



KordaMentha

18 February 2010

MEDIA RELEASE

KordaMentha grows Sydney Forensics practice

KordaMentha has further boosted its forensics practice by taking on 10 new staff, including three partners. These additions boost KordaMentha's forensic accounting, forensic IT and e-Discovery capabilities to service the increasing levels of litigation and investigation in the important Sydney market, and across Australia and the Asia Pacific.

Andrew Ross, John Temple-Cole and Nigel Carson, together with a team of staff, have moved from Ferrier Hodgson to join as partners in KordaMentha's Sydney office. Andrew, John and Nigel bring skill sets which will complement those of our existing forensics partners: Owain Stone (Melbourne), Richard Bennison (Sydney) and Abigail Cheadle (Singapore).



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Andrew Ross has over 20 years experience in a wide range of forensic accounting engagements. Before joining Ferrier Hodgson in 2006, Andrew had been a partner in the forensics divisions of Ernst & Young and Andersen, both in Australia and in the U.S. He has prepared expert reports and given expert evidence in a variety of state and federal courts dealing with issues relating to liability, causation and the quantification of loss and damage. He has also had significant experience in valuing shares, businesses and assets, both in the context of litigation claims and for the purposes of transactions. Andrew is the immediate past National Chair of the Forensic Accounting Special Interest Group of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and is a prolific author and presenter on issues relating to damages and expert evidence.

Corporate Recovery Services
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John Temple-Cole is a forensic accountant with over 14 years experience. He was previously a partner in the forensics division of Ferrier Hodgson, and prior to that worked in the audit practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers in Sydney and London. His recent experience includes the preparation of expert reports and the provision of expert evidence in a wide range of accounting disputes and investigations. He has worked extensively on damages and quantification assignments relating to contractual disputes and regulatory matters, particularly in the telecommunications sector. In addition, he has extensive experience in conducting accounting and corporate investigations, and preparing expert's reports in relation to corporate and accounting misstatements, taxation and other schemes, false accounting, accounting fraud and company collapses.

Nigel Carson has been conducting computer forensic investigations for the last 14 years, with his early training forged in the specialised technical investigations arm of the NSW Police Service supporting serious criminal investigations. He was previously practice head of computer forensics and electronic discovery at Ferrier Hodgson. Prior to that, Nigel was a computer forensic manager at KPMG and the first information technology security manager appointed for Coca Cola in Australia. Having started his career at the inception of computer forensics and worked in a diverse range of related jobs, Nigel is a seasoned professional in the field and often called upon to provide expert evidence in high profile cases. Nigel has worked extensively on intellectual property, piracy and workplace relations disputes and has recently been involved in a large number of electronic discovery assignments where he has pioneered the introduction of new technology into the Australian market.

Also joining are the following team members: Alex Bell and Sally Burnham (Associate Directors), Ben Mahler (Manager), Therese Poh (Executive Analyst) and Anh Nguyen (Senior Business Analyst) who have been working closely with Andrew and John on various matters for a number of years. Tim Myers (Manager), who has worked closely with Nigel on Forensic IT matters, has also joined the team.

In addition, Connie Lee (Manager) will join the Sydney Forensics practice in March, having previously worked at Deloitte in Hong Kong.

Andrew Ross said: "We were looking for the right environment to continue to build and grow the pre-eminent forensic accounting and forensic IT team in Sydney and Australia. KordaMentha has the right culture and structure to allow us to develop the full potential of our team. By combining our expert witness, valuation, forensic IT and e-Discovery skills with KordaMentha's existing fraud investigation, data analytics and fraud risk capacity, we can now provide the full suite of forensic accounting services to the Sydney market and beyond. I could not be happier with the fit. We are delighted to retain the same strong team of professionals to allow us to continue to serve our clients on existing and future matters."

Mark Korda said: "We are delighted to have Andrew, John, Nigel and their colleagues join us. Each of the partners has very strong reputations within the important Sydney legal market and beyond. There appears to be increasing levels of dispute resolution and litigation and there is a need, particularly in Sydney, for high quality forensic accountants and forensic IT specialists who do not have the conflicts that restrict the larger accounting firms."

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