



## ANTHONY WOOD

PARTNER

[Melbourne](#)  
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Tony is passionate about workplace reform and has more than two decades of experience advising clients in employment related matters.

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## BACKGROUND

Tony holds a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Melbourne. He has worked in the firm's Sydney and Melbourne offices, and is a member of the Industrial Relations Society of Victoria and the Australian Human Resources Institute.

## KEY SERVICES

Employment  
Workplace and employment law training

## KEY SECTORS

Energy  
Healthcare

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## EXPERIENCE

Tony's practice spans strategic advice and advocacy for employers in relation to collective and individual disputes, equal employment opportunity, bullying, termination of employment, enterprise bargaining, transmission of business/privatisation, termination benefits/Corporations Act compliance, workplace investigations and whistle-blower issues.

Tony also leads the Employment group's national training programs and has a particular focus on clients from the banking, health, manufacturing, electrical power generation and FMCG sectors.

Tony advises on employment contracts and the array of employment aspects associated with mergers and acquisitions. He is a regular presenter on employment and industrial matters throughout Australia.

Tony's clients include the Australian Ballet, George Weston Foods, Hydro Tasmania, Vicinity Centres, National Australia Bank, Snowy Hydro, Vanguard Investments and Australia's three major motor vehicle manufacturers – Toyota, GM Holden and Ford Australia.

Tony is the founding editor of the Hebert Smith Freehills annual legal guide on Employment and Workplace Relations in Australia. He is a regular contributor to the firm's pro bono program, assisting clients such as Berry Street, Pinnacle Foundation and Australian Marriage Equality.

He is a member of Herbert Smith Freehills' Asia Pacific Diversity and Inclusion Group and is an acknowledged leader and advocate for workplace diversity. In 2013, Tony was awarded the Australian Workplace Equality Index Executive Leadership Award for his work in LGBTI workplace inclusion. In 2017, Tony was included in the Australian Financial Review's list of the top 50 LGBTI business leaders in Australia.

Tony has also been recognised by Best Lawyers as one of Australia's premier employment lawyers since 2008, and is noted as a leading practitioner in prestigious guides such as Doyle's and The Legal 500 Asia Pacific.

Tony's experience includes:

- advising all three of Australia's vehicle manufacturers on employment and industrial relations strategies, including the Australian closure arrangements for Ford Australia, Toyota and General Motors Holden
- acting for many of Australia's leading power generators and distributors in relation to employment and enterprise bargaining matters, spanning Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania
- conducting major litigation in the Federal Court of Australia. He has successfully defended Toyota Motor Corporation Australia against union discrimination charges brought under the Fair Work Act
- defending a landmark bullying claim against a large Australian business under the new national anti-bullying laws
- advising on all employment aspects of numerous major Australian M&A transactions,

including advice on Australia's transfer of business laws

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