

MITCHELL H. HOOKE B. RUR. Sc. U.N.E., M.A.I.A.

CAREER SUMMARY

Mitchell H Hooke (Mitch) is globally recognised for his in-depth knowledge and strategic leadership in both Australian and global public policy advocacy, and commercial operational practices, spanning over 35 years as a national and international industry leader across the agricultural, food and grocery, and mining industries.



Born of the land in Victoria, educated in its agricultural ecosystems disciplines at the University of New England, and a pioneer of zero tillage farming systems as an agricultural advisor early in his career on the Darling Downs in Southern Queensland, Mr. Hooke moved to Canberra in 1988 where he consecutively served as Chief Executive Officer of the Grains, Food and Grocery, and Minerals Councils of Australia (MCA), retiring from both the MCA and the International Council on Mining and Metals at the end of 2013.

In addition to his role with GPA, Mr. Hooke is Chairman of Partners in Performance International – a global management consulting firm uniquely positioned across minerals resources, agricultural, industrial manufacturing and services industries. He is also a Non-Executive Director of GTL Energy Ltd – a technology Co. in the early stages of commercialising a unique proprietary technology to upgrade low rank coals, and a Non-Executive Director of Rex Minerals Ltd - an Australian minerals exploration and development company with large scale copper - gold - iron ore deposits in South Australia

Mr Hooke was a University of New England Distinguished Alumni for 2010...

...“in recognition of his contribution to the nation’s social and economic welfare through strategic leadership and development of public policy”

He is particularly recognised for his contribution to sustainable development in all of its manifestations, international trade and investment liberalisation, open market economic reforms including taxation and mining royalties reforms and competition policy, the rights of indigenous peoples, climate change management and energy policy, and education and training policies in vocational and professional skills development.

He has been instrumental in improving the Australian mining sector’s contribution to sustainable development, in turn recovering the industry’s social licence to operate, and in particular, in strengthening the industry’s relationship with Indigenous Australians.

During his tenure as CEO of each of the industry bodies he led, he collectively built each into an organisation widely regarded as one of the most effective industry representative bodies, not just in Australia, but also globally, with a strong reputation for policy integrity and credibility and a strong commitment to sustained growth for current and future generations.

Mr Hooke was formerly a Non - Executive Director of Elgin National Industries (USA), a Chicago-based private equity company of a global group of companies servicing the mining, minerals processing, and bulk materials handling industries in engineering and construction and industrial plant equipment. He was a Director of the Australian operations, Roberts & Schaefer, Australia. And Mr Hooke was formerly a Director of Australian Trade and Industry Alliance Pty Ltd established to promulgate cross-industry public policy.

Mr Hooke was raised on a sheep property in Victoria’s Western District and was educated as a boarder at The Geelong College in Geelong, Victoria. He completed a Bachelor of Rural Science and a First Class Distinction Thesis in agricultural industrial politics at the University of New England in Armidale, NSW.

He is also distinguished as a sportsman including as Captain of the University of New England Australian football and cricket teams, he captained the All Australian Intersarsity Australian Football team and was a member of the all Australian Premiers Intersarsity Cricket XI. He was awarded a University Full Blue for services to Australian Football, and admitted to the University’s Sportsman’s Hall of Fame. He also represented NSW Country in both Australian football and cricket, and subsequently played professionally in the Queensland Australian Football League.

Mr Hooke was formerly Chairman of the Winifred West Schools (Frensham) Foundation Board of Governors, and continues as a Member of the Winifred West Schools Company. He is also a Director of the University of New England Robb College Association Foundation. Mr Hooke is married with three adult daughters, a son in law and grandson, and has a small horse property in the Southern Highlands, Bowral, NSW.