HHQ
ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS

Kelvin Chee Wei Jia

Partner

+603 2710 3818

kelvin.chee@hhq.com.my

Qualifications

- Advocate and Solicitor, High Court of Malaya (2018)
- Certificate of Legal Practice (2016)
- Bachelor of Laws (Honours), University of Leeds (2014)

Languages

- English
- Malay
- Chinese

Kelvin is a Partner and the co-head of the corporate and investor service practice group based in our Kuala Lumpur office. He focuses his practice on corporate and commercial law and possesses extensive experience in providing legal services to businesses, with particular expertise in advising multinational Chinese enterprises. He is highly skilled in the review, drafting, and negotiation of commercial contracts, and has demonstrated strong capability in handling corporate due diligence exercises, mergers and acquisitions, and complex corporate transactions.

Practice Areas

- Corporate & Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A)
- Cross-Border Investment & Trade
- Regulatory, Licensing & Corporate Compliance
- Real Estate & Industrial Land
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Integrated Services

Kelvin's practice spans a broad range of corporate matters, including mergers and acquisitions, company incorporation, licensing and permit applications, and regulatory compliance. He has been deeply involved in legal work relating to large-scale industrial park developments and foreign-invested enterprises, including the Malaysia–China Kuantan Industrial Park, a flagship project jointly developed by the Malaysian and Chinese governments. In this capacity, he has provided one-stop integrated legal support to both the industrial park developer and its tenant enterprises, ranging from the establishment of compliance frameworks to cross-border cooperation advisory, thereby facilitating successful project implementation and sustainable development.

In addition, Kelvin has long served as legal counsel to joint venture companies invested by Chinese state-owned enterprises, providing comprehensive legal support in relation to group supply chain contracts, cross-border mergers and acquisitions, EPC construction contracts, and labour and employment matters. In addressing complex legal issues, he is recognised for his sound professional judgment and efficient execution.

With in-depth knowledge of industrial parks and the manufacturing sector, Kelvin is well equipped to navigate both local and international legal challenges. He is committed to delivering precise and effective legal solutions, enabling clients to achieve regulatory compliance and long-term growth in a highly competitive commercial environment.

Experience

- Chief Legal Counsel to Alliance Steel (M) Sdn Bhd, a state-owned joint venture enterprise and a flagship project under the Belt and Road Initiative, as well as the first operational project within the Malaysia–China Kuantan Industrial Park (MCKIP) with a total investment of approximately USD 1.4 billion and covering 710 acres, the project integrates steel manufacturing, processing, warehousing, logistics, and global trading operations. Since 2021, Kelvin has provided comprehensive legal services covering project establishment, land and infrastructure matters, operational compliance, governmental approvals, major contract negotiations, tax advisory, labour and employment matters, workforce restructuring, and cross-border transaction arrangements, supporting the group's steady expansion and long-term competitiveness.

- Acted for Prinx Tyre (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd., a wholly owned subsidiary of a Hong Kong–listed company, in relation to the establishment of an overseas tyre manufacturing facility at Kedah Rubber City, Malaysia.The scope of work included advising on and negotiating land lease-purchase arrangements with the Federal Land Commissioner, as well as providing legal advice on governmental approval processes and foreign investment admission requirements. The project involved a total investment of approximately RM2.5 billion.
- Represented a foreign-invested company in connection with the disposal of 100% equity interest in its subsidiary to a Chinese enterprise for a consideration of approximately RM200 million, where the purchaser proposed to establish Malaysia's largest alumina production facility.
- Advised a foreign-invested company in Malaysia on the sale of a complete oxygen production plant—including air separation units, power supply facilities, and factory buildings—to a China-listed company, with a total transaction value exceeding RM293 million.
- Acted for a foreign-invested company in Malaysia in relation to the proposed acquisition of shares and assets of a Malaysian logistics company.The scope of services included structuring the overall acquisition and transaction framework, conducting legal due diligence on the target company and assets, drafting and reviewing transaction documents (including share sale agreements and asset transfer agreements), and assisting with transaction completion. The total transaction value was approximately RM32 million.
- Advised a foreign-invested company in Malaysia on a large-scale workforce retrenchment exercise involving approximately 800 employees.The engagement covered reviewing the retrenchment plan for compliance with the Employment Act 1955 and relevant subsidiary legislation, advising on notice periods, compensation arrangements, and re-employment assistance mechanisms, as well as assisting the client in establishing internal compliance procedures, risk mitigation strategies, and liaising with the Department of Labour Peninsular Malaysia (JTK) and the Industrial Relations Department (JPP) for notification and filing purposes.
- Provided legal advisory services to a foreign listed company in relation to its proposed aluminium formwork rental, sales, and recycling business in Malaysia, including the issuance of a legal memorandum. The scope of advice encompassed foreign investment entry requirements, business licensing, product circulation and regulatory controls, cross-border logistics arrangements, and tax compliance frameworks, assisting the client in assessing project feasibility and legal risks.