

Hamilton Locke acquires The Fold Legal

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The holding company of rising firm Hamilton Locke has acquired regulatory advisory practice The Fold Legal. Earlier on Thursday, 17 June, Halo Group Holdings Pty Ltd – the holding company for Hamilton Locke, which has offices in Sydney and Melbourne – announced it had acquired specialist industry-focused practice The Fold Legal, which provides regulatory, corporate and commercial advice to financial services and credit businesses nationally. The Fold Legal will join on 1 July 2021.

The acquisition follows the firm’s stated intent to list. In March of this year, Hamilton Locke managing partner Nick Humphrey (pictured) spoke to Lawyers Weekly about why listing on the Australian Stock Exchange is the next “logical step” on the firm’s journey and for its growth trajectory.

Following the acquisition, Halo Group’s total staff has now reached 131, after Hamilton Locke’s recent hires, including a partner, senior associate and lawyer from DWF earlier in June, a litigation partner in May, a special counsel in its property team in March, and two BigLaw partners in December last year.

Speaking about the acquisition, Mr Humphrey said that the firm is “delighted” to have The Fold Legal join its ranks. “The Fold Legal’s business is strategically aligned with our business, and extends our existing service offerings, while continuing our group’s focus on empowering exceptional people to deliver essential corporate services to clients,” he said.

“We are excited to welcome The Fold Legal’s people into our group.”

The Fold Legal chairman Claire Wivell Plater added: “Halo Group’s people-first culture and commitment to excellence aligns perfectly with our core values and will enhance our ability to attract and retain great staff to support our plans for growth.

We are excited by the opportunity to offer a broader range of professional services to our clients and to collaborate with Halo’s skilled professionals on the large and complex transactions for which we are increasingly engaged.” Halo Group is the holding company not only of Hamilton Locke but also outsourced company secretarial and governance business Emerson CoSec, outsourced legal counsel and HR services business, Source, and leading trademark registration business, MacMillan Trademarks.