



patents, trade marks, ip law

Humans invented time to create order. Every watch lets us know when we are late for the train, but what does time really mean? To an inventor – the difference between success and failure.



working with clever people

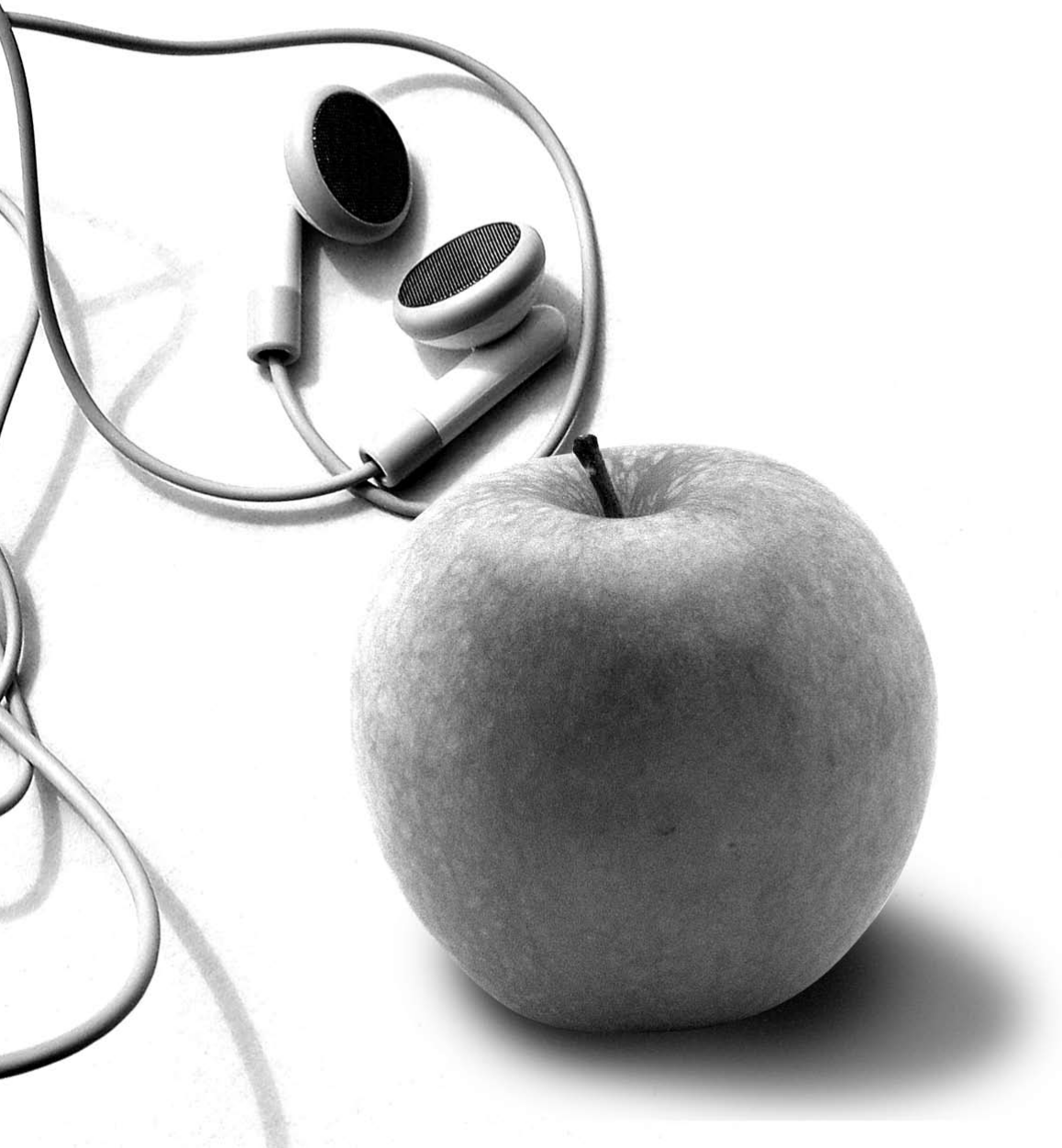
Protecting, defending and commercialising intellectual property is a challenging task in a world where ideas and information can travel the globe in seconds.

At Griffith Hack our specialist attorneys and lawyers have the industry expertise and commercial know-how that ensures our clever clients' valuable intellectual property remains one of their most precious assets.

Providing clever solutions
to clever people



The theory of gravity started with an apple, but long before that, the apple was a symbol of knowledge. From Newton's observation came great invention and now the apple is an icon of one of the world's most powerful brands.



leading the way in intellectual property law

Griffith Hack is one of the largest and longest standing intellectual property firms in Australia. For the past 110 years we have been **leading the way** in providing a complete range of specialised intellectual property services and strategic advice for clever Australians.

The qualified attorneys and lawyers in our **fully integrated, national firm** confidently provide the highest standard of service in all patent, trade marks, designs and copyright matters, including intellectual property litigation.

Our primary focus is **protecting our clients' ideas** by creating intellectual property rights and defending those rights with relevant, sound and up-to-date specialist advice necessary for commercial success.

Highly regarded in the intellectual property industry, both nationally and internationally, Griffith Hack is recognised as one of Australia's leading intellectual property firms. Consistently ranked as the largest filer of Australian originating patent applications, Griffith Hack drafts close to 20% of Australia's total local patent applications from our offices in **Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth.**

Along with our strong, active, international network of associate firms, we have the intellectual resources to assist in organising the protection of our local clients' intellectual property overseas, and to assist overseas clients requiring **protection in Australia.**



Nanotechnology is at the forefront of modern engineering as scientists battle it out in the race to create the smallest viable technology. Imagine injecting a microscopic implant into a vein to prevent a heart attack or a digital device the size of a pinhead...it's only a matter of time.



a sought-after service

Griffith Hack offers a comprehensive, streamlined intellectual property service through our patent and trade mark attorney practices, our law firm, our licensing consultancy and through our partnership in a major international renewal service.

We enjoy our reputation for quality work with leading, innovative, technology-based businesses and research institutions. We believe our greatest assets are the people who work for us, and our most differentiating feature is the service they provide.

Our highly skilled professional groups work in technology-specific teams that are properly resourced and supported to ensure that our clients' requests are executed comprehensively and appropriately. Where an invention embraces a number of technologies, Griffith Hack brings together attorneys with different technical backgrounds and expertise to successfully support our client's needs.

We have expertise in a broad spectrum of industries and technologies including:

- Biotechnology
- Applied Chemical & Materials Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Civil & Structural Engineering
- Electrical & Electronic Engineering
- Biochemistry
- Pharmacology
- Microbiology & Immunology
- Polymer Chemistry
- Nuclear Physics
- Pure & Applied Chemistry
- Information & Communications Technology
- Pharmaceuticals
- Mining, Minerals & Metals Technology
- Physics

We recognise the importance of keeping up with new developments in our clients' businesses. We are actively involved in the local and international forums at which intellectual property matters are addressed and we keep our clients informed of any changes that may affect their intellectual property rights.





It's often said that twins are as alike as two peas in a pod, but just how alike are peas? The study of genetics can be traced as far back as the garden of Augustinian Monk Gregor Mendel, whose experiments on the humble pea plant led to the discovery of DNA – arguably one of the most valuable discoveries of all time.



expert advice

The intellectual resources that Griffith Hack offers its clients reflect the diverse professional backgrounds and industry experience of our patent and trade mark attorneys and intellectual property lawyers.

With an **unrivalled depth of technical expertise and litigation experience**, our specialised practice offers the highest calibre of intellectual property advice and services, tailored to meet the broad demands of individual client business strategies from registration to market to defence.

With more than 230 staff nationally, our 75+ highly qualified professionals are experienced in a wide range of fields. Many hold doctoral and post-graduate qualifications, with work and research experience in both industry and research institutes. A select number of our attorneys have **UK, European and US patent attorney qualifications** and experience and the majority of our attorneys and lawyers

regularly speak on IP at conferences and seminars, lecture at universities and write for industry publications.

Our 140+ support staff provide competent clerical, administrative and secretarial assistance as well as a wealth of experience in managing our clients' needs. Their expertise allows us to offer our clients **fast and efficient delivery** of our services.

Griffith Hack has a firm commitment to invest in recruiting professionals of the highest calibre to ensure our quality of service is maintained and enhanced. This, coupled with our specialised training programs and widespread support, ensures our attorneys are best equipped and at the **forefront of developments in intellectual property law**. We offer an unsurpassed premium service within the intellectual property profession, and we are confident that we will continue to do so in the years to come.





In 1948 George de Mestral took his faithful dog for a walk in the Swiss mountains. They both returned home covered in burrs, the plant seed pods that cling to passing animals in order to spread themselves over distance.

What he saw in the burr under the microscope was a new and unique way to fasten that would eventually rival the zipper. He named his invention 'velcro', a combination of the words 'velour' and 'crochet'.



Griffith Hack was created from the merger of two of Australia's oldest patent attorney firms; providing quality patent and trade mark services for the past 110 years.

Our history

Griffith Hack Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys and Lawyers can trace its roots back more than a century to two of the oldest patent attorney firms in Australia.

The national firm Griffith Hack & Co was created from the merger in 1988 of Griffith Hassel & Frazer in Sydney and Clement Hack & Co in Melbourne. Griffith Hack & Co then established patent attorney practices in Perth and Brisbane, and associated legal practices in Melbourne and Sydney. The firm's name was shortened to Griffith Hack in 1997.

Griffith Hassel & Frazer

Irish immigrant Arthur Griffith (born 1861) founded Arthur Griffith & Co in Sydney in 1895, practising as a patent attorney and consulting engineer. He became a member of the New South Wales Parliament, and was responsible for a Private Member's Bill which became law as the Patents and Trade Marks Act 1897 (NSW). He was Minister of Public Works from 1910, and the NSW town of Griffith was named in his honour. He was President of the Institute of Patent Attorneys of Australia in 1929-1930.

The firm's name changed to Griffith & Hassel when Charles Hassel joined Arthur Griffith in about 1908. It later

became Griffith Hassel & Griffith when Griffith's son, Sturt de Burgh Griffith, was admitted to the partnership in 1930. Sturt de Burgh Griffith served as President of the Institute in 1947-1948. The firm was purchased in 1949 by Dr. George Frazer, a Chartered Patent Agent from London, and the firm's name was changed to Griffith Hassel & Frazer in 1950.

Clement Hack & Co

Clement Hack (born Adelaide 1877) established the firm Clement A. Hack in 1904, having been registered as a patent attorney under the Patents Act 1903 (Commonwealth). He was a foundation Fellow of the Institute of Patent Attorneys of Australia in 1918, and served as its President from 1924 to 1926.

The firm became Clement Hack & Son, Ashton & White in 1936, William Ashton, Ronald White and Clement Hack's son, Barton, having joined in the intervening years. William Ashton was also a foundation Fellow of the Institute, and was its President in 1939-1940. Ronald White served two terms as President, in 1941-1942 and 1959-1960, while Barton Hack was President from 1949 to 1951. Barton's sixty years of service as a Fellow were marked in 1994 by his election as an Honorary Member of the Institute. The firm changed its name to Clement Hack & Co in 1946.

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