

Capability Statement

Defence,
aerospace
and technology

Bennett
LITIGATION AND COMMERCIAL LAW



Who you need
when it matters.

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Foreword

I am pleased to introduce Bennett's defence, aerospace and technology sector capabilities to you.

When a client enters into a relationship with Bennett, we place your business and your legal issues at the forefront of everything we do, drawing on our strong internal pool of expertise to deliver you the best commercial outcomes. We work together on a taskforce basis on all of our matters, bringing together a cohesive and dedicated team of legal practitioners focused on achieving your desired commercial outcome. This may involve bringing together the requisite mix of expertise across our various practice areas.

The enclosed capability statement demonstrates the expertise of the collective team at Bennett and our market leading experience in the area of commercial litigation and dispute resolution as well as commercial non-litigation capabilities.

We strongly value a successful and long term relationship with our clients, and look forward to a long working relationship with you.

If you have any questions concerning our capability statement please contact me, Martin Bennett, Founding Principal or Shemali Samaraweera, Principal.

Kind regards

Nathan Ebbs
Managing Principal

Experience
where it
counts.

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Led by Bennett Principals Shemali Samaraweera and Michael Nas, our defence, aerospace and technology team offer tailored legal and strategic advice to the WA defence industry, with significant experience in defence contracting and legal issues arising from the unique technological advances constantly evolving in these sectors.

Defence and aerospace

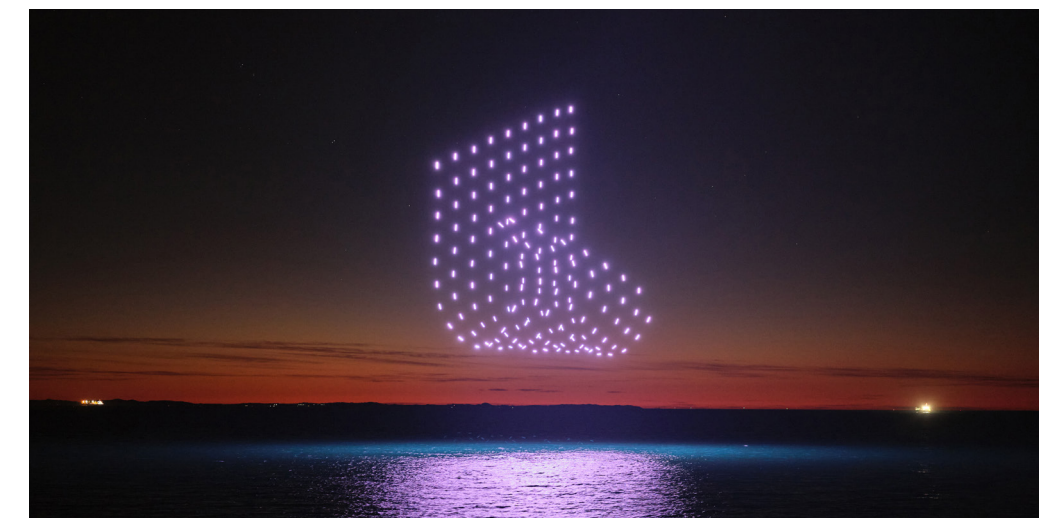
We have a detailed understanding of, and exposure to, all existing and planned defence projects unfolding in Western Australia for the Royal Australian Navy, specifically, and the defence sector generally. The unique nature of these projects, and the secure environment in which they necessarily operate, requires a creative and innovative legal approach.

Our broad network in the defence industry across Australia includes key players at prime, SME and State and Federal government level. In addition to general legal work for defence industry, we offer expertise in the area of defence contracting based around ASDEFCON, at both prime and subcontractor level.

Similarly, we are active in the aerospace (and remotely piloted aircraft or 'drone') sector and regularly advise on commercial and regulatory matters. We have been recognised for our long-term leadership in relation to the Australian drone industry. The firm was also a finalist in Aviation/Aerospace Australia's Excellence in Innovation (SME) award for 2024. The firm is also a corporate member of both the Henderson Alliance, AIDN and Aviation/Aerospace Australia.

In 2021, the firm assisted a drone operator in commercial work enabling WA's first large-scale drone light show for Ilona McGuire's "Moombaki", the flagship work as part of the Crossing 2021 edition of the Fremantle Biennale. The light show featured a fleet of 160 choreographed drones, accompanied by a rich soundscape, telling the stories of Whadjuk Nyoongar Country and its Traditional Owners. The drone fleet took part in a series of performances over 8 nights in 3 locations over the ocean and waterways of Perth. Subsequently, as part of First Lights, the team have worked across Australia and internationally facilitating works of this type.

Ilona McGuire, Moombaki, 2021, Derbarl Yerrigan (Swan River), Dyoondalup (Attadale), Derbarl Nara (Coogee Beach). Courtesy the Fremantle Biennale. Photos: Duncan Wright.





Why Bennett.

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Technology

From the early stage of start-ups, to established business working on novel technological applications, the development of innovative technologies and systems is innate to our defence and aerospace clients.

In addition to advising clients on the defence and aerospace regulatory environment, we work closely with clients and industry bodies to advocate for regulatory reform and educate these sectors on emerging issues affecting the development of new technologies.

Intellectual Property

Our market leading IP team works with clients to develop strategies for the protection of technologies and trade secrets, and the registration and enforcement of IP rights. We also empower clients to achieve the best possible outcomes in complex disputes, including breach of confidence, breach of restraints of trade, and IP infringement.

Our expertise is critical to the preservation of the secrecy and value of our clients' intellectual property and technology in the defence and aerospace sector.

Bennett is presently acting for Raytheon in securing trade mark rights for its rolling airframe missiles (RAM) brand, and for its CASPER platform (artificial intelligence and machine learning to intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) and to processing, exploitation and dissemination (PED) data, capabilities and processes in the military and defense industries). Bennett has previously acted for Raytheon on trade mark issues to do with NASAMS, Tomahawk, Ghosteye, and other key platforms.

We have experience in acting for other Australian sub-primes and European primes on intellectual property matters, including the registration of vessel designs, classified information protocols, and the protection of copyright.

For Intellectual Property matters, please contact Principal, Dave Stewart.

Property and Leasing

Our experienced team provides corporate compliance and regulatory advice, prepares key documentation for acquisitions and divestments, and offers guidance on commercial leasing. We have acted for the European Space Agency regarding its lease and purchase of land in New Norcia for its DSA 1 (Deep Space Antenna 1) facility.

For Property and Leasing matters, please contact Commercial Counsel, Inge Lauw.

Our expertise.

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Practice Areas

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Aircraft and drone commercial and regulatory advice



Construction contracts and disputes



Commercial litigation and dispute resolution



Employment matters



Engineering, construction and maritime contracting



Intellectual property and licensing



General corporate and commercial advice



Maritime and defence contracting and law



Property and leasing

Our people.

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Our Team



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*Michael is currently on sabbatical completing a Masters Degree in Aviation Law in Montreal, Canada.

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