

Practice Group

Construction



Schellenberg
Wittmer

Practice Group

Schellenberg Wittmer's Construction Group features a large team of lawyers from multi-disciplinary practice areas. Our team is composed of lawyers from both civil and common law jurisdictions. With these diverse backgrounds, training and practices, we offer our clients a wide combination of skills and resources.

Expertise

Schellenberg Wittmer's construction team has strong expertise in all sectors of the construction industry, including infrastructure, (renewable) energy and real estate. Its reach extends to every type of construction project and delivery method. The service includes advice on construction finance, insolvencies, insurance contracts and claims analysis and negotiation.

Schellenberg Wittmer's construction team advises domestic and international clients regularly on a wide array of non-contentious construction matters, including:

- Negotiation and drafting of total and general work contracts, and architect, engineering and project management contracts
- PFI/PPP work for hospitals, schools, roads, railways, airports, bridges, and tunnels
- Construction contract management
- Construction planning and development for commercial offices, residential and industrial premises, shopping centres and other projects

We also advise clients and act as counsel in disputes involving parties from around the world in a variety of matters related to mid-scale to major international infrastructure, construction and engineering projects, including:

- Adjudication, conciliation, mediation and dispute board proceedings
- Domestic and international litigation
- Domestic and international arbitration proceedings

- Plant engineering and construction disputes
- PFI/PPP disputes in various sectors, such as hospitals, schools, roads, railways, airports, bridges and tunnels
- Litigation of planning and building permit disputes
- Litigation of contractor liens
- Members of our team also serve regularly as arbitrators

Our Construction Group has experience in matters governed by a wide range of national laws, including Swiss, Austrian, French, German, English, Dubai, Qatari, UAE, Turkish, Hungarian and Swedish. We also provide expertise on standard contract forms and international principles of construction and engineering law, including FIDIC contracts.

Deals and Cases

Non-contentious:

- Counsel to an international real estate developer for the drafting, negotiation and signing of a design and supervision consultancy service for a residential 60-floor tower development in Dubai
- Counsel to Bouygues Construction for the acquisition of Alpiq Engineering Services, a leading Swiss player in energy, industrial services and real infrastructure, for a purchase price of CHF 850 million
- Counsel for the negotiation and signing of the architect agreement, interior design agreement, work contracts and the loan agreement for the addition of one floor (24 rooms), the renovation of the existing rooms and the construction of a landmark rooftop bar and lounge at Hotel Beaulac in Neuchâtel
- Counsel to Rockspring Property Investment Managers LLP for the negotiation, drafting and signing of an architect agreement and a general works contract for the construction of a major industrial high-tech development in Geneva

Contentious:

- Representation of a large Middle Eastern construction company in an ICC arbitration relating to the termination of a sub-contract for works in the construction of an international airport in the Middle East
- Representation of an Israeli company (and its international parent company) as EPC contractor of a large-scale solar thermal power station in an ICC arbitration in a dispute against one of its sub-contractors concerning mechanical, electrical and piping erection work
- Representation of a German company in ICC arbitration against a Kazakh company in a dispute under a series of supply and engineering contracts related to the design, delivery of equipment and ancillary services concerning a ferrochrome smelting facility
- Representation of a Swiss company in ICC arbitration against a Mexican and Brazilian company in a dispute concerning the construction of a steel plant in Brazil
- Representation of a UAE-based joint venture against a UAE entity in a construction arbitration under the arbitration rules of the Dubai Municipality
- Representation of a German company in a USD 500 million construction dispute in the mining sector

Recognitions

The group and leading practitioners are well recognised among leading law firms across international directories and publications:

- Chambers Europe in Real Estate
- Legal 500 in Real Estate & Construction
- WWL Switzerland and across WWL Construction International Guides
- WWL Switzerland Firm of the Year Construction & Real Estate

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“
**Highly proficient
praised for speed
and diligence
and thorough
understanding of
the sector.**
”

>150 lawyers
15 languages
30 nationalities
17 practice areas
14 sectors and industries
1,836 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.



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