axten aviation



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Aviation Expert of the Year United Kingdom This brochure outlines Axten Aviation's work, our principal experts and consultants, and a list of our clients and their comments.

Axten Aviation provides professionally qualified, independent consultancy and expert witness services to the legal profession, across the global aviation industry.

Led by Captain Chris Turner, Axten Aviation's consultants are highly experienced, specialising in fixed wing and helicopter commercial flight operations, General Aviation, engineering, leasing disputes, airfield planning, air traffic control, and employment issues. The team has provided many expert witness reports on behalf of both claimants and defendants. All our reports are peer-reviewed through our inhouse quality control system.

We deliver a wide range of services from general advice and opinion, through to courtroom evidence. Our team members have completed expert witness training with the Expert Witness Institute (EWI), Bond Solon, the Academy of Experts, and a leading aviation specialist legal chambers. Chris is an EWI Governor and Fellow, one of only two aviation experts certificated by the EWI, and is also an APIL Tier One expert.

CVs of all our consultants are available upon request.

We look forward to assisting you.

STOP PRESS: Axten Aviation and Chris Turner awarded UK Aviation Expert of the Year 2023 – Lawyer Monthly magazine.

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Our Expertise and Clients



Axten Aviation's team has a broad range of expertise, with specialisations including:

- ✤ Fixed wing and helicopter operations Commercial and General Aviation (GA)
- ✤ Fixed wing and helicopter engineering Commercial, GA, leasing disputes
- Employment flight deck and aircraft engineering personnel
- Airfield planning and noise military and civil airfields
- ✤ Air Traffic Control civil approach and civil airfield control

Over recent years team members have provided advice and expert opinion to the following firms, amongst others:

Anthony Gold Solicitors Bonnar Law Brodies LLP Clyde and Co DAC Beachcroft DLA Piper DWF Law Evolution Town Planning Freeths Hay & Kilner Heald Nickinson HMW Law Holman Fenwick Willan Hudgells Irwin Mitchell Jefferies Solicitors Kennedys Leigh Day Mishcon de Reya Nexa Law Norton Rose Fulbright Preston Turnbull Richard Buxton Solicitors Reynolds Dawson Savills Estate Agents Simmons and Simmons Sintons Squire Patton Boggs Stephenson Harwood Stewarts Law TG Baynes Thompsons Solicitors Trevor Fox Solicitors Truth Legal Wikborg Rein

Our Cases



Recent cases where we have provided opinion include, amongst others:

- Airliner accidents and incidents in Europe, Asia, the Far East, the United States of America, and Africa
- ✤ Leasing dispute involving aircraft in Russia affected by sanctions
- ✤ Injury claims by cabin crew
- Leasing disputes on return of aircraft from lease in Africa and in Asia
- Earnings claims by pilots and engineers arising from lost or impeded careers
- ✤ A former UK military airfield planning application
- Fixed wing accidents and incidents General Aviation (GA) & Commercial
- ✤ Helicopter accidents and incidents GA & Commercial
- Earnings claims by non-aviation persons arising from the loss of a potential aviation career
- Unlicensed airfield planning applications
- UK military airfield planning applications
- Airfield noise disputes relating to aircraft operations
- ✤ GA aircraft and helicopter maintenance and valuation disputes
- ✤ Airliner maintenance disputes

Why Axten Aviation?

"....the expert opinion of Captain Turner is to be preferred" - UK Arbitration Final Award following a case involving a General Aviation aircraft incident

"They turned around a completed report for a challenging client within a very tight timescale. Their report was of a very high standard" - London law firm acting on behalf of an aircraft leasing company following a dispute over the return of two airliners (Axten Expert Jeff Rice)

"...responded quickly to a complex planning matter providing the clients, District Council, Committees and potentially the Secretary of State with clarity and confidence. The result being planning permission was achieved" - UK planning firm in East Anglia after an airfield planning case (Axten Expert Chris Turner)

"The report was very helpful, particularly in identifying disclosure necessary to complete the report, which assisted in our application to the Court for specific disclosure from the Defendant. Having the expert's insight into the documents that should exist in these cases (and in this case, were failed to be disclosed) is particularly helpful in litigation" - UK law firm following airliner accident (Axten Expert Richard Board)

"The report I received from Chris Turner on a matter involving an unusually complex loss of opportunity claim, a niche area, was superb. I cannot recommend Chris Turner of Axten Aviation too highly" - Law firm in Greater Manchester following an employment case

"We found Chris Turner and his team to be extremely responsive, clear on costs & timescales & quick to turn around instructions" - UK law firm following planning dispute (Axten Expert Chris Kingswood)

"Chris' report was excellent - very thorough and dealt with the key points in a timely way. He was helpful, and approachable throughout" - London law firm acting on behalf of a major UK airline after an airliner landing incident (Axten Expert Chris Turner)

"Excellent understanding of the issues and use of expertise to provide a compelling report." - Barrister comment after a fatal UK GA accident case (Axten Expert Chris Turner)

"The reports were of a very high standard and delivered ahead of deadlines, and communication with the consultants was excellent throughout" - UK Law firm following a light aircraft accident (Axten Experts Mike Aherne and Chris Turner)

Why Axten Aviation?

"Chris Turner and Axten Aviation – 2023 winner of the Expert Witness Award for UK Aviation" - Lawyer Monthly Magazine, December 2023

"...engineering issues were complex, and required investigation and consideration of highly technical matters and a large number of documents. Terry was extremely thorough and assiduous. His report was impressive, particularly in its detail, scope and analysis. I would not hesitate to instruct Terry again" - London law firm acting on behalf of a major UK airline following an airliner incident (Axten Expert Terry Flynn)

"In future, I will certainly recommend clients consider them for any aviation related advice or expert witness services they might need" - Environmental Specialist Solicitors after a UK airfield noise case (Axten Expert Chris Turner)

"We obtained two separate advisory reports from two different specialists at Axten Aviation. Both reports were comprehensive, dealt with all the key points and assisted significantly with our liability investigations. Communication with Axten Aviation was always excellent and the team Communication with Axten Aviation was always excellent and the team really made an effort to meet tight deadlines" - London law firm following a helicopter accident (Axten Experts Martin Burley and Jeff Rice)

"Very comprehensive report which dealt with all key points. Very helpful team. Chris Turner was excellent" - Midlands law firm following an employment case

"...for a matter litigating through the Indonesian courts. The expert was high quality, approachable, a good communicator orally and in writing, went above and beyond to make himself available to us around his work schedule, and produced a convincing report. Overall, we were very pleased with the service and look forward to working with AA again" - London law firm following an airliner accident (Axten Expert Laurance Harley)

"Captain Turner took an innovative approach in this sensitive matterultimately the prosecution expert agreed with Captain Turner's report." - London law firm partner comment following a Crown Court criminal case

"The CPR report was detailed, thorough and reasoned. Axten kept us informed and supported throughout, were mindful of Court deadlines and made themselves available for conferences. I would have no hesitation in instructing Axten again" - UK aviation law firm following an airliner incident (Axten Expert Chris Kingswood)

"...- his knowledge of and experience in the aviation industry shone through in his analysis and opinion of the relevant issues" - London law firm following an employment case (Axten Expert Chris Turner)

Our Flight Operations Team



Captain Andy Kilvington Business Aviation and General Aviation Consultant



Captain Geoff Packer Senior Helicopter Consultant



Captain Chris Kingswood Senior Flight Operations and General Aviation Consultant



Captain Jonathan Shooter Senior Flight Operations and General Aviation Consultant



Captain Chris Turner Senior Flight Operations, General Aviation and Employment Consultant



Laurance Harley Air Traffic Control and General Aviation Consultant



Captain Martin Burley Senior Flight Operations, Helicopter and Employment Consultant



Captain David Warner Senior Flight Operations Consultant

Flight Operations Expertise

	Airline and Business Aviation	General Aviation	Helicopters	Airfield Planning and Noise	Air Traffic Control	Employment Quantum
Andy Kilvington	\checkmark	\checkmark				
Chris Kingswood	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark		
Chris Turner	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark		\checkmark
Geoff Packer			\checkmark			
Jonathan Shooter	\checkmark	\checkmark				
Laurance Harley		\checkmark			\checkmark	
Martin Burley	\checkmark		\checkmark			\checkmark
David Warner	\checkmark					\checkmark

Our Engineering & Leasing Team



Dave Smith Aeroengine Consultant



Mike Aherne Senior Engineering Consultant



lan Smith Engineering and Leasing Consultant



Richard Board Senior Engineering Consultant



Jeff Rice Senior Engineering Consultant



Terry Flynn Senior Engineering and Leasing Consultant



Trish Gray Aeroengine and Leasing Consultant



lain Noakes Senior Engineering Consultant

Engineering and Leasing Expertise

	Airliner Engineering	Incidents	Helicopter Engineering	Accidents	Leasing Disputes	Engines	GA Engineering
Dave Smith						\checkmark	
lan Smith	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark		
Jeff Rice	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark
Mike Aherne	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark			\checkmark
Richard Board	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark			
Terry Flynn	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark		
Trish Gray					\checkmark	\checkmark	
lain Noakes							\checkmark





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