

MICHAEL BIRD FCIArb

Independent Arbitrator | British

Email: arbitration@mbirdservices.com | Tel: +66 (0) 8101 21646

Website: www.mbirdservices.com | LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/michael-p-bird

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Profile

Aspiring Full Member of the London Maritime Arbitrators Association (LMAA). English solicitor (now non-practising) and former P&I Club claims director with more than 25 years' experience in maritime law and arbitration. Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb). Extensive expertise in charterparty, marine insurance, and other maritime contractual disputes.

Qualifications

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), London - Diploma in International Maritime Arbitration (2023-2024)

- Part 1: Law, Practice and Procedure of International Maritime Arbitration 70%
- Part 2: Law of Obligations 100%
- Part 3: Evidence and Award Writing of International Maritime Arbitration 88%

Markers' feedback: "An outstanding candidate. Excellent award."

SCMA/SIArb Singapore Maritime Arbitrator Accreditation Programme (Passed, 2023)

University of Bristol, UK and University of Hanover, Germany - EuroLLB in European Legal Studies (Upper Second Class, 1989-1993) - English, German and European Law

Professional History

Michael Bird Services Company Limited, Bangkok (2023-Present)

Independent Arbitrator, accepting appointments in all types of maritime dispute. Appointed in ad hoc arbitrations under LMAA Terms and in one arbitration administered by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).

Tindall Riley (Managers of the **Britannia P&I Club**), London and Copenhagen (2007-2022)

Claims Handler/Director. I handled every kind of FD&D, P&I and CLH (Charterers' Liability to Hull) claim, except personal injury. The members were Owners, Charterers and Pool Managers. The tonnage comprised container vessels, product and chemical tankers, LPG tankers and bulk carriers. I also conducted contract reviews to ensure compatibility with P&I cover and led the Club's approach to LNG terminal conditions of use (COUs).

I was promoted in 2016 to Divisional Director (Claims), Head of Scandinavian Claims, and de facto deputy head of FD&D claims worldwide. I served on various management committees, including the FD&D Large Claims Review Sub-Committee.

Barlow Lyde & Gilbert (now Clyde & Co) Solicitors, London (2003-2005)

Associate Solicitor, Marine Insurance and Shipping dispute resolution. Throughout my career in private practice, I acted for clients in marine insurance coverage disputes and recovery actions, charterparty disputes and a wide range of other contentious maritime matters.

Hill Taylor Dickinson (now Hill Dickinson) Solicitors, London (1995-2003)

Assistant Solicitor (six years) and Trainee Solicitor (two years). I acted in *Handelsbanken v Dandridge* [2002] EWCA Civ 577 (marine insurance coverage dispute which reached the Court of Appeal).

BIMCO

Member, Documentary Committee (2015-2022). Member, Drafting Subcommittee for:

- BIMCO LNG Fuel Quality Clause for Time Charter Parties 2022
- BIMCO LNG Fuel Gas-Freeing and Cool-Down Clause for Time Charter Parties 2022
- BIMCO LNG Fuel Delivery and Redelivery Clause for Time Charter Parties 2022
- BIMCO LNG Fuel Operational Clause for Time Charter Parties 2022

Panels and Memberships

Empanelled Arbitrator:

- Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration (**SCMA**)
- China Maritime Arbitration Commission (**CMAC**)
- Asian International Arbitration Centre (**AIAC**)
- Thailand Arbitration Center (**THAC**)
- Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization Hong Kong Regional Arbitration Centre (**AALCO-HKRAC**)
- Thai Arbitration Institute, Office of the Judiciary (**TAI**)

Professional Memberships:

- Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (**FCIArb**) (2024–Present)
- Member, London Maritime Arbitrators Association (**LMAA**) (2020-Present) and Aspiring Full Member since 2026
- Supporting Member, Hong Kong Maritime Arbitration Group (**HKMAG**) (2024-Present)
- Member, **UK Chamber of Shipping** Documentary Sub-Committee and (occasionally) Legal, Insurance and Documentary Committee (2015–2022)
- Member, **International Group of P&I Clubs** Production Operations and Specialist Craft Committee and LNG Indemnities Working Group (2016–2022)

Mooting

Judged three moots at 2025 Maldives Moot Court Society International Maritime Arbitration Competition (**MIMAC**) and was presiding arbitrator at one semi-final

Judged one quarter-final of 7th M.K. Nambyar Memorial International Maritime Law Arbitration Competition 2026 (**NIMLAC**) at National University of Advanced Legal Studies, Kochi, India

Coaching mooted teams of Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur, India and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, Lucknow, India

Languages

English (native)

German (fluent)

Thai (intermediate - spoken, read and written)