



Timothy Smit

Director

Tim Smit is a Director in our Dispute Resolution practice and has practiced exclusively in commercial dispute resolution since his admission as an attorney. Tim specialises in High Court litigation, private mediations and arbitrations (both domestic and international), as well as forensic investigations. Tim has successfully resolved disputes concerning administrative law reviews, complex shareholder agreements, insurance policy response, professional indemnity claims, product liability claims, public liability claims, e-commerce and merchant services agreements and fintech contractual disputes. Tim has also investigated allegations of legislative and regulatory non-compliance, employee performance related complaints, as well as numerous claims of fraud against suppliers, employees, directors and designated officers of companies.

Practice areas


Dispute Resolution

Sectors

Consumer Goods, Services & Retail
Industrials, Manufacturing & Trade
Technology & Communications
Public Law
Pensions & Employee Benefits
Corporate Investigations
Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals
International Arbitration
Insurance Law

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 Johannesburg

Career

Tim was admitted as an attorney in February 2011. Tim joined Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr Inc as a Senior Associate in 2017 and was promoted to Director in the dispute resolution practice in 2019.

Experience

- Representing a major telecommunications provider and major outsourcing group in prosecuting and opposing administrative review proceedings relating to state tenders.
- Representing a major international retail group in general commercial issues regarding perfection of securities, retail and real estate disputes.



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- Representing insurers, brokerages, underwriters and individuals in professional indemnity claims, D&O claims, construction and engineering claims, product liability claims, subrogated recovery claims, public liability claims and claims of medical malpractice.
- Representing a minority shareholder of a joint venture in prosecuting derivative action proceedings against a large multinational company.
- Representing the shareholders of an eminent fintech company in the favourable settlement of a complex dispute between shareholders relating to the sale of a fintech subsidiary.
- Acting for a major international motor vehicle manufacturer in regard to product liability claims.
- Representing a major private hospital group in defending claims of medical malpractice and in prosecuting construction related disputes.
- Providing coverage advice to major insurers.
- Conducting fraud and under-performance related investigations for major corporations.
- Assisting a director of a major South African bank in respect of a claim brought by the shareholders of the bank against the directors of the bank for shareholder value diminution.
- Pursuing actions against former directors to have those directors declared delinquent.

Market Recognition

- The Legal 500 EMEA 2020 - 2022 recommended Tim as a "Next Generation Partner" in dispute resolution.
- The Legal 500 EMEA 2022 recognised Tim on its Arbitration Private Practice Powerlist - Africa Region
- Tim was listed in the Legal 500 Private Practice Arbitration Powerlist: Africa 2023.

Education

- B Comm, University of Witwatersrand
- LLB, University of the Witwatersrand
- Year admitted as an attorney: 2011

Languages

English