

AVIATION, AEROSPACE & DEFENCE LEGAL SUPPORT



GOWLING WLG

The team's "ingenuity and perseverance was instrumental in handling each legal challenge Virgin threw at us. The outcome speaks volumes about the team's commitment to win".

— Michael England, Zodiac Seats UK Limited

"Throughout the project the MoD has benefited from the wealth of PFI experience [the firm] has brought to the negotiations, together with the diversity of other expertise it was able to provide".

— Ricky Anderson, FPMS Project Leader, MoD



SECTOR SPECIALISTS YOU CAN RELY ON.

Giving you expert legal advice and pragmatic commercial solutions is at the heart of our client service delivery.

Our dedicated aviation, aerospace and defence team can advise you from all angles because it understands the sector: be it regulatory compliance and costs pressures faced by airlines, the complexities of the supply chain or the practice of contracting with the Ministry of Defence and other suppliers.

We deliver global solutions by multi-jurisdictional expertise through our global network of offices and 'best friend' firms – it's all about what suits you best.

Wherever the issue and whatever you want to achieve, we will manage your matter using the best lawyer for the job.

A SPECTRUM OF SOLUTIONS

In particular, our 39-lawyer aviation, aerospace and defence team provides you with:

- advisors who take the time to understand your objectives and adopt consultative and creative strategies to achieve the right result for you
- sector-specialists who can give you a rounded view, taking into account pressures and issues such as:
 - competition and security
 - diversification and expansion into new and adjacent markets
 - innovation and disruptive technology
 - driving growth in spite of budgetary restraints
 - the intricacies of the international relationships within this global industry and specialised legal context in which they operate
- pro-active, joined up and consistent support across multiple international jurisdictions
- experienced cross-border project management, with territory-specific strategic advice
- world-wide dispute resolution through our expertise in handling disputes in more than 50 jurisdictions under a variety of international arbitration rules, including LCIA, ICC and UNICITRAL
- integrated team working and practical support – acting as a trusted extension of your in-house team as and when you need
- realistic, detailed, reliable budgets and costs updates.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Providing a full international legal service to our aviation, aerospace and defence clients, our sector team represents a pool of expertise advising in critical areas such as:

- alliancing
- anti-trust issues
- catering, engineering, ground handling, maintenance, repair and overhaul
- commercial and advisory
- defence procurement contracts
- dispute resolution
- information technology
- intellectual property
- health, safety and regulatory
- HR/employment issues
- mergers and acquisitions
- 'partnering' and outsourcing transactions, including outsourcing of mission critical passenger service systems
- public private partnerships and other government projects
- supply chain management.

SECTOR IMMERSION

There is no substitute for practical experience. Several members of the team are International Air Transport Association (IATA) trained and many honed their commercial understanding through secondments to British Airways, GKN and the Ministry of Defence.

We are members of the ADS Group, Farnborough Aerospace Consortium and the Royal Aeronautical Society, attending key industry events such as the Dubai, Farnborough and Paris Airshows.

We also hold our own regular sector forums to facilitate debate on topics of shared interest for senior executives.

Our annual sector networking events for senior in-house lawyers/ executives in the industry have had extremely positive feedback from our clients – particularly in terms of peer-to-peer connections.

We provide tailored training for our clients on key industry issues and produce regular sector-focused legal alerts.

The team is also ranked for 'Aviation' in The Legal 500, 2015.

Our Aviation clients include:	Our Aerospace and Defence clients include:
Alitalia	Cranfield Aerospace
Cathay Pacific	General Dynamics Land Systems
China Airlines	GKN
Delta Air Lines	QinetiQ
Emirates	Meggitt
Japan Airlines	Ministry of Defence (MoD)
London Luton Airport	Martin Baker
Malaysia Airlines	Spirit AeroSystems
Norwegian Air Shuttle	Ultra Electronics
Oman Air	UTC Aerospace Systems (Goodrich)

EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST.

AVIATION

We act for a broad range of airlines from low cost carriers through to full service "flag carriers" and a number of airports. We have advised on the full spectrum of operational issues our clients face in this sector, from outsourcing of our clients' passenger systems services to the unique pressures of a multi-national workforce operating to many different national and cultural norms. We can provide territory-specific advice.

Highlights of our experience include advising:

ALITALIA on the employment aspects of the restructuring at LHR, the carriers biggest base outside Italy.

BAA (now Heathrow Airport Holdings Limited) on its participation, as part of a consortium of European airport companies, in the €2.1billion development phase of Europe's SESAR (Single European Sky ATM Research Programme).

CHINA AIRLINES on its contract with Amadeus, a Spanish IT provider, for the provision of passenger service solutions based on the Amadeus Altea suite of products.

EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS on the acquisition of aircraft from Airbus, requiring in-depth knowledge of how Airbus approaches its sales and development.

JAPAN AIRLINES on its contract with Amadeus, a Spanish IT provider, for the provision of passenger service solutions based on the Amadeus Altea suite of products.

MAERSK AIR on the development and letting of two aircraft maintenance hangars and adjacent office facilities at a UK international airport.

MALAYSIA AIRLINES on a £53 million passenger service systems outsourcing project with SITA. Under the ten-year deal SITA Passenger and Travel Solutions will manage core business processes – ticketing fares management, revenue integrity, distribution and departure control.

NORWEGIAN AIR SHUTTLE on the outsourcing of passenger management systems. The low-cost carrier became the first airline to adopt Amadeus' Pioneer passenger service management solution, a flexible IT platform designed specifically for the low-cost carrier airline industry.

NORWICH AIRPORT LIMITED REGIONAL AND CITY AIRPORTS (AS MAJORITY OWNER) on potential extension to the terms of the PPP Contract with Norfolk County Council and Norwich City Council.

AEROSPACE

We act for a number of OEMs and suppliers in this sector and are alive to the issues our clients face: whether it is the significance of IP infringement or the growing number of M&A transactions taking place as businesses continue to look to meet the demand for increasing orders of commercial aircraft.

Highlights of our experience include advising:

MEGGITT AND UTC AEROSPACE SYSTEMS (GOODRICH)

on arrangements to supply components and sub-contracted manufacturing for projects such as the A380, the Joint Strike Fighter and Boeing 777.

GKN on the property and environmental aspects of the £1.0635 billion sale of its 50% stake in AgustaWestland, a military helicopter facility at Yeovil, to Finmeccanica SpA.

DNATA on the acquisition of the entire issued share capital of UK-based Stella Travel Services, one of the UK's leading travel businesses.

GENERAL DYNAMICS LAND SYSTEMS on the Scout SV programme to deliver armed vehicles to the MoD to replace the UK army's existing reconnaissance vehicle fleet.

MEGGITT on risk relating to supply chain contracts.

SITA on the creation of a ground breaking joint venture vehicle with Airbus to develop and commercialise mobile communications on board aircraft.

DEFENCE

We understand the intricacies and politics within defence contracting, having acted for the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for 20 years. We also regularly advise companies contracting with the MoD including advice on prime contracts and contracts in the supply chain. We are fully familiar with all related contractual issues, including DEFCONs and the pricing regulations introduced by the Defence Reform Act.

Working with the MoD, highlights of our experience include advising on:

ARMY TRAINING ESTATE STRATEGIC PARTNERING PROJECT – a £750 million PPP scheme which appointed the Landmarc Consortium as a private sector partner to operate the UK Army's military training estate (including ranges and training areas).

CORE PRODUCTION CONTRACT – a contract between the MoD and Rolls-Royce plc relating to the Core Production facilities for submarine nuclear cores at Raynesway, Derby.

FLYING TRAINING PROJECT – a nationwide multi-site project to replace the UK Royal Air Force's fleet of Bulldog training aircraft and the provision of services ancillary to training at the fifteen University Air Squadrons across the UK.

FUTURE AIRCRAFT CARRIER ALLIANCE (CVF) – a £3.9 billion alliance for two new aircraft carriers the (Queen Elizabeth and Prince of Wales) for the UK Navy including advising on the multi-party alliance arrangements between the MoD, Babcock International plc, BAE Systems Marine, BVT and Thales and the bi-lateral works contracts between the MoD and the industrial participants.

FUTURE MARINE SUPPORT SERVICES – a £1.1 billion PPP to appoint a private sector partner to provide a variety of waterborne and associated marine service activities, both within and outside naval ports, in support of the UK armed forces and other MoD and third party customers.

PROJECT MARSHALL – a long term £1.5 billion PPP that appointed Aquila (Thales and NATS) to provide military air traffic services to support the MoD in the UK and overseas.

RAF MARKETING PARTNERSHIP – an innovative £20 million PPP for the RAF to generate extra revenue from the spare capacity in its engineering training schools by the creation of a marketing partnership with a consortium of private sector companies.

SUBMARINE ENTERPRISE PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME – the arrangements between the MoD and BAE Systems Marine Limited, Rolls-Royce plc and Babcock International plc to deliver savings, efficiencies and improved performance in the UK nuclear submarine programmes including the Astute and Successor programmes.

The redevelopment of the **TRI-SERVICE COMMAND CENTRE** at Northwood, London – a £1.5 billion serviced accommodation PPP project.

UK NUCLEAR SUBMARINE PROGRAMME – a £25 billion programme to develop the Trident replacement (the Successor programme) including advising on the Concept and Design Phase Contracts entered into by the MoD with BAE Systems Marine Limited, Rolls-Royce plc and Babcock International plc.

Highlights of our wider defence experience include advising:

BRITISH INTERNATIONAL HELICOPTER SERVICES on its contract (as part of a consortium with AAR Airlift Inc.) with the MoD for the provision of helicopter Search and Rescue Services to the Falkland Islands.

MILITARY EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS, suppliers and maintenance engineers, during military and any criminal enquiry and including representation through inquests following serious incidents.

LEX DEFENCE on its successful bid with Amey for the £600 million "C" vehicles contract to provide and manage a fleet of new construction vehicles and other support vehicles on behalf of the MoD over a 15-year period.

QINETIQ on the creation of QinetiQ Ventures, a new technology venture fund with initial assets of £40 million and aims to accelerate the development of seven of QinetiQ's venture investments.

LEX TRANSFLEET on its consortium role bidding to provide airfield support services to the MoD at its facilities in the UK and around the world. We also advised on its interests as preferred transport sub-contractor to the Aspire consortium appointed to undertake the MoD's Project Allenby Connaught for the modernisation of the Army's facilities around Salisbury Plain.

SUMMIT AIR (subsidiary of Ledcor Industries, Inc.) on subcontracting arrangements relating to its contract with the MoD for the provision of parachute training services.

'ORGANISATION CONJOINTE DE COOPÉRATION EN MATIÈRE D'ARMEMENT' (OCCAR), the Pan-European defence procurement agency, on the re-negotiation of a ground-breaking €20 billion contract for the development and supply of up to 170 A400M military transport aircraft from Airbus Military S.L.

TQ EDUCATION AND TRAINING on its role as specialist education services provider on the £300 million PFI project for the re-provision of the MoD Sixth Form College (residential) on a new site near Loughborough and on a 30-year contract with Babcock International Group plc to deliver the £3 billion Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME) PPP project.

PROLOGIS on its role as member of the successful consortium awarded the Defence Records Management PFI project to provide a replacement for the Hayes repository used for the storage of records by the MoD and other government departments.

US BASED DEFENCE MANUFACTURER in defending arbitration proceedings threatened by a UK military operator concerning certain components fitted on fighter jets.

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