SCG LEGAL
A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF LEADING LAW FIRMS
MELBOURNE

2026 MIDYEAR MEETING | 26 – 27 March
The Langham, Melbourne
AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, 25 MARCH

19:00 – 21:00
Local Restaurants

EARLY ARRIVALS | NO HOST DINNERS
If you arrive in time for dinner, SCG Legal will coordinate the opportunity for you to dine with fellow network members from around the globe. Please contact Membership Coordinator Erin Kane (ekane@scglegal.com) to be included in reservations.

THURSDAY, 26 MARCH

8:00 – 17:00
Pre-Function Foyer

WELCOME DESK | CHECK-IN & ON-SITE REGISTRATION

11:30 – 13:00
Clarendon A

INFORMAL NETWORKING LUNCH | CATCH UP WITH SCG LEGAL'S BOARD & TEAM
Join us for this pre-event networking lunch, especially if it is your first SCG Legal meeting! Several tables will be reserved to host practice group meetups (including M&A and Litigation), offering you the opportunity to connect and catch up with attorneys who share a similar focus.
Advance registration is not required.

13:00 – 13:30
Pre-Function Foyer

COFFEE, CONFECTIONS & CONNECTIONS | NETWORK WITH FELLOW SCG MEMBERS

13:30 – 14:00
Clarendon BC

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS
- **Fabio Guzmán Saladín | Guzmán Ariza (Dominican Republic) | Board Chair, SCG Legal**
- **Alina Gorokhovsky | CEO, SCG Legal**
- **Mark Dunphy | Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne)**

14:00 – 14:45
Clarendon BC

SESSION | DOING BUSINESS IN ASIA: NAVIGATING OPPORTUNITY & COMPLEXITY
Asia remains one of the world's most dynamic regions for investment, innovation, and growth—but it also presents distinct legal, regulatory, and cultural challenges for foreign businesses. This panel brings together leading lawyers from across Asia to discuss emerging trends shaping the region including shifts in trade and investment policy, local market entry strategies, cross-border dispute resolution, and evolving corporate compliance expectations. Panelists will share practical insights and case examples to help firms and their clients successfully navigate the region's complexity and capitalize on new opportunities.
Moderator: Patrick Heid | GvW Graf von Westphalen (Germany)
Panelists:
- Saravana Kumar | Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (Malaysia)
- Darcy MacDermid | Matsuo & Kosugi (Japan)
- Shivpriya Nanda | JSA (India)
- John Tang | DHH (China: Beijing)

14:45 – 15:30
Clarendon BC

KEYNOTE | GAME ON: LEGAL CHALLENGES BEHIND GLOBAL SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS
Professor Jack Anderson, leading expert in sports law and Director of Sports Law Studies at Melbourne Law School.

Panel Discussion Following Keynote: Celeste Bruce | Rifkin Weiner Livingston (US: Maryland) & Martin Ross | Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne)

15:30 – 15:45
Pre-Function Foyer

BREAK | NETWORKING

15:45 – 16:15
Clarendon BC

#RAPIDiNSIGHTS | THE MODERN LITIGATOR: ELEVATING DISPUTE MANAGEMENT WITH INTEGRATED TECH AND GENAI

Take a deep dive into how integrated technology and Generative AI are transforming the way law firms handle data in disputes and investigations. This session will explore the evolving toolkit available to lawyers today, highlighting real-world use cases and practical examples. Attendees will gain insight into how these innovations are changing legal workflows—and how to effectively communicate their value to clients to drive successful outcomes.

Speaker: Kapilan Rasiah | Director, Business Development, TransPerfect Legal

16:15 – 17:00
Clarendon BC

SESSION | DEALS UNDER THE MICROSCOPE: NAVIGATING M&A AND COMPETITION LAW IN A HEIGHTENED ENFORCEMENT ERA

M&A transactions are facing heightened complexity and competition law scrutiny across key jurisdictions, affecting deal strategy, timing, and certainty. This panel will explore current M&A as well as antitrust enforcement trends, practical approaches to managing regulatory risk, and how deal teams can navigate multi-jurisdictional matters.

Moderator: Ed Paton | Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne)

Panelists:

- Hayley Buckley | Wynn Williams (New Zealand)
- Kate Newman | Mills & Reeve (UK)
- Bee Hong Ooi | Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (Malaysia)

17:00 – 17:30
Clarendon BC

CLOSING REMARKS & ADJOURNMENT

18:00
Hotel Lobby

TRANSPORTATION TO HALL & WILCOX FOR RECEPTION

Most no host dinner restaurants are located around the Hall & Wilcox office.

18:15 – 19:15

BUSINESS MADE SOCIAL RECEPTION AT HALL & WILCOX

Address for those not taking the bus: Level 31, Queen & Collins Tower, 376-390 Collins Street, 3000

Note: the hotel is only a 12-minute walk from Hall & Wilcox Office

19:30 – 21:30
Local Restaurants

NO HOST DINNERS | ALL MEMBERS

Please refer to the calendar invitation (emailed to you) for final details/directions. Restaurant information is also available in SCG's mobile app under **Events > 2026 Midyear Meeting: Melbourne > Venues**. If you did not receive an invitation to participate or a reservation confirmation, please contact Membership Coordinator Erin Kane (ekane@scglegal.com).

FRIDAY, 27 MARCH

8:00 – 17:00
Pre-Function Foyer

WELCOME DESK | CHECK-IN & ON-SITE REGISTRATION

8:00 – 9:00
Clarendon A

BREAKFAST | NETWORKING

9:00 – 10:00
Clarendon BC

SESSION | U.S. POLICY GLOBAL REACH: NAVIGATING GOVERNMENT IMPACT WORLDWIDE
Explore how U.S. government policy shapes business, trade, and legal landscapes across the globe. This panel will dive into the strategies, challenges, and opportunities that arise when U.S. regulatory and legislative actions intersect with international markets. Our expert speakers will provide insights into navigating government relations, understanding policy implications for cross-border clients, and anticipating global trends that impact legal practices and business strategy.
Moderator: Robert Rieger | Adams & Reese (US: Louisiana)
Panelists:
- Doug Chin | Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher (US: Hawaii)
- Heather Harris | Barnes & Thornburg (US: Indiana)
- Duane Pozza | Wiley (US: Washington, DC)
- Randi Valverde | Capitol Counsel & Consulting (US: New Mexico)

10:00 – 10:45
Clarendon BC

SESSION | FROM BREACH TO POLICY: MANAGING CYBERSECURITY & LIABILITY
This session explores the intersection of cybersecurity, legal liability, and insurance solutions. Expert speakers will discuss emerging cyber threats, regulatory implications, and best practices for managing risk. Attendees will gain insights into how insurance can complement legal strategies, mitigate exposure, and support clients in an increasingly digital and high-risk world.
Speakers:
- Stephan Menzemer | GvW Graf von Westphalen (Germany)
- Greg Simms | Wynn Williams (New Zealand)
- Eden Winokur | Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne)

10:45 – 11:00
Pre-Function Foyer

BREAK | NETWORKING

11:00 – 11:45
Clarendon BC

SESSION | HARNESSING AI: INSIGHTS FOR MODERN LEGAL PRACTICE
Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) is rapidly transforming the practice of law. This session will explore how law firms and legal professionals are leveraging GenAI today, the opportunities and challenges it presents, and its potential impact on the legal labor market. Panelists will discuss how AI is reshaping legal workflows, enhancing strategic decision-making, and driving innovation in client service. The conversation will also address practical applications, ethical considerations, and risk management strategies as firms integrate AI into their operations.

Speakers:
- Linda Björkenheim| Legora
- Sumith Perera | Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne)
- Jon Stenquist | Parsons Behle & Latimer (US: Idaho)
- Kimberley Wong | Wynn Williams (New Zealand)

11:45 – 12:30
Clarendon BC

SESSION | LITIGATION IN FOCUS: NAVIGATING COMPLEX DISPUTES
Examine the latest trends and best practices in litigation, including managing complex disputes, leveraging technology, and navigating regulatory and cross-border challenges. Speakers will share insights on effective strategies, risk mitigation, and achieving successful outcomes for clients in today's evolving legal landscape.
Moderator: Guillermo Bayas Fernández | AGM Abogados (Spain)
Panelists:
- Ian Clarke-Fisher | Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts)
- Thomas O'Dwyer | Beauchamps (Ireland)
- Rebeca Saunders | Wynn Williams (New Zealand)
- Stephanie Scharf | Scharf Banks Marmor (US: Chicago, IL)

12:30 – 13:30
Clarendon A

LUNCH | NETWORKING

13:30 - 14:30
Clarendon BC

KEYNOTE | CLIENT ILLUSIONS: HOW THE BRAIN SHAPES TRUST, EXPECTATIONS & LEGAL JUDGMENT
Alex Moffat, NeuroLeadership practitioner and award-winning magician.
In his presentation, Alex reveals how neuroscience and illusion can transform the way lawyers engage clients, sharpen business development instincts, and elevate decision-making. A globally recognized speaker, Alex blends decades of senior corporate leadership with more than 30 years as a cognitive illusionist. He has advised Fortune 500 companies and boutique firms alike, earning praise for turning complex concepts about mindset, trust, and human behavior into clear, memorable insights that stick long after the applause.

14:30 – 15:15
Clarendon BC

FIRESIDE CHAT | THE ART OF CLIENT LISTENING: INSIGHTS & BEST PRACTICES
This session will explore how law firms can design and implement effective client listening programs to enhance service, strengthen relationships, and uncover new business opportunities. Practical approaches to gathering client insights, interpreting feedback, and translating it into meaningful action that drives client satisfaction and firm growth will be shared.
Moderator: Tony Macvean | Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne)
Speakers:
- Rajeswari Karupiah | Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (Malaysia)
- Liz Sobe | Robinson+Cole (US: Massachusetts)
- Charles Staveley | Mills & Reeve (UK)

15:15 – 15:30
Pre-Function Foyer

BREAK | NETWORKING

15:30 – 16:30
Clarendon BC

SESSION | CORPORATE COUNSEL IN FOCUS: NAVIGATING LEGAL & BUSINESS PRIORITIES
This highly anticipated session offers direct access to the minds of leading corporate counsel as they share perspectives on managing legal risk, driving business strategy, and building effective relationships with outside counsel. Topics will include legal department priorities, operational challenges, and strategies for delivering value in a rapidly evolving corporate and regulatory landscape.
Moderator: Oliver Jankowsky | Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne)
Panelists:

- Jodi Fullarton-Healey | Chief Legal Officer, Regulatory & Commercial, National Australia Bank
- Belinda Muir | Group General Counsel, Fusion5
- Anna Tran-Bursill | Legal Counsel, Dennis Family Corporation

16:30 – 16:45
Clarendon BC

CLOSING SESSION & REMARKS

18:00
Hotel Lobby

TRANSPORTATION TO RECEPTION & CLOSING BANQUET

18:45 – 22:00

RECEPTION & CLOSING BANQUET | The Iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground

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SCG Legal Extends Its Deep Appreciation to HOST FIRM

Hall & Wilcox

for its Generous Support & Hospitality!

Future In-Person Opportunities

More details released as available.

2026
Annual Meeting > Sept 17 & 18 in Washington, DC
@ INTA > 3 May in London
@ IBA > 4 Oct in Copenhagen

more details available @ scglegal.com/events

A SPECIAL 'THANK YOU' TO OUR VETTED SOLUTION PARTNERS

This Midyear Meeting is sponsored in part by the following Network Partners:

TRANSPERFECT LEGAL

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LEGORA

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