



Robin Bayly of Willis Towers Watson with Fiona Treanor and Alex Oddy of HSF

INSURANCE TEAM OF THE YEAR

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HERBERT SMITH FREEHILLS ALEX ODDY

VICTORY IN THE LARGEST INSURANCE CASE FOR A DECADE

Representing Single Buoy Moorings in a dispute over the decommissioned Yme platform in the Norwegian North Sea, the largest insurance case in the English courts in a decade. The complex case involved more than 40 insurers who instructed five firms of solicitors to defend SBM’s policy claim. The litigation was significantly complex with expert evidence across at least 17 technical and engineering disciplines. Running for more than five years, this extraordinary case

reached a full and final settlement in September 2018 with SBM recovering approximately \$390m.

The case also saw lead partner Alexander Oddy and his team deploy successfully a new service within HSF to help clients analyse risk and take better strategic decisions using bespoke decision tree software. HSF’s work prompted Tom Chapman, legal director of SBM to comment: ‘It was a huge undertaking and the HSF team was quality from top to bottom.’

HIGHLY COMMENDED STEPHENSON HARWOOD SIMON MOORE

Securing a Supreme Court victory on behalf of the insurers in the headline B Atlantic case, a long-running dispute over a marine war risks insurance policy. The victory brings greater certainty to the insurance market that exclusion clauses will be fairly applied and that drug smuggling is not a war risk.

structure involves the first combined Part VII insurance business transfer and outbound EU cross-border merger in legal history.

CMS SIMON KILGOUR

Advising NORECO on its \$1.9bn acquisition of Shell’s interests in the Danish Underground Consortium, CMS explored the use of surety and credit insurance to deal with exposure to catastrophic events and the risks associated with being part of the joint venture. The eventual bespoke insurance product enabled the transaction to move forward.

categories of personal data and information relating to criminal convictions, while complying with GDPR.

SLAUGHTER AND MAY JONATHAN MARKS

Advising Standard Life Aberdeen on the £3.24bn sale of its UK and European insurance business to Phoenix Group – the largest insurance deal in the UK in 2018. The transaction was challenging due to preparations for Brexit, an FCA investigation into sales of enhanced annuities and Lloyds Banking Group reportedly ending its investment management arrangements with Standard Life Aberdeen.

COMMENDED

AIG/FRESHFIELDS BRUCKHAUS DERINGER CHRIS NEWBY, GEORGE SWAN

In-house legal team and external adviser combined to investigate alternative structures for AIG to service its policyholders following Brexit and to ensure that its London-based European operation was not stranded by the loss of passporting. The new

DAC BEACHCROFT JADE KOWALSKI

Advising Lloyds Market Association and the Association of British Insurers on the drafting, negotiating and finalising of an addition to the Data Protection Bill, enabling the insurance industry to process special

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Willis Towers Watson congratulates
Herbert Smith Freehills on winning the
Insurance Team of the Year Award 2019.