MEDIA RELEASE

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**MELBOURNE, XX September 2019**

**Rigby Cooke Lawyers back local manufacturers with AMTIL partnership**

Melbourne lawyers Rigby Cooke have been announced as the exclusive Corporate Partner for legal for the Australian Manufacturing and Technology Institute Limited (AMTIL), cementing their ongoing commitment to servicing Australia’s manufacturing industry.

The partnership formalises a longstanding relationship between Rigby Cooke and AMTIL, and follows Rigby Cooke’s recent opening of a business hub in Melbourne’s South East, a region which accounts for [44 per cent](https://www.semma.com.au/region/) of Victoria’s manufactured product.

Rigby Cooke Lawyers Managing Partner Bill Karvela said the partnership was a perfect fit.

“We have an extensive background with manufacturing clients, and we understand the challenges this industry faces, but also the great opportunities it presents,” said Mr Karvela.

“Our manufacturing clients, small and large, benefit from the full suite of industry-informed services, including commercial agreements, acquisitions, intellectual property advice, employment and WHS, customs and trade advice, litigation, insolvency and tax advice, which we are excited to offer to all AMTIL members.

“This partnership grows our existing commitment to the manufacturing industry, which will also be supported by our South East Business Hub in the heart of Victorian manufacturing – Melbourne’s South East.

“Rigby Cooke believes that the manufacturing industry has a great future in Victoria particularly as many businesses, and many of our clients, transition to advanced manufacturing techniques.

A [recent report](https://www.pwc.com.au/education/industry-proposal-13may2019.pdf) from PwC highlighted the transition to “Industry 4.0” – the emergence of the Internet of Things, the incorporation of Artificial Intelligence into manufacturing processes and end-to-end autonomation – was already underway.

“Businesses need strong advice around the regulatory and legislative issues as they make begin to incorporate new techniques, and develop new technologies,” said Mr Karvela.

“AMTIL are also at the forefront of this transition, having set up an Additive Manufacturing Hub, which supports businesses in the development and implementation of new technologies.”

AMTIL also recently announced its business finance partnership with Interlease. Rigby Cooke and Interlease join AMTIL’s existing line up of corporate partners which includes energy partner AGL and accounting/financial advice partner William Buck.

AMTIL CEO Shane Infanti said AMTIL was very pleased to be able to welcome Rigby Cooke and Interlease aboard as the latest additions to their Corporate Partnership program.

“Both companies have longstanding relationships with AMTIL over the years and we are looking forward to working with them more closely as partners going forward. We have no doubt that these partnerships will bring outstanding new benefits for AMTIL’s members,” said Mr Infanti.

**Notes to Editor**Bill Karvela is Rigby Cooke Lawyers Managing Partner and the practice group leader of its Corporate & Commercial group. He specialises in providing commercially-focussed advice to publicly listed companies, listed and unlisted industry funds, major property developers and private organisations.

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**ABOUT RIGBY COOKE LAWYERS**

*Our People: Your Success*Rigby Cooke Lawyers is a Victorian commercial law firm providing specialist legal advice, supported by in-depth industry knowledge to public and private sector clients across Australia

With origins that can be traced back to the 1840s, we have earned our reputation of achieving success for - and with - our clients, by remaining adaptive to change. We do this by understanding each of our clients’ businesses and industry, and by staying at the forefront of changes in technology and legislation.