



Javier Yeo

Director, Intellectual Property & Dispute Resolution

LL.B. (Hons), National University of Singapore
Admitted to the Singapore Bar in August 2016
T: +65 6531 2508 E: javier.yeo@drewnapier.com

ABOUT JAVIER YEO

Javier specialises in intellectual property dispute resolution. He has acted for many clients across different industries such as the pharmaceutical, chemical and mechanical engineering as well as semiconductor industries in trademark and patent matters.

Javier was named the regional Rising Star of the Year at the Legal 500 Southeast Asia Awards 2023. In its 2024 edition, Asian Legal Business (ALB) identified Javier as an outstanding young lawyer in the “40 under 40” survey.

Apart from his intellectual property practice, Javier has also practised in a wide array of commercial matters including company law, contract law, defamation and employment law, for both international and local clients.

Counsels that have worked with him have described him as a “*superb lawyer whose work in this complex case has been nothing short of amazing*” and was also commended for “*acquir[ing] an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the very challenging technical aspects of the disputes and of the volumes of evidence*”.

Clients have also described Javier as “*very smart, quick and efficient*” and that his “*work rate is simply outstanding*”.

EXPERIENCE

Javier has handled many types of cases before the Singapore Courts across different areas of practice. These include numerous high-value Court matters, in particular, intellectual property disputes ranging across a wide variety of industries. Amongst his clients are well-known international brands in their respective industries.

Intellectual Property Matters

- Successfully represented Ila Technologies Pte Ltd, an industry leader and manufacturer of lab-grown diamonds with the largest diamond growing facility in the

world, in a patent infringement suit commenced by Element Six Technologies Ltd, a subsidiary of the De Beers Group, in *Ila Technologies Pte Ltd v Element Six Technologies Limited* [2023] SGCA 5. It is safe to say that this Suit is one of the most and possibly the most complex patent infringement case that the Singapore High Court and Singapore Court of Appeal has heard. Javier was also lead counsel in highly contentious costs proceedings that went on appeal before the High Court and successfully obtained more than S\$3m in costs for the defendant.

- Acting for a Fortune 10 company in a high value patent infringement claim commenced by Salutica Allied Solutions Sdn Bhd involving Bluetooth technology. This action is part of a global patent dispute.
- Acting for KuDOS Pharmaceuticals Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of AstraZeneca in a patent-linkage matter against Natco Pharma Asia Pte Ltd involving 4 patents concerning Olaparib. This is part of a global litigation for Natco’s generic product Olanat.
- Acting for Singapore Airlines in a series of trademark opposition and revocation actions for its iconic “Singapore Girl” mark.
- Represented Eisai Co Ltd and its related companies in a patent linkage matter for HALAVEN, an anti-cancer medication used to treat breast cancer and liposarcoma. This is the first litigation globally in relation to HALAVEN.
- Successfully acted for a local skincare brand in a matter involving claims of passing off, copyright infringement and breach of contract. This matter engages novel issues in Singapore relating to use of well-known person’s (e.g. celebrity) portraits.

- Successfully acted for a popular local hair-removal company in a claim involving passing off and copyright infringement. This matter engages novel issues relating to copyright infringement and passing off for interior design and style of branding.
- Represented Tanaka Electronics Singapore (Pte.) Ltd. in a Singapore High Court patent infringement action. The action was part of the global patent litigation dispute with Nippon Steel Chemical & Material Co., Ltd. and Nippon Micrometal Corporation.
- Successfully acted for Uni-Drive (S) Pte Ltd in a revocation action filed by Nidec Control Techniques Limited (“Nidec”), a multinational corporate headquartered in the United Kingdom for a revocation action for trade marks.

Other contentious corporate matters

- Acted as lead counsel and successfully defended a client in a matter involving amongst others, breach of director’s duties, passing off and conspiracy to injure. The application for declaration dealt with the novel issue in Singapore of whether a settlement agreement could settle unknown and even fraudulent claims, as well as claims that arose after the date of settlement.
- Acted for Edge Capital Fund SP2 Pte Ltd, an asset management firm in a suit against doctors in Singapore involving the manufacture, supply and storage of mesenchymal stem cells under the new Regulations in the Health Products Act. This case involves tackling novel issues in relation to interpretation and application of the Regulations. The case also involves breach of directors’ duties, breach of contract and misrepresentation.
- Successfully represented BW Automobiles Pte Ltd in the State Courts ([2018] SGDC 189) and in the appeal to the High Court in a landmark case concerning the interpretation of named driver insurance policies.
- Represented a Singapore holding company in the business of acquiring aesthetic practices in a suit canvassing various issues including a breach of contract, minority shareholder oppression and equitable winding up pursuant to s254 of the Companies Act. The claim was in excess of SGD20m.
- Appointed as a mediator for a multi-million estate matter involving assets in various jurisdictions and successfully assisted the parties in reaching a settlement for a dispute that lasted for more than 2 years.
- Successfully acted for a landlord in a tenancy dispute, concerning issues regarding breach of contract, conspiracy to injure and piercing the corporate veil.
- Acting for an international luxury beverage chain in several defamation cases relating to articles published internationally.
- Acting for a medical research organisation in relation to breach of a collaboration agreement for the development of a vaccine for global distribution.
- Acting for clients in bankruptcy matters and debt enforcement, with debts in excess of SGD150m.
- Acting for a fund in a dispute against an international luxury wines and spirits conglomerate in matter involving inducement of breach of contract and conspiracy to injure. This matter is a cross-border matter.

ACCOLADES

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific
Intellectual Property 2026 –
Recommended Lawyer for 2
consecutive years

Rising Star (2022 to 2024)



“Javier Yeo stands out for his exceptional technical expertise in IP matters and his ability to provide commercially astute advice even on complex issues. He is meticulous, highly responsive, and consistently demonstrates a deep understanding of both legal and business considerations.”

“While my interactions have been primarily with Javier Yeo, my experience reflects the hallmarks of a strong and well-run practice. The team demonstrates deep technical expertise in intellectual property, with a clear ability to balance legal rigour and commercial pragmatism. What sets them apart is their responsiveness, attention to detail, and ability to deliver high-quality advice efficiently.”

Clients would value their collaborative approach, tailored solutions, and commitment to understanding business needs.

Javier Yeo *“is very cautious, hardworking and resourceful in his work.”*

“Both Tony Teo and Javier Yeo are very professional, work swiftly and I find them very creative. They attention to details and I am very comfortable when handling my matters to them.”

Javier Yeo *“is very smart, quick and efficient. His work rate is simply outstanding. I have received important and urgent emails/WhatsApp messages from him late at night and even on weekends. He is always energetic and full of passion. A very nice and comfortable person to work with.”*

The Legal 500 Southeast Asia Awards 2023

Named regional Rising Star of the Year for Intellectual Property



Asian Legal Business

Identified as one of 40 bright legal minds in the region – “40 Under 40 list” (October 2024 issue)



ALB Singapore Rising Stars 2025

Clients praise Javier for his *“meticulous preparation, commercial awareness, and ability to deliver results under pressure.”*



“Senior colleagues highlight his rare combination of intellectual rigour and practical judgment, qualities that have made him a trusted advisor on high-value matters.”

Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific

Intellectual Property 2026 – Future Star (2 consecutive years)

“Javier is exceptionally hardworking and meticulous, with a deep understanding of complex legal issues and a strategic approach to case management. His clear and, persuasive communication skills stand out, making him an effective and reliable lawyer.” (2024)

Javier *“is quick to understand the key points of the patents and background of the industry.”* (2023)

“Meticulous, super-hardworking, extremely perseverant, and excellent in simplifying complex matters.” (2023)

IAM Patent 1000

Litigation 2025 – Bronze band

asialaw Leading Lawyers

“Very fast work rate and able to grasp the core of the matter very well.” (2024)

“Javier Yeo has good commercial sense and a quick turnaround rate.” (2024)

“Knowledgeable and has expertise in laws regarding intellectual property. Provides strong support in the litigation.” (2023)

PUBLICATIONS

- The Singapore chapter of Life Sciences & Pharma IP Litigation, *Chambers Global Practice Guides*, 2024 and 2025
- The Singapore chapter of Patent Litigation Country Comparative Guide, *The Legal 500*, 2022 to 2025
- Co-author of the Singapore section of the Chapter on Countries with Historical Connections with UK Registered Designs in Russell-Clarke & Howe on Industrial Designs, 10th Edition, *Sweet & Maxwell*, 2022
- Co-author of the Singapore chapter of Patent Enforcement in the UK and Trans-Pacific Countries, *Globe Law and Business*, 2021
- Author of the chapter The Facilitative - Evaluative Divide: Have We Lost Sight of What's Important? in Contemporary Issues in Mediation: Volume 1, *Singapore International Mediation Institute*, 2016

APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

- Member, Singapore Academy of Law
- Member, Law Society of Singapore
- Member and Convenor of the Sports Committee, Law Society of Singapore