

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	General Counsel
Department:	Commercial
Primary job location:	VIRTUS Head Office
Reporting to:	SVP Commercial and Compliance
Direct reports:	TBC Paralegal
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About VIRTUS

VIRTUS Data Centres is the UK's fastest growing data centre provider which owns, designs, builds and operates the country's most efficient and flexible data centres. Our mission is to consistently exceed the expectations of customers through innovative, high-quality solutions and services. We employ intelligent thinkers – people with positive attitudes, who add to the quality of our customer proposition and business. We value individual endeavour and initiative, encourage teamwork and togetherness because collective experience and expertise is VIRTUS' greatest strength.

Job Summary

Be the main legal advisor on customer and supplier contracts, property purchases, advise on company set ups, and work with the relevant teams in UK and Europe including dealing with any contractual issues that may arise. The role incumbent would establish a legal team over time and provide legal counsel to the Chief Executive Officer and other Senior Management.

This role sits within the Commercial Department and will report into the SVP of Commercial and Compliance.

Based on VIRTUS' working principles, it will be a hybrid working approach, meaning it will be a blend of remote working and in person meetings at VIRTUS' head office and data centre locations as required to successfully deliver on all roll requirements.

As VIRTUS moves into EMEA you will be responsible for setting up and recruiting teams in each region so the role will require some travel to Europe.

Duties would include:

- Providing accurate, relevant, and timely advice to VIRTUS Senior Management Team and other members of staff on a variety of legal topics that relate to the data centre sector and the VIRTUS products and services.
- Drafting, reviewing, and negotiating various commercial contracts and agreements and advising on any issues that may arise.

- Drafting, reviewing and negotiating property transactions and any associated documentation that is required in the life of the data centre (ie wayleaves, utility leases etc).
- Instructing company formations and liaising with company secretary.
- Managing and mitigating legal risks and promoting legal and risk management best practice throughout the company.
- Ensuring compliance with all laws and legal requirements that apply to the business.
- Communicating with and managing any third-party bodies such as external counsel when necessary.
- Designing and delivering legal training to the business.
- Staying up-to-date with changes to legislation, particularly in relation to laws, rules and regulations that directly affect the data centre industry.
- Liaising with senior members of staff.
- Liaise with the legal team at STT GDC (our parent company).
- Challenge everything that we do as a team to ensure it's best in class. If you see an opportunity for improvement, work with the team to drive it.
- Be an external ambassador for VIRTUS to build our brand.

What Success Looks Like:

- Proactive, timely delivery of legal requirements to the business, with effective prioritisation relating to value and impact.
- Developed trusted relationships and strategic partnerships with key executives and third party bodies.
- Respected member of the team and across the VIRTUS business.

Person Specification

Skills and experience you will need:

Experience

- A legal qualification is an essential and 10+ years PQE
- A healthy mix of commercial understanding and legal knowledge.
- A strong understanding of commercial and property law and how to apply it in a commercial environment is essential
- Experience in EMEA would be advantageous
- Experience in telecoms, construction or technology environment working with senior leaders would be advantageous
- Experience working with hyperscale customers would be advantageous

Skills

- Agile, commercially focused mindset
- Strong influencing and negotiating skills
- Team player and leader who works for the success of the wider team
- Able to relate and be credible at all levels of the business

- Able to dissect and consider an issue from several angles, understand the dynamics involved and dig deeper to find the real problem. You consider your approach before rushing in to fix things.
- Good sense of humour and just as happy working operationally as strategically.
- Ability to collaborate and work in a fast-paced environment, adapting to rapid change.
- Excellent organisational, project management, written and oral communication skills.
- Strong customer relationship skills and ability to build strong relationships.
- Effective management skills including developing and mentoring staff.
- Comfortable dealing with ambiguity and fluid situations.

The successful applicant must be willing to undergo a BS7858 screening process

Remuneration package and benefits:

- Competitive rate of pay
- Private healthcare
- Critical illness and life assurance
- Pension contribution scheme
- Discretionary bonus
- Cycle to work scheme
- Eye care benefit
- Annual travel card loan
- TechScheme

VIRTUS is an equal opportunity employer. As part of our commitment to fight for equality, we work to ensure a fair and consistent interview process. We celebrate diversity and we are committed to an inclusive work environment.

If you are interested in this role, please email your CV to careers@virtusdcs.com.

We reserve the right to close this post for applications earlier than the advertised closing date should sufficient applications be received.