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CMS equiP North: helping start-ups scale



Starting, and building, a successful business takes a good idea, energy and determination plus the right opportunities and the right people.

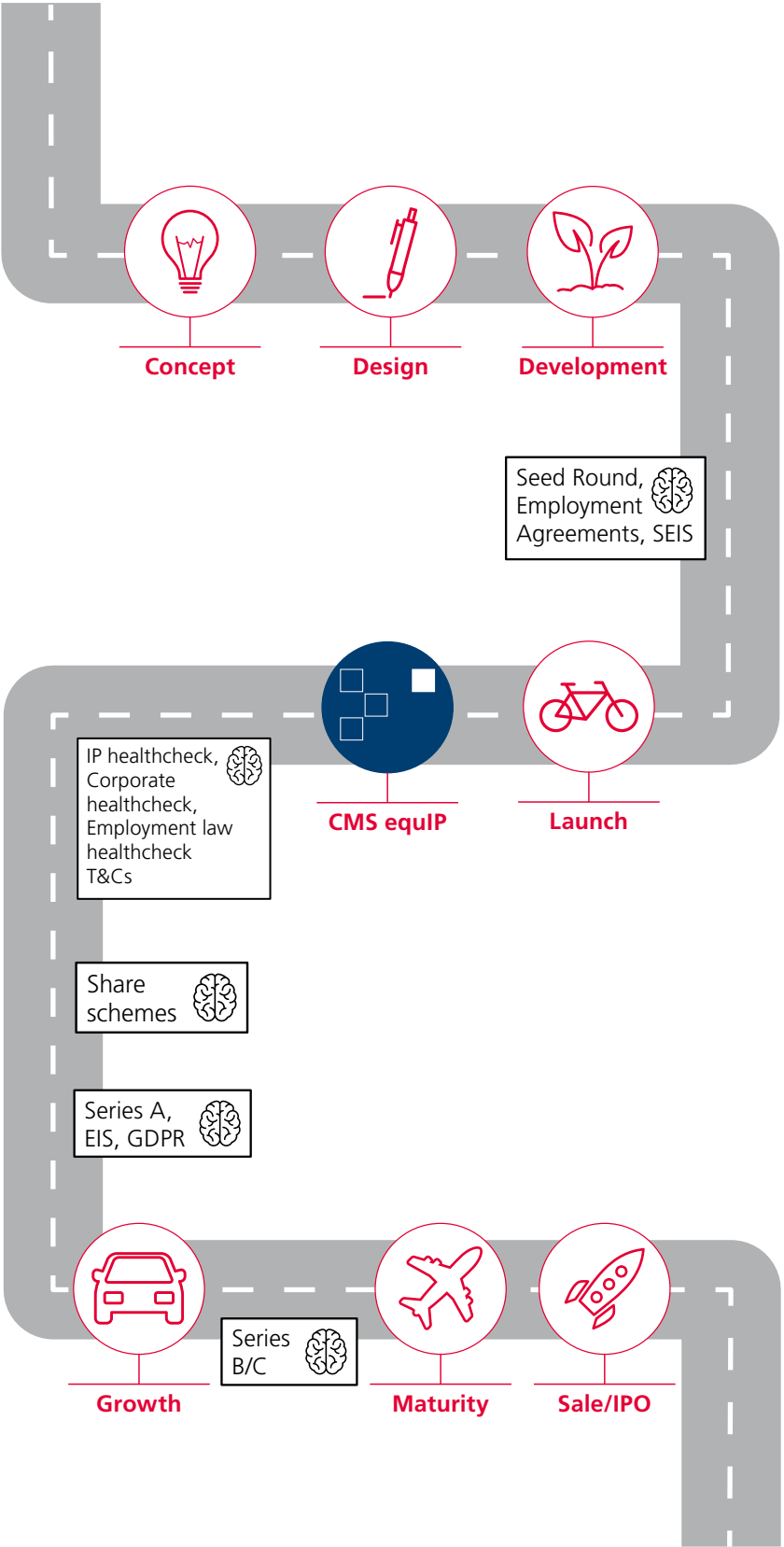
Working with, and investing in, start-ups excites us here at CMS. Working with entrepreneurs on bright ideas, fostering growth and innovation in the tech and other sectors – helping to support the stars of the future gets us out of bed in the morning.

As an early-stage business, legal advice may be pushed to the bottom of the priority list, not least due to the issue of cost. However, for a business to scale successfully, especially when investors are involved, having the right foundations is imperative.

Who are we?

- A full service law firm with a strong sector focus in areas such as technology, media and telecoms, private equity, financial services, energy and renewables, consumer products, lifesciences and food and drink.
- A full service firm with a strong presence in the North of England
- Working with some of the biggest names in tech and other sectors as well as up and coming disruptors.
- Well networked in each sector industry through clients and industry partners.
- The only law firm in Europe that can offer you extensive IP support through our 100-strong international team of IP lawyers, patent and trade mark attorneys.

The start-up roadmap and typical legal considerations



Our fixed fee menu

IP healthcheck

IP can be vital for the future of your business. Our healthcheck service, delivered by our market-leading IP team, helps maximise this value for the life span of your company.

Corporate healthcheck

Making sure your corporate structure and associated arrangements are fit for purpose is a key foundation to building a business. It can also save huge amounts of cost and aggravation later on in the process. Our market-leading corporate teams have extensive experience in identifying the key issues for start-ups.

Employment law healthcheck

Your people are likely to be one of your main strengths and it is essential that your employment contractual arrangements not only provide your talent with assurances but also that they properly protect you as an employer.

Fundraising

Access to capital is an essential part of your growth story, and we will use our experience and network of investors to help get the funding you need.

Share Incentive Arrangements

Share options provide a cost-effective means for you to recruit, reward and retain employees as an alternative to significant salaries. We can help you implement mutually beneficial share-based reward structures.

GDPR healthcheck

Data protection specialists will assess how compliant your business is with GDPR and advise on steps that you may need to take when processing and handling personal data.

Website T&Cs

Our lawyers will apply their decades of experience drafting website T&Cs to your business, working with you to ensure you gain the trust of your customers and potential investors while protecting your business.

To find out more contact matthew.davies@cms-cmno.com or visit cms.law/equip.north

What is equiP North?

equiP North is a programme to support intellectual property rich start-ups in the North of England, offering:



Sector-focused legal advice at special discounted rates

A 50% discount on our standard hourly rates, up to aggregate fees of £25,000.



Introductions to relevant industry players

Whether it be like-minded entrepreneurs or investors, we know who you should be talking to.



Fixed fee services

This includes an IP healthcheck, corporate healthcheck, employment law healthcheck and advice on fundraising, share schemes and T&Cs.



Added value

Access to exclusive events, workshops and a regular member newsletter.



Your free online legal information service.

A subscription service for legal articles
on a variety of topics delivered by email.
cms-lawnow.com

CMS
1 South Quay
Victoria Quays
Sheffield
S2 5SY

T +44 114 279 4000
F +44 114 278 6123

CMS
1 The Avenue
Spinningfields
Manchester
M3 3AP

T +44 161 393 4700

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