



Cara Austen

Over the past 15 years I've worked with businesses, in Australia and across Asia, to create and implement legal strategies to enhance and protect business growth. I have worked with small and large corporate clients, and government during my time in private practice at national law firms. I have spent a

significant amount of my career working in multi-national companies, both listed and privately held. I completed a Bachelor of Law with Honours and then went on to complete a Masters of Law with a double major: International Business & Economic Law; Corporate & Commercial Law.

I am a business lawyer (aka corporate and commercial) and have supported clients:

- Start-up, purchase, restructure and sell their businesses
- Acquire major business assets
- On employment issues, including policies and contracts, investigations, redundancies and terminations, employee equity arrangements, and labour-hire issues
- Create new business lines/divisions, covering off IP registrations, structuring and licencing
- To lease premises
- Create and implement regulatory compliance programs

Of all the industries I've worked in, my love is food and agriculture. I've now started Twine Business & Law Pty Ltd to provide actually helpful legal and business support to food, farm and family businesses. Examples of my work in the agri-food industry include:

- Advising on, and creation of, manufacturing agreements for plant-based food
- Protection of intellectual property in the agtech start-up space
- Due diligence, transactional and post-acquisition support for the acquisition of a major grain accumulator
- Long term agreements for the distribution of various food products, including par-baked products

I am comfortable pushing boundaries, "asking why?" and taking calculated risks. Because of my experience with start-ups and growing companies I quickly assess issues and work collaboratively to determine treatment plans. I have significant cross-cultural experience and work effectively with lawyers and clients across APAC.