

TECHNOLOGY, MEDIA AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

ABOUT OUR TMT PRACTICE

Crowell & Moring's multidisciplinary TMT practice covers a broad spectrum of information technology (IT), media and telecommunications related issues. We advise on commercial and transactional, regulatory, corporate and M&A, competition, outsourcing, employment, intellectual property and dispute resolution matters.

We represent software companies and purchasers of IT services in complex IT contracting and litigation matters. We regularly negotiate and/or litigate deals in the telecommunications sector.

"This international firm has a leading TMT practice singled out for its strength in media and telecoms, with clients noting the lawyers' flexibility and quick reaction times." Chambers Europe, 2013

Our team has particular experience in the field of e-commerce and Internet-related issues. We are global leaders in the field of Top Level Domains (TLDs), and regularly counsel on internet service provider liability, online services, distance selling, and e-advertising. We also set up global privacy compliance projects for multinational clients and advice on privacy issues arising in e-discovery, outsourcing and digital direct marketing.

A top tier law firm for Information Technology, "Crowell & Moring is 'one of the best' in the market, [... and] provides 'considered', 'measured' advice." Legal 500 EMEA, 2014

Regular contributors to handbooks, legal journals and blogs, our TMT lawyers are invited to speak at conferences and seminars throughout Europe.

"Excellent capability for TMT matters, and notably acts for cable broadband provider Telenet on a broad range of industry issues." Chambers Europe, 2014

OUR SERVICES AND EXPERIENCE

Telecommunications

We negotiate and draft complex agreements for our clients in the telecommunications industry. These include MVNO, interconnection, international roaming, and site sharing agreements. We represent clients in significant outsourcing and subcontracting projects, and we provide counsel on the regulatory requirements applicable to our clients' activities in Belgium and throughout the rest of Europe.

We are known for our knowledge of Belgian and EU competition law (an indispensable asset for our clients in the telecommunications sector) and are recognized as one of Belgium's leading electronic communications law firms.

Technology

We have litigated landmark cases concerning Internet service provider liability, both before the Belgian courts and before the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU).

Our knowledge in this area covers cloud computing, apps, mobile devices, VOIP, cookie technology, social networking, and 4G technology. We are also known for our significant experience in the Internet extension's industry.

Internet and E-Commerce

In the area of e-commerce and Internet-related issues, we provide our clients with day-to-day counseling concerning their online presence and services, (information obligations, e-advertising, e-contracting, online terms of use and of course, distance selling). We assist our clients in legal proceedings against their competitors and in their dealings with regulatory authorities.

In addition to our experience with Internet service provider liability, we regularly represent telecommunication and social network companies invoking the mere conduit and/or hosting exemptions under the e-commerce legislation.

Top-Level Domains and Domain Names

Our Top-Level Domains (TLDs) and Domain Names practice is a good example of how well our lawyers deal with complex technology issues and their related legal challenges. We advise multinationals in their TLD applications and defend their applications in court or in ADR proceedings.

We have significant experience in cybersquatting cases, and in the development of offensive and defensive strategies towards ICANN's new gTLD Program. We provide regulatory and contractual advice to both established and new players in Internet-related industries.

Intellectual property

Our IP lawyers offer a combination of skill and experience across the full range of IP disciplines including patents, supplementary protection certificates, trademarks, designs, domain names and domains, trade secrets and copyrights.

We have been involved in TMT matters covering a range of technologies, including direct cable injection, speech technology, databases, mobile internet, and 4G technology.

Media & Entertainment

We represent Belgium's main cable operator, which is a service provider for quadruple play (fixed and mobile telephone, internet and television services) and remains a constant source of specialized work.

In addition, we have significant experience in the legal aspects of offline and online betting and gambling, and we advise on regulatory compliance and market entry strategies, and licensing requirements and tendering procedures. We complement these services with advice on general commercial issues, such as consumer protection, advertising, privacy, portrayal rights and/or the use of trademarks.

We provide clients from outside the betting and gambling sector with advice on promotional contests

and campaigns so as to ensure their compliance with the legal framework on betting and gambling.

We represent sports and media celebrities, film and television producers, record labels, singer-songwriters, printed media companies, book publishers, advertising companies, and designers.

Privacy

Our data protection and privacy lawyers advise clients on a wide range of privacy issues that arise during their daily operations (*e.g.*, relating to the international transfer of certain data, the possibility to access and use certain employee data, and data retention).

We perform and coordinate privacy audits and compliance projects, helping clients to better understand their data processing, map the location and flow of their data and identify potential threats and compliance issues.

OUR INDUSTRY/SECTOR FOCUS

We represent network operators and service providers, broadcasters, operators of broadband cable and telephony, internet and digital television operators, social network operators, computer hardware and software manufacturers, online retailers, gambling software vendors and online and land based bookmakers. We also represent clients in advertising, media, online games and entertainment.

ABOUT OUR FIRM

Crowell & Moring LLP is an international law firm with approximately 500 lawyers representing clients in litigation and arbitration, regulatory, and transactional matters. The firm is internationally recognized for its representation of Fortune 500 companies in high-stakes litigation, as well as its ongoing commitment to *pro bono* service and diversity. The firm has offices in Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orange County, London, and Brussels.