



## Benedict Wei Wen Yong

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Consultant

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### Areas of expertise

Corporate & Commercial

### Languages

English

Japanese

Thai

### Practice description

Ben joined Baker McKenzie, Bangkok, in 1995. He is active in the Corporate & Commercial Practice Group, in both Bangkok and in his hometown, Melbourne, Australia. He also actively assists the Firm's Japan Desk.

Throughout his time at Baker McKenzie, he has assisted a large number of multinational clients with their operations in Thailand and Australia. He advises clients, including major Japanese companies, on issues relevant to foreign investors, such as foreign investment laws, company structures, and mergers & acquisitions.

### Practice focus

Ben's responsibilities have included:

- Advising on establishing business operations and the impact of foreign investment laws, including advising a hard disk drive parts manufacturer on establishing its manufacturing facility, obtaining investment privileges and relevant governmental approvals, and negotiating construction contracts;
- Advising on appropriate structures for the acquisition of existing businesses, including corporate restructuring and share acquisitions;
- Leading M&A due diligence investigations, preparing due diligence reports, drafting and negotiating relevant transaction agreements in various sectors, including logistics, and heavy machinery;
- Advising on, drafting, and negotiating commercial agreements, including share purchase agreements, distribution agreements, joint venture agreements, shareholders agreements, and sales contracts; and
- Advising on corporate regulatory and compliance matters.

### Publications, presentations and articles

- “New BOI Measure a Relief to Flood-Affected Businesses”, January 2012
- Speaker and panellist at “Thailand Investment”, Singapore Business Federation, 4 August 2011

### Baker & McKenzie Ltd.

5th Floor and 21st-25th Floors  
990 Abdulrahim Place  
Rama IV Road, Silom, Bangrak  
Bangkok 10500  
Thailand

- “BOI’s One Start One Stop Investment Center Opens”, Baker McKenzie newsletter, 25 November 2009
- “BOI Updates Investment Categories, Expands STI Incentives,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 12 November 2009
- “Boost in enforcement of Foreign Business Act,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 25 August 2009
- “Updates on BOI Developments during Thailand Investment Year,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 11 August 2008
- Presenter, “Product Liability and Consumer Cases,” Australian-Thai Chamber of Commerce, 6 August 2008
- “Thai Company Law Updated,” Advance Australian-Thai Chamber of Commerce magazine, June 2008
- “Foreign Business Act – Bill Dropped,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 19 December 2007
- “Foreign Business Act – Closer to Reality?,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 12 December 2007
- “Foreign Business Act – NLA Committee Convenes,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 4 October 2007
- “BOI Announces New Promotion Policies for Logistics Businesses,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 22 August 2007
- “Amendments to Foreign Business Act Withdrawn – For Now,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 9 August 2007
- “Progress of Draft Bill to Amend Foreign Business Act,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 23 July 2007
- “Foreign Business Act – Members’ Update,” AustCham newsletter, 6 July 2007
- “Cabinet’s Approval of Draft Bill to Amend Foreign Business Act for NLA’s Consideration,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 11 April 2007
- Presenter, “Setting Up in Thailand,” Australian Trade Commission’s Showcase, 28 March 2007
- “Holding Companies and the Draft FBA Bill,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 6 February 2007
- “Update on Draft Bill to Amend Foreign Business Act,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 25 January 2007
- Author of the newsletter, “Proposed Amendments to Foreign Business Act,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, 11 January 2007
- Panelist, Dataconsult’s Thailand Regional Forum on investment in Thailand, 21 November 2006 and 2 February 2007
- “BOI Amends STI Privileges,” Baker McKenzie newsletter, June 2006

- Contributing author to the Thailand chapter of Merger Control Worldwide, Cambridge University Press, July 2005
- “Australia-Thailand New Free Trade Agreement,” Asia-Pacific Legal Developments Bulletin, January 2004
- Contributing author to articles on consumer protection, internet, privacy, joint ventures, advertising and contracts in The Bangkok Post, November 2002 – January 2004
- Contributing author to an article on the new Corporations Act, published in Business Asia, The Economist Intelligence Unit, August 2001
- “Challenges to Australia’s National Corporate Law Structure,” Asia-Pacific Legal Developments Bulletin, June 2000

## Professional affiliations

- Director, Australian-Thai Chamber of Commerce, 2006-2012
- Chairman, Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce Law Committee 2010-2011
- Member, Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce Committee on the Foreign Business Act, 2006-2011
- AustCham representative to Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce, 2006-2011
- Member, Executive Committee, Australia-Thailand Business Council, 2001-2002
- Member, Tax & Legal Committee, Australian-Thai Chamber of Commerce, 1998-1999

## Education and admission

- Monash University, Australia (LLB, 1992)
- Monash University, Australia (BA, honors, Japanese Studies, 1990)
- Asahi Culture Centre, Tokyo, Japan (Certificate of Completion, Comprehensive Japanese V and Applied Japanese V, 1989)
- Law Institute of Victoria
- Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria, Australia