
an agreed translation --
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: When did that take place?
MR ALLISON: The agreed translator, my Lord, looked at the documents, as I said, provided initial comments because they used the same agreed translator in advance as part of the wider batch --
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: That is the agreed translator, but when was the translation agreed?
MR ALLISON: By the agreed translator on Tuesday an agreed translation was approved by the agreed translator and sent to both Wentworth and to Freshfields at that time.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Maybe I am being opaque. My understanding is that there is an agreed translator who produces translations, which translations then go through a process of being agreed so that the translation which emerges is one which neither side can object to.
MR ALLISON: My Lord, that is absolutely correct.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: When did that take place, that last stage?
MR ALLISON: The last stage, I am sorry, my Lord, if I didn't make that clear. The last stage is the translation, as prepared by the agreed translator was provided to Freshfields for the first time for any comments they had on the translation at 1.00 pm on this

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Tuesday.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Tuesday the 17th. I see. MR ALLISON: Absolutely.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Okay.
This final case you wish to refer to, that was notified in that way and you only seek to rely on the passage you indicated to the Professor, is that right?
MR ALLISON: My Lord, that is the key passage but I probably
was going to take the Professor through the three-page report just so he can understand the context of the passage.

## MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Right.

You identified to Mr Dicker did you the purpose for which you wish to refer to the case?
MR ALLISON: We identified the paragraphs yesterday, but
I think I identified orally actually yesterday the
purpose for which I wanted to rely on this case. As
a response, Professor Mülbert said that the landlord
case relied on by Judge Fischer, what may be different
because it arose in the deposit context -- I don't know
if my Lord recalls that?
orally yesterday, as Mr Dicker heard, this case is
important because it is a case in which the bill does
Page 6
not become payable until after the invoice but not in
the context of a deposit, so that is the purpose.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I see.
Mr Dicker?
MR DICKER: My Lord, we are concerned to ensure that your Lordship decides matters on the basis of relevant German law. What has happened in our submission is plainly not satisfactory, but I am not going to say anymore about that.

My Lord, the only thing I would say is that obviously Professor Mülbert needs to be able to say whether and to what extent he has had a chance to consider the decision and to do the sort of research, which I think he indicated yesterday he might wish to.

We are slightly concerned on this side, as your Lordship knows, this is not adversarial litigation of the normal sort. We are here, although not in fact as representative creditors, running arguments in the interests of all unsecured creditors of LBIE and obviously their interests need to be taken into account in this process as well.

My Lord, I do not object, all I do ask is obviously Professor Mülbert is given an opportunity, if he feels it necessary, to be able to respond. I don't know whether he has had adequate opportunity so far.

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MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: That seems fair and reasonable to me, Mr Allison.

There is a certain unreality in the treatment of foreign law as facts in that we can all read the English translation -- provided there is no flaw in it -- we can all reach our conclusions guided by the experts as to the proper way of approaching the German law. Let us continue. I think if Professor Mülbert wanted to cite additional authority or put in some explanation, you could not really object to that and we would have to have some time to do so. Hopefully it would not require him to be recalled, that would be a great pity, but let us cross that bridge if we come to it.
MR ALLISON: My Lord, of course.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes.
Professor, I am sorry about this, I am not going to
call it learned discussion, I am just going to call it
chit-chat between us and we can now get on with your examination.
Evidence of PROFESSOR PETER OTTO MÜLBERT (continued)
A. Thank you my Lord.

Cross-examination by MR ALLISON (continued)
MR ALLISON: Professor Mülbert, even though we have just
heard that discussion, I will pick up where we were
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| 1 | yesterday and finish the questions in relation to |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | assignment before we come to this point. |
| 3 | We were looking at the ability of an assignee to |
| 4 | assert a greater claim for further damage than the |
| 5 | assignor, do you recall that yesterday? |
| 6 | A. Yes. |
| 7 | Q. Can we agree -- again, I think we reached there -- what |
| 8 | an assignee can claim? A claim for further damage is |
| 9 | a claim for damage actually suffered by reason of the |
| 10 | delay, isn't it? |
| 11 | A. Yes. |
| 12 | Q. You agree that the assignee cannot make a claim for |
| 13 | further damage in respect of the period before the |
| 14 | assignment, don't you? |
| 15 | A. My Lord, this is not a simple yes or no answer. It |
| 16 | depends on whether the claim that arose prior to the |
| 17 | transfer was transferred as well or not. If not, he |
| 18 | cannot claim that net amount. If the transfer took |
| 19 | place, he can claim that amount. |
| 20 | Q. Thank you, Professor Mülbert. Just building on that, |
| 21 | when you say he can claim that amount, in relation to |
| 22 | the period before the assignment, by "that amount" you |
| 23 | are referring to the loss of the assignor during that |
| 24 | period, aren't you? |
| 25 | A. Yes, I refer to that loss. |
|  | Page 9 |
| 1 | Q. After the assignment, it is the loss of the assignee |
| 2 | that becomes relevant, yes? |
| 3 | A. Yes. |
| 4 | Q. Let's just see if we can agree how that works with |
| 5 | a simple example. |
| 6 | You have a debt where there is default on the |
| 7 | 1 April, so there is a sum that is owed which is |
| 8 | defaulted on 1 April. |
| 9 | It is then assigned two months later and in that |
| 10 | two-month period before the assignment the assignor has |
| 11 | not actually suffered any further damage during that |
| 12 | period. |
| 13 | The debt is repaid a further month later. |
| 14 | If the assignee wants to assert a claim for further |
| 15 | damage, let's say the lost interest on a deposit |
| 16 | account, the way it would have used the money, do you |
| 17 | say that the assignee can claim further damage for the |
| 18 | lost interest for the whole three-month period or only |
| 19 | for the one month after the assignment? |
| 20 | A. My Lord, according to my understanding, he can claim the |
| 21 | amount for the one month following the transfer. |
| 22 | Q. You would agree that it cannot claim any loss of |
| 23 | interest for the two-month period before the assignment? |
| 24 | A. Yes, I agree with that. |
| 25 | Q. That is because the relevant loss for the assignee |

happened only in the last month after the assignment,
isn't it?
A. Yes.
Q. That is because the delay relevant to the damages claim
only occurred in that month?
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A. My Lord, I would not put it that way. The delay occurred on, as I understand the case, on 1 April and it went on until the claim was repaid. It is just that the transferee had the claim only for the period from 1 June to 30 June and because of that period, he is only entitled to damages for that period.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: In his own right?
A. Pardon?

MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: In his own right?
A. Pardon, yes, in his own right.

MR ALLISON: You said yesterday that that claim, the claim of the assignee, was rooted in the claim of the assignor. Do you remember that?
A. Yes, I -- my Lord, may I clarify? I said that -I think I expressed it slightly differently. I said that the root for -- the damage claim rooted in the claim that the debtor's claim existing at the time of the delay default and it is the default -- and the claim arising out of that would -- did not materialise, the claim arising because of the default did not materialise Page 11
or become fully existent because there was no damage on the part of the debtor, but still the legal basis for that claim for the damages claim came into existence at the time of the default.
Q. You are not saying that the assignor actually had the assignee's claim for further damage before the assignment, are you?

## A. No, I don't say that.

Q. Can we just look at one authority on the point. If you could pick up volume 1, please, and go to tab 14.

Professor Mülbert, you may recall that we looked at this case together yesterday and you agreed that the Bundesgerichtshof expressly left open the question of whether the assignee's damages are limited to those of the assignor. Do you recall that?
A. Yes, I recall that.
Q. The passage I would like to have a look at with you is in (ii), and do you see in the English, on the third line, the words "Claims for ..."?
A. Yes.
Q. Would you mind just reading "Claims for ..." until you will see eight lines down the words, "... person of the assignee".
(Pause)
A. Yes.

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> Q. Do you see that?
> A. Yes.
> Q. What the court says is that the claims for compensation are allowed because of the -- they use the words, "The change in legal responsibility to a new creditor".
> The court is talking about the assignee becoming a new creditor, and a new creditor with its own claim to damages, isn't it?
A. My Lord, I can't find that understanding even in the English version and I can't find it even less in the German original.

According to my understanding -- I have pondered that question we are discussing now myself before writing my report -- the German version does not say that there is a new claim, it talks about a new creditor, which is obviously the case because of the transfer of the claim but, according to my understanding, the German version, or the German original, does not say that there is a new claim arising.
Q. Would you agree that the court does say that there has been a change in legal responsibility?
A. Again, my Lord, the German word used is that -- the German idea, as I understand it, is that it is now the new creditor who holds the claim, it is not about Page 13
responsibilities, it is about who owns the claim.
Q. After the assignment, the assignee owns, as a new creditor, the claim for its own further damages?
A. Yes.
Q. Thank you Professor Mülbert.

Just one quick series of questions in relation to damages before we look at the additional case together. In the joint statement you and Judge Fischer agree that the court awards damages as a matter of the exercise of its discretion, yes?
A. Yes, my Lord, subject, according to my understanding, to what is set out by substantive law and in particular subject to the requirements provided for by section 252. The BGB, which is part of substantive law and not of procedural law.
Q. Thank you. You also agree that when making a damages award, if the court makes that award at a rate rather than an amount, it may refer to a smaller amount than the one for which the debtor is in default?
A. Yes, my Lord. But this was meant to indicate cases where, for example, an amount would not be a part of the amount withheld, would not be invested and for that reason would not be carrying interest. It was not to say that the court could arbitrarily award interest only to a part of the funds, it relates back to the question

Page 14
what -- whether the amount withheld would have been invested in total or only in part.
Q. It depends on the facts I think you would say?
A. It depends on the facts.
Q. Can I give you one, possibly two examples, to just check we agree on the way it works. Company A and company B, there is a debt of 2 million euros owed by company A to company B. That is defaulted. Company B needs to borrow during the period of default but only needs to borrow 1 million euros, and it borrows 1 million euros at 4 per cent.

Would you say that the court makes an award of further damage based on the borrowing of 1 million euros, that is right, isn't it?
A. The court with respect to the $\mathbf{4}$ per cent, yes, he would make that award based on the 1 million, but that doesn't tell anything about the rest that is to say the other million owed.
Q. Which may, in relation to the other 1 million, if a specific loss could be proved, there may be able to be an additional lump sum recovery in relation to that?
A. There may be, my Lord, but also if the company would have invested that 1 million profitably and was not able to do that, the rules on the loss, the compensation for missed investment opportunities would apply. That again Page 15
could be explained as a rate, so it actually depends on the facts of the case.
Q. It is fact sensitive, you agree?
A. I agree, yes.
Q. You could end up with a rate applicable on my example only to 1 million euros of the 2 million?

## A. Yes, you could --

Q. You could on your further example end up with two different rates, one rate applicable to the 1 million euros that was borrowed and another rate applicable to, on your example, the loss of investment opportunity?
A. My Lord, that is my understanding, yes.
Q. Thank you, Professor Mülbert.

I think the only thing I wanted to take you to now, back in the context of when a claim falls due, is the landlord heating case. I don't know whether you have a copy of that?
A. Yes, I was provided with a copy.
Q. You very fairly indicated yesterday that you had had the opportunity to look at it before yesterday. Have you had a further opportunity to look at it overnight?
A. My Lord, I had an opportunity to take a look at the case, even though I obviously -- yes. I am still curious about the exact -- about what the question will be about, because that was not indicated. That was

Page 16

## indicated generally but ...

Q. Just to make sure we understand the context, this is a case in which the time at which the debt fell due was important because the court had to decide when the limitation period started to run, that is why the timing of default was actually important in this case.

Have you picked that up from the case?
A. Yes.

MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Is this in tab 8?
MR ALLISON: My Lord, I am so sorry, it is not, it is in the further bundle behind tab 3.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Thank you.
MR ALLISON: I wonder, Professor Mülbert, out of fairness, maybe I will just give you a moment just to refresh your memory on the facts of the case on the first page. (Pause)
A. Thank you.
Q. You see what the court had to consider for limitation purposes was: does the debt become due in the period in which the heating was actually used or only when the tenant received a bill for the heating?

Do you agree with that?
A. Yes.
Q. If we could turn over to the third page, at letter B, which was the passage I indicated to you yesterday, so Page 17
page 3 of 4 , letter B, do you see that?
A. Yes.
Q. Again, would you like to just refresh your memory on the paragraph at letter B. (Pause)

## A. I have refreshed, refreshed my memory.

Q. Thank you. You see this is a case in which the court said that the parties had not actually agreed the due date for the claim. Do you see that?
A. Yes.
Q. Therefore the court had to decide when the claim fell due, and what the court found is that the claim only falls due upon issue of a verifiable bill. Do you see that?
A. Yes.
Q. The court said, in the last sentence, that this is to be determined from the circumstances as defined by the provision that you referred to in your reports. The reason the court says that it doesn't fall due immediately is:
"Because the tenant cannot ascertain and therefore cannot pay the amount owed without a bill." Do you see that?
A. Yes.
Q. The court is saying that until the tenant knows what it has to pay, the debt should not be seen as being due, do Page 18
you agree with that?
A. Yes.
Q. Then, if we can just go to the final page, there is one other observation that the court makes in the penultimate sentence of the judgment. Do you see the sentence beginning "Otherwise" six lines up from the bottom of the judgment?

Perhaps you could just read that sentence. (Pause)
A. Yes.
Q. The court is also saying that the date is important if, actually, the calculation works the other way, so the tenant is owed some money, isn't it? (Pause)
A. My Lord, may the question be repeated, please?
Q. Of course, let me try. What the court is saying here is that, if when the calculation is done actually the landlord owes the tenant money, limitation for that claim does not start to run until the bill has been sent.
A. My Lord, I am somewhat confused. I think I was asked to start reading with the words "Otherwise"?
Q. Yes, let me read:
"Otherwise the interpretation given here leads to the consequence beneficial for the tenant that the limitation period for a potential repayment claim the tenant has because of overpayment of utilities, also Page 19
only begins when the bill is sent."
A. My Lord, it is talking -- it is talking about an interpretation of the clause that is beneficial for the tenant, not for the landlord.
Q. Indeed, I am so sorry, that is my point

Professor Mülbert. If the claim became due immediately in the year the heating was used --
A. Okay.
Q. That would be detrimental to the tenant because it would not know it had the claim to assert, would it?

## A. Yes, indeed.

Q. Thank you. Professor Mülbert, thank you --
A. No, first --
Q. Of course.
A. -- I would like to draw your attention, my Lord, to another part of the decision and if I may take you to, it is on page 4, the final sentence in the third paragraph which, starting with, "Contrary to the view of the submitting court ..."

Here the court explains in the final sentence --
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Sorry, where is that?
A. It is page 3, the third paragraph from above. The third paragraph starts with, "Contrary to the view ..."
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Thank you, yes.
A. The court says that, here, at least in the ... (Pause)

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| 1 | The court, according to my understanding, says in | 1 | Re-examination by MR DICKER |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | the last paragraph that the situation differs from the | 2 | MR DICKER: Professor Mülbert, just a few questions by way |
| 3 | normal situation for which the provisions of the BGB | 3 | of re-examination and then your work will be don |
| 4 | apply. | 4 | I want to start with when the single compensation |
| 5 | No, sorry, my Lord. I think I misread that part of | 5 | sum became due. Can I remind you of a passage in the |
| 6 | the decision. Therefore it is not necessary to draw | 6 | dles which you wanted added to the joint statement. |
| 7 | your attention to that part. I would just like to | 7 | You will find it in bundle 4, tab 15, page 527. It is |
| 8 | add | 8 | the second sentence of the first paragraph that I wanted |
| 9 | MR ALLISON: Can I maybe just help you, I think on this | 9 | to ask you about, you say there: |
| 10 | paragraph that you just referred to, all the court is | 10 | "German courts and legal literature very broadly |
| 11 | doing is saying, "These other provisions of the civil | 11 | agree that upon an early termination of a contract for |
| 12 | code do not a | 12 | cause, a compensation claim in favour of the party |
| 13 | A. That is, my Lord, indeed true. What I just wanted to | 13 | exercising its termination right, eg clause 7(1) GMA, |
| 14 | add, to what we discussed just now, is to draw your | 14 | becomes due and payable immediately upon termination." |
| 15 | attention, my Lord, to the fact that, as we said | 15 | As I understand it, you illustrated that by |
| 16 | yesterday, the landlord tenant cases are a vast area | 16 | referring to two cases, the first is the vehicle damage |
| 17 | which in part follows rules that are determined by the | 17 | case, if you remember that and you will find that in |
| 18 | idea of protecting the tenant to some extent and | 18 | bundle 1 of the authorities at tab 29, if you could take |
| 19 | therefore cannot be generalised | 19 | that up. It is at tab 29A. |
| 20 | Moreover, in the reasoning of the court, the court | 20 | The passage which my learned friend took you to, |
| 21 | basically says that it follows from the circumstances, | 21 | I think, was paragraph marked 9. I just wanted to ask |
| 22 | of the two elements mentioned in section 271 and | 22 | ou about the first, I think it is three sentences where |
| 23 | following from these circumstances, he comes to the | 23 | the judgment says: |
| 24 | result that, in these circumstances, for this specific | 24 | "The concept of a du |
| 25 | situation, the bill is, or the invoice, is required for Page 21 | 25 | time where a creditor may demand performance. If the Page 23 |
| 1 | the claim to fall due but this is follow | 1 | time for performance is not defined or is not appare |
| 2 | circumstances | 2 | m the circumstances then the creditor may demand |
| 3 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes. I mean as I read it, and I may | 3 | immediate performance. If the injured party may demand |
| 4 | very well have misunderstood it and you must correct me | 4 | restoration of a damaged object or the amount of money |
| 5 | or show me how it works, | 5 | required to restore the object, then the due date is the |
| 6 | circumstances, both generally and in the landlord and | 6 | same as the date when the damage to the legally |
| 7 | tenant context, where the obligation to pay arises | 7 | protected interest occurs." |
| 8 | accordance with a set procedure, or some set rule. In | 8 | Can I ask, are those statements there in your view |
| 9 | those circums | 9 | mited to tort cases of the kind with which the |
| 10 | subject to any precondition of an invoice but in the | 10 | dgment is concerned or are those principles applicable |
| 11 | particular circumstances of this case, those automatic | 11 | more generally |
| 12 | payment provisions were not applicable and the | 12 | A. My Lord, I am sorry, I understood paragraph 9, so I am |
| 13 | obligation to pay was preconditioned on the supply of | 13 | lost. Could |
| 14 | an invoice, or bill, and th | 14 | Lord, the wording of that paragraph is very broad |
| 15 | period only ran after satisfaction of the precondition | 15 | d it is not limited, the wording of that paragraph of |
| 16 | by delivery of the invoice. | 16 | the decision, is very broad and not limited to tort |
| 17 | A. That is my understanding of the case, $y$ | 17 | cases. |
| 18 | MR ALLISON: My Lord I think just anticipated my last | 18 | There are other cases, or situations, in which the |
| 19 | qu | 19 | claimant has a right to choose between different methods |
| 20 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Sorry | 20 | calculating his damages. One would be the cases we |
| 21 | MR ALLISON: Not at all. | 21 | discussed yesterday and which is also mentioned, is also |
| 22 | Professor Mülbert, I do not have anything furthe | 22 | e case of the decision of the court of appeals of |
| 23 | Thank you very much. Mr Dicker may have some questions | 23 | Frankfurt, namely this isn't a situation that the |
| 24 | for you. | 24 | daimant claims the loss of profit because of an early |
| 25 |  | 25 | termination of a loan contract and he has two different |
|  | Page 22 |  | Page 24 |


| 1 | methods of calculating his damages and the loss of | 1 | A. My Lord, if I may take you to the page I just mentioned. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | profits and still, as the court of appeal states, the | 2 | $m$ of the opinion that the closeout netting provisions |
| 3 | claim falls due immediately. Even though at the time of | 3 | not only apply in the case of a party becoming insolvent |
| 4 | the termination of the contract the creditor has not yet | 4 | but also in the case of an early termination of the |
| 5 | decided which method he will use to calculate the | 5 | German master agreement pursuant to clause 7(1) of the |
| 6 | damages. | 6 | German master agreement. |
| 7 | Q. Thank you. My learned friend asked you about a slightly | 7 | For that reason -- for that reason, I think that the |
| 8 | different | 8 | situation at hand is closer, is much closer to the |
| 9 | and the seller has to provide an invoice for the goods | 9 | uation and can be, in the case of an early |
| 10 | or services that he has supplied. My learned friend put | 10 | mination of a loan contract for cause, and that the |
| 11 | to you yesterday the following. He said | 11 | claim for loss of profits are resulting there from |
| 12 | "The general rule is that where a debtor cannot | 12 | than -- than from the bill situation. Obvious from my |
| 13 | determine how much they have to pay before the | 13 | derstanding of the workings of the German master |
| 14 | the invoice, the amount does not become due until the | 14 | reement, no bill or invoice has to be supplied to the |
| 15 | invoice is provided.' | 15 | her party. |
| 16 | Your response was: | 16 | Q. Can I show you two provisions of the German master |
| 17 | "As a matter of German law, I think the majority | 17 | agreement and then ask you whether or not those are |
| 18 | would require the bill to be presented to the debtor." | 18 | evant to answering that question. If you go to core |
| 19 | Can I ask you this question: is the essential | 19 | bund |
| 20 | difference between yourself and Judge Fischer, | 20 | MR ALLISON: I am in my Lord's hand, but I didn't go to the |
| 21 | understand it, that you treat the claim under clause 9 | 21 | document. We explored that construction was for your |
| 22 | of the German master agreement as a compensation | 22 | Lordship, Professor Mülbert confirmed that. It is |
| 23 | in favour of the party exercising its termination | 23 | surprising that Mr Dicker is going to new documents but |
| 24 | right -- if you remember | 24 | of course it is a matter for |
| 25 | statement -- | 25 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I think Mr Allison is right that we |
|  | Page 25 |  | Page 27 |
| 1 | MR ALLISON: My Lord, I am very sorry. | 1 | did only approach this by giving me German spectacles |
| 2 | we let go. It would be | 2 | whereby to review the documentation. What is your line |
| 3 | thinks there is a difference, rather than the potentia | 3 | here? |
| 4 | difference being | 4 | MR DICKER: Professor Mülbert has said in his report that |
| 5 | I just rise once and hope that the questions are put | 5 | - |
| 6 | a way that the witness gives his answers. |  | 6 |
| 7 | MR |  | 7 |
| 8 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I think Mr Dicker was putting it as | 8 |  |
| 9 | a confirmation, but I take your point that it would b | 9 |  |
| 10 | best if the question were open-e | 0 |  |
| 11 | assu | 1 |  |
| 12 | MR DICKER: Professor | 12 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I assume they are, but does it arise |
| 13 | I refe | 3 |  |
| 14 | a compensation claim in favour of the party exercising | 14 | MR DICKER: Yes, my learned friend's -- |
| 15 | its termination right, eg clause 7(1) of the GMA. | 15 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I can see it arises out of your |
| 16 | Mr Allison put to you, as I said, a situation where | 6 |  |
| 17 | there is a contract and the seller has to provide | 17 cross-examination of the witness? |  |
| 18 | an invoice for goods or services that he has supp | 8 |  |
| 19 | and he said, and you agreed, that in that case you need | 19 MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: It does? |  |
| 20 | the invoice before the sums become due | 20 | MR DICKER: -- because Professor Mülbert's view, as your |
| 21 | Can you indicate, perhaps if you are -- I am not | 21 Lordship has seen from the extract I have show |  |
| 22 | allowed to ask you to confirm -- that in your view the | 22 |  |
| 23 | German master agreement single compensation claim is to | 23 |  |
| 24 | be regarded as a compensation claim in favour of the | 24 friend's line of cross-examination, as I understand it |  |
| 25 | party exercising its termination right? | 25 | was, "No, that is wrong, the claim is properly to be |
|  | Page 26 |  | Page 28 |

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    regarded as equivalent to the invoice case".
    I am seeking to re-examine Professor Mülbert just to
    ensure your Lordship understands precisely
    Professor Mülbert's position in relation to that and the
    reasons for it. Obviously ultimately, to the extent it
    is a question of construction, that is a matter for your
    Lordship but in reaching that decision it seemed to us
    important your Lordship at least understood the basis on
    which Professor Mülbert was characterising it one way
    rather than the other.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Mr Allison, I think it is on the very
    edge but I think I am going to allow this question,
    subject to the saving that ultimately I think you are
    right, that questions of interpretation, albeit subject
    to the rules of interpretation under the German law, are
    matters for me, right or wrong.
MR ALLISON:My Lord, on which Professor Mülbert agreed
    those rules of interpretation as my Lord will recall,
    and I didn't go to these provisions as my Lord will
    recall. It is surprising that it is said it came out of
    the cross-examination.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: It may be an irrelevant opinion, which
    would put me in difficulties if I disagreed with it in
    the sense of deferring to the German law experts before
    me, but I will allow it in case it --
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MR ALLISON: My Lord, very well.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: -- elicits some clarification.
MR DICKER: Professor Mülbert, could you take core bundle,
tab 9, page 208. Just refer to clause 7(1) which
states:
"Where transactions have been entered into and not
yet fully settled, the agreement can only be terminated
by either party for material reason."
Then that is explained at 7(2) dealing with
insolvency, and then 8(1):
"In the event of termination, the party giving
notice or the solvent party as the case may be,
hereinafter called 'party entitled to damages' shall be
entitled to claim damages."
Can I just ask whether, in expressing the view that
you did in the statement that I showed you that you
regarded those provisions as relevant or irrelevant to
the question of characterisation?
A. My Lord, I regret this, that provision, but also
clause $9(1)$ which talks about the damages which are
payable or shall be combined by the party entitled to
damages to -- as relevant as a basis for my comparison
between the single compensation claim and the claim for
damages pursuant to the early termination of a loan
contract for costs. The whole wording, according to the
Page 30

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German writers of section 8, is a result of the
German -- of the drafters of that provision to put it in
the language of the German law on damages. That is,
yes.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Your interpretation -- which I may or
    may not accept -- is that the wording and the purpose
    was to trigger an immediate right to damages on that
    termination, at that termination time?
A. Right.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD:That is what I understood your case to
be.
A. Yes. Yes, my Lord.
MR DICKER: Thank you.
    Professor Mülbert, my learned friend referred you to
    the situation of a landlord who holds a deposit as
    security for any sums that he is owed by the tenant.
    Your comment, Day 6, page 26, was that you said:
            "The court in the landlord tenant case has exactly
        said that that is not what German courts in general have
    said."
    Can you just explain -- it may be your last answer
    was the explanation -- what German courts in general
    have said?
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Do you mean outside the context of
    a landlord and tenant deposit? You may be here some
        Page 31
    time I think.
MR DICKER: I was not hoping that we would be, but your
    Lordship is quite right.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Right.
MR DICKER: I am asking Professor Mülbert perhaps to
        elaborate on what he meant when he said that is not what
        the German courts in general have said?
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A. My Lord, what I meant by saying that is that, again, as
I said yesterday, at least according to my memory, which
is not supported by a transcript, I said that in that
situation, under these circumstances, if you would want
to put it in the context of 271 BGB, under these
circumstances, they have for that specific situation,
given the purpose of the deposit, said that it would
only become due upon the lender being able to specify
the amount.
That is again a fact specific interpretation and
cannot be generalised to the extent that, as we have
seen from, my Lord, the tort case, and also from the
decision of the court of appeals of Frankfurt, that
cannot be generalised to the point that only upon the
creditor know exactly the amount -- the amount to be
paid the debt falls due. That is what $I$ wanted to say
by that.
Q. Thank you Professor Mülbert.
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> Can we turn to serious and definitive refusal.
> I want to do one thing, which is take you back to
> a document my learned friend showed you, it is in the
> authorities bundle at tab 70 .
A. Volume 2?
Q. It is by, I think Schwarze. You were shown I think if
you have volume 1 tab 70 --
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: 70 or 17?
MR DICKER: 7-0, I am sorry.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Is that volume 2?
MR DICKER: Sorry, they are arranged differently.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I think you and I are in sync, but the rest of them are out of sync.
MR DICKER: Volume 2, tab 70. You were asked about the paragraph marked B91, if you have that --
A. Yes.
Q. -- where it speaks of:
"One can only speak of refusal of performance of the obligor denies performance in a certain manner as a final act."

Can you briefly explain what you understand the concept of "final act" to mean and the purpose of this requirement?
A. My Lord, my understanding, based on the German court decisions is that the final act means that there is no

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way to turn around. Yesterday you used the example of a sales contract, when the seller burns this old good, and so, according to my understanding, it is that there is no reasonable way the person could turn around and say, "No, I behave differently".
Q. Thank you, if you go down to B94, you will see the extract says:
"The refusal to perform can be implied and be concluded from external circumstances. The debtor sells the merchandise to be delivered to a third party." Again, just so we are clear, is your understanding of the German law that where you take the example of a debtor selling the merchandise to be delivered to a third party, does that fact need to be known or does it not need to be known to the other contracting party for there to be a serious and definitive refusal?
A. My Lord, I seem to recall that I said yesterday that it need not be known to the other party, but the other party, at some point in time, needs to know the fact in order to make use of, to rely on that fact to exert his rights resulting from that act.
Q. Thank you.

The last thing you were shown I think was in B95 where the text says:
"Some examples from the judicature, there is not Page 34
a refusal to perform present in the following cases ..."
Then there is a list of cases. Three lines from the end there is a reference to the petition to open insolvency proceedings and then there is the word "alone", which I think my learned friend omitted when he referred to this, and then there is a reference, OLG Munich. I think you mentioned the case and indicated you wanted to refer to it. My learned friend said he would come back to it. In the end, I am sure he overlooked it, he didn't.

I would like to give you an opportunity to comment on the case if you want to. You will find it in bundle 3, tab 98. Perhaps if I could just give you a moment to remind yourself of it. (Pause)

## A. Well, may I ... (Pause)

It is an extract from a decision of the court of appeals of Munich and it notes in passing that the opening of insolvency procedures cannot be regarded as a serious and definite refusal and by implication from what follows from the rest of the text provided, or published I should say, it follows that the opening of the filing for -- the mandatory filing for insolvency proceeding, did not constitute a serious and definite refusal but the court does not explain that. You can deduce that from the decision, but the court gives no Page 35 explanation whatsoever as to that position. MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: It appears that the context was, is this right, that the debtor, the principal debtor, was claiming only what is here described as a temporary liquidity bottleneck. Ie, he was not foreclosing the possibility that payment would be made in the end. Is that right?
A. That can be inferred from what we are informed by other texts published, yes.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I am reading it from page 2, in the second line. That seems to be the context. That gives to my mind -- but you must correct me if I am wrong -some content to the word "alone" which Mr Dicker was explaining.

Do I have that right or wrong? You can say wrong -I shan't be ...
A. May I be taken back to --

MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes, tab 98, it was, in the third volume.
A. No, to the word "Alone" because, when reading, I think the extract from Staudinger, I didn't see that word.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: It is in the last line or so:
"Beyond this it follows from section 17 KO that the opening of a bankruptcy alone does not justify the assumption of a refusal to perform."

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| 1 | They are saying that, as I understand it, but please |  | A. Yes, that follows from section 404, basically. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | correct me, in the context of the previous sentence | 2 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes. The only issue for you, really |
| 3 | where the plaintiff itself submits that the principal | 3 | what rights the assignee has against the other party |
| 4 | debtor claims only a temporary liquidity bottleneck. | 4 | in legal terms. That is right, isn't it? It is only |
| 5 | That is my understanding. | 5 | legal rights? |
| 6 | A. My Lord, my understanding is a bit different. They are | 6 | A. My Lord, as I said yesterday, it is not only about the |
| 7 | talking about the -- that is my understanding, that they | 7 | egal rights of the assignee towards the debtor, but it |
| 8 | are talking about the opening of insolvency proceedings | 8 | is also about defences the debtor has against his |
| 9 | as such do not, does not suffice for a serious and | 9 | creditor and he should -- |
| 10 | definite refusal. | 10 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: That is a defences point, isn't it? |
| 11 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I see. | 11 | A. Exactly, yes. |
| 12 | MR DICKER: Professor Mülbert, are you aware of any other | 12 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes. |
| 13 | case which deals with whether or not the petition to | 13 | Supposing the assignor has already an accrued |
| 14 | open insolvency proceedings can constitute a serious and | 14 | entitlement in respect of time wasted before the |
| 15 | definitive refusal? | 15 | ssignment, yes, and he sought to measure that with |
| 16 | A. My Lord, I am not aware of any other cases, otherwise | 16 | respect to some opportunity that he missed because he |
| 17 | I would have surely noted these cases in my report. | 17 | was out of the money. Right? He could assign that to |
| 18 | MR DICKER: Thank you Professor Mülbert. | 18 | e assignee as being an accrued claim -- |
| 19 | My Lord, I have no further questions. | 19 | A. Yes. |
| 20 | Questions from THE BENCH | 20 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: -- but the assignee, absent some |
| 21 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Professor, can I just ask one or two, | 21 | cial assignment, would not have any right in respect |
| 22 | I am afraid they will be rather muddled because I have | 22 | of that claim? |
| 23 | been trying to catch up in the meantime. I just want to |  | A. Absent any special -- |
| $24$ | understand better your position on the issue of | $24$ | Q. Special provision, yes. |
| 25 | assignment. | 25 | A. Yes. |
|  | Page 37 |  | Page 39 |
| 1 | I wondered whether one could distinguish between | 1 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: That is one part of it, the second |
| 2 | various things. My understanding is that you consider | 2 | rt I want to clarify is, can you mix and match, |
| 3 | there to be no protection as regards the debtor in | 3 | I can put it that way? |
| 4 | respect of some worsening factual position which occurs | 4 | That is to say, supposing the assignor said: |
| 5 | upon assignment. That is to say the debtor must just | 5 | "Oh, I would have invested in a project which would |
| 6 | put up with the fact that the assignee may be a less | 6 | have come to fruition in five years time, and I would |
| 7 | reliable person, or the creditor or the debtor. Yes? | 7 | have had a tremendous bonanza from that, predicated on |
| 8 | A. Yes. | 8 | it resulting in some future time." |
| 9 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Is that right? | 9 | Can the assignee then say: |
| 10 | A. Yes. | 10 | "Actually, I would have put the very same money ..." |
| 11 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: The facts is different, it is only | 11 | Which by comparative reason has already been locked |
| 12 | law. | 12 | up in some longer venture, can the assignee say: |
| 13 | A. May I explain? | 13 | "No, I would have put it on, I don't know, Red Rum |
| 14 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes. | 14 | at 2.30 ..." |
| 15 | A. If the claim were assigned to a creditor who is going | 15 | I don't know what it might be, can the assignee come |
| 16 | after the debtor, whereas the former creditor was more | 16 | up with a completely different investment theory? |
| 17 | lenient towards the creditor in enforcing his claims, | 17 | A. My Lord, only for the period after the transfer becoming |
| 18 | that would be also a factual deterioration of the | 18 | effective. Because, again, for the period prior to the |
| 19 | debtor's position, but there is nothing you can do about | 19 | transfer it is the assignor who serves as the point of |
| 20 | that. | 20 | reference for the determination of damages and from that |
| 21 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: No. | 21 | point onwards, from the point when the transfer becomes |
| 22 | Then there is another aspect, which I think you | 22 | effective, it is the assignee. Therefore his even |
| 23 | indicate in your report but please clarify for me, that | 23 | better story is understood here, example, his more |
| 24 | if there were available defences, by or against the | 24 | profitable business only comes into play from that point |
| 25 | assignor, the assignee can be in no better position. | 25 | in time onwards. |
|  | Page 38 |  | Page 40 |


| 1 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I can understand that in theory, but | 1 | I would have done this." |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | what was worrying me was the assignor has locked the | 2 | The assignee can say: |
| 3 | money up -- and the whole benefit to the assignor is in | 3 | "After the assignment, I would have had this money |
| 4 | it having being locked up. Why is the assignee allowed | 4 | and I would have done that." |
| 5 | to proceed as if the money were not locked up? | 5 | And there is no necessity to compare the two? |
| 6 | A. My Lord, I am sorry, could you -- | 6 | A. Yes. |
| 7 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Sorry, supposing the assignor had | 7 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes, okay. |
| 8 | decided that he would invest in a long term project and | 8 | think that is all I have. |
| 9 | the long term project is assessed, taking account time | 9 | Does anything arise out of that? |
| 10 | value of money et cetera, as having been very valuable | 10 | MR ALLISON: My Lord, no. |
| 11 | and the opportunity cost as having been very great. It | 11 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I am very grateful indeed for all you |
| 12 | is of the essence of what the assignor's claim was that | 12 | assistance. |
| 13 | that money would have been tied up for a long time. Do | 13 | MR DICKER: Thank you, Professor Mülbert. I think you can |
| 14 | you see what I mean? | 14 | step d |
| 15 | A. Yes. | 15 | My Lord, I see the time. I don't know whether this |
| 16 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: He has put it in something which is | 16 | would be a convenient moment before my learned friend |
| 17 | ong term prospect, not instantly realisa | 17 | calls Judge Fischer |
| 18 | money would have been used for that | 18 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes, that does seem a good time. |
| 19 | The rights under the agreement are then assigned | 19 | Does that suit you? |
| 20 | You accept, and have sought to clarify for me, that the | 20 | (11.50 am) |
| 21 | assignee cannot claim in respect of that project unless | 21 | (A short adjournment) |
| 22 | it was separately and specifically assigned | 22 | (11.55 am) |
| 23 | A. Yes. | 23 | MR ALLISON: My Lord, I would like to call Judge Fischer, |
| 24 | Q. As regards the counterparty, can the counterparty say: | 24 | please. |
| 25 | "Well, you cannot do this twice, the money has | 25 |  |
|  | Page 41 |  | Page 43 |
| 1 | already been locked up in a long term project which you | 1 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Can I just mention one thing. |
| 2 | have said is very valuable, you cannot say the money | 2 | lecided it was only fair that both should be sworn in |
| 3 | available to you, Mr Assignee because, if it had not | 3 | on the same basis. It does occur to me that in some |
| 4 | been a long term project, you would not have been ab | 4 | ways the oath is not wholly honed to the position of |
| 5 | to claim that huge amount." | 5 | an expert, but nevertheless I think it is as well to |
| 6 | Do you see what I mean? The money, how can you mix | 6 | keep parity, but it is something which invite |
| 7 | and match in that way? | 7 | reconsideration of. |
| 8 | A. My Lord, at the moment | 8 | MR ALLISON: Of course, my Lord. |
| 9 | difficulties in understanding how the question -- where | 9 | (The interpreter was sworn) |
| 10 | the money is -- fits in the problem, since it is the | 10 | JUDGE GERO FISCHER (sworn) |
| 11 | money, the damage resulting from that on the part of the | 11 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: You have some water there. If you |
| 12 | assignor as well as on the part of the assignee, as | 12 | need a break, you will let me know. |
| 13 | I understand the example, is that they would have | 13 | A. Thank you. |
| 14 | invested. It is not that the money is invested, but | 14 | Examination in-chief by MR ALLISON |
| 15 | they would have invested and because they were not able | 15 | MR ALLISON: Good afternoon, Judge Fischer. If we could |
| 16 | to invest, they have a loss of profit which they can | 16 | just look at your evidence in a moment but if first you |
| 17 | claim as an investment. Therefore the money from -- the | 17 | could just confirm to the court your name and address. |
| 18 | money from that perspective has gone to the debtor -- | 18 | A. My name is Gero Fischer and I am from Freiburg in |
| 19 | this is, I am very sorry if I am -- | 19 | Germany. [German address given] |
| 20 | MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I think what you are saying is the | 20 | (Interpreted) 23. |
| 21 | assignee can only claim in respect of the period after | 21 | 23, yes. |
| 22 | the assignment, subject to any special deal. The | 22 | Q. Thank you, if you could please be passed volume 4 of the |
| 23 | assignor is allowed to say: | 23 | hearing bundle. If you could turn -- I will go slowly |
| 24 | "Well, I would have done, with the money I would | 24 | but of course if you need any help, do say -- to tab 8, |
| 25 | have accrued, had it properly be paid before assignment, | 25 | please. |
|  | Page 42 |  | Page 44 |

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A. Tab 8, yes.
Q. Is this your first expert report?
A. Yes, that is true.
Q. You confirm it is the evidence you wish to give in these
proceedings?
A. Yes, that's right.
Q. Could you turn to page 192, please.
A. 192, yes.
Q. Could you confirm to his Lordship that that is your signature?
A. That is my signature, yes, that's right.
Q. If you could now turn to tab 10 , this is your second report.
A. Reply report, yes, that's right.
Q. Could you confirm that this is your reply evidence that you wish to give in these proceedings?
A. Yes, that is okay, that's right.
Q. Again, if we look at page 241 --
A. Yes.
Q. -- could you confirm to his Lordship that that is your signature?
A. That's correct.
Q. Three more documents to look at. Tab 12, next. This is your third report, is it?
A. Yes, my Lord, that is okay. That is my third report.
``` Page 45
Q. If you can go to page 347, again, could you confirm to his Lordship that is your signature?
A. Yes, that is my signature, my Lord.
Q. The next document is tab 13 , the next tab.
A. Yes.
Q. This is the joint statement you prepared with Professor Mülbert?
A. Yes, you are right. Yes, my Lord.
Q. Again, you confirm that this is the joint statement, as agreed by you and Professor Mülbert?
A. Yes, I confirm my Lord.
Q. Page 390, should be --
A. Yes.
Q. Again, could you confirm to his Lordship, that is your signature on the joint statement?
A. Yes, my Lord, that is my signature.
Q. One more document to look at together, tab 16 -- it should be the last tab -- could you confirm that this is your reply to the text provided by Professor Mülbert after your meeting?
A. Yes, this is a reply provided by Professor Mülbert, my Lord.
Q. If we could go to page 543, you will know the question by now --
A. I confirm it is my signature.

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MR ALLISON: Thank you very much.
If you could stay there, I am sure Mr Dicker will now have some questions for you.

\section*{Cross-examination by MR DICKER}

MR DICKER: Good afternoon.
A. Good afternoon.
Q. The first topic I want to ask you about concerns the single compensation sum under clause 9 of the German master agreement.
A. (Interpreted) Yes, I would like to have the single, the German master agreement in front of me.
Q. I will come and ask you questions about the wording of it later.
A. Yes, later. Okay.
Q. My first topic concerns when the sums become due. No one, as I understand it, has been able to find a decision of a court which decides this issue?
A. (Interpreted) Yes, that is correct. I haven't found any decision either.
Q. Indeed, there is no case dealing with a situation where there is a netting clause which operates on termination.
A. (Interpreted) To my knowledge, there is no decision of a German court concerning this, in my view there is not a decision -- such a decision.
Q. Thank you, so as I understand it, as a matter of German Page 47
law, the answer depends on the construction of the German master agreement in the light of general rules and principles of German law?
A. I agree, but --
(Interpreted) That is correct that the construction of the German master agreement is first of all that arising from the German master agreement as a priority of the general business conditions, but \(I\) would already indicate here that it also involves the construction of a section 104 of the insolvency act, the InsO, the I-N-S-O.
Q. Can we leave aside for the moment rules and principles of German insolvency law?
A. Yes.
Q. Can I start with section 271 of the BGB.
A. Yes.
Q. You will find that, I hope in bundle 2, tab 83 at letter J. You may not have the benefit of tabs, but if so I think it should be at page 27.
A. Yes. Thank you.
Q. As I understand it, this is a default rule. It applies if no time for performance has been specified or is evident from the circumstances.
A. (Interpreted) \(\mathbf{2 7 1}\) does not deal with default as such but only with the due date of performance, when the

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\section*{performance falls due.}
Q. It is my fault; I don't think my question was
sufficiently clear. As I understand it, section 271
applies if no time for performance has been specified or is evident from the circumstances.
A. (Interpreted) That's correct, but one first has to ask whether a time has been determined contractually. Second, whether the time can be inferred from the circumstances and, so to say, in order to fill the gap, the performance can then be demanded immediately.
Q. Although questions of construction are a matter for his Lordship, both you and Professor Mülbert agree that nothing has been specified in clause 9 of the German master agreement.
A. (Interpreted) That is correct. Section 729 of the German master agreement do not contain any provisions as to the time of the performance. This is agreed between myself and Professor Mülbert.
Q. The question is whether anything is evident from the circumstances, if not, the rule contained in section 271 applies?
A. (Interpreted) I agree that the next step should be the circumstances, whether the circumstances can indicate when performance should take place and if not then we fall back on the gap filling.

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Q.Thank you.
It is probably easiest if you put away that bundle
and take out bundle 4, if you would.

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A. That is 4 , yes.

THE INTERPRETER: We have it here.
MR DICKER: I want to show you a statement that
Professor Mülbert wanted to include in the joint
statement, which you will find at tab 15, page 527.
The --
THE INTERPRETER: Just for the German text.
A. The German text, yes.

MR DICKER: Page 527.
THE INTERPRETER: Would you allow me to take the English
text out, so that I can --
MR DICKER: Whatever is easiest.
THE INTERPRETER: Thank you.
MR DICKER: In the first paragraph, the second sentence, what it says in English is:
"German courts and legal literature very broadly agree ..."
A. It is only in English.

THE INTERPRETER: No, it is not.
A. Yes, that is only in English.

THE INTERPRETER: There is no German text.
A. There is not a German text, I think.

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MR DICKER: There is not, unless you have a copy, because
Professor Mülbert gave his report in English.
A. Yes.
Q. What I want to do is read a sentence and then perhaps it
can be translated for you. The sentence is the second
sentence in the first paragraph, which says:
"German courts and legal literature very broadly
agree that upon an early termination of a contract for
cause, a compensation claim in favour of the party
exercising its termination right, eg clause 7(1) of the
GMA, becomes due and payable immediately upon
termination."
I wonder if that could be translated for you.
A. No, it is clear for me.
Q. Do you agree with what Professor Mülbert says there,
ignoring, for the moment, the reference to the GMA?

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    A. (Interpreted) Yes, with no reference to the GMA I would
        say that in principle \(I\) agree that prevailing opinion in
        Germany is that once a contract is terminated because of
        unusual circumstances, the conditions provide that the
        party claiming damages can do this immediately and also
        the calculation can take place immediately.
Q. Thank you.
MR ALLISON: My Lord, I am so sorry to rise. A German
        speaker has suggested something may have gone wrong with
        Page 51
        the translation. It may be easier, and this is just
        a suggestion, if it is possible for Judge Fischer to
        break up the answer for the benefit of the interpreter
        as we go through.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes.
MR ALLISON: I have no idea, but I have just been told
        something was missed there.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes, let's deal with that in stages.
        It is an imposition but it would assist us all
        I think if you were to pause between sections of your
        answer --
A. Yes.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: -- so that the interpreter has let
            less to remember to interpret.
A. Yes.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Do you feel that the last answer need
    further consideration for accuracy -- I don't mean that
    impolitely, I just mean it was a quite long answer and
    maybe towards the end it may have been lost.
A. (Interpreted) Yes, my Lord, I agree.
    (Interpreted) Should I repeat once more what --
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Do they have a telescreen?
MR DICKER: I am not sure they do.
    I wonder whether it would not be easiest if I ask
    the question again, Judge Fischer answers and ideally,
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as your Lordship suggested --
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: In sections.
MR DICKER: -- broken down into sections.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I am sorry to have to do that, but
let's do that.
MR DICKER: Can I ask the question again. If you look at
the sentence that I showed you in Professor Mülbert's
appendix, if you ignore the reference, leave out the
reference to the GMA, do you agree that that is
a correct statement of German law?
A. (Interpreted) This declaration is correct. Insofar that
if there is an extraordinary condition existing that
a claim for damages is in existence.
It is not always self-evident -- in no way
self-evident that, after an extraordinary termination,
a damages claim is in existence. There can be a claim
for performance, but not a claim for damages.
Q. Thank you.
We were shown, or referred to, I think four main
authorities, two by Professor Mülbert and two by
yourself. I want to ask you some questions in relation
to each of them.
The first case is in bundle 1, tab 29A.
A. 29 A , yes.
Q. 29A?

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            Page 53

\section*{A. Yes.}
Q. I want to ask you about the paragraph numbered 9, which is on page 3 of the copy.
A. Yes.
Q. I would like to ask you to read to yourself the first three sentences of that paragraph. (Pause)

As I understand it, you accept that those statements are generally correct as a matter of German law?
A. (Interpreted) I cannot generalise this -- I cannot refer it to a specific generalisation, but I would say that in principle this is correct.
Q. Can I ask, do you accept that these principles are not limited simply to tort claims like the claim for damages to the vehicle in this case?
A. (Interpreted) This does not just apply to tort cases but it also applies to contractual damages claims.
Q. The second decision that Professor Mülbert referred to is at tab 39 and if you could have a look at that.
A. Yes, okay, hmm.
Q. It is a claim for damages following termination of a contract for cause.
A. Yes. Yes.
Q. What happened was that the claimant made a claim for a prepayment sum and the customer challenged the amount. That is correct, yes?

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A. Yes.
Q. If you go to paragraph 18, and you look at the last sentence of paragraph 18 --
A. Yes.
Q. -- one of the grounds of challenge by the customer was that a calculation in respect of the repayment date was to be made, not in respect of the termination date.
A. Yes.
Q. What the customer was saying was the relevant date for the sum becoming due was not the termination date, but was the repayment date, yes?
A. Yes.
Q. If you go to paragraph 64, the court's conclusion, you will see from the first sentence, which is that the damages claim in respect of the prepayment compensation was due immediately?
A. Yes.
Q. That was so, despite the fact that the claimant needed to calculate the amount of the prepayment?
A. (Interpreted) Yes, this is correct. In German prevailing opinion, such a damages claim can arise immediately with the prepayment before the actual due date.
Q. Thank you.

I think that answer answers my next question, but Page 55
just in case: you accept that this case was correctly decided?

\section*{A. Yes, I accept.}
Q. Those are the two main authorities that Professor Mülbert refers to. I want to look at the two main lines of authority that you refer to. Can we start with your third report, if you go to bundle 4, tab 12 .

\section*{A. Tab 12? (Pause)}

Yes.
Q. Picking it up in the last sentence of paragraph 30, page 319 --
A. Yes?
Q. -- I hope you have that, the English version says, last sentence of paragraph 30 :
"As according to the wording and content of the contract, the reason for the establishment of the compensation claim and its amount depend on the requirements governed by clauses 8 and 9 , the compensation cannot become due and payable until the creditor has carried out the summarisation required under clause 9(1) of the GMA."

Then you have a footnote, footnote 3 --
A. Yes.
Q. -- which refers to Ernst and I would like to ask you some questions in relation to that, so if you could now Page 56
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    go, if you would to tab 45, bundle 1, tab 45.
    THE INTERPRETER: 45?
    A. Bundle 1, tab 45.
    MR DICKER: I hope you have some tabs behind 45, the extract
        I want is tab A. (Pause)
    THE INTERPRETER:This is the German and the English? Yes.
    MR DICKER: Just picking it up at the start, it is
        a paragraph numbered 5, do you have that?
    A. Yes.
    Q. What the author is saying in the first two sentences is
        that the determination of the performance time is based
        on the circumstances, particularly with consideration to
        the nature of the relationship. He says the
        determination is related to individual cases and as
        I understand it by that he means it depends on the
        facts.
    A. (Interpreted) That is correct. Whether the performance
        can be deducted from the circumstances depends on the
        actual structure concerned.
    Q. As I understand it, the two examples that you refer to
        expressly in your report are firstly just at
        footnote 79, the text at footnote 79, where the author
        says:
            "Under a work agreement the entrepreneur's duty to
        perform cannot become due before the time required to
            Page 57
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        produce the work has passed."
        That is one of the examples you refer to?
    A. (Interpreted) Yes, that's correct, this is one of the
        examples which I have mentioned but this example was not
        important, in my view.
    Q. Thank you.
        The second example you give is in the text at
        footnote 82, where the text, at least in English, says:
            "The tenant can demand repayment of his/her security
        deposit after the landlord tenant relationship is
        terminated once the amount of landlord's counter claims
        have been determined."
    A. (Interpreted) Well that is correct, this example had
        a certain significance in my view for the following
        reason.
            This is because the due date of the claim for
        restoration by the tenant depends on the contract with
        the other party, the landlord.
            In a very different contract body to the German
        master agreement, what was important, significant, in my
        view, was that the due date -- that the performance,
        only becomes due after the cooperation of the other
        party.
        Q. Can I suggest that there may be a difference between
        this sort of situation and the clause 9 situation.
            Page 58
A. (Interpreted) Obviously there is a difference between the situation of the German master agreement and the case which \(I\) have chosen. The reason why \(I\) have chosen this case is as follows.

This is because of the absence of decisions and views in the literature with regards to due date in the GMA. I have tried to find examples with different types of contracts from which I could draw conclusions for the interpretation for clauses 7 to 9 GMA. The link with this is that according to 7 to 9 , there is a provision for cooperation between the two parties with regards to the damages compensation claim.
Q. The purpose of the deposit is to secure the claims which the landlord has.
THE INTERPRETER: Could you repeat this?
MR DICKER: I am sorry. The purpose of the deposit is to secure the claims which the landlord has.
A. Yes.
Q. He needs to be able to pay himself in a simple way by relying on the deposit.
A. (Interpreted) This concerns the time after the termination of the contract. After that termination is the repayment is due by the landlord, but I explained that this -- (Pause)

The claim is not due until the landlord has Page 59
indicated that he has no further claims. Even when the landlord says that he has no further claims, then the repayment becomes due.
Q. That is because if the landlord had to return the deposit before he worked out whether or not he had any claims, he would lose his security.
A. Yes. That is right.
Q. I suggest that it is that fact that constitutes the circumstances that led the court to say it only becomes due when the calculation has been done.
A. (Interpreted) The termination depends on a declaration by the landlord whether he still has any claims. Of course, this then gives, constitutes, a security for the landlord.
Q. Could you take bundle 3, there is a case at tab 95 to which I think you refer.
A. 95 ?
Q. You should have a bundle of authorities --
A. I think I have not the right one.

THE INTERPRETER: Volume 3?
MR DICKER: Volume 3, but of the cases, tab 95.
A. Tab 95. Yes.
Q. Thank you. There is one sentence I wanted to show you. It is in paragraph 9 and it is the last sentence of paragraph 9, the English translation reads -Page 60

\section*{A. Yes. \\ Q. "From this it already follows that the landlord is at least permitted to retain the portion of the deposit that is reasonable to secure his claims from the tenancy until the expiration of the time limit granted to him, otherwise the rental deposit would not be suitable for its security function." \\ What I want to suggest to you is that is the reason why the court held that the sum is not due from the landlord until the calculation has been done.}
A. (Interpreted) Yes, I have already confirmed that that is the actual reason.
Q. Thank you.

Could you take the German master agreement. There is a copy in English in core bundle, tab 9.

I understand that there is a German language version.
THE INTERPRETER: Is there a German version in there as well? (Pause)
A. My Lord, I need it in German.

MR DICKER: I understand.
MR ALLISON: My Lord, I think people might be trying to locate it at the moment.

MR DICKER: Bundle 5, tab 8.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Do you have it?
A. Yes, I have it.

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MR DICKER: Just reminding you of a couple of provisions, clause 7(1) --
A. Yes.
Q. -- if you turn to that.
A. Yes.
Q. 7(1), the English version, says:
"Where transactions have been entered into, not yet fully settled, the agreement can only be terminated by either party for material reason. Material reason includes circumstances where payment or other performance due has not been received for whatever reason."
A. Yes.
Q. 7(1) is essentially concerned with a situation of where there is a breach.
A. (Interpreted) Yes, 7(1) refers to where there is a breach. (Pause)
Q. As I understand it, under German law, clause 7 has to conform with the guiding principles of the BGB concerning immediate termination.
A. (Interpreted) No, I see this differently. The immediate claim arises from the conditions of the contract according to the circumstances under section 271(1) of the BGB. That is why I said with respect to the termination of the loan contract, that this was correct

Page 62
in principle. But this cannot lead to the conclusion that this is therefore also mandatory with respect to the German master agreement.

What is important is that the content and aim of the contract have to be deduced from the termination provisions contained in sections \(\mathbf{7}\) to \(\mathbf{9}\) of the GMA.

The circumstances pertaining to the cases we have just discussed, which lead with regard to the immediate falling due of the claim, do not lead to a conclusion that this is also the, applies to the present case, and this case has to be examined anew.

The special feature of this particular contract lies in the fact that several individual transactions are being summarised within a unified, or unity contract. So that the individual, these individual transactions may give rise to various reciprocal claims and they have to be summarised in netting in one single final contract, or transaction, sorry.
Q. Thank you.

Can we take it in stages, please. The first point is \(7(1)\) says that the agreement can only be terminated by either party for material reason. Yes?
A. (Interpreted) That only refers to a termination -- not to anything else.
THE INTERPRETER: Giving notice I think. It is Page 63
a termination by giving notice of termination.
MR DICKER: I am just focusing at the moment on 7(1).
A. Yes.
Q. The German master agreement are general business terms under German law, yes?
A. Yes.
Q. As a result, provisions for termination under this agreement need to satisfy certain principles of German law.
A. (Interpreted) Under the reference to basic contractual freedom, the contracts are concluded totally independently, but of course they cannot offend or go against the basic principles of the general conditions of business, which are contained in the BGB. And because this does contain general conditions of business, they have to be compatible with section 305 and following of the BGB.
Q. One of the points that Professor Mülbert makes is that, because these are general business terms, the parties cannot do away all together with the need for a breach or cause for termination as a precondition to termination.
A. (Interpreted) It is correct that the reason for termination, including the revocation of a contract, are amongst the important reasons for the termination, that Page 64
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it has to be one of those important reasons for
termination.
MR DICKER: Thank you.
My Lord, I wonder if that might be a convenient
moment.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes, we will reassemble at 2.00.
(1.03 pm)
(The Luncheon Adjournment)
(2.00 pm)
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD:Good afternoon.
A. Good afternoon.
MR DICKER: Judge Fischer, I asked you before lunch about
clause 7(1) of the German master agreement. I wanted to
suggest to you that clause 7(2) also needs to satisfy
the guiding principles of the BGB concerning
an immediate termination.
A. (Interpreted) Yes, it has to be in accordance with the
BGB and also with the German insolvency law. But I said
in my expert opinion that the conditions -- I assume
that these conditions had been fulfilled.
Q. I understand your point in relation to German insolvency
law, and I will come to that.
A. Okay.
Q. We have in clause 7, various situations of
termination --

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    Page 65
A. Yes.
Q. -- and that leads to a claim for damages. You will see
    that, as I am sure you know, clause 8(1) of the German
        master agreement which says:
        "In the event of termination the party giving notice
        or the solvent party as the case may be shall be
        entitled to claim damages."
    A. Yes.
    Q. As I think you pointed out this morning, that claim for
        damages is then rolled up together with any unpaid
        amounts --
    A. Yes.
    Q. -- and it produces a single compensation claim?
    A. (Interpreted) It is correct that any claims which arise
        before the end of the contract, according to -- then
        have to be summarised and taken together with the claims
        arising under 8.
Q. Can I suggest to you that what we see in clauses 7, 8
        and \(9(1)\) is a provision for a compensation claim upon
        an early termination of a contract for cause.
    THE INTERPRETER: Could you just ask the last part of the
        question.
MR DICKER: Just to repeat my question, can I suggest to you
        that what we see in clauses 7,8 and \(9(1)\) is a provision
        for a compensation claim on an early termination of
        Page 66
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    a contract for cause.
    A. (Interpreted) 7, 8(1) and 9 are the basis for such
claims, but this should not be seen in isolation but it
should also include 8(2) and 9(2), because a separate
view of those would not be in accordance with the
meaning and intent of the clauses.
Q. I was going to turn next to clause 9(2). As
I understand it, your view is that the single
compensation claim is not due immediately and you can
see that, you say, when you look at clause 9(2)?
A. (Interpreted) If I understand the question correctly, as
it has been translated to me, I see in 7 to 9 the -- not
the basis for a compensation claim but of an overall
arrangement of anything which is due arising from
termination.
Of course taking full account of the events covered
by 7to 9, it is possible that a damages compensation
claim may arise, but this is not made mandatory but may
occur according to the circumstances.
Q. 9(1) refers to a party entitled to damages having
a damages claim. That's correct?
A. (Interpreted) If a compensation claim exists in favour
of the party which is not insolvent then that is
a damages compensation claim.
Q. Thank you.

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    Can we go through clause 9(2).
A. Yes.
Q. I want to see if you think I have it right. Obviously
    ultimately it is a matter for his Lordship --
A. Yes.
Q. -- but if you will allow me, \(9(2)\) starts by saying:
            "A compensation claim against the party entitled to
        damages shall become due and payable only to the extent
        such party does not for any legal reason whatsoever have
        any claims against the other party."
    A. Yes.
    Q. That is the first sentence of \(9(2)\), if you have that in
        German.
        This is dealing with a situation in which
        a compensation claim isn't being made by the party
        entitled to damages, it is being made against the party
        entitled to damages.
    A. Yes.
            (Interpreted) This is the 9(2) first sentence,
        concerns counter claims by the party which has become
        insolvent against the other party.
    Q. Take 7(1) as an example, it operates where the
        defaulting party is entitled to a compensation claim
        against the party entitled to damages.
    A. (Interpreted) 9(2) must be taken to mean that
        Page 68

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline 1 & think there are & 1 & absolutely right, is protection. \\
\hline 2 & A. (Interpreted) This could be correct and imaginable so & 2 & A. (Interpreted) That is why I mentioned German insolvency \\
\hline 3 & long as it falls within the context of the German master & 3 & law provisions, because the provisions of the GMA become \\
\hline 4 & agreement, but not goes beyond the German master & 4 & hey are in breach of the mandatory \\
\hline 5 & agreement. & 5 & solvency laws, because insolvency law deals with \\
\hline 6 & MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I mean I may be on a false track & 6 & 11 \\
\hline 7 & anyway, but so you should know what track I was on, all & 7 & May I ask, do you mean claims which have arisen \\
\hline 8 & I was thinking was that if under the German maste & 8 & fore or after the in \\
\hline 9 & agreement, there was a specified currency of account & 9 & Q. I mean for the purposes of the meaning of 9(2), any \\
\hline 10 & under which all obligations were payable, the third & 10 & laims. \\
\hline 11 & sentence would naturally have to refer to claims other & 11 & A. (Interpreted) If that broad construction is accepted, \\
\hline 12 & than claims under the German master agreement, because & 12 & cording to the insolvency provisions, the -- (Pause) \\
\hline 13 & they would not otherwise be denominated in a currency & 13 & The party which has the claim cannot set off, set \\
\hline 14 & other than euros. & 14 & e insolvency occurred. \\
\hline 15 & You have explained to me that obligation & 15 & THE INTERPRETER: I am sorry. \\
\hline 16 & German master agreement could be under any currency, & 16 & \multirow[t]{3}{*}{A. (Interpreted) According to the general insolvency rules, the party can set off claims which have arisen before the insolvency has occurred but not after insolvency has} \\
\hline 17 & hence & 17 & \\
\hline 18 & misplaced. & 18 & \\
\hline 19 & I only wanted to give an insight about how lost & 19 & occurred. \\
\hline 20 & I am. & 20 & ust add, however, that I don't think this \\
\hline 21 & A. Than & 21 & construction -- which I admit is possible according to \\
\hline 22 & MR DICKER: Judge Fischer, can we just go to the penultimate & 22 & the correct construction \\
\hline 23 & se & 23 & MR DICKER: Now \\
\hline 24 & A. Yes. & 24 & A. (Interpreted) The GMA provisions are construed both in \\
\hline 25 & Q. "The party entitled to damages may set off the Page 73 & 25 & the handbook on banking law and in the Munchen Page 75 \\
\hline 1 & compensation claim of the other party ag & 1 & kommentar, which is the Munich commentary, as \\
\hline 2 & counter claims calculated in accordance with sentence & 2 & interpretation always that the effect of 7, 8 and 9 \\
\hline 3 & three." & 3 & the effect -- has the effect of a closeout netting, \\
\hline 4 & What I want to suggest to you is: this is very like & 4 & but no more. \\
\hline 5 & the landlord and tenant cases you were re & 5 & Q. You mentioned insolvency, and I will come to insolvency, \\
\hline 6 & I will explain what I mean and then ask you to comment. & 6 & ut the termination does not need to have involved \\
\hline 7 & What I mean is that we have a situation in which the & 7 & an insolvency, does it? \\
\hline 8 & defaulting party, if I may call him that, has a claim & 8 & A. (Interpreted) That's correct, the termination can be \\
\hline 9 & against the party entitled to damages. The party & 9 & fected by revocation or also in insolvency law by \\
\hline 10 & entitled to damages is effectively able to say, "I & 10 & application for insolvency. It does not depend on \\
\hline 11 & have to pay you the net amount ..." & 11 & insolvency proceedings to be opened. \\
\hline 12 & A. Yes. & 12 & Q. Finally, the last sentence of 9(3). \\
\hline 13 & Q. "... after setting off any other claim that I may have & 13 & A. Yes. \\
\hline 14 & against you." & 14 & Q. Sorry, 9(2). \\
\hline 15 & A. (Interpreted) I understand your question to mean -- & 15 & A. 9(2). \\
\hline 16 & I hope I understand your question correctly, but I see & 16 & Q. It says in English: \\
\hline 17 & 9(2) as a protective norm -- & 17 & "To the extent that it fails to do so, the \\
\hline 18 & (Not interpreted) Not "I", he. & 18 & compensation claim shall become due and payable as soon \\
\hline 19 & THE INTERPRETER: He, sorry & 19 & as and to the extent that it exceeds the aggregate \\
\hline 20 & A. (Interpreted) You see 9(2) as a protective norm which & 20 & amount of counter claims." \\
\hline 21 & allows the non-insolvent party to set off any claims in & 21 & What I want to suggest to you is that this is just \\
\hline 22 & order to protect the party. & 22 & like the landlord and tenant cases, that the \\
\hline 23 & MR DICKER: Yes. Actually it doesn't matter whether the & 23 & non-defaulting party, if I can call them that, is \\
\hline 24 & other claims are all other claims or just claims under & 24 & entitled only to pay the net amount to the defaulting \\
\hline 25 & the German master agreement. The point, you are & 25 & party and is entitled to work out what that net amount \\
\hline & Page 74 & & Page 76 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
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is before being liable to pay.
THE INTERPRETER:Can I just ask back, "... and is entitled
MR DICKER: The non-defaulting party is only entitled to pay
the net amount to the defaulting party and is entitled
to work out what that net amount is before becoming
liable to pay, before that sum becomes due.
A. (Interpreted) I will try and explain it somewhat more extensively.
The penultimate sentence in 9(2), so 9(2), read together with the last sentence of $9(2)$ is construed by me in such a way that the party which is not insolvent can set off.
(Not interpreted) The party can choose.
(Interpreted) Can choose to set off before .. so either to set off the amounts and in that way dissolve the counter claims or extinguish the counter claims, or they can omit the set off with the consequence that to the extent that then there is no compensation, damages compensation claim which arises to that extent.
Can I just give an example. Assume that the party entitled to the damages compensation claim under 7 and 8 amounts to $\mathbf{1 , 0 0 0}$ euros and the insolvent party has a counterclaim of 500 euros.
Then the party entitled to compensation has two Page 77
possibilities, the first possibility is it makes a set off, and that the consequence is then that it has a due compensation claim of $\mathbf{5 0 0}$ euros. If there was no set off, there is then confronted 1,000 euros of the party entitled to compensation, with 500 with the other party and then sentence three says that the amount in the amount of the counterclaim, 500 euros is not due.
There is a claim of 1,000 , but because of the counterclaim of 500, the insolvent party may refuse the counterclaim to the extent of the 500.
Q. Yes. Judge Fischer, can I show you one --
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Before you do, I am so sorry, can I simply clarify.
MR DICKER: Of course.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: In the last sentence of 9(2), it says:
"To the extent that it fails ..."
That is a reference to the party entitled to
damages, yes?
A. Hmm.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: To the extent that the party entitled to damages fails to do something, and I read that as fails to set off the compensation claim of the other party against a counter claims calculation in accordance with sentence 3.

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A. Yes. Yes.

MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: If it fails to do that, the compensation claim of the insolvent party then becomes due and payable, as long as and only to the extent that it exceeds the aggregate amount of the party entitled to damages' counterclaim. Is that right?
A. (Interpreted) The question is, my Lord, if the party entitled to compensation does omit to set off, whether then the other party, the insolvent party, can ask for payment due to that amount.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Is there any express or implied time within which the party entitled to damages must apply the set off not?
A. (Interpreted) I think if a party does not set off and the parties are faced with each other with claims of 500 euros, both claims are not applicable and cannot -and enforceable, if there is a right of retention of the parties, one of the parties, so that we have a -I think it is called a pat position in chess, of the parties.

My Lord, may I make one additional statement? MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Sure.
A. (Interpreted) The last sentence, in my view, it is essential that an additional argument that the payment is only enforceable, or is due -Page 79
(Not interpreted) Is due --
(Interpreted) When the due date has occurred under 9(2).
MR DICKER: Judge Fischer, what I want to suggest is that that postponement only applies in the case of \(9(2)\), the draftsman has not used similar words in 9(1).
A. (Interpreted) No, I don't accept that view. My view is that \(\mathbf{7}\) to 9 constitutes a united, a unified regulation so that irrespective of -- (Pause)

So that the due, the amount is only due after the proceedings have gone on -- have terminated.

This also applies if in an individual case the insolvent party, the party which has become insolvent, does not have a claim.

Insofar it is similar, and there I agree with you, to the landlord and the tenant case.

The restitution in that case also only occurs when the landlord declares that he has no longer any -- he has no claims against the tenant.

In this case too, it only occurs when it has been clarified what claims the party in insolvency has. And then the calculation process has been carried out.

If there are counter claims from the party which has become insolvent, so then the proceedings start to run. If the declaration -- (Pause)

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\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline 1 & Yes. & 1 & Although the debtor, because of the insolvency, is \\
\hline 2 & Q. I want to ask you about what you say happens to unpaid & 2 & not able to perform, the literature says that in such \\
\hline 3 & amounts. In other words, sums due under clause 3 of the & 3 & a case of default, the party in default is liable for \\
\hline 4 & master agreement. & 4 & anything that arises, any chance events arising after \\
\hline 5 & A. Yes. & 5 & the default. \\
\hline 6 & Q. Can I ask you to imagine a case in which a sum became & 6 & Q. If that is true -- \\
\hline 7 & due before termination -- & 7 & A. (Interpreted) One more thing. There is the following \\
\hline 8 & A. Yes. & 8 & inciple. If someone has gone into default, he will \\
\hline 9 & Q. -- and was already accruing interest under clause 3(4). & 9 & main in default insofar as he does not have a private \\
\hline 10 & A. Yes. & 10 & law -- a right of retention, for example, according to \\
\hline 11 & Q. I suggest to you that the German master agreement cannot & 11 & private law. \\
\hline 12 & have the effect of stopping interest running on that sum & 12 & Q. What you say in relation to a situation where someone is \\
\hline 13 & d for interest only to start running again after the & 13 & insolvent, obviously applies also where there is \\
\hline 14 & calculation has been done under section \(9(1)\) ? & 14 & a termination under 7(1)? \\
\hline 15 & A. (Interpreted) I also think that 3(4), when there is & 15 & A. (Interpreted) The decisive point is whether or not the \\
\hline 16 & already a default, but then a damages default claim & 16 & fault has occurred before insolvency has occurred or \\
\hline 17 & arises and this claim does not then end, because of the & 17 & not, not when it has become due. I would emphasise \\
\hline 18 & proceedings contained in 7 to 9 , the provisions & 18 & that \\
\hline 19 & contained in 7 to 9. & 19 & The default, once it has occurred, is not stopped by \\
\hline 20 & THE INTERPRETER: This was half the ... (Pause) & 20 & the insolvency proceeding \\
\hline 21 & A. (Interpreted) The claim under 3(4) should however be & 21 & So insolvency proceedings are opened before the \\
\hline 22 & included in the calculation under 9 and does not remain & 22 & default has occurred -- \\
\hline 23 & separate. But this cannot lead to the conclusion that & 23 & THE INTERPRETER: I will repeat. \\
\hline 24 & a compensation claim cannot arise when after a default, & \[
24
\] & A. (Interpreted) After the insolvency proceedings have been \\
\hline 25 & no further damages claim arises. & 25 & started, default can no longer occur because the \\
\hline & Page 85 & & Page 87 \\
\hline 1 & Maybe & 1 & defaulter has lost the control over his assets. \\
\hline 2 & Under 3(4) the claim of 1,000 already exists, & 2 & So default, if default occurs before the insolvency \\
\hline 3 & already due before the end of the contract and the other & 3 & proceedings, then the proceedings, the default applies, \\
\hline 4 & party to the claim has fallen into default & 4 & but after default occurs after insolvency proceedings \\
\hline 5 & When insolvency proceedings are opened, there is the & 5 & are instituted, the default can no longer exist. \\
\hline 6 & claim of \(\mathbf{1 , 0 0 0}\) plus an additional interest claim of 50. & 6 & (Not interpreted) Can't exist. \\
\hline 7 & The 1,000 euros ought to be included in the & 7 & THE INTERPRETER: Can't exist. \\
\hline 8 & compensation claim and also the 50 , are both to be & 8 & A. (Not interpreted) Can't exist. \\
\hline 9 & included in the compensation claim to be billed. & 9 & nterpreted) And default cannot actually occur, \\
\hline 10 & Let us assume in addition to the 1,000 and 50 there & 10 & cannot arise. \\
\hline 11 & will be another 2,000 euros. That would mean therefore & 11 & MR DICKER: I hesitate to interrupt, and it may be \\
\hline 12 & there would be a total compensation claim of \(\mathbf{3 , 0 5 0}\) but & 12 & convenient to have a short break. Can I just before we \\
\hline 13 & I must say that I have found no indications in & 13 & do, just say this. I only have a day to ask you \\
\hline 14 & literature or in case law which takes this. & 14 & questions. It would help me, at least, if you could \\
\hline 15 & I think that the interest claim goes on running even & 15 & ensure you answer my question and, perhaps if I may \\
\hline 16 & during the insolvency period, the interest claim which & 16 & respectfully say, confine your additions to what you \\
\hline 17 & arises from the \(\mathbf{1 , 0 0 0}\), when the default has occurred. & 17 & feel is necessary. \\
\hline 18 & Q. As I understand it, the long and the short of it is we & 18 & I only say that because my short question was \\
\hline 19 & agree there cannot be a gap in the interest running on & 19 & whether there was any gap in interest running. \\
\hline 20 & an unpaid amount under clause 3. & 20 & My Lord, I wonder whether this would be a convenient \\
\hline 21 & A. (Interpreted) In a claim when a default has occurred & 21 & moment. \\
\hline 22 & beforehand, generally opinion in German literature & 22 & MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I think counsel has a point, that he \\
\hline 23 & recognises that default which has occurred before the & 23 & has a limited number of questions for you, limited by \\
\hline 24 & insolvency has occurred does not cease with the & 24 & the day, and -- \\
\hline 25 & insolvency. & 25 & A. Yes. \\
\hline & Page 86 & & Page 88 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: -- although it is generally of course
informative to know what the context is, I think we must
allow him to choose the questions he thinks will
illuminate and I must ask you to restrict your answers
to those questions.
If at any given time you think the answer that you
give needs qualification, that is fine. But I think in
your endeavour to assist me as much as possible,
nevertheless we will have to restrict it to the answers
that are required.
A. Okay. Yes.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I think we are going to have five
minutes now, and return to the fray thereafter.
Do you wish to sit a bit late today or --
MR DICKER: I am in your Lordship's hands. I am not making
quite as much progress as I hoped.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: It is very dense, difficult stuff.
The only other suggestion I have, and I mention it now
with deference to you, but just in case it assists, it
may be that if you confine your responses in bite sized
bits and then look at the interpreter to see whether
that is a suitable bite sized bit for her, that that
would be better. I just think that even though it puts
a greater strain on you to be able to continue your
pattern of thought, nevertheless bite sized bits will Page 89

> get us closer to the answer.

\section*{A. Yes, okay.}

MR DICKER: My Lord, thank you.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: That is the pessimism. Do you want to sit a bit later? I don't want to sit as long as yesterday because I found that I was pretty -- I was floating towards the end I think.
MR DICKER: My Lord, I would wish to stop before your Lordship reaches that point.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes.
MR DICKER: It may be useful to sit a little longer, I hope to finish shortly on the question of when clause 9 becomes due. I then have an equal amount in relation to -- roughly equal amount, maybe slightly less, in relation to default, and then a few questions in relation to assignment. My best guess is that I am probably looking at finishing, I would hope, Monday lunchtime.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: That is good news.
Not that it is not enjoyable but it is just that we have other cases.

If I say around 4.45 being when I can recognise my concentration will waiver -- is that about right? If you want to stop before then, well and good, and if you want five minutes more than that, well and good but that Page 90
is just an estimated time of drawing stumps.
( 3.31 pm )
(A short adjournment)
( 3.41 pm )
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Sorry to have kept you.
MR DICKER: Dr Fischer I wanted to ask you a similar question about the claim for damages under clause 8 of the master agreement.

This provision is also intended to ensure that the non-defaulting party receives -- I will rephrase that, is put in the same financial position as it would have been in if the contract had been properly performed.

\section*{A. That's right.}
Q. It is to make him whole?
A. Yes.
Q. One thing he can do is enter into a replacement transaction?

\section*{A. Yes.}
Q. Another thing he can do is calculate his damages, yes --
A. Yes.
Q. -- by reference to what he would have needed to pay --
A. Yes.
Q. -- and then, if you look at clause 8(1), about eight lines from the end of \(8(1)\), it says, "At the time of giving notice, or becoming aware of the insolvency". Page 91

\section*{A. Would you please repeat?}
Q. Yes, I am sorry, that was not a very helpful way of guiding you.
\[
\text { If you go to } 8(1) \text {. }
\]

\section*{A. Yes.}
Q. Eight lines down there is a sentence that begins, in English with the words, "Such parties shall be entitled ..."

It is the next sentence that I am concerned with, the next sentence in English reads:
"If it refrains from entering into such substitute transactions, it may base the calculation of damages on that amount which it would have needed to pay ..."
A. Yes.
Q. Then there is a reference to various rates and things. Then it says in English:
"... at the time of giving notice or upon becoming aware of the insolvency."
A. The third sentence, or fourth. Yes, I think I know what you mean.
Q. Can I just explain what I understand by that.
A. Yes.
Q. He may calculate his damages but if he does so, he does it by reference to the position at the time of giving notice or on becoming aware of the insolvency.

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\section*{A. (Interpreted) The party entitled to claim has two possibilities.}

First of all, it can conclude replacement business -- this is what is dealt with in the previous paragraph.

The other one is to abstractly calculate what sort of business, similar business, it could have conducted within this time.
Q. My point was, in the second case --
A. Yes.
Q. -- what he does is work out what he would have needed to pay at the time of giving notice or upon becoming aware of the insolvency.
A. Yes.
Q. Thank you.

Obviously it may take him some time to do the calculation.
A. Yes.
Q. You could have a gap between the date he is given notice and the date of the calculation.
A. Yes.
Q. As I understand it, your construction of the master agreement means that he wouldn't receive interest for that gap?

Just so we are clear, leaving aside for the moment Page 93
any effect of insolvency.
A. Yes.
Q. Just assume a termination on notice.
A. (Interpreted) The party has to explain that if it had conducted the replacement business, what its position would then be.

It can either do a replacement business or calculate on the basis of probability what it would have achieved if it had made such or conducted such replacement business.
Q. Just so we are clear, my point is this. Assume he didn't enter into a replacement transaction.
A. Yes.
Q. What he has to calculate is how much he would have paid on the day he is given notice. I didn't phrase that very well. He has to calculate, by reference to the day he was given notice, how much he would have had to pay. What I am asking is, assume that, because it is all very complicated, it takes him a year to work out how much it would have cost him.
A. (Interpreted) Well I think, and I say this on the basis of all the commentaries which I have studied, that they all assume that such a calculation would have been possible a few days after the termination.

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Q. However long the period is, whether it is short or long,
on your construction of clause 9, he will not get
interest for that period, that gap?
A. (Interpreted) No, no payment of interest.
Q. So he will not be made whole?
A. (Interpreted) If there is a case of insolvency, that is right.
Q. Forget about insolvency. Just for the moment, assume termination by notice.
A. Yes. Then he must --
(Interpreted) Then he has to receive the full amount of damages also including interest.
Q. Interest from the date that he was given notice of termination?
A. Yes.
Q. Thank you.

One further point. Going back to 9(1), we have the unpaid amounts under clause 3 and the damages claim under clause 8 and they are both turned into one single claim.

What I want to suggest to you -- it sounds like you would agree -- if you ignore insolvency, those two claims must be dealt with in the same way, as far as interest is concerned.
A. (Interpreted) Both claims have to be treated in the same

Page 95
way as if the contract had continued to run, it has to be treated exactly in the same way.
Q. Just as there is no gap in relation to an unpaid amount under clause 3, there is also, as I think you have just agreed, no gap in respect of a damages claim under clause 8 ?
A. (Interpreted) Yes, of course. Apart from insolvency, there is no gap in such a case.
Q. If interest has started on an unpaid amount under clause 3 , it continues running?
A. (Interpreted) I would limit this. In the commentary I have not found anything to deal with this, to cover this. I think if the default -- my view is if the default has started, \(2,3,4\), then it has to continue to run.
Q. There is a similar point in relation to clause 8, there is also no gap?
A. (Interpreted) The same would also refer to clause 8.
Q. You don't have a situation in which the party entitled to damages works out how much he would have needed on day one, but then is not compensated for the period until he actually does the calculation.
A. (Interpreted) He made this calculation in such a way that he would not be in a worse situation than if the contract had continued to run.

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Q. Thank you.
Can we turn now to the second topic, which is the concept of default. Can I start with a number of points, which I think are agreed --
A. Yes.
Q. -- so I hope we can take those shortly.
A. Yes.
Q. Firstly, a default must have occurred within the meaning of section 286 for a party to be able to make a damages interest claim.
A. (Interpreted) Before a damages claim is to be made -that's correct.
Q. The second point is: for a default to exist, the debtor must have failed to perform when performance was due?
A. (Interpreted) The condition is that the debtor has not performed before the end of the due date for the performance.
If the performance is due today, he will go into default tomorrow, not before.
Q. That is the discussion we have been having this morning and in the earlier part of this afternoon.
The third point is: the creditor then needs to serve a warning notice or rely on one of the exceptions?
A. Yes, that's right.
Q. I want to start by looking at one of the exceptions --

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\section*{A. Yes.}
Q. -- serious and definitive refusal.
A. Yes. Definitely for refusal, yes. Number 3.
Q. Number 3, yes. As I understand it, the point for this exception, the reason why it is there, is because there is no point sending a warning notice to someone who has refused to perform.
A. (Interpreted) Yes, it is correct that it makes no sense sending a warning notice to someone who has definitively refused to perform.
Q. There is no point sending a warning notice if it would be an empty formality?
A. Yes.
Q. You agree with Professor Mülbert that there are strict requirements for a serious and definitive refusal?
A. (Interpreted) Severe conditions, I agree with Professor Mülbert, severe conditions have to be imposed on this, on such a refusal.
Q. I wanted to ask you about those requirements because there is not, if I may say, all that much detail on your report on them.

My first point is this: a serious and definitive refusal can be explicit or implicit?

Judge Fischer can I --
THE INTERPRETER: No, it is all right.
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A. (Interpreted) This depends on the circumstances.

Usually a definitive refusal of performance is explained to the other party and there could be other circumstances which would also have to be explained to the other party.
MR DICKER: Again, it may be that I was not clear enough, and if so, I apologise, but my question was not about whether the other party has to know, my question was about the form which the serious and definitive refusal had to take, and I was suggesting --
A. (Interpreted) Well, if you are just asking about the form and not about the person addressed, then I must say that there are no strict conditions as regards form.
Q. I was suggesting to you that the serious and definitive refusal can be explicit or implicit.

\section*{A. Yes. Explicit and implicit.}
Q. It may involve something that was said or it may depend on conduct of the defaulting party.
A. (Interpreted) The conduct may, can, constitute a definite refusal of performance. Whether this is the case depends on the individual case.
Q. Thank you.

Professor Mülbert's view is that it is not necessary for the non-defaulting party to know.
A. (Interpreted) I am of a different opinion, I think that Page 99
a refusal to perform can be either explicit or implicit in the actions of the -- in actions, so that the party can see. The other party must be capable of being aware that the party in default is in default and is refusing to perform.
Q. Can I give you an example that Professor Mülbert gave?
A. Yes.
Q. A seller agrees to sell a car, and he burns his car. He destroys it totally. Professor Mülbert's view, as I understand it, is that there would be no point sending a warning notice, that would just be an empty formality.
A. (Interpreted) May I ask, does the seller still owe the purchase price, or does the buyer, sorry, still owe the purchase price to the seller or what is the situation in this case?
Q. There is an agreement to sell. The seller agrees to sell his car, the buyer agrees to pay for it when he gets it, and the seller sets fire to his car.
A. (Interpreted) In my view, burning the car does not constitute a definitive refusal. This may have been done in a state of drunkenness or rage but it does not constitute an express refusal to perform, made known to the other party.
Q. Then, can I change the facts --
A. Yes.

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Q. -- very slightly?

The seller was not drunk, he just didn't want to transfer the car to the buyer. In that --
A. (Interpreted) Perhaps I didn't get it right. Has the seller not supplied the car and burnt it or has it been the purchaser who burnt it?
Q. No, it is the seller who burnt it.
A. (Interpreted) Yes, the seller has burnt the car which he is supposed to supply.
Q. Mr Fischer, I hesitate but I could see that --

THE INTERPRETER: No, it is all right.
A. (Interpreted) This still depends on the circumstances. If beforehand there have been big tensions between the parties, and the seller for a sensible reason decides not to supply the car, then it may be the case that there is a definitive refusal, it cannot be excluded but, basically, just burning a car does not constitute a definite refusal.

Well if the car is to be given or sold to a third person, and this is then going to be, becomes known to the purchaser, then I think it would constitute a definitive refusal.

Yes.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: My understanding of the essence of
your reply is that if what is relied on is implicit, or Page 101
a fact, or an event. To qualify, that event must be explicable exclusively by reference to a refusal to pay.
A. Yes.

MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: It must be the only reason, is what you have said.
A. Yes.

MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: So that in an extreme example that you gave of the drunk or lunatic, you are telling me that drunkenness or lunacy might be the explanation rather than a refusal to pay and therefore the event would not be entirely unequivocal, a refusal to pay. Is that what you are telling me?
A. Yes. Yes, I agree. Yes.

MR DICKER: Again, my question, I am afraid, was slightly different --
A. Yes.

MR DICKER: -- but I am grateful for his Lordship's clarification of that. My question was -- let me go back.

Whatever example you take, assume that it is intended as a serious and definitive refusal. Professor Mülbert gave the example of burning the car, assume the facts are sufficient. Professor Mülbert's view is that it is not necessary for the purchaser to know that the car has been burnt for there to be

Page 102
a serious and definitive refusal.
A. (Interpreted) I see that differently.

Well I see this differently, because if there are no additional circumstances which indicate without doubt that they are intended to constitute a definitive and serious refusal, that should be then expressed.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Can I ask this, does the act have to be communicated or evident to the other party?
A. (Interpreted) The act does not have to be precisely, directly communicated to the other party but the act has to be done in such a way that the other party is made aware of it.
MR DICKER: Could you just turn up bundle, I think it is in bundle 2, tab 70.

Just to show you one point that my learned friend showed to Professor Mülbert, it is paragraph B94.
A. 94 ?
Q. 94, yes.
A. Yes.
Q. Where the author says in English:
"The refusal to perform can be implied and be concluded from external circumstances. The debtor sells the merchandise to be delivered to a third party."

There is no reference there to the third party having to be aware or capable of being aware of the fact Page 103
the merchandise has been sold elsewhere.
MR ALLISON: My Lord, just for clarification I think
I actually showed Professor Mülbert 93 and 95, I think Mr Dicker took him to 94 during re-examination.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: That does accord with my note, yes. MR DICKER: I stand corrected.
A. (Interpreted) What it says in \(\mathbf{9 4}\) is that the refusal to perform can be implied and can be concluded from external circumstances.

The debtor sells the merchandise to be delivered to a third party. That is seen as a possible fact but not a mandatory, obligatory fact.

Then it goes on to say:
"But under circumstances, a self help sale can be intended with which the seller remains under contract."

That is exactly what I wanted to say, that it depends on the circumstances, and that is whether a final refusal is known to the other party. It must be acknowledgeable, or recognisable without doubt by the parties that that has been the case.
Q. Professor Mülbert refers to a serious and definitive refusal as a real act. By which I understand him to mean that it doesn't require a declaration of intent or a quasi declaration of intent. Do you agree with Professor Mülbert?

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A. (Interpreted) I agree with Professor Mülbert that there
is no -- it does not need a declaration of intent. It
can also constitute a definitive refusal by a particular
act.
Q.Thank you.
A slightly different possibility. Assume that the
debtor made a generally available public statement that
he did not intend to perform.
A. (Interpreted) Well I think this is very theoretical but,
if so, if I assume that if that statement has been made
in public, that then the other party should also have
been able to have knowledge of it.
Q. In order to amount to a serious and definitive refusal,
it said it must amount to the debtor's last word, final word. As I understand it, what that means is that it cannot just be a negotiating stance, for example, on the part of the debtor.
A. (Interpreted) Pure negotiations, even contradictory negotiations, do not suffice. It has to be expressed very clearly that this is viewed as a definitive and final.
Q. One question about the timing of a serious and definitive refusal. It is possible for the serious and definitive refusal to occur either when the relevant claim falls due --

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A. Yes, that is possible.
Q. -- or after the relevant claim falls due?
A. (Interpreted) A final refusal can occur, either after the claim becomes due or before, but the important thing is that the effects only occur after a claim is due. (Not interpreted) When the claim is due.
Q. If the serious and definitive refusal occurs before the claim becomes due, it only takes effect when the claim becomes due? There is only a default when the claim becomes due?
A. Yes.
(Interpreted) But there too one has to say that the default only occurs a day after the due date.
Q. I want to ask you about another example, this one slightly less hypothetical. I want to ask you about the effect of LBIE's application for an administration order.
A. The administration?
Q. Can I ask you to turn up bundle 1 --
A. Yes.
Q. -- and at tab 1 --
A. Bundle 1?
Q. Bundle 1, tab 1.

It is not of the authorities bundle, we have
bundle 1, tab 1 of the trial bundles, yes?
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THE INTERPRETER: That is not the right one. Okay. It is only this one here?
A. Administration, yes, okay.

MR DICKER: It is a very short document, for something which had such big consequences.

Paragraph 1 says it is an application of
Peter Robert Sherratt, and various other individuals, they are the directors of LBIE.
A. Yes.
Q. If you go over the page to paragraph 7 it says that:
"The applicants believe that the company is or is likely to become unable to pay its debts for the reasons stated in the witness statement in support attached to this application."

You will see in paragraph 9 it says, "A witness statement in support of this application is attached".
A. Yes.
Q. I would like to show you the witness statement that is referred to, it is in bundle 2(1), but before you turn to it.

My Lord, this was a document which as I understand it, was at least at one stage opposed for inclusion by my learned friend's solicitors. I don't know whether they maintain that opposition. My bundle still includes a piece of paper saying, "The fourth respondent does not Page 107 agree to its inclusion".
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: What is the position on this?
MR ALLISON: My Lord, no, we were just trying to ascertain for what purpose it was going to be used. There is no objection --
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: At one moment there was a dispute as to the difference between the processes in Germany and England, but --
MR ALLISON: Indeed, as to how far and wide the enquiry may be.

MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: -- it is not really being relied on for that purpose?
MR ALLISON: Precisely, my Lord.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Is that right?
MR DICKER: That's correct.
All I was proposing to do, Judge Fischer, is show
you some passages from the witness statement.
A. Yes.
Q. It is in bundle 2, tab 1 of the trial bundles.
A. Yes, Robert Sherratt, yes, okay.
Q. What I want to do is just show you some passages and then at the end of it I want to ask you whether, in your view, this was sufficient to amount to a serious and definitive refusal, and if not why.
A. Yes.

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Q. Can we start with the witness statement.
A. Yes.
Q. Doing it as quickly as I can, paragraph 1.1, Mr Sherratt
says:
"I am a vice chairman of Lehman Brothers, my role is
chief legal office in Europe and Asia, I am a director
of Lehman Brothers International Europe."

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    A. Okay.
    Q. He says in 1.2, in the second sentence, that he is
        authorised by the board of directors of the company,
        that is LBIE, to make this statement.
    A. Yes.
    Q. In 1.2.3, on the next page --
    A. Yes?
    Q. -- he attaches a true copy of a resolution of the board
        of directors to apply for an administration order.
    A. Yes.
    Q. We have the board of directors of LBIE saying they want
        an administration order --
    A. Yes.
    Q. -- and Mr Sherratt swears the witness statement in
        support.
    A. Yes.
    Q. At 1.4 he describes the source of his knowledge --
    A. Source of knowledge, yes.
    Page 109
    Q. -- and he says:
        "I make this statement from facts and matters within
        my own knowledge, where information has been obtained
        from elsewhere I specify the source."
        Then he says:
        "The financial information contained in this
        statement has been confirmed to me by
        PriceWaterhouseCoopers, who have in turn obtained that
        information from employees of the companies. In each of
        these cases I believe the facts to be true."
    A. Yes.
    Q. Then in paragraph 2 he says the matter is "Urgent", and
        the last five lines he says:
            "In particular, in circumstances where further
        funding will not be provided from the United States, as
        described further below, and bearing in mind the opening
        of markets in which the administration companies
        operate, the administration companies need to enter into
        an insolvency process as a matter of urgency."
    A. Yes.
    Q. Then 3.4 he says he is going to set out the background
        to the group's difficulties and the --
    A. Yes.
    Q. -- company's financial position in paragraphs 6 and 7
        below.
                Page 110
A. Yes.
Q. If you go on to paragraph 6, there is a heading
"Background to current difficulties".

\section*{A. Yes.}
Q. Then \(6.5,6.6\) and 6.7 are the relevant paragraphs.

At the end of 6.5 he says:
"The companies within the group are reliant upon receipt of cash from LBHI each day to enable it to make any payments."

So before LBIE can make any payments it needs cash from LBHI.

In 6.6 he says:
"It is estimated that LBIE requires some 800 million in cash over the next 24 hours in order to settle payments contractually due to other financial institutions."

Then he says in 6.7:
"My understanding is that LBHI is no longer in a position to and will not provide any further cash to any of the group companies and is preparing to file for chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in the United States. Accordingly the company and indeed the other companies within the European group which are reliant upon guarantees and ongoing funding from the United States, cannot continue to trade."

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A. Yes.
Q. Then, finally, paragraph 7, over the page. In 7.1 he sets out a summary balance sheet, in 7.2 he says:
"LBIE had a positive cash position as at
31 August 2008."
Then he says:
"The excess after deduction of client monies is currently negligible."

In other words, if you put aside money held on trust for clients, LBIE has negligible cash, so little or no cash, yes?
A. Yes.
Q. Then, 7.4:
"Based on the above information, I am of the belief that notwithstanding its summary balance sheet, as set out above, in light of the cash requirements over the next 24 hours, the company is unable to pay its debts within the meaning given to that expression in section 123 of the English Insolvency Act 1986."

What Mr Sherratt was saying in essence was that LBIE was unable to trade. It needed money from its parent company and it had been told that that money would not be coming and it had no alternative but to go into administration.
A. Yes.
Q. The final piece of the jigsaw, before I ask you my questions, is this: making an application for an administration order in relation to a company like LBIE is bound to have further consequences?
A. Of course, hmm.
Q. Any German master agreement will be automatically terminated?
A. Yes.
Q. It is likely that other agreements will also terminate, and the consequence of making the administration application is likely to accelerate a lot of other liabilities?
A. Yes.
Q. Once you make the application for an administration order, effectively there is no turning back?
A. Okay, yes.
Q. Against that background, can I ask you first about the express statements made by Mr Sherratt.

Mr Sherratt, I would suggest, was saying very clearly that LBIE would not be performing its obligations. That that was not a negotiating stance, it was LBIE's final word. And those statements were made in a witness statement to court on a public application.

If Mr Sherratt had said that, all those things, to an individual creditor, would that have amounted to Page 113
a serious and definitive refusal in your view?
A. (Interpreted) An unconditional serious and definitive refusal, not necessarily, because it expresses not being able to, not not intending to -- not wanting to. He expresses only that LBIE at the time cannot fulfill its obligations but this is not necessarily definitive. It expresses no that he is incapable of paying but if one looks further ahead, with a further sight ahead, in my view that is still not even sufficient because he only says, they cannot pay but not that are not wanting to, or wishing to or have no intention to pay.
Q. Objectively he is saying that LBIE will not perform its obligations.
A. (Interpreted) This is correct, but factually it is a fact that in perhaps not all but most insolvency cases, it is a declaration is made that they cannot fulfill, they cannot fulfill their obligations, meet their obligations.
Q. Just take it in stages, focusing just on what

Mr Sherratt was saying, and imagine he said it to a creditor.
A. To?
Q. To a creditor.

What Mr Sherratt was saying was, "I am not going to
Page 114
perform, I can't perform".
A. (Interpreted) Taking account of what appears in the literature and in the case law for a definitive refusal to perform, which is subject to very strict conditions, it is not sufficient to say, "I am not in a position, I cannot pay", one has to say, "I do not wish to pay, I do not want to pay".

In practice there are many cases where one party says I cannot no longer pay. There is practically no case when this constitutes a definitive refusal within the meaning of 286(2), sentence 3 .

Particularly not if this concerns a group, a number of cases and not an individual case. As an insolvency petitioner, I would know if any such insolvency application would have been assumed to be in refusal according to article 286 BGB, 286(2)(3). In my view this has not occurred.
Q. I understand we are back to insolvency but just continue to park that for a moment.

\section*{A. Okay.}

MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I hesitate to interrupt, and in any event we are coming to the end of the witching hour. What I am a little bit concerned about is in two aspects and I would like you to consider this.

First of all I think it is important to keep to the Page 115
words that were actually used, and not to gloss them.
The second is, I am a little bit worried that,
inevitably people look at things said in insolvency
context according to their perception of the insolvency
purpose or the procedure's purpose and the result. What
I am a bit worried about is it may be difficult to get
an answer which is helpful to me in those circumstances.
MR DICKER: My Lord, I am conscious of your Lordship's second point.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes.
MR DICKER: There are plainly potential differences between policies underlying German insolvency law and English administration and those may in turn feed through to different treatments of different things.
My Lord, I was going to come to that.
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes. You see I think you might want
in order to get a more reliable answer, to have
referred, amongst other things to paragraph 8.1.
MR DICKER: Taking up --
MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: In any event, it might be something
you want to take up under advisement. If you are asking
me to as it were accept from this witness an answer
whether this is a compliant 286 refusal, I think I would
be wary without him knowing the entire context.
MR DICKER: Just so your Lordship is aware, that is not the Page 116
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline 1 & exercise I am currently engaged on. The exercise I am & 1 & a bit longer and you will have to burn the midnight oil \\
\hline 2 & currently engaged on is essentially trying to test how & 2 & but that will then give you Tuesday and Wednesday. \\
\hline 3 & serious and definitive refusal operates in practice. & 3 & I think you think that it will not take that long but \\
\hline 4 & Taking this essentially as a rather less hypothetical & 4 & just so that we don't have sudden surprises, I thought \\
\hline 5 & example. & 5 & it best really to reserve you the Wednesday. \\
\hline 6 & MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: That I understand, but the & 6 & MR DICKER: My Lord I spoke to my learned friend. Both of \\
\hline 7 & hypothetical may assume more than one is fully -- & 7 & us are as confident as it is probably wise for us to be \\
\hline 8 & MR DICKER: My Lord, I understand that. I wonder, given the & 8 & that that should be sufficient time. \\
\hline 9 & time, if I can just ask Judge Fischer perhaps two & 9 & MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Good. \\
\hline 10 & further questions. & 10 & MR ALLISON: My Lord, yes. \\
\hline 11 & The first is this. If a debtor comes to a creditor & 11 & MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Yes. \\
\hline 12 & and says, "These are the facts, I am not going to & 12 & You probably are very well aware of the rules that \\
\hline 13 & perform, I wish it had not come to this but I am not & 13 & you are not to speak about this to anyone and you are to \\
\hline 14 & going to perform", is that a serious and definitive & 14 & enjoy your weekend here. \\
\hline 15 & refusal? & 15 & A. Thank you very much, I will do so. \\
\hline 16 & A. (Interpreted) Actually, no, because he still says he & 16 & MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: We will meet again on Monday. \\
\hline 17 & cannot do it but not that he does not wish to do it. & 17 & (4.52 pm) \\
\hline 18 & The word "Refusal" -- "Verweigerung" in German -- & 18 & (The hearing adjourned until 10.30 am on Monday \\
\hline 19 & constitutes a declaration of intent. & 19 & 23 November 2015) \\
\hline 20 & Q. Not wishing to travel over old ground, but I thought in & 20 & \\
\hline 21 & an ear & 21 & \\
\hline 22 & Professor Mülbert that a serious and definitive refusal & 22 & \\
\hline 23 & was a real act and didn't require a declaration or & 23 & \\
\hline 24 & a quasi declaration? & 24 & \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{25} & A. (Interpreted) Even in a real act, to be assessed as such & 25 & \\
\hline & Page 117 & & Page 119 \\
\hline 1 & \multirow[t]{7}{*}{from this real act must be concluded an actual refusal. MR ALLISON: My Lord, if it helps, the answer is at page 106, 15 to 18 . He didn't just say "yes", there was a very clear answer in response to the real act point. MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: I will have a look at that. The page is where?} & 1 & I N D E X \\
\hline 2 & & 2 & \\
\hline & & 3 & Housekeeping ................................... 1 \\
\hline 3 & & 4 & Evidence of ..................................... 8 \\
\hline 4 & & & PROFESSOR PETER OTTO MÜLBERT \\
\hline 5 & & 5 & (continued) \\
\hline 6 & & 6 & Cross-examination by MR ALLISON \(\qquad\) (continued) \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{7} & MR ALLISON: It is 106 at lines 15 to 18 . & 7 & \\
\hline & MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Thank you. & & Re-examination by MR DICKER ................ 23 \\
\hline 9 & MR DICKER: My Lord, I am conscious of the time. & 8 & Questions from THE BENCH ................... 37 \\
\hline 10 & MR JUSTICE HILDYARD: Is that a very bad place to stop? & 9 & \\
\hline 11 & \multirow[t]{3}{*}{MR DICKER: No. I am sure for a variety of reasons, not least on this side, it would be a good time.} & & (The interpreter was sworn) ....................... 44 \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{12} & & 10 & \\
\hline & & 11 & JUDGE GERO FISCHER (sworn) ....................... 44 \\
\hline 14 & Can I mention this, that I believe there are in & & Examination in-chief by MR ALLISON .......... 44 \\
\hline 15 & place arrangements for the matter that I had on & 12 & \\
\hline 16 & Wednesday to be moved to Thursday. The purpose of & 13 & Cross-examination by MR DICKER .............. 47 \\
\hline 17 & telling you now is obvious, but it seems to me also that & 14 & \\
\hline 18 & given that we are proceeding into Monday with the & 15 & \\
\hline 19 & gin & 16 & \\
\hline 19 & evidence, that it is only fair to you all to have & 17 & \\
\hline 20 & a moment's consideration before replying. If you finish & 18 & \\
\hline 21 & at the short adjournment, well and good. You will have & 19 & \\
\hline 21 & at the short adjournment, well and good. You will have & 20 & \\
\hline 22 & a little bit more time and I will be in your hands & 21 & \\
\hline 23 & whether you want to start immediately or whether you & 22 & \\
\hline 24 & want a little time for reflection in the afternoon. & 23 & \\
\hline &  & 24 & \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{25} & If it goes on a bit longer, well then it goes on & 25 & \\
\hline & Page 118 & & Page 120 \\
\hline
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