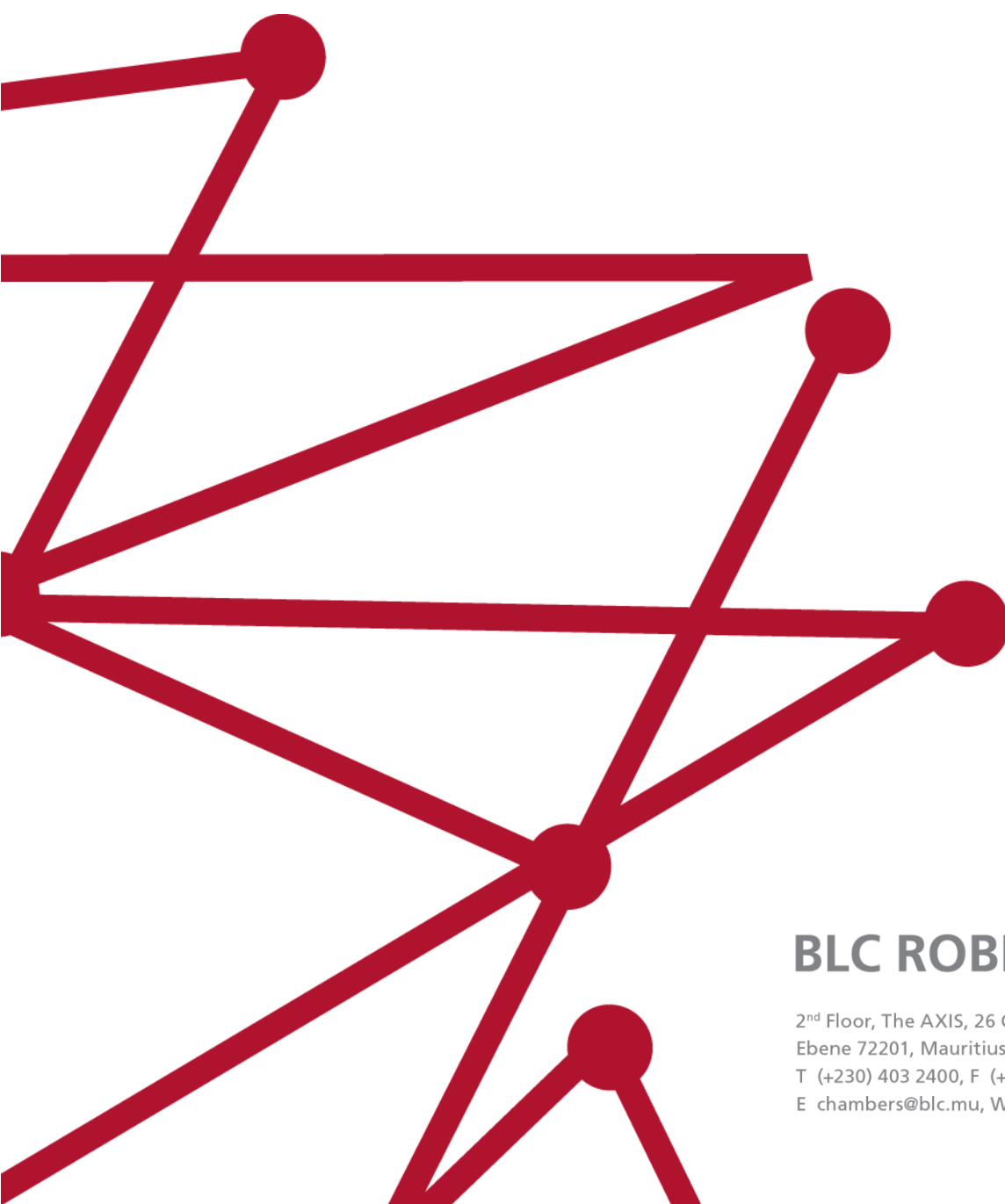


# JASON HAREL

## PROFILE



**BLC ROBERT**

**ALN**



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## **JASON HAREL**

CO-FOUNDING PARTNER | CHAIRMAN

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## **BACKGROUND**

**Jason Harel** is the Chairman and Co-Founding Partner at BLC Robert & Associates. The Company has become the leading independent business law firm in Mauritius and is ranked as a *Tier One* firm by legal directories such as *Legal500*, *Chambers and Partners*, and *IFLR1000*.

Jason leads the Corporate and Commercial department of the firm and is consistently identified as a 'leading practitioner' in his field by the main worldwide legal directories. He has a broadbase corporate advisory and transactional practice focused on real estate (including hospitality), corporate M&A, workouts and corporate re-structuring, as well as projects. He also advises in respect of taxation (especially transactional taxes), projects and commercial disputes in conjunction with the dispute resolution team of BLC. He acts as an advisor to several leading companies in Mauritius and elsewhere guiding them in their strategic transactions. Jason spends considerable amount of his time advising clients in respect of their strategic investments in Africa.

Jason is qualified as a Chartered Accountant and a Barrister in England and Wales as well as Mauritius. He sits on a number of boards of directors including being the chairman of a family-controlled hotel group.

## **CLIENT'S FEEDBACK**

- *"A lateral thinker – innovative."* – *IFLR1000*
- *"He shows leadership, and clear and innovative thinking. Will go the extra mile."* – *IFLR1000*
- *"Jason is outstanding in corporate law including acquisitions, sale of shares and investments"- Legal 500*

- *“Jason Harel is a brilliant business minded lawyer that is well connected and a team player”- Legal 500.*
- *“Jason is always clear in his advice, very responsive and understands what the client needs and what is required to deliver”-Global Chambers.*

#### ACCOLADES

- Ranked as a **‘leading lawyer’** by Chambers Global & IFLR 1000 since 2011.
- Included in Legal 500, M&A Powerlist Africa

#### MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
- Honourable Society of Lincoln’s Inn
- Mauritius Bar Association

#### PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

1998 – 1999	Inns of Court School of Law
1998	Qualified as Chartered Accountant
1991 – 1994	University of Wales, Aberystwyth – LL.B Hons.

#### CAREER SUMMARY

2005 - Date	Partner – BLC Robert & Associates
2000 - 2005	Denton Wilde Sapte LLP
1999 - 2000	Pupil to Philip Baker QC, Gray’s Inn Tax Chambers
1994 - 1998	Kingston Smith, Chartered Accountants (Corporate recovery and forensic accounting)

#### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Corporate & Commercial
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- General Banking and Project Finance
- Taxation
- Trade Finance
- Insolvency
- Arbitration


## RECENT MATTERS

- Advising on a joint venture between a leading South African company specialising in laboratory and clinical trials and a Mauritian company specializing in the breeding and export of non-human primates adapted for pharmacology and toxicology research.
- Advising Vivo Energy plc in respect of its acquisition of Engen International Holdings (Mauritius) Limited by Vivo Energy's subsidiary, Vivo Energy Investments B.V.
- Advising on the sale of a leading integrated gas company in Nigeria.
- Advised Dentressangle Initiatives on the acquisition of shares in Sun Resorts Limited, a chain of hotels in Mauritius and listed on the Stock Exchange of Mauritius.
- Advised a wholly-owned subsidiary of MCB Group Limited (who owns the biggest bank in Mauritius) on the acquisition of the entire shareholding of Club Med S.A.S, representing 84.43% of the shares in COVIFRA, a company listed on the Stock Exchange of Mauritius.
- Advisor to One&Only Le Saint Geran on rental pool agreements following the construction of private residences for guests.
- He recently successfully appeared before the Privy Council for Shoprite in respect of an appeal against a VAT assessment on management fees not invoiced nor paid.
- Acting for the main contractor of a MUR 1.8 billion residential project on the proposed takeover of that project out of its liquidation.
- Advising Apavou Hotels in connection with a share purchase and subscription agreement and a joint venture agreement between Apavou Hotels and Sun Resorts Limited.
- Acting for an international financial institution in respect of its activities in Mauritius by way of auction bids.
- Acted as legal advisor to AEGIDE DOMITYS and 2Futures on the EUR 58.5 million structuring and capital raise for the construction of 155 services senior apartments in Mauritius.

## OTHER ASSIGNMENTS

- Advised Deutsche Bank (Global Transaction Banking division) in respect of the sale of its Corporate Services business to Vistra Group.
- Advised and acted for one of the largest corporations in Japan in relation to a MUR 25 Million dispute with the special administrator of Iframac.

- Advised a number of fund managers and promoters in respect of setting up collective investment schemes in Mauritius.
- Advised the successful bidder in relation to privatisation of a sugar estate in Uganda;
- Advised a project company in relation to a single point mooring/pipeline project in Ghana.
- Advised an international corporation in relation to the purchase of a Mauritian company which owned breweries in India.
- Advised a Mauritian corporation in relation to its bid for a Mauritius listed company;
- Advised a Mauritian corporation in relation to the disposal of its subsidiary in Malawi and acquisition of a minority stake in a Seychelles corporation by way of a share exchange agreement.
- Advised an English corporation in relation to its joint venture with a Mauritius corporation to develop an integrated resort scheme.
- Advised an aircraft manufacturer in relation to its offset agreement with the Government of Mauritius and the setting up of the offset fund.
- Advised a Mauritius listed corporation on the implementation of the code of corporate governance of Mauritius.
- Advised an international bank in relation to the setting up of a real estate fund in Mauritius for investments in India.
- Advised New Cingular Inc. in relation to the sale of its holding in Idea telecom in India.
- Advised the sponsor of an integrated resort in Botswana in relation to the appointment of a hotel operator which included the review and negotiation of the terms of the hotel management agreement and technical services agreement.
- Advised an international bank in relation to the project financing of a hotel project in Seychelles.
- Advised the sponsor of hotel project in Nigeria in relation to the negotiation of the management agreement, shareholders agreement and lending documents.
- Advised the administrator of a British company on the sale of its subsidiary which owned a mine in Zimbabwe.
- Advised an international bank on the work-out of an East African (including Mauritius) oil company.

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- Advised an international bank on the sale of its Nigerian subsidiary to the minority shareholders.
  - Advised a major oil company in relation to the receivership and subsequently the liquidation of the Zambian National Oil Company.
  - Advised an international oil company in relation to the work-out of its secured debtor in Nigeria.
  - Advised a Kenyan company in relation to a restructuring/workout of its existing debt by way of a property receivables backed project financing.
  - Advised an English company and a Mauritian entity in relation to their establishment, certain related debt and equity investment arrangements and their finance businesses.