

Timothy Lau

Year of call: 2017
Degree: BComm, LLB (First Class) (Melb), BCL (Dist) (Oxon)
Languages: Cantonese (working knowledge), Chinese (Mandarin) (working knowledge)



Tim has a broad practice across all areas of Chambers' practice, with a particular focus on commercial matters. He receives instructions to appear in the High Court as well as before arbitral tribunals, both as sole Counsel and as a member of a team together with leading Counsel. He is presently instructed in several complex multi-jurisdictional and high-value commercial disputes involving allegations of fraudulent wrongdoing. Before coming to the Bar, Tim was a solicitor where he had a broad commercial litigation practice as well as a particular focus in financial services regulation. Tim has also been admitted as a lawyer in Australia since 2013. He was Associate to the Hon. Justice Susan Kiefel AC, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia

EXPERIENCE

Commercial

Tim acts in a broad range of commercial disputes both in the civil courts and by way of arbitration. He is currently instructed on several high-value multi-jurisdictional commercial disputes involving allegations of fraudulent wrongdoing and unlawful means conspiracy.

Tim has been involved in a range of commercial litigation and advisory work in the financial, energy, pharmaceutical, sports and consumer goods sectors. His work has involved acting for multinational clients and sovereign states across Europe, the CIS, North America, Asia Pacific and Africa.

Cases

Shapoorji Pallonji v Yumn Ltd

Commercial Court / ICC Arbitration, 2021

Urgent injunctive proceedings in the Commercial Court and before an ICC Emergency Arbitrator in relation to the calling of a performance bond issued in respect of the largest infrastructure project in Rwanda (led by Thomas Sprange QC).

[Ad hoc arbitration]

2021

Claim by a sovereign state shareholder in relation to a US\$1.5bn rights issue for a global oil company alleging breach of Shareholders' Agreement and shareholder oppression (led by Andreas Gledhill QC).

Bourlakova v Bourlakov

Chancery Division, 2021

Claim for unlawful means conspiracy and deceit arising under English, Monegasque, Swiss and Panamanian law. Damages claimed in the sum of £700m (led by Robert Weekes).

Philips v Xiaomi Technologies

Chancery Division, 2021

Jurisdiction challenge in relation to a claim for global FRAND damages for alleged breaches of patents (led by Michael Bloch QC).

Malawi Tobacco Litigation

Queen's Bench Division, 2021

Group action claim brought by 7000 Malawian tobacco farmers against multinational tobacco companies for unjust enrichment and tort under English law and Malawi law (led by Shaheed Fatima QC and Andrew Scott).

AXA v Santander plc

Commercial Court, 2020-2021

Dispute relating to allocation of liability over historic mis-selling of PPI claims. Damages claimed in the sum of £630m (led by Andrew Green QC and Fraser Campbell).

[Dispute over Share Purchase Agreement]

LCIA Arbitration, 2020/2021

Dispute relating to breaches of various provisions of a SPA relating to the sale of a global security company worth \$330m (led by Andrew Green QC).

Re Compound Photonics Ltd

Chancery Division, 2020

Unfair prejudice petition in respect of a projector company invested in by Russian oligarchs. Four-week remote trial involving cross-examination of witnesses in multiple jurisdictions (led by Andreas Gledhill QC and Donald Lilly).

[Private equity dispute]

ICC Arbitration, 2019-2020

A private equity dispute worth \$1billion involving telecommunication assets in the United States. Related proceedings in Hong Kong and the Cayman Islands seeking worldwide injunctive and Norwich Pharmacal relief (led by Michael Bloch QC and Peter Head).

Shulman v Ivanyushchenko

Commercial Court, 2020

Substantial claim concerning various alleged agreements between Ukrainian oligarchs relating to a large scale logistics development project in Ukraine. Involving a jurisdiction challenge (led by Brian Kennelly QC and Shane Sibbel).

Shanghai Hongtou Network Technology Co Ltd v Platinum Fortune LP

Chancery Division, 2020

Dispute in relation to the sale of an English video games company for US\$530 million. Involves applications for injunctive relief, fortification and jurisdictional challenges, as well as claims under foreign law and for dishonest assistance (led by Robert Howe QC).

ArcelorMittal USA v Ruia

Commercial Court, 2020

Dispute in relation to a foreign arbitral award worth US\$1.5 billion over a joint venture agreement relating to global steel production. Involves applications for worldwide freezing and information orders in England and various foreign jurisdictions including the Cayman Islands, Mauritius, the USA and India (led by Harish Salve QC, Anthony Peto QC, Peter Head, Andrew Scott and Isabel Buchanan).

Vale SA v Steinmetz

Commercial Court, 2020

Dispute in relation to a foreign arbitral award worth US\$1.25 billion over a joint venture agreement relating to a diamond mine in the Republic of Guinea. Claims for unlawful means conspiracy, fraudulent misrepresentation and proprietary claims, and application for a worldwide freezing injunction and related orders (led by Robert Weekes).

Pipia v Bank of Georgia

Commercial Court, 2019 - 2020

Acting for the claimant Georgian businessman in a case with quantum in excess of \$290 million relating to the sale by the Bank of Georgia of assets by auction following a default on a loan facility (led by Barbara Dohmann QC and Andrew George QC).

IPCom GmbH v Lenovo Technology UK Ltd

Chancery Division, 2019

Resisting an application for an anti-anti suit injunction in the English court following an application for an anti-suit injunction in the United States court in relation to a worldwide technology patent dispute (led by Michael Bloch QC).

[Speedy arbitration]

2019

Partnership dispute relating to a global leading business restructuring provider (led by Robert Howe QC and Christopher Newman).

[Sports arbitration]

2019

Arbitration relating to a Champions League football club (led by Paul Goulding QC and Tom Mountford).

Reignwood Group v Ni

Commercial Court, 2018-2019

Acting for the Reignwood Group in a complex, high value joint venture dispute governed (in part) by Chinese law and with related proceedings in Luxembourg and the US (led by Anthony Peto QC and Peter Head).

Glaxo Group Ltd v Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd

High Court, 2018

Multi-jurisdictional litigation concerning the fourth most successful pharmaceutical product in the world (led by Simon Malynicz QC and Tom Hickman QC).

Ingenious and Scion Litigation

Business and Property Courts, 2018

Collective litigation relating to investments in film tax schemes and liabilities incurred to HMRC (assisting Mark Vinall)

Renova Industries Ltd v Emmerson International Corp

BVI Commercial Court, 2017-2018

\$1bn claim in the BVI Commercial Court concerning a joint venture in relation to various power generation and distribution assets in Russia (assisting Robert Weekes)

PCP Capital Partners LLP v Barclays Bank Plc

[2017] EWHC 175 (QB)

Claim for deceit against Barclays Bank Plc arising out of the Bank's recapitalisation at the height of the financial crisis in 2008 (assisting Robert Weekes)

Madoff litigation

Proceedings arising out of the \$64bn Ponzi scheme operated by Bernard Madoff (assisting Robert Weekes)

Arbitration

Tim has worked on a number of arbitrations across multiple industry sectors and jurisdictions. He has also been involved in advising on the enforcement of arbitral awards and anti-suit injunctions in aid of arbitral proceedings.

Cases

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Commercial Court / ICC Arbitration, 2021

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[Ad hoc arbitration]

2021

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[Dispute over Share Purchase Agreement]

LCIA Arbitration, 2020/2021

Dispute relating to breaches of various provisions of a SPA relating to the sale of a global security company worth \$330m (led by Andrew Green QC).

[LCIA arbitration involving global car manufacturers]

2020

Claim for breach of distribution agreement for the sale of motor vehicles in Asia (led by Andrew Green QC).

[Private equity dispute]

ICC Arbitration, 2019-2020

A private equity dispute worth \$1billion involving telecommunication assets in the United States. Related proceedings in Hong Kong and the Cayman Islands seeking worldwide injunctive and Norwich Pharmacal relief (led by Michael Bloch QC and Peter Head).

[Speedy arbitration]

2019

Partnership dispute relating to a global leading business restructuring provider (led by Robert Howe QC and Christopher Newman).

[Sports arbitration]

2019

Arbitration relating to a Champions League football club (led by Paul Goulding QC and Tom Mountford).

Financial Services

Tim accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' financial services law practice. He regularly advises financial institutions on a wide range of regulatory issues, including under the Payment Services Directive, MIFID II, the Market Abuse Regulation and the Senior Managers Regime. He has recently obtained particular expertise in the LSE's AIM Market. Prior to joining Chambers, Tim worked as a solicitor with a particular focus on financial services regulation.

EU & Competition

Tim accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers' EU and competition practice.

Cases

Sportradar AG v Football DataCo Ltd

2020

Dispute in relation to the collection and dissemination of live league match data for football betting. Claim raises issues of competition law, unlawful means conspiracy and breach of confidence (led by Ian Mill QC, Tom de la Mare QC and Tom Cleaver).

Intellectual Property

Tim has experience in a broad range of IP matters in the media and entertainment and pharmaceutical fields. He has previously been seconded to the Intellectual Property Disputes Group at Stephenson Harwood.

Cases

Teva v Eli Lilly

Chancery Division, 2020

Dispute in relation to the sale of pharmaceutical product for the treatment of cluster headaches (led by Michael Bloch QC).

IPCom GmbH v Lenovo Technology UK Ltd

Chancery Division, 2019

Resisting an application for an anti-anti suit injunction in the English court following an application for an anti-suit injunction in the United States court in relation to a worldwide technology patent dispute (led by Michael Bloch QC).

Glaxo Group Ltd v Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd

High Court, 2018

Multi-jurisdictional litigation concerning the fourth most successful pharmaceutical product in the world (led by Simon Malynicz QC and Tom Hickman QC).

[Music company] v [Singer/songwriter]

Copyright infringement and royalties dispute in respect of an award-winning musical hit.

[Pharmaceutical company] v [Pharmaceutical company]

2018, Business and Property Courts

Claim to prevent disclosure of confidential information in order to found jurisdiction in overseas proceedings (assisting Andrew Green QC and Mark Vinall)

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education

Bachelor of Commerce (University of Melbourne), Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours) (University of Melbourne), Bachelor of Civil Law (Distinction) (Magdalen College, University of Oxford)

Scholarships and Prizes

- Allan Myers Oxford Law Faculty Scholarship (for studying the BCL)
- Rae and Edith Bennett Travelling Scholarship (for studying the BCL)
- University of Melbourne National Scholarship (for undergraduate studies)
- Trinity College National Scholarship
- Melbourne Law School Valedictorian Prize
- Lord Florey Australian Student Prize

VAT registration number: 447008068

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