

Overview

The UK economy has the third largest stock of inbound and outbound foreign direct investments and despite the recession, London remains one of the world's largest financial centers with the greatest GDP of any city in Europe. As with most European countries, the economy is failing to show any significant upturn, yet there are still encouraging signs. Unemployment continues to fall. Car sales are rising. While this may not be a rapid turn-around, there is plenty of scope for opportunity—one that is best optimized with an informed legal partner.

With Dentons alongside, you have a firm that meets the brief. Work with highly knowledgeable and talented lawyers who see opportunity in every challenge. Whether you are a financial institution, corporation, regulator or government body, with our in-depth understanding of the market and environment in which you operate, Dentons can offer you leading advice across a range of sectors, including energy, transport and infrastructure, financial institutions and funds, technology, media and telecommunications, and real estate.

Access to insightful advice is offered across Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, CIS and the Caucasus, and Asia. Dentons' lawyers are committed to putting your needs first and ensuring that you receive a transparent, seamless service, delivered on time and budget at all times.

Look to our lawyers in London for effective solutions, including:

- Banking and Finance
- Competition
- Corporate
- Dispute Resolution: International Arbitration and Litigation
- Employment
- Energy, Transport and Infrastructure
- Intellectual Property
- Pensions, Benefits and Executive Compensation
- Real Estate
- Reorganization, Restructuring and Insolvency
- Shipping and International Trade
- Tax
- Technology, Media and Telecommunications

Representative Experience

- **Financial Services Authority (FSA):** Advising in our client's successful defense of a claim for judicial review brought by the British Bankers Association (BBA) in relation to the payment protection insurance (PPI) complaint-handling measures. The judgment in this case continues to have huge financial implications for the industry, and affects tens of thousands of consumers who claim to have been mis-sold PPI.
- **Investment and Development Office of the Government of Ras Al Khaimah:** Advising on the annual update of RAK Capital's \$2 billion certificate issuance programme and a related liability management transaction. The transaction included simultaneous tender and exchange offers, as well as consent solicitations, in respect of \$325 million trust certificates issued on behalf of the RAK Investment Authority and AED1 billion trust certificates issued by RAK Capital. At the same time we advised on the new issue of \$400 million trust certificates due 2016 under the RAK Capital programme. This was the first Shariah compliant liability management exercise with publicly traded sukuk and was voted most Innovative Deal of the Year by Islamic Finance News.
- **First Data:** Advising a global leader in electronic commerce and payment processing in relation to its Binding Corporate Rules for data privacy (BCRs). Our team of privacy lawyers enabled First Data to become only the eleventh company to obtain BCR approval from European Data Protection regulators. The BCRs will be implemented by First Data's subsidiaries in more than 50 jurisdictions.
- **Huntingdonshire District Council:** Advising on a Community Infrastructure Levy examination and subsequent implementation.
- **LNG producer:** Representing a producer in several claims for price reviews under long-term liquefied natural gas sale and purchase agreements for sales into Western Europe. This culminated in a series of separate London arbitrations under United Nations Commission on International Trade Law rules. One key issue in each arbitration was whether the significant change in oil prices over recent years could trigger a price review under the contract. Taken over the lifetime of the contracts, these price review issues will have an impact on our client's business in excess of US\$1 billion.
- **London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham:** Advising on the proposed £8 billion redevelopment of London's Earl's Court Exhibition Centre, an historic location for major events in the Capital and the surrounding areas by Capital and Counties. The proposed multidimensional development includes up to 7,583 new homes and a mix of commercial, retail, hotel, leisure and cultural uses. We are also advising LBHF as planning authority on the related planning agreements and on the public procurement law aspects of this major regeneration project.
- **London Overground:** Advising MTR Corporation and Deutsche Bahn/Arriva on their joint, winning bid to operate the new London Overground Rail Concession awarded by Transport for London. London Overground is effectively a new urban and orbital railway for London, serving 20 London districts, that supported delivery of the London Olympics and Paralympics in 2012, and has significantly enhanced public transport in the UK capital. It has seen £1 billion of investment in new infrastructure and £220 million of new rolling stock. Our work extended to all aspects of the successful bid, including rail commercial and regulatory advice on the entire suite of contractual documentation, and expert advice on rolling stock issues, pensions, real estate, technology, intellectual property and employment. It is an example of advice we have given on bids, mobilizations and operations relating to more than 30 rail franchises/concessions around the world, and helping clients gain market entry and expand their businesses.
- **Natixis:** Advising as documentation agent and Coordinating Initial Mandated Lead Arranger and the other Coordinating Initial Mandated Lead Arrangers on the annual receivables-backed facility for the purchase of cocoa to Ghana Cocoa Board. This year the facility amount was a record US\$2,000,000,000 and there were 27 banks participating in the loan. The loan is secured against fixed price sale contracts between the marketing arm of the Borrower and a number of local and international buyers.
- **Nokia:** Advising on the sale of Vertu, the global leader in luxury mobile phones, to Scandinavian private equity house EQT VI.
- **PricewaterhouseCoopers:** Advising on the administration of two of the UK subsidiaries of Petroplus, which owns and operates a refinery at Coryton and a storage facility at Teeside. The refinery employs about 500 staff and 350 contractors, supplying approximately 20 percent of the fuel for London and the surrounding region.
- **Schütz:** Representing a world leader in the supply of bulk industrial container technology in a patent infringement case. When the action came on to appeal in the Court of Appeal, we were successful in overturning the High Court judgment on an important point of law relating to remanufacturing products. The matter was tried by the Supreme Court in January 2013, and is only the second patent case to be heard by the new Supreme Court since it replaced the House of Lords. The complex case involved the coordination of three expert witnesses and the use of cutting-edge strain mapping and finite element analysis techniques to win the day.
- **Shanti Hospitality:** Representing London-based client in negotiations with Hyatt Hotels and Resorts to convert and reflag seven Ista Hotels in urban locations throughout India. The portfolio, which was being operated by the

client under its own Ista brand, represents almost 1,000 hotel rooms. We were engaged to assist the client in evaluating alternative proposals from various brands and negotiate the letters of intent and the various hotel agreements.

- **Total, SA:** Advising on the acquisition of ExxonMobil's downstream assets in 14 African countries (Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea (Conakry), Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe).
- **UK Government, Department of Energy and Climate Change:** Advising on the Government's program to commercialize carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology. This is a substantial project of international significance, at the leading edge of the development of this new global industry. The Government seeks to establish a cost-competitive CCS industry in the 2020s through up to £1 billion of capital funding and additional operational support. Our team is working with in-house colleagues on the competitive procurement of projects to develop the capture of CO2 from power generation, its transport offshore and permanent subsea storage. The project includes working with an entirely new regulatory framework. This comprises new legislation, the design and market testing of novel contracts for capital support, working with new contracts for difference under the Government's wider Energy Market Reform program and the implementation of the European Union CCS Directive.

Your Key Contacts

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