Rail Experience

We have significant experience of advising contractors and consultants in relation to a wide range of rail projects.

We have recently advised several consultants in relation to their participation in Network Rail’s new alliance form of contract, including the first alliance agreement in respect of a major infrastructure improvement programme in the North of England, a project valued at £250 million). Our involvement in these matters remains ongoing and includes advising on the procurement of sub-contractors for current and future projects.

We also have significant experience advising in relation to more traditional forms of procurement, having advised contractors and consultants in relation to their appointments in respect of various projects, including Crossrail and Network Rail and London Underground’s station upgrade programmes. Our team has also been involved in the arrangements for bringing new technology to the UK signalling market.

Our involvement often continues following contract award, and includes advising in relation to supply chain procurement and management, the operation of complex contractual provisions and dispute avoidance.

We are also well known for our expertise in dealing with disputes in the transport sector, having acted in relation to a number of high profile claims. Our team’s recent experience includes the resolution of disputes arising from various upgrade programmes on the national network, as well as on major metro projects and dealing with issues arising from recent rail franchising reviews.

Examples of matters involving rail schemes:

- Advising an international consultant in relation to its participation in Network Rail’s first alliance agreement in respect of a major improvement programme in the North of England (project valued at £250 million); advice included advising during the tender stage until completion of the alliance agreement and advising on the procurement of sub-contractors.

- Advising contractors involved in the early Crossrail design and works packages.

- Advising an international consultant in relation to issues arising from the design and installation of new signaling related equipment for a major metro rail operator.

- Advising the designer on its appointment in respect of the Northern Line Extension project (project valued at £600 million).

- Advising contractors involved in the early Crossrail design and works packages.
Advising a consultant in relation to the delivery of the Bond Street Station Upgrade.

Advising an international consultant in relation to its tendering as part of an alliance for a major track upgrade in the currently being procured by Network Rail.

Advising a consultant in relation to a major electrification programme relating to the Great Western line; advising on contractual arrangements with other members of the professional team and the contractor.

Advising a consortium in relation to bidding for major station upgrades on the London Underground network including the Victoria LU station modernisation and decongestion scheme.

Advising a contractor in relation to the construction contract for a major railway line upgrade in the south of England; and drafted the key sub-contracts and consultants’ appointments.

Acting for the consulting engineer in relation to the train tunnel collapse at Gerrards Cross.

Advising a consultant design engineer on rail improvement works in Kowloon, Hong Kong (total project cost circa US$90m).

Advising a joint venture in relation to the drafting and negotiation of a subcontract in connection with the modernisation of the stations and the maintenance of the civils assets on the Bakerloo, Central, Victoria and Sub-Surface lines on the LU network (capital value approximately £3 billion) and issues arising before and after the entry of Metronet into administration.

Advising the contractor appointed in relation to the upgrade of a major commuter railway into London, including negotiating the terms of the construction contract and drafting and negotiating the key sub-contracts and consultants’ appointments.

Acting for a contractor defending a claim by the sub-contractor concerning entitlement to time and money on a rail upgrade project, where the sums claimed were in excess of £1 million.

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