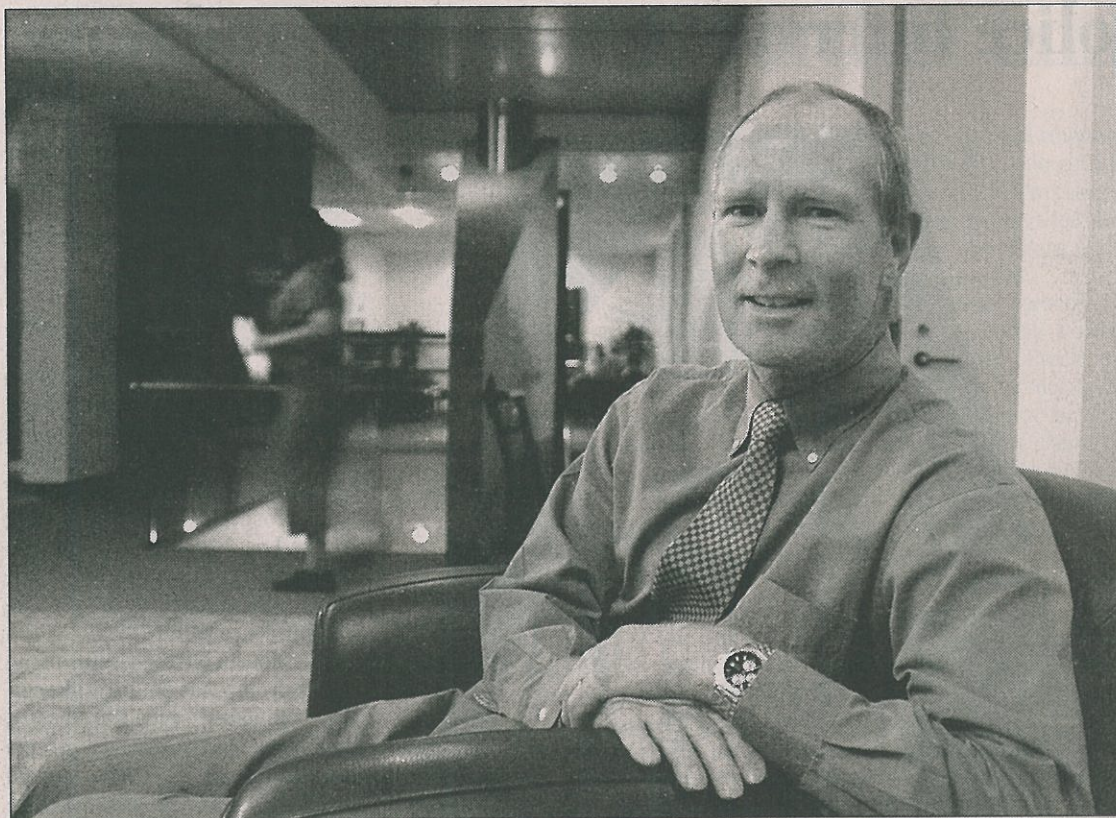


Industry Watch

SAN FRANCISCO DAILY JOURNAL • MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2006 • PAGE 7



XIANG XING ZHOU / Daily Journal

James Scadden has moved from Carroll Burdick to Gordon & Rees, where, he said, "they were able to generate the support I needed on two days' notice." He was able to jump right into a trial in Los Angeles.

Toxic-Torts Expert Lands at Gordon

By William-Arthur Haynes
Daily Journal Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Since joining Gordon & Rees, James G. Scadden hasn't had much of an opportunity to familiarize himself with his new office.

The former chair of Carroll Burdick & McDonough's toxic-tort group lateraled to Gordon & Rees in San Francisco in June. Two days later, he started a trial in Los Angeles Superior Court.

With the help of senior counsel Jeff Coons, Scadden and co-counsel John M. Fitzpatrick of LeClair Ryan won the asbestos-exposure case last week for his client, Foster Wheeler. *McNamara v. Foster Wheeler*, BC342803 (L.A. Super. Ct.).

Although he hasn't had much face time in San Francisco, he already feels more support for his environmental and toxic-torts practice than he did at Carroll Burdick.

"They were able to generate the support I needed on two days' notice," Scadden said.

Attorneys in the firm's San Diego office are working on one of his

trials scheduled to begin there in September, he said.

Scadden's practice emphasizes the defense of clients in diverse toxic-torts litigation. He said Gordon & Rees was a firm that has expanded recently "by leaps and bounds" and provided his practice with more capabilities than his former firm did.

"He's a rare breed, someone who's tried a lot of cases with great results," said Michael J. Pietrykowski, chair of Gordon & Rees' environmental and toxic-torts practice. "He shows up on a Monday, and he's in trial a couple days later."

Gordon & Rees is a 315-attorney firm with 13 U.S. locations, including five California offices.

Scadden joins an environmental and toxic-torts practice that totals 30 attorneys firmwide. Half are in the firm's 150-attorney San Francisco office.

Aside from a client list that includes Foster Wheeler, Actuant Corp. and Radiator Specialty Co., Scadden brings an associate and one paralegal with him from Carroll Burdick.

Pietrykowski said Scadden's

practice would benefit from an additional associate due to join Gordon & Rees from another firm in the coming weeks.

Angela M. Bradstreet, firmwide managing partner of Carroll Burdick, called Scadden a great guy and wished him luck at his new firm.

Bradstreet said Carroll Burdick's toxic-torts practice wouldn't be affected by Scadden's departure. Since his defection, the California firm, with 75 attorneys and four offices, has added two paralegals and two senior associates, increasing the toxic-torts practice to a total of 12 attorneys. Asbestos litigator James P. Cunningham has assumed the role of toxic-torts chairman, Bradstreet said.

Scadden began his legal career at Shield & Smith in 1979. In 1989, he came to San Francisco from Los Angeles to open an office for the firm.

When Shield & Smith dissolved in 1991, Scadden's group formed the insurance defense boutique Scadden, Hamilton & Ryan. In 2001, he joined Carroll Burdick as chair of its toxic-torts group.