

MERGER CONTROL GROUP

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WHAT WE DO

Our market-leading Merger Control Group provides:

- “Outsourced” merger control services for clients without a relevant merger control function, running the process in the UK, the EC and elsewhere as required
- “Bolt-on” services, supplementing a client’s existing team with strategic advice, drafting assistance etc.
- Expert advocacy before the agencies and on appeal

WHY US?

We are:

- Technical experts – including economists and ex-City lawyers
- Commercially astute
- Well resourced – if you need a large team or additional lawyers at short notice
- Well connected – our group includes former UK and EC regulators and secondees to regulators
- Specialists in oral and written competition advocacy
- Able to offer an end-to-end service – from pre-notification to possible appeals
- Friendly and easy to deal with
- Generally able to offer a team free from conflicts
- Excellent value for money, reflecting our low overheads

OUR CREDENTIALS

Our recent cases include:

- **UK OFT** – Cable & Wireless/Thus; Arqiva/BT SBS; Delta 2/Sainsbury; Transocean/GlobalSantaFe; Orbital/Ocean Park; Luxottica/Oakley; Acco/General Binding; Skipton/Scarborough; Nationwide’s acquisitions of Portman, Cheshire and Derbyshire; DS Smith/BPB; Virgin Active/Holmes Place; WPP/PPG; William Hill/Stanley
- **UK Competition Commission** – Live Nation/Ticketmaster; Game/Gamestation; Stonegate/Deans Food; EWS/Marcroft; Safeway; Ardagh/Redfearn; Emap/ABI; DS Smith/Linpac; Knauf/Superglass

- **UK Competition Appeal Tribunal** – we have appeared in *all* of the CAT merger cases to date: Stagecoach; Eventim; Sports Direct; Morrison; BSKyB; Virgin; Merger Action Group; Aggregate Industries; Stericycle; Cooperative; Celesio; Somerfield; UniChem; IBA
- **European Commission** – GE/Smiths Aerospace; GE/Smiths: Detection JV; Santander/Alliance & Leicester; APW/GMG/Emap; NewsCorp/Telepiù; Berkshire Hathaway/Marmon; Berkshire Hathaway/TTI
- **EU General Court** – Aer Lingus; Honeywell; Airtours; WorldCom

OUR PUBLICATIONS

Lindsay & Berridge, *The EC Merger Regulation: Substantive Issues*, 3rd ed., 2009

Dabbah & Lasok, *Merger Control Worldwide*

The merger control section of Weinberg & Blank on *Takeovers and Mergers*

Recent Monckton articles include:

- *UK CAT JR in Mergers and Market Investigations*
- *Mergers – Exceptions to the duty to refer and undertakings in lieu*
- *UK Merger Control: Recent Developments*
- *Review of the draft joint Merger Assessment Guidelines of the CC and OFT*

For copies of these articles please go to the “Library” section of our website:

www.monckton.com.

GETTING IN TOUCH

Please contact:

- Our Senior Clerks David Hockney or Tony Burgess on +44 207 405 7211; or
- The following principal contacts in our Merger Control Group:

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OUR PEOPLE

Our group comprises: Paul Lasok QC, Sir Jeremy Lever KCMG QC, John Swift QC, Nicholas Paines QC, Christopher Vajda QC, David Unterhalter SC, Michael Bowsher QC, Jon Turner QC, Andrew Macnab, George Peretz, Alistair Lindsay, Paul Harris, Tim Ward, Kassie Smith, Ben Rayment, Daniel Beard, Josh Holmes, Meredith Pickford, Ronit Kreisberger, Valentina Sloane, Julian Gregory, Rob Williams, Anneli Howard, Alan Bates, Elisa Holmes, Ben Lask, Philip Woolfe, Jorren Knibbe, Ewan West, Fiona Banks, Anneliese Blackwood, Laura John, Owain Draper, Ligia Osepciu

For CVs, please go to the "Barristers" section of our website: www.monckton.com.

Instructing a barrister We can be instructed for merger control advice by any law firm in the world or (through an in-house Solicitor or foreign lawyer) by any company. (If you do not fall within either of these two groups, please contact our Senior Clerks to discuss whether we can assist.)

How barristers operate Monckton Chambers comprises over 50 barristers. Each barrister operates their own independent business (although they commonly work in teams). This means that our conflicts rules are applied to each barrister individually and not to Chambers as a whole. We separate our teams very rigorously using separate rooms, ring-fenced IT systems, private printing facilities and separate clerking.

Pitches We appreciate that a great deal of merger control work is won through competitive pitches. If you would like to involve our group in a pitch or to discuss the line to take, please get in touch.

"Monckton Chambers remains "an automatic choice for competition work." It is a set with barristers well versed on both the advisory and advocacy fronts, who "have seen and done it all over a number of years." As well as having some of the UK's most respected silks, it has a long list of impressive juniors, many of whom are tipped as future stars." – **Chambers UK, 2010**

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