The quality of their advice is very high. They take a collaborative and creative, commercial approach rather than strictly legal.

Chambers UK, 2016
Our multi-disciplinary Technology group advises a diverse range of clients on the full spectrum of technology matters. We are also familiar with the particular challenges facing those involved in the technology sector and understand the dynamic, global nature of this fast paced environment.

We work closely with leading local counsel to offer a multi-national and multi-disciplinary capability focused on technology-related matters. This enables us to provide organisations with strategic, innovative and commercial advice in areas such as:

- **Information technology procurements**, from complex global technology outsourcings to software licensing, development and maintenance arrangements.

- **Mergers and acquisitions and private equity transactions** which require specialist technology input or have significant risk or value drivers associated with technology.

- **Intellectual property related technology issues** including patent disputes - we have played an innovative role in developing competition law defences to patent infringement actions in the UK courts.

- **Fintech** - we advise on the legal implications of developments in the fields of technology, intellectual property, data use, and financial regulation to clients ranging from established financial institutions and global technology and telecoms companies, to investors and start-ups.

- **Robotic Process Automation and Artificial Intelligence** - we are seeing increased interest in robotics and artificial intelligence, particularly in business process outsourcings. The procurement of RPA technology raises new issues around liability, data, IP ownership and pricing.
• **Digital** - as industries are disrupted and changed by innovations in digital technology, we help clients understand the opportunities and address the risks associated with engagement in areas such as Big Data, Profiling, the Internet of Things and Cloud.

• The full spectrum of **cyber security** issues, helping organisations understand and mitigate cyber risks and prepare for and respond to cyber breaches.

• All aspects of **data protection** compliance, from data processing arrangements to the design and implementation of complex multi-jurisdictional data strategies.

• **E-commerce strategies, law and regulation**, including website terms and conditions, content and liability issues and e-commerce and data protection regulation.

• **Competition issues** arising in the technology sector including both merger and conduct investigations in the sector by the European Commission and national regulators.

• **Financing and tax issues** for our technology clients.

• **Dispute resolution** - we have continued to see an increase in technology related disputes, and have strong experience of mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution, as well as arbitration and court proceedings in a large number of jurisdictions.

Given the overlap and convergence with the telecoms sector, our Technology group also works closely with our multi-disciplinary Telecoms group.

‘In a class of its own’, Slaughter and May is recommended for technology...

The team ‘inspires confidence’, is personable and solutions driven, and its multi-specialist approach draws on expertise from across the firm.

Legal 500 UK, 2015

They are efficient and always show the highest level of professionalism, and the quality of the final product always impresses us.

Chambers UK, 2017

Slaughter and May's “tenacious, responsive” lawyers are “committed to getting the best possible results for their clients.”

Legal 500 UK, 2016
Overview of Slaughter and May

Slaughter and May is a leading international law firm recognised throughout the business community for its commercial awareness and commitment to clients. We have a diverse and extensive international practice advising on the full range of commercial, financing and other matters. We have a commitment to delivering top quality legal advice, combined with commercial awareness and a “can do” approach.

Central to our culture is the priority we place on the individual needs of our clients. We are organised to be client focused rather than product focused. We develop strong working and personal relationships with our clients and take a proactive approach.

We add value by:

- creating innovative solutions to problems
- giving leading edge structural advice and risk analysis
- understanding what may, or may not, be acceptable in the market
- providing first class transaction management assistance
- ensuring delivery against realistic timetables and milestones.

Slaughter and May is a supporter of developing innovation and best practice in the legal sector. As part of this initiative, we have announced a collaboration with artificial intelligence pioneer, Luminance, which harnesses advances in machine learning and cognitive intelligence, to transform many legal processes. We are always looking to employ innovations to deliver more efficient legal services to our clients, including cutting-edge technology and innovative staffing.

Fintech Fast Forward

Throughout our history, Slaughter and May has both supported and practised entrepreneurialism and innovation. Fintech Fast Forward is our legal incubation programme which supports the work of UK-based technology entrepreneurs and innovators. Through the programme we will share our market-leading expertise with a new generation of tech entrepreneurs and innovators, whose businesses have the potential to deliver meaningful improvements or increased competition in financial services and related sectors.

A genuinely global service

Our technology clients, and the technology matters on which we advise, are often multi-jurisdictional, and increasingly global.

We provide cross-jurisdictional legal advice that genuinely reflects what ‘global’ means for our clients. We develop extensive and meaningful relationships with market leading firms from around the world, working with them as a single united team.

We work with like-minded experts in their own jurisdictions who have a depth of understanding that cannot be replicated, but can be shared. The level of communication and understanding between firms and with clients runs deep. Between firms we have made long-term investments to help foster connections at all levels, including investing in joint training, know-how and secondment programmes.

Together, we believe that we can offer the most incisive advice available, no matter how complicated the cross-border issue, whilst always providing value for money.

They have very good insight into how IT projects work and they turn things around quickly.

Chambers UK, 2016
The following list is intended to give a brief indication of our experience in technology related matters. We advised:

- **Ericsson** on its first contract for the build, delivery and management of a digital stack solution, to VimpelCom, spanning 11 jurisdictions in Europe and Asia

- **ARM Holdings plc**, multinational semiconductor and software design company, on the acquisition of its issued and to be issued share capital by SoftBank Group Corp. The offer values ARM’s issued and to be issued share capital at approximately £24.3bn

- **GlaxoSmithKline plc** on its agreement with Verily Life Sciences LLC (formerly Google Life Sciences), an Alphabet company, to form a joint venture, Galvani Bioelectronics, to enable the research, development and commercialisation of bioelectronic medicines

- **Carillion** on its contract with Wipro Limited for the design, build, test, implementation and rollout of a business-transformational, state of the art computer-aided facilities management IT solution

- **DPactum** on a range of ground-breaking initiatives involving smart contracts utilising blockchain technology

- **Government Digital Service** on its project to create a technology hub to generate a market in identity assurance services, part of the UK government’s core digital strategy aimed at improving take-up of government services by citizens

- **Euroclear** in relation to the potential for the settlement and clearing industry to adopt disruptive blockchain technology to revolutionise the key processes underpinning the sector

- **Royal Mail Group** on its major, strategically important, transformational IT and outsourcing project lasting three years and covering the full scope of Royal Mail’s IT procurement transactions. This high-value deal was reported as the largest non-defence sector IT procurement in Europe

- **Equinix** on of its approximately £2.35bn recommended takeover offer for Telecity Group. The parties are two of the largest providers of data centre co-location and related services in Europe

- **RSA** on the re-tendering of its strategic, long-term and multi-jurisdictional IT infrastructure outsourcing arrangements

- **Philips** in relation to a claim brought in the High Court by various companies within iiyama Corporation, a Japanese electronics group. The claim follows on from two decisions of the European Commission which found infringements in relation to the sale of colour display tubes (CDTs) which are used in the manufacturing of computer monitors, as well as the glass used in CDTs. We are advising Philips and one of its English subsidiaries, Philips Electronics UK Ltd, which are amongst 12 defendants to the claim

- **Stripe** on its innovative digital payment processing products and services, including data protection advice relating to the European legal and regulatory regime

- **Centrica** on its cyber risk management framework which it uses to assess its compliance with the laws, regulations, guidance and best practice relating to cyber risk

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They have a willingness and a genuine desire to support success. They have the ability to think around issues and barriers to find a solution.

*Chambers UK, 2016*
• **Vodafone** on several mobile payment matters. These include its potential payments partnership with a leading global online payment services provider and its arrangements with Wirecard, involving the creation, implementation and operation of technical mobile payment processes; issuing virtual and co-branded Visa cards; the development of a secure electronic wallet application for handsets; and the provision of associated back-end payment processing as part of its SmartPass service

• **Legal & General** on the renegotiation of its critical outsourcing with IBM for the provision of IT infrastructure services and TCS for the provision of software maintenance and development services

• **Ladbrokes** on a new agreement with OpenBet for the development of a proprietary online game to be hosted on OpenBet’s platform, and on licensing and distribution rights in that game for OpenBet. We also advised the client on a major strategic sourcing project regarding its IT step-change programme. The latter deal involved providing strategic advice across a number of interdependent procurements, as well as multiple negotiations with a range of IT and telecommunication suppliers

• **VocaLink** on the renegotiation of a long-term technology services agreement and the renegotiation of two related licensing agreements

• **EE** in a significant dispute with its IT provider in respect of delays to rollout of EE’s new IT landscape

• **CSR**, an innovator in the development of multifunction semiconductor platforms and technologies for the auto, consumer and voice & music markets, on the technology aspects of its sale to Qualcomm, and, separately, on a mobile phone connectivity and location technology licensing deal with Samsung - one of the headline licensing deals in the semiconductor sector

• **Google** in relation to an ongoing Article 102 investigation by the European Commission

• **YTL Communications**, a leading Malaysian technology and infrastructure company, on an agreement for the licensing and development of patented technology and software to build the world’s first hybrid broadcast - 4G WiMAX broadband TV and internet content delivery platform

• **Alibaba Group Holding Limited** (Alibaba) in relation to the injection of its Online Movie Ticketing and Yulebao businesses into Alibaba Pictures Group Limited (APG). The total consideration for the asset purchase is approximately HK$4.06 billion (approximately US$520 million)

• **GoDaddy Inc**, on its acquisition of Host Europe Group, a deal which is set to make GoDaddy the market leader in Europe for small business cloud services

• **Ambatana Holdings B.V.** on its technology venture with Wallapop S. L., pursuant to which the parties merged their respective US mobile classified application businesses into a new joint venture entity

They’re a terrific firm. I really enjoy working with them and their understanding of cross-border implications is extremely important.

Chambers UK, 2017
For further information on any Technology matters, please contact your usual Slaughter and May contact, or any of the following:

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“The team was efficient in understanding the brief and were strategic in their approach to achieving a positive outcome.”  
Chambers UK, 2016