

Rob Smith

Partner in Melbourne

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Rob has over 25 years professional experience advising corporates, lenders and investors across Australia, the US and Asia. Rob specialises in working with companies with financial and strategic challenges, as well as assisting healthy businesses to grow or perform better.

Rob has led numerous complex restructuring engagements, business improvement and transformation assignments, independent business reviews, strategy implementations, complex insolvencies, safe harbour engagements and held a number of senior interim executive positions. Rob was a board member of ASX listed Boart Longyear Ltd for four years, the largest drilling company in the world.

Rob is a Registered Liquidator and has extensive experience delivering services in financial services, retail, mining and mining services, construction, energy, gaming, consumer goods, start ups, infrastructure and manufacturing.

Engagement Experience —

Restructuring and Insolvency

- Voluntary Administrator of Pro Pac Packaging Group (ASX: PPG), one of Australia's largest distributors and manufacturers of packaging goods.
- Voluntary Administrator of Bedford Group, one of Australia's largest disability services and employment providers.
- Voluntary Administrator of a variety of consumer businesses, including Billson's Beverages, Fox Friday, Carwyn Cellars and Top Shelf International (ASX: TSI).
- Voluntary Administrator of various technology businesses and start-ups, including Big Village, Data Republic, IRExchange, Unlockd and YBF.
- Voluntary Administrator of various manufacturing businesses, including Carbon Revolution, Mackay Consolidated Industries and Pacific HVAC Engineering.
- Receiver of Openpay Group Limited (ASX: OPY), a buy now pay later business.
- Receiver of Australian Road Express and Rivet Mining Services East, transport and mining services businesses respectively.
- Receiver of the iON group of energy businesses, including Mojo Power and QEnergy.
- Adviser to Keppel Infrastructure Trust, in respect of the Voluntary Administration and Receivership of Basslink.

Qualifications & Memberships —

- Member, CA ANZ
- Registered Liquidator
- Member, ARITA
- Member, TMA
- Graduate Diploma of Applied Finance and Investment
- Bachelor of Commerce, University of Melbourne

Board Roles —

- Non-Executive Director, Boart Longyear Limited (ASX: BLY), from 2017 to 2021



McGrathNicol

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- External administrator of insolvencies of other trading businesses in the property, retail, manufacturing, automotive, food and technology industries.
- Safe harbour advisor to various businesses, including in manufacturing, distribution, infrastructure and retail.
- Advisor to the banking syndicate and monitoring of McAleese Limited.
- Advisor to US noteholders and the local syndicate of a large, listed construction business.
- Advisor and independent business reviews for boards and lenders of more than 25 distressed companies in various industries.

Transactions, Strategy and Business Improvement

- Buy side operational due diligence on Global Express for Allegro's successful acquisition of the business.
- Lead adviser to Mountain Goat in its preparation and ultimate sale to Asahi Beverages.
- As part of a large transformation program led a team at EnergyAustralia in supporting the PMO and providing bespoke consulting, modelling, reporting and secondment services over 18 months.
- Strategy advisor to a listed wealth management business, including project management of planning through to implementation of key strategic initiatives using the Valkryie project management system.
- Strategy adviser to a large not for profit education provider, which operated early learning to secondary school services across Australia. Led a bottom up strategic and cultural review of the organisation.
- Strategy adviser to City West Water and Greater Western Water in relation to their merger and integration in 2021.
- Financial buy side due diligence of entities in the online gaming industry.
- Project management of the consolidation of Autodom Limited's three manufacturing plants into one in South Australia, as part of a receivership.
- Buy and sell side due diligence assignments for more than 30 transactions, including clients in private equity and corporates.

Governance and Assurance

- Non-Executive Director of ASX listed Boart Longyear Ltd from September 2017 to November 2021, including being a member of the Restructuring Committee (overseeing a scheme of arrangement restructure) and Audit, Risk and Safety Committee.
- Led more than 20 independent business reviews and regular monitoring of company performance for up to three years on behalf of secured lenders.
- Audit and assurance services from 2000 to 2007 with EY.