accustomed to thinking ahead of the curve and innovating on Sustainability and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues in order to gain a market advantage and provide solutions to global social issues such as environmental issues and workplace diversity.

Pursuing sustainability is a relentless and complex process in which the yardsticks for success are constantly evolving. For smaller companies, aligning their business objectives with their sustainability vision is not always enough to ease the demands for commitments to ESG. For example, a company which develops renewable energy technologies may have a strong environmental sustainability agenda but still have gaps in its handling of wider social issues such as employment practices and community engagement. For larger companies there is an increasing expectation to not only maximize shareholder value but take a broader role in addressing society's most pressing issues.

### ETHICS AND INNOVATION

With businesses collecting more data, their understanding of consumers, employees and supply chains is changing. As businesses considerations account for both their investment performance as well as their social performance there is a convergence of business and human rights agendas. Issues related to business ethics, data management, privacy concerns, consumer litigation risks, and regulatory compliance are now all in play. High-profile data breaches in the industry have also heightened concerns not just about the security of data but the applications from it. Technology companies need to build the trust of stakeholders - for example, by improving data governance through audit processes to assure the integrity of data and by increasing accountability and transparency in use of consumer data. Other ethical issues concern fairness and influence. For example, AI and robotics can be used help to eliminate bias in hiring processes but, at a time when the focus on ensuring diversity has never been greater, AI learning has also been shown to foster implicit gender and racial bias.

### EMERGING COMPANIES AND VENTURE CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Corporate investors are investing heavily in emerging companies that seize upon the opportunities ESG issues present. And start-ups understand that integrating ESG policies and practices into their business models allows them to attract these investments and create brand recognition, while laying the foundations for long-term value and growth.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Technology is essential for the transition to a net-zero low-carbon future. Innovations in cleantech, autonomous vehicles and drones may play a leading role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving on energy efficiency, accelerating demand for renewable energy, and finding solutions for the transformation of our energy systems. A familiar example: digitalization and cloud storage services are transforming business operations by reducing paper usage. The latest iteration of our biannual tech research survey, the European Technology Index 2020, reported that energy-efficient technologies are a key area of interest and growth in the sector.

However, while digital technologies are improving, they continue to face environmental issues, such as energy consumption, materials

sourcing issues such as mining of rare minerals, and disposal of unrecyclable e-waste. The pressure to resolve these issues has been growing exponentially as technology integrates more thoroughly into our lives. Pressured by consumers, some companies are striving to mitigate environmental risks through improved product design, closer supply chain oversight and product life cycle management.

## DIVERSITY IN TECH

Recent years have seen a marked trend in company responses to improving diversity and inclusion in the technology sector. As discussed in our recent TechLaw Podcasts, data-based findings revealing stark gaps in representation in major technology companies have driven policy shifts, public disclosures and changes in investment strategy across the sector. In particular, there has been a push to address the lack of gender representation both at the board level and in the workforce.

## THE DLA PIPER ADVANTAGE

DLA Piper's global technology sector assists companies of all sizes, from fledgling startups to global giants, wherever they are in their SESG journey. We partner with our clients to help them meet their SESG objectives, manage potential risks and leverage opportunities, and provide legal support in such areas as:

- Corporate Venture
- Data Protection, Privacy, and Security
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital
- Global Governance and Compliance
- Public Company Corporate Governance
- Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Technology Transactions and Strategic Sourcing

In addition, our team of DLA Piper attorneys has extensive experience working with clients dedicated to SESG across the technology sector including:

- Agtech
- Artificial Intelligence
- Autonomous Vehicles
- Blockchain
- Cleantech
- Digital Transformation
- Edtech
- Fintech
- Healthtech
- Internet of Things

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To discuss the implications of these issues for your business, please contact our ESG leaders.