

IDArb – short presentation of the Selecting Committee – composition, role and functioning

Prof. J.-P. Vulli  ty, Lalive

Presentation of the Selecting Committee on the webpage of the IDI – Introduction of each individual member

The Selecting Committee is a balanced mix of legal and arbitration specialists coming from:

- The industry and the commercial sector, with an extensive knowledge and expertise in all the fields of distributorship/licensing/agency/franchising under most of the legal regimes
- And from the legal practice, again with a long and extensive expertise in arbitration and commercial distribution

The tasks of the Selecting Committee are, as the name of the committee tends to indicate, to identify and select the best possible arbitrator profiles for the very demanding needs of the distribution community, i.e. candidates:

- With a strong and proven background in arbitration, who know how to conduct arbitration proceedings efficiently and flawlessly;
- With a similarly strong and proven background in distribution matters

These are the basic criteria, in light of which the Selecting Committee has started to select the first 35 (or so) arbitrators who are currently on the list. They appear on the website of the IDI, and form an impressive collection of prestigious names from all around Europe and abroad, who are famous in both fields (arbitration and distribution).

For the time being these names were listed upon proposals from the individual members of the Selecting Committee. The future of the selection will be somewhat different, as we assume that most of the candidates will come spontaneously from the field and no longer from the Selecting Committee. We have indeed already received a dozen of new applications which come now directly through the IDI secretariat or the SCAI.

The selection process is basically the following:

- The application (usually received by the IDI or SCAI) is routed to the Selecting Committee, which verifies that the basic requirements are met, i.e. at least a basic experience in arbitration and the proven experience in distribution matters;
- If needed, the Selecting Committee asks for additional elements and/or for an interview (Skype or face-to-face)
- The Selecting Committee makes then its decision

In the assessment of the criteria, we will focus primarily on the technical expertise and knowledge in the field of commercial distribution, bearing in mind that experience in arbitration can be gained progressively. In this respect, we plan to launch quite rapidly training sessions for more junior/less advanced arbitrators.