

Sectors & Industries

# Business Aviation



**Schellenberg**  
**Wittmer**

## Sectors & Industries

Schellenberg Wittmer's Business Aviation team has strong expertise in all legal, regulatory and tax aspects of the business aviation industry. It is recognized internationally for its commercial and proactive approach, and has the market experience and knowledge required for all types of transactional and regulatory matters related to business aviation.

### Expertise

Our specialist team focuses on providing legal solutions to the key players in business aviation, and we are fully equipped to cover all issues and areas of the aviation industry.

Our business aviation lawyers have broad experience in virtually every segment of the industry and can draw on the broad legal resources within our firm, from regulatory specialists to tax lawyers, to address any legal concern unique to business aviation operations.

Our clients, including leading entrepreneurs, financial institutions and private and public companies, have acquired interests in a variety of corporate and executive aircraft. We also advise operators, brokers and insurance companies in all types of queries they may have in connection with their business aviation activities.

Our firm has assisted its clients with legal issues in the following areas:

- Cross-border acquisition of business aircraft from the manufacturer, dealer or owner, and subsequent sale
- Aircraft financing
- Establishment of international corporate structures for the ownership and operations of business aircraft
- Registration of aircraft and security interests in the relevant registries
- Aircraft management, operations, maintenance and support
- Aircraft interior completion projects
- Charter and lease transactions
- Tax and VAT advice (e.g. on operations, import and export, maintenance) and negotiations with the relevant tax authorities
- Aviation insurance
- Regulatory aspects of aviation activities in Switzerland
- Warranty and liability litigation
- Aircraft repossession

### Deals and Cases

- Representation of numerous owners, financial institutions and operators in the sale, purchase and financing of business aircraft, such as BBJ 787, Gulfstream G650, Bombardier Global 7000, Dassault Falcon 8X and more, from virtually all manufacturers
- Counsel to a business aviation operator and its insurers in relation to an aircraft accident in France
- Counsel to clients on operational conditions in Switzerland, including import into Switzerland, negotiations with the operator and tax advice in respect of the aircraft's charters operations
- Lead counsel to UHNW clients on the aircraft holding structure and the entire range of legal aspects, includ-

ing negotiation of the purchase and management agreements, customs duties in Switzerland and the EU, and regulatory requirements

- Counsel to a major Swiss operator in the purchase of business aircraft and the conclusion of various agreements for the financing and operation of the aircraft, including loan, mortgage and charter agreements
- Counsel to the owners of an aircraft fleet on the restructuring of the fleet, including change of registration of certain aircraft, reorganisation of the operator and adaptation of the holding structure to the worldwide operations of the owners

### Recognitions

The group and leading practitioners are highly ranked among leading law firms globally across international directories and publications:

- Legal 500
- Expert Guides
- Who's Who Legal Switzerland and Who's Who Legal Trade & Transport guides
- Corporate Jet Investor
- Chambers Europe and Global

---

“  
**Prominent figure  
in the market, with  
a well-established  
practice covering  
aviation law.**  
”

## Contacts



**Bernard Vischer, LL.M.**  
Partner Geneva  
Co-Head of Sector & Industry



**Prof. Dr. Alexander von Ziegler,  
LL.M.**  
Partner Zurich  
Co-Head of Sector & Industry



**Grégoire Wuest, LL.M.**  
Partner Geneva  
Co-Head of Sector & Industry

“  
**Outstanding  
practice, regularly  
acting or insurers  
on claims in the  
aviation and  
shipping industries  
and in financing  
transactions.**

”

**>150 lawyers**  
**15 languages**  
**30 nationalities**  
**17 practice areas**  
**14 sectors and industries**  
**1,978 years of experience**  
**Collaboration with**  
**300 law firms worldwide**  
**in more than**  
**50 jurisdictions**

Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd is your leading Swiss business law firm with more than 150 lawyers in Zurich and Geneva, and an office in Singapore. We take care of all your legal needs – transactions, advisory, disputes.



**Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd**  
Attorneys at Law

**Zurich**  
Löwenstrasse 19  
P.O. Box 2201  
8021 Zurich / Switzerland  
T +41 44 215 5252  
[www.swlegal.ch](http://www.swlegal.ch)

**Geneva**  
15bis, rue des Alpes  
P.O. Box 2088  
1211 Geneva 1 / Switzerland  
T +41 22 707 8000  
[www.swlegal.ch](http://www.swlegal.ch)

**Singapore**  
Schellenberg Wittmer Pte Ltd  
6 Battery Road, #37-02  
Singapore 049909  
T +65 6580 2240  
[www.swlegal.sg](http://www.swlegal.sg)