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THOMAS LAZUR

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Areas of practice

- Energy & Natural Resources
- Offshore Construction & Marine Engineering
- Construction & Engineering
- Professional Negligence
- International Arbitration

Clerks' Details

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Practice overview

Thomas is an “enthusiastic” and “technically astute” senior junior who is “a pleasure to deal with even in the most highly pressurised circumstances”. He is highly recommended for energy & natural resources, shipping and general construction work by Chambers UK Bar, Chambers Global and The Legal 500. He has a particularly commercial outlook given his background in investment banking and strategy consultancy.

The majority of Thomas’ work concerns international and domestic energy projects including offshore construction projects for the oil and gas industry, the construction and refurbishment of traditional coal and gas fired power stations, and alternative energy production facilities including solar, energy-from-waste, and biomass power plants. The balance of his practice is UK based High Court work covering a vast range of projects from large-scale civil engineering projects to domestic construction disputes.

In addition to his work as counsel, Thomas is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb), a TECBAR accredited adjudicator, a certified mediator, and an Advocacy Trainer for the Inner Temple. He also holds a Diploma in International Arbitration.

Recent Cases

Energy & Natural Resources

- Represented the claimant contractor in high court litigation involving a professional negligence claim arising out of the design of an energy-from-waste plant in London.
- Represented the defendant main contractor in an LCIA arbitration concerning the construction of a gas-fired power station in the Caribbean.
- Represented the claimant engineering company in an ICC arbitration dealing with a dispute arising out of the sale, refurbishment and storage of turbomachinery.
- Represented the main contractor in high court litigation concerning the design and build of a solar plant.
- Represented the claimant on a professional negligence claim concerning the design of a biomass energy plant.
- Represented the defendant energy company in a final account claim ICC arbitration related to design works for a Flue Gas Desulphurisation project in Eastern Europe.
- Represented the contractor in a final account dispute related to a Flue Gas Desulphurisation project in Wales.
- Represented owners, buyers and shipbuilders in several international arbitrations arising out of the construction, delivery, maintenance and hire of offshore drilling rigs and other support vessels for the offshore oil and gas industry (see Offshore Construction).

“He is easy to work with, relates well to clients and produces a high-quality work product.”

Chambers UK Bar 2019

Offshore Construction & Marine Engineering

- Represented the shipbuilder in an arbitration over contractual disputes that arose during the construction of a superyacht.
- Represented the claimant shipyard in an ICC arbitration dealing with disputes arising out of the construction of two semi-submersible drilling rigs.
- Represented the buyer in an ICC arbitration dealing with disputes arising out of the late delivery of a semi-submersible drilling rig.
- Represented the builder in an arbitration dealing with disputes arising out of a defective offloading buoy.
- Represented the owner of a drilling vessel in an arbitration concerning its maintenance during a period of hire.
- Represented the owner in a dispute over the operation of a slug suppression system for a North Sea drilling platform.
- Represented the owner of a dredger in an ICC arbitration concerning the termination of a short-term lease for the vessel and a claim for liquidated damages.

Construction & Engineering

- Represented the employer in high court litigation concerning the refurbishment of a restaurant as part of a larger residential housing development.
- Represented the architect in high court litigation concerning the thermal design of a residential housing development.

- Represented the main contractor in the High Court in a dispute over letters of intent and claims of fraudulent misrepresentation following the failure to award a final design and build contract for a project in Battersea, London.
- Represented a demolition contractor in a final account claim in the High Court arising out of a development in Piccadilly, London.
- Represented the Claimant in the Coop v Birse litigation concerning various defects at a distribution centre in Rugby.
- Represented an agent in a commercial court litigation involving the procurement of building contracts from the Libyan Government for Malaysian principals in Libya.
- Instructed in an ICC arbitration, representing the main contractor in a final account dispute with the employer over the construction of a highway in Qatar.
- Represented the main contractor in a claim related to secret/hidden profits in the development of a spa hotel in South East England.

See also the examples of recent work under the Energy and Offshore Construction headings.

“He boasts impressive instructions on major infrastructure projects, both domestically and internationally.”

Legal 500 2018

Professional Negligence

- Represented the claimant contractor in high court litigation involving a professional negligence claim arising out of the design of an energy-from-waste plant in London.
- Represented an architect in high court litigation concerning the thermal design of a residential housing development.
- Represented the main contractor in high court litigation regarding a claim for negligent design of a CCTV system against a subcontractor / supplier.
- Represented the architect and employer in several disputes concerning the design and supervision / contract management of domestic building projects.

International Arbitration

Thomas has a Diploma in International Arbitration and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

- Represented the defendant main contractor in an LCIA arbitration concerning the construction of a gas-fired power station in the Caribbean.
- Represented the claimant engineering company in an ICC arbitration dealing with a dispute arising out of the sale, refurbishment and storage of turbomachinery.
- Represented the defendant energy company in a final account claim ICC arbitration related to design works for a Flue Gas Desulphurisation project in Eastern Europe.
- Represented the claimant shipyard in an ICC arbitration dealing with disputes arising out of the construction of two semi-submersible drilling rigs.
- Represented the buyer in an ICC arbitration dealing with disputes arising out of the late delivery of a semi-submersible drilling rig.
- Represented the builder in an arbitration dealing with disputes arising out of a defective offloading buoy.
- Represented the owner of a drilling vessel in an arbitration concerning its maintenance during a period of hire.

- Represented the owner of a dredger in an ICC arbitration concerning the termination of a short-term lease for the vessel and a claim for liquidated damages

“Impressive, proactive and helpful.”

Chambers UK Bar 2019

Selected Reported Cases

- Co-operative Group Ltd v Birse Developments Ltd [2014] EWCA Civ 707 [2014] BLR 477
- Co-operative Group Ltd v Birse Developments Ltd [2013] EWHC 3145 (TCC); [2013] EWHC 3352 (TCC)
- Unaoil Ltd v Amona Ranhill Consortium Sdn Bhd and others [2012] ALL ER (D) 63 (Jun)
- SG South Ltd v King's Head Cirencester LLP [2009] EWHC 2645 (TCC), [2009] All ER (D) 120 (Nov), [2010] CILL 2793, [2010] BLR 47
- Vector Investments v J D Williams [2009] EWHC 3601 (TCC)
- T & T Fabrications Ltd & T & T Fabrications (A firm) v Hubbard Architectural Metalwork Ltd [2008] Adj.L.R. 04/21
- Nageh v Giddings & Anor [2006] EWHC 3240 (TCC), [2007] CILL 2420

Education & Professional Career

Morgan Stanley Dean Witter (Intern - Investment Management)	2000
BA History (Bristol)	2001
Accenture (Strategy Consultant)	2001-2004
Diploma in Law (BPP)	2004
Called to the Bar (Inner Temple)	2005
Bar Vocational Course (BPP)	2005
Pupillage, Keating Chambers	2005-2006
Tenant, Keating Chambers	2006
Awarded International CPD Grant for Young Barristers	2010
Trained Mediator	2011
TECBAR Accredited Adjudicator	2012
Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrations	2013
Inner Temple Advocacy Trainer	2013
Diploma in International Arbitration	2014
Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrations	2015

Memberships

Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrations (FCIArb)

Technology and Construction Bar (TECBAR)

Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR)

International Bar Association (IBA)

Society of Construction Law (SCL)

Seminars, Publications & Papers

- Keating on Offshore Construction and Marine Engineering Contracts - Contributor.
- Keating on Construction Contracts 9th Edition, 1st Supplement (2013) - Contributor.
- Keating on NEC3 David Thomas QC (2012) - Contributor.
- Keating on Construction Contracts 9th Edition (2012) - Researcher.
- Bullen & Leake & Jacob's Precedents of Pleadings 17th Edition (2011) co-author of Section H: Construction.
- Keating on Construction Contracts 8th Edition, 1st Supplement (2008) - Researcher.
- Author of course materials for the CEM Diploma in Adjudication, The College of Estate Management.
- External Advisor to the Programme Approval Panel for the Masters in Law for Construction Professionals, University of the West of England.
- Contributory Author for the Practical Law Company.