**SIMON HUDD**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/simon-hudd-law/>

A highly experienced executive providing outstanding legal, strategic and commercial advice.

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| **SUMMARY** | |
| * Highly decorated legal career at major international law firms in multiple global financial centres * Successful transition into business executive roles in 2020 * "a great lawyer who understands commercial rationale and can work with the pressures of emerging market clients" (Chambers UK) * “more commercial and entrepreneurial than any lawyer I have assisted in their transition from private practice to the commercial world” (Charles Glass, Business Coach, the PCP) | |
| **SKILLSET** | |
| My main current focus is on advising small to medium sized technology companies on equity fundraisings from VCs, family offices and HNWIs. I am also a current non-executive Chairman of a company listed on the Aquis stock exchange.  I have extensive equity capital markets experience, and have worked on IPOs, takeovers and listed company advisory work on LSE, AIM, AQSE, NYSE, NASDAQ, TSX and many other exchanges in international financial centres.  I am equally well skilled on the other side of the fence knowing what an investing party is looking for and expecting for their involvement and the questions, input, and feedback constantly desired to ensure a “de-risked” view is achieved around any monies going into a business.  Such a skillset of knowing both sides of the investment market leave me uniquely placed to not only support a VE/PE with the strategic side of their investment decision but also able to work with the fund-raising CEO to educate as to not only how to become investment ready, but also what the journey will truly feel like and how to manage the medium to learn term strategy.  I am an outstanding written and verbal communicator, legal draftsman and a highly effective negotiator. I quickly develop a thorough understanding of a client’s commercial goals and deploy this to obtain their desired result.  I am a self-starter with experience both working in small groups and as a leader of regional and global teams. I am highly adaptable and have truly global experience.  I am success- and goals-driven and a high achiever, although I do so while maintaining a collaborative and friendly approach to both clients and colleagues. | |
| **2021 – PRESENT: BLACK SEA PROPERTY PLC**  **Director and Non-Executive Chairman** | |
| Appointed to the board in February 2021 to assist the Company be restored from trading on Aquis Stock Exchange (following suspension in Q4 2020). Assisted board in recovery from impacts of COVID-19, M&A transactions totalling $6m, disposals of assets, capital expenditure on developing real estate assets, proposed equity capital raise for Q4 of 2021, liaison with Peterhouse Capital (AQSE Corporate Advisor), assisting with announcements, audited accounts and general business advisory to the board. Recently closed a EUR30 million fundraising round and also completed on a major M&A transaction for a new hotel and marina complex on the Black Sea coast. | |
| **2023- PRESENT: CYCAL ENERGY LIMITED**  **General Counsel and Company Secretary** | |
| Co-Founder of cleantech start-up focusing on advanced mechanical recycling, pyrolysis, adapting land use for renewable energy and battery storage and with the ambition of developing multiple real estate development projects in the UK and internationally. Cycal advises landowners, developers and power purchasers on the 'art of the possible' for a given development project, leading to an in-depth feasibility study and eventually a full build-out of a major site. | |
| **2022- PRESENT: BLOCKLAND TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED**  **Non-Executive Director** | |
| Blockland is a fintech company licensed by the Dubai International Financial Centre. It owns various assets across both renewable energy and digital assets, and is the largest zero emission Bitcoin mining company in Europe with locations in Norway and Iceland. Working with the shareholders to develop further locations in Norway, Iceland and Denmark and working on joint ventures with data centre companies in the UK to increase capacity. Successfully completed internal tax restructuring and debt financing deal with Sygnum Bank for zero emissions projects. | |
| **2021 – PRESENT: REACTOO**  **Advisory Board Member** | |
| Engaged in October 2021 to assist Reactoo, a company focusing on watch party technology and audience engagement, with a £2m fundraising. Appointed to advisory board, assisting CEO, COO and advisors with fundraising collateral, investor messaging, outreach to VCs, family offices and HNWIs. Ongoing advice to management on fundraising strategy, roadmap and interface with investor base. Longer term strategic advice on exits for management, secondary fundraising strategy, preferred investor profiling and negotiations of investment terms with investor candidates. | |
| **2020 – PRESENT: D3A CAPITAL AND ADVISORY LIMITED**  **Partner** | |
| Team of 18 senior executives working in partnership with technology driven companies and entrepreneurs to grow and develop their businesses for scale and success. | |
| **2021 – 2023: AILERT**  **Chief Operating Officer** | |
| Engaged in September 2021 to assist AiLert, a video analytics and AI retraining company focusing on weapons detection using CCTV. Appointed to advisory board, assisting CEO and COO with fundraising collateral, investor messaging, outreach to VCs, family offices and HNWIs. Subsequently promoted to COO, active involvement in EU Horizon 2020 IMPETUS consortium, application for UK DASA funding, establishing connections in the US, staffing and employee issues, invoicing, pitching for new sales leads, closing $1.3m in late seed funding from HNWIs and family offices. | |
| **2020 – 2022: GOLDILOCK SECURE LIMITED**  **Director, VP (Regulatory and Corporate Affairs) (2020-2021), Advisor (2021-Present)** | |
| In September 2020 I joined Goldilock, a cybersecurity and network security start-up in a combined legal / strategic role. This commenced by spending Q4 2020 embedded in a technology accelerator in Abu Dhabi developing the company’s investor marketing materials, key investor messaging and building connections with a pipeline of financial services clients for 2021. Led the company’s in-house legal and company secretarial function throughout a successful $1.5m investment round and beyond, as well as playing a key role in developing use cases for Goldilock’s Drawbridge product in the financial services and legal services sectors. | |
| **PRIVATE PRACTICE LEGAL CAREER** | |
| 19-year private practice career specialising in corporate finance, joint ventures, venture capital and private equity, mergers and acquisitions, general company law, banking and finance, corporate governance and structuring, practising the laws of England and Wales, British Virgin Islands, Jersey, Cayman Islands and Bermuda as well as time spent in-house on client secondments.  I have been consistently ranked as a leader in my field by legal industry publications, based on client feedback and testimonials (see ***Awards and Recognition*** below). | |
|  | **Harney, Westwood & Riegels, 2011-2019**  Partner, Global Corporate and Finance Department Global Head, Russia CIS & CEE Practice Group  Head of Corporate and Transactional Department, Bermuda office  Head of Corporate Services, Bermuda office  I joined Harneys in 2011 and built up the firm’s Russia, CIS and CEE practice to be the largest of its kind among offshore law firms. I was a key partner in Harneys’ London office, and relocated to Bermuda in 2017 to lead the development of Harneys’ Bermuda office. |
| **Transaction Highlights:** | Acting for **Credit Suisse** on the acquisition financing of **Lexmark**’s enterprise software business by **Thoma Bravo** for US$1.5bn  Acting for unsecured creditors on the US$10 billion debt restructuring of **Seadrill Ltd**.  Acting for **Ineos PLC** on its US$1.1bn acquisition of **Ashland Global Holdings**  Acting for **UTI Worldwide, Inc**. on its $1.6 billion takeover by **DSV**, one of the largest ever takeovers of a BVI company  US$1.2 billion sale of **EUROSET**, Russia’s largest mobile telecommunications company  Acting for **Orascom Construction Industries** on term loan facilities totalling us$2.2 billion with a syndicate of banks |
| **A picture containing clipart  Description automatically generated** | **Walkers, British Virgin Islands and Jersey, 2006-2011**  I moved to the British Virgin Islands in 2006 on what was intended to be a 2-year adventure. However, the move offshore with Walkers to join their corporate and finance team in BVI was very successful and I built a thriving book of business with major international clients, resulting in first moving from the BVI to Jersey in 2010 to co-found Walkers’ Russia, CIS and CEE team and then to being asked to join Harneys in 2011 (see above). |
| **Transaction Highlights** | Acting for **GLG Partners, Inc.** on its US$3.4 billion reverse takeover by **Freedom Acquisition Holdings Limited** and admission to the New York Stock Exchange  Acting for **GLG Partners, Inc.** on its US$1.6 billion merger with **Man Group plc**  Acting for **Rio Tinto Group** on its disposal of the Corumba iron ore project in Brazil and related logistics operations within South America to **Vale** for US$1.6 billion  Acting for **Transocean Pacific Drilling, Inc.**, a Company listed on the New York Stock Exchange, on a secured loan facility in the amount of US$1.265 billion to finance the construction and delivery of two drillships. |
|  | **CMS Cameron McKenna, London 2001-2006**  I trained as a solicitor at CMS, now the world’s largest law firm. I joined the corporate department where I worked on many of the firm’s key client accounts, including National Grid, Enterprise Inns and Nomura (see below). |
| **Transaction Highlights:** | Advising **National Grid Plc** on the sale of UK gas distribution networks for £5.75bn  Advising **Enterprise Inns Plc** on the Acquisition of the Unique Pub Company for £2.3bn  Advising **National Grid Plc** and **Duke Energy** on the disposal of their interests in **Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc**, Zambia's privatised electricity transmission and distribution company |
|  | **Nomura Code Securities Limited, 2005**  I spent a year on client secondment in **Nomura**’s biotech and cleantech corporate finance team, with the prime goal being to assist **Nomura** on the £215 million IPO of **Agcert International Limited** on the London Stock Exchange, the first IPO of a cleantech company specialising in carbon credits. |
|  | **The Wellcome Trust, 2003**  I spent 7 months on client secondment in the technology transfer team at The Wellcome Trust, then the world’s largest medical research charity. |

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| **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION** | |
| **2016 Legal 500** | Recommended by Legal 500 in Guide to Offshore Firms in London |
| **2015 Legal 500** | Recommended by Legal 500 in Guide to Offshore Firms in London |
| **2014 Chambers UK** | Ranked in Bank 2 for Offshore: British Virgin Islands Law - UK |
| **2013 Chambers Global** | Recommended as a foreign lawyer in the UK (Corporate/M&A) |
| **2012 Chambers Global** | Recommended as a foreign lawyer in the UK (Corporate/M&A) |
| **2011 Chambers Global** | Recommended as a foreign lawyer in the UK (Corporate/M&A). |
| **2010 Chambers Global** | Recommended BVI lawyer. "Commentators describe him as "highly commercially astute" |
| **2009 Chambers Global** | Recommended BVI lawyer. "efficient, reliable and particularly good in major transactions" |
| **2009 Legal 500** | Recommended BVI lawyer |
| **2008 Chambers Global** | Recommended BVI lawyer. ""an amazing lawyer - able, capable and astute," according to clients. He handles general corporate/commercial work and "knows his area inside-out."" |
| **2008 PLC Which Lawyer?** | Recommended BVI lawyer |

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| **ACADEMICS AND QUALIFICATIONS** |

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| **Law School (2000-2001)** | Legal Practice Course, Nottingham Law School | |
| **Postgraduate (1999-2000)** | Masters in European Law, Université de Rennes I | |
| **University (1996-1999)** | University of Exeter (1996-1999) LLB (European) Hons – English Law and French Law – 2:1 | |
| **Admissions to Practice Law** | England & Wales British Virgin Islands | Bermuda |

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| **PERSONAL DETAILS** | | | |
| **Full Name** | Simon Christopher Hudd | **Date of Birth** | 19 April 1978 | |
| **Age** | 45 | **Mobile Tel:** | +44 7568 605330 | |
| **Home Address** | White Gables, Bagshot Rd, Chobham, Woking, Surrey GU24 8SJ | **Personal Email:** | simonhudd78@gmail.com | |