



Charles Lockwood

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Charles Lockwood is a partner in the Energy, Infrastructure and Resources practice group. As a contracts and disputes lawyer, he assists clients with onshore and offshore energy projects globally, including those involving engineering and construction (EPC), drilling, oilfield services including subsea/subsurface operations, floating production, offshore wind, vessel services and heavy lift transportation and installation.

Charles has a wealth of experience of drafting and negotiating contracts, advising on risk management, providing project support and dispute avoidance advice and resolving disputes via informal negotiations, mediations and formal processes. He is an experienced English Court litigator and has arbitrated disputes under many of the internationally recognised Rules (ICC, LCIA, ICDR, UNCITRAL, DIAC and LMAA). Many of the matters Charles assists with are technically complex and most have significant international dimensions, which often necessitate working closely with local lawyers and industry experts.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Charles trained at the London office of an international law firm, qualifying in 1999 and becoming a partner in 2007.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognised by *The Legal 500 United Kingdom* as a Recommended Lawyer for Oil and Gas in London, 2024, 2026
- *Acritas 2017 Star Lawyer*

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- “Legal Principles and Common Phrases in Drilling Contracts - IADC Contracts and Risk Management Conference 2024
- Current Issues in Offshore Wind – Energy Arbitration Club 2022

- “Carve outs to Indemnity Schemes - Are you better with them or without them” - IADC Contracts and Risk Management Conference 2020
- “Liquidated Damages and Consequential Loss - English Law/Texas Law” (co-presenter) 2019
- “Attorney-Client Privilege - English Law/Texas Law” (co-presenter 2018)
- “Wilful Misconduct - When do those Carve-outs Really Apply in English Law?” - IADC Contracts and Risk Management Conference 2018
- “Convenience and Discretion – Issues around Termination for Convenience and Good Faith” 2016
- “Enforceable liquidated damages or unenforceable penalty” (co-presenter) 2016
- “Resolving Disputes. Managing Costs” 2015
- “Arbitration Agreements and Avoiding Disputes about Disputes” 2014
- “Framework Agreements, Standard Terms and Contract Problems” 2014
- “Back to Back Contracting – Mind the Gap(s)” 2013
- “Arbitration – Making the Right Choices” 2012
- “Are the actions of all employees attributable to a company?” 2012
- “EPC Contracts” 2012
- “Contract Interpretation” 2011
- “Risk and Liability in Offshore Contracts” (co-presenter) 2010

PUBLICATIONS

- Contributor to *Dispute Resolution in the Energy Sector: A Practitioner's Handbook* – King (Globe Law and Business 2012)

EDUCATION

- LL.B., Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1995
- Legal Practice Course, The College of Law, York

ADMISSIONS

- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 10 June 2024, Deep-Sea Mining – Article 1: What Is Happening With Deep-Sea Mining?

- 25 April 2022, Offshore Wind Handbook
- 27 March 2020, 'Fitness for Purpose' and Conflicting Obligations in Offshore Wind Projects
- 06 November 2018, Comparative Law Seminar

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- [“Deep-Sea Mining and the Race for Critical Minerals to Fuel the Clean Energy Transition,”](#) *Thomson Reuters Practical Law*, 10 June 2024

NEWS & EVENTS

- 8 October 2024, IADC Contracts and Risk Management, Hosted by International Association of Drilling Contractors
- 8 October 2020, Hydrogen Online Conference
- 3 January 2018, K&L Gates Hires Three-Partner Energy Disputes Team in London

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Maritime
- Commercial Disputes
- Construction and Infrastructure
- Construction and Infrastructure Dispute Resolution
- Hydrogen
- International Arbitration
- Maritime Disputes
- Offshore Construction
- Offshore Wind Energy
- Oil and Gas
- Power
- Renewables

INDUSTRIES

- Energy

- Energy Disputes
- Power Generation and Transmission
- Transportation and Logistics

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Offshore Drilling

- Advised an international drilling contractor in connection with the collision between a platform supply vessel and a jack-up drilling rig in UK waters.
- Drafted a Ready to Drill Service Agreement for the reactivation of a cold stacked drillship and related Sale and Purchase Agreement for a major international company which owns a shipyard.
- Conducted Commercial Court proceedings claiming under a Letter of Award and Parent Company Guarantee relating to the use of a semi-submersible drilling rig.
- Conducted ICDR arbitration proceedings arising out of a Share Purchase Agreement.
- Pursuing LMAA arbitration proceedings concerning unpaid hire and HSE issues for a jack-up drilling rig employed offshore Cameroon.
- Assisted a US-listed drilling contractor on issues arising under a joint venture with a major Middle Eastern oil company.

Floating Production

- Acted for an FPSO owner in a dispute with the field operator, conducted pursuant to the Arbitration Act 1996.
- Advised a leading floating production specialist on the bareboat charter of and operations and management services for an FSU located in European waters.
- Assisted a leading floating production specialist in connection with potential consolidation with competitors in the market.
- Counselling a moorings and fluid transfer engineering specialist on issues arising under a Turret and Mooring System EPC Contract for a major project in Mozambique.
- Advised an oilfield services company on questions concerning contract formation under English law and UAE law in connection with a tender for engineering services associated with an FPSO winch package.

Offshore Wind

- Counselling an EPCI contractor on a major UK wind farm in connection with claims both up and down the contractual chain arising out of vessel breakdown and availability.
- Advised a provider of vessel services on the negotiation of an EPCI contract for inter-array cables for a major UK offshore wind farm.

- Advised a subsea solutions provider on risk management under contracts for survey, UXO identification and disposal, and offshore construction.
- Acted as project counsel for a Dutch offshore construction contractor on an EPCI contract for the design, procurement, construction, installation, and testing of the WTG foundations and inter-array cables for one of the largest wind farms offshore Scotland.
- Advised an offshore construction contractor on disputes concerning warranty claims under an EPCI contract for the construction and installation of jacket foundations for an offshore wind farm.
- Advised a leading oilfield services company in relation to disputes under an EPC contract for the provision of meteorological masts as part of an offshore wind farm project.
- Providing advice on contractual arrangements relating to the installation and testing of WTG foundations for an offshore wind farm project in Taiwan.

Maritime and Offshore Construction

- Advised a company providing geotechnical solutions on the modification and long-term charter of a specialist vessel.
- Advised a vessel charterer on disputes concerning the nomination of vessels under a long-term contract of affreightment.
- Advised on force majeure issues under various contracts of carriage.
- Assisted a ship owner to navigate the impact of US sanctions arising from a charterer becoming a Specially Designated National.
- Advised a vessel charter company on claims under a charterparty flowing from vessel delays which necessitated rescheduling of other vessels/cargo quantities to meet client commitments.
- Acted as co-counsel on a dispute before the Malaysian courts arising out of a sequence of heavy lift transportation contracts.
- Drafted template agreements for the provision of vessel-based geotechnical services.
- Drafted and negotiated a project management services agreement related to the construction of a super yacht on behalf of a super yacht fleet owner.

Infrastructure and Onshore Engineering

- Represented the MEP contractor in a DIAC arbitration with the main contractor concerning a major infrastructure project in the UAE.
- Advised an engineering contractor on an EPCM contract for the construction of an oil refinery in Southeast Asia.
- Conducted an LCIA arbitration on behalf of a pipeline contractor regarding, inter alia, time and cost overruns encountered on a major project in West Africa.

- Provided extensive advice 'on the ground' to a pipeline contractor undertaking a project in Nigeria.

Oilfield Services and Other Oil & Gas

- Drafted and advised on the terms of a Master Services Agreement to be implemented between a major multiservices contractor and specialist sub-contractor.
- Represented a leading oilfield services contractor in its defence of Commercial Court proceedings concerning allegedly defective performance of electric submersible pumps used for artificial lifting.
- Advised a major oilfield services contractor on a dispute under an onshore well services contract.
- Advised on a payment dispute under a contract for onshore drilling services in Bangladesh.