1. Do you regularly transport goods by air, sea, road or rail?

2. Are you aware of the many forms of contract that are currently in use?

3. Are you unsure on the correct jurisdiction for claims?

4. Do you need advice on defending a claim, or on limiting your liability?

Mason Hayes+Curran – How can we help?

Mason Hayes+Curran’s transport team provides legal services to both domestic and international clients involved in the transportation of goods. Despite transport law being a complex area of law we strive to ensure that clients are provided with clear and practical advice at all times.

The transport team has extensive experience of the international transport market and provides clients with comprehensive advice on the carriage of goods by air, sea, road or rail (or a combination of these different modes of transport). The different modes of transport are governed by different conventions. These conventions and amendments to them need to be considered carefully in conjunction with the huge range of clauses commonly adopted by different carriers in the transport sector.

Where transport is within Europe, a carrier, importer or exporter needs to be fully cognizant of the increasing number of directives issued by the European Council in this area of law. The Mason Hayes+Curran team has extensive experience advising and representing logistic companies, freight forwarders, leading importers and exporters, haulage companies and many of the leading transport insurers.

Disputes typically arise where two or more forms of carriage have been used. We are frequently asked to advise on issues such as the correct forum for a dispute, the applicable law that a dispute is governed by and appropriate levels of limitation. As a full service business law firm, Mason Hayes+Curran has the knowledge and breadth of experience to respond to these typical transport / multi-modal issues, providing clients with prompt practical and commercial advice.
Our transport team has advised on the application of the regime in circumstances where other modes of transport have been utilised, in particular sea carriage but on listed line under Article 1.1 of the Convention. We have also been involved in disputes regarding conforming consignment notes under the Convention and issues regarding the evidential role of the consignment note.

Marine Transport

Our maritime team provides a comprehensive maritime law service at a contentious and non-contentious level. It regularly assists with the drafting of Charterparties, Bills of Lading and Contracts of Affreightment.

We have experience in a full range of disputes that arise under these contracts and all other aspects of the carriage of goods by sea, be it advising on the application of the Hague, Hague-Visby Rules (and in limited cases the Hamburg Rules), the shipment of dangerous goods or limitation of liability and other issues that may impinge upon cargo owners/carriers from time to time such as general average and salvage, shipment of dangerous goods, detentions and delays.

Conclusion

The transport of goods involves complex areas of law by virtue of the number of different modes of transport available and the fact that different rules govern each different form. To provide a full transportation service requires knowledge of the plethora of conventions applicable to each different form of transport, applicable European rules and a fundamental appreciation in itself of the different transportation industries.

Mason Hayes+Curran’s transport team has the breadth of experience and a wide appreciation of the transport industry and as such is ideally placed to assist clients on all transportation law issues. The team’s extensive knowledge of the laws applicable to the different forms of transport, the terms and conditions regularly utilised by users in the industry enables the team to provide clear precise advice both on the drafting of appropriate transportation contracts and also on disputes that may arise.

We can provide quick, cost-effective and practical advice enabling our clients to continue with their business with minimal disruption to ongoing commercial relationships.

To find out more about how the Mason Hayes+Curran transport team may assist you and your business, please do not hesitate to contact us.