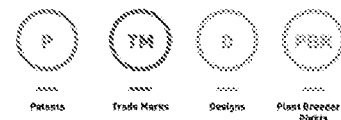




14 October 2021



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International Bureau, WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
P.O. Box 18
1211 Geneva 20,
SWITZERLAND



International registration number: 1614895
Australian Trade mark Number: 2213237
Holder's name: Comité International Olympique

**NOTIFICATION OF PROVISIONAL REFUSAL OF AN INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION
DESIGNATING AUSTRALIA (IRDA) THIS REFUSAL IS ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE
17(1) TO 17(3)**

The Australian Designation of the International Registration does not meet the requirements of *Trade Marks Act 1995*. The issues currently preventing acceptance of the International Registration are explained in the attached Adverse Examination Report number 1 and where possible, the ways in which the holder may be able to resolve the issues.

The holder has until **14 January 2023** to overcome all the issues otherwise this refusal will take effect.

The holder may respond in writing to this refusal. Any response needs to be sent through an address for service in Australia or New Zealand. Please allow time for me to consider any responses by ensuring they are received by this office no later than 20 business days prior to 14 January 2023.

This provisional refusal will be reviewed if the holder:

- makes written submissions in support of the claim to protection of the trade mark in Australia; and/or
- submits evidence in support of the claim to protection of the trade mark in Australia; and/or
- applies for a hearing

The trade mark examiner who produced this report is **Rachel Gentles** and their direct line is **+61 2 6283 2053**. If you have been unable to reach your examiner directly, another examiner who may be able to assist you can be reached on +61 2 6283 2211.

Details of the trade mark can be viewed using our [Australian trade mark search](#) on our website.

Sincerely,

IP Australia

Adverse Examination Report

The following issues have been raised under the Trade Marks Act 1995 and will need to be addressed before your IRDA can be accepted.

- Goods and services are not correctly classified

Goods and services are not correctly classified

This International Registration Designating Australia (IRDA) does not meet the requirements of Regulation 17A.14 of the Trade Marks Regulations 1995.

The reasons for this refusal are set out in the Classification Schedule attached to this report. The Schedule includes information about actions you can take to address these issues.

The refusal applies to the following goods/services:

Class 9: controllers and voltage and power regulators

Class 21: air fragrancing apparatus

Class 35: organization of trade shows and commercial exhibitions; loyalty, incentive and bonus program services; commercial negotiation and customer information services

Class 38: computer communication and access to the Internet

Goods and Services Classification Schedule

The following items have been identified as issues relating to the classification of your list of goods and services. Please ensure that you respond, in writing, to these issues.

What are the issues with your trade mark?

Class 9

This International Registration Designating Australia (IRDA) does not meet the requirements of Regulation 17A.14 of the Trade Marks Regulations 1995. You have claimed:

1. *controllers and voltage and power regulators*

This term is too vague for classification in this class.

Please provide a clear explanation of the term mentioned above.

Please note that because this is an IRDA, if the term above falls into a different class IP Australia cannot transfer it.

To transfer goods/services to a different class a request will need to be lodged directly with the International Bureau.

The refusal applies to the following goods/services: *controllers and voltage and power regulators*

Class 21

This International Registration Designating Australia (IRDA) does not meet the requirements of Regulation 17A.14 of the Trade Marks Regulations 1995. You have claimed:

2. *air fragancing apparatus*

This term is too vague for classification in this class.

Please provide a clear explanation of the term mentioned above.

Please note that because this is an IRDA, if the term above falls into a different class IP Australia cannot transfer it.

To transfer goods/services to a different class a request will need to be lodged directly with the International Bureau.

The refusal applies to the following goods/services: *air fragancing apparatus*

Class 35

This International Registration Designating Australia (IRDA) does not meet the requirements of Regulation 17A.14 of the Trade Marks Regulations 1995. You have claimed:

3. organization of trade shows and commercial exhibitions

This term is too vague for the purposes of classification.

Please provide a clear explanation of the term mentioned above.

An acceptable description would be: *organization of trade shows and commercial exhibitions for commercial or advertising purposes*

The refusal applies to the following goods/services: *organization of trade shows and commercial exhibitions*

4. loyalty, incentive and bonus program services

This term is too vague for the purposes of classification.

Please provide a clear explanation of the term mentioned above.

An acceptable description would be: *organisation and management of loyalty, incentive and bonus program services*

The refusal applies to the following goods/services: *loyalty, incentive and bonus program services*

5. commercial negotiation and customer information services

This term is too vague for classification in this class.

Please provide a clear explanation of the term mentioned above.

Please note that because this is an IRDA, if the term above falls into a different class IP Australia cannot transfer it.

To transfer goods/services to a different class a request will need to be lodged directly with the International Bureau.

The refusal applies to the following goods/services: *commercial negotiation and customer information services*

Class 38

This International Registration Designating Australia (IRDA) does not meet the requirements of Regulation 17A.14 of the Trade Marks Regulations 1995. You have claimed:

6. computer communication and access to the Internet

This term is too vague for the purposes of classification.

Please provide a clear explanation of the term mentioned above.

An acceptable description would be: *computer communication services and provision of user access to the Internet*

The refusal applies to the following goods/services: *computer communication and access to the Internet*

Actions you can take

You may respond to this refusal by:

- Making written submissions and/or
- Requesting a hearing in this matter.

If you wish to respond in any of the above ways, you **must** do so in writing and supply an address for service in Australia or New Zealand. If you do not respond by the date mentioned on the first page of this report, this IRDA will be refused for the above goods/services.

Grounds for rejecting IRDA

Regulation 17A.28

- 1) The grounds for rejecting an IRDA are the grounds set out in sections 39 to 44 of the Act, as affected by subregulation (2).
- 2) Sections 39 to 44 apply in relation to an IRDA as if:
 - a) a reference in those sections:
 - i) to an application for the registration of a trade mark were a reference to the IRDA; and
 - ii) to an applicant were a reference to the holder of the IRDA; and
 - b) the reference in paragraph 41 (3) (b) to the filing date in respect of an application were a reference to the date of international registration or the date of recording, as applicable, in respect of the IRDA; and
 - c) each reference in subparagraphs 44 (1) (a) (i) and (2) (a) (i) to a trade mark registered by another person included a protected international trade mark held by another person; and
 - d) each reference in subparagraphs 44 (1) (a) (ii) and (2) (a) (ii) to a trade mark whose registration is being sought by another person included a trade mark in respect of which the extension of protection to Australia is being sought by another person.

Section 39 Trade mark containing etc. certain signs

- 1) An application for the registration of a trade mark must be rejected if the trade mark contains or consists of a sign that, under regulations made for the purposes of section 18, is not to be used as a trade mark.
- 2) An application for the registration of a trade mark may be rejected if the trade mark contains or consists of:
 - a) a sign that is prescribed for the purposes of this subsection; or
 - b) a sign so nearly resembling:
 - i) a sign referred to in paragraph (a); or
 - ii) a sign referred to in subsection (1);as to be likely to be taken for it.

Section 40 Trade mark that cannot be represented graphically

- 1) An application for the registration of a trade mark must be rejected if the trade mark cannot be represented graphically.

Section 41 Trade mark not distinguishing applicant's goods or services

- 1) An application for the registration of a trade mark must be rejected if the trade mark is not capable of distinguishing the applicant's goods or services in respect of which the trade mark is sought to be registered (the designated goods or services) from the goods or services of other persons.

Note: For goods of a person and services of a person see section 6.

- 2) A trade mark is taken not to be capable of distinguishing the designated goods or services from the goods or services of other persons only if either subsection (3) or (4) applies to the trade mark.
- 3) This subsection applies to a trade mark if:
- a) the trade mark is not to any extent inherently adapted to distinguish the designated goods or services from the goods or services of other persons; and
 - b) the applicant has not used the trade mark before the filing date in respect of the application to such an extent that the trade mark does in fact distinguish the designated goods or services as being those of the applicant.
- 4) This subsection applies to a trade mark if:
- a) the trade mark is, to some extent, but not sufficiently, inherently adapted to distinguish the designated goods or services from the goods or services of other persons; and
 - b) the trade mark does not and will not distinguish the designated goods or services as being those of the applicant having regard to the combined effect of the following:
 - i) the extent to which the trade mark is inherently adapted to distinguish the goods or services from the goods or services of other persons;
 - ii) the use, or intended use, of the trade mark by the applicant;
 - iii) any other circumstances.

Note 1: Trade Marks that are not inherently adapted to distinguish goods or services are mostly trade marks that consist wholly of a sign that is ordinarily used to indicate:

- a) the kind, quality, quantity, intended purpose, value, geographical origin, or some other characteristic, of goods or services; or
- b) the time of production of goods or of the rendering of services.

Note 2: For goods of a person and services of a person see section 6.

Note 3: Use of a trade mark by a predecessor in title of an applicant and an authorised use of a trade mark by another person are each taken to be use of the trade mark by the applicant (see subsections (5) and 7(3) and section 8).

- 5) For the purposes of this section, the use of a trade mark by a predecessor in title of an applicant for the registration of the trade mark is taken to be use of the trade mark by the applicant.

Note 1: For applicant and predecessor in title see section 6.

Note 2: If a predecessor in title had authorised another person to use the trade mark, any authorised use of the trade mark by the other person is taken to be use of the trade mark by the predecessor in title (see subsection 7(3) and section 8).

Section 42 Trade mark scandalous or its use contrary to law

An application for the registration of a trade mark must be rejected if:

- a) the trade mark contains or consists of scandalous matter; or
- b) its use would be contrary to law.

Section 43 Trade mark likely to deceive or cause confusion

An application for the registration of a trade mark in respect of particular goods or services must be rejected if, because of some connotation that the trade mark or a sign contained in the trade mark has, the use of the trade mark in relation to those goods or services would be likely to deceive or cause confusion.

Section 44 Identical etc. trade marks

- 1) Subject to subsections (3) and (4), an application for the registration of a trade mark (applicant's trade mark) in respect of goods (applicant's goods) must be rejected if:
 - a) the applicant's trade mark is substantially identical with, or deceptively similar to:
 - i) a trade mark registered by another person in respect of similar goods or closely related services; or
 - ii) a trade mark whose registration in respect of similar goods or closely related services is being sought by another person; and
 - b) the priority date for the registration of the applicant's trade mark in respect of the applicant's goods is not earlier than the priority date for the registration of the other trade mark in respect of the similar goods or closely related services.

Note 1: For deceptively similar see section 10.

Note 2: For similar goods see subsection 14(1).

Note 3: For priority date see section 12.

Note 4: The regulations may provide that an application must also be rejected if the trade mark is substantially identical with, or deceptively similar to, a protected international trade mark or a trade mark for which there is a request to extend international registration to Australia: see Part 17A.

- 2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4), an application for the registration of a trade mark (applicant's trade mark) in respect of services (applicant's services) must be rejected if:
 - a) it is substantially identical with, or deceptively similar to:
 - i) a trade mark registered by another person in respect of similar services or closely related goods; or
 - ii) a trade mark whose registration in respect of similar services or closely related goods is being sought by another person; and
 - b) the priority date for the registration of the applicant's trade mark in respect of the applicant's services is not earlier than the priority date for the registration of the other trade mark in respect of the similar services or closely related goods.
 - c) *Note 1:* For deceptively similar see section 10.
 - d) *Note 2:* For similar services see subsection 14(2).
 - e) *Note 3:* For priority date see section 12.
 - f) *Note 4:* The regulations may provide that an application must also be rejected if the trade mark is substantially identical with, or deceptively similar to, a protected international trade mark or a trade mark for which there is a request to extend international registration to Australia: see Part 17A.

- 3) If the Registrar in either case is satisfied:
 - a) that there has been honest concurrent use of the 2 trade marks; or
 - b) that, because of other circumstances, it is proper to do so;the Registrar may accept the application for the registration of the applicant's trade mark subject to any conditions or limitations that the Registrar thinks fit to impose. If the applicant's trade mark has been used only in a particular area, the limitations may include that the use of the trade mark is to be restricted to that particular area.

Note: For limitations see section 6.

- 4) If the Registrar in either case is satisfied that the applicant, or the applicant and the predecessor in title of the applicant, have continuously used the applicant's trade mark for a period:

- a) beginning before the priority date for the registration of the other trade mark in respect of:
 - i) the similar goods or closely related services; or
 - ii) the similar services or closely related goods; and
 - b) ending on the priority date for the registration of the applicant's trade mark;
- the Registrar may not reject the application because of the existence of the other trade mark.

Note 1: An authorised use of the trade mark by a person is taken to be a use of the trade mark by the owner of the trade mark (see subsection 7(3)).

Note 2: For predecessor in title see section 6.

Note 3: For priority date see section 12.

Regulation 17A.13 Use of trade mark

- 1) The holder of an IRDA:
 - a) must be using, or must intend to use, the trade mark that is the subject of the IRDA in relation to the goods, services or goods and services listed in the IRDA; or
 - b) must have authorised, or intend to authorise, another person to use the trade mark in relation to those goods, services or goods and services; or
 - c) must intend to assign the trade mark to a body corporate that is about to be constituted with a view to the use by the body corporate of the trade mark in relation to the goods, services or goods and services.
- 2) If there is reason to suspect that the holder does not meet a requirement of subregulation (1) in relation to any of the goods or services mentioned in the IRDA, the Registrar may require the holder to make a declaration to the Registrar that those provisions apply to all of those goods and services.

Regulation 4.15 Trade marks containing etc certain signs

For the purposes of paragraph 39 (2) (a) of the Act (which deals with signs), the following signs are prescribed:

- a) the words "Patent", "Patented", "By Royal Letters Patent", "Registered", "Registered Design", "Copyright", "Plant Breeder's Rights", "EL rights", or words or symbols to the same effect (including the symbols © and ®);
- b) the words "To counterfeit this is a forgery", or words to the same effect;
- c) a representation of the Arms, or of a flag or seal, of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory;
- d) a representation of the Arms or emblem of a city or town in Australia or of a public authority or public institution in Australia;
- e) a representation of a mark notified by the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property as not entitled to registration under international arrangements;
- f) a sign specified in Schedule 2.

Note 1: For the meaning of EL rights, see section 5 of the Circuit Layouts Act 1989.

Note 2: A list of the marks mentioned in paragraph 4.15 (e) is available at the Trade Marks Office and sub-offices.