

JOHN AFARAS

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John Afaras is an intellectual property law specialist and registered trade mark attorney with more than 20 years experience. John principally practises in patent, trade mark, copyright and trade practices litigation and alternative dispute resolution.

John has been a Principal of the firm for over twelve years. John's patent and design litigation expertise extends over a broad range of technologies from patents for pharmaceuticals and vehicle monitoring systems to patents in refrigerants and the design of high speed catamaran hulls and to designs for bathroom sanitary-ware items.

John also acts for a number of major international companies overseeing their trade mark portfolios, advising on anti-counterfeiting strategies and brand protection and development. John has developed anti-counterfeiting programs for a number of key clients and regularly works closely with the Australian Customs Service on the seizure of counterfeit goods. John also handles domain names disputes, protection and registration matters.

John is a member of the Licensing Executives Society and the Intellectual Property Society of Australia and New Zealand. He has been a member of the editorial board of the journal *In-house Counsel* and has contributed articles to a number of publications including co-authoring a chapter in *Intellectual Property in the Global Marketplace*. John practised in commercial and intellectual property litigation in a large Australian law firm for nine years before joining the firm in 1997.

John's expertise has been recognised both domestically and internationally by publications such as *Guide to the World's Leading Patent Law Practitioner's*, *Best Lawyers International* and *Intellectual Asset Management's IAM Patent Litigators 250*. Most recently John was included in *The Best Lawyers in Australia 2015*.



QUALIFICATIONS

- > Bachelor of Laws, University of Sydney
- > Bachelor of Economics, University of Sydney
- > Solicitor, Supreme Court of New South Wales, Federal Court of Australia, High Court of Australia
- > Registered Australian Trade Mark Attorney