















# HFW's Construction law team has a global reach with highly regarded groups in our offices across Europe, the Middle East and Asia Pacific.

We work on some of the largest projects internationally, across a range of sectors, with particular focus on infrastructure and energy projects.

Our construction expertise falls into three main areas:

- Procurement. We draft and negotiate the full range of project documentation, as well as advising on all commercial, contract and tendering strategies, public procurement and compliance issues.
- On-going project advice. We advise on projects during the delivery stage, helping with the commercial and contractual issues that arise. This can involve our lawyers working on site, within project teams, during the construction phase.
- Disputes. We have considerable experience of international arbitration, expert determination, DAB, adjudication and mediation. Our extensive network of offices means that we have on the ground knowledge of the local court system in the jurisdictions you are working.

"The HFW team are well versed in large, complex construction disputes. They understand the nuances around delay, quantum and technical matters and provide clients with clear legal and commercial advice."

**LEGAL 500, CONSTRUCTION CONTENTIOUS, 2024** 



# Our experience

#### **Bridges**

We have acted for clients in relation to a number of long span bridge projects throughout the world, including in India, Hong Kong and Brunei. We have recently been involved in acting for a contractor on a US\$200 million arbitration in relation to a high profile scheme where the disputes concerned variations, delay and disruption.

#### Oil and gas

We have acted on a number of contractual oil and gas construction disputes. Our work in this sector includes recent advice in relation to a 'state of the art' floating LNG production facility with a project value in excess of US\$2 billion.

#### **Power plants**

We have extensive experience of advising on both procurement and disputes in connection with a variety of power plant projects, in particular in the Middle East, Asia, Australia and Europe. For example, we acted for an EPC contractor working on a combined cycle power plant in Oman where a US\$60 million claim was brought in an ICC arbitration. We have also worked on waste to energy facilities, including a US\$70 million UK adjudication relating to plant failures and performance shortfalls.

#### **Tunnelling**

We have advised clients on procurement issues and disputes in relation to a number of tunnelling projects in both Europe and South East Asia. These have included claims associated with unforeseen ground conditions and major tunnel collapses, as well as issues concerning the procurement and operation of tunnel boring machines.

#### Rail

We have advised on a variety of rail, metro and tram projects around the globe. Our work has involved station redevelopments, track construction, as well as rolling stock. Recent experience includes procurement advice in relation to a US\$1 billion European rail electrification project and disputes associated with a major project in Western Australia. We have also worked on metro schemes in the Middle East, MTRC projects in Hong Kong and tram projects in the UK.

#### Roads

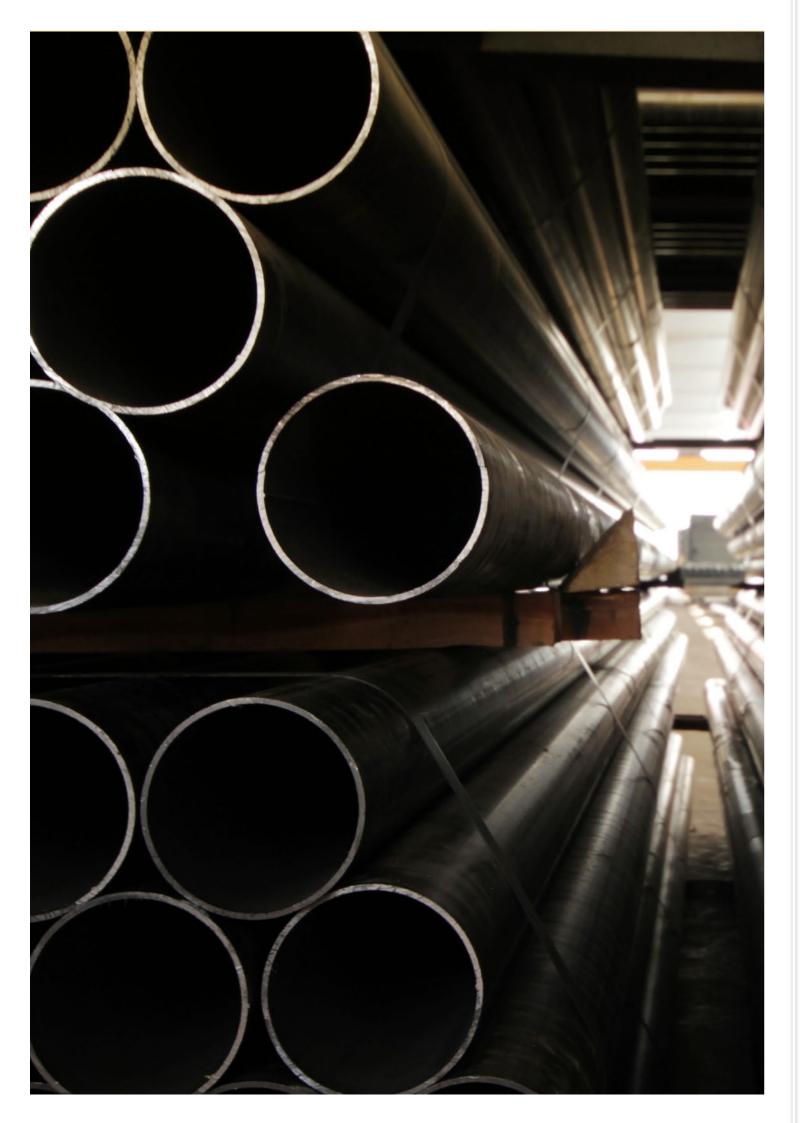
We have advised on the construction of a number of substantial road projects, in various parts of the world including Europe, West Africa, the Middle East and Asia. For example, we recently acted on a project in a Gulf state for an international contractor bringing delay and disruption claims in excess of US\$300 million.

#### **Water facilities**

We have worked on a number of projects for desalination and water treatment plants in the Middle East, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Europe. For example, we have recently advised in connection with a major claim for unforeseen ground conditions and delay in connection with the construction of a water treatment plant in Manila.

#### Sports facilities

We have acted for clients in relation to a number of high profile sports stadia and facilities. For example, we advised at the procurement stage in relation to one of the largest of the London 2012 Olympics projects.



#### **Creative Solutions**

We do not just advise on the law. We provide our clients with commercial and creative solutions.

This means giving advice in a user friendly way, such as providing a cost effective project counsel service during the construction phase of a project. Or, providing a client's contracts team with regular workshop based training so they have the up-to-date knowledge and skill-set to resolve contractual issues themselves.

With disputes work, we emphasise the need to find a way of presenting our clients' cases effectively and persuasively, such as using video presentations and info-graphics in submissions. We are focussed on the end-result, not simply legal advice.

## **Single Global Team**

We have a team of over 80 specialist construction lawyers working on projects across the globe.

Our key hubs of construction expertise are in London, Dubai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. These centres are located to allow us to help clients on projects wherever in the world they are working.

We are one global team. Our lawyers work on a daily basis with colleagues in other offices, teaming up to provide a seamless service.

#### **Thought Leadership**

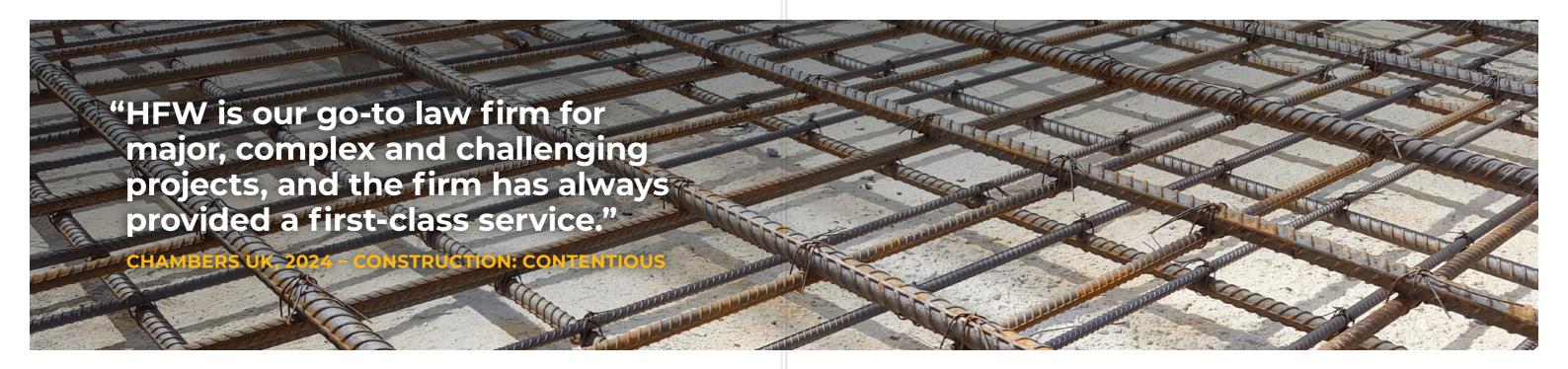
The partners in our team speak regularly at conferences on important current issues. Members of our team sit on a number of advisory panels and boards, giving guidance on such matters as the wording of standard form industry contracts, and insights on current legal issues.

The partners in the team wrote the leading book on project changes, Construction Contract Variations, which has been described in reviews as "a master guide" (International Construction law Review) and "an indispensable classic" (Law Society Gazette).

#### **Industry Leaders**

Our lawyers are amongst the most highly respected in the field of major construction disputes and our team is highly recommended by the independent directories that periodically review the legal market. Our construction team is ranked Tier 2 by Legal 500 UK for Construction Contentious as well as in Chambers Construction UK: International Arbitration and Construction Global: Multi-Jurisdictional. We are also ranked in Legal 500 specifically for our renewable sector work.

HFW was named as UK Firm of the Year at the British Legal Awards 2024.



# Our experience

#### Offshore wind farms

We have advised in relation to over half the wind farms constructed off the shores of the UK, including the world's largest offshore wind project. This work has involved us in advising in relation to both contract negotiation and also in relation to disputes, including one where the sum in dispute amounted to US\$200 million.

#### **Hydroelectric schemes**

We recently acted for a contractor in relation to a US\$270 million dispute concerning a failure at a major hydroelectric scheme.

#### **Industrial and process plant**

Our work includes acting for both owners and contractors in relation to a wide range of industrial plant such as gas production facilities, crushing plants and food manufacturing facilities. For example, we acted for a large international contractor in relation to a US\$25 million dispute concerning delays to the construction of a cement plant in Nigeria.

## **Airports**

We have acted in relation to the construction and maintenance of a number of airport and aerodrome facilities, advising on contractual issues concerning runway renewal and the construction of new terminal facilities. Our work in this area has included major airport development projects in the UK, Hong Kong and Africa.

#### Ports and terminals

As one of the world's leading shipping law firms HFW acts for many port operators. We have one of the largest teams specialising in the development and operation of national and international ports and terminals. One recent highlight involved us advising a soft commodity company for a suite of contracts for a port facility in Australia.

#### **City developments**

We acted for a major international contractor on a multi-billion Middle East project involving the construction of a small town, designed to house approximately 20,000 people. The project involved not only the construction of residential space but also all the associated infrastructure, power and water facilities. Delays and changes led to the contractor bringing a complex claim for over US\$540 million.

#### Office developments

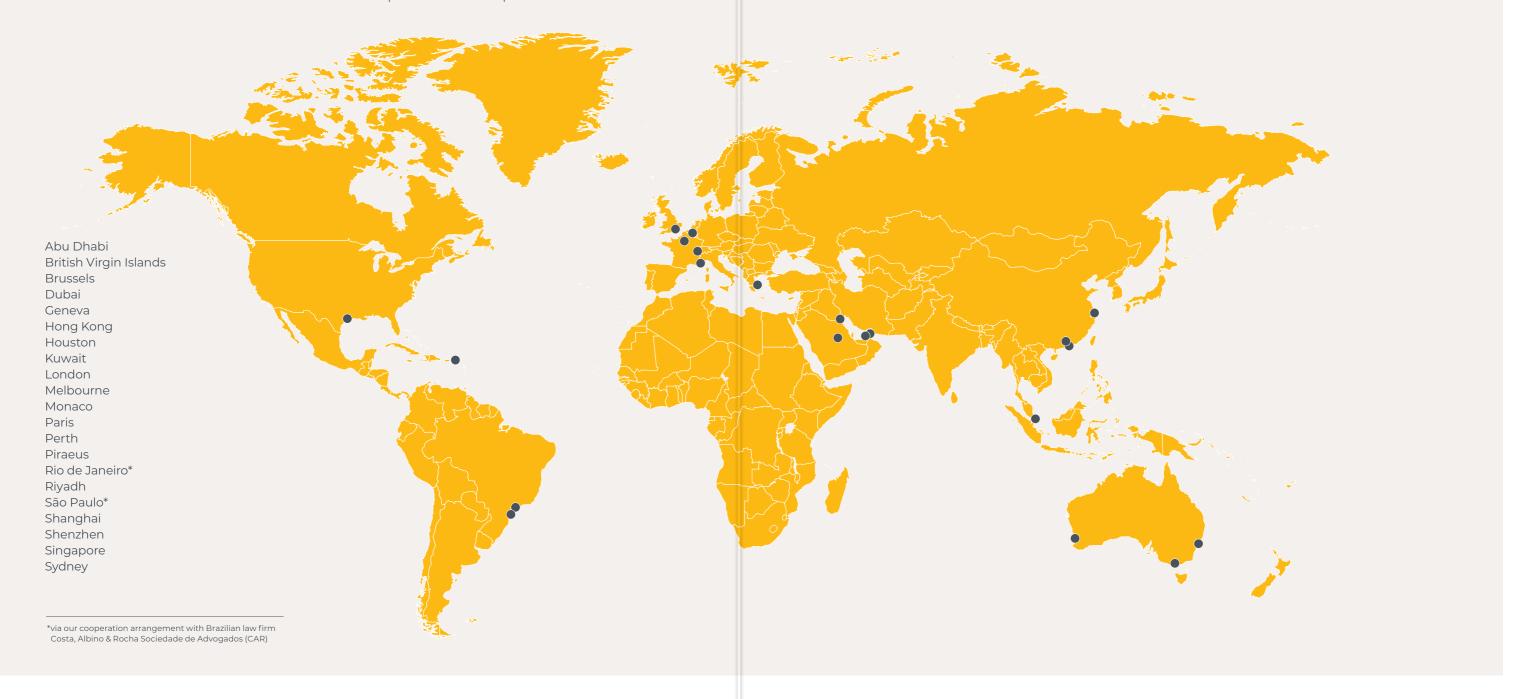
Our experience involves not only major one-off projects, but also advising major corporate occupiers on their suites of construction contracts for the procurement of development and refurbishment work for their international office portfolios.

#### **Nuclear**

We recently acted for a major EPC contractor, advising on the turnkey contracts for the construction of a 1,200MW reactor in Europe.

# Our global reach

We have 21 offices around the world and also work with top local firms and experts in their sectors.



## For more information about the capabilities of our construction team, please contact:



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HFW has over 700 lawyers working in offices across the Americas, Europe, the Middle East and Asia Pacific. For further information about our construction capabilities, please visit hfw.com/construction