



NEW SQUARE

Neil Hext QC

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Highly analytical, very bright and a great asset for the most complex of cases.

- The Legal 500

Neil Hext QC specialises in Insurance / Reinsurance, Professional Negligence, Construction and Commercial Law.

Recognised in the directories as a leading Silk in Insurance and Professional Negligence, he has been described as "*incredibly talented and great to work with*", "*ferociously bright, with an excellent eye for detail*", "*an excellent analyst of claims*" and "*a very effective advocate*" who "*provides clear and business-focused advice*".

Neil is a highly respected trial advocate with an increasing appellate practice. He is at home in arbitration as he is in court, and also sits as an arbitrator. He is instructed in international arbitration.

His insurance/reinsurance practice covers the full range of coverage and policy issues, from material damage and business interruption claims, to public and professional liability and D&O claims. He has a particular interest in construction related insurance, including coverage under design and build policies for contractors and contractors all risks cover. He has significant experience in advising on coverage for historical abuse claims.

In construction and engineering, Neil's recent experience includes a dispute arising out of the construction of a residential tower block in Canary Wharf, a claim arising out of the construction of a international sports stadium, and an adjudication relating to the joint insurance provisions of the NEC3 contract.

Neil's professional negligence practice encompasses insurance brokers, lawyers, construction professionals, accountants, surveyors and other disciplines. He has been in a number of the recent important broking cases. He edits the chapter on surveyors in Jackson & Powell on Professional Liability.

In the commercial field he has particularly expertise in commercial fraud cases, including misappropriation of corporate assets and tracing claims. His practice encompasses the obtaining of urgent interlocutory relief, including freezing injunctions, *Norwich Pharmacal* orders and *Bankers Trust* applications.

Privacy Policy

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Areas of Expertise

Information Technology

Neil has significant experience in the context of information technology cases. He has recently acted for an IT contractor in a DIAC arbitration. He acted in two major insurance claims arising out of IT projects that have failed and is familiar with the complex issues arising out of delay in the context of a development programme and alleged failures to meet specification.

His cases include:

- *A v. B* (2019) (Dubai International Arbitration Centre; claim by contractor for wrongful termination of contract in context of IT systems integration project)
- Acting for resellers of telephone and broadband services in respect of the sale of a book of business (2018).

Qualifications & Memberships

Neil is a member of COMBAR, BILA and the London Common Law and Commercial Bar Association.

LLB (Bristol) European Legal Studies

Insights

The COVID-19 challenge: insurance coverage in the time of lock-down

1 April 2020

In this article written for Thomson Reuters Practical Law, Neil Hext QC and Mark Cullen of 4 New Square provide guidance on the main types of insurance cover that are potentially relevant in relation to losses resulting from COVID-19. In particular, they consider whether insurance cover might be available under business interruption, event cancellation, employer's liability, D&O, credit and travel insurance policies.

Whose knowledge counts? Singularis v. Daiwa and Attribution

6 November 2019

Last week, the Supreme Court handed down its decision in *Singularis Holdings Ltd v. Daiwa Capital Markets Europe Ltd* [2019] UKSC 50. That case got the attention that it did because of the tension with the result in *Stone & Rolls Ltd v. Moore Stephens*. Others have dealt with the detail of the decision in *Singularis* (including an excellent article by my colleague, Mark Cannon QC – see <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/stone-rolls-rolled-away-auditors-singularis-holdings-v-mark-cannon-qc/>). I want to look more generally at the issues created by attribution in a corporate context, and how the courts in recent years have approached them.

Liquidated Damages after Termination: Triple Point Technology v. PTT

5 March 2019

What happens to liquidated damages when a contract is terminated? Does the clause apply? If so, is the employer entitled to payment up until the point of termination, or beyond? These questions were addressed by the Court of Appeal in today's decision in *Triple Point Technology v. PTT*. Neil Hext QC considers the implications of the judgment.

Professional Negligence Claims arising out of GDPR

14 May 2018

The penultimate instalment in 4 New Square's GDPR series- what happens when professionals get their GDPR advice wrong? Inevitably it will transpire that mistakes will have been made by professionals giving (often very expensive) guidance on GDPR compliance. Their clients will want to consider whether a claim for professional negligence can be made. In this article Neil Hext QC, Stephen Innes and Helen Evans of 4 New Square discuss some of the issues which are likely to arise in such claims.