

OUR PEOPLE

## Roger Stewart KC

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CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

"He sees through to the heart of the issues in a very practical and pragmatic way."



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Roger is a leading commercial silk with almost 40 years' experience working as an advocate and arbitrator on high value, complex disputes around the world.

"The go to person for big disputes and superb on his feet," Roger specialises in commercial litigation, construction, insurance, IT, professional negligence and professional discipline. He is known as a major player in international arbitration circles both as arbitrator and as counsel for commercial and construction arbitration work. A substantial proportion of his practice relates to international/offshore disputes.

Roger has been shortlisted for 'Silk of the Year' at the Legal 500 Awards in the Construction and Energy category.

Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 recommend him as a "top rate silk" in all the above areas in their UK Bar and international directories. Seen as a "modern silk: he's straightforward, courteous and clever" as well as "commercially savvy" and "able to articulate the most complex concepts with simplicity and brevity....identifying the issues that are worth pursuing."

Roger is known for his ability to lead large teams of lawyers and experts as well as appear as Co-Counsel.

Roger is a Recorder and appointed to sit in the Technology and Construction Court. He was also appointed in September 2024 to be a part-time judge in the Court of Appeal in the DIFC. A former head of chambers, he is also one of the three general editors of *Jackson & Powell on Professional Liability*.

## Privacy Policy

Click here for a [Privacy Policy](#) for Roger Stewart KC.

## Transparency Statement

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## Expertise

### International and offshore litigation

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A very significant proportion of Roger's work involves offshore and other international jurisdictions. He has particular expertise in relation to the Caribbean, Channel Islands and Middle East.

Roger is ranked by the legal directories on the basis of his international work not only in the UK Bar directories but also in Chambers Global and Legal 500 Europe/Middle East/Africa directory.

The individual practice area tabs give further information on Roger's recent work.

### International Arbitration

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Roger is very experienced both as counsel and arbitrator in relation to a wide variety of commercial, insurance and construction disputes. He has expertise in arbitrations under ICC, LCIA, DIFS and other institutional rules as well as in ad hoc arbitrations.

#### Recent work as counsel:

- Substantial claim between build operate and transfer consortium and a government concerning a major airport project.
- £multi-million dispute concerning likely termination of a government IT contract.
- High value, high profile claim involving a multinational company and its professional indemnity insurers.
- Acting for professional indemnity insurers in relation to claim against leading law firm.
- Anti-suit injunction to restrain insurance proceedings relation to a substantial project in favour of arbitration in London.
- Dispute between Chinese contractor and national state railway corporation relating to one of largest rail projects in the world.
- Dispute concerning termination of a large fertiliser plant.
- Dispute concerning EPC contract for a petro-chemical plant.
- Dispute concerning failed turbine blades at major power station and related sensitivity about the proprietary technology involved.

#### Recent work as arbitrator:

- ICC appointment as president in large accounting dispute
- ICC appointment concerning dispute between main contractor and mechanical sub-contractor at very large processing plant in the Middle East.
- AAA Co-arbitrator on case involving alleged audit negligence in a case for feeder funds.
- Sole arbitrator Dispute relating to intellectual property licensing.
- ADCAC Rules arbitration concerning metal quality for substantial development project in the Middle East.
- DIAC Rules arbitration between main contractor and principal sub-contractor for facility in the Middle East.

**"Roger Stewart is very bright and personable." "Roger Stewart is an excellent chairman." "He focuses on what's important and is able to read the tribunal very, very well." "He really adds value in terms of presentation and winning the trust of his clients."**  
– Chambers & Partners, 2024

**"Roger is brilliant at distilling complex issues to their true essence and then communicating them in such a way that his clients are able to take effective and prompt decisions."** – Legal 500, 2024

**"He is an extremely capable arbitrator and also very easy to work with – very collegiate." "He's very strong and focused."** – Chambers & Partners

**"Very strong leading counsel, confident and knowledgeable. Highly impressive in cross-examination, he reads the mind-set of the tribunal very well."** – Legal 500

**“He’s very intellectually sharp and very hard-working. He’s an impressive arbitrator.” “He is engaged, personable, and willing to contribute to the drafting of the award with his expertise.”** – Chambers & Partners

**“The counsel of choice for the biggest and most challenging cases.”** – Legal 500: Middle East: Construction

**“An exceptionally good cross-examiner. He is calm, very persuasive in his oral submissions, has a good feel of the Tribunal and a very thoughtful and effective approach to tackling the most difficult issues.”** – Legal 500

**“He is very confident, persuasive and has gravitas in front of a tribunal. He is not easily deterred, always keeps his composure and is a very impressive advocate.”** – Chambers & Partners

**“Exceptionally commercial. He has an excellent sense of how courts think about arbitration-related issues.” “Incredibly persuasive.” “Very hard-working.” “A very good advocate.” “He has a very understated advocacy style which is devastatingly effective when it comes to cross-examinations and addressing the tribunal.” “He is just awesome in front of judges and arbitrators and just so incisive as a cross-examiner.”** – Chambers & Partners

## Construction, Engineering & Energy

Roger is rightly known as a leading silk and arbitrator in this area. *“A star performer”*, his experience covers all aspects of construction, engineering, infrastructure, energy (construction and supply/distribution) and PFI disputes whether litigated, arbitrated or adjudicated.

He acts in connection with projects across the globe including the UK, Europe, Middle East, Far East, Africa, Australia, the US, South America and the Philippines. Instructed by employers, contractors, sub-contractors and consultants, he is familiar with all the major standard form contracts as well as handling bespoke agreements.

Roger is known for his *“strategic instincts and wonderful advocacy.”* An expert on running large teams and working with clients and experts, the directories note that: *“he’s just excellent, loved by clients, a great silk.”*

### Recent work:

- Global Switch Estates v Sudlows: series of disputes concerning large construction project in Manchester.
- Grenfell Tower group litigation: massive group claim against defendants including RB of Kensington & Chelsea and various manufacturers of cladding products.
- Substantial arbitration arising out of construction of international petro-chemical plant.
- High profile claim concerning massive construction contract for world’s largest fertiliser plant.
- Acting for large construction joint venture which sought and obtained an injunction against a firm providing delay and quantum expert evidence.
- Dispute concerning early termination of substantial PPP contract for an energy waste facility.

*Please also see Roger’s recent work listed in the international arbitration tab on his profile.*

**“Roger Stewart is a good advocate, strategically very sound and good with clients.” “Roger has an outstanding ability to identify and focus on the key issues distilled from voluminous complex and sophisticated technical factual matters.”** – Chambers & Partners, 2024

**“Roger is star performer at the construction Bar. He is right at the top of the game.”** – Legal 500, 2024

**“Roger brings intellectual brute force.” “Roger is all over the papers and asked incisive questions.” “I have seen his advocacy first hand; he is tenacious and his cross-examination is incredibly good.”** – Chambers & Partners

**“Roger is an acknowledged star of the bar. He masters the papers and so is able to cross examine powerfully.”** – Legal 500, UAE Leading Construction Silks

**“Very strong leading counsel, confident and knowledgeable, highly impressive in cross-examination, read the mind-set of the tribunal very well. Roger is able to make the most difficult things and concepts easy to understand. He is commercially astute and makes a great impression on both clients and experts. Great pleasure to work with.”** – Legal 500

**“Excellent strategic instincts and wonderful advocacy.”** – Legal 500

## Professional Liability

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Roger has been recognised as a leading silk in this area for many years. His wide-ranging practice covers all aspects of professional negligence including claims against accountants, auditors, actuaries, construction professionals (architects, engineers, contractors, surveyors, valuers, builders), insurance brokers and agents, lawyers, patent agents and financial services professionals.

Recommended in all the legal directories, it is noted that: *“he has a brilliant mind, great strategic vision and is very good with the client. Clearly someone at the very top of his game.”*

The regular recipient of awards for his work in this area, Roger is one of the three general editors of the leading text *Jackson & Powell on Professional Liability*.

### Recent work

- Acting for large petrochemical company concerning the alleged negligent building of the largest oil and gas platform in the world.
- McLean & Ors v Andrew Thornhill [2023] EWCA Civ 416: important case on the principles in NRAM v Steel regarding when a professional assumes a duty to a non-client recipient of advice.
- George on High Ltd & Another v Alan Boswell Insurance Brokers Ltd [2023] EWHC 1963 (Comm): liability of insurers for a hotel destroyed by fire.
- Gibraltar Court of Appeal judgment in which 2 property companies claimed against a Gibraltar firm of solicitors in relation to alleged dishonest assistance and breaches of trust.
- Claim against multi-national engineering firm in relation to large international oil and gas project.
- Claim relating to BMT waste disposal plant alleged to have been negligently designed.
- Dispute between architects, engineers, contractors and other professionals concerning major London development.
- Successfully obtained injunction against leading firm of international experts.
- Defending group action in respect of investment in various buyer-funded investments. The case is important in relation to the interpretation of CPR 7.3 and how/when cases with multiple claimants can be pursued under a single claim form.
- £multi-million claim against solicitors in relation to failed buyer-funded care home studio investment scheme.
- Test case by multiple claimants against conveyancing solicitor relating to purchase of “off plan” new build apartments in a failed development scheme in Manchester.

**“A very good advocate and a very good cross-examiner.” “A very competent lawyer; it amazes me how he is able to pull rabbits out of hats.” “In terms of courtroom advocacy and crisp, effective, succinct advice he’s at the top of the tree. He’s peerless at making the complex simple.”** – Chambers & Partners

**“He has fantastic knowledge of professional negligence law, and a very good approach to strategy – very user friendly and a top choice for leading professional service firms.”** – Legal 500

**“He’s one of the leading silks in professional liability and is very committed to cases. He is passionate in his advocacy, good at reading the judges, and is a very, very hands-on silk.” “He has a brilliant mind, great strategic vision and is very good with the client. Clearly someone at the very top of his game.”** – Chambers & Partners

## Commercial Dispute Resolution

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Roger specialises in high value commercial disputes litigated both in England and overseas. He acted successfully for the UK Government in overturning the award against the Government in the Raytheon border dispute and for the Insurers in the mesothelioma litigation which went to the Supreme Court as well as for Mr Holyoake in his well publicised dispute with the Candy brothers. He is currently instructed in relation to high value fraud and conspiracy cases in both England and the Caribbean. He acted for the successful appellants to the Supreme Court in the important case defining scope of duty in lawyers’ cases – BPE solicitors.

### Recent cases

- *QIPCO v John Eskenazi Ltd [2022] EWHC 3023 (Comm)*: Acting for successful Claimant in claim in respect of forged antiquities. Click [here](#) to read the judgment.
- *LLC EuroChem North-West 2 v Tenimont SpA & Anor [2022] EWHC 2586*: Acting successfully in obtaining anti-suit injunction in relation to fertiliser plant in Russia.
- *Abraaj Investment Management Limited v Kes Power Limited [2024] EWHC 41*: Acting successfully to oppose stay in relation to Cayman Islands dispute.
- *George on High Ltd [2023] EWHC 1963 (Comm)*: Acting in Insurance and insurance broker dispute. Click [here](#) to read judgment.
- *Raytheon e-borders dispute*: Roger was lead counsel for the Home Office in this complex and long-running case involving contractual termination and other issues.
- *Secretariat Consulting PTE v A Company [2021] EWCA Civ 6*: Roger acted for an owner in successfully obtaining an injunction against a professional firm acting in breach of a conflict of interest provision. Click [here](#) to read the judgment.

## Information Technology

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Roger is an acknowledged expert in this area with both Chambers & Prs and Legal 500 recommending him and it being noted that he is a “dynamic counsel for complex IT disputes”. He acts in some of the largest IT and telecoms disputes to be heard by the courts or in arbitration.

He is therefore expert at dealing with the particular issues IT disputes involve including different stakeholder requirements, changing environments, bespoke code, licensing and testing issues as well as the complexities of termination IT and telecom projects; his ability to “convey very complex legal and factual issues simply” being a major advantage.

### Recent cases

- *IBM UK v LzLabs & Ors*: alleged breach of contract to develop a rival to IBM’s mainframe.
- Termination of contract claim relation to main software agency for a major government project.
- Acting as arbitrator in ICC dispute concerning IP and IT in relation to the development of a distribution service for automated health care in the Middle East.
- Dispute concerning software developed for the National Health Service.
- *Raytheon e-borders dispute*: Roger was lead counsel for the Home Office in this complex and long-running case involving contractual termination and other issues.

## Professional Discipline

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Roger has extensive experience of disciplinary work instructed by both regulators and defendants. He specialises in high profile and sensitive cases and has also advised prosecutors in relation to large scale investigations.

If you would like more information about Roger’s practice, please contact Tom Woolsey.

## Insurance & Reinsurance

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**“Roger Stewart is a delightful opponent.”** – Chambers & Partners, 2024

**“Roger’s strength is he sees the big picture very well and is highly respected. He is a strong advocate and a good team player.”** – Legal 500, 2024

**“Roger is tremendously impressive and can always drill down to the points of the matter extremely quickly.”** – Chambers & Partners

**“Enormous expertise and experience, and gives excellent strategic guidance throughout.”** – Legal 500

**“Roger is extremely commercial and very good at coming up with answers to complex problems.”** – Chambers & Partners

*“Always on my shortlist when we require sheer depth of experience, technical capability and gravitas.” – Legal 500*

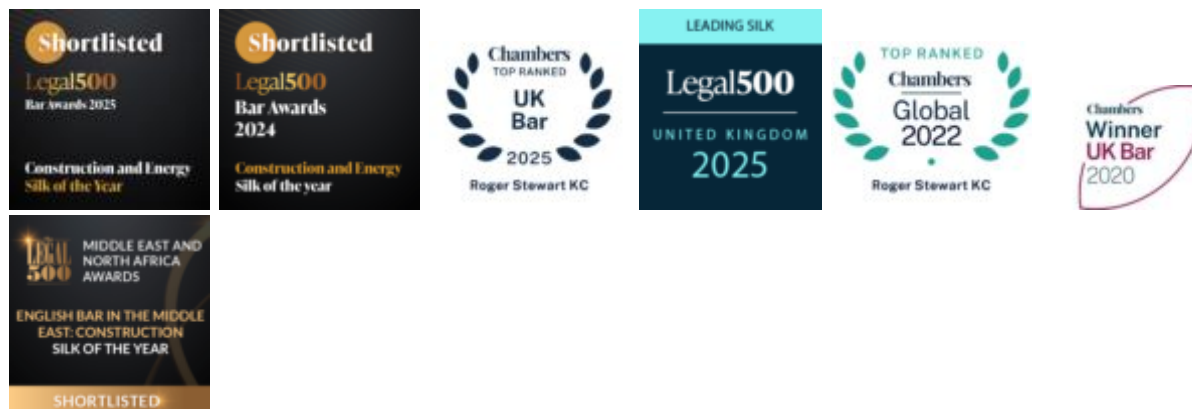
*“He’s very experienced and very strong on construction and insurance issues.” “He’s well regarded and in demand in the insurance space.” – Chambers & Partners*

*“He is a formidable advocate with an impressive courtroom style.” – Legal 500*

*“An outstanding barrister.” “A go-to construction insurance person.” “Very versatile.” – Chambers & Partners*

Insurers or reinsurers or both are involved in some capacity in a large proportion of Roger’s work. Roger has extensive experience of coverage work and regularly conducts indemnity consultations on behalf of insurers in professional indemnity matters. He also advises both insurers and insureds in relation to insurance disputes outside the professional indemnity area and is appointed regularly to sit as an arbitrator in relation to such disputes.

## Awards



## Qualifications

M.A. LLM (Cantab)