



## WHAT THEY DO

The UK Game Company supplies freshly prepared game birds for most of the UK's major supermarkets across Europe.

## BACKGROUND

Our client is a food production company which supplies freshly prepared game birds to most of the UK's major supermarkets. We were initially involved in negotiations when a major shareholder wanted to leave – putting together a deal to which both parties agreed. Part of the deal was that money would be available to the former shareholder on a certain date. However, one evening five months before that date, the former shareholder entered the factory and began to remove important processing equipment.

Our client's business totally relied on the equipment and, in a seasonal market, this could not have happened at a worse time. Immediate action was required in order to stop the machinery being taken to avoid loss of production. They had large orders which needed to be processed and despatched that day.

## SOLUTION

The client contacted our food team at 8am the following morning. Based on the team's specialist expertise in contract disputes in the food sector, they were instructed to deal with the dispute between the shareholders and resolve the issue. Most importantly, they needed to retain the machinery so that customer orders could be fulfilled. Clearly this was an urgent matter which had to be resolved immediately.

The team got to work and instructed Counsel to attend the Royal Courts of Justice as soon as possible to obtain a mandatory injunction to return equipment to the premises. The papers were drafted and sent to Counsel by email by 9.30 am. By 2pm the equipment was returned and the matter resolved before a court order was made.

## RESULTS

All equipment (plus costs) was returned to the premises before the court order was made and all orders for the day were fulfilled in a matter of hours.

The food team's rapid action and in-depth knowledge meant that the injunction could be obtained without issuing proceedings first, allowing our client to continue trading.

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