

Robert Kirkness

Barrister - Thorndon Chambers



Robert has a wide-ranging commercial and international law practice with particular expertise handling disputes in the Asia-Pacific region.

He is an experienced advocate: both in court (Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court of New Zealand) and in arbitration (ICC, ICSID, ICSID (AF), UNCITRAL, SIAC). He accepts appointments as arbitrator.

Robert is ranked for international arbitration by all major legal directories, including Who's Who Legal, which ranked him as the leading barrister / non-partner among future leaders in the Asia-Pacific region ("bound to be a star"), Chambers & Partners ("future star in the arbitration world"), and Legal 500 ("a rising star").

Before joining the independent bar, Robert worked in Paris and Singapore for international law firm, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer (2011-2018), the Crown Law Office in New Zealand (2008-2011) and leading New Zealand law firm, Russell McVeagh (2006-2008).