

Collins returns to Watson Farley & Williams

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Asset finance expert Simon Collins has returned to Watson Farley & Williams.

Collins joined the law firm in Hong Kong SAR from White & Case on 1 May.

He was an associate at WFW in both London and Singapore before joining White & Case in 2005.

Since January 2010, Collins had headed up the White & Case's asset finance practice (mix of aviation and maritime) in Tokyo and Hong Kong.

Collins started as a trainee solicitor in 1998 at Richards Butler. He joined WFW in 1998 for a period of seven year as an associate working principally in shipping finance, including debt and lease finance structures, and commercial shipping issues, including shipbuilding contracts, charterparties, COAs, agency arrangements and all ancillary shipping matters.

Collins is widely recognised as one of Asia's top asset finance lawyers by leading legal and industry journals including Legal 500, Chambers and Airfinance Journal. He advises clients on complex cross-border aviation and maritime finance transactions, including asset and project finance, structured lending and restructuring, leasing, and commercial shipping transactions.

Singapore-based WFW Global Aviation Sector co-head Charles Viggers commented: "Simon's aviation finance expertise makes him an invaluable addition to our expanding Asia Pacific team, especially given his strong ties to the key Japanese market. I'm delighted to welcome him back to WFW".

Collins said: "I am really excited to be returning to WFW. The firm has a long-standing reputation for excellence in asset finance worldwide and I greatly look forward to working with colleagues old and new to further enhance its aviation practice in that space across Asia".

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