



Mark Sansom

Head of London Dispute Resolution and Co-Head, Global Antitrust Litigation Group

Antitrust, competition and trade, Disputes, litigation and arbitration, Antitrust litigation, Global investigations



Incredibly smart, client-focused, commercial and business-oriented

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Primary practice

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About Mark Sansom

Mark is a litigation and antitrust partner in our London office. He leads our London dispute resolution department, and jointly leads our global antitrust litigation group.

Mark advises on both contentious and non-contentious competition matters, with a particular focus on competition/antitrust litigation and investigations.

Mark has unsurpassed experience defending clients from damages actions before the UK courts and Competition Appeal Tribunal (CAT). He has acted on many of the leading UK competition damages cases, and has particular experience in collective proceedings in the CAT, acting on the defence side of the defining matters. Mark also regularly co-ordinates investigations and litigation arising from the same conduct across multiple jurisdictions, including on a pan-European or global basis.

In addition, Mark acts on competition/antitrust investigations in the UK, EU and beyond, and on market studies and market investigations before the EU and UK competition authorities. He has advised on arbitrations involving competition law issues (under ICC and UNCITRAL rules) and has appeared as an advocate before arbitral tribunals.

Mark is a member of the CAT User Group, which advises the CAT on the development of its Rules and procedures. He has previously held roles on the ABA's Antitrust Global Private Enforcement Committee.

He is a top-ranked practitioner in all the leading directories. In 2019, he was voted by peers worldwide as *Global Competition Review's* Litigator of the Year.

Recent work

- Defending Mastercard in the groundbreaking *Merricks v Mastercard* collective proceedings (class action) before the UK Competition Appeal Tribunal, including in its certification appeals to the UK Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. The case is reportedly the largest damages claim ever brought in the UK and is continuing to shape the approach to all UK antitrust class actions. Read more about the litigation in our case study. Mark is also defending Mastercard in the separate commercial cards collective proceedings in the CAT.

- Representing London and South Eastern Railway in the *Gutmann v LSE* collective proceedings concerning rail tickets, the first standalone and first alleged abuse of dominance related collective proceedings brought in the Competition Appeal Tribunal under the UK's competition class action regime.
- Acting for Govia Thameslink Railway in two further proposed opt-out collective proceedings also concerning rail tickets.
- Acting for ABB in the leading *BritNed v ABB* High Court action and in the Court of Appeal. The case was the first cartel damages follow-on claim to go to final judgment at first instance, and on appeal, in the UK. ABB defended the claim successfully at trial and prevailed on all points in the October 2019 Court of Appeal judgment. Mark has also represented ABB in a range of other damages claims relating to the gas insulated switchgear, power transformers and power cables cartels.
- Successfully defending Infineon Technologies in the UK High Court and Court of Appeal in the *Gemalto v Infineon & Ors* High Court follow-on damages claim arising out of the European Commission's infringement decision in relation to smartcard chips.
- Acting on numerous other competition litigation proceedings, and in investigations, in a range of markets and sectors including automotive, technology, media, financial services, sport, transport and pharma.

Qualifications

Education

- LLB English Law and French Law
- Postgraduate Diploma in EC Competition Law

Professional qualifications

- English solicitor with higher rights
- Irish solicitor

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