

Disputes drive sees Legal Solutions poach from rival Tan Teng Chin

Singapore boutique law firm Legal Solutions LLC has poached Henry Heng, former head of litigation at Tan Peng Chin LLC, and his team of lawyers. The coup will add to the firm's fast-expanding litigation and international arbitration practice, through strengthening associations with UK and Australian law firms.

Legal Solutions, a firm that has been in operation for 6 years, has taken on four new hires in the past



Kevin Kwek
Legal Solutions

2 months – including recently hired litigation lawyer Joanna Poh, who joined the firm in December 2010.

“There has been a significant rise in international arbitration work for us over the last 12 months,” said Legal Solutions litigation director Kevin Kwek. “Interestingly, we have also been instructed in international arbitrations conducted outside of Singapore, such as in Hong Kong, London and China by clients from neighbouring countries because of our language abilities.

“We see international arbitrations as being a great growth area in the next year or two and we intend to further

expand our arbitration practice to deal with the anticipated increase in such cases,” he added.

According to Kwek, 70% of the firm's dispute work is locally based, with 30% of its pipeline of work being international. “That 30% has risen steadily in the last 12 months and we expect further growth this year,” he said.

“We are getting more international work from foreign law firms because Singapore is increasingly the seat of arbitration.” For calendar year 2010 Legal Solutions witnessed a 50% jump in the number of arbitration cases handled. **ALB**