

MEDIA STATEMENT

June 2009

Lawler Partners and Draper Dillon Join In New Independent CA Alliance

BRW Award-winning accounting firm Lawler Partners, together with Melbourne based firm Draper Dillon has announced plans to build a national alliance of like-minded independent firms focused at superior quality client service.

This puts the combined force of the two firms to 21 Partners and 220 staff, moving it higher up the league table of CA firms to the mid-tier level and enabling clients and staff greater depth of resources and opportunities.

“Together, we see a shared focus and synergies in not only the corporate and SME markets, but key practice areas of business recovery and insolvency, franchising and the registered club and liquor industries.” Terry Lawler, founding partner said.

“This initiative is about delivering greater client benefits. By having additional technical expertise we will bring greater strength to the clients our firms already service in NSW and Victoria, as well as in other States of Australia.”

Lawler Draper Dillon (as it will be known) and Lawler Partners are the first firms to affiliate with affiliations in Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth to follow.

From June 1, Steve Meyn, who built Lawler’s franchising business and IT consulting team, became the new Managing Director of Lawler Partners, allowing Terry Lawler to move into a role with the Lawler Partners National Alliance from that date.

Terry Lawler will continue to develop this national alliance in addition to expanding his current client service activities and responsibilities as a director of a number of community and business boards of advice.

“Our alliance is part of our strategy to ensure outstanding client service and provide opportunities for our people. We are very proud of the strong network, excellent business frameworks and established systems that we have developed”, commented Mr. Meyn.

Norm Draper, Managing Director of Draper Dillon said, “Both from a cultural and strategic perspective, we are a great match for each other and we believe that together we can provide a highly client focused service offering.”

“Together we remain on the look out for other client focused firms to join with us and create a real alternative in Australia in the SME market space”, said Mr. Draper.

“There will continue to be change in the mid-tier accounting market in Australia and we look forward to taking a leadership position in shaping this market”, Mr Meyn added.

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