Digital Infrastructure

Skadden

Skadden delivers commercially savvy legal services across the full spectrum of digital infrastructure, providing tailored advice to meet the surging demand for data centers, telecommunications infrastructure and related technology assets.

Our global, multidisciplinary team has handled numerous significant matters spanning North and South America, Asia and Europe relating to the acquisition, disposition, financing, development, leasing and operation of digital infrastructure, in addition to regulatory compliance and dispute resolution.

The firm's clients include developers and operators, infrastructure funds and other financial sponsors, and leading technology companies, including cloud providers, hyperscalers and colocation providers.

Integrated Digital Infrastructure Platform

Skadden offers a comprehensive range of integrated services relating to investment in and ownership, development and management of digital infrastructure and ancillary assets, including:

- **Acquisitions and Investments:** Skadden is a global strategic partner to leading companies and investors engaged in both public and private M&A in the digital infrastructure sector, leveraging our deep transactional experience and understanding of the underlying technology and business models that drive success in the sector. We have advised on acquisitions, sales, joint ventures and investments involving data centers, cloud providers, hardware manufacturers, fiber and tower infrastructure companies, and mobile and fixed network operators.

- **Debt Finance:** Skadden's in-depth understanding of global markets informs our work structuring complex financing arrangements, including data center construction and term loans, revolving credit facilities, green loan and sustainability-linked financings, and capital markets offerings to support the acquisition, development and permanent financing of digital infrastructure assets. We have extensive experience advising on the financing of stabilized data center assets, including through structured finance and other capital markets solutions. Our team's experience spans project finance, real estate finance and corporate finance, allowing us to advise on the latest market trends applicable to any type of transaction.

- **Energy and Infrastructure:** Skadden relies on extensive energy and infrastructure experience to advise clients of all types on transactions and regulatory matters related to the fulfillment of digital infrastructure power procurement, project development, construction and other needs, such as cooling technologies. We have deep industry knowledge derived from collaborating with leading owners of infrastructure assets worldwide. Our team also ensures that environmental considerations are integrated into every stage of digital infrastructure transactions, supporting business objectives while meeting regulatory and sustainability requirements.

- **Real Estate:** Skadden provides comprehensive real estate services, representing all types of stakeholders in large-scale transactions, financings and leasing of data centers, fiber routes and telecommunications sites, including hyperscale and multitenant sites. We regularly represent developers, operating partners and financial partners in structuring joint venture transactions and have advised numerous sponsors, managers, investment groups and real estate holding companies in connection with the formation and operation of U.S. and international real estate funds investing throughout the world.

- **Cybersecurity and Data Privacy:** Skadden serves as a global one-stop shop for cybersecurity, incident response, data protection and privacy challenges, providing practical, technical and operational guidance on the full spectrum of cyber and data privacy issues relevant to digital infrastructure operators and investors.

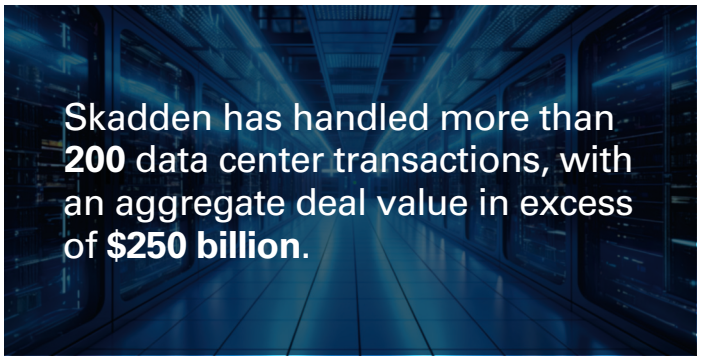
- **Intellectual Property and Technology:** We assist clients in protecting and commercializing technological innovations, executing licensing, distribution and customer-facing agreements and navigating the complexities of outsourcing and managed services. Through a deep understanding of cutting-edge technologies, including artificial intelligence, blockchain and cloud computing, our team provides strategic advice on the full range of technology-related matters.

- **Political Law:** Our political law compliance and investigations team advises digital infrastructure clients on the complex legal and regulatory frameworks governing political interactions with federal, state and local governments. Our work includes counseling on 501(c)(4) organizations, political advertising and stakeholder engagement strategies, as well as state and local lobbying registration. We advise on the legal and strategic dimensions of political activity, including ongoing compliance with registration, reporting and related regulatory obligations. We also partner with well-vetted political consultants to help clients develop an overall strategy on political engagement that is both legal and effective.

- **Tax:** Skadden delivers innovative tax structuring and advisory services tailored to the unique needs of the digital infrastructure industry, helping to ensure efficient and strategic outcomes in a wide variety of significant transactions, in addition to other tax-related matters.

- **Regulatory and Compliance:** We guide clients through the complex regulatory landscape governing digital infrastructure, including involving antitrust/competition, international trade, national security, telecommunications and supply chain issues.

- **Dispute Resolution:** We are recognized leaders in resolving complex, high-stakes litigation and arbitration matters across multiple jurisdictions, including disputes arising from digital infrastructure investments, operations and regulatory enforcement.



Rankings and Recognition

Skadden is consistently recognized as a leading firm in top industry publications and league tables worldwide.

Band 1: Corporate/M&A, Private Equity, Banking & Finance, Capital Markets, Energy, Tax, Antitrust/Competition and Disputes

– Chambers Global

AI, Technology and Telecoms Award

– China Business Law

Digital Infrastructure Deal of the Year

– IJGlobal

Practice Group of the Year: M&A, Private Equity, Capital Markets, Energy, Real Estate, Technology, Fintech, Tax, Competition, Securities, International Arbitration and Trials

– Law360

TMT Deal of the Year

– The Asian Lawyer

Top Technology Sector Transaction

– Financial Times North America Innovative Lawyers Report

Shortlisted for Datacenter Deal of the Year and Legal Advisory Trailblazer of the Year

– TMT Finance Awards USA 2026

Leading AI & Legal Tech Advisors

– Lawdragon

Recent Select Experience

Data Centers

21Vianet Group, Inc. in various financings and M&A transactions.

Aker ASA in a joint venture and $1.1 billion Series B funding round with Nscale Global Holdings Ltd. to launch Stargate Norway with support from OpenAI, and in Nscale's $2 billion Series C funding round, in which Aker's 50% stake in the joint venture was rolled up into Nscale.

Ascenty Chile in a $170 million loan to fund the operations of its three data centers in Santiago, Chile.

Bitfarms Ltd. in its $175 million acquisition of Stronghold Digital Mining, Inc.; a private debt and warrant placement of up to $350 million with Macquarie Group; the conversion of a Macquarie debt facility into a project financing of up to $300 million to accelerate the HPC/AI development at a data center campus; and a $588 million convertible senior notes offering.

Blue Owl Digital Infrastructure and its portfolio companies **STACK Infrastructure**, **RadiusDC** and **DFNI** in over $40 billion in financings to support the acquisitions, construction and fit-out of data centers across the U.S. and Europe, including an $18 billion senior secured debt package to help fund the construction and development of the Stargate data center mega campus in New Mexico, and a $3.7 billion senior secured financing to support the construction and fit-out of a data center campus in Northern Virginia.

Brookfield in connection with a strategic partnership to develop a $100 billion privately funded data center campus at the U.S. Department of Energy's Paducah Site in Western Kentucky that repurposes land at the former enrichment site into a hub for innovation and energy generation. The partnership coalition also includes NextEra Energy, Big Rivers Electric Power Corporation, Jackson Purchase Energy Cooperative and Paducah Power System.

Citigroup, Inc. as financial advisor to Marvell Technology, Inc. in its acquisition of Celestial AI for $3.25 billion upfront and up to $2.25 billion in future milestone payments.

Cologix Canada, Inc. in approximately $2 billion in financing and securitization transactions.

CyrusOne Inc. as REIT tax and capital markets counsel in equity and debt offerings, including approximately $3 billion in senior notes offerings.

El Paso Electric in connection with regulatory and transactional issues associated with the supply of electric power to proposed data centers being developed in its service territory.

First Solar in connection with the development of the 150 MW Sun Streams 2 photovoltaic (PV) solar plant, which will power new energy-efficient data centers being built by Microsoft Corp. in Goodyear and El Mirage, Arizona.

Five Point Infrastructure LLC in the formation and funding of PowerBridge LLC, a company focused on developing and managing gigawatt-scale data center campuses, associated power infrastructure and fiber network connectivity throughout North America, with an equity commitment of up to $1 billion.

Funds advised by Permira Advisers in the sale of a majority stake in Teraco Data Environments (Pty) Ltd. to Berkshire Partners LLC, and the subsequent sale, along with Berkshire Partners, of a majority stake in Teraco Data Environments to Digital Realty at an enterprise value of $3.5 billion.

Intel Corporation in its collaboration with NVIDIA Corporation to develop multiple generations of custom data center and PC products. As part of the collaboration, NVIDIA will invest $5 billion in Intel's common stock.

Jabil Inc. in its acquisition of Hanley Energy Group for $725 million plus contingent consideration up to $58 million.

The joint bookrunning managers in a $25 billion offering of senior notes by **Meta Platforms, Inc.** in six tranches.

MGX as part of a consortium with Global Infrastructure Partners and the Artificial Infrastructure Partnership in the $40 billion acquisition of Aligned Data Centers, LLC from funds managed by Macquarie Asset Management.

PowerBridge, a portfolio company of Five Point Infrastructure, LLC, in the formation of a strategic joint venture with Liberty Energy Inc. to support a planned 2-GW powered data center campus in West Texas and establish a platform to pursue future opportunities across PowerBridge's broader portfolio of gigawatt-scale powered campus developments serving hyperscale, artificial intelligence and other large load customers.

SDC Capital Partners LLC on over $5 billion of data center construction financing in the U.S. and Europe as well as acquisitions, hyperscaler leases and dispositions related to multiple data center development projects. Advised on multiple M&A transactions, including as co-investor in the $1.8 billion acquisition of the Odata companies in Latin America, in the acquisitions of majority stakes in SLIC and SummitIG, and in the acquisition of a significant interest in Allo Communications.

Sentinel Data Centers in multiple data center transactions, including the disposition of data center portfolios to Digital Realty and CyrusOne for aggregate value in excess of $850 million and over $750 million of financings related to single-tenant build-to-suit data centers and multitenant data centers.

Sovereign wealth funds and institutional investors in JVs, acquisitions and sales of stakes in data center assets and other digital infrastructure, including a $1.2 billion investment in the North American development business of Vantage Data Centers.

Washington Funding, Inc. as lender of a $50 million delayed draw term loan to Atlas Power in connection with a data center financing.

Zayo Group Holdings, Inc. in its $1.4 billion sale of zColo data center assets to DataBank, Ltd. — named Digital Infrastructure Deal of the Year by *IJGlobal* — and multiple acquisitions, including its $14.3 billion acquisition by affiliates of Digital Colony Partners, LP and EQT Infrastructure IV.

Telecommunications Infrastructure

AustralianSuper Pty. Ltd. in its and Stonepeak Partners LP's $2.7 billion co-investment and acquisition of Lumen Technologies' Latin American business.

Axiata Group Berhad in Celcom Axiata Berhad's $12 billion merger with Digi Berhad, a subsidiary of Telenor Asia Pte. Ltd. — the largest-ever telecommunications transaction in Malaysia — and in PT XL Axiata Tbk's $6.5 billion merger with PT Smartfren Telecom Tk, a subsidiary of PT Sinar Mas Group.

BCE Inc. in the formation of Network FiberCo, a strategic partnership with Public Sector Pension Investment Board (PSP Investments), to accelerate the development of fiber infrastructure in the United States.

Lenders and underwriters in more than $30 billion in financings for Crown Castle, Inc., including multibillion-dollar credit facilities and senior notes offerings.

Frontier Tower Associates Philippines Inc. in its $810 million acquisition of 3,529 telecommunications towers from Globe Telecom, Inc.

GCI Liberty, Inc. with the tax and investment company issues in its $8.7 billion acquisition by Liberty Broadband Corporation.

Iliad S.A. in numerous transactions, including the acquisitions of stakes in Jaguar Network SAS, Tele2 AB and Vodafone Group Plc, and the sale, together with Axian Group, of 70% of their telecommunications towers and other passive infrastructure in the French departments of Réunion and Mayotte.

Intelsat S.A. in its $3.1 billion acquisition by SES S.A.

Juniper Networks, Inc. in its $14 billion acquisition by Hewlett Packard Enterprise — one of the largest technology deals of 2024.

Mobile Telephone Networks Proprietary Limited in the $410 million sale and leaseback of its telecommunications towers portfolio in South Africa to IHS Holding Limited.

Mubadala Investment Company PJSC in its $1.2 billion investment in Jio Platforms Limited, a subsidiary of Reliance Industries Limited, through which Mubadala acquired a 1.85% stake in Jio Platforms.

Nokia Corporation in its $2.3 billion acquisition of Infinera Corporation and $374 million sale of an 80% stake in Alcatel Submarine Networks to the French state.

Xavier Niel and his holding company Atlas Investissement in the all-cash $4.4 billion tender offer for Millicom International Cellular S.A.

Cloud Services and Software

8x8, Inc. in its $250 million acquisition of Fuze.

Advantest Corporation in its collaboration with PDF Solutions, Inc.

Camelot Employee Scheme Inc. in the sale of an 80% stake to Kingsoft Cloud Holdings Limited.

F5, Inc. in its acquisition of Lilac Cloud, Inc.

Insight Enterprises, Inc. in $1.8 billion and $1.2 billion ABL credit facilities, in addition to numerous other financing transactions to support acquisitions and other initiatives.

NEXGEN Cloud Limited in several corporate finance and commercial matters for its aim to become a leading carbon neutral cloud and data center services provider in Europe.

Splunk Inc. in its $28 billion acquisition by Cisco Systems, Inc. — one of the largest technology deals of 2024.

ST Telemedia Pte. in its acquisition of a majority stake in 2nd Watch.

A U.S.-based cloud services company in providing advice in connection with sanctions and export controls issues.

VAST Data, an Israeli AI infrastructure company, in a $1 billion Series F financing that values the company at $30 billion.

Hardware and Solutions

A special purpose acquisition vehicle sponsored by Goldman Sachs in the $5.3 billion de-SPAC merger of Vertiv.

Hut 8 Corp. in the strategic contribution of substantially all its ASIC (application-specific integrated circuit) miners to, and in exchange for, a majority interest in American Data Centers, Inc.

Intel Corporation in connection with a first-of-its-kind $30 billion joint investment arrangement with Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P. relating to two new chip factories in Arizona, and its $11 billion joint venture with Apollo Global Management, Inc. involving Intel's Fab 34 semiconductor manufacturing facility in Leixlip, Ireland.

Sierra Wireless Inc. in its acquisition by Semtech Corporation at an enterprise value of $1.2 billion.

SummitIG, LLC in its $162 million acquisition of DF&I Ashburn Holdings, LLC.

One-Stop Shop for All Digital Infrastructure Needs

M&A

Christopher J. Bors
Palo Alto

Jeffrey A. Brill
New York

Nicola Di Giovanni
Paris

Thomas W. Greenberg
New York

Steven Hannah
London

Dohyun Kim
New York

Kenton J. King
Palo Alto

Haiping Li
Hong Kong

Paola Lozano
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Michael J. Mies
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Alexandra J. McCormack
New York

Eric C. Otness
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Amr Razzak
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Allison R. Schneirov
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Peter D. Serating
New York

Jonathan B. Stone
Hong Kong

Blair T. Thetford
New York

Max Troper
New York

Debt Finance

Zoe Q. Cooper Sutton
London

Pete Coulton
London

Steve Messina
New York

Capital Markets

Ryan J. Dzierniejko
New York

Michelle Gasaway
Los Angeles

Alejandro Gonzalez Lazzeri
New York

Michael J. Hong
New York

Energy & Infrastructure

David P. Armstrong
Toronto

Lance T. Brasher
Washington, D.C.

Joyce Chang
Washington, D.C.

Alexander Cooke
Washington, D.C.

Julia A. Czarniak
New York

Aryan Moniri
Washington, D.C.

Nike O. Opadiran
Washington, D.C.

Real Estate

Peter Mair
Los Angeles

David L. Nagler
New York

Nancy M. Olson
Chicago

Political Law

Ki P. Hong
Washington, D.C.

Charles M. Ricciardelli
Washington, D.C.

Tyler Rosen
Washington, D.C.

Financial Institutions

Jon A. Hlafter
New York

Intellectual Property & Technology Transactions

Ken D. Kumayama
Palo Alto

Stuart D. Levi
New York

Environmental

Liz Malone
Washington, D.C.

Cybersecurity & Data Privacy

William E. Ridgway
Chicago

David A. Simon
Washington, D.C.

Tax

Johannes Frey
Frankfurt

Nickolas Gianou
Chicago

Sarah Beth Rizzo
Chicago

Chase Wink
New York

National Security

Michael E. Leiter
Washington, D.C.

Litigation

Zachary Faigen
Los Angeles

Peter B. Morrison
Los Angeles

Scott D. Musoff
New York

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Houston
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