

# Customs, Trade and Transport

International Trade Conventions, Free Trade Agreements, domestic legislation and the Internet are breaking down barriers to trade. Yet, at the same time, the regulations are becoming more complex for companies trading into Australia or beyond our borders.

Inbound traders are subject to Foreign Investment Review Board legislation, GST, quarantine, trade practices, dumping, customs and excise laws. Those trading outbound face issues relating to trade financing, shipping, commodity and freight contracts, as well as International Trade Convention obligations.

All traders face litigation, both here and overseas, and need to manage significant insurance exposure.

Service providers to traders, including customs brokers, freight forwarders, shipping companies and airlines, need to be aware of all current restrictions and impending future changes to these restrictions.

All parties must also confront the new

legislative regime associated with security issues, such as aviation and maritime security obligations.

Hunt & Hunt provides a comprehensive range of services to those involved in this industry and also has close relationships with complementary service providers, including the CBFCA. We provide legal and advisory services to importers, exporters, customs brokers, freight forwarders and trade financiers. Our international relationships through Interlaw enable us to provide assistance across the world in a timely and efficient manner.

We are at the forefront of Australia's Free Trade negotiations and are well placed to advise on how FTAs will affect Australian and international organisations.

Our firm has good relationships with all associated Commonwealth and State government departments, including the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Transport and Regional Services, Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, and Customs.

Additionally, Hunt & Hunt has entered into a strategic alliance with the Australian government's export promotions agency, Austrade. By sharing knowledge and best practice, Austrade and Hunt & Hunt will jointly be able to provide practical assistance and the latest information to entities that are seeking to export their products or services overseas.

## Our services

- Advice on the terms of any FTA and corresponding Australian domestic legislation, including Rules of Origin and entry requirements.
- Assistance with finding service providers for the carriage of goods to and from overseas markets.
- Tariff and valuation advice
- Advice on reporting obligations to customs authorities
- Dumping investigations
- Advice on aviation and maritime security obligations and insurance
- Structuring of trade financing
- Advice on International Trade Conventions and all manner of related litigation including arbitration on international sales and shipping contracts
- Advice on legislative developments and government affairs
- Advice on charter party, bill of lading and air waybill disputes
- Sale and purchase of vessels and aircraft.



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## About our firm

Established in 1929, Hunt & Hunt is a respected law firm, with offices throughout Australia, with a strong presence in China.

Based on both revenue and headcount, we are one of the largest law firms in the Asia Pacific region. As such, we have the breadth and depth of resources necessary to service the diverse needs of business, government and private clients.

Our firm's strength and reputation is in three core areas - Property, Commercial and Insurance - and encompasses a large number of work types:

- Asset and Succession Planning
- Banking and Finance
- Internet and Digital Technologies
- Corporate and Commercial
- Customs, Trade and Transport
- Employment and Workplace Relations
- Environment and Planning
- Infrastructure and Projects
- Insolvency and Debt Recovery
- Insurance
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Migration
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Property
- Taxation
- Wills and Estates
- Workers Compensation.

We provide our clients with an enhanced global reach through our exclusive Australian membership of Interlaw, an association of independent commercial law firms across 120 cities. Through this association, and our strong Asia Pacific footprint, we are able to support our clients wherever they seek to do business.

Hunt & Hunt has carved out an enviable position in the Australian legal market by positioning our firm at the mid-point on price, and cost-consciously delivering premium services to our clients.

Our firm's size, structure and culture have distinct advantages. As we are not bound by bureaucracy or hindered by layers of politics, policy or procedure, we are easier to do business with. We pride ourselves on being collaborative, practical, accessible and approachable. Though our workforce is populated with brilliance, it is free from ego and arrogance.

Our firm moves with the times and innovates constantly to deliver our services more efficiently, to automate routine processes, and to add value to our clients. Yet, while we harness technological advancements, we are careful not to use technology to the disadvantage of personal relationships, or to the detriment of client service.



### Contact us

Andrew Hudson  
Customs Trade and Transport  
Practice Group Leader

T +61 3 8602 9231  
E [ahudson@hunthunt.com.au](mailto:ahudson@hunthunt.com.au)

[www.hunthunt.com.au](http://www.hunthunt.com.au)