

CONCLAVES AND HOT TUBS: SUCCESS OR FAILURE – AN OVERVIEW

The use of expert evidence in contested proceedings is frequent and complex. It is perhaps for these reasons, the ‘hot tub’ method, in which experts give their evidence concurrently, and the use of expert conclaves (or joint meetings of experts) by Australian courts and agencies is becoming more prevalent.

Do concurrent expert evidence and the ‘hot tub’ really offer a more satisfactory experience of expert evidence for all involved? These methods can enable experts to concentrate on the ‘real issues’ between them and accordingly, can assist in clarifying and narrowing the issues in dispute. However, the methods can also go horribly wrong, particularly as there has been limited judicial guidance as to the manner in which they should be conducted.

Please join our panellists for an insightful lunch time discussion on the successes and failures of expert conclaves and the ‘hot tub’:

- **John Arneil**, Unisearch [CLICK HERE](#) for more information
- **Peter Axelrod**, Meridian Lawyers [CLICK HERE](#) for more information
- **Matthew Hickey**, Barrister [CLICK HERE](#) for more information

About Peter Axelrod

Peter is a solicitor advocate and former US trial lawyer dealing with a number of complex aviation tort cases involving experts giving contemporaneous evidence and is admitted to practice in both the US and Australia. In the US, he has acted in more than 100 jury and court trials arising from aviation incidents and he sits on the Legal Advisory Council of the Experimental Aircraft Association. Peter has published significant papers and is a regular speaker and trainer for the Australian Insurance Law Association and the College of Law in Sydney. He is a member of the numerous Associations in both Australia and the US. He was recognised in The Australian Financial Review “Best Lawyers” list from in each year from 2011 to 2016.

About Matthew Hickey

Matthew is an experienced commercial law barrister who was recently identified as one of Queensland’s leading building and construction counsel by Doyle’s Guide to the Australian Legal Profession. Briefed to advise upon and appear in proceedings in State and Federal Courts (including the High Court), and before various tribunals, inquests, and Commissions of Inquiry, Matthew is also experienced in mediations and large-scale commercial arbitration.

Matthew has acted in a number of trials involving contemporaneous expert evidence.

Before joining Level Twenty Seven Chambers, Matthew worked in a top-tier Australian firm. He brings to practice his considerable experience as a board member and director of numerous companies, charitable associations and community groups.

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Tuesday 16 August 2016

Venue: Sparke Helmore Lawyers
Level 25, 240 Queen Street, Brisbane

12:30pm REGISTRATION & LIGHT LUNCH
1:00pm INTRODUCTION & PRESENTATION
2:00pm CONCLUSION

**QLD SEMINAR:
Conclaves and Hot Tubs
Tuesday 16 August 2016**



ABN: 81 052 374 713

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Registration closes: Thursday 11 August 2016
