



Mills Oakley boosts IP practice with key partner appointment

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The migration of quality talent to Mills Oakley continues, with the hire of patent and trademark litigation specialist **Melissa McGrath** from K&L Gates. Melissa will join MO's respected IP, Health & Life Sciences practice next week.

Melissa has been named as one of the world's leading trade mark and patent practitioners by peer reviewed rankings for a number of years. She has a particular interest in life sciences and technology and the innovations developing between those industries in Saas businesses and start-ups creating digiceuticals.

Melissa has assisted clients in a variety of industries including house hold names Pfizer, Alphapharm, Apotex, Samsung, Sanitarium, Blackmores, LVMH, Cadbury, adidas, BlackBerry and Ferrari. Her experience encompasses global and domestic litigation and IP protection strategies.

Mills Oakley CEO, John Nerurker said: "Over the past year, our IP team has acted in 13 Federal Court proceedings and is regularly the nation's top filer of trade mark applications. Melissa shares the team's passion for life sciences and innovation and for delivering commercial results for clients. She is ideally placed to work with our existing IP partners Dr Teresa Nicoletti, Blair Beven, and James Lawrence to drive the team's strong growth story."

Possessing dual qualifications in law and biochemistry, Melissa was attracted by Mills Oakley's holistic approach to IP matters and particularly the firm's unique combined Life Sciences & IP offering.

"The Mills Oakley IP practice has a reputation for being at the cutting edge of technology and law. I am delighted to be joining a team that has market-leading depth and breadth and a genuine commitment to client service," she said.

Melissa will commence with Mills Oakley on 19 March.

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