

AUTOMOTIVE AND NEW MOBILITY SECTOR GROUP

- Legal advice from lawyers specialized in advising automotive OEMs, suppliers and new players in the automotive sector
- Being prepared for the transformation of the automotive sector
- Innovative strategies developed through decades of work in the industry
- Success in this highly competitive and fast changing marketplace

Our firm

With about 450 specialized lawyers, tax advisors and notaries providing legal services across eight offices all across Germany HEUKING is one of the major independent business law firms in Germany. We are a member of the World Services Group, one of the most prominent global networks of leading independent firms offering access to over 19,000 individuals and a wealth of knowledge at your fingertips.

Our Services

Extensive experience and deep understanding of the automotive industry

The lawyers from our Automotive and New Mobility Sector group know the automotive industry – not only the law, but the industry's players, practices and people. We provide a full range of contentious and non-contentious corporate, commercial, intellectual property and regulatory law services to investors, manufacturers (OEMs), tier 1 and 2 suppliers, distributors, automotive aftermarket companies and dealers. Together with our clients, we develop sector-specific solutions along the development, production, supply and distribution chains.

Solutions tailored to the automotive industry

Our unique expertise gives us the opportunity to advise at every step of the way of a motor vehicle's life. Issues regarding the first stages of development and design, to serial production, import and export of the final product, all the way to the disposal will be addressed by experts in our fields of corporate, commercial, intellectual property and regulatory law. In addition, we also advise on all areas of business law such as corporate transactions, employment matters, restructuring, or litigation matters.

Passion for complex legal issues

Looking at the progress in the fields of connected cars and autonomous vehicles, today's society faces important but also complex issues concerning the questions of safety and liability. The vision of people not having to "steer" the car will be an innovational milestone. However, the following questions need to be answered: Who is responsible for an accident caused by a self-driving car? And how can one ensure consumer data privacy is protected and attacks on the cybersecurity are not a threat? And most importantly, how will traffic regulations evolve facing issues like cars without a human driver. Our experts are able to guide you through those open waters and ensure your economic success.

Overview

The global automotive industry is facing more challenges than ever before in its history: It is currently undergoing a fundamental transformation. E-mobility, car sharing, connectivity and automated driving are pushing forward this transformation. New requirements concerning environmental sustainability, digitalization, and changing mobility requirements present new challenges for the industry's existing business models. Moreover, new players are entering the automotive industrial sector. In this rapidly changing industry, clients need proven automotive experience to assist them to succeed in this competitive marketplace.



Key Practice Areas

Our experts help you with:

- product safety and liability
- warranty issues and risks including recalls
- automotive regulatory compliance issues
- import and export controls
- intellectual property (patent prosecution, patent litigation)
- automotive cybersecurity and data privacy
- financing and investment opportunities
- M&A transaction advice
- commercial contracts such as supplier agreements, development agreements for new designs and technologies, distribution agreements, logistics contracts and subcontracting contracts
- labor and employment issues
- litigation and arbitration
- reorganization, restructuring and insolvency
- government contracts and public tenders
- license agreements
- development of new business models and new mobility concepts

Selected Expertise

Distribution and Commercial Matters

- Advising a leading provider of commercial data integration software in relation to a data integration project with a major German car manufacturer
- Advising a car manufacturer on a consortium agreement for the standardization of e-charging stations, including a significant number of major car manufacturers, suppliers and technology companies in Europe, Asia and the US
- Advising a leading start-up – providing IT-based after sales marketing services for the automotive sector – on framework agreements with automotive companies and also market researchers

IP Matters

- Advising a UK-based automotive group on non-contentious IP matters in Germany
- Representing a patent owner regarding automotive starter cables in German patent infringement proceedings against an Austrian competitor
- Advising a leader in driveline technology on trademark matters

Corporate Transactions

- Advising a US supplier on joint ventures with OEMs in Germany and Brazil
- Advising an automotive manufacturer on the acquisition of a German automotive supplier
- Advising an automotive supplier in various M&A transactions and the formation of joint ventures

Employment Matters

- Advising a car manufacturer on employment law matters
- Advising an automotive supplier on the creation of a Supervisory Board with employee participation
- Advising a car manufacturer on collective and individual employment law matters

Restructuring

- Advising an international tier-1 automotive supplier on the acquisition out of insolvency
- Advising an international tier-1 automotive supplier in connection with the completion of tool orders in insolvency proceedings
- Advising a Japanese automotive supplier in its acquisition of the motorsports division from the insolvency administrator

Litigation Matters

- Representing an automotive supplier in a litigation with its Chinese foreign commercial agent
- Advising an automotive supplier in a dispute with a major international automotive supplier
- Advising an automotive company on corporate defense in a public trial because of alleged bribery in commercial practice

International Reach – Local Excellence

HEUKING is strongly connected across borders. Through long-standing and trusted relationships with leading independent law firms worldwide, we offer our clients seamless access to first-class legal expertise across all major jurisdictions.

Whether advising on cross-border transactions, multinational regulatory matters, or complex international disputes, we work as one team with our partner firms abroad to ensure coordinated, efficient, and pragmatic solutions.



Further information
can be found here.

