



Baker
McKenzie.

「Baker & McKenzie
(Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise)」



Local Market Expertise

OVER FIVE DECADES IN JAPAN

Baker & McKenzie (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise) is one of Japan's leading international law firms as well as one of its oldest. It is also the largest foreign law joint enterprise in the country. As the Tokyo arm of the worldwide Baker McKenzie network, we help clients navigate domestic and international matters from a truly global perspective. We assist domestic clients in proactively handling specialized matters by utilizing cutting edge and innovative legal solutions cultivated throughout our network. We have over 130 professionals that not only include Japanese lawyers, registered foreign lawyers and foreign qualified lawyers, but also certified public accountants, tax attorneys, patent attorneys, judicial scriveners, administrative scriveners and economists.

Professionals in the

Tokyo Office

(as of July 2025)

108 Japanese attorneys

8 Gaikokuho Jimu Bengoshi

6 Foreign attorneys

6 Tax attorneys

2 Certified Public Accountants

5 Patent attorneys

3 Economists

A full service law firm

PRACTICE AREA

Antitrust / Competition

We counsel on all aspects of local and international unfair trade practices and represent clients in antitrust cartel and other investigations, HSR filings, litigation relating to antitrust and merger control, leniency and other applications.

Banking & Finance

We assist with domestic and cross-border project finance, structured finance and lease transactions, Private Finance Initiatives (PFIs), Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), acquisition finance, real estate finance, securitization and structured finance, derivatives and financial products, trade and export finance with or without export credit agencies (ECAs), asset and equipment finance, asset management and fund management. We also advise on issues affecting the financial services industry, including FinTech and M&A transactions involving financial institutions as well as compliance advice.

Capital Markets

We advise on various stock- and bond-related issues, securities offerings in domestic and international markets, provides documentation support for initial public offerings (IPOs) and public offerings without listings (POWLs); help with the offering and sale of bonds, investment trusts and real estate investment trusts (REITs); and assists with the establishment of funds and international tender offers.

Corporate / M&A

We review, structure and negotiate M&A transactions, joint ventures and other strategic alliances, conduct due diligence, advise on corporate restructuring and reorganization, register companies, advise on shareholder relations and corporate governance, as well as on compliance with Japan's Companies Act and other regulations.

Dispute Resolution

Our Tokyo team handles all aspects of general dispute resolution proceedings, including civil domestic and cross-border litigation, international arbitration, mediation, investigations into misconduct committed overseas and establishing global compliance frameworks. We also advise on management of major risk events, including legal violations, internal misconduct and product liability cases, and provide guidance on dispute prevention and legal compliance.

Intellectual Property

For trademarks, we can assist with searches, applications, oppositions, renewals, management, licensing and disputes. We can also assist with patent licensing and disputes. In addition, we have extensive experience with copyrights, design rights, unfair competition, trade secrets, know-how and plant variety protection.

Information Technology & Communications

We keep up to speed on the latest technological developments and can provide clients with risk management and legal compliance guidance for Japan and overseas jurisdictions. We have advised clients in many industries on these issues, including the technology industry, the healthcare and medical device industries, financial institutions and travel and hotel companies to name a few.

Labor / Employment

We advise on all labor and employment issues, ranging from recruitment and hiring, discipline and performance management, to retirement and termination. We offer cross-practice and seamless advice to clients on M&A transactions and restructuring in collaboration with our Corporate / M&A practice group, on intellectual property, privacy, securities and tax issues in collaboration with the other practice groups, as well as on designing and implementing long-term incentive plans, such as stock options.

Tax & Transfer Pricing

We counsel on local and international tax planning and structuring; advise on tax issues related to strategic alliances, real estate, finance transactions, project finance and cross-border deals; design, implement and assist with transfer pricing structures and advance pricing agreements; represent clients in tax audits, competent authority proceedings and litigation; and advise on customs and indirect tax.

INDUSTRY FOCUS

Automotive Industry

For several decades, the Firm's practice groups (Antitrust, Corporate / M&A, Dispute Resolution, Intellectual Property, Tax, etc.) have provided legal services to automotive companies around the world. Leveraging our extensive global network, we have launched the Japan Automotive Industry Focus Group to address all of the issues faced by Japan's automotive industry.

Environment

We help clients comply with Japan's environmental regulations and keep them updated on changing requirements that will impact their operations. We also help identify and mitigate issues they could face in the course of acquiring or selling property in Japan or other jurisdictions from evaluating potential acquisitions, to litigating complex environmental and toxic tort lawsuits, to helping international bodies draft and negotiate emission reduction schemes.

Major Projects: Energy, Mining & Infrastructure

We advise on large scale private and public M&A and all aspects of electrical power, mining, oil and gas, petrochemicals and climate change projects; these include regulatory requirements, project finance, project development, project documentation, and disputes.

Healthcare & Life Sciences

We advise on Japan's Pharmaceutical Affairs Law, assist with domestic and international sales, distribution and other agreements, licensing requirements, the acquisition of product approval, data exclusivity issues, pricing, delisting of products, recall, compliance and other regulatory matters.

Real Estate

We represent clients in connection with cross-border and domestic real estate matters, including the use of REITs and the structuring of tax-efficient investment platforms, fund formation, acquisitions, dispositions, joint ventures, financing, securitization of CMBS, entrustment, leasing, development and construction, environmental, labor and intellectual property issues and litigation with respect to commercial properties, hospitals and others.

Renewable and Clean Energy

The Group comprises the Major Projects: EMI Group, which focuses on sponsors and project-side work, and the Banking & Finance Group, which focuses on the financier-side work. As an understanding of tax issues is also vital for these cases, the team also collaborates with the Tax & Transfer Pricing Group to advise clients. Our diverse team enables us to provide a full scope of legal expertise in the renewables sector, whether by assisting Japanese clients exploring projects overseas, advising foreign clients with inbound developments or coordinating purely domestic transactions.





Worldwide Services

With over 6,000 lawyers across 70+ offices in 40+ locations, we have the ability to provide our clients with seamless legal and consulting services across borders. Baker McKenzie is one of the largest law firms in the world, and our breadth and depth of expertise and experience enables us to provide our clients with world class service unmatched by other law firms:

- We are experienced in complex cross-border transactions involving diverse markets around the world
- We provide a “complete package” with critical “core services” in all markets
- We provide both local “next door” support and a global business perspective
- We have a dedicated, integrated team to bring our clients multi-practice knowledge and insights
- We provide a systematic focus on consistent service and work quality – from legal advice to single point billing systems – worldwide

Our international commercial focus, rich local knowledge and no-nonsense business approach enables us to provide clients with “one stop shopping” for your legal and business needs.



Baker McKenzie delivers integrated solutions to complex challenges.

Complex business challenges require an integrated response across different markets, sectors and areas of law. Baker McKenzie's client solutions provide seamless advice, underpinned by deep practice and sector expertise, as well as first-rate local market knowledge. Across more than 70 offices globally, Baker McKenzie works alongside our clients to deliver solutions for a connected world.

Baker & McKenzie (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise)

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