

Peter Watts

Partner
London

Biography

Innovative, insightful and practical, honed by 25 years + diverse experience.

Whether helping clients broker multi-party deals, navigate the intersection of business and government or find the right business structure, Peter distils what really matters and uses creative solutions where necessary.

Peter has a particular interest in managing change and in setting legal issues or transactions in the wider context, understanding the perspectives of multiple parties and how they are relevant to delivering success. He has delivered many projects in technology and media solving complex issues concerning software, rights and data. He understands the particular sensitivities of the public sector whether expressed through regulation or direct state involvement in deals. He knows how important it is not to see a supply chain or distribution network as a series of separate transactions but as a series of interdependent relationships from the source to the ultimate consumer.

In addition to his work with clients, Peter has also held a number of leadership roles at the firm, including heading the Commercial team and co-leading the firm's Technology, Media & Telecoms sector work, as well as taking a prominent role in the firm's current transformation programme and serving for many years as a member of the International Operations Committee of predecessor firm Lovells.



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Languages

English

Practices

Commercial
Mergers and Acquisitions
Joint Ventures

Industries

Consumer
Manufacturing and Industrials
Technology and Telecoms
Sports, Media and Entertainment

Areas of focus

Peter has written, spoken and appeared on many platforms including Reuters TV, Sky News and PLC magazine on subjects as diverse as the trends in TMT M&A, the UK's Consumer Rights Act and preparing your business for a downturn. He is also one of the principal creators and contributors to the Hogan Lovells proprietary set of global contracting tools and insight (www.hlcomplexcontracting.com).

Representative experience

10 year £1bn strategic outsource and consortium agreements for Xerox as prime contractor to the Department for Work for all document management services

Creation of a Swiss hub company for SABMiller's global procurement operations including all intra-group purchasing arrangements and, subsequently, establishment of a global business services unit

The Crown Estate on the statutory transfer schemes and associated corporate governance arrangements associated with the devolution of certain functions to Scotland

Acquisition of the Hammersmith Apollo entertainment venue in London by a consortium between Anschutz Entertainment Group and Eventim

Awards and rankings

- Commercial, *Chambers*, 2016
- Superlawyers, 2013-2015

Latest thinking and events

- News
 - UK Utilities regulation: a brave new world?
- Press releases
 - UK Budget - 3 March 2021
- News
 - UK 2030 - High Tech Heaven?
- Webinar

Esports and Gaming

Education and admissions

Education

B.A., University of Leeds, 1985

Accolades

'A fine lawyer'

Chambers

- Beyond Brexit: Practical considerations for business
- Press releases
 - Hogan Lovells advising AmerisourceBergen Corporation on its US\$6.47 billion acquisition of Alliance Healthcare from Walgreens Boots Alliance
- Press releases
 - Hogan Lovells advises Valneva on its COVID-19 vaccine partnership with the UK Government