

The JLegal



Personality
Questionnaire
Experience

Every month, JLegal examines the PQE of a senior in-house counsel. This month we talk to Bernard Tan and discover he is irritated by anything too trendy, but don't call him Grumpy (or any of the other Seven Dwarfs)!

- What is on your mind at the moment?
How to get my team to proactively think about incrementally improving whatever we do everyday, in a structured manner that is monitored and tracked. Does this frighten you yet?
- What secret talent do you have?
I can identify almost every single WW2 fighter airplane (except the funny Russian ones).
- If you weren't a lawyer you would be a ...
Beach bum.
- What is your idea of misery?
Cooped up in prison with an inmate who plays Brother Louie (by Modern Talking) in an endless loop.
- What is the strangest thing you have seen?
A two-headed guppy that my female guppy gave birth live to (when I was a boy and mad about aquarium fish). It sadly did not last a day.
- What is your motto?
To live with reasonably few regrets (there will always be some so let's not be too hard on myself).
- If you could have one superpower it would be ...?
To see the future!
- What do you consider the most overrated virtue?
Passion. What on earth does that mean anyway? Sounds vaguely dangerous to me.
- What irritates you?
Pretentious hipster speak. Don't get me started on anything artisanal. Or mid-century modern. And no, I do not want anything deconstructed, natively foraged or, God forbid, molecular.
- What was your last Google search?
Manchester United.
- What's the one food you could never bring yourself to eat?
Smallish boiled fish left to cool. Which is odd because I am Teochew and I am supposed to be genetically inclined to love those things.
- Which of the Seven Dwarfs is most like you?
None. I do not identify with seven vertically-challenged men with personality disorders.

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Bernard Tan

Managing Counsel, APAC
& Global Lead Counsel, OFS
at **Agilent Technologies**



Contact Us

visit our website or contact us: t | +65 6818 9701 e | singapore@jlegal.com

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singapore hong kong japan australia new zealand united kingdom