



LexisNexis® Capital Monitor

Premium political monitoring

Overview

Maintaining an effective research and information monitoring program for hundreds of lawyers is a daunting task, especially when new legislation so often changes the foundations on which major decisions are made.

For Katie Albright, Research Librarian at the Knowledge Centre of law firm Herbert Smith Freehills, delivering research materials to the firm's many lawyers requires a wide net to capture information, and sweeping analytical capabilities to dissect it.

Herbert Smith Freehills is a global law firm with offices across Australia, Europe, North and Latin America, south-east Asia, China, South Korea and Japan, Africa and the Middle East.

In Australia, it boasts a local client list with many of Australia's Top 100 listed companies, as well as numerous international organisations. Its history stretches back over 150 years – clear evidence of valued partnerships through good, and not so good, times.

The company has 190 partners and about 800 lawyers based in offices around the country in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth. Its areas of expertise are expansive, covering capital markets, compliance and regulatory, competition, construction, employment, dispute resolution, corporate governance, energy, environment, finance, insurance, tax, investment, mining, infrastructure and many more.

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“*We've been using it for over 10 years now because it's always done the job so well, keeping legislation material and all the lobbying that has happened in that time – material that may otherwise be removed from government and industry bodies' websites.*”



Business Situation

With expertise covering a comprehensive range of practice areas, including commerce, government, finance, and social services, it is imperative that Herbert Smith Freehills has constant access to information prepared by political and parliamentary departments, lobby groups and business sector associations. With the volume of information produced daily, it is difficult to monitor and appropriately filter.

The Solution

Herbert Smith Freehills has relied on LexisNexis Capital Monitor for over ten years to provide a reliable, fast and accurate source of research material that it can count on to inform its partners. That successful relationship continues to this day, ensuring that Herbert Smith Freehills' lawyers are promptly and comprehensively updated on relevant new developments.

Capital Monitor provides political and parliamentary, legislative, regulatory and judicial news and information to subscribers – as it happens. An expert team, situated in the heart of the Parliamentary press gallery in Canberra, alerts Capital Monitor subscribers by email as new information becomes available.

These alerts can contain information relating to Parliamentary papers and reports, Bills, Acts, regulations, as well as Second Reading speeches, explanatory memoranda and digests. Also included are Hansard, rulings, determinations, ministerial directions and gazettes for commonwealth, state and territory governments.

Naturally, the High Court, Federal Court, Federal Magistrate's Court, Family Court and other Commonwealth Tribunals, as well as state Supreme Courts, are also included.

This enormous volume of content is maintained on Capital Monitor's comprehensive database. Subscribers can search

by keywords whenever they choose, for content on all Australian jurisdictions, including legislation reaching back to 1996.

By utilising the efficiencies of LexisNexis Capital Monitor database and alerts, Herbert Smith Freehills is able to receive relevant alerts of information from targeted sources as it is released, and track research resources as required to suit areas of interest to its legal staff.

Putting knowledge to good use

Herbert Smith Freehills has relied on Capital Monitor for over ten years, and it is easily accessible to all staff.

Katie Albright commented, *"It's a really straightforward database, and is quite easy to use. We've been using it for over 10 years now because it's always been reliable at, keeping legislation material and all the lobbying that has happened in that time – material that may otherwise have been removed from government and industry bodies' websites."*

"I would recommend it, not just for the legislation component, but for tracking things that aren't tracked elsewhere. You can tell that the people who monitor and manage the database understand all the different aspects of making legislation, as well as the lobbying and industry bodies that have a major voice in shaping our legislation process. They are all included in the database," said Ms Albright.

"The material that's included and the scope of the database are excellent. In terms of searching, the time saving factor, current awareness, alerting functions and being kept on top of things – they are all on a level that you wouldn't get elsewhere," said Ms Albright.

"It's imperative that we know what's happening in the areas we work in, and Capital Monitor is a good awareness model."

"It's a great service; there really isn't anything else like it."