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IAM 1000 The Patent 1000 focuses exclusively on patent practice and has firmly established itself as the definitive 'go-to' resource for those seeking world-class legal patent expertise.

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Since its establishment in 2017 boutique Pearce IP has dominated in the area of pharmaceutical patents. Thanks to its deep bench of talented professionals, any life sciences brief is dispatched with alacrity and poise. Pacing the group is eponymous founder **Naomi Pearce**. With a background in molecular biology and stints at global pharma heavyweights, she fully understands the IP needs of the industry leaders; her practice traverses the contentious/non-contentious divide with ease. Also on deck are **Chris Vindurampulle** and **Jacinta Flattery-O'Brien**. The former is a frequent contributor to the research and start-up sector, providing education and mentoring on the topics of identifying, protecting and leveraging intangible assets; while the latter draws judiciously upon her doctoral pedigree to provide commercially minded counsel to big names in the biopharmaceutical sector. The duo's superb technical expertise has seen them entrusted with Novo Nordisk's Association of Southeast Asian Nations patent portfolio. Joining the team in February 2024, former Baker McKenzie lawyer **Helen Macpherson** has a particular focus in her career working with tech clients on high-value patent mandates.

Recommended Individuals

Julie Ballance
New Zealand

Jacinta Flattery-O'Brien
Australia

Paul Johns
New Zealand

Naomi Pearce
Australia

Chris Vindurampulle
Australia

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Pharmaceuticals and biotechnology remain the hot spots in the Australian patent landscape - although the filings have dropped from the peak in 2021. In the healthcare sector, pharmaceuticals, medical technology and biotechnology have been particularly dominant, accounting for 13.8%, 12.5% and 10.3% of new filings, respectively. However, there has been...

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- Pearce IP
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- **Corrs Chambers Westgarth** - Highly Recommended
- **Herbert Smith Freehills LLP** - Highly Recommended
- **King & Wood Mallesons** - Highly Recommended — Quick View — View firm
- **Allens** - Recommended
- **Baker McKenzie** - Recommended
- **Bird & Bird LLP** - Recommended
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New Zealand

In November 2022, the long-delayed Plant Variety Rights Bill in New Zealand received royal assent and became the Plant Variety Rights Act 2022. Effective from January 2023, it allows the country to meet its obligations under the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership. While New Zealand is not a...

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Firms (12) | Individuals (44) | **Other recommended experts** | Ordered Alphabetically

Computer scientist **Matt Adams** moves to FB Rice after his four-year journey at AJ Park. He specialises in protecting, registering and licensing patents in the computer and IT sectors. At Blue Penguin IP, meticulous patent attorney **Jon Ashen** displays extensive knowledge in their respective scientific specialties. Ashen, a former patent examiner at the USPTO and IPONZ, holds a PhD in molecular biology and specialises in plant variety rights and synthetic biology-related patent matters. **Jo Shaw** is a specialist in vaccines and drugs development, and she churns out patent applications with the utmost precision for heavyweights in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical sectors. She can be found at Zone Patents. At Pearce IP, **Julie Ballance** has an illustrious list of patrons that includes global corporations in the pharmaceutical and chemical industries. Joining her, with over 20 years of commercial litigation experience under his belt, strategically minded **Paul Johns** manages and resolves IP disputes with dexterity. He recently joined the firm as Head of Litigation from another outfit ranked in this chapter. Anchoring the IP commercialisation firm Bowie Yorke with verve, the eponymous **Allan Bowie** and **Scott Yorke** are good at maximising value for innovators in the region. Commercially savvy Bowie is a fan favourite of cutting-edge technology companies, universities and research institutes when it comes to high-value transactional negotiations and licensing; Yorke has an eye for commercialisation in the tech space. Organic chemistry doctorate **Jane Calvert** at Southern Cross Intellectual Property has extensive experience in IP matters and an impressive clientele, including a number of major biotech, functional food, process chemistry, medical device and pharmaceutical companies. Davies Collison Cave alumnus **Humphrey Foote** founded Foote Intellectual Property in 2022. A trusted guide through the biotech-related patenting process, he comes equipped with a doctorate in molecular biology. A dedicated IP veteran who has practised in the IP field for more than five decades, the eponymous **Jim Piper** of Pipers has held senior positions as both a council member and examiner with the New Zealand Institute of Patent Attorneys throughout his career.

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Australia

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Firms (48) | Individuals (160) | **Other recommended experts** | Ordered Alphabetically

Licensing expert **Anthony Alder** of Alder IP draws on his 10 years of in-house experience and background in biotechnology to execute commercialisation deals for companies in the medical devices sector. A mechanical engineer by trade, **Hayden Barke** operates out of Argon IP in Melbourne. Prior to that, he was a crucial member at IP powerhouses Griffith Hack and Davies Collison Cave. RnB IP is currently home to senior patent attorneys and co-founders **Bill Bennett** and **Marty Richardson**. Bennett draws on his experience at the APO to skilfully prosecute patents and designs for Australian and New Zealand companies; whereas ex-APO examiner Richardson has built a thriving practice around digital signal processing, satellite communication and radio propagation. Solubility's **Jeff Bergmann** has dedicated his 25-year career to commercialising intellectual property for a diverse set of rights holders. **Catherine Boxhall** spearheads the commercial IP boutique Integra Law. The scientifically adept team, under the stewardship of Boxhall, works closely with research organisations, investors, start-ups, SMEs and multinationals to commercialise their latest inventions. Life sciences maven **Wayne Condon** at Biopharmalex has over 40 years' experience as a contentious IP lawyer in handling complex patent litigations in Trans-Tasman courts. A mechanical engineer by trade, **Michael Cooper** at the eponymous Cooper IP has a stellar résumé that has proven invaluable for clients who seek tech-savvy advice for their latest cutting-edge inventions. At FAL Lawyers, **Peter Francis** and **Jenni Lightowlers** are authorities on closing technology commercialisation deals for research entities. Having a flair for the fine print of delicate patent drafting, chemistry PhD **Andrew Jones** founded Foundry Intellectual Property in 2013 and has helped hundreds of clients establish their optimal IP strategy. Being known for his strategic and robust approach to resolving IP disputes, **James Lawrence** recently switched from Mills Oakley to Addisons. He has earned himself a reputation as a splendid IP litigator. At Blackwattle IP, software and computers specialist **Paul Mahony** draws upon more than two decades of patent experience to help telecommunications investors grow their businesses and safeguard their IP rights. IP maven **Robert McInnes** is a fan favourite when it comes to commercialisation. Now operating out of his own eponymous boutique, for over three decades he has been assisting patrons in planning, negotiating and drafting licensing agreements. With over 35 years in IP law, ex-MinterEllison alumnus **Wayne McMaster** provides comprehensive IP protection strategies and patent infringement and invalidity opinions from his eponymous base at Wayne McMaster Intellectual Property Counsel. Formerly the managing partner at an IP firm in Washington DC, **Brett Nelson** now offers invaluable IP counsel to a wide array of clients, from start-ups to multinationals, at HopgoodGanim Lawyers. **Matt Ward** takes an innovative approach to IP protection at Forward Intellectual Property, having fine-tuned his skills over nearly two decades as a patent attorney and lawyer. **Kieran Williams** has unparalleled pharmaceutical insight from his stint as a clinical pharmacology scientist at GSK, and as a post-doctoral research fellow on topics of neurobiology and neuroimmunology. He recently joined the team at Forte IP.

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