



**James Reader**  
**Solicitor**

James Reader is a solicitor at Corbett & Co with more than 20 years of experience in dispute resolution.

James joined Corbett & Co in 2016. Since that time, he has been involved and has acted as counsel in a number of international arbitration proceedings under the ICC and SIAC rules. He has acted in disputes arising from the construction of a major airport, a number of major road projects, a port development project and a railway rehabilitation project. These have been across various jurisdictions in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Southeast Asia and have involved FIDIC and other forms of contract. James has acted for employers, consultants and government agencies.

Prior to joining Corbett & Co, James spent more than ten years as a specialist lawyer defending complex industrial disease (particularly regarding mesothelioma) and personal injury litigation claims. He was with Norton Rose (now Norton Rose Fulbright), DAC Beachcroft, Hextalls and Berryman Lacey Mawer (now BLM) where he acted on several high-profile cases for a number of major insurers, and which required sensitive handling.

James qualified at Norton Rose in 2006 where, before qualification, he gained several years of experience as a paralegal in the shipping and construction disputes teams. He worked on a number of large and complex arbitrations including in relation to a ship conversion and two power plants.

James is a contributing author to the Corbett & Co publication FIDIC 2017 A Practical Legal Guide [2020] and is a member of the Society of Construction Law (SCL), and the International Bar Association (IBA).

**Nationality:** British

**Languages:** English

## Expertise

Subject	Description	Country
<b>Roads</b>	Acting for the contractor in an ICC arbitration seated in Paris in respect of claims arising from a FIDIC Yellow Book 1999 contract on a motorway project. The arbitration involved delay and disruption claims amongst others on a €65 million project.	Eastern Europe
	Acting for the Employer in an ICC arbitration (held remotely but seated in Paris) relating to the termination of a contract for the construction of a major road. The contract was based on the FIDIC MDB Harmonised Edition 2005. The contract sum was approximately US\$17 Million.	Africa
	Counsel for the Employer in an ICC arbitration (held remotely but seated in Paris) relating to the termination of a contract for the construction of a major road. The contract was based on the FIDIC Red Book 1987 (as amended in 1992). The contract sum was approximately US\$25.5 Million.	Africa
<b>Railways</b>	Acting for the contractor in ICC arbitrations in respect of two high-speed railway projects based on the FIDIC Red Book. The total contract values were in excess of €160 million. The arbitration involved significant delay and disruption claims and sub-contractor claims, among others.	Eastern Europe
	Acting for the Contractor in relation to a heavily amended FIDIC Red Book 1999 Contract. The contract value exceeded €40m.	Southeast Europe
<b>Ports</b>	Acting for an Employer in a dispute arising from a port development project. The contract was based on the FIDIC Pink Book 2010. The contract value was approximately US\$ 100 Million.	Middle East

<b>Airports</b>	Acting for the contractor in ICC arbitration proceedings in respect of claims of around €12 million in respect of the upgrade and development of an airport including a baggage handling system. The contract was based on the FIDIC 4th edition 1987.	Eastern Europe
	Acting for the employer in SIAC arbitration proceedings. The contract was based on the FIDIC Pink Book and claims related to termination of the contract in an amount in excess of US\$ 100 million.	South Asia
<b>Other</b>	Acting in arbitration proceedings in London concerning the supply of goods and delays caused by force majeure events in Egypt under the ICC Arbitration Rules and the LMAA Terms.	UK

## Career

Date	Location	Company	Position	Description
1999 - 2007	London	Norton Rose	Associate Solicitor	From 1999 to 2005 working as a paralegal including four years working on a ship conversion arbitration and 18 months on two complex power station arbitrations.
			2006-2007 Trainee	
			2005-2006 Paralegal	Post qualification working in the Marine Trade and Energy team specialising in high value and complex asbestos related claims.
			1999-2005	
2007 - 2009	London	Berrymans Lace Mawer	Solicitor	Specialising in the defence of high value asbestos related claims. Also dealing with other respiratory conditions, including COPD and asthma, and some HAVs (Hand Arm Vibration) claims.

2011 - 2014	London	Hextalls	Solicitor	Specialising in the defence of high value asbestos related claims. Also defending a number of deafness claims and personal injury claims arising from incidents overseas.
2014 – 2015	London	DAC Beachcroft	Solicitor	Specialising in the defence of complex personal injury related actions including asbestos and other industrial disease related claims, mental health and nursing care home claims, product liability, stress and psychological injury claims.
2016 to date	London	Corbett & Co	Solicitor	Current practice specialises in the resolution of disputes arising from international construction and infrastructure projects.

## Education

Institution	Degree(s) or Diploma(s) obtained
University of North London (now London Metropolitan University)	LLB 2:2 (Hons)
College of Law (now University of Law)	Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice

## Publications, Lecturing

Contributing author to the Corbett & Co publication FIDIC 2017 A Practical Legal Guide [2020]

## **Memberships of Professional Bodies**

Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales

Member, Society of Construction Law (SCL)

Member, International Bar Association (IBA)

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