



Deacons

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media release

Issued by: Deanna Lane

Title: Deacons an 'Employer of Choice for Women'

Deacons is proud to announce the achievement of an EOWA Employer of Choice for Women (EOCFW) award for 2007. We have been bestowed this honour as a result of a concerted effort to encourage Equal Opportunity for women in the workplace, since Deacons became a united, national firm in 2001.

Deacons has been recognised as being an employer who engages in "modern work practices and promotes a work-life balance as part of a strategy to increase productivity", thereby attracting and retaining skilled employees.

With 60-65 per cent of students coming through law schools being women, it is pertinent for any law firm to provide appropriate learning and development programs, talent management and mentoring for female lawyers.

At Deacons, there is a firm-wide emphasise on encouraging our senior women like Partners Kerry Ryan, Sally Macindo and Corporate and Commercial practice leader Elizabeth Hallet to mentor younger women and provide advice about what worked for them in progressing their careers.

In addition to these programs, the "Women at Deacons Committee" has been running successfully as part of an overall diversity program.

Don Boyd, Deacons' Chief Executive Partner noted that there are "more and more female senior executives in organisations, therefore more and more female clients, and they want a certain level of diversity. If firms cannot provide it, they run a risk of hindering their growth and development".

We are delighted to have been awarded Employer of Choice for Women as it is a recognition of our focused efforts in this regard.



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Note: Deacons has a strong presence throughout Asia with offices and affiliates in Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, People's Republic of China, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand, and strong working relationships with local firms in a number of other countries, including Vietnam and India. We provide international-class legal services combined with local know-how to a wide range of successful corporations, governments and public authorities, as well as to private businesses, financial institutions and individuals.

For more information please visit our website: www.deacons.com.au.

For media comment on topical corporate legal issues please contact Deanna Lane.