



Ian Teo
Partner
Helmsman LLC

Ian Teo is a Partner at Helmsman LLC. He is a highly regarded commodities and shipping specialist lawyer. He is consistently recommended in major legal publications for his shipping and commodities expertise, including Chambers– The World’s Leading Lawyers for Business, World’s Leading International Trade and Shipping Lawyers, Asia Pacific Legal 500 and Best Lawyers International (2013-2018). In the 2016 edition of Best Lawyers International, Ian was named Singapore Trade Lawyer of the Year. In 2019, Ian was amongst the first batch of Senior Accredited Shipping and Maritime Law Specialists recognised by the Singapore Academy of Law.

Ian is engaged on a retainer basis by major commodities houses and provide specialist advice on all aspects of commodities trading law. Ian read law at the National University of Singapore (LL.B) and went on to obtain his LL.M at Cambridge University. He is a member of the adjunct faculty at the Singapore Management University, School of Law, a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitration and an Adjunct Fellow of the NUS Centre for Maritime Law. He contributes to academia regularly, and has published in Lloyd’s Maritime & Commercial Quarterly. Ian is qualified to practise in Singapore and English and Wales.

Clients’ comments include - Chambers Global: “A specialist in shipping and trade disputes... highly experienced in litigation and arbitration”, “best known for his dry shipping expertise”, “commands respect...strong reputation for trade and dry shipping work”, “a commercially sound lawyer”, “...very knowledgeable...”; Chambers Asia-Pacific: “garners extensive praise from his clients”, “very competent lawyer who is meticulous in his case preparation, and effective and persuasive in his advocacy”, “ability to think outside the box”; Legal 500: “...always switched on and always has a great turnaround time”, “timely and practical advice”, “keen eye for details and whose advice is always commercially sound”, “developing a burgeoning reputation as a sound advocate”.



Gary Low
Assistant Professor of Law
SMU School of Law

Gary Low is Assistant Professor at the Singapore Management University School of Law. He read for law at the London School of Economics (LLB, First Class) and Oxford University (BCL, Distinction) and Maastricht University (PhD).

He was a Justices’ Law Clerk of the Supreme Court of Singapore as well as a shipping lawyer at a large reputable firm. Prior to joining SMU, he was associated with Tilburg and Maastricht universities in the Netherlands as well as Cornell Law School. At present, he teaches the common law as well as international commercial law, and researches on legal integration, commercial and consumer law, and behavioural law and economics.



Joanna Chan
Senior Vice President
DBS Bank

Joanna Chan leads the derivative section in this course. She is currently a Senior Vice President in the Legal Department of DBS Bank Ltd in Singapore, supporting the Treasury & Markets business. Before joining DBS Bank Ltd, Joanna was the Head of the APAC Commodities Legal Practice Group for J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. and as the JPMorgan representative, was also the Co-Chair of the ISDA APAC Commodities Working Group. She was previously in Standard Chartered Bank in Singapore, where she was Senior Legal Counsel, supporting their Financial Markets business, covering all asset classes and with a focus on Commodities. Prior to that, Joanna was Executive Director at Goldman Sachs in Hong Kong, supporting the various businesses in the Securities Division. She has also worked at Allen & Overy in Hong Kong and Ashurst in London. Joanna graduated from The National University of Singapore and is admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor in Singapore and a Solicitor in England.



Gerald Tham
Head of Legal & Compliance
JERA Global Markets Pte Ltd

Gerald Tham is the Head of Legal & Compliance at Jera Trading. Gerald has a broad spectrum of commodities trading experience. He qualified as a lawyer in 2002 and had previously practised as a shipping and commodities lawyer at Rajah & Tann. He spent 10 years with Shell. As Commercial Advisor (3 years) at Shell, he advised on various commodities offtake and supply agreements. He was also a fuels trader at Shell for 5 years, managing the supply of fuels for Shell in the Pacific Islands region. Gerald is also experienced in trade finance, having spent some time as Senior Legal Counsel at Standard Chartered Bank, providing transactional support for lending, trade financing and cash management.



Reza Ispahani
Regional Counsel, APAC
Trafigura Pte Ltd,

Reza joined Trafigura, one of the world's leading independent commodity trading companies, in 2012. Trafigura sources, stores, transports and delivers a range of raw materials (including oil and refined products and metals and minerals) to clients around the world. As Regional Counsel, Reza has extensive experience in providing legal support to all aspects of the business across the Asia Pacific region. Prior to joining Trafigura, Reza was in private practice in Singapore at an international law firm for five years, specializing in shipping and trading matters.



Ho Mi Nie
General Manager, Credit Risk
Mitsubishi RtM International

Mi Nie has more than 17 years of experience in the Commodities field, specialising in the area of Credit Risk Management. She is presently General Manager, Credit Risk at Mitsubishi RtM International, where she heads the Credit Risk team and provides expert advisory support in areas relating to Risk, Structured Trade deals and Trade Finance. Some of her previous posts were Head of Credit - Asia at Mercuria Energy Trading, Regional Credit Manager at Noble Resources, Credit Controller at BHP Billiton and SVP, Credit Risk Approver for Commodities at HSBC. Her experience in Commodities is rich and diverse having worked across various kinds of organisations and managed portfolios that span a wide spread of commodities from Energy, Metals and Agriculture. She is also unique in her dual capabilities in both paper and physical trading.



Cindy Toh
Managing Director – Head of Trade & Commodity Finance, South Asia
ING Bank N.V., Singapore Branch

Cindy joined ING in 2005. She started off as a relationship manager, followed by a team lead role, before taking up the position of Head of TCF South Asia in mid-2018. During that time, Cindy was responsible for business development and had developed a number of key client relationships that are now amongst the key relationships regionally and globally, and in turn, these clients also recognize ING as one of the top Trade and Commodity banks. Her abilities extends beyond just deal making; Cindy has been sharp to recognize market trends and risks, and she has built a team that is not only driven in terms of delivering superior client service, but also very risk aware, to ensure a steadily performing portfolio.

Prior to ING, Cindy was from BNP Singapore, Pacific Rim Palm Oil Pte Ltd and SK Energy Asia Pte Ltd ; and she holds a Bachelor Degree with merit in Arts & Social Science, National University of Singapore.