

Filing international applications with IPONZ

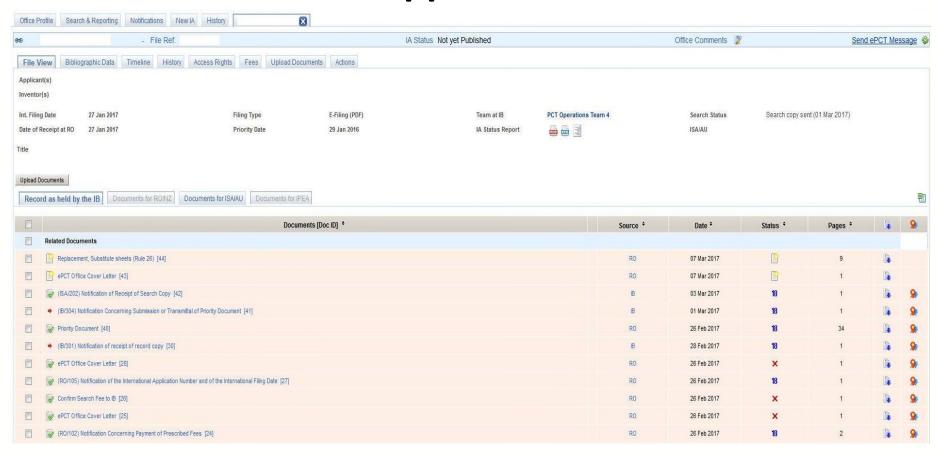
March 2017







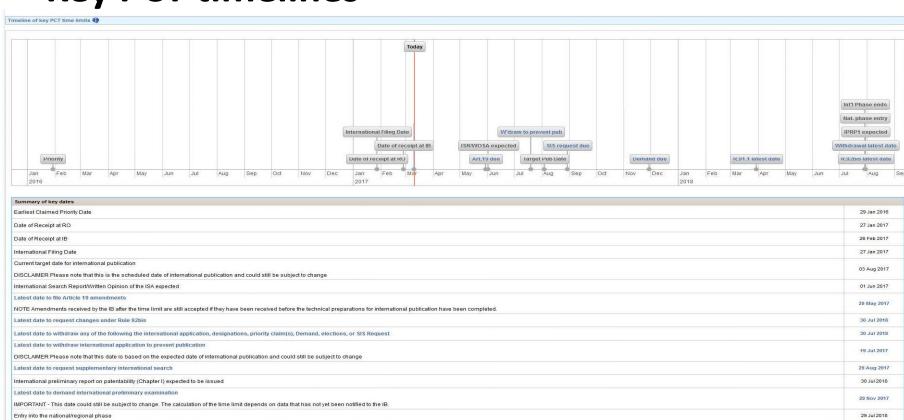
File view of a ePCT application







Key PCT timelines





Latest date to submit Rectified Sheets to the ISA under Rule 91.1

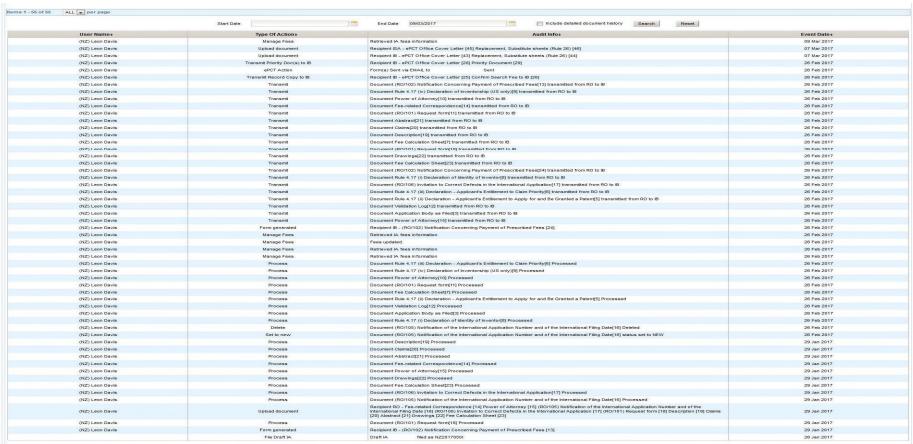
End of International Phase

29 Jul 2018

29 Mar 2018



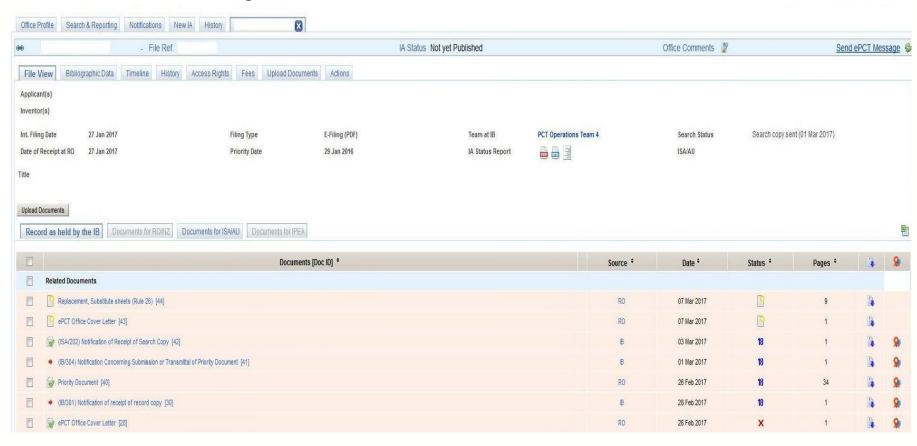








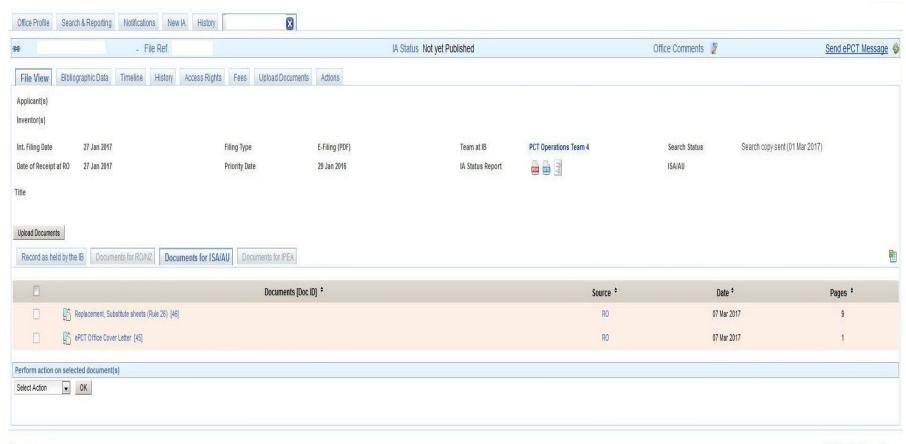
Document upload IB







Documents for ISA/AU tab



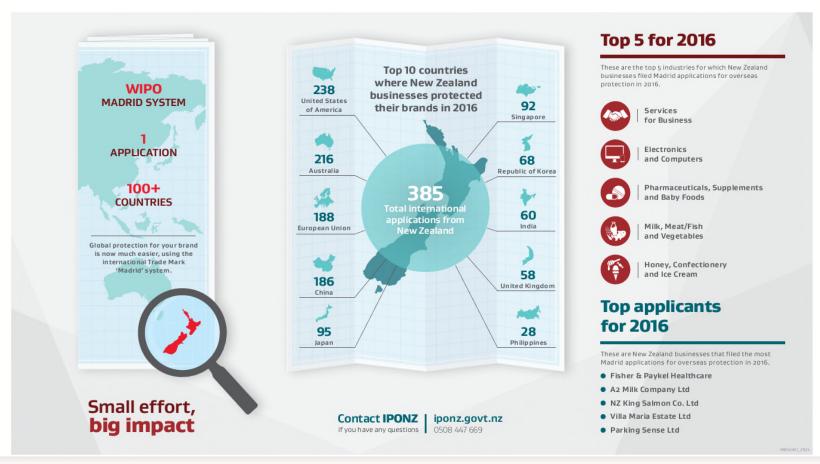






How New Zealand businesses are protecting their **Trade Marks around the world**









Overview of 2016

- 385 international applications were based on NZ TMs a similar number to 2015
- The top ten countries designated are mostly the same, and are designated a greater number of times. The UK and Philippines replace Vietnam and Russia in the top ten
- The classes most frequently included have not changed
- We improved our system for managing certification and irregularities – with new tasks and reminders for clients to respond!





Irregularities

- 56% of NZOOs certified had at least one irregularity
- 70% of irregularities included missing fees
- 20% of irregularities included broad terms only
- High numbers of fee irregularities are anticipated, as epayment requires an irregularity letter issued first
- Broad terms continue to be an issue, IPONZ is working with WIPO on this
- WIPO's draft practice guidelines:
 http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc details.jsp?doc i d=339997





Tips for filing - Get to know your designations

Investigate:

- Prior marks noting opportunities for trade mark maintenance (Applicant details, Seniority Claims and/or Replacement, or to tailor a limitation to avoid a citation)
- Filing requirements (MM18, second language etc.)
- Processing times
- Who can respond to provisional refusals
- Whether requesting a Limitation via WIPO in response to a refusal is a more desirable that waiting for Partial Acceptance





Tips for ownership details

- Identifying the Applicant as an organisation or company allows the entry of more specific information, relevant to some designations like the US
- Ensure that name and address details match any provided on the registers of designations check the registers, then update the IPONZ record, international application, international registration (via WIPO), or the mark on the register of the designation

Specific information is available under *How to prepare...* and *How to apply...* topics at: https://www.iponz.govt.nz/about-ip/trade-marks/international/





Corrections

Before registration:

• Are often possible if requested by the Office of Origin (OO) – we ask that clients call or email IPONZ, then we email WIPO

After registration:

 An error attributable to an OO, where the correction would affect the rights deriving from the International Registration (IR) (e.g. G&S, mark, designations), may only be corrected if the request is received by WIPO within 9 months of the date of publication of the error in the register - refer to Rule 28 of the Common Regulations: http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/legal_texts/

We recommend clients carefully check the details after registration and contact IPONZ if they require corrections





WIPO Forms and Fees for Request Types

Name	Effect	Form	Fee
Subsequent Designation	Add designations to an IR	MM4	300+
Limitation	Limit G&S/classes of all/some DCPs	MM6 (one form, multiple IRs)	177
Cancellation	Cancel an IR for some or all G&S for all DCPs	MM8	N/A
Renunciation	Abandon all G&S for one or more DCPs	MM7 (one form, multiple IRs)	N/A
Change Owner	Partial/Full Transfer	MM5 (one form, multiple IRs)	177
Change Owner Name/Address	Change if details of same owner	MM9 (one form, multiple IRs)	150
Change Agent Name/Address	Change if details of same agent	MM10 (optional)	N/A
Renewal		MM11	653+
Appoint Agent	New agent	MM12 (or letter)	N/A



Differences in NZDs:

- No Address for Service unless a response to the Office is necessary
- Mark representations cannot be changed for NZ
 - IPONZ may request supplementary images for 3D marks
- Partial acceptance after the deadline to respond
- No renewal date renewal via WIPO every ten years after IR date
- No division yet coming soon
- Specification objections/Corrections. Options are:
 - Delete the wording and/or amend the wording of another class to include that description
 - Amend the wording to fit the class
 - Request a correction via WIPO





Request types for NZDs

▼ Trade Mark

- Search the Trade Mark Register
- > Apply for a Trade Mark
- Apply for a Search and/or Preliminary Advice
- Apply for an International Registration (NZ Office of Origin)
- > Maintain a Trade Mark
- Maintain an International Registration Designating NZ (NZD)
- Renew Trade Mark

INBOX > INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION DESIGNATING NZ CHANGE REQUEST(S)

Abeyance

Allows an Applicant, or an Agent on their behalf, to request Abeyance of an application while a Proceeding is outstanding on a "related" trade mark.

Select case for Abeyance

Change Agent

Allows an agent to be assigned to, or changed for, a trade mark.



Change Goods and Services Specification

Allows you to edit and delete elements of your Goods and Services specification.

Select case for Change Goods and Services Specification

Continued Processing

Allows you to upload a response to your compliance report for consideration up to two months after the deadline for doing so has passed. You may do this only once per application.

Select case for Continued Processing





iFAQs

- How do I add myself as agent to an NZOO?
- Can I withdraw my NZOO?
- Can I add a designation?
 - Before certification, call IPONZ
 - After certification, email mail@iponz we will ask WIPO
 - After registration, submit the correct form via WIPO
- My basic is cancelled, do I need to notify WIPO?
 - No IPONZ monitors changes to the basic mark, and will do this in due course.



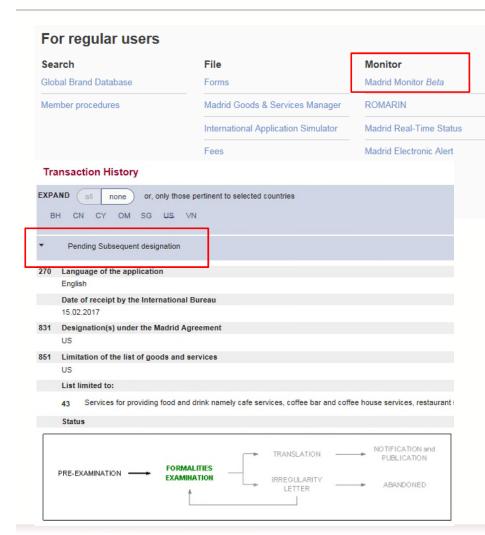


iFAQs

- Can I submit my change of owner via IPONZ?
 - No real reason to, only where new owner does not have an address in a Madrid member state as IPONZ must assess the new owner's entitlement Tip: have the current holder sign the MM5!
- I have missed a deadline to respond, what can I do?
 - Consider continued processing available for some international applications and NZDs
 - Designate again for the refused goods (a great option until division is available, may not be possible on e-subsequent designation but is ok)
- What's the status of my application?
 - See Madrid Monitor BETA







- From <u>http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/</u>, click Madrid Monitor Beta
- Search for your mark

Manage

E-Renewal

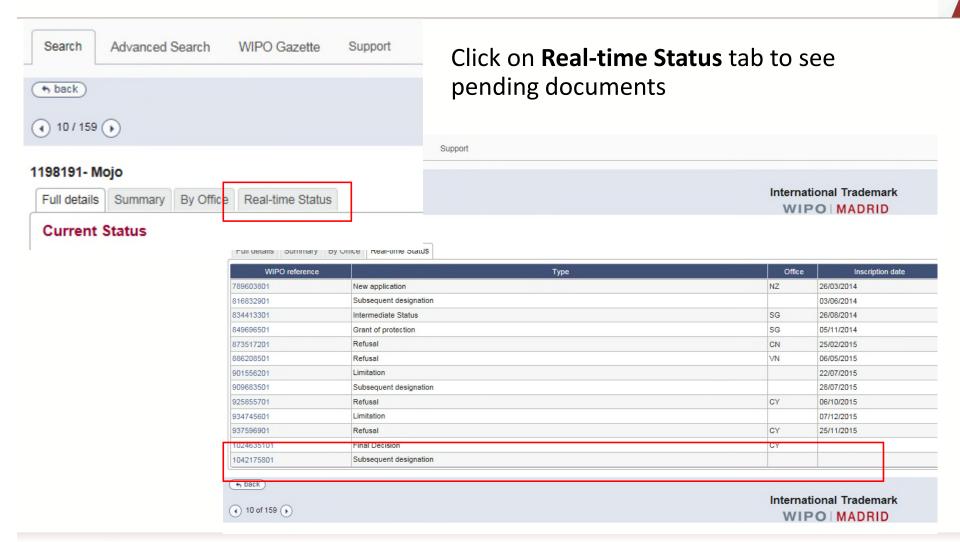
Extracts

Madrid Portfolio Manager

E-Subsequent Designation

 Click on Pending to see details of pending applications, subsequent designations









Replacement

- Allows the holder of an international registration (IR) to have the IR replace a nationally filed registration for the same G&S and retain the priority/filing date
- The IR is then maintained via WIPO
- Applications for replacement are made to the DCP, different fees and procedures apply
- To qualify an IR must have the same owner, same mark, cover at least all of the G&S of national mark (G&S cannot be narrower)





Replacement – IPONZ process

- A request is made by email to mail@iponz.govt.nz
- It is uploaded to the case and reviewed by an examiner
- The examiner checks:
 - Does the request list the IRN, national registration number, name & address of the agent/contact (if any)?
 - o Is there a case for this IR? Have we been notified of the designation?
 - o If so, do the cases have the same owner?
 - o Does the specification on the IR designating NZ cover **all** of the goods/services of the national registration? (i.e. the IR can have the same or broader specification, but **cannot** be narrower)





Replacement – example TM 231408

- NZ trade mark registrations 231408 and 231409 cover:
 - 1: <u>Chemical products used in industry</u>; synthetic waxes in this class
 - 4: Synthetic waxes
- The international registration covers:
 - 1: <u>Industrial chemicals</u>
 - 4: Synthetic waxes for industrial use

The international registration may be broader than the national registrations being replaced but not narrower, so NZ registration 231408 required an Alteration request to limit the scope of the registration to take advantage of replacement.





Replacement – IPONZ process

If the request is acceptable, then Explanations are entered on the register on each case

Example of an Explanation on the national case:

• International Registration 848635 (NZ 1011918) replaces this registration due to Article 4bis of the Madrid Protocol.

Example of an Explanation on the IR designating NZ case:

 Article 4bis of the Madrid Protocol applies. The priority date 18 Nov 2004 based on national registration 721677 applies to the following goods/services: roof windows and skylights of metal; roof windows and skylights (not of metal).





Replacement – IPONZ process

Then WIPO is notified by an email to madrid.team3@wipo.int. For example:

Subject: Please be advised IRN 848635 (NZ 1011918) designating New Zealand replaces national registration 721677

Good morning,

Please be advised that in respect of IRN 848635 (NZ 1011918) designating New Zealand Article 4bis of the Madrid Protocol applies. The priority date 18 Nov 2004 based on national registration 721677 applies to the following goods: roof windows and skylights of metal; roof windows and skylights (not of metal).

- 1. Filing date of registration being replaced 18 Nov 2004
- 2. Filing number of registration being replaced 721677
- 3. Registration date of registration being replaced 19 May 2005
- 4. Registration number of registration being replaced 721677

Please let me know if you require any further information.





More information is available here:

- The Guide to the International Registration of Marks Part B II, 105: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/madrid/en/guide/pdf/partb-2.pdf
- Article 4bis of the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, and Rule 21 of the Common Regulations: http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/legal_texts/
- Madrid Member information: http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/members/ipoffices info.html
- Additional information based on a survey of Offices: http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/members/replacement.html





Transformation

- Allows the holder of an international registration (IR) to transform the IR into a nationally filed application/registration following a ceasing of effect, to retain the IR Date or Subsequent Designation date
- Cannot be requested following voluntary cancellation/limitation with WIPO
- Applications for transformation are made to the DCP, different fees and procedures apply. IPONZ requests must be emailed to mail@iponz.govt.nz
- Minimum request information is IR number, date of cancellation and if not a total transformation, the classes/goods/services





Transformation – IPONZ process

- The request is allocated to an examiner, to assess:
 - Does the request list the international registration (IR) number, date of cancellation and if not a total transformation, the classes/goods/services cancelled, address for service
 - Is there an NZD case for that IR number?
 - Does ROMARIN confirm the IR has been cancelled at the request of the Office of Origin, and did IPONZ receive the transformation request within 3 months of the notification date of the cancellation?
 - Has IPONZ been notified that the IR has been cancelled in part or full?
 - Are the list of goods/services in the transformation request covered by the list cancelled on the NZD?





Transformation – example IRN 1171328

- IRN 1171328 was based on AU 1555368
 - 25 September 2014 the AU application lapsed
 - 8 February 2015 WIPO received the Ceasing of Effect document
 - 13 February 2015 IPONZ received the transformation request
 - IPONZ responded it could not be processed as the cancellation of the IR had not been recorded by WIPO
 - 8 May 2015 IPONZ was notified of the cancellation
 - 18 May 2015 IPONZ received a further transformation request
 - 27 May 2015 the transformation was completed





Transformation – IPONZ process

- If acceptable a national mark case is created based on the NZD details, some details may be different, e.g.:
 - IP Number (new case number will be created)
 - Submission Date (the date we received the transformation request)
 - Reference (same as the NZD or a new one given in the transformation request)
 - Status (a National mark status but the equivalent to the NZD status)
 - Application Type (will be National)
 - Image (same as NZD)
 - Goods/Services (same as cancelled NZD, unless a partial transformation)
 - Convention Claim (if a valid one existed on the NZD, it can be included on the transformation case)
 - Agent





Transformation – IPONZ process

If acceptable, Explanations are entered on each case, e.g.:

An Explanation on a National case:

• 1017551 is the transformation of cancelled International Registration 1171329 (NZ 982917).

(OR, for partial transformation):

• 1015908 is the transformation of partially cancelled International Registration 1207285 (NZ 1000739).

An Explanation on the NZD case:

 International Registration 1171329 (NZ 982917) is transformed as NZ 1017551.

(OR, for partial transformation):

• International Registration 1207285 (NZ 1000739) is partially transformed as NZ 1015908.





More information is available here:

- The Guide to the International Registration of Marks Part B, paragraph 88.01: http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/madrid/en/guide/pdf/partb2.pdf
- Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, Article 9quinquies: http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/text.jsp?file_id=283484#P104_18930
- Madrid Member information: http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/members/ipoffices_info.html
- By entering "transformation" in the Search WIPO query box on the Madrid home page http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/ you will also find the "Model Provisions on Transformation" which may be of interest in understanding how WIPO suggest Offices interpret their role with regard to Transformation.
- Working Group 2013 document, <u>MM/LD/WG/11/4</u>, Information Concerning Ceasing of Effect, Central Attack and Transformation: http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/details.jsp?meeting id=29762





WIPO resources

Refer to http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/ for:

- Legal texts the Madrid Protocol and Common Regulations
- Guide to the International Registration of marks
- Members information http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/members/
- Madrid forms for applicants and representatives
- Making the Most of the Madrid System handbook

http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/madrid/en/forms/docs/making the most of the madrid system mm forms.pdf

WIPO newsletters – Madrid Highlights





WIPO services of interest

Refer to http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en/services/ for:

- ROMARIN
- Madrid Goods & Services Manager (MGS)
- Madrid Portfolio Manager (MPM) and Madrid Real-time Status (MRS)
- E-payment
- E-subsequent designation
- E-renewal
- Global Brands Database

Also, we regularly use Madrid Office Portal (MOP) as a bridge between public and private documents.





How to contact WIPO

For queries relating to filed applications and IRs: <u>madrid.team3@wipo.int</u>

For payment queries: <u>income.mark-dm@wipo.int</u>

For general queries: intreg.mail@wipo.int





Proceedings against International Trade Marks

Simon Pope





Overview

- Treated the same as NZ proceedings (for the most part)
- TM Act, TM Regs 2003 & TM (International Registration)
 Regs 2012, Protocol, Common Regulations
- Priority date: International reg 12(3)
 - > (a) date of the International Registration; or
 - ➤ (b) date the extension for protection to NZ recorded at WIPO.
- WIPO are only interested in the beginning and the end
- Must appoint a local agent





Oppositions

- IPONZ case management facility automatically notifies
 WIPO of possibility of an opposition after 18 months
- Period to notify WIPO on an opposition under article 5(2)(c)(ii) is "one month from the expiry of the opposition period and... not later than seven months from the date on which the opposition period began".
- IPONZ notifies WIPO of the opposition, and confirms to the opponent that it has admitted its opposition, via our case management facility
- WIPO serves the rights holder with a copy of the notice of opposition.





Revocation & Invalidity

- IPONZ Hearings Office serves applications for revocation or invalidity <u>directly</u> on rights holders
- New Hearings Office practice is to use both WIPO service address and contact email address to serve applications
- Article 5(6) "Invalidation.. May not be pronounced without holder.. Having, in good time, been afforded the opportunity of defending the rights."
- Administrative Instructions Part 4, Section 12, subsection (d), covers the address requirements for an International registration "...e-mail address may be indicated"

