



Hogan
Lovells

Hazardous substances

Our capabilities in Paris

2013

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For any questions on our capabilities in relation to hazardous substances-related cases, please contact:



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Our expertise in relation to hazardous substances

The depth and breadth of Hogan Lovells' Paris experience in litigation and product liability matters is unmatched.

Our 15 lawyers combine technical and scientific knowledge with a firm grasp of today's commercial environment. They understand our clients' products and commercial concerns, and draw on years of experience of dealing with product liability issues and defending manufacturers and insurers.

Over the past decade, we have been involved in many of the French high-profile product liability controversies and covered all aspects of product liability, including risk prevention and risk management, compliance with safety regulations, labeling, product recalls and the defense of unitary, cross-border and multi-party personal injury claims.

Our global resources and expertise match the needs of all the industries which have used or are using potentially hazardous products/substances in their manufacturing process, enabling us to provide regulatory advice and defend our clients before Courts, whether civil, administrative, commercial or criminal. More precisely, we were and are able to assist our clients who are faced with issues relating to asbestos, pesticides, chemicals, hydrocarbons, phthalates, uranium, etc.

Our team also closely monitors fields that are identified by the French and International authorities as potential future health and sanitary risks, such as cosmetics and nanotechnologies.

A team integrated in a unique Product Liability Network

Our Paris team is fully integrated into Hogan Lovells' innovative International Product Liability Network which enables it to assist clients in managing product liability risks globally and seamlessly.

Besides being connected with the French authorities, the network offers the possibility to our team to benefit from good working relationships with the EU authorities. We are indeed recognized within the European Commission as leading experts in this field.

This network further allows our team of lawyers to be assisted by a dedicated Science Unit, based in London, which carries out and publishes original scientific research and is therefore familiar with the processes involved in data collection and analysis, publication and peer review of scientific research.

Additional areas of focus

Our team is closely connected to the Paris Real Estate/Environment team which notably focuses on:

- Classified installations – operating permits – functioning of installations: assistance in the preparation of operating permits, advice on the compliance with the environmental legislation, auditing supporting files for permit applications
- Management of contaminated sites and soil and industrial wasteland: negotiations with the authorities, assistance in the redevelopment of industrial wasteland, audit for sales, securing of sales, administrative and civil disputes
- Water and Waste law

Sophisticated advice



A selection of our experience and substances we deal with

Asbestos

Pesticides

Chromium

Uranium

Hydrocarbons

Paraben

Alkylphenol

CMR

Formaldehyde

PCB



Risk assessment

Providing risk assessment in the scope of the sale of two subsidiaries by an energy supplier as well as of two subsidiaries in the automotive industry



Regulatory advice

Advising numerous industrial companies on the compliance of their products with REACH, the Cosmetics Regulation, and other relevant EU Directives/Regulations



Early retirement litigation

Representing a manufacturer of automotive components in proceedings initiated by former employees who claim they have been exposed to asbestos and should be compensated for the alleged subsequent disruption in the living conditions and anxiety of developing an illness in the future



Recall of products

Advising industrial companies on risks related to the discovery of potentially dangerous substances in either bought or sold products and on the recall procedures to be implemented

Handling claims filed by dealers or consumers following global recalls



Gross negligence

Representing and handling hundreds of gross negligence claims filed by employees exposed to potentially dangerous substances such as asbestos



Registration assistance

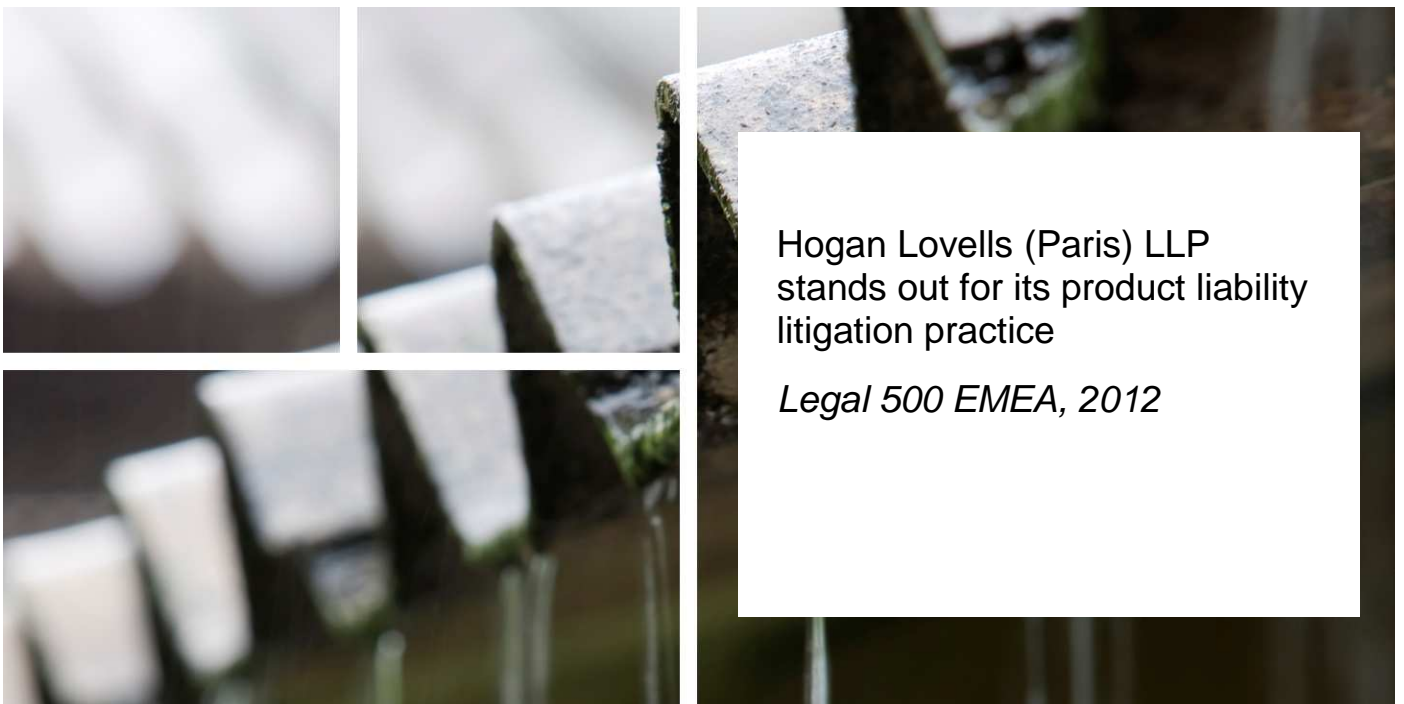
Advising a pesticide manufacturer in the registration process of its products in France following an investigation by the French customs

Assisting cosmetics manufacturers in the declaration of dangerous substances to the authorities

Why Hogan Lovells?

Our strengths

- **Detailed knowledge of the French and EU regulatory landscape** which enable us to be best placed to handle litigation linked to potential breaches of such regulations
- **Ability to handle cross-border claims work:** many of our lawyers are multi-qualified (France, UK and/or US) allowing us to develop an international and consistent strategy and process
- **Ability to handle multi-practice claims work:** our lawyers from different practices work closely together. Interactions between our litigation, employment and environment teams are well-driven in order to provide complete advice
- Personal approach combined with business impact awareness and the necessary technical and scientific knowledge
- Unrivalled experience of working opposite and alongside the full range of **regulatory and government bodies**



Our Publications

Our lawyers regularly publish in both external and internal reviews on potentially dangerous substances-related matters

- Publication of numerous articles on European and French product liability legislation and case law in the ***International Product Liability Review*** for more than 10 years
- Numerous articles on French asbestos-related litigation notably in the Mealey's International Asbestos Liability Report
- Editor of Hogan Lovells' ***International Hazardous Substances Newsletter***
- Editor of Hogan Lovells' ***International Asbestos Newsletter***
- Numerous articles on the emerging pesticides-related litigation in France
- Numerous articles on the potential risks linked to nanotechnologies
- Numerous articles on REACH and its understanding by French authorities
- Editor of the yearly ***International Cosmetics Client Note***
- Publication of a ***guide on Product Safety in France***.



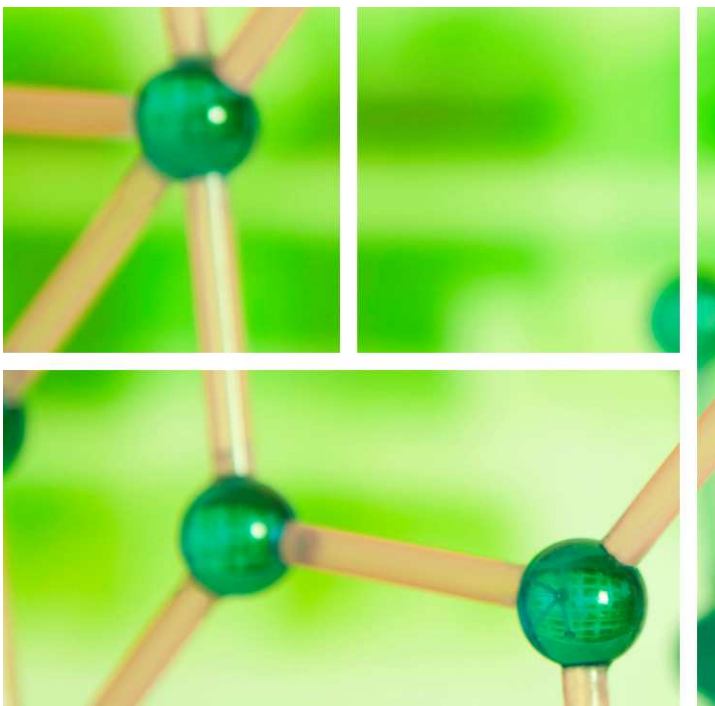
Thomas Rouhette is considered by many interviewees as one of the standout practitioners for commercial litigation, particularly related to product liability. He commands respect from clients, who say he is "an excellent litigator and an impressive strategist".

Chambers Europe, 2013

Speaking engagements and studies

Our lawyers also participate in a number of studies and seminars

- Regular speakers at international conferences organized by associations of defense Counsel such as IADC (International Association of Defense Counsel) or DRI (Defense Research Institute)
- Share our experience on product safety with the industry at the International Consumer Product Health & Safety Organization's conferences (ICPHSO)
- Participation in the drafting of a guide published by a leading cosmetics' industry association on Regulation 1223/2009
- Share our experience with the cosmetics industry during leading industry associations' meetings each year (COSMED, ERPA, etc.)
- Organization of *Product Liability Road shows*, involving case studies in Europe and the US.



Clients say:

"Relevant analysis and perceptiveness regarding the stakes, very close collaboration with the legal department, anticipation of risks in business law, firm proposals and practical solutions that can easily be transposed vis-à-vis the operational staff, detailed and neat drafting, positive results in several cases where the group was in a delicate, and sometimes very delicate, position"

Option Droit & Affaires, 2012

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