

We have a team of lawyers with industry expertise from the oil and gas industry.



OIL AND GAS

Extensive expertise within
the petroleum sector

Since the commencement of Norwegian oil activities, Thommessen has provided advice to oil companies, oil service contractors and oil and gas financiers. Thommessen has also been a key advisor to the Norwegian government in connection with the reorganisation of its ownership interests on the Norwegian Continental Shelf.

Knowledge of the market, the industry and the daily challenges that the various market players face, is essential in order to assist our clients with the legal aspects of all the technical and commercial issues that continually arise. Our client portfolio includes both small and large actors in the Norwegian and international oil and gas sector. A substantial number of our client relationships have developed over a long period of time. This has provided us with solid experience and insight into all aspects of the petroleum industry.

EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

During the past decade, a number of new companies, both Norwegian and foreign, have established themselves on the Norwegian Continental Shelf. Thommessen assists both with initial corporate formation, and with pre-qualification of companies as licensees and operators. We have broad experience in preparing, negotiating and applying the different types of joint venture agreements between oil and gas companies in Norway and internationally, such as AMI agreements, production sharing agreements, "buy-back" agreements, joint venture agreements for development and production, rig cooperation agreements, unitisation agreements, tie-in and processing agreements, and transportation agreements.

LAWYERS WITH EXTENSIVE TRANSACTION EXPERIENCE

Thommessen assists oil companies and oil service companies with mergers and acquisitions, stock exchange listings, sales and purchases of companies or production licences, including the preparation of legal documentation, transaction negotiations, evaluation of tax issues and financing.

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THOMMESSEN

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– Thommessen has a remarkably strong team for offshore construction work.

Chambers & Partners

WE HAVE WORKED WITH OFFSHORE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS

Thommessen's lawyers have extensive experience in providing advisory services to oil companies, oil service companies and contractors in connection with establishment of contract strategy, tender preparation, tender evaluation and contract negotiations, as well as project execution and dispute resolution. The latter includes large arbitration cases and court cases. Our lawyers have extensive knowledge relative to the standard construction contracts which are used on the Norwegian Continental Shelf.

Since the birth of the Norwegian oil industry, Thommessen has assisted oil companies and oil service companies in connection with seismic-, drilling- and drilling service contracts, pipeline installation and heavy lift contracts as well as more recently on FPSO and LNG contracts. We have acquired our expertise through large and varied assignments, broad experience within the sector and active recruitment from the industry.

DRILLING RIGS, FSO, FPSO AND LNG PROJECTS

Thommessen also assists national and international clients with the preparation and negotiation of contracts, project follow-up and disputes associated with projects that involve floating storage and offtake (FSO) ships, floating production, storage and off-loading (FPSO), LNG-charters, floating storage and regasification units (FSRU), drilling rigs and drilling vessels. Assistance in connection with this includes financing, purchasing of hulls, cooperative agreements, conversion contracts, topside-contracts (EPC), integration work, time/bareboat charter parties for the relevant units and contracts for management and operational services.

HEALTH SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT – INSURANCE

There are a number of requirements for the operation of an offshore facility on the Norwegian Continental Shelf. Our lawyers are experienced in providing legal assistance during operations with regard to health, safety and environmental regulation. We have expertise on the various types of insurance used both for the development and production phase.

Thommessen has established its own maritime accidents emergency team. This service is available 24/7, which means that we are able to provide you with immediate legal assistance all over the world : *Maritime Casualty Response*, telephone no. +47 23 11 11 77.

SALE AND TRANSPORT OF OIL AND GAS

Thommessen assists with the preparation and negotiation of gas sale agreements, as well as on matters regarding marketing and sale of gas, price revision and dispute resolution. We also provide advisory services in connection with sale of oil, and transportation of oil and gas via pipelines and vessels, including EU law-related matters.

OUR LAWYERS HAVE EXPERTISE WITHIN RELATED TAX ISSUES

Thommessen is the leading Petroleum Tax law firm in Norway. We have for decades provided assistance to oil companies and suppliers on all kinds of tax issues, including in connection with transactions, corporate taxation and employee benefit programs. Our lawyers have also litigated several of the most important cases related to Petroleum Taxation in Norway.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

We have lawyers with broad experience and knowledge on establishing and securing intellectual property rights. We assist oil companies and oil service companies in connection with preparation of intellectual property strategy, patent application, confidentiality agreements and monitoring and securing of patents and know-how.

SPECIALISTS WITHIN LITIGATION AND ARBITRATION

We have extensive experience with dispute resolution, and dedicated lawyers dealing primarily with litigation and arbitration. This includes disputes before the ordinary courts as well as arbitration, including complex arbitration cases with international and governmental parties.

Thommessen was counsel in the so-called "Balder case", which is the most comprehensive court case that has been conducted in Norway.

SUMMARY

We advise and assist clients within the following areas:

- Establishing company structures and pre-qualification as licensee and operator.
- Mergers and acquisitions, stock exchange listings, sales and purchases of production licenses.
- Sales and purchases of rigs and vessels.
- Regulatory issues regarding the exploration, development and production phases, and license applications, HSE etc.
- Seismic-, drilling- and other service contracts.
- Field development and procurement.
- Construction contracts and decommissioning contracts for offshore and onshore facilities.
- Transport of oil and gas with pipelines and vessels.
- Sale of oil and gas.
- Financing and insurance.
- Corporate Governance and CSR.
- Intellectual property rights.
- Petroleum taxation.
- Litigation and arbitration.



– Thommessen offers a great network of specialists who are reliable and extremely dedicated.

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