



**APEC Symposium On Paperless Trading Capacity  
Building And Intellectual Property Protection  
People's Republic of China  
September 2007**

**Paper  
Overview of Australia's IP system**

## APEC Symposium on Paperless Trading Capacity Building and IPR Protection

Overview of Australia's IP system

Ian Macintosh



2

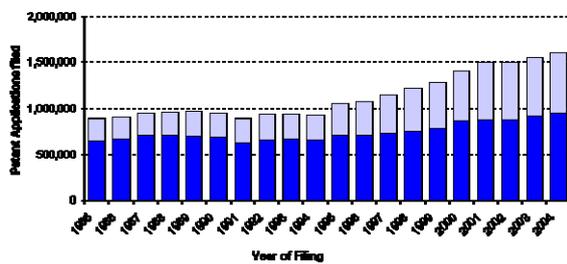
## Australia's IP Policy Framework

- Enhanced trade and investment;
- Technological development
- Internationally competitive enterprises
- Effective commercialisation of inventions and innovations
- Social and cultural development; and
- Secure international reputation for exports.



4

## Worldwide Patent Filings

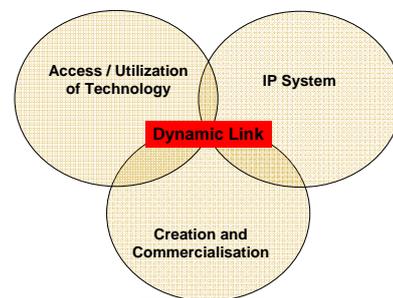


Source: WIPO Statistical Database



3

## Key Challenges for Policy Makers



5

## Administration of IP in Australia

- IP Australia:
  - Patents, trademarks, designs, plant breeders rights (*over 100yrs old, one of 14 PCT ISA/IPEAs, provides patent services to other countries*)
- Attorney-General's Dep't:
  - Copyright
- Dep't Foreign Affairs & Trade:
  - Trade issues related to IPRs



6

## IP Australia's Vision

One Application, One Search,  
One Examination

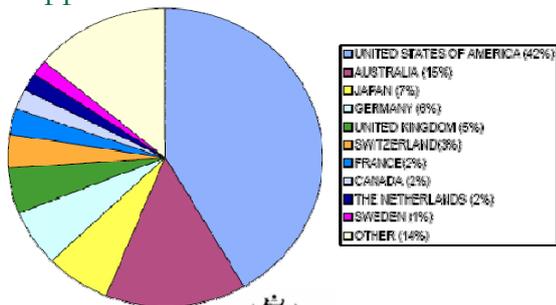
Internationally Recognised

Office of Choice



8

## Country of Origin of Australian Patent Applications



7

## IP Australia – meeting the challenges

- Utilising modern technology and business processes
- Development of people skills
- Quality improvements to administration systems



9

## E-Business @ IP Australia

### E-Business initiatives

- E-filing
- Free on-line services
- Digital libraries and databases
- B2B solutions



10

## Focus on Quality

- Quality framework
- Ensuring appropriate resources
- Documentation of practices
- PCT Quality standards
- Feedback –
  - continuous improvement
  - Alignment of products and service
  - Improving applications



12

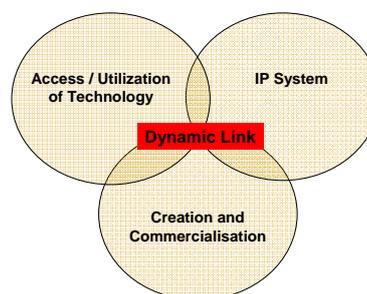
## Supporting People Skills

- Investment in People
- Access to modern searching tools
- Flexible work arrangements



11

## Key Challenges for Policy Makers



13

Thank you



Australian Government