

Tony Symons

Managing Director



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Tony is the Founder and Managing Director of the firm and has 20 years' experience in corporate law, mergers and acquisitions (especially of a cross-border nature) and general commercial law, including four years in Hong Kong working with Linklaters, and before that as a member of Herbert Smith Freehills' M&A team in Melbourne.

During his time with Linklaters, Tony worked extensively throughout Asia and advised on some of Asia's largest and most innovative deals, many of which involved multiple jurisdictions.

Shortly after returning to Melbourne, Tony co-founded the predecessor firm to Clarendon Lawyers, whose clients now include Comdain Infrastructure, Eurofins, Best Friends Pets, Amari Metals, Fletcher Building, Funtastic Limited, The Mathieson Group, Witchery Fashions, ITW Australia, kikki.K, private equity funds, family office groups, professional firms and numerous SMEs and their shareholders.

Tony has gained his extensive experience from a wide range of corporate transactions, including:

- the sale of Guardian Storage to National Storage;
- the sale of Hospital Telecommunications to Hills;
- the sale of the national wholesale car and truck parts business, Australia Truck and Auto Parts Group, and national franchise network of 53 brake, steering and auto repairs specialists to Metcash Limited;
- advising Eurofins Scientific Group, a Belgium company listed on NYSE Euronext and the world leader in food, pharma and environmental laboratory testing, in respect of its separate acquisitions of mgt-Labmark and Agrisearch;
- advising Funtastic in relation to various acquisitions;
- advising the founders of Best Friends Pets on its restructure and the subsequent sale of a strategic interest to Archer Growth;
- the acquisition of Atlas Specialty Metals, Austral Wright/MICO Metals, Australian Stainless Distribution and Dalsteel;
- the sale of minority interests in kikki.K;
- the sale of AaE Retail by Australian Air Express and subsequent disposal of Australian Air Express and Star Track Express to Qantas and Australia Post, respectively;
- advising Fletcher Building on the acquisition and roll up of various insulation installation businesses;
- the management buy-out of Witchery Fashion led by Gresham Private Equity;
- the sale of DMS Glass to CSR;
- the sale of Ladd Electrical to SJ Australasia, an Advent Capital led roll-up; and
- the sale of Smiggle retail stationery business to Just Group.

Tony holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Melbourne. He is admitted to practice in Victoria and Hong Kong.