

John M. Marsden

Senior Consultant

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John Marsden is widely respected as “one of the best practitioners in the region” for his work for banks, liquidators and receivers on high-profile and multi-jurisdictional restructurings and insolvencies.

Chambers Asia Pacific

John Marsden represents clients in commercial and corporate financing matters; non-performing loan disposals; and large-scale, multi-jurisdictional restructurings or insolvencies such as the Asia Pulp and Paper, Pacific Andes, Sapura, Cell C, Lehman Brothers, and Vietnam Shipbuilding Industry Group transactions. During a three-year placement in the Shanghai office, John advised on substantial property acquisition and financing transactions. Clients served by John include most of the prominent regional financial institutions and financial advisers.

Experience

Sapura

- Advised the financial creditors to the debtor group on the companies’ consensual restructuring proposal. The assets of the debtor group are located all around the world. The restructuring is therefore necessarily global, involving entities, business, and operations in more than 20 countries. The geographic sprawl of the debtor group makes this restructuring particularly complex.

Genting

- Advised the seven-bank ad hoc steering committee representing all major banking creditors to Genting Hong Kong Limited’s cruise, ship construction, gaming operation and associated businesses. The committee represented more

than 30 bank lenders and credit support providers in the US$3.5 billion debt restructuring of Hong Kong listed Genting Hong Kong Limited.

Cell C

- Advised China Development Bank and Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, the main creditors in the restructuring and recapitalization of Cell C, which is a major and strategically diverse South African telecommunication corporation, on the complicated restructuring, including the assignment of part of its loans to a major financial institution at the conclusion of the debt restructuring. The deal was recognized as a Cross-Border Deal of the Year by China Law Business Journal.

Pacific Andes/China Fishery

- Advised Malayan Banking Berhad (Maybank), one of the primary bank creditors of the debtor group on its negotiations with Pacific Andes and other creditors and as to its security and enforcement options, with a view to recovery of its loans.

Z-Obee

- Advised the provisional liquidators appointed in Hong Kong and Bermuda in connection with the restructuring of Hong Kong-listed Z-Obee and the resumption of trading in its shares through multi-jurisdictional schemes of arrangement and involving novel cross-border recognition issues to address concerns arising from the Re Legend International Resorts Limited decision. The deal won a "standout" award from the FT Asia-Pacific Innovative Lawyer Awards for its innovative solutions.

Vinashin

- Advised the financial restructuring of Vietnam Shipbuilding Industry Group (Vinashin) involving debts in excess of US$4.5 billion and included dealing with a US$600 million facility by a Scheme of Arrangement. This was the first restructuring of a Vietnamese state owned enterprise and involved the Vietnamese government, numerous ministries, and a strategically important industry.

Liquidators of the Hong Kong Lehman Brothers group companies

- Advised the liquidators of Lehman Asia on major settlements and litigation necessary to release over USD 1 billion of trust assets subject to competing claims.

Titan Petrochemicals

- Advised Guangdong Zhenrong Energy Co., Ltd in relation to all matters pertaining to the restructuring of TPGL (other than certain corporate finance aspects), the proposed acquisition of the oil storage assets from the liquidators of TGIL and (subsequently) from JVC, and on the current dispute in relation to the completion of the acquisition of the oil storage assets.

Recognition

- Thought Leader – *Who's Who Legal: Thought Leaders – Restructuring & Insolvency*
- Asia Best Lawyer – Restructuring and Insolvency, Hong Kong – *IFLR1000*
- Band 1 – Banking & Finance: Restructuring/Insolvency, China – *Chambers Global*
- Senior Statespeople – Restructuring/Insolvency (International Firms), China – *Chambers Greater China Region*
- Band 1 – Restructuring/Insolvency (International Firms), China – *Chambers Greater China Region*
- Band 1 – Restructuring/Insolvency (International Firms), China – *Chambers Asia Pacific*

- Leading Partner – Restructuring and Insolvency, China (foreign firms) – *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*
- Leading Partner – Restructuring and Insolvency, Hong Kong – *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*
- Leading Individual – Restructuring and Insolvency, Hong Kong – *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*
- Market Leader – Restructuring and Insolvency, Hong Kong – *IFLR1000*
- Leading Lawyer – Restructuring and Insolvency, Hong Kong – *IFLR1000*
- "John Marsden is very knowledgeable, very sociable and so well respected." – *Chambers Greater China Region*
- "John is very responsive and experienced. He is able to bring that breadth and depth of knowledge to the table when advising clients." – *Chambers Greater China Region*
- "Has great initiative, holistic and in-depth understanding of issues, renders prompt and practical advice." – *IFLR1000*
- "John is very experienced, client centric, commercial and responsive." – *IFLR1000*
- "Responsive and client focused." – *IFLR1000*
- "a leading cross-border restructuring specialist" – *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*
- "provides an excellent service" – *Chambers Asia Pacific*
- "very experienced, which makes him a safe pair of hands on complex projects because he's seen virtually everything before" – *Chambers Asia Pacific*
- "strong legal knowledge and excellent commercial acumen" – *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*
- "he is a strong legal technician and works well with other advisers." – *Chambers Asia Pacific*
- Leading Individual – Restructuring/Insolvency (International Firms), China – *Chambers Asia Pacific*
- Featured Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyer – *Expert Guides*
- "the best person for bank restructurings, a good operator, who is very creative and gets the deal done" – *Chambers Asia Pacific*
- "I find John Marsden to be well balanced and have good business sense" – *IFLR1000*
- Endorsed by *PLC Which Lawyer?*(Restructuring and insolvency : Hong Kong)
- "Capable restructuring lawyer" – *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific*
- "(John) is known for his expertise in impaired asset management as well as in corporate restructuring and insolvency transactions" – *Chinalaw Profiles*

Qualifications

Education

- The University of New South Wales, BSc (Hons)
- The University of Adelaide, LLB (Hons)
- The University of Sydney, MPsych

Admissions

- Hong Kong
- Australia, South Australia

Languages

- English

Professional & community involvement

- International Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy
- Member of the International Committee of the American College of Bankruptcy
- Member of the International Insolvency Institute
- Member of INSOL International
- Member of the Australian Restructuring and Turnaround Association

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