



## Mills Oakley expands Melbourne IP capability

28 May, 2019

National law firm Mills Oakley has added new depth to its IP offering with the hire of partner **Steven Wulff** from K&L Gates.

Mr Wulff is dual-qualified as a lawyer and patent attorney. He focuses on strategic IP protection and counselling for start-ups and other technology driven companies. Steven's clients include entrepreneurs and investors who deliver new innovations in the medtech, software, electronics, sportstech, fintech, cleantech, and agtech sectors.

Before entering practice, Steven was a government physicist in telecommunications research. Having led a medtech/sportstech start-up for many years, Steven has a particular interest in assisting entrepreneurs and start-ups to grow their business.

Mills Oakley CEO John Nerurker said that Steven was a high calibre addition to the team:

"With his deep scientific expertise, Steven is at the hard-core end of the IP spectrum," he observed. "However, he is able to combine this technical knowledge with a practical, commercial approach to law which delivers genuine value for clients."

Working together with partner Stuart Gibson, who also has a strong IP focus, Steven will launch a Melbourne IP practice. This move follows the hire of Corporate/ IP partner Malcolm McBratney in Brisbane earlier this year and consolidates Mills Oakley's East Coast IP capability.

Commenting on his move, Steven said that he was particularly attracted by Mills Oakley's industry focus: "Life sciences is a particular focal point for my practice and I am looking forward to working with Dr Teresa Nicoletti, one of the country's foremost legal experts in this space, as well as the many other well-credentialed IP practitioners in the Mills Oakley team," he said.

Steven's significant international and domestic experience in IP procurement, litigation, portfolio management, and commercialisation allows him to assist clients at all stages of growth. He assists clients to develop a holistic IP strategy that maximises IP positions for their lead products in light of their product development and commercialisation timelines. He also advises companies and investors on IP due diligence, patentability analyses, freedom-to-operate analyses, and non-infringement and validity analyses.

Steven commenced with Mills Oakley earlier this month. He will be joined shortly by two team members from K&L Gates.

### Media Contact:

Renu Prasad

Communications Manager

T: +61 2 8289 5820

E: [rprasad@millsoakley.com.au](mailto:rprasad@millsoakley.com.au)