

Addleshaw Goddard traces its roots back to the very first public record of solicitors in the UK – the Law List – published in 1775. It has grown through amalgamation ever since, developing in line with a changing world.

1775-1997 BOOTH & CO

Nicholas Smith founds the firm in 1775, and Samuel Lister Booth is admitted as a solicitor in 1823. The successors of these practices combined over the years to become Booth, Clough & Booth in 1869. Further amalgamations lead to the firm becoming Booth & Co. in c.1936.

1857-1997 ADDLESHAW SONS AND LATHAM

John William Addleshaw begins legal practice in 1857 and enters partnership with William Warburton in 1873. The firm becomes Addleshaw & Sons in 1904, and then Addleshaw Sons & Latham in 1917.

1997-2003 ADDLESHAW BOOTH & CO

Addleshaw Sons & Latham merges with Booth & Co to become Addleshaw Booth & Co.

2012

Addleshaw Goddard opens offices in Singapore, Dubai, Hong Kong, Oman and Qatar.

2019

Addleshaw Goddard opens its first office in continental Europe, welcoming partners in Hamburg.

2003- ADDLESHAW GODDARD

Addleshaw Booth & Co and Theodore Goddard merge to become Addleshaw Goddard.

2017

Addleshaw Goddard expands into Scotland by merging with HBJ.

1902-2003 THEODORE GODDARD

John Theodore Goddard founds blue chip, City of London firm, Theodore Goddard in 1902, which grows through amalgamation with other city practices, such as Rhys Roberts & Co (founded in 1883 by future Prime Minister David Lloyd George).

1808-2017 HENDERSON BOYD JACKSON



1960s – 1970s

The firm is one of the first to introduce the role of 'Associate'. To this day, the firm continues that long-standing commitment to investing in talent. For example, we launched a legal apprenticeship programme in 2013 to enable talented young people to enter law via vocational training and, since 2018, we've enabled lawyers to qualify in legal technology roles.

The firm also embraces telex and new electric typewriters in the '60s and '70s as a means of connecting with clients and responding to needs more rapidly, efficiently and effectively – a technology trend that also continues here to this date. For example, the firm's dedicated technology team has advised over 700 companies in recent years on the use of technology to achieve their legal goals.



2003

Nine countries (Malta, Slovenia, Hungary, Lithuania, Slovakia, Poland, Czech Republic, Estonia and Latvia) vote in referendums to join the EU. Apple launches iTunes, the Space Shuttle Columbia disintegrates on re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere, and Lionel Messi debuts for Barcelona.



2012

Vladimir Putin is re-elected President of Russia and Barack Obama is re-elected President of the United States of America. Encyclopaedia Britannica discontinues its print edition after 246 years, the Middle East's first ever female train driver starts work on the Dubai metro, and London hosts the Summer Olympics. AG has tripled the number of partners in our London office since 2012.



2019

In a world of continued uncertainty, change and risk, our ongoing growth and expansion will help us to continue being there for our clients, whenever and wherever they need us.



1775

The industrial revolution is well underway, the American Revolutionary War begins and Mozart writes five violin concertos.

1808

Napoléon Bonaparte is the Emperor of France, Ludwig van Beethoven completes his 5th Symphony, and the importation of slaves into the United States is banned.



1857

Charles Dickens is writing A Tale of Two Cities, Kuala Lumpur is founded as a tin mining settlement, Elisha Otis installs his first elevator and Sheffield FC become the world's first football club.



1902

The Berlin U-Bahn is opened, Thomas Edison is prevented in court from having a monopoly on motion picture technology, and Géo Lefèvre and Henri Desgrange first come up with the idea for the Tour de France bicycle race. Wind the clock forward to 2019, and Addleshaw Goddard were delighted to become the official legal provider to the UCI road cycling world championships.



1936

While the firm now focuses on business matters, one of our most famous cases was in 1936, when Theodore Goddard advised American socialite Wallis Simpson on her divorce proceedings at the time of her relationship with King Edward VIII, which led to a constitutional crisis and ultimately the King's abdication. Other famous clients over the years have included Louis Armstrong, the Rolling Stones, David Bowie, John Profumo – during one of the UK's biggest political scandals of the 20th century, Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta Jones, and – today – many of the world's largest and best-known brands.