

Alistair Wooder

CALL: 2015

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Overview

Alistair Wooder is a barrister practising in commercial litigation and arbitration with particular emphasis on shipping and commodities. He also has experience of high-value commercial fraud litigation.

Alistair has appeared in the Court of Appeal and High Court. He has acted in arbitrations under most major arbitral rules, with particular experience of LMAA arbitration.

Alistair has experience of a wide range of issues commonly arising in shipping and commodities disputes, including repudiation, off-hire, demurrage, cargo claims, damage to vessel, misdelivery and claims against bill-holders.

In more general commercial litigation, highlights include:

- Defending US\$250m enforcement proceedings in *Deutsche Bank v Sebastian Holdings* (England, Turks & Caicos Islands and Connecticut).
- Acting for former CEO of Lloyds Bank in his successful claim for his share scheme award.

Alistair holds a first-class law degree and LLM from Cambridge. He was the top-ranked student in his year in Bar exams.

Publications

- 'Open all hours? Identifying the appropriate market for the service of notices' (2017) 32(2) *Journal of International Banking and Finance Law* 85 (co-author).
- 'Sovereign Debt Enforcement in English Courts: Ukraine and Russia meet in the Court of Appeal in US \$3 Billion Eurobonds Dispute' (2018) 33(2) *Journal of International Banking Law and Regulation* (co-author).
- Response to UK government's 'Public consultation on the United Kingdom's future legal framework for imposing and implementing sanctions' (co-author).

Education

- University of Cambridge, Gonville and Caius College: BA in Law, First Class (2013)
- University of Cambridge, Gonville and Caius College: LLM in Commercial Law, First Class (2014)
- University of Law: Bar Professional Training Course, Outstanding, top in year (2015)

Commercial litigation and arbitration

- *Sebastian Holdings Inc v Vik* (Court of Appeal of the Turks & Caicos Islands) – successfully resisted the offshore recognition of an English receivership order in the Turks & Caicos Islands (led by Duncan Matthews QC and Tony Beswetherick).
- *Deutsche Bank AG v Vik* [2019] 1 WLR 1737 (CA), [2016] EWHC 322 (Comm) and [2017] 1 WLR 3056 (HC) – challenge to Court’s jurisdiction over committal proceedings (led by Duncan Matthews QC and Charlotte Tan).
- *Deutsche Bank AG v Sebastian Holdings Inc. and another* [2017] EWHC 913 (Comm) – application for a stay of detailed assessment proceedings pending a challenge to a non-party costs order in the European Court of Human Rights (with Duncan Matthews QC and Charlotte Tan).
- *Daniels v Lloyds Banking Group plc* [2018] EWHC 660 (Comm) – successful claim for shares due to former group chief executive, Eric Daniels, under Long Term Incentive Plan (led by Paul Lowenstein QC).
- *Re WR Refrigeration Ltd (in liquidation)* – claim by liquidators against former directors (led by Stephen Atherton QC).
- *An English Company v a Delaware Company* – LCIA arbitration in the automotive sector (led by Christopher Newman).

Shipping and commodities

- Sole counsel in numerous LMAA arbitrations under both charterparties and bills of lading.
- Successfully defended US\$10 million shipbuilding claim in SIAC arbitration (with David Lewis QC).
- Successful US\$2 million claim in SIAC arbitration under refund guarantee (with David Lewis QC).
- Successful US\$3 million claim under MoA for sale of platform support vessels (with Simon Milnes QC).
- Successfully defended US\$2 million claim for damage to vessel (with Michael Ashcroft QC).
- US\$4 million appeal to GAFTA Board of Appeal (with Michael Collett QC).

Civil fraud

- *Sebastian Holdings Inc v Vik* (Court of Appeal of the Turks & Caicos Islands) – successfully resisted the offshore recognition of an English receivership order in the Turks & Caicos Islands (led by Duncan Matthews QC and Tony Beswetherick).
- *Deutsche Bank AG v Vik* [2019] 1 WLR 1737 (CA), [2016] EWHC 322 (Comm) and [2017] 1 WLR 3056 (HC) – challenge to Court’s jurisdiction over committal proceedings (led by Duncan Matthews QC and Charlotte Tan).
- *Deutsche Bank AG v Sebastian Holdings Inc. and another* [2017] EWHC 913 (Comm) – application for a stay of detailed assessment proceedings pending a challenge to a non-party costs order in the European Court of Human Rights (with Duncan Matthews QC and Charlotte Tan).
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Insolvency and restructuring

- *Re WR Refrigeration Ltd (in liquidation)* – claim by liquidators against former directors (led by Stephen Atherton QC).
- *Sebastian Holdings Inc v Vik (Court of Appeal of the Turks & Caicos Islands)* – successfully resisted the offshore recognition of an English receivership order in the Turks & Caicos Islands (led by Duncan Matthews QC and Tony Beswetherick).
- *Funding Circle Ltd v Emma Baker (a bankrupt)* – claim for charging order in post-bankruptcy context.

Recommendations

Alistair is particularly good at identifying the key issues in any dispute, and his submissions are always well drafted and thought out. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2024](#)

For a junior barrister, his commercial approach, responsiveness and precise work quality are impressive. [The Legal 500 UK Bar 2023](#)