

HFW



**WHY CHOOSE HFW?**  
**OFFSHORE CONSTRUCTION**



“The HFW team is strong in the area of maritime and offshore projects. It has a well versed and experienced team which provides insightful, well-reasoned and instructive legal services in these areas.”

LEGAL 500 UK

## HFW is one of the leading law firms in the world for offshore construction


The firm has a very highly regarded global construction law team and we are also widely recognised as the world's foremost maritime law firm. This combination, along with our well recognised specialisms in energy and insurance, give us unparalleled expertise in all aspects of this sector.

We have advised on some of the largest and most complex offshore projects ever constructed. These cover a wide range of projects including oil and gas, port developments, subsea cabling and offshore wind.

Our 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 will involve advising on entitlements and contractual mechanisms and procedures.
- **Disputes** – We have considerable experience of international arbitration, litigation, 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.





“...their lawyers combine legal skills, proactiveness and the ability to take a practical approach, which is very valuable.”

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS UK

## Our experience

### Oil and gas

We have acted in relation to numerous offshore oil and gas projects across the globe, such as oil rigs, and floating LNG production facilities and FPSOs.

We have significant experience worldwide in the offshore vessel construction market for the range of floating equipment destined for offshore exploration and production worldwide, including newbuild rigs, jack-ups, drillships and other support vessels and equipment, including for deepwater and ultra-deepwater projects. Our work includes contract advice and the conduct of heavyweight and technically complex disputes related to the construction of newbuilds and upgrade projects, including projects in Chinese, Korean and Singaporean yards, with experience of litigation and arbitration in the key global maritime dispute resolution centres.

### Sub-sea cables

We have significant experience of advising on, drafting and negotiating sub-sea cable contracts, including for major interconnector cable projects. Our experience means we have developed valuable insights into the risks involved with the sub-sea cable projects and how best to manage those risks in the contracts.

### Port development

As one of the world's leading shipping 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 instruction involved us advising a soft commodity company on a suite of contracts for a port facility in Australia. We have also acted on disputes, including a claim for a US\$150m brought by a main contractor engaged to build a new port terminal.

### Onshore interface

The breadth of our offshore wind and sub-sea cable experience means that we also fully understand the interface between the offshore work and onshore operations. We regularly act on horizontal directional drilling (HDD) projects where the offshore cables are brought onshore through ducts.

### Decommissioning

We have drafted decommissioning contracts for offshore wind installations, and have acted on disputes concerning the decommissioning of oil and gas installations. Our global shipping, energy and construction expertise puts HFW at the forefront in terms of experience of drafting decommissioning contracts and managing disputes arising out of decommissioning work.

### Offshore wind farms

We have advised on offshore wind projects all over the world, including 70% of the wind farms constructed off the shores of the UK. Our 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\$200m. Our international experience includes offshore wind farms in the USA, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Taiwan and Australia. We acted on disputes in relation to the world's largest offshore wind project in UK waters.



# 700+

We have over 700 lawyers working across our 21 international offices

# 2

HFW's London team is ranked in the Band 2 of the UK 2025 Legal 500

# #1

HFW is widely recognised as the leading shipping law firm in the world

# 130 YEARS

The firm has been in existence for over 130 years, making us one of the most established law firms in the world

# #1

The Lawyer's independent rankings recognised HFW as the UK's most active law firm in the London Commercial Court in 2021

# 70%


The firm has acted for a variety of different companies on approximately 70% of the UK's offshore windfarm projects



**“HFW’s construction disputes team stands tall amongst its peers in its ability to efficiently get to the crux of the matter in complex situations, and articulate it in clear, concise terms for all concerned. This is about understanding of the real matters in dispute and communicating them to client organisation, counsel, witnesses of fact and expert witness teams alike as well as opposing party and tribunal as appropriate.”**

LEGAL 500 UK





“In what was an extremely difficult and time-consuming case, their consistently good approach was of enormous assistance.”

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS UK

### Comprehensive advice

We advise on a wide range of legal and contractual issues in relation to offshore construction projects.

#### Contract documentation

Our team regularly draft and negotiate the full range of project documentation, as well as advising on all commercial, contract and tendering strategies. We are experienced with all forms of standard industry contract and the typical amendments required for the offshore industry.

#### Regulatory

Our industry focus means that we are commonly asked to advise on regulatory issues in this sector. We understand the regulatory framework of offshore projects including decommissioning.

#### Project support

We advise on projects during the delivery stage, helping with the commercial and contractual issues that arise. This will involve advising both contractors and employers on contractual entitlements and mechanisms operating under contracts, such as notices, termination and extensions of time.

#### Delay and disruption

We understand how projects can be delayed and disrupted and how entitlement arising needs to be analysed and presented. We are extremely experienced at investigating, documenting and presenting claims arising from complex delay and disruption events.

#### Variations and change orders

We wrote the only specialist book on this key topic called *Construction Contract Variations*. We are the go-to advisors on variations and change orders and we understand the law on this area inside out.

#### Defects

Our experience includes managing high value defect claims arising from multiple offshore projects. We are particularly experienced at understanding how to investigate the cause of defects and the contractual liability arising.

#### Public tender challenges

Our regulatory team works closely with our construction team in circumstances where public tender challenges are required. We have an established track record of acting for clients on challenges under the Utilities Contracts Regulations and the Public Contracts Regulations.

#### Insurance

Our market leading insurance and reinsurance practice is recognised internationally as an industry leader. We offer a comprehensive range of dispute regulation, transactional and regulatory legal services to the insurance sector. Our insurance team has substantial experience of insurance in the offshore industry.



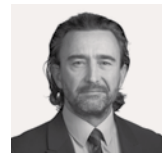
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## Our global reach

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



Abu Dhabi  
British Virgin Islands  
Brussels  
Dubai  
Geneva  
Hong Kong  
Houston  
Kuwait  
London  
Melbourne  
Monaco  
Paris  
Perth  
Piraeus  
Rio de Janeiro\*  
Riyadh  
São Paulo\*  
Shanghai  
Shenzhen  
Singapore  
Sydney

\*via our cooperation arrangement with Brazilian law firm Costa, Albino & Rocha Sociedade de Advogados (CAR)



**AEROSPACE**



**COMMODITIES**



**CONSTRUCTION**



**ENERGY**



**INSURANCE**



**SHIPPING**

**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](https://www.hfw.com/construction)**

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