

IPRIA Australian Developments in IP

Update April 2004

Welcome to the IPRIA Australian Developments in IP Bulletin for December 2003. The following is a summary of featured updates on the website. The page can be viewed in full at http://www.ipria.org/developments_in_ip/domestic/index.html

PATENTS

ALRC Discussion Paper: Gene Patenting and Human Health

The ALRC released a Discussion Paper in March 2004 as part of its inquiry into intellectual property issues raised by genetic information. The inquiry considers the impact of current patenting law and practices (relating to genes and genetic-related technologies) on the Australian biotechnology sector. The ALRC is inviting submissions before **16 April 2004**.

http://www.ipria.org/developments_in_ip/domestic/Developments%20by%20Body.html#genedp

ACIP Issues Paper on Patents and Experimental Use

ACIP released an Issues Paper in February 2004 as part of its inquiry into patents and experimental uses. ACIP is examining whether some types of patents are inhibiting research and development in Australia and the potential benefits of introducing an experimental use exemption provision into Australian patent legislation. ACIP is inviting submissions before **30 April 2004**.

http://www.ipria.org/developments_in_ip/domestic/Developments%20by%20Body.html#experimental

ACIP Report on the Patenting of Business Systems

ACIP released its report on 25 February 2004. It recommends that business systems remain patentable, but that the issues continue to be monitored.

http://www.ipria.org/developments_in_ip/domestic/Developments%20by%20Body.html#patentbus

TRADEMARKS AND OTHER INDICATIONS

ACIP Review of the Relationship between Trade Marks and Business Names, Company Names and Domain Names

ACIP released an Issues Paper in January 2004 as part of its inquiry into the interface between trade marks and business names, company names and domain names. The review aims to identify problems encountered by businesses or individuals and examine whether there are ways to improve the operation of these identifiers to reduce confusion, and provide a more streamlined and/or more effective service.

http://www.ipria.org/developments_in_ip/domestic/Developments%20by%20Body.html#relation

IP Australia Recommendations Paper on Review of Trade Marks Legislation

IP Australia released a second recommendations paper on 22 March 2004 as part of its Review of Trade Marks Legislation. IP Australia is inviting comments before **30 April 2004**.

http://www.ipria.org/developments_in_ip/domestic/Developments%20by%20Body.html#tmpaper2

COPYRIGHT

CLRC Issues Paper on Government Ownership of Copyright Material

The CLRC published an Issues Paper on 12 February 2004 examining the law relating to government ownership of copyright material. The Issues Paper looks at the appropriateness of the current law, policy considerations and options for reform.

http://www.ipria.org/developments_in_ip/domestic/Developments%20by%20Body.html#governcopy

DESIGNS

ACIP Report on Extending the Jurisdiction of the Federal Magistrates Service to Patent, Trade Mark and Design Matters

ACIP released its report on 19 February 2004. It recommends extending the jurisdiction of the Federal Magistrates Service to patent, trade mark and design matters. It also recommends changes to streamline current court processes and a more proactive approach by the courts to case manage IP matters.

http://www.ipria.org/developments_in_ip/domestic/Developments%20by%20Body.html#FMS

OTHER ASPECTS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement Full Text Concluded

The full draft text of the Agreement was concluded on 8 February 2004, and released on 4 March 2004. The Intellectual Property Chapter covers: copyright and related rights, including encrypted program-carrying satellite signals; trade marks, including geographical indications; domain names; industrial designs; patents; regulated products; and intellectual property enforcement.

http://www.ipria.org/developments_in_ip/domestic/Developments%20by%20Body.html#FTA

Information about the IP Australian Developments Page

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