The Client

Jaku Legal is a boutique law firm based in Sydney. They offer a range of legal services, with a particular focus on efficiently resolving disputes. They aim to provide professional and effective legal advice and representation to both individuals and business clients and pride themselves on their ability to empower their clients to make informed decisions that get results.

The Challenge

After many years with King and Wood Mallesons (formerly Mallesons Stephen Jaques), Marc Jaku, now Legal Practitioner Director at Jaku Legal decided it was time to strike out on his own and began to build his very own firm.

With any new venture come many challenges, including building a new client base and deciding what type of legal research platform the firm would rely on. Having worked at Mallesons, Marc knew that he was already “familiar with the resources that the firm used and the case citator by LexisNexis® — CaseBase™, was most valuable and relevant”.

Using trusted sources such as CaseBase™ was important to Marc, but quickly accessing relevant results was just as important: he knew that confidence, value and results play a key part in any firm’s success.

For Jaku Legal, providing value and results for their clients is achieved by resolving their disputes efficiently and cost effectively.

The Solution

Marc Jaku had to satisfy two imperatives to exceed his clients’ expectations: finding an affordable research solution that would meet his boutique practice’s budget, while efficiently accessing trusted research content.

This is where the new LexisNexis® legal research platform, Lexis Advance®, clearly comes into play.
For Marc, deciding which legal online platform to use came easily. After considering all the available options - including free and premium paid research services, Marc chose Lexis Advance® as it gave him access to the research he had used and trusted in his previous role at Mallesons. In addition, Lexis Advance® offers a flexible range of subscription package options to ensure users have access to what really matters for their business practice areas. “I like the fact that you can tailor your package to meet your requirements, that aspect of it is really good. It provides flexibility.”

Marc knew he was after a specific case citator — CaseBase™ — which he uses frequently. “I wasn’t as familiar with any other CaseBase™ equivalent platforms. While I know of various free online services, I had some concerns about their currency and how to get the most out of them. Since I was familiar with what the previous LexisNexis online research platform offered, and had used it for many years before establishing my own firm, the choice to go with the latest LexisNexis online research platform, Lexis Advance®, was easy.”

Marc also had the future growth of the practice in mind when he decided to choose the latest and smartest search technology that Lexis Advance® offers. “Junior lawyers who are fresh out of university are used to the latest resources. Most universities have research subscriptions with organisations such as LexisNexis that university students can utilise. I find junior lawyers add real value to a law firm for a number of reasons, including because they are already familiar with the latest technology and platforms and, accordingly, are proficient researchers.”

**The Result**

Since starting his journey with Lexis Advance®, Marc has been able to save valuable time and money, and importantly continues to ensure his reputation is protected.

“Lexis Advance® is definitely valuable and one of its most relevant and beneficial features is CaseBase.™ Within CaseBase™ I really like how it addresses which cases have been followed, if a judgment has been applied in other cases or overturned. This is very useful! Without technology and platforms which house the relevant information, it would be very difficult for lawyers to know whether they have found the most up to date information and authority relating to a particular legal principle.”

Marc found that choosing the right subscription package was also easy: Lexis Advance® is designed to work the way small firms work and provide affordable solutions for their practices. Marc had the opportunity to trial Lexis Advance® and opted for relevant titles “which I thought would be used most and were in my price range... Having these resources cuts down the time I would need to spend on research and I have confidence in the product.”
Using the Lexis Advance® platform and particularly CaseBase™ helps legal practitioners make faster, more accurate decisions every day. Now citing 659,217 cases and journals from Australian and international jurisdictions, including 325,913 digests, it is the go-to source for peace of mind when conducting legal research.

Marc’s overall experience from the Lexis Advance® team was “very good... the training was good and the fact that the training is available is even better. I feel like, if I needed to, I could phone the Lexis Advance® team at any time and request assistance with a question”.

About LexisNexis Pacific

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®, the next generation legal research solution, provides law firms, government agencies and in-house counsel with access to trusted research content from LexisNexis, powered by smart research technology that will transform research practices and provide efficiency gains.


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