

Stibbe

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Title	Partner
Practice Group	TMT
Areas of practice	Computer and IT contracts, e-commerce, distribution, intellectual property

Practice overview

Erik Valgaeren's practice focuses on IT, internet, e-commerce and electronic communications law, as well as on IP issues relating to the aforementioned subjects. He has a thorough understanding of technical issues relating to communications. His work includes the drafting of contracts, advising on legislation and regulatory aspects and litigation both before national courts and arbitral tribunals. Typical projects include web services, outsourcing, facilities management, system integration, software implementation, data transmission, databases, health IT, privacy, distribution and partnerships. His IP-related activities are mainly driven by the increasing interaction between infrastructure and the content / information communicated thereby.

Additional information

Erik Valgaeren is a member of both the Brussels Bar and the New York Bar (admitted in 1992).. He also has a mandate at the *Katholieke Hogeschool Mechelen*.

Education, career and qualifications

Born in 1967.

Erik Valgaeren graduated from the *Katholieke Universiteit Leuven* (lic.jur. K.U.Leuven, 1990). He also obtained a *Master of Laws* (LL.M.) from the University of Chicago School of Law in 1991. Furthermore, he attended the Master in Computer Management Courses at the *Vrije Universiteit Brussel* (VUB, 1999-2000).

Prior to joining Stibbe in 1993, Erik Valgaeren was an associate in the Washington DC and

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Brussels offices of Wilmer Cutler Pickering.

Admitted to the Brussels Bar in 1993 and to the New York Bar in 1992.

With the Brussels office of Stibbe since 1993 (partner since 2001).

Memberships

Erik Valgaeren is member of the legal committee of Belcliv, the Belgian association for IT security.

He is chief editor of “*Computerrecht*”, a Belgian-Dutch legal periodical on ICT law, since 2009.

He is also a member of the FITCE (Federation of International Telecom Engineers).

Erik Valgaeren has been a member of the Technology Committee of the International Bar Association (IBA) since 2005. Since 2009 he is also the Committee's Secretary and Treasurer.

He is also co-founder of BeTech, a new association of Belgian technology professionals.

Languages

Dutch, French, English, German

Publications

- Valgaeren, E., “ICT en bewijsrecht” (ICT and evidence), in Cepina, Bewijsrecht, November 2009
- Valgaeren, E., and Tayemand, M., “Cepina effent de weg naar ICT mediatie” (“Cepina paves the way for ICT mediation”), in Nederlands-Vlaams tijdschrift voor Mediation en conflictmanagement 2009, nr. 3, p. 5-17.
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- Valgaeren, E., “Octrooi op software: van “copyleft” naar “patentleft””, *Computerrecht* 2004, no. 5, p. 233-237.
- Valgaeren, E., “Richtlijn hergebruik overheidsinformatie”, *Computerrecht* 2004, no. 2, p. 102.
- Valgaeren, E., Michielsen, P., “New Act on Computer Crimes”, *World Internet Law Report Volume 2 issue 3* (March 2001), p. 3-3.
- Valgaeren, E., “In-house counsel international” (bi-monthly magazine), eds. Study Group Publications (UK), 1996-1998 (correspondent).
- Valgaeren, E., “Handelspraktijken” (bi-monthly magazine), eds. Mys & Breesch, 1993-1996 (co-author).