

This paper describes two initiatives that are extending the boundaries of knowledge transfer in the field of commercial law. Both initiatives are concerned with 'legal incubators'[1,2], university-based entities that facilitate the provision of legal services to early-stage, technology start-ups and entrepreneurs by postgraduate law students.

The first of these two initiatives is 'qLegal', established by the Centre for Commercial Law Studies (CCLS) at Queen Mary, University of London (QMUL) in 2013. Located in close proximity to the flourishing Tech-City community, qLegal[3], provides legal and regulatory advisory services to early-stage, start-up companies, primarily in the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) sector. The main focus is on helping these companies to address a range of challenging, ICT-related legal issues associated with IP management, data protection and e-commerce.

The second initiative is 'iLINC', the European Network of legal incubators. This EU-funded FP7 'coordination and support' programme is building an open network of legal incubators that collectively support the provision of legal services to ICT start-ups and entrepreneurs throughout Europe. iLINC[4], is led by QMUL.