Legal index (Linx)

Legal index covers Court of Appeal Judgments, High Court Judgments (mainly for the Auckland area), Times Law Reports, legal journals and texts. It includes catchwords or descriptors, an abstract, other cases cited, statutes discussed, and the details to identify the material.

Full Text Databases.

Court of Appeal Judgments (Appl)

Court of Appeal Judgments contains the full text of judgments from 1982 onwards. The entire text of a judgment can be used to research legal concepts, references to statues, other cases, phrases etc or to print out judgements previously identified as relevant from file numbers or case names.

Legislation before the NZ Parliament (Bill)

This database contains the entire text of Bills before the House. It can be used to search for forthcoming legislation on a topic eg fencing, or for new legislation impinging on an existing Act, or simply as a means of acquiring a copy of the Bill.

Hansard (Hans)

Hansard contains the entire text of Parliamentary debates from September 1987 onwards. It can be used to research the intentions of the law draftsmen from the debates at various stages of a bill going through the House, or as a means of checking when a Bill was introduced, and had its various readings, or to ascertain what Members of Parliament are saying about a particular issue.

Background Research

Index New Zealand (Innz)

Innz indexes over 200 of the most important New Zealand journals, magazines and newspapers.

Newzindex (Newz)

Newzindex concentrates on material of interest to the business community in newspapers and journals. It is useful for researching current events, particularly in the commercial area.

Parliamentary questions (Ques)

The Questions database contains the full text of both oral and written questions. It contains useful information about the activities of the Government.

• Anthony Wong is President of the NZ Society.

Recent Developments in the Uruguay Round of International Trade Negotiations on Intellectual Property Rights

Negotiations in the Uruguay Round of international trade talks on intellectual property rights are scheduled to conclude at a Ministerial conference to be held in Brussels in early December, 1990.

In the last year the negotiations have made considerable headway and the Negotiating Group now has before it a number of submissions setting out different countries positions. Most submissions are directed towards issues for establishing internationally adequate standards in respect of various forms of intellectual property and the effective enforcement of the rights of intellectual property holders.

The GATT Secretariat has recently issued a checklist paper which identifies the main issues contained in the submissions and details a number of questions to be addressed in the final phase of negotiations. The GATT paper is divided into the following sections:

- Basic Principles
- Standards and Principles Concerning the Availability, Scope and Use of Trade–Related Intellectual Property Rights
- Enforcement of Trade–Related Intellectual Property Rights
- Procedures for the Acquisition and Maintenance of IPRs
- Multilateral Dispute Prevention and Settlement
- Transitional Arrangements
- Other Matters
- Trade in Counterfeit goods
- Relationship with Other International Organisations

There are wide differences of opinion on many issues including whether the results of the negotiations should be incorporated into the GATT or WIPO. There is a booklet entitled "Intellectual Property Rights – A Guide to the GATT Uruguay Round", available from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade which describes how the negotiations have evolved over the past three years and outlines the major issues under negotiation.

Further information about the paper can be obtained from Mr Rod Hall (06) 261 2888 or Mr Michael Mugliston (06) 261 2980 of the Multilateral Trade Division.

• the Editors

CASES

Copyright: Parallel Importation of Computer Programs

• Sonal Moore

A More Detailed Examination of Lotus Development Corporation & Ors v Vacolan Pty Limited & Anor before Davies J, Federal Court, 20/11/89

Facts

The first respondent, Vacolan Pty Limited, conducted the business of receiving orders for computer programs on behalf of an American corporation, Seltec Computer Products Inc. Mr Cummings, the second respondent, was a director of Vacolan Pty Limited.