



Tony Sutherland

Biographical Details

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Tony Sutherland is the principal of **Ess Consulting** (a division of Ess Pty Ltd), providing management and information consulting, specialising in strategy and planning; analysis and deployment of systems for strategic advantage, within organisations of all sizes.

Tony graduated with Distinction from the Western Australian Institute of Technology in 1981 with a Bachelor of Business (Information Processing). In 1989 he completed a Master of Information Systems degree at Curtin University, graduating with Distinction. He was awarded the R D Galliers Medal for best Master's student. Tony's research concentrated on the planning, management and use of information systems for competitive advantage.

For more than thirty-five years Tony has provided consulting services to a wide range of clients in Australia and overseas, including:

1. **Health and Hospitals** (including the commissioning of the Fiona Stanley Hospital (FSH), incorporating setup and operation of FSH ICT, and review of the provision of services by the Facilities Manager);
2. **Justice and Legal related organisations** (including the NSW Attorney-General's Department, ACT Courts and Tribunals, WA Ministry of Justice, WA Parliamentary Counsel's Office, Family Court of Australia, Federal Court of Australia, WA Police Service, NSW Workers Compensation Commission, Royal Commissions, the Australian Securities Commission, WA State Law Publisher, Victorian Traffic Accident Commission Legal Services Unit, WA Crown Law Department, WA Legal Aid Commission, WA State Solicitor's Office, WA Crown Solicitor's Office, Corporate Affairs Department - Rothwells Taskforce, Dwyer & Thomas, Ilbery Barblett & O'Dea, Jackson McDonald, John Butler Stephen Crooks, Kim Wilson & Co, Pullinger Sanderson & Workman);
3. **Land and Planning related organisations** (Landgate WA (formerly the Department of Land Information) on the "Shared Land Information Platform" programme, Department for Planning and Infrastructure on the "electronic Land Development Process" programme, eDA National Coordination Office on the "electronic Development Assessment Interoperability Specification (eDAIS)" programme);

4. **Universities and Schools** (Curtin University, Presbyterian Ladies College, All Saints College, Yeshiva University);
5. **Financial Investment Institutions** (Armstrong Jones Management Limited);
6. **Insurance Companies** (Jardine Australian Insurance Brokers, Jardine Insurance Brokers - Australia and Hong Kong, NCUiS, RAC Insurance);
7. **Computer Vendors** (NEC Singapore, Oracle Australia Pty Ltd);
8. **Software Development companies** (Coram Solutions, Execom Conversions, Justice Systems Technologies, LawNow Limited, Lasata Pty Ltd, Systems Union);
9. **Mining Conglomerates** (BHP Billiton Iron Ore, BHP Iron Ore, BHP DRI Pty Ltd, Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd, Hamersley Iron Power Division);
10. **State Government departments** (Department of Finance – Decommissioning of Shared Services, Department of Finance (Corporate Services Redesign), Government Procurement, Building Management Authority, Department of Employment and Training, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Finance, Department of Resources Development, Office of Racing and Gaming, Workcover WA);
11. **Local Government** (City of Melville);
12. **High Technology Manufacturers** (Intellect Australia, Intellect Holdings);
13. **Port Authorities** (Fremantle Port Authority, Fremantle Ports);
14. **Automobile Clubs** (Royal Automobile Club of W.A.);
15. **Medical Care Providers** (Australian Health, Silver Chain Nursing Association);
16. **Telecommunications Providers** (Telecom Australia); and
17. **Various Other Organisations** (Attadale Seafoods, Australian Labor Party WA Branch).

Tony has provided business, information and systems planning and strategy facilitation services and direction for numerous clients. Much of this work was directed according to the Soft Systems Methodology (and its variant, the Corporate Systems Methodology). Selected clients that Tony has worked for in this discipline include the following.

Strategic and Business Planning / Reviews / Modeling / Re-design including Business Process Re-engineering

- Department of Finance;
- Coram Solutions Pty Ltd;
- Execom Group;
- Lawnow Limited;
- Ministry of Justice (WA) - Overall, Courts;
- Ministry of Justice (WA) - Criminal Injuries Recoveries;
- WA Police Service;
- Telecom Australia;

Information Planning

- BHP Billiton Iron Ore;
- Coram Solutions Pty Ltd;
- Curtin University;
- Ministry of Justice - Overall, Courts;
- Office of Information and Communications;
- WA Police Service;
- Royal Automobile Club of W.A.;
- Workcover (WA);

Information Systems Planning

- All Saints College;
- Australian Labor Party WA Branch;
- BHP Iron Ore Ltd - Overall, Railroad, Marketing, Ore Processing;
- Building Management Authority;
- Crown Law Department;
- Department of Employment and Training;
- Department of Resources Development;
- Fremantle Port Authority;
- Hamersley Iron Power Division;
- Intellect Australia;
- Intellect Holdings;
- Jardine Australian Insurance Brokers;
- John Butler Stephen Crooks;
- Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia;
- Office of Racing and Gaming;
- Victorian Traffic Accident Commission.

Examples of specific strategic direction and facilitation exercises include:

- 1. Systems Union** - participation in corporate management groups, across four companies spanning four countries and three continents, including facilitation of sessions to set the strategic direction for the Research & Development arms of the associated companies;
- 2. Ministry of Justice** - facilitation of workshop sessions determining the strategies and priorities for the Courts Directorate;
- 3. Ministry of Justice** - completion of the Court Process Review, which developed a clear consistent view of processes performed within Courts, across all jurisdictions, including facilitation of all sessions across all levels of personnel in courts;
- 4. Ministry of Justice** - production of the Criminal Justice Strategic Information Plan, setting the strategic direction for a single integrated virtual justice system in Western Australia;
- 5. Telecom Australia** - business plan (encompassing financial, marketing, systems and human resources plans) for a service unit within Telecom;
- 6. Ministry of Justice** - information planning exercises, including facilitation of strategic direction sessions with judiciary, and senior executive within the Ministry and other government agencies;

- 7. Shared Land Information Platform** - facilitation of sessions and discussions setting the strategic direction for implementation of this common system for use across government in the geospatial industry;
- 8. Railroad Division of BHP Iron Ore** - consideration of changes in business approach, based on future activity modeling and information needs analysis;
- 9. Crown Law Department** - development of strategy for information systems, involving substantial consultation with senior members of the Department, including the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia, the Chief Judge of the District Court, the Chief Stipendiary Magistrate, the Crown Solicitor, the Solicitor General, and the Under-Secretary for Law;
- 10. WA Police Service** - recommendations as to the new organisational structure for the Information Management function;
- 11. Review of the Operation of Court Reporting Services in Western Australia** - detailed analysis of business requirements and the need for such a service, consulting with all relevant stakeholders, internal and external to Government;
- 12. electronic Development Assessment Interoperability Specification** - facilitation of workshops to define and document the National standard for transfer of land development assessment information between diverse organisations;
- 13. Coram Solutions, Harris & Sutherland Pty Ltd, Corporate Systems Group** - as CEO of these organisations, setting strategic direction for the organisation, based on consultation with involved members, as well as according to Board of Directors principles.

Tony has provided training and management presentations on a variety of topics, and has acted as an expert witness in a number of large legal cases. Tony has wide experience and expertise in the definition, design and implementation of large-scale corporate systems, based on open standards and state-of-the-art technologies.

Tony also has extensive management experience, having been Director of the Corporate Systems Group of Companies, General Manager of Execom Consulting, Manager - Courts Division of Lawnow Limited, Chief Executive Officer of Coram Solutions Pty Ltd, Development Manager - Lasata Software Pty Ltd, SLIP Program Director, eLDP Programme Manager, and General/Programme Manager, Corporate Services in Agencies Decommissioning.

Tony is a past President and Vice President of the Western Australian Society for Computers and the Law; past Chairman of the Electronics and Information Industry Association of Western Australia; and past Chairman of the Software Industries Association of Western Australia. Tony is a Member of the IEEE and the ACM (USA) and Member of the ACS and Company Directors Association (Australia).

Tony has presented a number of papers in the justice and other areas, including:

- "eDAIS (electronic Development Assessment Interoperability Specification) Overview" for the Innovation in Planning and Assessment conference, Sydney, NSW, 6th August 2008;
- "Justice in the Midst of Technological Turmoil", SuperSession presentation at the Courts Technology Conference 7, organized by the National Center for State Courts, held at Baltimore, Maryland, USA, 14th August 2001;
- "Internet and Beyond: A New Order for Justice?" - Keynote presentation at the Technology for Justice 2 conference, organised by the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration (AIJA), Melbourne, Australia, 9th October 2000; and
- "The Digital World and its impact on the Legal World" (concerning digital signatures, digital fraud, etc) at the Technology for Justice conference, organised by the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration (AIJA), Melbourne, Australia, 23-25 March 1998.

Tony also contributed to the "Technology and the Law" report by the Victorian Law Reform Committee (May 1999) and was the major writer of section 5.3 "Justice and Technology" for the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia Review of the Criminal and Civil Justice System - Project 92 (June 1999).