

Virtual Hearings: From the Perspectives of a Counsel and an Arbitrator

15 Nov 2021 (Monday) | 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
This webinar carries 1 CPD point.

Virtual hearings both in court and arbitration have been accelerated due to the restrictions in physical gatherings, and travel and movement, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic over the last 1½ years or so.

[Register online here](#)

The challenge has been between indefinitely adjourning hearings until the situation normalises, or looking for other solutions that are now possible due to the availability of relatively affordable fast and stable broadband in many parts of the world, audiovisual capabilities of personal computers and peripherals that have become ubiquitous, as well as the rapidly improving virtual conferencing platforms.

This session will explore the challenges of virtual hearings; measures taken to overcome these, in particular protecting the integrity and procedural fairness of the proceedings; the practical experience of how successful these have been in addressing the deficits compared to in-person hearings; the significant savings in costs to be had; and whether or not they are likely to become the norm even when the pandemic subsides and life returns to normal.

Speakers

Jern-Fei Ng QC, *Queen's Counsel, 7BR, London*

Jern-Fei specialises in commercial litigation and arbitration, with 18 years of experience appearing before courts and tribunals and sitting as arbitrator in different jurisdictions, including England, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands and Luxembourg.



He has acted as counsel in some 350 cases and as arbitrator in some 30 cases (as presiding, sole and co-arbitrator) pursuant to, amongst others, International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC"), Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre ("HKIAC"), London Court of International Arbitration ("LCIA"), London Maritime Arbitrators Association ("LMAA"), Singapore International Arbitration Centre ("SIAC"), and Permanent Court of Arbitration ("PCA") and United Nations Commission on International Trade Law ("UNCITRAL") Rules. He was one of the youngest Queen's Counsel to be appointed in 2018.

He is recommended by The Legal 500 UK as a "leading practitioner in commodities, energy, international arbitration, offshore, and tax".

Edmund J Kronenburg, *Managing Partner, Braddell Brothers Singapore*

Edmund began his legal career at Drew & Napier in 1997. In 2009, he took on the mantle of Managing Partner at Braddell Brothers LLP, Singapore.



Edmund is admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor (Singapore) and Solicitor (England & Wales). He also has rights of audience at the AIFC (Astana International Financial Centre) Court, Kazakhstan. He has over 24 years' experience in dispute resolution, litigation, and arbitration, regularly appearing as counsel before the Singapore courts as well as in international arbitrations. His diverse practice includes commercial and corporate disputes, energy and natural resources, media and telecommunications, breach of confidence, defamation, employment, medical and healthcare disputes, as well as pre-emptive relief and injunctions, including Worldwide Freezing Injunctions.

Edmund also actively sits as an arbitrator, and has conducted arbitrations seated in Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam, as sole arbitrator, tribunal chairman / presiding arbitrator, and tribunal member. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators ("CI Arb"),

Singapore Institute of Arbitrators ("SI Arb"), Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators ("MI Arb"), Arbitrators' and Mediators' Institute of New Zealand ("AMINZ"), Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators ("HKI Arb") and Philippine Institute of Arbitrators ("PI Arb"), and has been admitted to the arbitrator panels / lists of 17 international arbitral institutes, worldwide. Edmund has received wide recognition in the Legal 500, Chambers & Partners, Best Lawyers, Benchmark Litigation, Who's Who Legal, and Asialaw guides.

Moderator

Rajendra Navaratnam, *Partner, Azman Davidson & Co*

Rajendra Navaratnam is a lawyer with a first degree in electrical engineering and 10 years of experience in the power industry before commencing legal practice.



He began his legal career with Azman Davidson & Co in 1988 and became a Partner in 1993.

Rajendra practises primarily in the areas of technology-related law, in particular construction, energy, insurance, and intellectual property law in both dispute resolution (litigation and arbitration), as well as in advisory roles.

He appears as counsel and sits as arbitrator in in both international and domestic arbitrations, and appears in court, up to the Federal Court.

He is one of the two members for Malaysia sitting in the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC") Court of Arbitration for the 2021-2024 session.

He is on the panel of arbitrators of the Asian International Arbitration Centre ("AIAC"), SIAC, HKIAC, Vietnam International Arbitration Centre ("VIAC"), Korean Commercial Arbitration Board ("KCAB"), Pacific International Arbitration Centre ("PIAC"), and AIAC-Hainan International Arbitration Court ("HIAC") joint panel, CI Arb, MI Arb, and The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia ("IEM").

He is a Fellow of the CI Arb and MI Arb, is a Chartered Arbitrator, and is on the approved faculty list of the CI Arb.

He is a past Chairman of the CI Arb Malaysia Branch, member of the Bar Council Arbitration Committee, member of the Contracts and Practices Committee of the Master Builders Association of Malaysia ("MBAM"), and past Council Member of the Society of Construction Law Malaysia.

This webinar is free of charge, but **advance registration is required**.

Upon successful registration, a link to the webinar will be emailed to registered participants only. Registration will close at **5:00 pm, 12 Nov 2021 (Friday)**.

Please note that **no** additional registration will be accepted once the closing date has passed, or if the webinar is full (whichever comes first).

We may not permit future registration if you fail to attend the webinar after registering, unless you provide an acceptable and valid reason(s).

A Step-By-Step Guide to Join a Webinar via Zoom

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01

For seamless streaming, download the Zoom app.



You will be given a webinar ID and a password to join the webinar once your registration has been confirmed.

02

Log in to Zoom, and provide your username.

For Members of the Bar or pupils in chambers, use the format below for identification purposes when prompted: **Full name (as per NRIC) | Bar Council membership number or petition number**.

For non-Members, provide your full name only.

03

Set up your space.



Find a spot which is comfortable and free from background noises. You may use an earpiece with microphone for clarity. Having a strong internet connection is equally important.

04

Please raise your questions only during the Question-and-Answer session.

Please take note that no speaking is allowed when the webinar is taking place.

If you wish to raise a question, please type in the Q&A box and the speaker will respond accordingly.

05

Please do not do these



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Any unregistered person may be removed without prior notice and no CPD point will be awarded. Failure to adhere to this may result in disciplinary action by the Bar Council.



Should you have any enquiries, please contact:
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