

Milbank

Paul Ng

Partner

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Paul Ng, a partner in the Singapore office of Milbank LLP leads the Transportation and Space practice in Asia. Milbank is one of the premier providers of legal services to the aviation industry worldwide and is ranked in the Top Tier (Tier 1), for Aviation in Asia and globally by the leading legal directory, Legal 500.

Prior to joining Milbank, Paul was the global head of aviation for an international law firm based in London.

Primary Focus & Experience

Paul has helmed some of the most complex and first-in-the industry asset backed structured and receivables financings. He has thorough knowledge of the financing and leasing of aviation and maritime assets, rolling stock and other moveable assets. He is also experienced in tax-based finance, leveraged finance, Islamic finance and export credit. He has acted for major lenders, operating and finance lessors, borrowers, lessees and arrangers in a wide range of banking, finance and leasing transactions for over 30 years.

His experience includes advising:

- AirAsia, largest low cost carrier in Asia, on the portfolio sale of aircraft and aircraft engines to BBAM with enterprise value of US\$2.8 billion, the largest ever done in Asia. *Editor's Choice Deal of the Year, Airfinance Journal Global Awards 2019.*
- PT Lion Mentar, largest carrier in Indonesia, on its US\$24 billion acquisition of over 230 Airbus aircraft, one of the largest commercial aircraft orders of all time. *Asia Legal Business's overall Deal of the Year*
- Underwriters on Vietjet's initial public offering (IPO), largest in Vietnamese history.
- Carlyle Aviation on the largest acquisition of a Chinese leasing company, China Minsheng Investment's aircraft leasing platform of over 35 Boeing and Airbus Aircraft.
- China's Bank of Communication Financial Leasing, China Construction Bank Leasing, China Aviation Leasing, Carlyle Aviation on the US\$10 billion debt restructuring of Garuda's, Indonesia's national carrier, on the largest airline restructuring in Asia.

Education

University of London, LL.B

Admissions

New York

England and Wales

Singapore



Recognition & Accomplishments

Professionally / Practice

Paul is consistently recognized as a leading lawyer for Aviation: Finance in Singapore by *Chambers Asia Pacific* and for Asset Finance in Singapore by *Legal 500*.

He is pre-eminent in the low-cost sector and in *Chambers Asia Pacific* he is described by clients as “King of low cost carriers” and “simply fantastic”.

Paul was named “Best of the Best” top 30 aviation practitioners in the world by *Who's Who Legal* and as a leading Islamic finance adviser in relation to transportation matters by *Islamic Finance News*.

He is an Executive Committee member of the prestigious legal advisory panel of the Aviation Working Group (one of the most important aviation industry groups consisting of Boeing, Airbus, other leading manufacturers; and capital providers and lessors to the aircraft industry) and chairs their South East Asia Contact Group.

Lecturing / Writing

Paul is a visiting Research Scholar/Fellow of the University of Cambridge, Commercial Law Studies Centre. And has recently accepted a position as an **Adjunct Professor** in the Faculty of Law at the **National University of Singapore** where he will teach Aviation Finance. He also lectures annually as a guest lecturer of the Faculty of Business at **NYU Shanghai**, China's first Sino-US research university jointly set up by NYU and East China Normal University.

Paul has also been invited to speak at virtually all major aviation and asset finance conferences around the world on topical (including legal) issues of the day including the largest conference for the sector, the Dublin Airfinance Conference. He has been a keynote speaker, panelist and moderator of panels at conferences in China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia, India, UK and the US.

He is also the current **Contributing Editor** of *Legal 500's International Comparative Guide for Aviation*, a position he has held for the last three years.

Over the last two decades he has contributed frequently to key industry periodicals in the region and internationally including *FinanceAsia*, *China Law & Practice*, *Asia Legal Business*, *Airfinance Journal*, *ILFR1000*, *Corporate Jet Investor* and *Jetgala*.

Press / Others

Paul is often sought out for his insights on the transportation market by various government agencies throughout Asia as well as media including **BBC**, **Channel News Asia**, **Reuters**, **Bloomberg** and **the Financial Times**.

In 2022, Paul was appointed as a specialist mediator in transport and aviation to the Panel of Specialist Mediators for the **Singapore International Mediation Centre**.

Paul also serves as a member of the Advisory Board to the **Hague Court of Arbitration for Aviation**.

Paul is currently the deputy Vice President for the Asia with the **Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (“FIA”)**, inter alia, the international governing body for motor sport including Formula 1 and was the two time Asian Classic Car Champion (Super Light Division) in 2017 and 2018.

Languages: Paul speaks several Chinese dialects including Mandarin, Teochew and Cantonese.

Employment chronology

After graduated from Queen Mary College, University of London and completing the Practice Law Course at the University of Westminster. Paul was called to the bar as a **barrister of England and Wales (inner Temple) in 1992**. Paul has been in the employment of some of biggest and most prestigious international law firms in the world. He has spent time in offices in London, Shanghai, Hong Kong and New York over his thirty-year career.

1993-1995: Haridass & Ho, Singapore – qualified as Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore

1995-1998: Allen & Overy, Hong Kong – qualified as Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales: A&O is one of the top five “magic” circle firms in the UK. Paul focused on project financing and worked on transactions related to toll roads, telecoms, power and water in China, Philippines, Indonesia and Hong Kong

1998-2009: Freshfields, London, Shanghai, Hong Kong – qualified as a foreign lawyer in Hong Kong and as a New York attorney in 2002: Freshfields, also a “magic circle” firm is one of the oldest law firms in the world with over three hundred years history. Paul was made a partner in 2007 and led the firm’s Asset Finance practice in Asia.

2009-2014: Stephenson Harwood, Hong Kong and Singapore: Stephenson Harwood is a respected boutique transportation law firm. Ranked tier 1 in Asia for Asset Finance by Legal 500 and Chambers, Asia. Paul was appointed as Global Head of Aviation managing aviation lawyers across three continents in over 30 offices (including Dubai, Beijing, Paris, London etc.).

2014-2022: Milbank, Singapore and New York: Milbank was founded in 1866, and belongs to an elite group of firms based originally on Wall Street, New York. It is a global firm and is tier 1 in Aviation and Transportation Finance ranked by Legal 500 Global and Chambers Global 2022 – a position held only by two firms globally. Paul leads their Transportation and Space practice in Asia.