



## Samuel J. Kolehmainen

Partner and Director of K&L Gates Straits Law  
LLC

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### OVERVIEW

Samuel Kolehmainen is a partner in the firm's Finance practice. He has extensive experience in commercial and Export Credit Agency (ECA) financings, advising clients with regard to operating leases and aircraft trading. Samuel possesses strong industry insight and a dynamic background rooted in finance and aviation.

### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Samuel served as a partner for an international law firm in Singapore prior to joining the firm. During this time, he focused his practice on aviation, asset finance, financing, financial institutions, restructuring, and insolvency.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *Chambers Global* for Aviation: Finance in Asia-Pacific Region, 2024-2026
- Recognized by *Chambers Asia-Pacific*, 2025-2026
  - Aviation: Finance in Asia-Pacific Region
  - Aviation: Finance in Singapore
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific* in Singapore
  - Leading Partner for Asset Finance, 2026
  - Recommended Lawyer for Banking and Finance: Local Firms in Singapore, 2025
  - Leading Partner for Asset Finance: Foreign Firms in Singapore, 2024-2025

### EDUCATION

- M.Sc., Aalto University, 2005
- L.L.M., University of Helsinki, 2005

- L.L.M., Johann-Wolfgang-Goethe University Frankfurt/Main, 2008

## ADMISSIONS

- Registered Foreign Lawyer with the Law Society of Singapore
- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales
- Solicitor, Finland

## LANGUAGES

- English
- Finnish

## NEWS & EVENTS

- 12 February 2026, *Chambers Global 2026* Guide Ranks K&L Gates Lawyers, Practices
- 14 January 2026, K&L Gates Recognised in *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2026*
- 11 December 2025, *Chambers Asia-Pacific 2026* Guide Recognises K&L Gates
- 13 February 2025, *Chambers Global 2025* Guide Ranks K&L Gates Lawyers, Practices
- 15 January 2025, The Legal 500 Recognises K&L Gates In 2025 Asia Pacific Edition
- 15 February 2024, *Chambers Global 2024* Guide Ranks K&L Gates Lawyers, Practices
- 17 January 2024, The Legal 500 Recognises K&L Gates in 2024 Asia Pacific Edition
- 8 January 2024, K&L Gates Straits Law Adds Two Finance Partners in Singapore

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Aviation Finance

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised a global financial institution on the sustainability linked operating lessor financing to a leasing and financing services provider relating to three aircraft operated by a Turkish low-cost airline.
- Advised a global financial institution on the operating lessor financing in respect of two aircraft operated by a national airline.
- Advised an aircraft lessor on an engine exchange relating to four engines.

- Advised the operating lessor on the sale of one aircraft on lease to a French airline.
- Advised AerDragon Aviation Partners Limited on the portfolio financing in respect of six aircraft on lease to three airlines.
- Advised an airline in a finance lease for two aircraft.
- Advised an airline on a lease novation relating to one A320-200 aircraft.
- Advised an aviation leasing company with the restructuring of four lease agreements with a luxury private jet charter company.
- Advised an airline on operating lease agreements in respect of two E190 aircraft.
- Advised Asia Aviation Capital Limited, an aircraft leasing subsidiary company, in its subleasing of two A320 to a newly established AirAsia (Cambodia) Co., Ltd., a Cambodian low-cost airline.
- Advised Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank and Credit Industriel et Commercial on the financing for AerDragon Aviation Partners of two A320-251NEO aircraft on lease to SAS.
- Advised Bain Capital on its acquisition of Virgin Australia Airways.
- Advised Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank on the financing for CCB Leasing of two aircraft operated by Volaris.
- Advised an airline on the restructuring of over 100 aircraft leases due to the COVID pandemic.
- Advised syndicate led by Natixis on the AFIC backed financing for EastMerchant of two B787 aircraft on lease to SIA.
- Advised CA-CIB, NordLB, Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen Girozentrale, and Korean Development Bank on the financing of ten aircraft portfolio facility for AerDragon.
- Advised Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen Girozentrale on the financing for a Chinese operating lessor in relation to its acquisition of two A320NEO aircraft to be leased to an Indian airline.
- Advised on the financing from Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen and KfW to Bank of Communications Financial Leasing for the lease of three aircraft to flydubai.
- Advised on the financing from DVB, Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen, Westpac Banking Corporation, and KfW to China Merchants Bank Leasing for the lease of six aircraft to Indigo Airlines.
- Advised on the financing from Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank, and Korea Development Bank to Minsheng Financial Leasing for the lease of four aircraft to Indigo Airlines.
- Advised on the financing to DVB and Korea Development Bank for HI Securities of two aircraft on lease to Emirates.
- Advised on the financing for Avation plc from Deutsch Bank for the lease of one aircraft to Philippine Airlines.