

Matthew Woodford

Partner

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Matthew is the head of our antitrust and competition team. Recognised as a leading expert by Chambers and Partners for over 10 years, Matthew advises on all aspects of competition law including resale restrictions, abuse of dominance and UK and multi-jurisdictional merger control. He also advises on national security/FDI and anti-bribery compliance procedures.

Matthew's clients include national and multi-national companies and trade associations as well as central and local government bodies. Clients recommend him for his ability to provide practical and solution focused advice that enables them to make informed decisions in a complex and evolving field.

Matthew advises extensively on sales and distribution structures including exclusive and selective distribution models and agency. He also advises on internet resale controls and pricing strategies. He has defended numerous clients in investigations and dawn raids by the CMA (and OFT) and the European Commission, as well as making leniency and immunity applications (including appeals to the Competition Appeal Tribunal). He also advises clients on developing and implementing tailored competition compliance programmes, including running training and workshop sessions for employees and putting in place internet-based training modules.

Expertise

Sectors

Automotive

Health and life sciences

Manufacturing and industrials

Education

Insurance

Technology

Featured experience

R&D

Advising an automotive manufacturer on participation in a joint R&D project for new technology.

Selective distribution

Advising an international luxury brand on the implementation of a selective distribution system and online resale controls.

Merger control

Advising on the application of UK merger control rules to acquisitions in a wide range of industries and sectors.

Compliance training

Running a series of face-to-face and virtual training competition law compliance training sessions for sales and commercial teams.

Testimonials

Directories

"He has a very practical nature."

Chambers 2025,

"He is a very commercially savvy lawyer who offers real-world advice which is appreciated by both in-house counsel and business leaders."

Chambers 2025,

"Matthew Woodford is very bright, capable and knows when to bring in other members of the firm. He's just been fantastic to work with."

Chambers 2025,