The Client

Chris Camillin qualified to practise law in the UK in 1981. Camillins Solicitors was first established in 1986 in the UK. In 2003, Chris migrated to Australia, then in 2006 established Camillins Solicitors as an incorporated legal practice in Victoria.

Chris became an accredited specialist in Business Law in Victoria in 2003. He practises in transactional work and dispute resolution.

The Challenge

Before establishing his practice in Australia, Chris was the proud owner of a hard copy of Halsbury’s Laws of England and the Encyclopaedia of Forms & Precedents – valued at more than 10 times the amount spent on computers for the firm. In 2003, Chris relocated to Australia. When Chris set up his Australian practice in 2006, legal technology and efficiency tools were either non-existent or very different to what is now widely available to legal professionals.

Over the years, technology has revolutionised the way in which we work and live.

More than ever, today’s legal professionals are asked to keep up with ever evolving technology: moving from dusty hard copy to online and digital legal research solutions is now the norm.

Chris’s challenge was to find the most efficient and cost effective legal research solution for his firm without compromising quality and comprehensiveness.
The Solution

Chris needed to find an affordable online research platform which would cut down research time. Most importantly, the platform had to be easy for Chris to learn, navigate and use.

Lexis Advance® was the solution: a platform that transforms the way legal professionals conduct their research.

Although there are other legal content providers, the decision for Chris to subscribe to LexisNexis® research content and access his subscription through Lexis Advance® came easily.

“The need for comprehensive and assured research and economical pricing were the drivers behind my subscription. I have a concurrent subscription with a different legal research provider but it does not allow for such in-depth research or such a range of precedent-based materials. I have previously worked with other legal research providers and they provide much less useful research tools.”

“Throughout my career the LexisNexis® products have been regarded as industry standards.”

It is not just about the research tools that Lexis Advance® provides, it is also the benefits that come along with the platform that were most compelling. “The ability to advise with confidence and to enter into transactions with sufficient knowledge are key,” advised Chris.

Lexis Advance® was fast becoming a tool which Chris could no longer envisage himself without.

“It is clear that the new platform with folders and favourites in particular is designed to make research significantly more efficient.”
The Result

Lexis Advance® offers Chris the simplicity of search, clarity of insight and flexibility of access, allowing him to increase his efficiency daily.

“Before Lexis Advance®,” Chris said, “it was significantly more difficult to conduct research and the results were more limited by the context of the search.”

Chris’s main priority was to gain a competitive edge over larger firms. “My work is mainly for small businesses and covers a fairly wide footprint of legal topics. There are certain areas of work (such as Self-Managed Super Funds) that are monopolised by medium-sized and larger legal firms because they have the resources to create precedent libraries and maintain them. Since I began my practice as a lawyer in the UK in 1979, I have relied upon the Australian Encyclopaedia of Forms and Precedents as a source of practice support in accessing the type of precedent library that would usually only be available to practitioners in larger firms. The commentary is both authoritative and helpful. The precedents are widely respected amongst other practitioners and judges. They are also well known and often the subject of relevant judicial determinations which gives them predictable effect. Halsbury’s Laws is regarded throughout the Commonwealth as an authoritative source of legal opinion. Whether working in the UK, Australia, Jersey, Gibraltar, Hong Kong or Fiji, the relevant edition of the work is an essential reference source. These materials now come in the Lexis Advance platform which has made them significantly more accessible and complemented them with other research sources.”

Learning to use a new interface may be daunting for some, but Lexis Advance® has been designed to be intuitive. Chris’s experience with the training team has been positive, describing the team as very helpful and accommodating.

Technology has come a long way since Chris began working in the legal sector. By combining the very latest in smart technology with over 100 years of trusted legal content, Lexis Advance® is fast becoming a must-have online legal research platform, putting smaller practices on a level playing field with larger firms.

Chris concludes: “I regard the Lexis Advance® publications as essential reference sources ... and although for a couple of years I was forced to use a competitor service whilst working in a medium-sized firm, I am glad that I can now access these publications again. I find their format familiar and easy to follow and my research is usually completed quickly and efficiently in this platform.”
About LexisNexis® Legal and Professional

LexisNexis Legal & Professional is a leading global provider of content and technology solutions that enable professionals in legal, corporate, tax, government, academic and non-profit organizations to make informed decisions and achieve better business outcomes. As a digital pioneer, the company was the first to bring legal and business information online with its Lexis® and Nexis® services. Today, LexisNexis Legal & Professional harnesses leading-edge technology and world-class content, to help professionals work in faster, easier and more effective ways. Through close collaboration with its customers, the company ensures organizations can leverage its solutions to reduce risk, improve productivity, increase profitability and grow their business. Part of Reed Elsevier, LexisNexis Legal & Professional serves customers in more than 175 countries with 10,000 employees worldwide.

LexisNexis Pacific is the leading provider of local and international news, business, tax and legal information, using leading-edge technology, tools and digital solutions. Both in Australia (www.lexisnexis.com.au) and New Zealand (www.lexisnexis.co.nz) LexisNexis Pacific works in close collaboration with its customers to provide content enabled-workflow systems for professionals in law firms, corporations, government, law enforcement, tax, accounting, academic institutions and compliance assessment.

About Lexis Advance®

Lexis Advance is an innovative online research platform that allows today’s legal professionals to access trusted legal content and research solutions from LexisNexis quickly and easily. Refreshingly intuitive and flexible, Lexis Advance is designed with your efficiency in mind. It provides you with access to the bigger picture – your way. [www.lexisnexis.com.au/lexisadvance](http://www.lexisnexis.com.au/lexisadvance)

About Camillins Solicitors

Camillins Solicitors has extensive experience of all fields of company commercial law. This includes setting up companies and trusts, drafting shareholders agreements or joint venture agreements, preparing terms of trading, employment agreements and other commercial documents.

Camillins Solicitors can also help with building and engineering contracts and contracts for computer related uses (like installation and programming of computer equipment and the like).

Camillins Solicitors can help make sure that you are fully protected on the Personal Properties Securities Register.

The firm can also assist with dispute resolution and with international transactions of a property or commercial nature.


This case study was developed from an interview with Chris Camillin conducted by LexisNexis in July 2015.