

Alastair Young

Office Managing Partner



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Overview

In January 2017 Alastair relocated to Dubai from the Dentons' London office where he was based since joining the Firm in 2011. Alastair leads Middle East Disputes practice where he has been practising since 2007. He has a wealth of experience acting for international companies operating in the region.

Alastair specialises in the resolution of engineering and construction disputes. His practice involves all forms of dispute resolution, varying from international arbitration to litigation in the Technology and Construction Court to statutory/contractual adjudication and ADR (including mediation and expert determination).

He has recently been involved in cases that have included claims for wrongful termination of contract, defects, delay and disruption, certification issues, loss and expense, time, final account disputes, professional negligence claims and issues around engineers/architects' independence (or lack of).

Alastair is dual qualified both as a barrister and as a solicitor, having qualified as a barrister in 1997, and he specialised in engineering and construction disputes until 2007 when he joined HBJ Gateley Wareing LLP as a partner.

Experience

- **Confidential client:** Representing a contractor JV in a DIAC arbitration in relation to claims arising from the construction of Terminal 3 at Dubai International Airport. The claims and counterclaims are worth in excess of AED4billion (US\$1.3bn).
- **Confidential client:** Advising a Korean contractor client in relation to claims arising from the construction of an FPSO. The claim value is in the region of US\$300m.
- **Confidential client:** Advising a contractor involved in a series of DIAC arbitrations in relation to the construction of a number of hotels in the UAE. The allegations include claims for an EoT, loss and prolongation, disruption, variations and financing charges.
- **Civicon Africa Group Limited:** Advising and representing Civicon in an ICC arbitration in relation to claims circa US\$70 million arising out of two contracts for the design and construction of a gas extraction barge on

Lake Kivu, Rwanda.

- **IC Ictas Astaldi:** Advising JV contractor in relation to several disputes worth approximately €80 million arising out of the €700 million construction and refurbishment of Pulkovo Airport, St Petersburg, Russia. The disputes arose under a contract based on the FIDIC silver book and are to be resolved by DAB and arbitration.
- **Confidential client:** Advising in relation to a number of issues and claims arising out of a power generation plant in West Africa.
- **Confidential client:** Advising in relation to a number of disputes arising out of a PFI roads project.
- **Confidential client:** Providing advice to a contractor client in relation to the construction of the Dubai Metro.
- **Goodman Logistics Development (UK) Limited:** Advising in relation to a £200 million claim brought by the tenant in the High Court in the UK (TCC) in relation to defective works and consequential losses.
- **Confidential client:** Advising the employer in relation to a claim arising from the construction of a bio-ethanol plant in West Africa.
- **Confidential client:** Advising the client in relation to the construction of an airport terminal in Abu Dhabi.
- **Confidential client:** Representing a contractor client in a DIAC arbitration concerning the construction of a large mixed use development. The claims are assessed in the value of in excess of US\$100m.
- **Herbosch-Kiere Marine Contractors Limited:** Advising in connection with a final account adjudication arising from a bespoke marine works contract and related enforcement proceedings subsequently reported at *Herbosch-Kiere Marine Contractors Limited v. Dover Harbour Board* [2012] EWHC 84 (TCC).
- **Vestas Celtic Wind Technology Limited:** Representing it in various adjudication, litigation and arbitration proceedings relating to wind farms in Scotland and the Republic of Ireland.
- **Blue City Company 1 S.A.O.C.:** Advising in relation to various claims brought against it in respect of the multibillion-dollar Blue City development in Oman.
- **Taylor Wimpey UK Limited, Persimmon plc and BDW Trading Limited:** Advising this consortium on a claim (circa £50 million) against the professional advisers of a site purchased in Barry, Wales, in respect of unexpected gross asbestos contamination throughout a large portion of the site.
- **Taylor Wimpey:** Representing it in a multi-party arbitration in relation to incorrectly installed water infrastructure on a new development.
- **BuildAbility Limited:** Acting for the main contractor in disputes (resolved by a series of adjudications and subsequently mediation) with its concrete frame subcontractor arising out of the construction of The Cube, a landmark £100 million mixed-use development in Birmingham.
- **Sainsbury's:** Acting for it in relation to a number of disputes arising out of the construction of both stores and distribution depots.
- **Confidential client:** Advising a local authority on the resolution of claims advanced by a main contractor in connection with substantial highway works.
- **Confidential client:** Advising on the resolution of final account and defect claims in connection with the refurbishment of an arena.
- **Confidential client:** Advising in relation to substantial disputes arising out of the design and construction of a major rail station refurbishment and upgrade programme.
- **Confidential clients:** Advising a number of large contractors (including a number of the largest contractors in the UK) in relation to claims brought against them by their supply chain. This type of work involves defending those claims cost-effectively whilst ensuring that the claims can, where appropriate, be passed up the

contract chain to the employer.

Insights

- "I am not being paid – can I suspend my works?," February 11, 2020
- "Government of Dubai suspends claims against state-owned developer, Meydan," August 21, 2019
- "Concurrent delay: from North Sea to Arabian Gulf," Dentons client alert, December 12, 2017
- "VAT and Contractors: A Sticking Tax?," October 25, 2017
- "VAT Attack? Should I be concerned?," October 24, 2017
- "The new NEC4 suite – is the GCC ready?," July 13, 2017
- "New fire regulations in the UAE – are you compliant?," Dentons client alert, July 2, 2017
- "Middle East Market Update – March 2017", Dentons Client Alert, March 2017
- "Construction Briefing," October 1, 2015
- "Walter Lilly & Company Ltd v. (1) MacKay and (2) DMW Developments Ltd – Clarification of the Law on Concurrent Delays in English Law Construction Contracts," July 25, 2012

Activities and Affiliations

Member of the Society of Construction Law, TECBAR and TeCSA

Areas of focus

Practices

- Construction
- International Commercial Arbitration
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
- Commercial Litigation

Industry sectors

- Construction
- Contractors and Suppliers
- Design Professionals
- Developers and Owners
- Energy
- Infrastructure and PPP
- Insurers and Sureties
- Mining

- Oil and Gas
- Petrochemicals and Refining
- Project Operators
- Transportation
- Transport Infrastructure: Airports, Bridges, Ports, Rail, Roads
- Wastewater Treatment, Water Management, Desalination

Education

- Inns of Court School of Law, 1996, BVC
- University of Manchester, 1987, BSc, (Hons)

Admissions and qualifications

- Barrister, England and Wales, 1997