

Sutton on Insurance Law

Ian Enright and Robert Merkin, *Sutton on Insurance Law* (4th edn), volumes 1 and 2, Thomson Reuters, 2015, hb \$295

Professor Kenneth Sutton's first edition of *Insurance Law in Australia and New Zealand* was published in 1980. Since then it has been a seminal text for Australian insurance lawyers. The third edition was published in 1999, and Professor Sutton was working on a new edition when he passed away in 2004.

The authors of this fourth edition are highly respected and widely known in the insurance industry. In their preface, they have acknowledged their debt to Professor Sutton, stating that they have retained much of his previous text, including his unpublished amendments, while drawing upon a mass of new material. This much is clear. The third edition was contained in one sprawling volume, but the new edition is so large that it has been spilt into two elegant hardback volumes. It is also available as an e-book.

In the previous edition there were 18 chapters, and now there are 24, including new chapters specifically devoted to regulation of the insurance market, as well as property, life, marine and liability insurance. In addition, the existing chapters have been extensively rewritten and updated. The text is clear and well organised, with a helpful table of contents for every chapter and a detailed index. There are extensive footnotes for further reference.

The authors acknowledge the Honourable Michael Kirby as their consulting editor. Over the course of his career, he has in various different capacities significantly influenced the development and reform of Australian insurance law, and his involvement adds to the authority of this edition.

This long-awaited edition of *Sutton* is excellent, and is indispensable for all insurance practitioners. ■

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