
Preface

This booklet has been specifically written for laypersons and, in particular, for business people as well as lawyers with limited experience. Our objective was to provide a concise and useful explanation of the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act ('FCPA') and the UK Bribery Act along with helpful guidance as to what entities should be doing to minimize their risk of legal liability.

We believe this booklet will be useful to any entity. This includes the traditional for-profit entities like companies and partnerships as well as non-profit entities such as non-governmental organisations. Given the broad reach of the FCPA and the UK Bribery Act, and the implications of a host of other legal regimes, this booklet is also highly relevant to foreign entities not generally perceived as being subject to either statute.

The phrase, often attributed to George Bernard Shaw, that the US and UK are 'two nations divided by a common language' has often come to mind in the course of our efforts. For consistency, English spelling and punctuation has therefore been used. Yet in terms of substance, both a US and UK perspective has been carefully maintained throughout our joint efforts.