



## Hugh Hitchcock

### Partner

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### ABOUT

As head of the Dispute Resolution team, Hugh Hitchcock oversees Acuity's work in Swansea, Cardiff, and London, working with both UK-based and international clients on a wide range of commercial litigation cases. Prior to joining Acuity, Hugh was a partner/director at DJM Law Ltd for over 20 years, initially returning to South Wales in 1995 after an eight-year stint in the media litigation department at Frere Cholmeley where clients included Elton John, Sting and Apple, The Beatles' record label.

Hugh has a proven track record and vast experience in high-value contractual claims against large national firms, recovery claims, and minority shareholder claims and has developed a particular specialty in the area of defamation, gaining notable successes against a number of national newspapers. It is these successes that continue to attract and retain a number of key clients.

Hugh's key clients include:

- Loches Capital Limited
- Owens (Road Services) Limited
- Graig Shipping Plc
- Portman Healthcare Limited
- Roxbury Developments Limited
- Homes of England Limited
- JB Global Limited

Hugh has consistently been noted in the Legal 500 as a tenacious litigator with successful (reported) results against national and international firms and prior to joining the firm his reported work highlights included:

- Qual-Chem Limited v Corus UK Limited (Appeal Reference: A3/2008/0466/ Patents County Court Claim No: PAT 06 026)
- Hoyl Group Limited v Cromer Town Council (Appeal Reference: B2/2014/3348/ Claim No: 3SA00472)
- Dawnus Sierra Leone Limited v Timis Mining Corporation (SL) Limited (TCC, Claim No: B50CF015), a dispute with an international mining company over various overseas contracts.

Aside from several successful Section 994 claims, by far Hugh's notable work highlight over the last 12 months was a success in a long-running complex and contentious pre-action disclosure claim against Goldman Sachs represented by Freshfields which concerns the takeover in 2006 of Arcelor by Mittals and the largest merger the steel industry has ever seen. **A copy of the judgement can be found here.**

## EXPERTISE

- Commercial contract disputes
- Director and shareholder disputes
- Professional negligence
- Contentious insolvency and antecedent transaction claims
- Defamation, privacy and reputation management
- All types of injunction proceedings
- Intellectual property disputes

## WORK

- Acting for private equity funds and individual corporate shareholders on boardroom disputes, hostile takeovers and defending and commencing Section 994 claims
- Advising and successfully pursuing a global steel company on a complex patent infringement claim all the way from letter of claim through to the Court of Appeal
- Advising several celebrities including a major internationally renowned recording artist, on issues of defamation and malicious falsehood against the Sun and Daily Mirror
- Advising an international investment fund on its claims in a minority shareholder dispute arising from a billion-dollar high-profile merger
- Advising a national haulier and logistics group on a multi-million cartel and unfair competition claim
- Advising a number of UK funds, charities and property development businesses in relation to the miss-selling of multi-million pound hedging products
- Advising on a multi-million dollar dispute with an international mining company over various overseas contracts
- Advising a number of local authorities in relation to procurement related claims in excess of £20 million