

Trans-Tasman Regulation of Patent Attorneys

What is trans-Tasman patent attorney regulation?

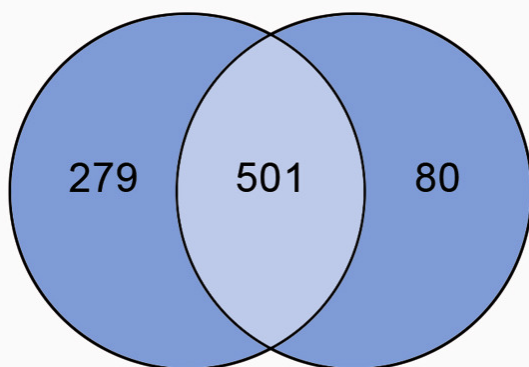
IP Australia and the New Zealand Ministry of Economic Development are proposing a single governance body responsible for patent attorney registration, training and disciplinary standards across Australia and New Zealand.

This initiative is part of the Single Economic Market (SEM) outcomes framework, which aim to create a seamless trans-Tasman business environment.

Why are we doing it?

The majority of Australian and New Zealand patent attorneys are registered in both countries. A single governance body will provide economies of scale, saving time money and effort for the profession as a whole.

Australia New Zealand



There are 501 patent attorneys who reside in Australia or New Zealand and are registered in both countries. This represents about 59% of Australian and New Zealand patent attorneys (excluding those residing in other countries).

What are the benefits for innovators?

- Better access to patent attorneys in both countries will encourage competition.
- Uniform accreditation of attorneys will support continued high levels of service on both sides of the Tasman.

What are the benefits for patent attorneys?

- Less red tape - patent attorneys will only need to register with one organisation.
- Increased business opportunities for attorneys not currently registered in both countries.

Next steps – discussion paper

The public are invited to respond to a discussion paper available on our respective websites (see below). Submissions close on 16 May 2011.

Further Information

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