

Silicon Valley centre names top tech arbitrators and mediators

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Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center has released its yearly listing of the leading arbitrators and mediators in technology-related disputes.

The World's Leading Technology Neutrals list, or the "Tech List" as it is known, features 49 practitioners with 44 of those based in the US and a further 15 working in the San Francisco – Silicon Valley area.

The remaining five are based in Geneva, Hong Kong, Lisbon, Paris and Sydney, with one of the US-based arbitrators also spending time in Rio de Janeiro.

Designed as a resource for law firms, corporations and alternative dispute resolution institutions, the list only includes practitioners who are members of recognised institutions' arbitration and mediation panels.

All those on the list have expertise in a range of areas relevant to tech disputes including intellectual property, development and distribution and trade regulation.

Les Schiefelbein, the centre's CEO, says increasing the diversity of the list is a key aim. There will be more representation of arbitrators in Europe and Asia in next year's edition.

Schiefelbein describes the selection process for the list as "straightforward but rigorous," with nominations taken from the centre's own members and the alternative dispute resolution community in general. Potential candidates are considered by two committees, with Schiefelbein himself speaking to those recommended about the benefits and expectations of being on the list.

Maria Chedid, a partner at Baker McKenzie in San Francisco and one of eight women on the list, says it is "an honour" to be included, adding "it has been gratifying to participate with my colleagues in expanding the use of arbitration and mediation by technology companies around the globe."

"I have been impressed with both the progress and new initiatives launched by SVAMC over the past year," says Chedid.

The Palo Alto-based non-profit centre, which is now entering its fourth year, saw a number of developments in 2017. In October it [launched](#) an under-45 young professionals group, while last spring it [formed](#) an international task force, led by London and San Francisco-based arbitrator **Paul Cohen** and California-admitted IP specialist **Grant Kim**.

The centre also published a survey which found [increased support](#) among lawyers for using arbitration to resolve technology disputes.

The appointees to the 2018 Tech List of leading neutrals:

David Allgeyer (Arbitrator and mediator, Allgeyer Law & ADR, Minneapolis)

Philip Argy (Arbitrator and mediator, ArgyStar, Sydney)

William Baker (Arbitrator and mediator, Baker ADR, New York)

Ray Bender (Arbitrator, Ray Bender PLLC, Washington, DC)

Gary Benton (Arbitrator, mediator and SVAMC Founder and Chairman, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Alex Blumrosen (Partner, Kab Kuckenburg Bureth Boineau et Associés, Paris)

Thomas Brewer (Arbitrator, Thomas J Brewer, Seattle)

Maria Chedid (Partner, Baker McKenzie, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Theodore Cheng (Arbitrator and mediator, Theo Cheng, New York/New Jersey)

Deborah Coleman (Arbitrator and mediator, Coleman Law, Cleveland)

Chris Compton (Arbitrator, partner at Compton Antitrust Law Office and president of SVAMC, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Thomas Creel (Arbitrator, Thomas Creel, New York)

Robert Davidson (Executive director of JAMS arbitration practice, New York)

Michael Diamant (Of counsel, Taft Stettinius & Hollister, Cleveland)

Dan Ebenstein (Managing partner, Amster Rothsteign & Ebenstein, New York)

Jonathan Fitch (Managing partner, Fitch Law Partners, Boston)

Stephen Gilbert (Arbitrator and mediator, Stephen P Gilbert, New York)

George Graff (Arbitrator and mediator, George L Graff, New York)

James Grossman (Arbitrator, James H Grossman Arbitration, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Duarte Henriques (Arbitrator, Duarte Henriques Arbitration, Lisbon)

Richard Horning (Senior counsel at Reed Smith and panel member at SVAMC, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

David Huebner (Arbitrator, Huebner Arbitration, Los Angeles)

Sherman Kahn (Attorney at Mauriel Kapouytian Woods and arbitrator, New York)

Laura Kaster (Arbitrator and mediator, appropriate dispute resolutions, Princeton)

Grant Kim (Partner, LimNexus, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Thomas Legler (Partner, Pestalozzi, Geneva)

Richard Levin (Partner, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, Dallas)

Josh Martin (Senior counsel, Potter Anderson Corroon, Wilmington)

James Madison (Arbitrator and mediator, Madison Mediation, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Paul Mason (Arbitrator and mediator, Paul E Mason, Miami Beach/Brazil)

Peter Michaelson (Arbitrator and mediator, Michaelson ADR Chambers, New York)

Robert Morrill (Arbitrator and mediator, RobertMorrillADR, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Susan Nycum (Arbitrator and mediator, Technology Disputes Resolutions, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Philip O'Neill (Arbitrator, Phillip D O'Neill, Boston)

Merriann Panarella (Boston)

Gale R. (Pete) Peterson (Attorney, arbitrator and mediator, Gale R Peterson, San Antonio)

Charles Ragan (Of counsel at Redgrave and arbitrator at Ragan Law Firm, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Harrie Samaras (Arbitrator and mediator, ADR Office of Harrie Samaras, Philadelphia)

David Sandborg (Arbitrator, Hong Kong)

Lester Schiefelbein (Arbitrator at Schiefelbin Global Dispute Resolution and CEO of SVAMC, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Neil Smith (Arbitrator and mediator, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Yarko Sochynsky (Arbitrator and mediator, Wulff Quinby Sochynsky, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

William Tanenbaum (Partner, Arent Fox, New York)

Roderick Thompson (Partner, Farella Braun + Martel, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Vicki Veenker (Mediation panel member at the US International Trade Commission and Director and Executive Board Member at SVAMC, San Francisco/Silicon Valley)

Peter Vogel (Partner, Gardere Wynne Sewell, Dallas)

Conna Weiner (Arbitrator and mediator, Conna Weiner ADR, Boston)

Les Weinstein (Arbitrator and mediator, Advantage Arbitration and Mediation Services, Los Angeles)

Joseph Zammit (Arbitrator, Zammit Technology ADR, New York)

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