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|  | Peter Godwin Managing Partner, JapanHead of Dispute Resolution, AsiaDispute Resolution, Tokyo T + 81 3 5412 5444peter.godwin@hsf.com  |

Experience

Peter leads the firm's regional dispute resolution practice as the Head of Dispute Resolution in Asia. He is also the Managing Partner of Hebert Smith Freehills' Tokyo office. Peter’s practice covers a wide range of contentious matters, including international trade, construction, energy, IP&IT, employment, joint ventures, fraud, telecoms, banking and insolvency. He has extensive experience of litigation, arbitration and other forms of dispute resolution in Asia, Europe and the Middle East. His arbitration expertise is well recognised within the market, with leading legal directories consistently ranking him in their top tier as a leading individual for international arbitration, as well as other means of dispute resolution.

Peter has acted in arbitrations under ICC, LCIA, HKIAC, SIAC, Thai Arbitration Institute, JCAA rules and before both pure ad hoc and UNCITRAL tribunals. He has represented clients in numerous arbitral centres around the world, including in London, Paris, New York, Stockholm, Oslo, Tokyo, Bangkok, Mumbai, Hong Kong and Singapore in disputes under English and other common and civil law systems. He also sits as an arbitrator and has recent experience under both ICC and JCAA rules as well as being a panel member for HKIAC, SIAC and JCAA.

He is licensed to advise in Japan as a *Gaikokuho Jimu Bengoshi* and is qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales and Hong Kong.

Selected arbitration credentials

Peter has advised:

* a Japanese subsidiary **of a major European pharmaceutical company** engaged in ICC proceedings concerning the termination of a co-promotion agreement
* a **major Japanese company** in relation to an ICC arbitration in Tokyo against the main contractor in relation to claims arising out of a FIDIC Red Book based subcontract for construction works for a media centre in Hanoi, Vietnam
* an **automobile manufacturer** in defending parallel claims for approximately US$350 million in the national courts of Thailand and under the rules of the JCAA for an alleged breach of the Civil and Commercial Code of Thailand
* a **Japanese electronics manufacturer** in a CAA arbitration in Taipei in respect of a claim for US$10.5 million arising from a joint-venture agreement for the establishment and operation of a factory in China
* a **Japanese trading company** in ICC arbitration against a Thai company in relation to a Thai power project
* a **Japanese trading company** in relation to ad hoc arbitration in New York against the Government of Iraq arising from the Government's Debt Reconciliation Programme
* a **Japanese exploration and production company** regarding Indonesian arbitration practices
* a **major Japanese trading** **company** in relation to a debt claim and potential ICC arbitration in Singapore under contract for the sale and purchase of copper cathode
* a **major Japanese trading company** in a dispute concerning an "out of spec" shipment of LNG from Indonesia under ad hoc arbitration rules in London
* a **Japanese construction company** in relation to an arbitration before the Thai Arbitration Institute involving construction works at Suvarnabhumi Airport, Bangkok's new international airport
* a **Japanese manufacturer** on enforcement issues relating to a Chinese arbitral award
* a **Japanese retailer** in defending a US$70 million ICC arbitration in Bangkok concerning disputes arising out of terminated franchising video store arrangements
* a **major Japanese engineering equipment manufacturer** on aspects of a Filipino construction arbitration
* a **Japanese trading company** on an UNCITRAL arbitration in relation to a dispute based on counter-arguments against a notice of default in relation to a copper project in Indonesia
* a **major Japanese trading company** on a shareholder dispute and potential arbitration under a share purchase agreement in relation to its interest in a major Indian telecommunications company
* the **Thai arm of a Japanese construction company** in relation to claims arising out of the construction of a coal-fired power station
* a **Japanese print company** on a dispute regarding interpretation of terms of a licensing agreement and a potential arbitration in Japan
* a **Japanese trading company on a Japanese law UNCITRAL arbitration** in Hong Kong in relation to an international trade dispute
* a **Japanese manufacturing company** on questions of English law arising in the context of JCAA arbitration proceedings brought in Japan by a Japanese heavy goods manufacturer concerning the construction of marine vessels
* a **Japanese electronics company** in relation to a potential SIAC arbitration in Singapore arising from a telecoms project
* a **Japanese IT company** on an ICC arbitration for the recovery of up to US$150 million, in connection with a contract for the construction of a submarine telecommunications cable system
* a **Japanese telecommunications company** on an ICC arbitration in Paris concerning a defective satellite
* an **automobile manufacturer** in relation to a debt claim and other contractual issues arising from distribution arrangements in Europe and the US
* an **automobile manufacturer** on its Chilean distribution arrangements with CIDEF S.A.
* a **Bolivian mining company** on a potential arbitration in relation to tax demand for USD 250 million
* a **major Japanese trading company** in a London ad-hoc arbitration and parallel TOMAC arbitration in relation to a dispute arising out of a series of ship building contracts
* a **major Japanese trading company** in successfully defending an ICC arbitration claim brought against it by its African joint venture party in connection with the distribution of automobiles
* a **Japanese steel flanges manufacturer** in regard to an arbitration filed in Russia
* a **Japanese trading company** (as a member of a contractor consortium) in relation to an ICC arbitration against the employer in respect of the early termination of a Euro 800 million FIDIC Silver Book construction contract for a high profile railway project in Europe
* a **Japanese maritime company** in relation to a termination of contract and consequent ad hoc arbitration in London
* a **Japanese legal association** on appointment as party appointed arbitrator in relation to a Japanese law dispute concerning the termination of a JV agreement
* a **major Japanese technology company** regarding the validity of certain contracts under Swiss law and potential arbitration
* a **major Japanese trading company** on pure ad hoc arbitration under New York law for the recovery of debts arising out of pre-war construction projects from the Republic of Iraq worth in excess of US$360 million
* a **Japanese trading company** on complex legal issues regarding international arbitration in the US and Russia and domestic dispute resolution options available to them in relation to achieving a satisfactory outcome in an oil and gas dispute
* a **Japanese heavy industries company** in two ICC arbitrations which proceeded to trial in late 2007 concerning disputes arising out of the construction of two power plants in England
* a **Japanese heavy industries company** in relation to the recovery of outstanding debt from the Iraqi Government during reconciliation processes, successfully obtaining four arbitration awards before ad hoc tribunals in New York, Jordan and Beirut
* a **Japanese trading company** in its successful £1 million claim brought under ICC Arbitration over a contract for the production of a US$159 million turn key cement plant in Qatar
* a **Japanese construction company** on an ICC arbitration regarding a US$20 million + subcontract dispute with the employer on an Algerian power and desalination project
* a **Japanese construction and real estate company** on commenced JCAA arbitration against a Japanese heavy industry company in respect of outstanding payments relating to the construction of a desalination and brine outfall plant in Algeria
* a **Japanese trading company** in relation to an LCIA arbitration in London and related injunctive proceedings in Russia with respect to a dispute concerning commercial fishing rights in the sea of Okhotsk
* a **Japanese oil company** in relation to potential arbitrations involving Exxon Mobil arising out of pre-emption disputes in relation to oil fields in Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan
* a **Japanese trading company in relation to ICC arbitration** in Paris against the Iraqi Government arising out of the failed refinancing of several infrastructure projects
* a **Japanese trading company** in relation to a potential investment treaty arbitration against an Eastern European Government arising from a gold mining project

Selected accolades

* Leading individual: International Arbitration (Asia-Pacific Region)
*Chambers Asia-Pacific, 2012-2015*
* Leading individual: Ranked in Band 1 for Japan - Dispute Resolution: International Firms
*Chambers Asia-Pacific 2008 –2015*
* Leading Individual for Dispute Resolution - Japan: international firms and joint ventures
*Asia Pacific Legal 500, 2002-2015*
* Peter Godwin is the managing partner of the Tokyo office and head of disputes in Asia. He is especially rated for his expert knowledge of arbitration …. Clients prize his decisive approach, saying that he "is very practical and always gives an answer: he's not a fence-sitter."
Chambers Asia Pacific, 2015 (Japan: Dispute Resolution – International firms)
* Peter Godwin's strengths are his "*expertise, experience and responsiveness*". He is the head of the Asia disputes practice, and peers note that he is "*very effective in this market*." He represents clients in both arbitration and litigation.
*Chambers Asia-Pacific, 2015 (Dispute Resolution)*
* Practice head Peter Godwin is valued by his Japanese clients as "*one of the doyens of the Japanese market, who knows us very well and navigates us through the deep sea of dispute resolution*." Peers have "*no hesitation in recommending him for arbitration*," characterising him as "*a kind of superstar*" in that space.
*Chambers Global, 2014 (Japan region)*
* Sources recommend Peter Godwin as a superstar of the Japanese dispute resolution space. They also admire his work on major regional arbitration cases, noting that "*he is quick in grasping the points of a dispute and the needs of the client*."
*Chambers Asia-Pacific, 2014 (Asia-Pacific region)*
* "Peter Godwin is the department head, hailed by one client as *'the* *star who represents the ongoing virtue of* [the firm's] *dispute resolution practice*'."
*Chambers Asia-Pacific 2013*
* "Managing partner Peter Godwin has been based in Japan for over a decade and is credited with *'building the leading arbitration practice in town*.' He provides the team with the benefit of his vast litigation and arbitration experience in Europe, Asia and the Middle East."
*Chambers Asia-Pacific, 2012*
* "disputes guru"
*Who's Who Legal, Commercial Arbitration, 2012*
* "[Peter Godwin is] *'smart, a good strategist and a real arbitration expert'*."
*Chambers Asia-Pacific, 2012*