

ASIA PACIFIC LEGAL 500 RELEASED FOR 2003 / 2004

The Asia Pacific Legal 500 is a guide to the leading commercial law firms in Asia and Australia. Editors for the Singapore section produce independent commentary after researching the local legal market, clients and the international legal community. We are pleased to have maintained our top tier ranking for Dispute Resolution, International Arbitration and Intellectual Property. Some comments received were:

Banking, Finance and Capital Markets

“Drew & Napier LLC advised the Development Bank of Singapore on the S\$782m (U\$444m) restructuring of Singapore Press Holdings subsidiaries. The firm also acted for The Royal Bank of Scotland plc on the refinancing and restructuring of £45.5m credit facilities to Angliss International Ltd. In the equity markets, the firm advised BreadTalk Pte Ltd on its IPO. David Ang, Leena Pinsler and Sin Boon Ann are recommended.”

Corporate/M&A

“Drew & Napier LLC’s practice head David Ang led a team that acted for Temasek Holdings Ltd on its sale of CPG Corporation, the corporatised arm of the Singapore government’s public works department. Other highlights included acting on the S\$350m (US\$199m) voluntary takeover of Vertex Venture Holdings Ltd by Ellensburg Holding Pte Ltd, the subsidiary of Singapore Technologies Pte Ltd. Gary Pryke, who combines ‘excellent powers of legal interpretation with a strong commercial sense on transactions’; Christina Ng, who has particular expertise in the technology sector; and Sin Boon Ann are also well-known practitioners.”

Dispute Resolution

“Drew & Napier LLC successfully acted for Asia Pulp & Paper on a proceeding brought by Deutsche Bank and BNP Paribas to place the group under judicial management. The firm also advised on important termination of employment cases and cases involving Singaporean politicians. Davinder Singh SC enjoys a formidable reputation amongst peers and clients alike; Jimmy Yim SC and Harpreet Singh are also well known. Raj Singam has a focus on medical negligence cases.”

Information Technology

“Drew & Napier LLC advised IDA (Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore) on the deployment of ultra wideband technology in Singapore, as well as on a collaboration with Intel. Andrew Ong, Cavinder Bull and Lim Chong Kin are well known.”

Intellectual Property

“Drew & Napier LLC advised on a ground-breaking patent case involving the HIV-2 patent and also acted in a patent dispute involving pioneering audio and visual technology patents. Practice head Morris John, Dedar Singh Gill and Joseph Grimberg SC are recommended.”

International Arbitration

“Drew & Napier advised on a dispute over the construction of a cement silo. The practice also acted as counsel for a Japanese auto corporation in a dispute with an Iranian over premature termination of a distribution agreement. Davinder Singh SC, Jimmy Yim SC and senior consultant Joseph Grimberg are recommended. Indranee Rajah SC was appointed Senior Counsel in January 2003. She has particular expertise in property matters; clients say she is ‘responsive, professional’ and ‘understands a client’s business needs well’.”

Property

“Drew & Napier LLC advises major local and foreign banks and statutory boards on real estate transactions. Chua Bee Lan, David Chin and Indranee Rajah SC are recommended.”

Shipping

“Drew & Napier advised on a serious collision between the *ANL Indonesia* and navy vessel *RSS Courageous* in the South China Sea. The firm also acted in *Peer Voss v APL*, a watershed case on the law governing an owner’s delivery obligations under non-negotiable bills of lading. Ian Koh is highly recommended.”