



## Emerging Companies and Venture Capital

Forming and developing a business is an exciting and challenging undertaking. It can also be overwhelming. Entrepreneurs today are confronted by an increasingly complex array of business and legal issues when establishing a new venture.

Dorsey & Whitney's London office Emerging Companies Group assists emerging technology businesses throughout their growth cycle, from inception through to exit (via trade sale or IPO) and beyond. We have considerable experience in the area of technology transfer, working with academic institutions across the UK.

Our approach is simple - to be a strategic partner with our clients, utilising our knowledge, connections (in the business and investor communities) and experience to provide solutions to help them achieve their business goals. Our years of experience with emerging companies helps us anticipate opportunities and potential challenges before they arise. We take great pride in helping our clients become successful, market-leading organisations.

Our team approach draws upon a broad base of capabilities found throughout our firm. Our areas of expertise include general corporate and business advice, early-stage 'friends and family' and business angel investments, venture capital and private equity, private placements, mergers and

acquisitions, strategic alliances and public offerings.

Besides our in-depth experience of structuring the corporate and tax law aspects of emerging companies and venture capital transactions, we also bring our leading intellectual property expertise as a key component in our advice in the biotechnology, medical devices, ICT and other intellectual property-rich sectors.

For an emerging business, the protection of proprietary rights is as important as the timely financing of its development. Dorsey has a strong intellectual property practice, with industry experience in a number of technical fields (including life sciences, medical devices, ICT and physical sciences). We have found this lends itself very well to supporting young entrepreneurial companies in areas such as patent and trademark prosecution, developing proprietary positions to minimise litigation, licensing and collaborations, due diligence and litigation (both in domestic and international forums, including before the European Patent office and the US Patent and Trademark Office).

Having offices in the US and Far East puts us in an advantageous position to assist, in particular, emerging UK companies which may in the future want to venture into these markets.



## CONTACTS



**Frances Doherty**  
Partner  
+44 (0)20 7826 4517  
doherty.frances@dorsey.com

*“Frances Doherty has a strong reputation representing technology and pharma companies. The firm is also praised for its excellent work in relation to university spinout companies.” Legal 500, 2011*



**Roger Gregory**  
Partner  
+44 (0)20 7826 4572  
gregory.roger@dorsey.com



**Max Beazley**  
Associate  
+44 (0)20 7826 4504  
beazley.max@dorsey.com

**London**  
21 Wilson Street  
London EC2M 2TD  
Tel +44 (0)20 7588 0800  
Fax +44 (0)20 7588 0555