

# Future of finance

**Financial markets are on the cusp of a fourth industrial revolution.  
A revolution not seen since the advent of the internet.  
Digital transformation will unlock this potential.**

Our global, multi-disciplinary team of experts provides innovative advice to the world's leading financial institutions, technology companies, start-ups and disruptors at the heart of this revolution. We are trusted with our clients' most ambitious, transformational and innovative projects; specialising in particular in the design, build and delivery of new digital platforms, digital assets and digital money.

Some of our team members' recent experience includes advising:

## Digital Assets



- Tokenisation of traditional financial assets
- Creation of new, native asset classes
- Financial market infrastructure based on DLT/blockchain

### SOME OF THE WORLD'S LEADING BANKS AND FMIs

on the implementation of a blockchain network for digital financial assets

### NOMURA

on the entry into a joint venture with Ledger and Global Advisers to form Komainu, an institutional digital asset custody provider

### NOMISMA

on obtaining a licence for a blockchain-based multilateral trading facility

## Digital Platforms



- Building end-to-end digital platforms
- Supporting the launch of new firms, products or services
- Advising challengers and existing firms

### GOLDMAN SACHS

on various aspects of the highly successful launch and development of *Marcus*, its retail digital platform

### SANTANDER

as sole advisor to *Asto Digital*, its digital-only platform for small businesses based on AI and open banking functionality

### MONUMENT BANK

on the launch of its UK digital-only banking platform

## Digital Money



- Cryptocurrencies and stablecoins
- Development of Central Bank Digital Currencies
- Upgrades to traditional payments infrastructure

### GLOBAL STABLECOIN

on the design, authorisation options and roll out of a new global stablecoin and associated ecosystem

### WORLDPAY

on the deployment of blockchain technology to settle merchant transactions in digital coins

### PROJECT JURA

advising one of the participants in Project Jura, the cross-border settlement with two wholesale CBDCs and a digital financial instrument

# Digital Assets

The digitisation of traditional financial instruments and other asset classes has reached a maturation point. The world's largest investment firms, payment companies, financial market infrastructure providers and global regulators are playing their part. Missing out is not an option.

Breaking new ground requires trusted advisors who are experts in their fields. Creating a new financial market requires specialists spanning the globe and multiple legal disciplines. Our lawyers are leaders in their fields and have amassed some of the leading experience in this nascent market that is hard to rival.

We embed our experts with your own; collaborating seamlessly with your business, legal, risk and compliance teams. We help you push boundaries, forge new paths, but always manage your risks.



*“The team comprises well-experienced and knowledgeable experts who complement each other”*

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## SOME OF OUR TEAM MEMBERS' OTHER RECENT EXPERIENCE

### ETORO

on rolling out a global digital asset initiatives, origination and trading in digital assets

### A EUROPEAN TOKEN ISSUER

on regulatory matters relating of the proposed listing of a debt security

### BLOCKFI

a dominant player in institutional crypto assets trading, on rolling out its business into Europe

### CASHLINK TECHNOLOGIES

on the implementation of their platform for the issuance of blockchain-based digital securities in the form of securities tokens

### BANKHAUSE SCHEICH

on the tokenisation of the shares in a listed German DAX company

### GOLDMAN SACHS, SANTANDER, SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE

on 'first to market' EIB blockchain and settled bond transaction

### KOMAINU

on its commercial, technology and IP contractual arrangements for its digital asset custody service

### REALPORT

on the issuance of its tokenised and non-tokenised financial instruments on a group securitisation platform

### AN INTERNATIONAL BANK

on the establishment of its digital asset derivatives business

# Digital Platforms

Technology continues to disrupt the markets in which we operate. Our digital economy requires digital-first products and services. We can help you create new digital products, brand new digital businesses and digitise existing processes.

The key drivers of fintech and digitalisation are creating greater efficiencies and responding to customer demand for better client experiences. We have deep experience helping a broad range of clients from start-ups and disruptors, to global financial and technology companies realise the potential of digital transformation.

We think outside the box. We challenge the status quo. We work alongside you to realise the potential of your ideas. We are more than legal advisors. We are fintechs at heart.



*“They are up-to-date and seem to take on head-first any task, regardless of its size and complexity, and produce a terrific product”*

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## SOME OF OUR TEAM MEMBERS' OTHER RECENT EXPERIENCE

### CROWDZ

a consortium of the world's leading banks on the implementation of a blockchain network for digital financial assets

### CAPRAISE

on the establishment of a new digital platform for connecting investors with unlisted investment opportunities

### MARCO POLO NETWORK

on the renegotiation of its core DLT licences and participation agreements with R3 in respect of world's first distributed network of trade finance and payment solutions

### SPARK CHANGE

on the structuring of its green financial instrument issuance platform and financing rounds

### ALICE SI

on the design and launch of a digital, tokenised social impact investing and donation platform. The platform utilises smart contracts and blockchain technology

### CASHLINK TECHNOLOGIES GMBH

A real estate company in connection with the tokenisation of a real estate portfolio and the establishment of a trading platform for securities tokens

### RENZO

on the establishment of its real estate tokenisation platform and participation in the FCA sandbox

### A REAL ESTATE COMPANY

in connection with the tokenisation of a real estate portfolio and the establishment of a trading platform for securities tokens.

### ZINSLAND

On the development and market launch of blockchain-supported and individually designed cryptocurrencies

# Digital Money

Payments have undergone radical changes in recent years. We are now seeing payment infrastructure finally evolve and new players enter the market. These changes could revolutionise the way the world moves money.

Payments are synonymous with fintech. But the transformation in payment systems and infrastructure is at a cross roads. The advent of blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies, led initially by bitcoin, has forced a moment of reckoning. Technology companies have entered the market. Central Banks have launched digital currencies. New firms are redesigning old messaging systems for the modern era.

Our experts have deep-rooted experience advising clients on all aspects of payments, from exciting, high-growth challengers to Central Banks and the world's largest payment firm.



## SOME OF OUR TEAM MEMBERS' OTHER RECENT EXPERIENCE

### LIBRA AND SAGA

on cryptocurrency and stablecoin matters

### ALIPAY

on payment services and cryptocurrency matters

### CBDC

advising one of the participants in a cross-border settlement with two wholesale CBDCs and a digital financial instrument

### HIMALAYA EXCHANGE

on regulatory issues surrounding their new stablecoin and cryptocurrency, and issues concerning the establishment of Himalaya Exchange

### AN ONLINE PAYMENT PLATFORM OPERATOR

on the application for a money service operator licence, including the relevant licensing application, and liaising with Hong Kong Customs

### FUSION BANK

a Hong Kong virtual bank, on various banking and commercial initiatives

### PAY.UK

on its procurement of the core clearing and settlements layer of the NPA, the UK's future intra-bank retail payments infrastructure

### VISA

on its agreement with IBM for the design, development and managed operation of a digital payments wallet for use across Europe

### OKEX

on various matters, including the treatment of cryptocurrencies contractually and under Hong Kong law. OKEx is one of the largest cryptocurrency exchanges internationally

## Our global team

Our team comprises specialists from our Corporate, Capital Markets, Financial Regulation, Disputes, Employment, Tax and Digital Economy practices, each of whom combine their practice expertise with a genuine and thorough understanding of digital technologies and transformation projects.



*“Comprehensive legal knowledge paired with business and market insights make this team unique and highly efficient”*

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# Local knowledge with global experience

Whatever success looks like for you, we have the capabilities to meet any legal challenges that come along the way. Our international network of offices with a combination of local expertise and global experience helps us provide innovative and informed solutions.

*Most Innovative Firm  
of the Year*

**BRITISH LEGAL TECHNOLOGY  
AWARDS 2020 & 2019**

*Law Firm of the Year*

**BRITISH LEGAL AWARDS 2019**

*Digital Champion of the Year*

**GLOBAL SOURCING  
AWARDS 2020**

*Best Fintech Law Firm*

**LONDON SUKUK & FINTECH  
AWARDS 2019**



- Ashurst offices
  - ◆ Faisal Adnan Baassiri Law Firm (In Association with Ashurst LLP)
  - ◊ Indian Law Partners (Best Friend Firm with Ashurst)
  - ◻ ADTLaw LLC (Singapore Formal Law Alliance)
  - ▲ Oentoeng Suria & Partners (Associated Office with Ashurst)
  - ★ Guantao Law Firm (Joint Operation Office)
- \* Brisbane has two office locations