



Legal Directories 2008

Our four members have been confirmed once again as being in the top echelon of Commercial mediators in the country in the latest edition of the Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners Directories.

The following comments were made about the mediators:

2a. Legal 500

"A former joint managing partner of Lovells LLP, Charles Dodson (now independent) combines a robust, no-nonsense approach with a humorous and entertaining manner. His City pedigree, settlement record, and amiable manner make him an increasingly popular choice on heavyweight disputes."

"Michel Kallipetis QC is a phenomenon. Despite handling over 100 mediations in 2006, he has the style and personality to consistently wow clients and get results. Never formulaic, his style is difficult to pigeonhole; it is clear, though, that he tempers his approach according to circumstances and reads clients and parties well. Some believe he is evaluative; others insist he is purely facilitative. Whatever the truth, clients warm to his 'natural authority' and 'panache'."

"Bill Marsh is 'a natural'. He combines an 'assured reading of the law' with 'robustness' and 'commercial flair'. An amiable and engaging personality allows him to push parties without alienating them; lawyers praise his ability to sustain dialogue, 'bring people together' and challenge parties without embarrassing them."

"While 'polite,' 'probing' and 'relentlessly constructive', Nicholas Pryor has the authority and experience to keep dialogue on track and drive results through delivering 'common sense by the sackload'. His technical reading of the law is assured, and his manner and bearing inspire the confidence of City lawyers. Handling around 60 disputes a year, Pryor is in demand for a range of commercial matters and retains a strong following in his specialist field of insurance."

2b. Chambers & Partners

Charles Dodson Independent Mediators

A former managing partner at Lovells and one of CEDR's original directors, Dodson boasts long experience of high-value, multiparty mediations in a range of sectors. He is best known for his expertise in pensions disputes, where his "realistic and no-nonsense approach" wins bountiful praise. In this vein, he is highly regarded for his ability to balance the legal and commercial needs of the parties within his purview. His sphere of expertise also includes professional negligence, insurance/reinsurance, IT and commercial contract issues and he is a key player in the recently established Independent Mediators.

Michel Kallipetis QC Independent Mediators

Former head of Littleton Chambers and one of the founding members of Independent Mediators, Kallipetis is also chair of the Bar ADR Group and part of the working party that drafted the European Code of Conduct for Mediators. Unsurprisingly, he is in great demand as someone who "knows the terrain of mediation exceptionally well." A charismatic figure, he excels in proceedings that call for a robust approach and "decisive direction." Observers are in awe of a weighty docket of work that takes in high-value disputes in a range of sectors.

Bill Marsh
Independent Mediators

"Patience, flexibility and persuasiveness" are three attributes that confirm Marsh's position in the upper echelons of the UK mediation hierarchy. A former director of CEDR and key member of Independent Mediators, he is recognised as a "devoted advocate of the process" and is known for "doing remarkable things with extremely tough cases." His practice runs the gamut of commercial and civil matters, including shareholder, copyright, professional negligence and regulatory disputes.

Nicholas Pryor
Independent Mediators

A distinctive presence in mediation circles, Pryor is one of several high-profile figures comprising Independent Mediators. One of the first lawyers to mediate full time in the UK, he has acquired a reputation for "comprehensive preparation, excellent interpersonal skills and a hunger for settlement." His practice is slanted towards insurance and professional negligence disputes, but he brings his much-admired brand of "pragmatism and sheer force of personality" to high-value commercial matters in general.

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