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Areas of Focus

- Corporate
- Corporate Governance
- Cannabis Law
- Business Disruption Strategies
- Business Litigation
- Emerging Companies
- ESG & Sustainable Business
- Family Office Services
- Intellectual Property
- Nonprofit Law
- Technology



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Jonathan S. Storper

Partner

Jonathan is a seasoned corporate transactions attorney and Partner at Hanson Bridgett LLP. He has held a number of leadership positions at the firm including serving as the chair of the Business Department, the leader of the Corporate Practice Group and the founder and leader of the Sustainable Business Practice Group. With a distinguished track record advising boards and executive teams, Jonathan brings deep expertise in governance, strategic growth, and mission-aligned business models.

He has served on multiple Boards of Directors and was honored as a California Attorney of the Year for his pioneering leadership in drafting and championing California's benefit corporation legislation—the first legal framework in the U.S. to embed social and environmental accountability into corporate governance. This legislation has since been adopted in 36 states and several countries.

Jonathan advises both for-profit and nonprofit organizations on corporate and other strategic transactions, governance, fiduciary duties, and intellectual property matters. His practice spans entity formation, financing, mergers and acquisitions, commercial contracts and licensing, e-commerce, and technology law, and other business related work. He is also a recognized California Super Lawyer and a trusted advisor to directors and trustees navigating complex legal and strategic decisions.

A passionate advocate for a more just and sustainable economy, Jonathan chaired the legal working group that developed California's benefit corporation law and

helped position Hanson Bridgett as the first law firm to become a certified B Corporation. A recognized leader in Corporate and M&A, he was named to the Legal 500's Inaugural US City Elite ranking. Under his leadership, the firm earned the Real Leaders Top 100 Impact Companies Award, and Jonathan has been repeatedly named to the MO 100 Top Impact CEO list. See <http://benefitcorp.net/> and <http://www.bcorporation.net> for more information about benefit corporations.

Representative Work

Represented Pacific Community Ventures in its acquisition of Radiant Data, a technology and AI platform company

Advised MM Acquisition Co in a California-based asset sale to DionyMed Brands, Inc.

Represented Project Cannabis, a vertically integrated cannabis company, in \$69 million sale to a public Canadian company.

Represented California-based resort hospitality company in multimillion-dollar sale of multijurisdictional resort operating business.

Represented resort hospitality concession company in multimillion-dollar sale of multistate business operations.

Represented an international e-commerce company in a complex, multimillion-dollar purchase of an international marketing and information services company.

Represented a multinational environmental engineering firm in a complex, multimillion-dollar purchase of an international engineering and consulting firm focused on coastal, waterfront, and water resources projects.

Represented Alliant International University in its transition from a nonprofit to a venture-backed, for-profit **benefit corporation**.

Counsel to the majority shareholder founder in the \$158 million acquisition of Zep Solar by Solar City.

Represented parent in a venture capital financed spin out from parent of multi-patented SaaS based water safety monitoring technology platform into a two-tiered corporate structure (Delaware LLC parent with a Delaware corporate subsidiary) with multiple ongoing post-closing commercial arrangements between parent investor and new companies.

Represented target in a venture capital financed acquisition of New Leaf Community Markets by New Seasons Market, the first B corporation to B corporation merger.

Acted as investment counsel to SJF Ventures, a high impact venture capital fund focused on resource efficiency, sustainability and technology-enhanced services sectors.

Represented Oracle Team USA as outside chief corporate counsel in connection with the 34th America's Cup.

Represented target in a merger between Software AG, a German public company and Longjump, a software company focused on cloud, mobile, social collaboration and big data.

Represented Sony Computer Entertainment negotiating multi-million dollar commercial transaction with AT&T to bring 3G service to PlayStation portable gaming device.

Represented America's Cup Event Authority negotiating various multi-million dollar e-commerce, licensing, and media sponsorship transactions in connection with the 34th America's Cup.

Represented joint venture technology company negotiating and drafting complex, strategic, high-growth technology joint ventures with AT&T, Cisco, and Hewlett-Packard.

Represented issuer in a \$175,000,000 New York Stock Exchange initial public offering and secondary offerings (NYSE: ARC).

Represented borrower in a \$220,000,000 senior secured high yield debt offering.

Represented taxpayer in a nine month negotiation with IRS for offer in compromise on tax settlement of 3.5 cents on the dollar.

Publications

“Ninth Circuit Stays Enforcement of SB 261, California’s Climate-Related Financial Risk Act but Refuses to Stay SB 253, the Climate Corporate Data Accountability Act,” author, Corporate Legal Alert (November 2025)

“New Corporate Transparency Act Filing Deadline Looms,” co-author, Corporate Legal Alert (February 2025)

“January 1, 2025 Corporate Transparency Act Filing Deadline Reinstated by 5th Circuit,” author, Corporate Legal Alert (December 2024)

“Court Blocks Enforcement of Corporate Transparency Act as Filing Deadline Draws Near,” author, Corporate Legal Alert (December 2024)

“California Modifies its Climate Disclosure Rules,” co-author, Corporate Legal Alert (November 2024)

“California’s Climate Laws: Navigating The New Business Landscape (Part 2),” Greenplaces (October 2024)

“California’s Climate Regulations: A Model for the Nation (Part 1),” Greenplaces (September 2024)

“Corporate Transparency Act Reporting Information and Deadlines,” Corporate Legal Alert (September 2024)

“FinCEN’s New Corporate Transparency Act Guidance: Is Your Company Still Required to Report?,” Corporate Legal Alert (July 2024)

“California’s ‘Hidden Fees Statute’ Goes into Effect on July 1, 2024,” Corporate Legal Alert (June 2024)

“California Senate Passes New Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Bill,” Corporate Legal Alert (June 2024)

“Uncertainty Surrounds CTA — for Accountants and Small Biz,” *accountingToday* (April 2024)

“New Laws in 2024,” *Sensiba LLP’s Rebooting Capitalism Podcast* (February 2024)

“Corporate Transparency Act: Is Your Company Exempt From Reporting?,” co-author, Corporate Legal Alert (February 2024)

“Understanding the Corporate Transparency Act: What you need to know before this goes into effect on January 1, 2024,” *USLAW Short Takes* (December 2023)

“California Law Nudges Businesses to Report Sustainability Efforts,” *Bloomberg Law* (December 2023)

“Understanding The Corporate Transparency Act,” co-author, Corporate Legal Alert (December 2023)

“California Passes New Landmark Carbon Emission Reporting Laws,” *USLAW Short Takes* (November 2023)

“California Governor Signs Two Ground Breaking Climate-Related Laws,” Sustainable Business and Impact Investing Legal Alert (October 2023)

“California Passes New Landmark Carbon Emission Reporting Laws,” Sustainable Business and Impact Investing Legal Alert (September 2023)

“As More Opportunity Arises in the Cannabis Industry, Potential Business Pitfalls Also Increase,” *Cannabis Industry Journal* (September 2022)

“What’s the Difference Between a B Corp and a Benefit Corporation?,” *SOCAP Global* (April 2021)

“B Corp Makes Good Business Sense,” *Benefit Corporations Article* (March 2021)

“COVID-19 Legislation: New Paycheck Protection Program Loan Rules Allow Second Round Funding and Deductibility of Expenses Paid with Forgivable Loan Proceeds,” Business Disruption Strategies Law Alert (January 2021)

“More Flexibility for PPP Loans Under New Legislation,” Business Disruption Strategies Law Alert (June 2020)

“Governor’s Office Designates Cannabis an Essential Business,” Cannabis Law Alert (March 2020)

“Shelter-in-Place Implications for Cannabis Dispensaries,” Cannabis Law Alert (March 2020)

“Four Weeks to California Consumer Privacy Act: Are You Ready?,” Corporate Law Alert (December 2019)

“2019 New California Laws Impacting Cannabis Businesses,” Cannabis Law Alert (October 2019)

“Good Tax News for the Cannabis Industry: California Repeals 280E limitation for Personal Income Tax,” Cannabis Law Alert (October 2019)

“Cannabis Public Event Sales: Licensing and Legal Considerations,” *Cannabis Business Executive* (September 2019)

“California Supreme Court Potentially Slows Down the Expansion of the Legal Cannabis Market,” Cannabis Law Alert (August 2019)

“Bureau of Cannabis Control Publishes New Distributor Fact Sheets,” Cannabis Law Alert (August 2019)

“California Passes the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018,” Corporate Law Alert (July 2018)

“Being A Public-Benefit Corporation In California, Delaware,” *Law360* (November 2017)

“The Reporting Requirements for California and Delaware For-Profit Benefit Corporations,” Benefit Corporations Law Alert (September 2017)

“Hanson Bridgett Recertifies as B Corporation for Fifth Consecutive Term,” Sustainable Business & Impact Investing Law Alert (June 2017)

“First For Profit Benefit Corporation Goes Public,” Sustainable Business & Impact Investing Law Alert (February 2017)

“California Benefit Corporations on *Fast Company*’s 20 Defining ‘Moments that Matter’ List,” Sustainable Business & Impact Investing Law Alert (December 2015)

“Is Benefit Corporation Legislation Really Necessary?” *Conscious Company Magazine* (Fall 2015)

“Ask A Tech Attorney: What recent changes has the FTC made to the rules governing consumer product warranties?” *SF.Citi Newsletter* (August 2015)

“FTC Completes Review of Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act,” Technology Law Alert (August 2015)

“Developments in Cyber Security and Privacy Law Continue to Affect Technology Companies,” Technology Law Alert (July 2015)

“Delaware Makes It Easier to Become a Benefit Corporation,” Benefit Corporations Law Alert (June 2015)

“B Corp vs. Benefit Corporation – Do You Know the Difference?” *Conscious Company Magazine* (Spring 2015)

“Meet the for-profit benefit,” *The Daily Journal* (January 2015)

“Benefit Corporation Laws: Delaware vs. California,” *TriplePundit* (January 2015)

“Venture Greenhouse 2.0 Now Accepting Applications!” Sustainable Business & Impact Investing Law Alert (May 2014)

“Benefit Corporations,” *California Lawyer* (January 2014)

“New Legal Requirements For Website Privacy Policies Beginning January 1, 2014,” Corporate Law Alert (October 2013)

“Benefit Corporation Laws: Del. vs. Calif.,” *Law360* (August 2013)

“Delaware Public Benefit Corporations Bring Social Purpose,” *Business Ethics Magazine* (August 2013)

“Benefit Corporations – A Board Primer,” *Boardroom INSIDER* (August 2013)

“New Corporate form in Delaware,” *Daily Journal* (July 2013)

“Money from the Masses,” Corporate Law Alert (July 2012)

“Will California businesses go to Patagonia?” *North Bay Business Journal* (February 2012)

“Benefit Corporation Legislation: A New Corporate Form for Impact Investors,” Corporate Law Alert (April 2011)

“Greenwashing into the Red: The New Risks of Deceptive Environmental Marketing,” *Sustainable Life Media* (August 2010)

“Climate Change: SEC Issues Guidance on Disclosure,” *Business Brief* (March 2010)

“California Greenin’: CBSA Creates New Building Requirements to Decrease Global Warming Emissions,” *The Registry* (November 2008)

“Potential legal pitfalls to going ‘green’,” *Sustainable Industries* (November 2008)

“The Race to Go Green: Potential Legal Pitfalls,” *Business Brief* (October 2008)

“E-Mail Requirements Altered by FTC’s Final Rule of May 2008,” *Technology & Intellectual Property Snapshots* (July 2008)

“California’s New Green Building Standards,” *Business Brief* (Summer 2008)

“Sign on the Dotted Line,” *Technology & Intellectual Property Snapshots* (2001)

Presentations

“Tools for developing your Responsible Lobbying Policy: Demystifying GACA 1,” B Local Bay Area Conference (October 2025)

“Purpose-Driven Leadership,” 1BusinessWorld (September 2025)

“Intricacies of Restrictive Covenants and Non-Compete Agreements,” USLAW Fall 2024 Client Conference (September 2024)

“Strategically Grow Your Financial Resources,” Armanino / Silver Oak Winery Wealth Management and Succession Planning Presentation (September 2024)

“Corporate Transparency Act,” USLAW NETWORK Cross-Border Exchange (April 2024)

“Quick Start Marketing Guide,” CEB Contributor (April 2024)

“Carbon Accounting, Net-Zero Reporting Webinar,” LNB Accounting Webinar (February 2024)

“ESG Challenges for Business Today in the USA,” TELFA Annual Meeting (June 2023)

“U.S. & Canada B Corp 101 for B Corps,” co-presenter, B Corporation (May 2023)

“Crash Course in the New California Consumer Privacy Act,” USLAW NETWORK Worldwide Virtual Retreat: General Business Home Field Advantage (October 2020)

“Business is Disrupted: Shifting Valuation: Down-rounds and Underwater Options,” Hanson Bridgett Business Disruption Strategies Webinar (June 2020)

“Business is Disrupted: Navigating through the Straits of COVID-19: Preserving Liquidity, Restructuring Your Balance Sheet & Surviving,” Hanson Bridgett Business Disruption Strategies Webinar (May 2020)

“Cannabis & Impact,” SVC Fall Conference (November 2019)

“Terms Sheets and Convertible Notes: Structuring the Deal,” Founder Institute Los Angeles (May 2019)

“Social Enterprise Law,” HBLI Spring Symposium (February 2019)

“Legal Overview: Business Entity Formation and Funding for Startups,” Aging 2.0 (September 2018)

“Mergers and Acquisitions,” USLAW Fall Conference (September 2018)

“How Sustainable Business Certifications Add Value to Businesses and the World Alike,” 2017 Sustainable Enterprise Conference Marin Panel (October 2017)

“Benefit Corporations,” B Corporation Retreat (October 2017)

“Fin Tech,” USLAW Cross Border Exchange (September 2017)

“Structuring Start-ups,” USLAW Fall Client Conference (September 2017)

“B Corps – Business Model of the Future?” North Bay Leadership Council Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting (June 2017)

“Legal Office Hours,” Tumml’s Urban Insights: Raising Your Seed Round Workshop (February 2016)

“Impact Exit Celebration,” Investors’ Circle (December 2015)

“Structuring Investment Rounds in Silicon Valley,” Aging2.0 AgeTech Expo (November 2015)

“Benefiting the Bottom Line: Conscious Culture, Mindfulness & Innovative Employee Benefits,” Conscious Capitalism Bay Area (September 2015)

“Innovation Agenda Setting Roundtable,” Global Innovation Summit (June 2015)

“Discussion of B Corps & Benefit Corporations,” Sustainatopia (May 2015)

“The Mainstreaming Impact Investing,” Sustainatopia (May 2015)

“Benefit Corporations in Higher Education: A new way to support the mission,” Western Association of Schools and Colleges (April 2015)

“Multi-Sector Partnerships: Catalyzing Social Value,” The Center for Socially Responsible Business Annual Conference (March 2015)

“When It Comes to Policy, If You’re Not at the Table, You’re on the Menu,” American Sustainable Business Council Reception (October 2014)

“2014 Socially Responsible Business Career Panel,” Mills College (April 2014)

“The New Financial Landscape: Conscious Investors, Investments, and Philanthropy,” Sustainable Business Leadership Forum (April 2014)

“Corporate Form (Part II),” University of San Francisco, MBA Social Entrepreneur course (March 2014)

“Benefit Corporations,” Alliant International University & Faculty Senate (February 2014)

“Benefit Corporations: A New Hybrid Corporation Form for Social Entrepreneurs,” The Business, Commercial and Bankruptcy Section of the Barristers Club (July 2013)

“Social Entrepreneurship: Legal and Business Issues,” University of San Francisco, School of Management (June 2013)

“Term Sheets and Convertible Notes: Structuring the Deal,” Investors’ Circle Spring 2013 Venture Fair and Forum (May 2013)

“Power of Angel Investing,” Investors’ Circle Spring 2013 Venture Fair and Forum (May 2013)

“Social Enterprises,” panelist, U.C. Berkeley School of Law (April 2013)

“Benefit Corporations – A New Model for Sustainable Capitalism,” Alameda County Bar Association (April 2013)

“Careers in Business Law,” U.C. Hastings Law School Business Law Section (February 2013)

“Incorporating Change: How Social Benefit Legislation is Reshaping the Corporate Outlook,” U.C. Berkeley Haas School of Business (November 2012)

“The Case for B Corp Certification and Benefit Corporations,” Green Festival: A Project of Green America & Global Exchange (November 2012)

“Incorporating Change: How Social Benefit Legislation is Reshaping the Corporate Outlook,” U.C. Hastings Legal Symposium (October 2012)

“Explore How This New Model Works & Its Positive Impact On Your Business,” Green Chamber of Commerce, North Bay Benefit Corp Forum (August 2012)

“Benefit Corporation: The New Kid on the Block,” Bar Association of San Francisco, Business Law Section (July 2012)

“Benefit Corporations: A New Model for Sustainable Capitalism,” North Bay Chapter of the California Society of Enrolled Agents (May 2012)

“How Benefit Corporations Support the Development of the Sustainable Enterprise Movement,” Sustainable Enterprise Conference (May 2012)

“Benefit Corporations: A New Model For Sustainable Capitalism,” Contemplative Leadership and Sustainability Program at Santa Clara University (May 2012)

“The Benefit Corp Revolution: What it Means for Businesses, Non-Profits and You,” Hanson Bridgett & Full Circle Fund Seminar (February 2012)

“SF Small Business Commission & Small Business California – B Corp & Benefit Corp,” Hub San Francisco (February 2012)

“Building a Just and Sustainable Local Economy,” Progressive Opportunities Conference (February 2012)

“Benefit Corporations: A New Model for Sustainable Capitalism,” Practicing Law Institute (February 2012)

“A Whole New World: California’s Benefit Corporation Law,” The North Bay Innovation Hub – Business Essentials Series (January 2012)

“Benefit Corporations: A New Corporation For A New Economy,” North Bay Green Technology Investment Showcase (October 2011)

“Understanding the Benefit Corporation,” Bar Association of San Francisco (May 2011)

“Behind the Scenes with B2B B Corporations: Building the vision and infrastructure to shape, support and scale the sustainable business economy,” Sustainable Enterprise Conference (May 2011)

“Term Sheets and Convertible Notes - Structuring the Deal,” Plug and Play Tech Center (November 2010, March 2011)

“Trade Secrets and Trademarks for Foreign Companies Doing Business in Silicon Valley,” Plug and Play Tech Center (October 2010)

“Term Sheets and Structuring the Deal,” Investors’ Circle (November 2009)

“Power of Angel Investing,” Investors’ Circle (November 2009)

“How to Raise Money for Your Business,” MoneyFest (November 2009)

“Implementing Sustainability Initiatives,” San Francisco Chamber of Commerce (October 2009)

“Structuring Social Enterprises,” Bay Area Hub (October 2009)

“Preparing Your Company for Investment,” B Corporation West Coast Forum (September 2009)

“New Corporate Structures,” Social Capital Markets (September 2009)

“Preserving Brand Equity When Acquiring a Sustainable Business,” Sustainable Brands Conference (June 2009)

“Implementing Sustainability Initiatives,” Sustainable Enterprise Conference (May 2009)

“Corporate Social Responsibility and Good Corporate Governance: Is There Room for Both?”
Association of Corporate Counsel, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter (April 2008)

“Green Laws Affecting the Computer Industry Across 3 Continents,” Storage Networking Industry Association

“Legal Due Diligence for Emerging Growth Companies,” University of San Francisco’s MBA Program podcast

“Outsourcing/Offshoring – The Good, The Bad, The Reality,” SofTECH General Meeting

“Digital Rights vs. Digital Restrictions,” SofTECH General Meeting

Press

“OpenAI CEO Says Company Could Become Benefit Corporation Akin to Rivals Anthropic, xAI,”
The Information (June 2024)

“Musk’s xAI Incorporates as Benefit Corporation With ‘Positive Impact’ Goal,” *The Information* (December 2023)

”Table of Experts: How to Embrace Sustainability Practices in an Evolving Regulatory Environment,” *San Francisco Business Times* (September 2022)

”Episode #41 — Benefit Corporations with Jonathan Storper,” *Sensiba San Filippo / Rebooting Capitalism* (July 2022)

“Cannabis Law Attorneys Stay Busy to Keep Pace with Industry Growth,” *Of Counsel* (April 2022)

”Hanson Bridgett gets 6th B Corp certification,” *Daily Journal* (April 2022)

”Longtime Marin County Cannabis Advocate Looks Back on Legacy of California Legalization,” *North Bay Business Times* (November 2021)

”Columbia Care Acquires California’s Project Cannabis,” *Cannabis Business Times* (December 2020)

”Higher Law: Who Got the Work,” *Law.com* (December 2020)

”R&D Tax Credit: A Viable Option to Reduce Tax Burdens?,” *Cannabis Business Times* (December 2020)

”What You Need To Know About Investing In Marijuana With A Biden-Harris Win,” *The Fresh Toast* (November 2020)

”Six Months After Legalization, Canada’s Cannabis Edibles Market is Stalled: ‘We’re Just at the Beginning of Professionalizing this Industry,’ *Beverage Daily* (April 2020)

”Publicly Traded Canadian Producers Are Fueling M&A Growth in the U.S.,” *Cannabis Business Times* (September 2019)

”DionyMed Acquires California Cannabis Company Through REIT Transaction,” *Cannabis Dispensary* (August 2019)

”Mark Zuckerberg May Finally Be Doing Philanthropy The Right Way,” *Huffpost Business* (December 2015)

”Eased Capital-Raising Rules Won’t Crowd Out PE Firms,” *The Deal* (November 2015)

”Impact Investing Goes Mainstream; Is It Time You Thought About It?” *Forbes* (June 2015)

”Etsy’s Planned IPO Brings Benefit Corps Into Sharp Focus,” *Law360* (March 2015)

”Hanson Bridgett handles water infrastructure company formation,” *Daily Journal Deals* (January 2015)

”Interview: Jonathan Storper, Partner at Hanson Bridgett LLP and Involved in Passage of CA Benefit Corporation Legislation,” *Innov8Social* (March 2013)

”Hanson Bridgett: Official Outside Counsel to the America’s Cup,” *San Francisco Attorney* (Summer 2012)

”Benefit Corporations in California,” *KCUI Radio* (November 2011)

”Sustainable Hanson practices what it preaches,” *San Francisco Business Times* (July 2011)

”Making the B List,” *Stanford Social Innovation Review* (Summer 2009)

”Silicon Valley law firms ramp up for economic recovery practices,” *Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal* (March 2009)

”A Social Solution, Without Going the Nonprofit Route,” *The New York Times* (March 2009)

”Seeing Green,” *Fast Casual Magazine* (February 2009)

“GREEN PRACTICES: Green Law: Policymakers explore tariff systems,” *North Bay Business Journal* (November 2008)

“Green Labeling: Are Products Tagged ‘Eco-Friendly’ Really Environmentally Correct?” *Sustainability: The Journal of Record* (October 2008)

“Triple Threat,” *Sustainable Industries* (September 2008)

“Interview with Jonathan Storper, Partner, Hanson Bridgett,” *GreenBusinessInnovators.com* (September 2008)

“California Bill Vets Triple Bottom Lines,” *Sustainable Industries* (July 2008)

“Risks of Going Green,” *CC California* (June 2008)

“Adding the Environment to the Scales of Justice,” *GreenBiz.com* (May 2008)

“Shielding the Green,” *The Recorder* (April 2008)

“‘Green’ is Hot for Storage Managers,” *InternetNews.com and EnterpriseStorageForum.com* (August 2007)

“Anywhere But Here: The Merits and Perils of Offshoring and Its Consequences for the North Bay,” *Northbay Biz* (September 2005)

Honors & Awards

MO 100 Top Impact CEO Ranking (2026)

Legal 500’s Inaugural US City Elite Rankings, Corporate and M&A

American Leadership Forum Silicon Valley, Fellows Program (2025)

Professional Affiliations

HomeRise San Francisco, Board of Directors

American Leadership Forum Silicon Valley, Fellows Program (2025)

Benefit Company Bar Association, Member

California Legal Working Group for Benefit Corporations, Co-Chair

Bar Association of San Francisco, Member and former Ex Officio Member of the Board of Directors

Barristers Club of San Francisco, former President

Bar Association of San Francisco Foundation, former Member of the Board of Directors

American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, former Executive Council Member

Education

J.D., University of California, Los Angeles School of Law (1986)

B.A., University of North Carolina (1982)

Admissions and Courts

California

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit