

Australian Trade Mark Search

November 2018

Release Notes



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Introduction

IP Australia underwent a large technology upgrade for trade marks in November 2018. A new version of Australian Trade Mark Search was made available in line with this upgrade.

Updates to Australian Trade Mark Search

Statuses

Statuses were changed to better reflect the current lifecycle of trade marks.

Some statuses have become flags. In particular, General Provisions for Extension and Revocation of Registration pending are now a flag displayed on the detailed view of a trade marks, rather than a status.

Statuses are searchable at two levels: a higher level **Status group** (to facilitate broad searching needs) and the more detailed **Status**.

A full set of status definitions is available in the Australian Trade Mark Search Help.

Changes to Endorsements

Some information previously contained in Endorsements has been split out into separate areas:

Convention details, **Defensive details** and **Linked applications**.

In Advanced search, where you would have previously searched in the Endorsement field, this will now be called Other Information, and still searches across this broader range of information.

Trade marks that had an Endorsement prior to the system upgrade in November 2018 will continue to display those as **Endorsements as at 10 November 2018** as a reference for the future.

Note: the **Endorsements as at 10 November 2018** will remain static as at that point in time and will not continue to update.

Dates

Some additional dates are being provided for searching:

- Filing Date
- Withdrawal Date
- Lapsing Date.

Regulated Signs

Records of prescribed, prohibited and contrary to law signs which begin with a -9 are now called **Regulated Signs**. These now display more information to help you understand their relevance in your search results. These records are associated with all classes, so these will start appearing in searches where they previously did not.

Searchable ABN

ABN data will start being collected separately to the ACN/ARBN. The searchable information will now include ABN data using the same search box as ACN/ARBN. As ABN records were not stored for past applications this will only affect new records moving forward.

Transliterations

In addition to word and image indexing terms, IP Australia now collects and stores transliteration indexing terms separately. These were previously listed as word indexing terms beginning with **T**:

Some new searching options are included within the Word search options:

1. Exact
2. Prefix
3. Part
4. Suffix
5. Phonetic
6. Fuzzy
7. Stem
8. Exact (non wildcard)
9. **Exact (transliteration only)**
10. **Exact (word only)**

Transliteration indexing terms will be automatically searched when using options 1-8 of the above search methods.

Option 9 **Exact (transliteration only)** allows you to return results for only the transliteration indexing terms.

Option 10 **Exact (word only)** allows you to return results for only word terms.

Currently IP Australia only collects transliteration indexing terms for **Chinese** character trade marks; however this is likely being expanded to more non-Roman character trade marks in the future.

'Kind' of marks - changes and additions

The definitions of Kinds of trade marks have been clarified.

Word - trade marks consisting **only** of words

Fancy - trade marks that are words depicted in non-standard typeface

Device – Replaced by Figurative

Figurative – two dimensional trade marks consisting of image elements either with or without words.

Colour - trade marks consisting only of a colour or with colour as the main defining feature.

Scent - trade marks consisting of or containing a scent as a defining feature.

Shape - trade marks made up of a three dimensional shape.

Sound - trade marks consisting of a sound or that contain a sound as a defining feature.

Movement – trade marks consisting of a visual animation that's movement is the defining feature.

Feel – trade marks comprised of a physical texture.

Hologram – trade marks represented in a holographic form.

Position – trade marks for a particular section of colour or a sign applied to part of a product in a specific position.

Taste – trade marks consisting of a particular flavour of or applied to the goods.

Tracer – Coloured lines or threads applied to certain products.

Other – Any other kind of sign not defined above.

‘Figurative’ will not be used on non-traditional signs as this will not indicate the correct kind of mark.

‘Word’ will not be associated with image marks that contain words (now figurative instead).

History information and publications

The trade mark history list will be refined to show only relevant historical actions and publications.

Publication actions will be searchable from the Advanced Search page and displayed in the history of trade mark records.

Journals

The Australian Official Journal of Trade Marks content will be searchable through Australia Trade Mark Search and a daily PDF document will be published.

Weekly journals published before November 2018 will continue to be available for download from the [Australian Official Journal of Trade Marks](#) in PDF format.

Re-run search data

Re-running searches for existing search spaces will be available, except for those lines of search making use of the former ‘lower’ statuses. As identified above, the lower statuses are different to the new statuses going forward so the searches will not work. This overall feature is being investigated for transition to a more live notification style feature however this will not be until a future release.