

Intellectual Property Advisory

Large Multinational Business

1 SITUATION

Deloitte was engaged by a large multinational business to conduct an audit of intellectual property (IP) within a division of the business. This IP had been created over a long period of time and the business wanted to ensure that the processes, owners and information attached to the IP were correct and valid.

2 CHALLENGE

Being a multinational business, the client wanted to ensure that their obligations within documenting, record keeping, maintenance and reporting met all local and international laws and requirements. There was an added complexity of the IP having been created over several years. We conducted a stakeholder-led approach, which meant conducting stakeholder interviews with key personnels to validate and capture the appropriate information.

Following the stakeholder interviews, we began building a register of IP and data assets, categorised by the IP type and all information required to verify ownership. Here, we were able to thoroughly audit the IP and understand any risks related to the management or processes for the business' IP. Following this, an assessment was conducted on the governance, processes, training, procedures and the systems required to uplift the business' IP management.

3 SOLUTION

After building a new register for data and IP assets, Deloitte consulted with the business' General Counsel to provide a view on future management of governance of IP - this included a review of policies and procedures. An assessment of the governance procedures as well as recommendations were then presented to the Board for their consideration. We were able to provide the full audit to the business as well as strengthen their IP management processes, leading to lower future risks and compliance.

