

Alex Johnson

Partner

"Alex Johnson is compassionate with clients, and always provides the professional legal advice to solve the complex construction legal issues with due balanced consideration to the practical situation of the project and the interest of client. Alex has good communication skills, fast in his response, and precise in his legal opinion. We are glad to have Alex as a part of the company's legal strategy."

(Legal 500, 2023)



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A highly experienced construction and engineering lawyer, Alex specialises in the avoidance, management and resolution of complex cross border disputes and international arbitration. Alex has advised clients on disputes in the UK, Europe, Middle East and Far East and has substantial experience across a variety of industry sectors including major infrastructure, energy and power, oil and gas, process plant and building.

Alex has experience of all forms of dispute resolution including litigation and international arbitration but also adjudication, mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

Alex also advises clients on claims prevention and management in the operative phase of projects, sometimes as project counsel giving strategic advice designed to avoid or minimise disputes and, most importantly, ensure effort remains on completion of the project. Alex spent approximately one day per month in-house with a client over an 18-month period in which it was delivering a major infrastructure project, giving strategic advice and guidance on claims and potential claims.

Alex also advises clients in relation to contract drafting and negotiation of EPC contracts and other agreements particularly in the clean energy sector.

Alex is a regular speaker on webinars and delivers bespoke training to client teams on construction and engineering issues tailored to their needs.

Alex is recognised as a Recommended Lawyer and a Next Generation Partner in The Legal 500 (2024 edition).

Legal Services

Construction & Engineering

Selected Cases

- Advising a client in relation to international arbitration concerning delay and disruption to an EPC project in the Middle East for the supply and installation of specialist equipment for a gas plant.
- Advising a client in relation to a variety of issues including defects, delay and disruption arising from the design and construction of a major international airport.
- Advising a client in relation to international arbitration concerning a contract for the EPC delivery of plant at a petrochemical facility.
- Advising a global manufacturer in international arbitration concerning an international interconnector project.
- Advising an EPC contractor in relation to a power and grid connection project in the Middle East.
- Advising a contractor in relation to a series of issues including delay, disruption and defects relating to a high profile mixed-use project in the UK.
- Advising an international EPC contractor in relation to a major UK to Europe interconnector project. Alex acted as project counsel during the project implementation phase, spending time with the project team and advising the client on claims and strategy for minimising or avoiding disputes.

Building

- Alex has substantial experience in dealing with disputes arising from projects in the building sector.
- Advising a specialist sub-contractor in relation to a series of issues including delay, disruption and defects relating to a high profile mixed-use project in the UK.
- Successfully defending a contractor in adjudication concerning claims for the true value of a final account.
- Advising a football club in relation to a dispute concerning a potential dispute concerning works carried out to the stadium.
- Advising a local authority in relation to potential claims for defects in relation to the design and construction of a cinema and associated works.

Infrastructure & Project Finance

Alex has substantial experience in dealing with disputes arising from major infrastructure projects, particularly aviation and rail projects.

Selected Cases

- Advising a client in relation to framework agreement and EPC sub-contract terms for the supply, installation, testing and commissioning of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the UK.
- Advising a client in international arbitration relation to a variety of issues including defects, delay and disruption arising from the design and construction of a major international airport.
- Advising a local authority in relation to a defects claim arising from the defective design and construction of a light rail depot in the UK. This included several adjudications and proceedings in the Technology and Construction Court (TCC).
- Advising a local authority in relation to claims for defects, delay and disruption arising from the design and construction of a light rail upgrade scheme in the UK. The scheme included the replacement and upgrade of track and associated infrastructure. The disputes were resolved through a series of adjudications, which reduced the sums claimed by the contractor by a substantial amount.

Process Plant

Alex has substantial experience in dealing with disputes arising from projects in the process plant and manufacturing sector.

- Advising a company based in the Far East in relation to a claim for non-payment and unlawful termination of contracts for the fabrication and supply of components for use in offshore oil and gas projects.
- Advising a major global manufacturer in relation to a defective product claim in the Technology and Construction Court.
- Advising a major global manufacturer in relation to a dispute based on ICC arbitration with a UK company relating to the operation of contractual pricing fluctuation mechanisms.
- Advising a car manufacturer in relation to a contract for the design and construction of a new plant for the production of electric vehicles.

Oil & Gas

Alex has substantial experience in dealing with disputes arising from projects in the oil and gas sector both in the UK and internationally.

- Advising a client in relation to international arbitration concerning delay and disruption to an EPC project in the Middle East for the supply and installation of specialist equipment for a gas plant.
- Advising a client in relation to international arbitration concerning an international interconnector project.
- Advising an international EPC contractor in relation to a delay and disruption claim valued at US\$300m. The claim arose from the engineering, procurement and construction of a large scale gas to liquids (GTL) plant in the Middle East.
- Advising a client in relation to international arbitration concerning a contract for the EPC delivery of plant at a petrochemical facility.
- Advising an international firm in LMAA arbitration arising from the supply and installation of specialist plant to a South East Asia based shipyard for installation on several Q-max LNG carrier vessels.
- Advising the owner in relation to a liquidated damages claim arising under a contract for the design, FEED,

detailed engineering, procurement, fabrication, installation and commissioning of an onshore gas plant in the Middle East.

Sectors

Clean Energy, Waste & Sustainability

Alex has substantial experience in dealing with disputes arising from projects in the clean energy and power sector. Alex has particular experience of subsea cable projects, battery storage projects and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Selected Cases

- Advising an international EPC contractor in relation to a major UK to Europe interconnector project. Alex acted as project counsel during the project implementation phase, spending time with the project team and advising the client on claims and strategy for minimising or avoiding disputes.
- Advising a global manufacturer in international arbitration concerning an international interconnector project.
- Advising a capital fund on its entry into a JV to develop a 49.9MW transmission-connected battery storage project in the south of England. Reviewing and advising on the construction and engineering contracts including major equipment supply, balance of plant, long term services and construction management agreement.
- Advising the owner in relation to contract drafting and negotiation of construction and engineering contracts for a 100MW battery storage project in the north of England including major equipment supply, balance of plant and associated performance security.
- Advising an international EPC contractor in relation to claims arising from the engineering and construction of two offshore structures part of windfarm projects. The claims related to disputed variations and damage caused by collision with a vessel.
- Advising a client in relation to framework agreement and EPC sub-contract terms for the supply, installation, testing and commissioning of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the UK.

Automotive

Selected Cases

- Advising a major vehicle manufacturer on the construction contracts for a £200m plant for the production of electric vehicles;
- Acting for a company in the automotive supply chain in litigation in the Technology and Construction Court (TCC) in relation to a dispute concerning material quality for components used in fuel tanks for a major vehicle manufacturer;
- Advising an engine manufacturer in relation to several issues concerning construction contracts;

- Drafting a bespoke framework agreement and EPC call-off contract for one of the largest EV charging companies in the UK for use in the procurement, installation, construction, testing and commissioning of electric vehicle charging infrastructure at sites around the UK;
- Drafting and negotiating the framework agreement and EPC call-off contract with a contractor for roll out of EV charging infrastructure at locations in Scotland and the north of England;
- Advising a number of clients in relation to disputes concerning process plant facilities;