

David Anthony Sykes BSc. C.Eng. CITP MBCS MIET FAE MEWI

Expert Witness and IT Consultant

E: tony.sykes@itgroup-uk.com

T: 0845 226 0331 (ext. 500)

Specialisms

Over 25 years' experience in IT, telecommunications and electrical engineering disputes including fitness for purpose, project delay analysis, security systems, software IPR and outsourcing. Highly accredited Court Expert with experience of giving evidence in International Tribunals, Mediations, Arbitrations and High Court TCC trials. Has been instructed by many leading firms in the UK, Ireland, EMEA and the Far East.

Profile

I have over 25 years' experience in the application of electrical engineering, electronics and software, chiefly as a designer of IT and telecommunications products and systems. I have worked with organisations such as GEC, Courtaulds and the MOD, on design contracts and for organisations such as OFCOM, BT and British Gas in a Consultancy role. I have been instructed by loss adjusters and insurers such as FM Global, Crawfords, Cunningham Lindsey and Zurich in connection with insurance claims and subrogation. I have been instructed by firms such as Clyde & Co, Clifford Chance, Baker & McKenzie, Dentons, Pinsent Masons, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer and Dentons in connection with company litigation, TMT disputes, copyright and customs tribunals.

Accreditations/Memberships

Chartered Electrical Engineer and Member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology. Practising Fellow of the Academy of Experts and a member of the Academy's Council. Member of the Society of Expert Witnesses. Member of the Expert Witness Institute. Registered with the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers as an expert witness. Member of the Society for Computers and Law and a founding member of the SCL IT Disputes Group.

Reported Cases include:

HHJ Grant – Frontier Systems Ltd -v- Fripp Finishing Ltd [2014] EWHC 1907 (TCC)

HHJ Toulmin - Kingsway Hall Hotel -v- Red Sky IT [2010] EWHC 965

HHJ Thornton - Autoroute Circuits -v- Life Racing Limited [2007] EWHC 1505

HHJ Bowsher - Sam Business Systems -v- Hedley & Co. [2002] EWHC 2733

Tel: +44 (0)845 226 0331

Email: enquiries@itgroup-uk.com

Web: www.itgroup-uk.com

Office Locations

Offices in London, Preston,
Dublin and Singapore



Career History

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1992 – Present | Partner, IT Group UK Limited Director, Rockford IT Limited |
| 1989 – 1992 | Managing Director, Microsys Consultants Limited |
| 1984 – 1988 | Computer Applications Manager and Chief Engineer, FKI Babcock Group Company |
| 1982 – 1984 | Chief Engineer, Metal Closures Group PLC |
| 1979 – 1982 | Software and Electronics Systems Engineer, Losenhausen GmbH |
| 1973 – 1978 | Software and Electronics Engineer, British Leyland |

Recommendations

"I prefer Mr Sykes' opinion on this issue" [how hackers gained access to a VOIP PBX]
HHJ Grant – Frontier Systems Ltd Trading as Voiceflex -v- Fripp Finishing Ltd [2014] EWHC 1907 (TCC)

"In general I find Mr Sykes' evidence is to be preferred to Mr XXXXX in areas where they disagreed."
HHJ Toulmin - Kingsway Hall Hotel -v- Red Sky IT [2010] EWHC 965

"An overall assessment of all this material led me unhesitatingly to conclude that, on any relevant dispute of technical detail or professional opinion, Mr Sykes' evidence was to be preferred to Dr XXXXXXXX."
HHJ Thornton - Autoroute Circuits (Roger Benfield) -v- Life Racing Limited [2007] EWHC 1505

"I preferred the evidence of Mr. Sykes as more measured and temperate."
HHJ Bowsher - Sam Business Systems -v- Hedley & Co. [2002] EWHC 2733

"Tony is an excellent expert who knows his subject very well and has the skill to explain and present his opinions with clarity."
Jeremy White, Barrister

"Tony possesses a high degree of technical knowledge combined with good people skills at reasonable cost."
Peter Hookham – Loss Adjuster, FM Global

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“Tony is a consummate professional. I have worked closely with him in the resolution of complex IT disputes and his expert input has been invaluable, not only to me but the paying client.”

Tim Ashdown - Partner, DMH Stallard

“As a loss adjuster working for a property insurance, I hired Tony Sykes on a number of high-profile industrial losses as an IT and electronic technologies consultant, to assess damage, reparability, repair vs replace valuation, source possible suppliers, etc. His responsiveness, technical knowledge, flexibility to adapt to various scenarios, understanding of our needs and results on the field, make him a very valuable consultant.”

Lorenzo Scarabellotto - Loss Adjuster, FM Global

“William Fry instructed Tony Sykes and Jason Coyne from IT Group in an Intellectual Property dispute in the High Court in Dublin. The unique combination of forensic IT skills and software engineering experience enabled IT Group to uncover the source of the IP theft and to provide invaluable expert opinion on the attempted cover-up that followed. I would recommend IT Group in this type of case.”

Carol Plunkett – Partner, William Fry (Dublin)

“I instructed Tony Sykes as an Expert Witness in an employment tribunal. His statements and report were instrumental in winning the tribunal. I would recommend him as an expert witness any day. I would hire him should I need his expertise in court/tribunal.”

Michael Tint (client)

“I instructed Tony Sykes in a large High Court litigation involving electronics and software. His expertise and clear presentation of evidence during cross-examination were essential in a difficult and complex trial lasting many weeks. I would recommend Tony in any IT or electronics case involving fitness for purpose or intellectual property dispute.”

Gerald O’Mahoney - Partner, O’Mahoney St John Solicitors

“I instructed Tony Sykes as an expert witness in regards to a SAP matter. I found Tony to be extremely proficient and knowledgeable in the case matter and found his report to be very informative and to the point in regards to the key findings. From my initial enquiry, I found Tony Sykes and IT Group to be very prompt and efficient with their analysis and would not hesitate to use them with any matters in the future.”

Simon Konsta – Partner, Clyde & Co