



MEDIA RELEASE

Hunt & Hunt partner appointed Member of the Order of Australia

Jim Harrowell is recognised for service in developing legal and business links with China

Sydney, 13 June 2006 – Jim Harrowell, a partner of Hunt & Hunt for almost 30 years, was yesterday appointed a Member of the Order of Australia, in recognition for his service in helping develop Australia's international relations, and in particular for his contribution towards forging and nurturing legal and business links with China.

Mr Harrowell is also chairman of Interlaw, one of the world's leading associations of independent law firms, with 65 member firms in 120 major cities across the world, of which Hunt & Hunt is the association's exclusive Australian member.

He was instrumental in setting up Hunt & Hunt's Asia division, leading to the opening of an office in Shanghai in 1998 – and making Hunt & Hunt at the time one of only a small handful of Australian law firms licensed by China's Ministry of Justice to practise foreign law in China.

The firm's Asia division focuses primarily on servicing clients with interests in China and India, and assists clients with business operations both within these countries and trade with Australia. Among the Australian firms the division has advised includes Macquarie Bank, which became the first foreign player in the Shanghai mortgage market

Mr Harrowell is the only Australian to have been appointed as a foreign arbitrator to the Shanghai Arbitration Commission, and one of only seven Australians appointed as a foreign arbitrator by the Chinese government to the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission, the body which resolves disputes between Chinese enterprises and foreign parties.

Over the years, he has advised Australian companies and government bodies on issues such as international treaties, conventions and practice concerning international trade and commerce, as well as on the commercial and legal aspects of doing business in Asia.

With Mr Harrowell's long family history in Australia's wool industry, he was instrumental in having negotiated the model wool contract that now governs the sale of Australian wool to China.

Companies he has advised over the years include: Qantas, in the negotiation of airport leases at the new Pudong Airport; negotiating educational co-operative projects for TAFE and a number of Australian universities with corresponding institutions in China; and China Great Wall Industries, the space agency responsible for launching telecommunications satellites for Australia. He has more recently also undertaken legal work for the firm of famous Australian architect Phillip Cox, who has been awarded design contracts for a number of structures for the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

He will be travelling to China in July as part of an official delegation led by the Australian Attorney-General to conduct negotiations with the Chinese Ministry of Justice over the further liberalisation of legal services between the two countries. This follows his appointment to a panel of China experts by the Law Council of Australia in March.

Mr Harrowell is also the chairman of the Aged Care Standards & Accreditation Agency, the body that oversees the mandatory accreditation of the more than 3,000 nursing homes in Australia.

He is also a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Taxation Institute of Australia.

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About Hunt & Hunt:

Hunt & Hunt is one of Australia's largest commercial law firms. With offices in most Australian capital cities, as well as Shanghai and Auckland, the firm advises business, government and high net worth individuals on all areas of law, including in relation to property, commercial, insurance and employment issues.

Issued on behalf of Hunt & Hunt by Sefiani Communications Group

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