

IN PLACE OF STRIFE

The Mediation Chambers



Feedback Digest for DAVID RICHBELL FCI Arb (Mediation)

Mediation Style and Approach

David has a reputation for being among the most experienced commercial mediators and trainers of mediators worldwide. He has spent most of his working life in the construction industry, but with the last ten years focusing on resolving disputes.

As a professional who was instrumental in the development of mediation in the UK and overseas, David considers mediation to be a tried and tested process that is based upon common sense and inevitably achieves outcomes that are just – or at least, prudent. And the more mediation is being used, the greater becomes its reputation as a sensible dispute resolution process.

A practising mediator since 1992, David has focused mainly on the industry he loves, Construction and Engineering. In addition to an already impressive portfolio he is also one of the few commercial mediators experienced in co-mediation and is very experienced in multi-party, multi-issue disputes of a complex nature.

Throughout the last 15 years David has accumulated an ever expanding portfolio to include international disputes and many involving parties from ethnic backgrounds, accompanied by experience in all manner of general commercial disputes.

David has recommendations in Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession and Legal 500

“Richbell is in great demand for multiparty construction related mediations, many of which are international. According to one source, these industry origins translate into a “refreshingly practical approach to the issues.” Others applaud his “reliability and conscientiousness.” Also a trainer, he is described as an excellent spokesperson for the virtues of mediation: “He quickly dispels any doubts about the process.”

His current **Legal 500** listing states

“An undisputed doyen of mediation training. Highly experienced clients described him as ‘relaxed but focused’: a ‘talented all-rounder who can deal with any subject’. Other mediators are in awe of his skills; he is the archetypal facilitator who ‘brings to the mediation process his considerable negotiation experience gained over many years acting as a surveyor.’”

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Themes emerging from feedback

Extreme patience and tenacity

“A superb communicator”

who “really engages with the parties”

and achieves “a remarkable settlement record”.

A “supreme people-manager”, he is also “numerate in a lateral way, devising novel and agreeable solutions.”

Clients respond well to his

“forceful and credible” style

and he “remains calm in multi-handed mediation”,

“knocking heads together only as necessary”.

Establishes very quickly, relationships of trust and confidence

“A fantastic, intuitive mediator”

“Particularly recommended for his ability to gain the confidence of both the parties and make clients concentrate on the heart of the case”

“brings a courteous, calm and efficient manner”.

A clear eye on helping parties reach a commercial deal

“When it comes to multi-party mediations in the construction field, Richbell is considered a pre-eminent practitioner”.

“Leading practitioners...acknowledge his expertise....calling him a leader in his field”.

“Good facilitator, inspirational, knowledgeable”

“Facilitated excellent discussion”.

“..supportive, very competent [and] dynamic”.

“Very high quality, knowledgeable and modest”.

Code of Conduct

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Mediator Links:

Member of In Place of Strife, The Mediation Chambers