



Diederik van Lede

Consultant Solicitor

Jurisdiction: England & Wales

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Overview

Diederik is a corporate and commercial lawyer with vast transactional experience and a profound understanding of entrepreneurial needs in businesses. He has acted for a wide range of clients including individuals, start-ups, and Fortune 500 and multi-national companies, advising on many large-scale M&A transactions and several IPOs. Diederik serves on the board of various international businesses as a non-executive director.

Diederik's extensive expertise also includes cross-border M&A work, multi-national (re)structurings, substantial investment deals, and corporate finance transactions across Europe, the Americas and Asia with transactional values ranging from under a million to multiple billions. A Belgian national, Diederik is based in London and travels extensively for his clients. He is fluent in five languages.

I've found Diederik/Keystone to be an invaluable part of our story, as a startup founder it's important to surround yourself with the best people that complement your weaknesses and can offer solutions. Diederik has a refreshing approach to startups and continues to add value across HR, legal and general business practices as legal counsel and non-exec director to KLEEK. I can not recommend Diederik enough and look forward to working with him for years to come.

Antoine Commane, Founder
KLEEK

Expertise

- Cross-border and domestic acquisition and sale of companies and businesses
- Investment projects, private equity and venture capital
- Joint ventures and shareholder agreements
- Legal guidance to start-ups

- Holder of several non-executive board positions
- Company formation and business structuring
- Corporate restructurings
- Commercial contracts
- Transaction paperwork and documentation
- Corporate secretarial
- Commercial mediation and litigation

Cases

- Acting in numerous M&A and investment transactions in Europe, Asia and the Americas
- Acting in JV and corporate group structurings
- Advising in several IPOs ranging in value between EUR 50m and 1.2bn
- Acting in the reorganisation of the capital structure and the junior debt of an international telecoms company in connection with a high-yield bond issuance (EUR 750m)
- Acting in the sale of the cable activities of Belgian municipalities to a telecoms group for EUR 900m, combined with a reinforcement of the group's equity base with a closing credit facility of EUR 1.25bn
- Acting in the restructuring of the EUR 160m debt of a listed IT group combined with the sale of the debt to another IT group followed by a swap of debt into equity, and advising on the change of control practicalities
- Acting in the worldwide restructuring of an American hardware and technology group, split into 3 new divisions in 180 jurisdictions, with the sale of one global division for 1.75bn to a PE fund
- Advising on a EUR 22m bank loan restructuring for a German-Luxembourg consortium with a Liechtenstein bank
- Acting in the worldwide tax-driven restructuring of American pharmaceutical group (revenue USD 40bn), a global project coordination in 17 jurisdictions between Pakistan and Bermuda for a Chicago-based client
- Set up a joint venture between a UK student housing developer and an investment fund to invest £400m across Europe

Career

- 2015** **Keystone Law** | *Consultant Solicitor*
- 2011-2015** **Virtual Law** | *Consultant Solicitor*
- 2009-2011** **Roedl & Partner London** | *Managing Director/Solicitor*
- 2003-2009** **Baker and McKenzie** | *Solicitor*
- 2003** Qualified as a Solicitor