



MAPLES  
GROUP

# AVIATION

[maples.com](http://maples.com)



# ABOUT THE MAPLES GROUP

We provide clients with a comprehensive offering of legal, funds, fiduciary, regulatory and compliance, and entity formation and management services.

Our offering is distinguished by the highest quality work, an innovative approach and a commitment to tailored client service, combined with a longstanding core value of working together with clients as a team.

With a global network of lawyers and industry professionals strategically located in the Americas, Europe, Asia and the Middle East, the Maples Group ensures that you gain immediate access to expert advice and bespoke support within time zones that are convenient to your needs.

# AVIATION FINANCE

**With over 50 years' experience, our well-developed perspective on trends, tax efficient products and structuring options in aviation markets enables us to present pragmatic solutions to our clients.**

We advise on British Virgin Islands ("BVI"), Cayman Islands, Irish, Jersey and Luxembourg law. We offer advice to our clients from our network of global offices, and are the only firm globally licensed to practice Irish law from Singapore. We offer fiduciary services in Abu Dhabi, Bermuda, the BVI, the Cayman Islands, Dubai, Hong Kong, Ireland, Jersey, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Singapore, the UK and the US.

In an industry where timing is everything, we provide much needed simplification and efficiency. Our team of aviation lawyers and industry professionals work closely to provide a comprehensive and integrated suite of legal, tax, structuring, fiduciary, and entity formation and management services to our aviation clients around the globe. We appreciate that your choice of service provider is an important factor in the successful development and delivery of your structuring objectives.

We have acted on aviation transactions (including leasing, acquisition, storage, disposal, financing and securitisation) involving thousands of aircraft in commercial operation, as well as the establishment of leasing platforms, stock exchange listings, launch of IPOs, and merger and acquisition transactions in the aviation sector. In addition, our team also advises on corporate and private aviation assets, including helicopters and private jets.

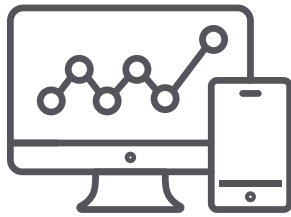
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CLIENTS INCLUDE  
7 OF THE TOP 10 GLOBAL  
AIRCRAFT LESSORS

REGULATED  
INVESTMENT  
FUNDS AUA  
IN EXCESS OF



\$125B<sup>+</sup>



LEADING SOFTWARE  
AND ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS

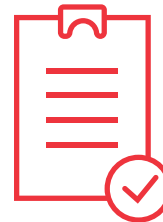
7000<sup>+</sup>

ACTIVE STRUCTURED  
FINANCE VEHICLES WITH  
OVER \$3 TRILLION  
IN ASSETS

50<sup>+</sup>



YEARS IN  
AVIATION



SOC1  
SOC2  
ACCREDITED  
SYSTEMS

2500<sup>+</sup>



GLOBAL  
PROFESSIONALS



16

OFFICES  
WORLDWIDE

# LEGAL SERVICES

Established over 50 years ago, the Maples Group's specialist aviation finance team is highly experienced. We provide advice on the purchase, funding, holding and leasing of aircraft, and employ bespoke products such as Cayman Islands incorporated, Irish tax resident vehicles to maximise efficiency for our clients.

Our aviation finance team works closely with colleagues across our global network drawing on aviation expertise from our tax, corporate and funds teams, among others, to provide a holistic and integrated legal service offering to our aviation clients. This collaboration guarantees that transactions are structured for optimal performance, managed out of the most appropriate time zone and structured to benefit from the most tax-efficient products in the market.

Offering legal advice to a multitude of aircraft lessors, financiers, funds, investors, owners and operators, we pride ourselves on our ability to offer bespoke products and services in the aviation space. We also act on export credit agency- supported financings for all of the major aircraft manufacturers as well as commercial bank, asset-backed securitisation ("ABS") and lessor-supported debt deals.

We frequently advise on the largest, most notable and cutting-edge aviation finance transactions and are the market leader in a number of these areas.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AIRCRAFT LEASING PLATFORMS  
AIRCRAFT ON AND OFF BALANCE SHEET COMMERCIAL AND EXPORT CREDIT BACKED FINANCINGS  
AIRCRAFT PORTFOLIO SALES AND PURCHASES  
AIRCRAFT PORTFOLIO SECURITISATIONS  
OPERATING AND FINANCE LEASES  
AVIATION INDUSTRY INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERINGS  
AVIATION INDUSTRY MERGERS, ACQUISITION AND INVESTMENTS  
AVIATION INVESTMENT FUNDS  
JOINT VENTURE ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT  
ASSET SECURITY  
CAPE TOWN FILINGS  
LOCAL REGISTRATION OF AIRCRAFT  
AIRLINE LOYALTY PROGRAMME FINANCINGS  
AIRCRAFT RELATED STOCK EXCHANGE LISTINGS



# DEBT RESTRUCTURING

The Maples Group has been at the forefront of the largest and most innovative debt restructurings in the aviation market in recent years.

We advise on Cayman Islands, Irish and BVI law from our network of offices across the globe, ensuring we are available when you need us.

We can assist at every stage of a debt or liquidity crunch from consensual new money deals and work-outs, court-based debt restructurings to full blown contentious restructuring and insolvency proceedings. We have been involved in many of the recent high profile and high value cases in the aviation market. In particular, consensual new money deals concerning, among others, Delta and United Airlines, navigating the Cayman Islands law side of Chapter 11 proceedings in relation to Waypoint and Bristow, and the Nordic Aviation Capital and Norwegian Airways cases in Ireland.

Our experience in Cayman Islands debt restructuring proceedings is unparalleled. We are the market leader in promoting the innovative use of Cayman Islands schemes of arrangements in a cross-border context to meet the needs of our clients in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

Our insolvency and restructuring team in Ireland has been involved in some of the most complex and high-profile insolvency and restructuring matters in Ireland, including recent cases in the aviation sector.

We provide a truly international perspective alongside in-depth local expertise and we understand that the key driver is getting the deal done.



# FIDUCIARY SERVICES

With over two decades in the marketplace, the Maples Group's fiduciary services team has the skills, experience and resources to support export credit agencies, financial institutions, lessors, airlines and investment funds active within the aviation sector.

Within our fiduciary services team, we have built a strong infrastructure of policies, procedures and systems in line with industry best practices that are designed to support the needs of our independent directors. The breadth of our experience, backed by our global network, allows us to serve on the boards of SPVs in Abu Dhabi, Bermuda, the BVI, the Cayman Islands, Dubai, Hong Kong, Ireland, Jersey, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, the Netherlands, Singapore, the UK and the US.

Our directorship services can facilitate a full board of directors or a single independent director on a larger board comprised of other relevant professionals.

In the BVI and the Cayman Islands, registered companies and partnerships can benefit from our registered office and agent services. In Ireland, we offer a tailored suite of services designed to satisfy the substance requirements of the Irish revenue authority.

These local presences hold true for other SPVs as well. Because we are regulated and licensed in each of the jurisdictions in which we operate, we can take a proactive approach to corporate governance and regulatory matters. This approach helps us to ensure our clients' risks are continually controlled and managed. We provide additional protection by actively monitoring the regulatory requirements of each industry.

**ACCOUNTING, TAX AND AGENCY SERVICES**  
**CONFLICT REVIEW AND ADVISORY SERVICES**  
**CAPE TOWN REGISTRATION SERVICES**  
**COMPANY SECRETARIAL AND BOARD SUPPORT SERVICES**  
**DIRECTOR / MEMBER SERVICES**  
**MANAGING AGENT SERVICES**  
**PERMANENT OFFICE SERVICES**  
**POWER OF ATTORNEY AND PROXY AGENT SERVICES**  
**TAX APPLICATIONS AND FILINGS**

# TRUSTEE SERVICES

Independent trustees are critical to good governance and our highly experienced professionals bring a consistent approach and institutional quality service to our aviation clients.

## **SHARE TRUSTEE SERVICES**

Our fiduciary services team is licensed to act as share trustee on transactions requiring an “orphan” structure to achieve insolvency remoteness and off-balance sheet treatment for entities. We can hold legal title to the share(s) in the special purpose vehicle, for the benefit of a charitable trust, and provide independent directors to the company. This allows the relevant aircraft asset to be held in a vehicle that is not affiliated with the originator, lessor or operator, thus enhancing insolvency remoteness and separation for non-consolidation purposes.

## **IRISH OWNER TRUSTEE SERVICES (INCLUDING GATS TRUSTEE)**

Our fiduciary services team in Ireland is licensed to act as owner trustee on transactions requiring placement of aircraft assets into an Irish trust structure. The Maples Group’s owner trustee service enables an aircraft owner to transfer legal title in an aircraft or aircraft related asset to a professional trustee, while continuing to retain the beneficial interest in the asset.

The use of aircraft trusts has been a growing trend in recent years, paralleling an increase in aircraft trading volumes generally, as leased aircraft comprise an ever-greater percentage of the global fleet. Owner trust structures offer a number of distinct advantages to the transaction parties, most notably ease of asset trading compared to a typical sale and purchase in conjunction with a novation transfer of the active lease (with associated time and cost savings), and facilitation of aircraft registration in several jurisdictions.

Complementing our Irish owner trustee services, the Maples Group has been authorised by the Aviation Working Group to act as a trustee for the Global Aircraft Trading System (“GATS”). GATS provides a secure, live and searchable electronic ledger displaying details of ownership of and security interests in GATS trusts. GATS is designed to facilitate and promote secure and transparent trading and financing of aircraft equipment by introducing efficiencies into the process of leasing and trading aircraft with the aim of reducing the burdens on lessees, lessors and financiers, whilst also protecting the rights of all parties involved.

# ENTITY FORMATION & MANAGEMENT

Legal and compliance departments are increasingly looking for greater support from their third party advisors for entity formation and management.

As global regulatory and reporting requirements continue to grow in volume and complexity, there is a greater demand for the outsourcing of entity formation and management services to external service providers who can offer a higher level of technological support.

The Maples Group's full suite of entity formation and management services helps clients centralise and streamline data reporting and compliance, improve transparency, mitigate risks and reduce costs.

We provide our clients with reliable and secure access to all of their corporate records via our robust, proprietary and scalable platform – eServices.

In addition, our highly experienced legal and corporate services professionals work collaboratively to ensure the seamless and efficient provision of high quality and full service support.

**FORMATION SERVICES**

**REGISTERED OFFICE, REGISTERED AGENT AND DOMICILIATION SERVICES**

**COMPANY SECRETARIAL AND BOARD SUPPORT SERVICES**

**ACCOUNTING, TAX AND AGENCY SERVICES**

**LIQUIDATION SERVICES**

**ENTITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

**ESERVICES**

# REGULATORY & COMPLIANCE

The Maples Group's regulatory and compliance team delivers the reporting and governance solutions sought by our clients to support their operations.

Regulatory compliance is a top priority in the aviation industry due to the increasing requirements of global regulators. Clients are required to submit numerous reports to multiple regulatory bodies on an ongoing basis. Many businesses view these as obstacles or annoyances. With our assistance, however, regulatory compliance can be a natural extension of your business and can add real value.

We take a full service approach to anti-money laundering legislation and other regulatory regimes applicable to the industry. Our understanding of the application and evolution of these is second to none. We work with you to keep your business compliant with relevant legislation in an efficient and commercially sensitive manner.

# INDUSTRY RECOGNITION

We are recognised as the service provider of choice in the aviation industry and strive to maintain our reputation for excellence in all that we do.

Our proactive approach has been recognised by leading industry publications, earning us many coveted Deal of the Year awards.

**AIRLINE ECONOMICS**  
**AIRFINANCE JOURNAL**  
**FINANCE DUBLIN**  
**ISHKA**

In 2021, we were recognised for our role on 10 award-winning Deals of the Year at the Airfinance Journal and Airline Economics awards. The team's role in advising United Airlines on its US\$6.8 billion financing plan earned the most coveted award, the Overall Deal of the Year (global), in both publications.

Members of our aviation team have also been recognised as leaders in their field by industry publications including:

**CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS**  
**LEGAL 500**  
**IFLR1000**  
**WHO'S WHO LEGAL**  
**AIRLINE ECONOMICS 40 UNDER 40**  
**EUROMONEY EUROPEAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS**



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