

ANDREW PATON

Qualified

1981

Education

LLB, Exeter University - 1975-1978

Career

Pinsent Masons - 1981 to date

Partner in charge of Risk Management and Professional Indemnity

Mediation

Accredited by ADR Net 1990

Accredited by CEDR 1993

Offices

Director of ADR Net Limited

Founder Member of PIMS (Panel of Independent Mediators)

Chairman of the Association of Midlands Mediators

Prior to his switch into management of the firm in 2003 Andrew gained a wide range of experience in general commercial litigation, construction and property disputes and professional negligence. He has defended claims against surveyors, architects, engineers, insurance brokers, financial advisers, as well as solicitors and accountants.

He was appointed to run the insurance litigation group in 1996 having previously been responsible for the construction litigation team and the property litigation team.

The concept of mediation was immediately attractive to Andrew when he was introduced to it in 1989 because of the frustration that he felt in trying to deliver acceptable solutions to clients through more traditional dispute resolution forms. He was amongst the first to be trained by ADR Net in 1990 and quickly became one of their most sought after mediators. In 1993 Andrew was accredited by CEDR and was immediately invited to join their teaching faculty.

He has extensive experience in negotiating and mediating bi-party and multiparty settlements. Mediations have included product liability, defamation, minority shareholder claims, breach of trust/fiduciary duty, professional negligence and construction.

Examples of recent cases mediated include:

- Professional negligence claim by development agency against consultant engineer.
- Claim by company against former director for breach of fiduciary duty.
- Claim by joint venturer for breach of contract and dispute in relation to related insurance claim.
- Claim for damages for breach of contract/fiduciary duty/duty of care by international manufacturer against sales marketing agency and counter-claim.
- Multi-million pound five party construction dispute.
- Dispute concerning alleged non-compliance with performance specification of high value electrical equipment.

In the 2008 edition of Chambers, Andrew is described as follows:

"Down to earth, user friendly and not one who wants settlement for settlement's sake – he will always do what's in the best interests of the parties involved."

"He brings an energy and dynamism to even the most gruelling mediations which perhaps explains the high volume of work he manages to undertake. He is in great demand for his *sense of timeliness* in complex multiparty proceedings."

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