

Dispute Resolution

National Dispute Centre

In December 1993 the National Dispute Centre was opened by the Federal Attorney General, the Honourable Michael Lavarch M.P. The Centre is located in Macquarie Street, Sydney adjacent to the Supreme Court of NSW and the Federal Court of Australia.

The stated objectives of the National Dispute Centre are:

- to develop and promote dispute resolution methods both in conjunction with the courts and outside the stream of conventional litigation;
- to be a national contact point for all types of domestic and international dispute resolution; and
- to provide the best facilities available for the conduct of all types of dispute resolution proceedings.

The National Dispute Centre offers all forms of dispute resolution, including:

- arbitration;
- mediation;
- court reference;
- early neutral evaluation;
- expert appraisal; and
- expert determination.

The patrons of the Centre are:

Ninian Stephen AK GCMG GCVO KVE
 Ian Burgess AO
 John Ralph AO
 Sir Bruce Watson Kt.

The Honorary President of the Centre is Sir Laurence Street AC KCMG. The Chairman is the recently retired Chief Justice of the Commercial Division of the NSW Supreme Court, the Honourable Andrew Rogers QC. The Chairman of the Judicial Committee is Mr Justice Bryan Beaumont. The Executive Director of the Centre is Mr Vince Bruce QC.

The National Dispute Centre's facilities include:

- 9 hearing/conference rooms with seating for up to 80 people;
- 8 mediation rooms;
- 18 conference rooms;
- 7 offices for use by arbitrators and mediators.

All rooms are soundproofed.

The Centre's ancillary services include:

- teleconferencing facilities in every room;
- direct dial speaker telephone in every room;

- facsimile and photocopying services;
- video facilities;
- electronic white board;
- individual facsimile machines;
- individual computer modems;
- same day transcript service, with optional real time access to transcript;
- after hours entry;
- after hours air conditioning;
- security storage;
- access to law library;
- catering service; and
- self service kitchen on each floor.

Contact details for the Centre are as follows:

National Dispute Centre
 233 Macquarie Street
 Sydney NSW 2000

Tel: 61 2 223 1044
 Fax: 61 2 221 4746

DX 236 Sydney

The Institute of Arbitrators Australia has relocated its offices to the National Dispute Centre.

Similarly, LEADR (Lawyers Engaged in Alternative Dispute Resolution) has also relocated to the National Dispute Centre.