Mills Oakley hires leading Melbourne IP expert

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Independent national law firm Mills Oakley is expanding its IP practice with the hire of partner **Lisa Egan** in Melbourne.

Ms Egan has specialised in IP law for over 20 years, including seven years as a partner at K&L Gates (formerly Middletons) and several years acting in senior in-house roles with fashion retail brand KOOKAI and Sigma Healthcare. Most recently she operated her own boutique law firm, Monde Legal. She also acts in several key roles in the sporting and business community, including acting as Board Member and Company Secretary of the Melbourne Fashion Festival and Chair of the Essendon Women's Network at the Essendon Football Club.

Ms Egan's expertise in IP matters includes extensive litigation experience in leading IP cases in the Federal Court in relation to trade marks, copyright, and misleading and deceptive conduct and passing off claims. She also provides advice for clients on IP protection and enforcement strategy, including confidential information, prosecutes trade mark and design applications, acts in trade mark oppositions, and manages IP portfolios.

Drawing on her in-house experience, Lisa brings a commercial mindset to problem solving for her clients, to ensure the legal solutions match a client's business objectives.

Lisa is already well known within Mills Oakley, having been the preferred source of IP advice for the Clarendons Lawyers team who joined the national corporate practice last year. CEO John Nerurker said that this relationship was instrumental in the decision to invite Lisa to join the firm:

"Lisa came to us with the strong recommendation of our corporate partners Nick Manuell and Tony Symons, who had worked with her for many years both at Clarendons and K&L Gates before that. Having met Lisa, we immediately understood why she was so well regarded by clients and colleagues alike and we are fortunate to have secured a practitioner of her calibre for our firm."

Commenting on her decision to join Mills Oakley, Lisa said:

"I was impressed by the open, transparent culture here at Mills Oakley and the opportunity to build the IP capability at the firm. Cultural fit is central to achieving the best result for clients, and I am looking forward to doing exactly that in collaboration with my new colleagues."

Lisa commenced with the firm earlier this month.

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