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Driven by results

Newsletter September 2016



This month, we are pleased to share with you the rankings we have achieved in the Legal 500, which is one of the two main legal directories. In particular, we are now listed in five new categories: Construction, Planning, Environment, Charities & Not-For-Profit and

Welcome to the Shulmans newsletter.

Sport.

We have also been shortlisted for a range of awards (including the Law Society Excellence Awards), which shows the depth and breadth of the services we provide to our clients.

As usual, we bring you updates on important recent legal developments, including on the topics of data protection and the Government's new energy regulations.

Tim Halstead
Managing Partner, Shulmans LLP

Shulmans news



Recognition for Shulmans in the Legal 500 directory

The 2016-2017 edition of the Legal 500 directory is now out, and we are very pleased to report that we have been recognised in no less than 12 practice areas.



Shulmans advises Bayfields Opticians on further expansion

Marcus Armstrong, corporate partner at Shulmans LLP, has recently advised Bayfields Opticians on the acquisition of two practices, helping them further their ambitious expansion plans.

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Shulmans assists GDL in enforcing adjudicator's decision

The majority of disputes in the construction industry are caused, and indeed aggravated, by a lack of clarity in relation to the contractual obligations and/or the technical specifications.

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Our first-ever charity ball

On the evening of 30 September 2016, our firm will be hosting its first-ever charity ball, at the Marriott Hotel in Leeds.

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Our Vacation Placement Scheme is a resounding success

The Shulmans Vacation Placement Scheme (VPS) is a two-week work placement undertaken by candidates as part of their application to obtain a training contract with the firm. The participating students spend each of their two weeks in a specific department: corporate & commercial, commercial property, residential development, property support (which consists of planning, construction and property management & litigation) or dispute resolution.

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Legal news



Falling foul of the system: penalty charge notices

Since the introduction of the Dartford Crossing charge ('Dart Charge') in November 2014, there has been a rise in unpaid penalty charge notices (PCN); this has been a particular problem for fleet operators.

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The loopholes of the GIG economy

The business environment is constantly changing. A new trend has emerged recently, of organisations and businesses outsourcing their labour needs by contracting with independent workers on a short-term, flexible basis. We call this the 'GIG economy'.

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Sage data breach



Is software classified as goods or services?

Laws drafted in the nineties have frequently been overtaken by technology in recent years, and the Commercial Agents (Council Directive) Regulations 1993 (CAR) is no exception.

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Historic construction firm in crisis is forced to propose CVA to creditors

The Business Desk recently reported on a 270-year-old York construction and restoration company which, due to cash flow problems, was being forced to propose a CVA to its creditors.

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The legal loopholes of commercialisation

Following the TalkTalk cyber security breach of customer data in October 2015, this week another major organisation seems to have experienced that other variant of data breach - the rogue insider. Last weekend, the FTSE100 accounting software provider, Sage, confirmed that it was "investigating unauthorised access to customer information using an internal login."

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Legal update: the fraudulent devices rule

The Supreme Court recently held in *Versloot BV v HDI Gerling Industrie Versicherung AG* and others that the "fraudulent devices rule" does not allow an insurer to reject a claim by an insured because of collateral lies made by it in support of a claim.

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Commercialisation is about obtaining maximum ancillary income for retail landlords/owners of a shopping centre, outside the usual tenant rental income. It includes income generated from advertising boards, kiosks, merchandise stalls, promotional space, car valeting, vending machines, etc.

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How the government's new energy regulations could affect landlords

Landlords could be fined up to £150,000 if their rented property has an energy rating which fails to meet the required minimum standard from 2018.

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