



JUDICIARY OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Report of the Commercial Court and Admiralty Court

2005 - 2006

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Introduction

This report covers the work of both the Commercial and Admiralty Courts. This reflects the fact that the same judges sit in the two courts, with a shared administration and common procedure.

The jurisdiction of the Commercial Court extends to any claim relating to the transactions of trade and commerce (including commercial agreements, import and export, carriage of goods by sea, land and air, banking and financial services, insurance and reinsurance, markets and exchanges, commodities, construction of ships, agency, arbitration and competition matters).

The Admiralty Court has exclusive jurisdiction over certain maritime claims (including the arrest of ships, collisions and salvage). It has co-extensive jurisdiction to that of the Commercial Court in respect of many claims under bills of lading or under charter parties.

Disputes in the Commercial and Admiralty Courts remain predominantly international in flavour. Parties choose the courts to resolve them either because they have specifically provided in their contracts for the application of English Law or the jurisdiction of the English Courts; alternatively because they regard the Court as the most suitable one in which to bring claims.

In the result the number of claims where at least one claimant or one defendant emanates from outside the jurisdiction continues to constitute about 80% of all claims in the Court. The judges and the staff of the Courts are accordingly conscious of the need to handle efficiently and effectively the large numbers of claims that come to the Court from outside the jurisdiction, largely at the choice of the parties involved.

The Court has again been heavily engaged in numerous and complex actions. The nature and scale of this work can only be achieved with the unfailing support of the Court's staff who have worked very hard in difficult circumstances.

Work of the Court

The subject matter of cases handled by the Commercial Courts remains remarkably varied. Apart from the more standard diet of shipping, insurance and arbitration disputes, there were many hearings relating to reinsurance, banking, carriage by air and by road, together with numerous jurisdictional disputes.

The Admiralty Court has been concerned with collision and mortgage claims, limitation actions, ownership claims, in addition to cargo claims.

Reports of the material decisions of the Commercial and Admiralty Courts are published on-line on the following sites:

HMCS Judgments Homepage

www.hmcourts-service.gov.uk/HMCSJudgments/Search.do

BAILII (the British and Irish Legal Information Institute)

www.bailii.org

Casetrack

www.casetrack.com/index.html

All the above are updated frequently. By way of example of the international nature of the Courts' business, a random selection from the over 100 judgments handed down by the Courts during the year are set out below:

- AIG Capital Partners Inc & Anor. v Kazakhstan [2005] EWHC 2239 (Comm)
- ASM Shipping Ltd of India v TTMI Ltd of England [2005] EWHC 2238 (Comm)
- Tavoulareas v Tsavlis & Anor [2005] EWHC 2140 (Comm)
- Tidebrook Maritime Corporation v Vitol SA of Geneva MT "Front Commander" [2005] EWHC 2582 (Comm)
- Tradigrain v State Trading Corporation of India [2005] EWHC 2206 (Comm)
- Anton Durbeck GmbH v Den Norske Bank ASA [2005] EWHC 2497 (Comm)
- Argo Capital Investors Fund Spc v Essar Steel Ltd [2005] EWHC 2587 (Comm)
- Cadre SA v Astra Asigurari SA [2005] EWHC 2626 (Comm)
- ET Plus SA & Ors v Welter & Ors [2005] EWHC 2115 (Comm)
- Fujitsu Computer Products Corp & Ors v Bax Global Inc & Ors [2005] EWHC 2289 (Comm)
- Kensington International Ltd. v Republic of the Congo [2005] EWHC 2684 (Comm)
- Kuwait Airways Corp v Iraqi Airways Corp [2005] EWHC 2524 (Comm)
- Petroleo Brasileiro S.A. & Anor v Petromec Inc & Ors [2005] EWHC 2430 (Comm)
- Primetrade AG v Ythan Ltd [2005] EWHC 2399 (Comm)
- R + V Versicherung AG v Risk Insurance and Reinsurance Solutions SA & Ors [2005] EWHC 2586 (Comm)
- Svenska Petroleum Exploration AB v Lithuania & Anor [2005] EWHC 2437 (Comm)
- Tavoulareas v Alexander G Tsavlis & Sons Maritime Company [2005] EWHC 2643 (Comm)
- TTMI Ltd of England v ASM Shipping Ltd of India [2005] EWHC 2666 (Comm)
- Bernuth Lines Ltd v High Seas Shipping Ltd [2005] EWHC 3020 (Comm)
- Covington Marine Corp & Ors v Xiamen Shipbuilding Industry Co Ltd [2005] EWHC 2912 (Comm)
- Axa Re v Ace Global Markets Ltd. [2006] EWHC 216 (Comm)
- Dalkia Utilities Services Plc v Celtech International Ltd [2006] EWHC 63 (Comm)
- R+ V Versicherung AG v Risk Insurance and Reinsurance Solutions SA & Ors [2006] EWHC 42 (Comm)

- Barbados Trust Company Ltd v Bank of Zambia & Anor [2006] EWHC 222 (Comm)
- Ease Faith Ltd v Leonis Marine Management Ltd [2006] EWHC 232 (Comm)
- National Westminster Bank Plc v Rabobank Nederland [2006] EWHC 218 (Comm)
- Parsons Corporation & Ors v CV Scheepvaartonderneming The Happy Ranger [2006] EWHC 122 (Comm)
- Pentonville Shipping Ltd. v Transfield Shipping Inc (MV Johnny K) [2006] EWHC 134 (Comm)
- Sea Trade Maritime Corporation v Hellenic Mutual War Risks Association (Bermuda) Ltd. [2006] EWHC 578 (Comm)
- Sukuman Ltd v The Commonwealth Secretariat [2006] EWHC 304 (Comm)
- ABB Ag v Hochtief Airport GmbH & Anor [2006] EWHC 388 (Comm)
- Brit Syndicates Ltd & Ors v Italaudit SPA & Anor [2006] EWHC 341 (Comm)
- Compagnie Noga D'importation Et D'exportation SA & Anor v Australian and New Zealand Banking Group & Ors [2006] EWHC 602 (Comm)
- Compania Sud American Vapores v Hamburg & Anor [2006] EWHC 483 (Comm)
- Ecuador v Occidental Exploration & Production Co [2006] EWHC 345 (Comm)
- HIH Casualty and General Insurance Ltd. v JLT Risk Solutions Ltd [2006] EWHC 485 (Comm)
- Horn Linie GmbH & Co v Panamericana Formas E Impresos SA & Anor [2006] EWHC 373 (Comm)
- Newsat Holdings Ltd & Ors v Zani [2006] EWHC 342 (Comm)
- Tavoulareas v Tsavlis & Ors [2006] EWHC 414 (Comm)
- Andromeda Marine SA v OW Bunker & Trading A/S [2006] EWHC 777 (Comm)
- Oxus Gold Plc (Formerly Oxus Mining Plc) & Anor v Templeton Insurance Ltd [2006] EWHC 864 (Comm)
- Ravennavi Spa v New Century Shipbuilding Company Ltd [2006] EWHC 733 (Comm)
- Republic of Kazakhstan v Istil Group Inc [2006] EWHC 448 (Comm)
- Konkola Copper Mines Plc & Anor v Coromin Ltd. & Ors No.2 [2006] EWHC 1093 (Comm)
- ING RE (UK) Ltd. v R & V Versicherung Ag [2006] EWHC 1544 (Comm)
- Oceanografia SA DE CV v DSND Subsea AS [2006] EWHC 1360 (Comm)
- Petromec Inc v Petroleo Brasileiro SA Petrobras & Anor [2006] EWHC 1443 (Comm)
- Trafigura Beheer BV v Kookmin Bank Co [2006] EWHC 1450 (Comm)
- Habib Bank Ltd v Central Bank of Sudan [2006] EWHC 1767 (Comm)
- Kensington International Ltd v Republic of Congo & Anor [2006] EWHC 1848 (Comm)
- WPP Holdings Italy Srl & Ors v Benatti [2006] EWHC 1641 (Comm)

Volume of Business – Commercial Court

The number of claim forms issued in the period up to 31 July 2006 was 1,005, a small increase from the previous year (973). Thus the figures over the last 5 years show a remarkable consistency in the volume of new work. (It must be borne in mind that the substantially higher figures in and around the late 1990s reflected the explosion of claims resulting from the difficulties in the Lloyd's market.) It is worthy of note that provisional figures for the calendar year 2006 show a substantial increase to around a total of 1,300 claim forms.

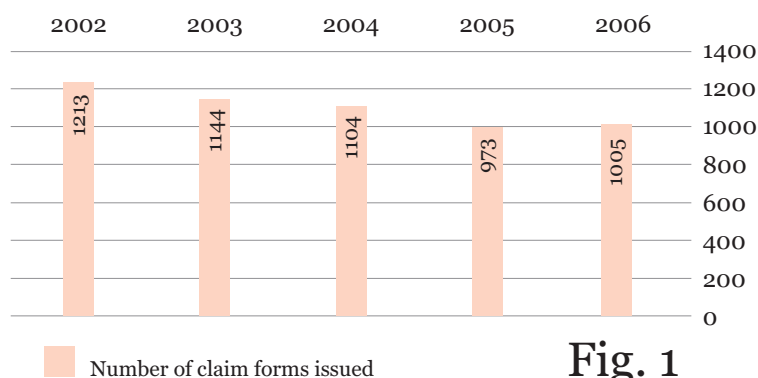


Fig. 1

In slight contrast, the number of cases given trial dates has reduced somewhat: from 277 in 2005 to 246 in 2006. But equally, the number of trials settled or adjourned at the request of the parties is also slightly down: 180 in 2005 as against 171 in 2006. Thus, the settlement rate has been in the region of 70%.

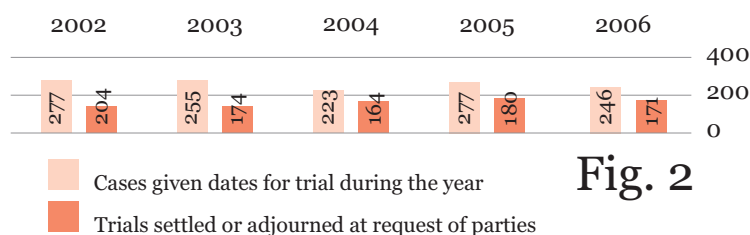


Fig. 2

In the year ending 31 July 2006 the Commercial Court heard 75 trials (97 in 2005 and 58 in 2004).

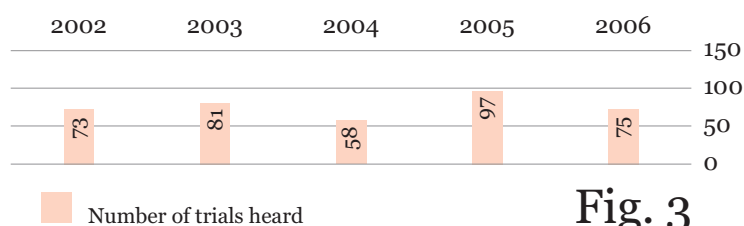


Fig. 3

However, the number of trials is not an accurate indicator of the volume of business. This is not least because of the enormous variation in the lengths of trials. Of particular note is the continuing increase in the number of trials lasting over 4 weeks.

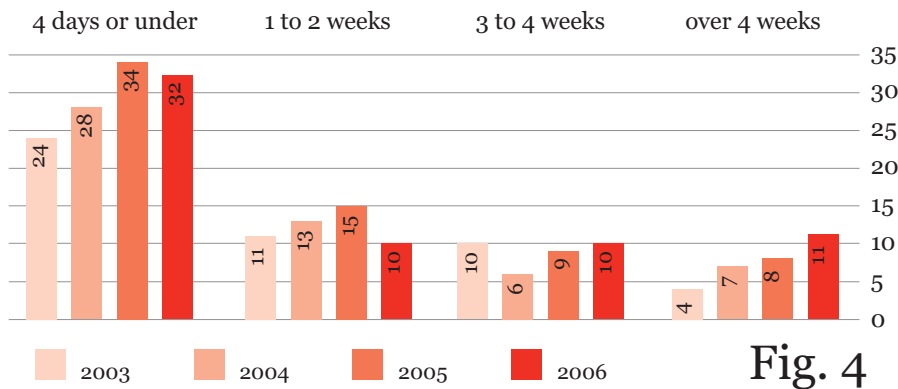


Fig. 4

The number of applications also fluctuates: 1,841 in 2005 down to 1,752 in 2006. However the number of hearings increased from 997 to 1,131, as did the ‘without notice’ applications from 85 to 113.

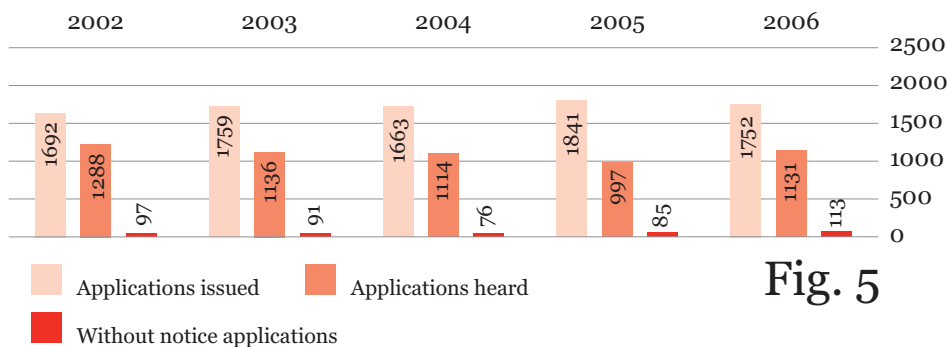


Fig. 5

Volume of Business – Admiralty Court

The number of claim forms issued to 31 July 2006 was markedly up at 128 as compared with 94 in 2005.

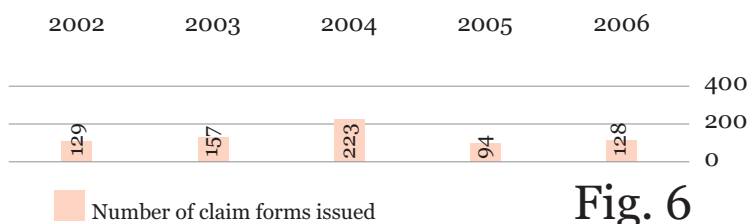


Fig. 6

Seven trials were heard. 19 trials were settled or adjourned at the request of the parties out of a total of 27 cases given dates for trial. As with the Commercial Court, this is consistent with a 70% settlement rate.

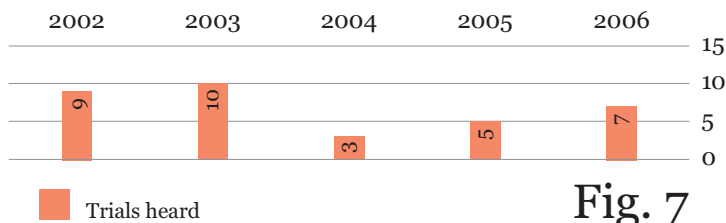


Fig. 7

The number of application issued was back up: 86 as compared with 50 in 2005. However, of these, only 32 were heard.

Case Management

Case management is a most important part of the work of Court. In all cases, a case management conference (“CMC”) is conducted by a judge (where possible the likely trial judge) at which the parties have to be ready to deal with all aspects of case management. The CMC is held shortly after the close of pleadings and it is the practice of the Court at that time to set out a timetable down to the date of trial. This will include a “progress monitoring date” by which date the parties must report their compliance with the pre-trial timetable and the preparations for trial. In the larger cases there will be a “pre-trial review” to re-assess all aspects of the trial including the preparation of a detailed timetable for the trial itself.

The last annual report referred to two very long trials: Three Rivers District Council and Others v Governor and Company of the Bank of England and Equitable Life Assurance Society v Ernst & Young. Both these trials came to an abrupt end: the first was discontinued in October 2005 and the latter settled in November 2005. Mr Justice Tomlinson handed down his judgement on the costs issue in the former case in April 2006.

The outcome of the case and the content of his judgment led to general expressions of concern that the procedures of the Court were not succeeding in restraining the pursuit, the length and the cost of such trials. A particular complaint in this regard was made by the Governor of the Bank of England in his speech at the Lord Mayor’s Banquet on 21 June 2006. (Despite the criticism, it was a source of satisfaction to the Court that both claims had in fact been struck out at first instance by a judge of this Court and only restored on appeal.)

Nonetheless it was clearly appropriate to take a careful look at the procedures of the Court and to see what lessons could be learned. Accordingly a “supercase” symposium was organised for 30 October 2006 which was attended by some hundred invited delegates including users, arbitrators, academics, solicitors, barristers and representatives of the judiciary. Discussions were led by substantial contributions from Mr Steven Pearson, head of group litigation at RBS, and Mr Sean McGovern, Director and General Counsel at Lloyds, representing the perspective of customers of the Court. Other speakers included Simon Davis, President of the London Solicitors Litigation Association, Professor Ross Cranston, Centennial Professor of Law at the LSE, Robin Knowles QC, Chairman of the Commercial Bar Association and the Honourable Mr Justice Cooke, one of the judges of the Commercial Court.

Key suggestions that emerged from the symposium included the need to have greater focus on:

- (i) widespread allocation of cases to specific judges;
- (ii) listing of cases to ensure adequate reading time;
- (iii) more vigorous exercise of case management powers;
- (iv) the facility for indications from the judge as to the merits of the claim;
- (v) restrictions on expensive disclosure of electronic material;
- (vi) limitation of length and cost of witness statements;
- (vii) the imposition of more realistic but nonetheless strict timetables.

The outcome was the appointment of a working group under the auspices of the Commercial Court Users’ Committee with terms of reference to “make proposals for the improvement of the procedures and practices of the Commercial Court”. It is hoped that the working group will both make suggestions for the amendment of the Admiralty and Commercial Court Guide and make proposals on the stricter implementation of the current arrangements. The Chairman of the new working group is Mr Justice Aikens and its members are Mrs Justice Gloster, Robin Knowles QC, Alex Hayden and Alison Padfield, from Brick Court Chambers and Devereux Chambers respectively, Simon Davis of Clifford Chance, Graham Huntley of Lovells, Steven Pearson of RBS and Victoria Cochrane, general counsel to Ernst & Young.

Lead Times

It is vital to the financial, trading and business community in the City of London and internationally that the Court can provide rapid and efficient dispute resolution procedures. The Court aims to keep “lead times” (i.e. the time between the date when a hearing is fixed and the date when the hearing will actually take place) within certain targets. The present targets for applications and trials are as follows:

Target lead times:	Duration of application / trial	Lead time
	30 minutes	1 to 2 months
	1 hour	1 to 2 months
	1½ to 2 hours	1 to 2 months
	½ day	2 to 3 months
	1 to 2 days	4 to 5 months
	1 week	7 months
	2 to 3 weeks	9 to 10 months
	4+ weeks	11 months

Fig. 9

These targets were duly met in the period up 31 July 2006.

Manning

As recorded in the last annual report, Lord Justice May’s review of the use of judicial resources so far as they concerned the Commercial Court concluded:

- (i) the large majority of the work of the Commercial Court is, because of its size and importance, suitable only for a High Court judge: the international nature of the work reinforced this conclusion;
- (ii) the current lead times, which are based on the use of nine High Court judges, are satisfactory;
- (iii) a case could be made for the Court needing ten judges but less than nine would be “plainly too few.”

In fact the demands of other work, in particular crime both at first instance and on appeal, have resulted in the Court having to survive with only eight judges from time to time during the year. Whilst lead times have now extended somewhat, this limitation has not resulted so far in any serious interference with the work of the Court, but the position needs to be kept under continuous review.

Judicial business of the Court

A total of 14 Queen's Bench Judges are nominated to sit in the Commercial and Admiralty Courts. Other judicial business takes these judges away from the Commercial Court on a regular basis but the workload of the Court has required eight or nine judges to sit for most of last year. In 2005/2006 the total judge days available for use was 1,721 days (1,718 in 2005). All of that time was used. Of that period 1,043 days were used for trials, including preparation for hearings and judgment writing time (a figure higher than for any of the previous five years). Over the same period, 678 days were used for dealing with applications (again a figure including preparation and judgment writing time).

Commercial cases are frequently complex and heavily documented. Because of the heavy cost involved in all court hearings, time spent in dealing in court with evidence from witnesses and with oral submissions is kept to a minimum. The consequence of this regime is that Commercial Judges spend much of their time out of Court either preparing for a hearing or preparing a judgment after the conclusion of argument. In the majority of cases the judge will have to read much material which will have been identified in a "pre-reading list" which has to be agreed and supplied by the advocates. Advocates assume (rightly) that, by the start of a trial, the judge will have read the written Outline Arguments and the documents that have been previously identified. This task can only be achieved if an appropriate reading list and core bundles are prepared.

"Judgment writing time" is built into the Court timetable in order that judgments can be written within a reasonable time of the hearing, if at all possible. Judges of the Court also deal with a large quantity of paper applications out of court. These applications include permission to serve proceedings out of the jurisdiction, leave to appeal against arbitration awards under section 69 of the Arbitration Act 1996, permission to vary pre-trial timetables and other interlocutory matters. Two judges act as "duty papers applications" judges during each week of term on a set rota. In addition, the Judge in Charge of the Commercial Court deals with applications to transfer in and out of the Commercial Court, together with matters concerning listing, allocation to deputies and correspondence from solicitors as is necessary.

Judge Arbitrators

Associated with the issue of efficient use of judicial resources is the question of the use of commercial judges as arbitrators under section 93 of the Arbitration Act 1996. In recent years this facility has been very little used, no doubt because, given the demands on the time of commercial judges, the Lord Chief Justice was not expected to give his consent to release a judge to sit as an arbitrator.

Nonetheless it is hoped that this facility of providing Commercial Court judges as arbitrators can be used more in the future. Users of the court considering the appointment of a commercial judge should in the first place send enquiries to the judge in charge of the Commercial Court.

Competition Law

Following the amendment to the Civil Procedure Rules Part 30.8 to allow commercial cases which raised issues of competition law to remain in the Commercial Court, the judges of the Commercial Court attended a two-day seminar on competition law in January 2006.

The London Mercantile Court

The Court deals with smaller and more straightforward Commercial cases which will benefit from a shortened procedure and do not require trial by a High Court Judge. The court also handles High Court claims which though not strictly 'Commercial' are in a broad sense to do with business and will benefit from a specialist judge. The Court operates within the structure of the Commercial Court and the judge in charge, Judge David Mackie QC, sits in both courts. The Court was set up in its present form in October 2006.

Use of deputy judges in the Commercial Court

A small number of circuit judges who have had experience in the Commercial Court and Queen's Counsel who practice regularly in the Commercial Court are authorised to sit as Deputy Judges in the Commercial Court. Deputies are used for both applications and trials in order to ensure that the targets for lead times can be maintained. The Judge in Charge of the Commercial Court assesses which applications and which trials are suitable to be tried by Deputies. Last year, Deputies (both Circuit Judges and QCs) sat on trials for a total of 56 days and on applications for a total of 42 days. (This compares with 87 days for trials and 40 days for applications in the previous year).

Long Vacation Sittings

Judges of the Commercial Court sit regularly during the Long Vacation in August and September. They deal with both urgent business and also regular business, including paper applications. The aim is to ensure that there is always a judge available to deal with commercial matters if required during this period.

The Registry and the Listing Office

The Court is dependent upon the very close working partnership it enjoys with the Registry and the Listing Office. Together, they operate under the overall management of Keith Houghton. A list of the current staff is at Appendix 1, together with a "family tree".

The Registry, under the leadership of Rod Morgan, continues to provide essential assistance to the Court and the profession in relation to the Rules, the Admiralty and Commercial Court Guide and the official forms that are used. The Registry manages the numerous paper applications made to the Court and the ever-increasing amount of correspondence with parties, solicitors and counsel, particularly correspondence by email.

The Registry also deals with the vital function of managing the numerous paper applications in relation to case management, checking on whether parties have complied with the timetable set by the Court at the Case Management Conference, and ensuring that that cases have been prepared and are ready for trial. The Case Management Unit also administers applications under the Arbitration Act 1996.

The operation of the Listing Office is fundamental to the smooth operation of the Court and the disposal of its work efficiently. It has continued to operate with conspicuous success under Angela Hodgson, her deputy Laura Donnell and the Listing support officers.

Users Committees

The Commercial and Admiralty Court Users Committees now meet in joint session as there are so many issues of common interest. A list of the members of each committee is set out in Appendix 2 and 3.

The Committees are there to provide a forum for consultation between the judges of the two Courts, those who practice in the two Courts and representatives of business from around the world.

Within the last year, the Users Committee has been involved in several projects. First a working party under the chairmanship of Mrs Justice Gloster considered the feasibility of more flexible hours for the sittings of the Commercial Court. The working group recommended a pilot scheme as from January 2007 whereby trials and heavy applications would be heard from 9 am to 1.30 pm. In the event it was decided by the full committee that there were significant practical difficulties in imposing such a programme across the board. However the clear recommendation of the Users Committee was that the question of sitting hours required careful consideration in each case, particularly at any pre-trial review.

A second working party under the chairmanship of Mr Justice Colman continued its work on reviewing the Admiralty and Commercial Court Guide. Its recommendations were in due course included in the 7th edition which was approved by the Lord Chief Justice and the Master of the Rolls in November 2006 and published in December 2006. It is this version of the Guide which will be considered by the working group referred to above.

The third working group, under the chairmanship of Mr Bruce Harris, considered the working of the Arbitration Act 1996 in the light of the ten years since its implementation. Its report, prepared with the support of the BLMA and the London Shipping Law Centre, was published in November 2006. It expressed the view that changes to the act were neither necessary nor desirable. This view extended to the provisions under the Act for leave to appeal.

Commercial Court IT Project

Phase 1 of the project (called interCOMM) came online in April 2006. Initial difficulties with “slowness” of the software were soon overcome. Accordingly the Court has become equipped with an integrated electronic diary facility, combined with a documentary repository. The document depository within Phase 1 facilitates the filing of a large range of e-documents. At the moment the principal traffic is e-mails. However, by way of attachment, many statements of case, skeleton arguments and other documents are now filed in electronic form.

In parallel with this, a pilot programme of e-filing and issue has been run with a group of three sets of chambers and three sets of solicitors. This pilot has had a mixed reception – particularly from the perspective of the staff. The problem centres on the absence of any payment engine in the Royal Courts of Justice’s fees office. Thus issue of proceedings online presently involves substantially more work than with the use of hard copy. In the circumstances the Court is determined to achieve in some form Phase 2 of the project i.e. a fully integrated filing system on a par with the arrangements in other jurisdictions such as Singapore. This ambition is enhanced by the prospect of a new building (see below).

Integrated document filing with a payment engine is now within the scope of the National Electronic Filing and Document Management Programme (EFDM). The timetable is however likely to be extended. Against this background there is a particular hope that a pilot scheme will be conducted in the Commercial Court during 2008/2009.

Commercial Court Building Project

A business case for a “modern dedicated business court” was prepared by HMCS in September 2005. The need for such a court was summarised as follows:

“The rationale for the provision of the single business court complex is founded on:

- (a) the serious inadequacy of the current facilities*
- (b) enabling HMCS to rationalise relevant parts of its existing estate within central London*
- (c) the wider national economic interest in ensuring the retention of UK commercial law as the global commercial law of choice.”*

The proposal focused on three sites in the vicinity of the Royal Courts of Justice with a view to establishing a “private developer scheme” so as to meet the Treasury requirements for keeping the capital cost off balance sheet. By July 2006, the preferred bid proved to be that of Messrs. Delancey in regard to the Rolls Building in Fetter Lane. In due course a contract was signed with Delanceys and a press release to that effect was issued in December 2006. At the time of writing demolition work is underway.

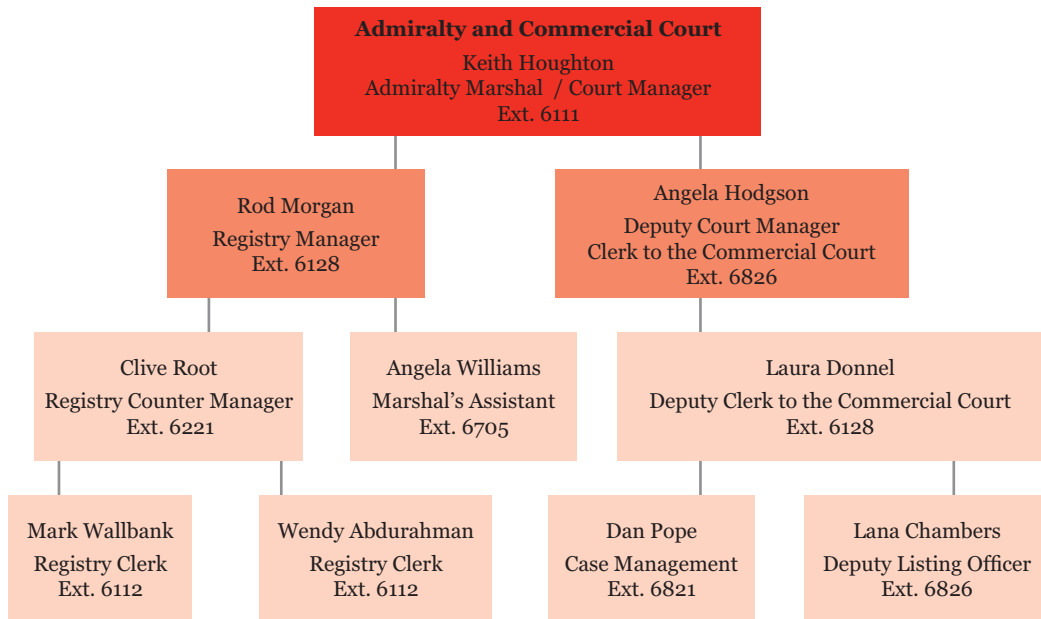
The scheme involves the development of the site which will house the Commercial Court, the Chancery Division and the High Court section of the TCC. Completion is anticipated in 2010 at which time the Court will vacate St. Dunstan’s House which will be sold. It is right to mention the enormous amount of work on this project performed by the staff of HMCS under the leadership of Alastair Clegg.

In the wake of this development, the Users Committee has established a working group to review the operation of the new court under the chairmanship of Mr Justice David Steel together with Mr Justice Gross, David Foxton QC, Christopher Hancock QC, James Turner of Quadrant Chambers, Rebecca Sabben-Clare of 7 King’s Bench Walk, Raj Parker of Freshfields and Kathryn Ludlow of Linklaters. This working group will consider such topics as the maintenance of Commercial Court “brand” in the context of the business court building, the implications of the possible abandonment of the Divisions of the High Court and the creation of a single civil court and the need or otherwise for any common procedure within the scope of the building.

The future

Both the Admiralty and the Commercial Courts, together with their staff, are determined to continue to provide a service geared to the specific requirements of the international commercial community. Of particular welcome is a steady flow of information as to its achievements and constructive suggestions as to improvements in its procedures from both litigants and their professional advisers. This co-operative approach will be all the more valuable in the run-up to the transfer to the new building, which at the time of writing is only three years away.

Appendix 1: Commercial and Admiralty Court Office Staff



Appendix 2: Members of the Commercial Court Users' Committee

The Judges of the Commercial Court:

The Hon Mr Justice David Steel (Judge in Charge of the Commercial Court)
The Hon Mr Justice Aikens
The Hon Mr Justice Cresswell
The Hon Mr Justice Colman
The Hon Mr Justice Morison
The Hon Mr Justice Langley
The Hon Mr Justice Toulson
The Hon Mr Justice Tomlinson
The Hon Mr Justice Andrew Smith
The Hon Mr Justice Gross
The Hon Mr Justice Cooke
The Hon Mrs Justice Gloster
The Hon Mr Justice Clarke

The Judges of the Court of Appeal and the Lords of Appeal in Ordinary who have been Judges of the Commercial Court:

The Lord Chief Justice
The Master of the Rolls
The Rt Hon Lord Mustill
The Rt Hon Lord Saville of Newdigate
The Rt Hon Lord Mance
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Waller
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Tuckey
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Clarke
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Rix
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Longmore
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Thomas
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Moore-Bick

Sir Christopher Staughton
Mr Paul Arditti, Ince and Co
Mr Robin Knowles QC
Mr Alastair Clegg, Director, Supreme Court Group, the Court Service
Mr Nigel Durham, The Sugar Association and Refined Sugar Association
Mr Peter Farthing, Clyde and Co
Mr Julian Flaux QC
Mr Jonathan Gaisman QC
Mr David Gold, Herbert Smith
Mr Robert Goldspink, Morgan Lewis and Bockius
Mr Graham Huntley, President of the London Solicitors Litigation Association
Mr Bruce Harris, London Maritime Arbitrators Association
Mr Arthur Harverd, Carter Backer Winter
Mr Ian Hunter QC
Mr J Jarvis QC
Mr Geoffrey Johnson, Group Chief Legal Advisor, Lloyds TSB plc

Ms Veronica Kendall, COMBAR
Dr Jost Kienzle, CMS Hasche Sigle, Hamburg
Mrs P Kirby Johnson, Director General, GAFTA
Ms Janet Lambert, Barlow Lyde and Gilbert
Mr Stuart Logan, FOSFA
Mr David Lucas, Middleton Potts
HHJ Mackie QC, Mercantile Court
Mr Stephen Males QC
Mr Stelios Niotis, Chairman, BIMCO Documentary Committee
Mr Neil Palmer, Senior Clerk, 20 Essex Street
Mr Alastair G Schaff QC, 7 King's Bench Walk
Mr Ian Taylor, Freshfields
Mr V. V. Veeder QC
Mr Andrew Whittaker, General Counsel, The Financial Services Authority
Mr John Beck, The International Cotton Association Limited
Mr Patrick Farrell, Norton Rose
Mr Jon Turnbull, Clyde & Co
Mr Robert Gaisford, The London Maritime Arbitrators Association
Mr John Morris, Thomas Miller & Co Ltd
Joanna Perkins, Financial Markets Law Committee
Patrick Sherrington, Lovells
Mr Colin J Wall, President Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Secretary:

Mrs Angela Hodgson, Clerk to the Commercial Court

Appendix 3: Members of the Admiralty Court Users' Committee

Mr Justice David Steel
Mr Registrar Miller
Mr Keith Houghton, Admiralty Marshal
Mr C Hume, The Shipowners' Protection Ltd
Mr Nigel Meeson QC
Mr RC Hough, Tindall, Riley (Marine) Ltd
Mr RJ Sayer, Ince and Co
Mr N Teare QC
Mr M Telford, WK Webster and Co
Mr N Greensmith, Clyde and Co
Mr WA Bishop, Holman Fenwick and Willan
Ms Sara Burgess, Gard (UK) Ltd
Mr TD Brenton QC
Mr J Hulmes, Hill Dickinson

