

JAMS Inks New Partnership With Chinese Arbitration Forum

By **Christopher Crosby**

Law360 (October 24, 2018, 4:50 PM EDT) -- Arbitration and mediation provider JAMS said Wednesday that it's teaming up with the Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration to create a new panel to solve disputes between U.S. and Chinese companies, giving the internationally known arbitration brands a deeper roster of panelists to pull from for clients' high-value disputes.

The Sino-American panel will consist of subject-area experts from both China and the United States to connect the two major technology hubs, JAMS said in a press release.

"Bringing together neutrals from two of the leading [alternative dispute resolution] institutions in the world is the perfect solution for dispute resolution between the two leading economies," JAMS President and CEO Chris Poole said. "The formation of this new joint panel with SCIA underscores our commitment to delivering the best ADR solutions for our clients around the globe."

JAMS has nearly 400 panelists to call from already.

The move comes amid JAMS' decision to cater to international lawyers bringing international arbitration proceedings in the U.S. In July, the organization announced the opening of two new international centers in New York City and Los Angeles.

California, in particular, has been eyed as an important venue for technology disputes and is eyed as a potential hub for international arbitration proceedings after lawmakers there passed legislation making it possible for out-of-state and foreign attorneys to present and defend cases in California forums.

SCIA President Liu Xiaochun said the panel will help promote a "fair, professional and efficient dispute resolution mechanism which provides mutual trust to both Chinese and American parties," and create a business environment for companies to flourish.

Expensive intellectual property and patent disputes between tech giants have stolen headlines and come amid heightened competition between arbitration centers worldwide.

It isn't the first time JAMS has partnered with a well-known forum to bolster its bench of arbitrators and mediators. In 2016, the dispute resolution services provider announced a deal with the Shanghai Commercial Mediation Center to help Chinese and foreign companies settle their disputes in fields including real estate, trade, investment, intellectual property and insurance.

--Additional reporting by Sophia Morris and Jack Newsham. Editing by Michael Watanabe.