

McGrathNicol expands forensic work

Mark Fenton-Jones

Former KPMG forensic partner Matt Fehon has joined boutique advisory firm McGrathNicol to broaden relationships with corporate clients in both the forensic and corporate advisory practices.

Mr Fehon spent 11 years at KPMG, the last four establishing a forensic practice of one partner and 15 staff for the Perth office before returning to Sydney with KPMG in July.

McGrathNicol was formed by former KPMG partners six years ago and specialises in corporate advisory, forensic, transaction services and corporate recovery.

Corporate recovery provides the bulk of the firm's estimated \$100 million annual fees, although the other three business lines are growing quickly, according to Jon Rowell, who heads up the firm's forensic team.

He said that growth had come mainly from referrals from banks and legal practices but now McGrathNicol wanted to provide broader advisory services to the wider corporate community.

Mr Fehon, who has worked with a number of companies at KPMG and joined McGrathNicol in



Jon Rowell, McGrathNicol's forensic team chief hopes to broaden relationships with corporate clients. Photo: ERIN JONASSON

January, is expected to help with that goal.

"There is a greater opportunity for a boutique firm like McGrathNicol to work with corporates. Clients like to have

continuity with their adviser who does not have conflicts of interest which force the client to go elsewhere," he said.

Nationally, the practice has 34 partners and 320 staff of which six

partners and 24 staff are in the forensic team. Mr Fehon is looking to build a corporate advisory team within the forensic practice with one partner each in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth.