

2011 NEWS

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- Apr 14, 2011: Change to scheduled maintenance window
- Apr 14, 2011: PVR Journal
- Apr 13, 2011: New design regulations coming into force
- Apr 07, 2011: Proposal for trans-Tasman Regulation of Patent Attorneys
- Mar 31, 2011: The Journal
- Mar 31, 2011: Changes to maintenance windows
- Mar 25, 2011: Japan Earthquake: Meeting IPONZ Deadlines
- Mar 22, 2011: Preview your correspondence before submitting
- Mar 07, 2011: Search and/or Preliminary Advice service going online only
- Mar 05, 2011: Trade Mark Practice Guidelines Extension of Time Requests
- Feb 28, 2011: Canterbury Earthquake Update: IPONZ Online services are fully functional
- Feb 25, 2011: The Journal
- Feb 16, 2011: Single Economic Market Outcome Announcement
- Jan 28, 2011: The Journal
- Jan 28, 2011: Changes to scheduled maintenance windows
- Jan 21, 2011: Search and/or Preliminary Advice service available online only effective from 7 March 2011
- Jan 14, 2011: The Plant Variety Rights Journal

The Journal

22 December 2011

The December edition of the Journal has now been posted on the site.

You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- The December 2011 edition Journal 1590

Thailand Floods: Meeting IPONZ Deadlines

20 December 2011

The Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) wishes to express our commitment to doing everything that we can to support the Thai people during these difficult times.

If you are affected by the events in Thailand and cannot meet a deadline set by IPONZ in a matter relating to patents, trade marks or designs, then you should at the earliest opportunity write to IPONZ with the following information:

- Identify the application number of the patent, trade mark or design concerned;
- Provide detailed reasons for missing the date; and
- Indicate the extension period required to meet the matters which were to be addressed.

We will assess each request on a case by case basis, and where appropriate, will provide a suitable extension of time.

From our website, a registered user can use the following online correspondence services:

- Submit Correspondence to file correspondence; and
- 'View Case file' to track and view the progress of a file.

For more information about extension of time see:

- Patents & Designs [55 kB PDF]
- Trade Marks extension of time practice guideline

Trade mark compliance report changes

20 December 2011

The format of trade mark compliance reports is changing.

The changes make compliance reports easier to read by clearly setting out objections including potential actions to overcome the objections.

What do the changes look like?

Objections and potential actions are provided in a table. See the example below.

Formalities

Regulation 44 - Address Details

Objection:	We require a business or residential address before we can accept your application.
Potential action:	Please provide a business or residential address.

Applicant's full name required

Objection:	It is unclear whether The Wonderful Widget Company is a legal entity capable of registering a trade mark.
Potential action:	Please provide the applicant's full legal name.

See: Replying to compliance reports for more information.

Nice classification 10th edition

19 December 2011

The tenth edition of the International (Nice) Classification of Goods and Services for the purposes of the registration of trade marks will come into effect on 1 January 2012.

How will this change affect applications?

- Applications filed up until 23 December 2011 must be in accordance with the ninth edition.
- Due to the Christmas holiday period, applications filed from 24 December 2011 until 3 January 2012 will receive a filing date of 4 January 2012. These applications will need to be in accordance with the tenth edition of the classification of goods and services.
- Some classifications have changed, for example, the classification of dietary and nutritional supplements in class 5 (previously classes 29 and 30); nappies in class 5 (previously 16 and 25); game consoles in class 28 (previously class 9).

Can I apply to have my application convert from the 9th to the 10th edition?

Yes - trade mark applicants and owners of trade marks under earlier editions of the Nice Classification may apply to the Commissioner for conversion to the tenth edition under regulation 139 of the Trade Mark Regulations 2003.

The IPONZ online trade mark search and application facilities will be updated to cater for the new edition. The Practice Guidelines on Classification and Specifications will also be updated.

- For detailed information about the tenth edition please see the <u>final report of the WIPO Committee of Experts</u> for the classification of goods and services.
- Make an application for conversion to the current nice classification

International Patent Classification 2012

16 December 2011

The International Patent Classification (IPC) version 2012 comes into force on 1 January 2012.

IPONZ examiners will be using the new version for classifying applications accepted and published in Patent Office Journal of 1591 January 2012 onwards.

Searching published patents

Patents applied for prior to 1 January 2012 are not automatically reclassified, may retain retired IPC symbols, and may not include symbols introduced in the new version. When searching for a patent, IPONZ recommends that you use symbols from both the current and earlier versions of the IPC for a complete search.

Helpful links

- Information about the IPC
- IPONZ patent classification

Certified priority documents for international applications fee change

16 December 2011

IPONZ will reinstate a \$30 + GST fee for the preparation and transmission of priority documents to the International Bureau.

The fee will come into effect on 1 January 2012.

This change replaces the <u>notification of Dec 1999</u>.

Applicants can request IPONZ to prepare certified priority documents to accompany an international application using PCT EASY. The fee to be paid for each certified priority document can be added to the transmission fee.

Decisions of the Commissioner

13 December 2011

Decisions of the Commissioner issued in November are now available online. Select the links to see the decisions.

Trade marks

Number	Mark	First Party	Second Party	Document Title	Date of Decision	Subject
823644	LAZY PAPA device	Michael Teng	LA-Z-BOY Incorporated	2011/39	4-Nov-11	Class 20 Opposition

<u>784785</u>	111	Central Emergency Communications Limited, Her Majesty the Queen in right of New Zealand acting by and through the Commissioner of Police; New Zealand Fire Service Commission; St John Emergency Communications Limited, and The National Rural Fire Authority	Telecom IP Limited	2011/40	7/11/2011	Classes 9, 12, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 44, and 45 Opposition
748280	SQA	Vivalla Enterprises Ltd	Southern QA Limited	2011/41	7/11/201	Class 42 Application for Declaration of Invalidity
<u>827635</u>	BASS PLAYER	Vincent Martin Hine	Brandbrew S A	2011/42	7/11/2011	Class 32 Application for Declaration of Invaildity
815639	SUPERLOANS (device)	Superloans Limited	DC Comics, a general partnership comprised of Warner Communications, Inc and E.C. Publications, Inc	2011/43	25/11/2011	Class 36 Opposition
<u>757768</u>	LE CORDON BLEU	Le Cordon Bleu International B.V.		2011/44	25/1/2011	Notice of Intention to Reject
723660	KING RICE BRAN OIL (and device)	Thai Edible Oil Co. Ltd	Handells Food Group Limited (formerly Old Fashioned Foods Limited)	2011/45	30/11/2011	Class 29 Application for Declaration of Invalidity
818116	MUCUS (device)	Boehringer Ingelheim International GMBH	Reckitt Benckiser Inc	2011/46	30/11/2011	Classes 5, 16, and 35 Application for Declaration of Invalidity

Patents

Number	Title	First Party	Second Party	Document	Date of	Subject

			Title	Decision	
539010 A method for calibration of milk meters in a milking system	DeLaval Holdings AB	Sensortec Limited	2011/18	1/11/2011	S21 Opposition

A new website for the Ministry of Economic Development

13 December 2011

The Ministry of Economic Development's website has been given an overhaul.

The fresh new-look www.med.govt.nz makes it easy for you to find out about the work our Ministry does in a wide range of sectors and business areas.

The website is packed with everything from valuable energy data to knowing when faster broadband is coming to your area. Our Ministry will be regularly consulting on specific issues through the new 'have your say' section and keeping you up-to-date with an improved news and media centre.

Have a look at the new Ministry of Economic Development website today.

PVR Renewal Reminder change

9 December 2011

We have improved the Plant Variety Rights Renewal reminders so that you can now simply return your payment with a prefilled remittance slip.

The new remittance slip clearly describes the information required when filing the renewal fee, giving certainty and providing for faster processing timeframes.

The new renewal reminders will be issued from December 2011.

The Journal

25 November 2011

The November edition of the Journal has now been posted on the site. You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- The November 2011 edition Journal 1589

Enhancements to Goods and Services Classification Tool

21 November 2011

Following on from the successful launch of our preapproved Goods and Services description tool for Trade mark and Search / Preliminary Advice Applications in May 2011 we have now released an updated version of our standalone Goods and Services Classification Tool

Key features of this release include:

- 1. Ability to build a specification using pre approved terms and add further custom terms;
- 2. Functionality to allow a user to cut and paste a specification into the tool and validate the terms against the IPONZ preapproved terms list;
- 3. Print option which will distinguish preapproved and custom terms for further consideration;
- 4. Reformatting logic to ensure specifications meet IPONZ standards regarding start/end of specification;
- 5. A new layout and navigation to make it simpler to move between screens and complete applications;

See how the tool works [1.2 MB PDF]

How to access the Goods and Services Selector?

The Good and Services Selector is accessible from the Online services menu on the IPONZ website or via the following link www.iponz.govt.nz/classification

Decisions of the Commissioner

18 November 2011

Decisions of the Commissioner issued in October are now available online. Select the links to see the decisions.

Trade marks

Number	Mark	First Party	Second Party	Document Title	Date of Decision	Subject
816967	ZOGGS	Zoggs International Limited	Sexwax, Incorporated	2011/35	7/10/2011	Interlocutory for declining extensions of time
<u>810848</u>	3350	Red Loco Limited		2011/36	25/10/2011	Classes 35, 38, 41, 42 & 45 Notice of Intention to Reject
807896	NATURE'S LIFE device	Nature's Life NZ Limited	Nutramarks Inc	2011/37	25/10/2011	Classes 3 & 5 Opposition
829490	SYLVANIAN FAMILIES	Epoch Company Ltd	Flowil International Lighting (Holding) B V	2011/38	25/10/2011	Application for an extension of time under regulation 32

Patents

Number	Title	First Party	Second Party	Document Title	Date of Decision	Subject
<u>532266</u>	Juice deacidification	Tropicana Products Inc	Bucher - Alimentech Ltd	2011/14	3/10/2011	S21 Opposition
<u>565720</u>	Aerodynamic vehicle aid	Rinnon Products Limited	Fuel Foils Limited	2011/15	3/10/2011	S21 Opposition

<u>571685</u>	Corrugated paperboard	Amcor Limited	Stratex (NZ) Limited	2011/16	3/10/2011	S21 Opposition
<u>550571</u>	Antiparasitical agents and methods for treating, preventing and controlling external parasites in animals	Merial Limited	Bomac Research Ltd	2011/17	3/10/2011	S21 Opposition

Upcoming scheduled outage: Saturday 12 November

9 November 2011

The Ministry of Economic Development is replacing the equipment that hosts our websites and business registries. This will increase the reliability of our services and minimise the risk of unscheduled outages.

In order to install this new equipment, it is necessary for us to conduct a scheduled outage that will take the IPONZ website offline from **4:00pm NZST**, **Saturday 12 November until 9:00am NZST**, **Sunday 13 November**.

We apologise for the inconvenience experienced as a result of this outage and appreciate your patience while we work to restore the reliability of our services for our clients.

PVR Technical Note - Varieties of Common Knowledge

8 November 2011

The Plant Variety Rights Act requires that for a grant of Rights, a variety must be determined sufficiently distinct from all other varieties whose existence was a matter of common knowledge at the time the application was made.

A new technical note about the identification and use of varieties of common knowledge is now available.

Read the Varieties of Common Knowledge: Identification and Usage technical note

IPONZ new case management system

21 October 2011

IPONZ is rolling out its new case management system for trade marks and designs in February 2012. The new system makes it easy for you to search, apply for, and maintain your firm's IP and proceedings cases in a single place, through a simple user interface.

Further details on progress and new features will be communicated in due course.

Why are we replacing our system?

We are replacing our system because a number of our current backend systems are reaching the end of their service life, and need to be replaced.

We also need the new system to implement new requirements under the Trade Marks Amendment Act 2011 and prepare for the Patents Bill.

What is changing?

The way you do business with IPONZ is changing.

February 2012	Trade Marks and Designs new case management system
Mid-2012	Patents and Plant Variety Rights new case management system

Get your igovt logon ready.

To use the new system you will need to use the igovt logon service.

The igovt logon service is a government-run service that allows you to use the same logon to access various New Zealand government online services. Learn more about the <u>igovt logon service</u>.

New features

You told us that you wanted more control over your intellectual property cases, for example the ability to:

- · update and maintain your contact details yourself
- receive correspondence electronically
- view progress of your cases online
- have a watching brief service to notify you about specific cases

IPONZ new case management system will include these new features to enhance your online experience.

What next?

For updates on progress and feature highlights, check our website and/or sign up to <u>our email updates</u> (if you haven't yet) to keep informed.

IT maintenance scheduled for Monday

21 October 2011

This week's routine maintenance will be carried out on Monday, 24 October 2011 instead of Sunday, 23 October 2011.

The IT maintenance will take place from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

We apologise for any inconvenience.

Closed for Labour Day - Monday 24 October 2011

21 October 2011

We will be closed on Monday 24 October 2011. Our website will be available during this period.

Applications and documents filed on Monday 24 October 2011 will receive a filing date of 25 October 2011. If the deadline for filing an application or document falls on 24 October 2011, then the application or document will be filed on time if filed by 25 October 2011.

Please note - If information about a design or an invention for which an application is to be made is published prior to the official filing date it may invalidate the registration or patent. If a design or patent application is submitted online on an official closed day, such as on a weekend or Labour Day it would be prudent to wait until the next open day before publishing details of the design or invention.

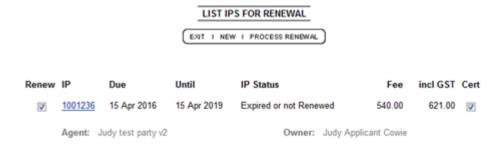
Online renewal changes - patents and designs

18 October 2011

We have improved the online patent and design renewal service so that you can now file a renewal fee for a lapsed patent or design subject to a restoration application.

How does it work?

The change simplifies the restoration process by allowing you to enter the number of the IP you wish to renew and restore, through the <u>online renewal service</u>. The Process Renewal option appears for patents and designs where a restoration application has been received.



For more information about the restorations see:

- Can my patent be restored to the register?
- Can my design application or registration be restored?

IPONZ Registers and Address verification

18 October 2011

To ensure that IPONZ has up-to-date and accurate New Zealand addresses in our registers, we have undertaken an exercise to match and update our data in accordance with the NZ Post Postal Address File (PAF).

The PAF is New Zealand's most complete and up-to-date database of postal addresses. This exercise has improved the quality of the address data on our registers and means that we have correct postal address information including current postcodes. This will help us reduce returned or undelivered mail, and improve our data capture and management.

Read more about NZ POST Postal Address File (PAF).

PVR Technical Note – Definition of Endophyte Free Seed

14 October 2011

In October 2010 a requirement that "all seed submitted for use in the grass DUS centralised trialling must be endophyte free" was introduced. Endophyte free was defined as having a level of endophyte present in the seed sample of less than two percent.

This definition of "endophyte free" has been amended to be defined as having a level of endophyte present in the seed sample of less than five percent.

For more information on this requirement please see the technical note.

IT maintenance scheduled for Monday

14 October 2011

This week's routine maintenance will be carried out on Monday, 17 October 2011 instead of Sunday, 16 October 2011.

The IT maintenance will take place from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

We apologise for any inconvenience.

The Plant Variety Rights Journal

14 October 2011

The latest quarterly edition of the Journal is now available.

To view the journal click here: PVR Journal No. 127 published 14 October 2011.

Decisions of the Commissioner

12 October 2011

Decisions of the Commissioner issued in September are now available online. Select the links to see the decisions.

Trade marks

Number	Mark	First Party	Second Party	Document Title	Date of Decision	Subject
780858	ADVANCE ADVANCED PET NUTRITION	MARS NEW ZEALAND LIMITED	HEINZ WATTIE'S LIMITED	2011/29	14/9/2011	Class 31 opposition
776582	BEST BUYS	APPLIANCE CONNEXION LIMITED		2011/30	14/9/2011	Notice of Intention to Reject
803628	CAMBRICARE	CAMBRICARE NEW ZEALAND LIMITED	N V NUTRICIA	2011/31	14/9/2011	Classes 5 and 29 Opposition
798107	CERTIFIED BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION	CERTIFIED BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND	CERTIFIED RENOVATIONS LIMITED	2011/32	14/9/2011	Classes 36, 37 and 41 Opposition
717175	EDEN PARK	THE EDEN PARK TRUST	CINQ-HUITIEMES SA	2011/33	20/9/2011	Classes 18, 25, 35, 41, and 43 Opposition
741487	SEDUCE	GARY GWYN CHETTLEBURGH	SEDUCE GROUP AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	2011/34	20/9/2011	Class 25 ADI

Patents

Number	First Party	Second Party	Document Title	Date of Decision	Subject
243263	ROSS GORDON MCINNES	STEPHEN HENRY CRAWSHAW	2011/13	1/9/2011	S21 Opposition

The Journal

30 September 2011

The September edition of the Journal is now available.

You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- The September 2011 edition Journal 1587

Decisions of the Commissioner

23 September 2011

Decisions of the Commissioner issued in August are now available online. Select the links to see the decisions.

Trade marks

Number	Mark	First Party	Second Party	Document Title	Date of Decision	Subject
<u>818007</u>	BULZAI (and bull device)	KAMAL KHANBABAEI GENERAL TRADING CO. LLC	RED BULL GMBH	2011/21	5-Aug-11	Class 32 opposition
771472, 811959	CON-TACT	KITTRICH CORPORATION	TASMAN INDUSTRIES LIMITED	2011/22	5-Aug-11	Classes 16, 9, 12, 17, 19 and 20 opposition
<u>821061</u>	DAXUR	BASF SE	SYNGENTA PARTICIPATIONS AG	2011/23	5-Aug-11	Classes 1, 5, and 31 opposition
812822	SUN SQEEZED	CHARLIE'S TRADING COMPANY LIMITED	FRUCOR BEVERAGES LIMITED	2011/24	18-Aug-11	Class 32 Application for Invalidity
<u>750449</u>	ST	Honda Motor Co Ltd		2011/25	18-Aug-11	Class 12 Notice of Intention to Reject
818004	SKINSTITUT (device)	SKINSTITUT PTY LTD	THE SKIN INSTITUTE LIMITED	2011/26	18-Aug-11	Class 5 opposition
<u>786010</u>	CMA (device)	CMA CORPORATION LTD	CMA CGM	2011/27	26-Aug-11	Classes 1, 6, 14, 19, 35, 37, 39, 40, and 42 opposition
791893, 805152	INSTINCT device	INSTINCT CLOTHING LIMITED	PUMA AG RUDOLF DASSLER SPORT	2011/28	30-Aug-11	Classes 18, 25, and 35

Trade Marks Amendment Act 2011

20 September 2011

The Trade Marks Amendment Bill received its royal assent on 15 September 2011 and will be known as the Trade Marks Amendment Act 2011.

On assent the following notable provisions enter into force:

- The removal of licensees from the Trade Mark Register
- The ability to amend and remove memorandums
- Allowing New Zealand to use the latest edition of the Nice Classification for goods and services

Any provisions that require updates to the IPONZ system, practice guidelines and website will be made accordingly.

A consultation timetable for regulations will be announced in due course.

- For detailed information on the clauses which come into force on assent, see clause 2(1) of the Bill.
- Visit the <u>WIPO website</u> for information about the Nice Classification for goods and services

Trade Marks Amendment Bill

9 September 2011

The Trade Marks Amendment Bill received its third reading in Parliament on Thursday 8 September 2011.

Upon enactment of the Bill a number of provisions enter into force including the removal of licensees, the ability to remove memorandums and allowing New Zealand to use the latest edition of the Nice Classification for goods and services.

Passage of the Bill paves the way for New Zealand's accession to the Madrid Protocol. The Protocol provides a cost effective method of applying for and maintaining trade marks for New Zealand businesses who trade in multiple jurisdictions. It also makes doing business with New Zealand much easier for overseas companies who file trade marks in multiple jurisdictions.

Acceding to the Madrid Protocol is a big step in the alignment of the New Zealand and Australian trade mark regimes.

IPONZ will announce an enactment date for the Bill and a consultation timetable for the regulations in due course.

- Read the Minister's press statement
- Visit the WIPO website for more information on the Madrid protocol

Keep up to date with the world of Intellectual Property

1 September 2011

The Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) is changing the way it delivers news.

The Ministry of Economic Development (MED) Business Update will soon be discontinued. IPONZ will continue to deliver Intellectual Property news with a new IPONZ email update service. This new service will provide the ability to subscribe to selected topics of interest and receive updates accordingly.

You can now choose to receive updates for the following topics:

- Patents, Trade Marks and Designs Journal Publication
- Plant Variety Rights Journal Publication
- Decisions of the Commissioner
- Timely updates on Practice Notes and Legislation
- Timely updates on IPONZ Online System Changes including new enhancements
- Latest News from the office

If you are currently subscribed to the MED Business Update and would like to continue to be updated about IPONZ News you will need to re subscribe to the new email update service.

Join the new IPONZ email update service to keep up to date with the world of Intellectual Property! Subscribe now.

The Journal

26 August 2011

The August edition of the Journal has now been posted on the site. You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- The August 2011 edition Journal 1586

Online correspondence service enhancements

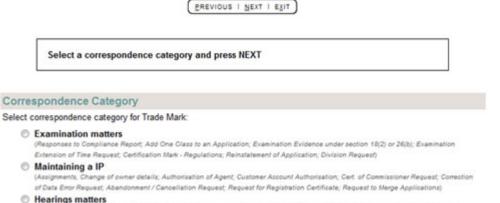
22 August 2011

IPONZ has implemented the following changes to the Online Correspondence services to help enhance your online experiences:

- 1. More user-friendly functions for the "Submit Correspondence" service. (See below)
- 2. New names for the "Correspondence History" and "View IP History" services. These will now be called "Submission Log" and "View Case File" services.
- 3. The ability to navigate to the "Submit Correspondence" service from the "View Case File" service.

What do the improvements look like?

- 1. More user-friendly functions for the "Submit Correspondence" service.
 - A new layout and navigation to make it simpler to move between screens and complete submissions.
 - A 'Correspondence Category' to assist with determining the type of correspondence. See <u>Fact Sheet for each</u> division on how to determine which option to use.

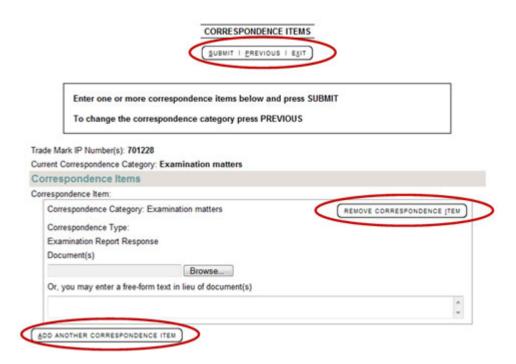


Hearing Application for invalidity; Hearing Application for Revocation of a Trade Mark; Hearing Submissions; Hearings Counterstatement;

lence; Hearings Extension Request; Hearing Request; Hearings Evidence; Hearings Notice of Opposition;

CORRESPONDENCE CATEGORY

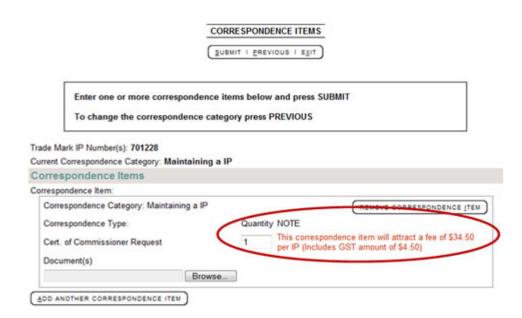
• The ability to upload documents for a different category by selecting the **Previous** button to go back to Correspondence Category Screen.



• The ability to upload multiple documents per correspondence item.



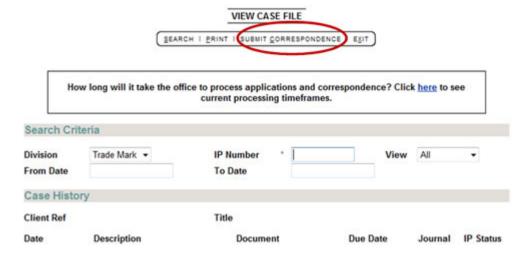
- Some correspondence types allow you to respond directly using free-form text in lieu of uploading a document(s). For example 'Response to compliance report' or 'Correspondence to examiner'.
- A new field to allow you to enter 'quantity' for your request for example for 'adding trade mark class(s)' or for 'requesting the certificate of commissioner'.



2. A new name for "Correspondence History" and "View IP History" services.



3. The ability to go to "Submit Correspondence" service from "View Case File" service.



IPONZ online service fully functional

10 August 2011

The IPONZ website was unavailable from 3:30pm NZST and overnight on Tuesday 9 August 2011.

If you have missed a deadline or filing date you should at the earliest opportunity write to IPONZ at mail@iponz.govt.nz with the following information:

- Identify the application number of the patent, trade mark or design concerned;
- Provide detailed reasons for missing the date; and
- Indicate the extension period required to meet the matters which were to be addressed.

We will assess each request on a case by case basis, and where appropriate, will provide a suitable extension of time.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

For more information about extensions of time see:

- Patents & Designs [55 kB PDF]
- Trade Marks extensions of time practice guideline

Enhancements to online filing

1 August 2011

In response to client feedback IPONZ implemented the following changes to enhance the online application service:

1. Trade mark pre-approved list made easy

To make it easier for you to select terms that you are searching for, your exact matches will now appear at the top of the results. You can also filter your results by class using the class selectors at the top of the results list.

What does the improvement look like?

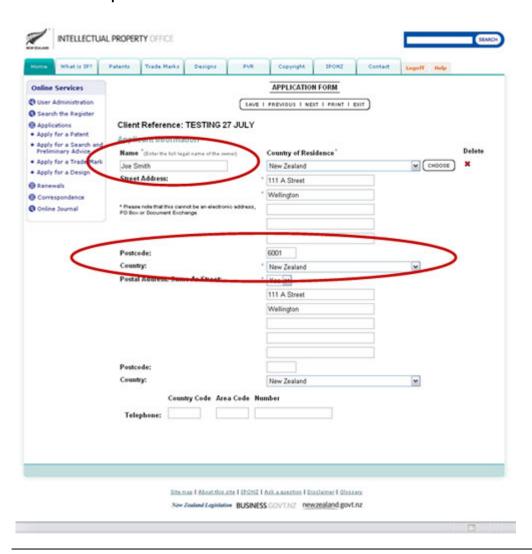


2. Entering applicant details

Now when you enter the applicant Name for a patent, design or trade mark application the system will automatically search for that applicant in the system and return all the possible matches. Once a match is selected the system will automatically populate the address fields on the application form for you.

Changes have also been made to all application forms to include a separate post code field to assist with NZ Post mail requirements.

What do the improvements look like?



The Journal

The July edition of the Journal has now been posted on the site. You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- The July 2011 edition Journal 1585

The Plant Variety Rights Journal

14 July 2011

The latest quarterly edition of the Journal is now available.

To view the journal click here: PVR Journal No. 126 published 14 July 2011.

The Journal

30 June 2011

The June edition of the Journal has now been posted on the site. You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- The June 2011 edition Journal 1584

Canterbury Earthquake Update: Meeting IPONZ Deadlines

Online services fully functional

Our online filing and correspondence facilities remain fully functional, please use them to search, apply and file correspondence with our office.

You can find details of our online services here.

If you are not yet registered, read here to find out how to become a registered user of our online services.

To view your file via our website, use the 'View IP History' service under Correspondence facilities.

Missed deadlines

If you have been affected and cannot meet a deadline set by IPONZ in a matter relating to patents, trade marks or designs, then you should at the earliest opportunity write to IPONZ at mail@iponz.govt.nz with the following information:

- Identify the application number of the patent, trade mark or design concerned;
- Provide detailed reasons for missing the date; and
- Indicate the extension period required to meet the matters which were to be addressed.

We will assess each request on a case by case basis, and where appropriate, will provide a suitable extension of time.

For more information about extensions of time see:

- Patents & Designs [55 kB PDF]
- Trade Marks extensions of time practice guidelines

Tell us what you think about our services

13 June 2011

The Intellectual Property Office is currently reviewing its online services, and would like to know how you rated your last experience with us.

We value your input and invite you to complete our online survey to tell us whether our services meet your expectations and what features would be useful in the near future.

This survey is being conducted in conjunction with various business units within the Ministry of Economic Development. To provide feedback on our services please select 'Intellectual Property Office (IPONZ)' for the first question.

It will take approximately five minutes to complete.

• Complete the survey today

New time set for Sunday night maintenance outages

9 June 2011

The timing of the standard 2 hour Sunday night maintenance outage is changing. The maintenance outage has been brought forward. From this Sunday (June 12, 2011) onwards the outage will start at 7:00 PM and conclude at 9:00 PM.

During this time the Ministry of Economic Development online registry services may be unavailable and outage notices will be displayed on any affected sites.

It is the intention of the Ministry of Economic Development that variations from this outage window will be rare.

Closed for Queen's Birthday Monday 6 June 2011

3 June 2011

We will be closed on Monday 6 June 2011.

Our website will be available 24/7 throughout this period. Applications made online on 6 June 2011 will receive a filing date of 7 June 2011.

Please note - If information about a design or an invention for which an application is to be made, is published prior to the official filing date it may invalidate the registration or patent. If a design or patent application is submitted online on an official closed day, such as on a weekend or Queen's Birthday it would be prudent to wait until the next open day before publishing details of the design or invention.

The Journal

27 May 2011

The May edition of the Journal has now been posted on the site.

You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- The May 2011 edition Journal 1583

IPONZ Online Service Fully Functional

20 May 2011

On Wednesday a hardware failure brought down our online services, and they were unavailable from 1.20pm Wednesday 18 May to 8.30am Friday 20 May.

We apologise for the inconvenience to our clients.

While our services were unavailable during that time, the data in our systems was never at risk.

We are now taking a hard look at what went wrong technically, and reviewing our internal processes and disaster recovery plans.

We need to ensure we have the right balance between providing a reliable service to clients, and delivering that service at a reasonable cost to the taxpayer.

We appreciate the patience of clients and we will work with you to extend deadlines and reduce the impact of this outage on you.

Missed deadlines

If you have been affected by this outage and have not been able to meet a deadline set by IPONZ in a matter relating to patents, trade marks or designs, then you should at the earliest opportunity write to IPONZ at mail@iponz.govt.nz with the following information:

- Identify the application number of the patent, trade mark or design concerned; and
- Provide detailed reasons for missing the date.

For more information about extensions of time see:

- Patents & Designs [47 kB PDF]
- Trade Marks extensions of time practice guideline

Online trade mark application service enhancements

9 May 2011

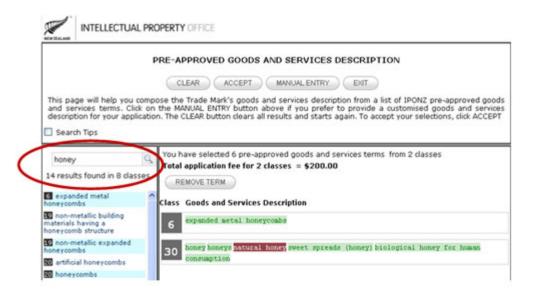
In response to client requests we have made the following changes to improve the trade mark online application form:

- 1. A searchable list of IPONZ preapproved goods and services descriptions to assist with classifying a trade mark;
- 2. A new layout and navigation to make it simpler to move between screens and complete applications;
- 3. The ability to file multiple convention claims; and
- 4. An option to enter your goods and services description.

What do the improvements look like?

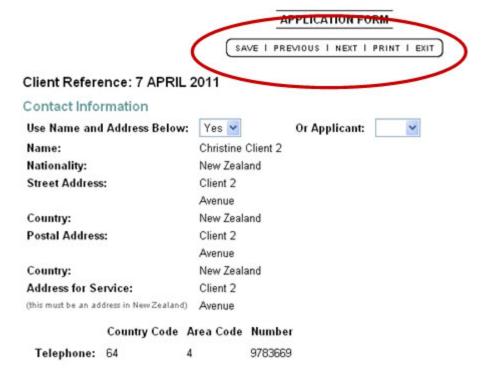
1. A new searchable list of IPONZ pre-approved goods and services descriptions to assist with classifying a mark





- 2. New navigation and form layout to make it simpler to move between screens and complete applications
 - New "Previous" and "Back" navigation buttons

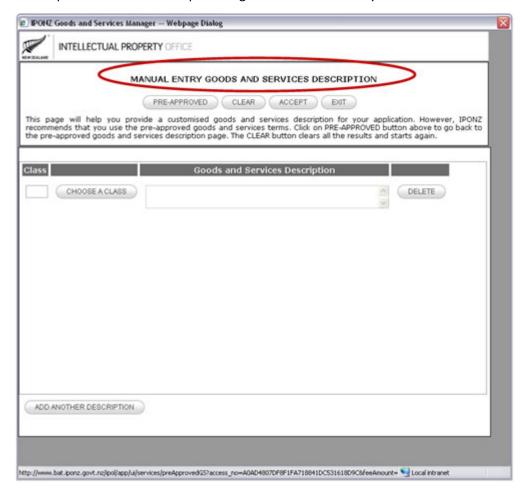
• Simple screen layout



3. The ability to file multiple convention claims



4. An option to enter a description of goods and services of your choice.



For more information about the new services please see:

- How to check for existing trade marks?
- How to apply for a trade mark?

You can keep track of your correspondence with the Office via View IP History service.

Details of our online services can be found here.

James Dyson Award

6 May 2011





In partnership with the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand, the James Dyson Foundation is once again looking to put New Zealand's best emerging product designers in the limelight.

The James Dyson Award is open to final year tertiary design, technology and engineering students, and recent graduates in their first five years in the workforce. Entries close on 2 August 2011 and are filed online at: www.jamesdysonaward.org.

The New Zealand James Dyson Award winner will receive:

- return airfares to the UK, NZD\$3,000 spending money and accommodation in London
- visits Dyson's Malmesbury-based headquarters.
- receives NZ\$3,000 worth of legal or business advice from Auckland firm, Farry & Co Law
- an official fee prize package from IPONZ tailored to the winner's immediate intellectual property needs and
- 12 month membership to the Designers Institute of New Zealand.

New Zealand finalists will be invited to attend an IPONZ IP workshop in Auckland.

All entries will be in the running for the International James Dyson Award. The International winner receives GBP£10,000 in prize money, a trophy, and an opportunity to visit Dyson's engineering facilities in either the UK or Malaysia. The James Dyson Foundation also gives GBP£10,000 to the International winner's current or former University department.

Online trade mark application service enhancements - Coming soon

4 May 2011

IPONZ will introduce changes to enhance the trade marks online filing service. The changes include:

- A searchable list of IPONZ pre-approved goods and services descriptions to assist with classifying a trade mark;
- New layout and navigation to make it simpler to move between screens and complete applications;
- The ability to file multiple convention claims; and
- An option to enter your goods and services description.

Check out our website next week for more details.

Online filing is the IPONZ preferred method of filing. You can find details of our online services here.

If you are not yet registered, find out how to become a registered user of our online services. To view your file via our website, use the 'View IP History' service under Correspondence facilities.

New design regulations in force

19 April 2011

The Designs Amendment Regulations 2011, which amend the Designs Regulations 1954, take effect from 19 April 2011.

What's changing?

The new regulations streamline the application and registration process and also bring the changes to the Designs Act 1954 made in the Designs Amendment Act 2010 into force.

Applications and correspondence

- Design application details will be available in search results immediately
- Filing of applications and correspondence online is subject to and permitted by regulation
- Duplicate or multiple copies of documents are no longer required, and specimens are no longer accepted as "representations" of a design
- Representations should be provided as digital images

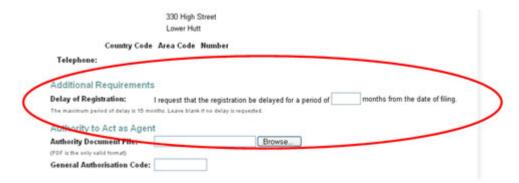
The design application forms have been updated to reflect these changes.

Request a restoration

Under certain conditions it is possible to restore an application or registration. To find out how to apply for a restoration <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Make a request to delay the registration of a design

You can make a request to delay the registration of a design for a period of up to 15 months from the filing date at any time up until the design is registered. At the time of making an application online a request to delay registration may be made by entering the period required in the Additional Request section of the online application form.



IPONZ has provided suitable forms and facilities on the IPONZ online services website to make requests for restoration and delay of registration.

Please read the Designs Amendment Regulations 2011.

Change to scheduled maintenance window

14 April 2011

Data network changes have been scheduled for this weekend resulting in a change to the scheduled maintenance window for this website.

The maintenance outage will now run from 5:00pm to 11:00pm NZST on Sunday 17 April 2011.

PVR Journal

14 April 2011

The latest quarterly edition of the Journal is now available.

To view the journal click here: PVR Journal No. 125 published 14 April 2011.

New design regulations coming into force

13 April 2011

New designs amendment regulations to streamline the application and registration process come into force this month.

The Designs Amendment Regulations 2011, which amend the Designs Regulations 1954, will be in effect from 19 April 2011.

The amendments will:

- confirm that applications and correspondence can be filed online
- remove the need for duplicate copies of forms and representations
- allow a request to delay the registration of a design for a period of up to 15 months from the filing date
- provide a restoration period and process.

Please read the <u>Designs Amendment Regulations 2011</u>.

Further details about the changes will be published on our website when the regulations come into force.

Proposal for trans-Tasman Regulation of Patent Attorneys

7 April 2011

Today Commerce Minister Simon Power and Australian Innovation Minister Senator Kim Carr released a discussion paper on proposed changes to the patent attorney profession.

The discussion paper outlines a trans-Tasman regulatory framework with a single governance body responsible for patent attorney registration, training and disciplinary standards across Australia and New Zealand.

You are invited to respond to the discussion paper. Read more about this proposal and how to make a submission.

The Journal

31 March 2011

The March edition of the Journal has now been posted on the site.

You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- The March 2011 edition Journal 1581

Changes to maintenance windows

31 March 2011

New scheduled outage for end of daylight saving - Sunday 3 April 2011

Due to time changes associated with daylight saving all online transactional services for the Ministry of Economic Development will be unavailable from 1:55am NZDT Sunday 3 April 2011 for one hour and ten minutes. Availability will resume at 2:05am NZST Sunday 3 April 2011.

Change to scheduled maintenance window - Sunday 3 April 2011

System software upgrades have been scheduled for this weekend so there will be a change to the scheduled maintenance window on Sunday 3 April 2011 for this website. The maintenance outage will now run from 7:00pm to 12:00am NZST Sunday 3 April 2011.

Japan Earthquake: Meeting IPONZ Deadlines

25 March 2011

The Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) wishes to express our commitment to doing everything that we can to support the Japanese people during these difficult times.

If you are affected by the events in Japan and cannot meet a deadline set by IPONZ in a matter relating to patents, trade marks or designs, then you should at the earliest opportunity write to IPONZ with the following information:

- Identify the application number of the patent, trade mark or design concerned;
- Provide detailed reasons for missing the date; and
- Indicate the extension period required to meet the matters which were to be addressed.

We will assess each request on a case by case basis, and where appropriate, will provide a suitable extension of time.

From our website, a registered user can use the following online correspondence services;

- Submit Correspondence to file correspondence; and
- 'View IP History' to track and view the progress of a file.

For more information about extensions of time see:

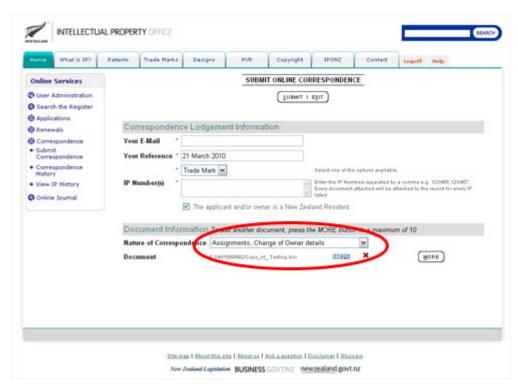
- Patents & Designs [47 kB PDF]
- Trade Marks extensions of time practice guideline

Preview your correspondence before submitting

Would you like to be able to check a document before submitting it through our online correspondence facility?

Now you can, IPONZ has enhanced the submission of the Online Correspondence service to include the ability to preview your uploaded document. Click on the hyperlink of your uploaded document to preview it in a new window. This will enable you to check it is correct before submitting.

What does the new feature look like?



For information about how to determine the 'Nature of Correspondence' to select, see our factsheets:

- Trade marks
- Patents

You can keep track of your correspondence with the View IP History service.

Search and/or Preliminary Advice service going online only

7 March 2011

The Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) would like to remind clients that from 7 March 2011, IPONZ will only provide the online search and/or preliminary advice application form via the IPONZ online facilities.

For more information about this service please see www.iponz.govt.nz/online-services.

Trade Mark Practice Guidelines - Extension of Time Requests

Trade mark extension of time requests have been reviewed with recent case law developments taken into account. As a result of that IPONZ is introducing a new guideline - no. 25 Extension of Time Requests. This guideline covers what to expect when requesting an extension of time.

Read the guidelines here.

Please note the guidelines do not constrain the judgement and discretion of the Commissioner of Trade Marks, and each extension of time request will be considered on its own merits.

Canterbury Earthquake Update: IPONZ Online services are fully functional

28 February 2011

The contact centre in Christchurch has been closed and all calls are diverted to the IPONZ Office in Wellington. You may continue to use our freephone number 0508 447 669 and our International Number +64 3 962 2607. The staff will do their best to answer calls as soon as possible.

If you are looking for information we do ask that you try our website and use our online services in the first instance.

Online services fully functional

Our online filing and correspondence facilities remain fully functional, please use them to search, apply and file correspondence with our office.

You can find details of our online services here.

If you are not yet registered, find out how to become a registered user of our online services.

To view your file via our website, use the 'View IP History' service under Correspondence facilities.

Missed deadlines

If you've missed a critical date as a result of this quake, you can write to us detailing the reasons for missing the date. We will assess each request on a case by case basis, and where appropriate, will provide a suitable extension of time.

Postal deliveries affected

Postal services have been affected by the Canterbury earthquake. This will mean disruptions and delays to postal services in that area. As mentioned above all correspondence issued by the office is accessible in real time via the 'View IP History' service. Please note you must be registered to use this service. You may however wish to contact your mail service provider for updates and redirection information.

We are committed to doing everything we can to support you during these difficult times.

The Journal

25 February 2011

The February edition of The Journal has now been posted on the site.

You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- February 2011 Journal 1580

Single Economic Market Outcome Announcement

16 February 2011

Today, Prime Ministers John Key and Julia Gillard announced the integration of patent examination systems between Australia and New Zealand.

The alignment of the systems will make it easier for businesses to protect their intellectual property (IP) in both countries.

Read more about this announcement.

The Journal

28 January 2011

The January edition of The Journal has now been posted on the site.

You have two options to access this:

- Online Journal
- January 2011 Journal 1579

Changes to scheduled maintenance windows

28 January 2011

Due to a public holiday and an upgrade to our hosting environment, the regular weekly maintenance outage scheduled for Sunday 6 February 2011, 9:00 pm - 11:00 has changed. Instead, the following times have been scheduled:

- Saturday 5 February NZST 5:00pm Sunday 6 February NZST 07:00am
- Monday 7 February: NZST 9:00pm 11:00pm.

This will affect the online services of this site.

Future maintenance windows will occur during our normal maintenance window of Sunday from 9:00pm until 11:00pm unless otherwise stated on the day of the maintenance.

Search and/or Preliminary Advice service available online only effective from 7 March 2011

21 January 2011

The Commissioner of Trade Marks hereby advises that, from 7 March 2011, IPONZ will only accept requests for search and/or preliminary advice via the IPONZ online facilities available at www.iponz.govt.nz/online-services.

From 7 March 2011, requests for search and/or preliminary advice submitted to IPONZ in paper form at the filing office of the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand, Ministry of Economic Development situated at 205 Victoria Street, Wellington, will not be accepted. Such requests made via paper, email or fax format will be returned immediately to the applicant, or the applicant's agent, without acknowledgement of receipt.

The Plant Variety Rights Journal

14 January 2011

The latest quarterly edition of the Journal is now available.

To view the journal click here: PVR Journal No. 124 published 14 January 2011.