

Medical Devices

Australia has a well established medical device industry with an internationally recognised capability to innovate and produce world-class products. For this and the following reasons, Australia is a highly desirable country for securing registered intellectual property rights for medical device innovations.

- Australia is one of the richest healthcare markets in the Asia-Pacific region. The market ranks as the 11th largest in the world, while per capita spending is on par with European markets such as Germany and the Netherlands. It is a market that is quick to adopt new and innovative healthcare technologies.
- The medical devices industry in Australia is quite unique in that it imports most of what it uses (98.8 per cent) and exports most of what it produces (97.2 per cent).
- International success stories of the Australian medical device industry include Cochlear Limited (the world's leading cochlear implant company) and ResMed Ltd (a leading developer and producer of medical products for the treatment and management of respiratory disorders).
- The medical devices industry in Australia has experienced tremendous growth over the past decade (10-15% pa).
- Australia has well respected intellectual property laws and the cost for obtaining registered rights such as patents is relatively inexpensive. Australian patents can be obtained for methods of medical treatments.



Madderns is a leading Australian patent and trade mark attorney firm providing specialist advice on all aspects of intellectual property (IP) protection. We tailor our services and advice to suit the commercial needs of each client. Our services include:

- developing IP strategies for patents, trade marks, designs, circuit layouts, plants breeders' rights, confidential information and trade secrets
- patent and trade mark searching
- providing registrability advice for new trade marks and patentability advice for new innovations and inventions
- drafting, preparing and filing applications
- prosecuting applications through to grant
- offering freedom to operate and infringement advice
- performing watching services to monitor third party activities
- representing clients at patent and trade mark opposition proceedings



Our Medical Devices Group

Alun is a registered Australian Patent and Trade Marks Attorney and a registered New Zealand patent attorney and holds an Applied Science degree in Applied Chemistry. Alun has worked in the field of intellectual property for more than 30 years. His area of practice includes chemistry, medical apparatus and printing technology. Alun is a partner of the firm and also a Notary Public.



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Bill is a registered Patent and Trade Marks Attorney with a range of knowledge and experience in the areas of physics, electrical and electronic engineering, and computing. Bill became a partner of Madderns in 1996. He is a Member of Engineers Australia. Bill is involved in the drafting and prosecution of patent and trade mark matters in Australia and overseas. Bill has specific experience in relation to medical imaging, medical instrument location using radio frequency sensors, medical software and patient management software.



Bill McFarlane

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Tom is a registered Patent and Trade Marks Attorney and holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering, an MBA and a Diploma in Intellectual Property Practice. He joined the firm in 1996 and became a partner in 2001. Tom's areas of practice include domestic and international patents and designs, with a particular focus on patents for engineering-related inventions. He has a strong interest in medical devices and sustainable technologies. He works to assist businesses with a variety of medical devices including vascular devices, theatre equipment, bone fixation devices and cochlear implants.



Tom Melville

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Martin is a registered Patent and Trade Marks Attorney and has a degree in Electronic Engineering, specialising in communications and control systems. He worked as a Patents Examiner for three years at the Australian Patent Office. Martin joined Madderns in 2000, becoming a partner of the firm in 2003. Martin has extensive experience in providing advice and drafting patent specifications in the area of electronics, communications and medical devices. In the area of medical devices, Martin has specific experience in relation to cochlear implants, implant fixation systems and transcutaneous implant systems.



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Jeff is a registered Australian Patent and Trade Marks Attorney and a registered New Zealand patent attorney who has worked in the field of chemical and biological patents since 1997. Jeff has a PhD in chemistry and has considerable post-doctoral research experience. Jeff drafts, obtains, and enforces patent rights for clients predominantly in the chemistry, biotechnology, polymer, materials, and nanotechnology fields and he has specific experience in the areas of new materials, polymers, drug delivery, and coatings for implants.



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Madderns is Adelaide's largest Patent and Trade Mark Attorney firm having twenty professional staff with expertise covering a very wide range of technologies. The Medical Devices Group members listed above provide key contacts for your medical technology needs but our expertise in medical technologies extends beyond these individuals (refer to our website for further information on our staff and their expertise and experience).