



## Case Study

# Danny Feller, SC

*Head of Chambers and Chairman of the board  
at Edmund Barton Chambers*

### The client

Danny Feller SC has been practising at the NSW Bar since 1974. Appointed as a Senior Counsel in 2003, Danny is Head of Chambers and Chairman of the board of Edmund Barton Chambers. Danny specialises in construction law, insurance law and commercial law.

Danny is a strong advocate of a paperless practice for barristers and believes the trend to online case management and appearances will continue to develop across various classes of matters. He embraces technology in his day-to-day practice, proactively seeking modern solutions to the traditional problems of legal practice.

### The challenges

As many practitioners know, maintaining hardcopy services isn't foolproof: updates can go missing or be filed incorrectly, leading to a real risk that the information being relied upon is out of date.

Before adopting Lexis Red®, the task of updating the Chambers' numerous essential hardcopy services was performed by a filing clerk. Occasionally, updates were incorrectly filed or went missing entirely. "Relying on out-of-date information could be at best embarrassing, and at worst disastrous", says Danny.

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Danny's initial response had been to teach himself to program while painstakingly maintaining a database relevant to his practice areas. However, having to be in the office to access this database and the effort of dealing with updates became challenges in themselves. The competing priorities of his busy practice meant Danny needed a different solution.



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## The solution

Once Edmund Barton Chambers adopted Lexis Red, the entire contents of the chambers' hardcopy services became available via the Lexis Red app. As a result, Danny no longer had to maintain his separate database or worry about the risk, or cost, of laboriously filing updates.

Danny was able to streamline and improve his existing workflow, saving him both time and effort. "One of my favourite features of Lexis Red is its instant availability on my iPad, which I use at the same time as working on my computer in chambers." Additionally, having Lexis Red installed on his iPad means that, after downloading his looseleaf services, the information can be accessed even where there is no internet connectivity.

For Danny, "Lexis Red has the 'feel' of the hardcopy services, which is familiar and comforting. However, in addition to the physical convenience of not transporting binders, the functions built into the Lexis Red services elevate their usefulness well beyond the capacity of the hardcopy services."

There are many features of Lexis Red which make it a vital tool in the modern barrister's practice. Working with Lexis Red instead of a hardcopy looseleaf service has notably enabled Danny to:

- consult his entire collection of titles at home, the office, in court and conferences;
- gain an instant overview of the contents of the service and jump to the appropriate section, via the table of contents;
- save time leafing through pages to return to important passages, by inserting searchable annotations and personalised tags;
- quickly identify and assess the latest updates to the service;
- drill into deeper research via the hyperlinks from Lexis Red to Lexis Advance®.

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## The result

Lexis Red is an essential resource for Danny Feller in his practice, providing convenient digital access to legal research services. The app has met his need to stay ahead of the competition and use his time wisely.

Danny now often uses Lexis Red and Lexis Advance together when preparing advice or for trial. "Lexis Red is more than complementary to Lexis Advance... It means that I can quickly get to the information I need... without interrupting my workflow on my computer."

Attitudes are changing and Danny believes more barristers are interested in embracing technology. "A paperless practice... has become increasingly possible in recent years through... the availability of tablets such as the iPad Pro and Surface Pro, and the customisation of legal database products for use on these electronic media. In my opinion, Lexis Red is at the forefront of this development."

Danny concedes going digital isn't necessarily easy, but with the right equipment, software and training from LexisNexis, you can make a smooth transition. "The best approach is to keep using paper concurrently with technology until you are confident in your ability to use the technology and invest the time to learn how to use the equipment and software effectively."