



Australian Government

IP Australia

28 July, 2009

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**NOTIFICATION OF PROVISIONAL REFUSAL OF AN INTERNATIONAL
REGISTRATION DESIGNATING AUSTRALIA (IRDA)**

THIS REFUSAL IS ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 17(1) TO 17(3)

International Registration No: 1004208

Our Reference No: 1308500

Applicant: ARIH oglasevalska agencija, d.o.o.

Trade mark: wannabesociety.com

Your ref: 487275501

Examiner: Steven MARINCESKI

Report No. 1

The above trade mark has been examined and the following attachment(s) explain the matters which at present prevent the International Registration from being accepted and, where possible, the ways in which the holder may be able to resolve the issues. The holder has until **28 October 2010** (15 months) in which to do so. This refusal takes effect after that date.

The holder may respond in writing to this refusal, however, any response must be sent through an address for service in Australia.

Review

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.



CERTIFIED QUALITY
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
1508001

1. CONFLICTING TRADE MARKS - SECTION 44

Grounds for rejecting this IRDA exist under the provisions of section 44 of the Trade Marks Act as this trade mark is substantially identical with, or deceptively similar to, the following trade marks, and is for similar goods and/or closely related services or similar services and/or closely related goods:

721341, 834009

The refusal applies to the following goods/services:

Class 25: clothing, footwear; T-shirts; custom-made T-shirts; underwear; trousers

Class 35: wholesale and retail sale services of various good, including: clothing, footwear, T-shirts, custom-made T-shirts, underwear, trousers

I have enclosed details of the trade mark(s) mentioned above.

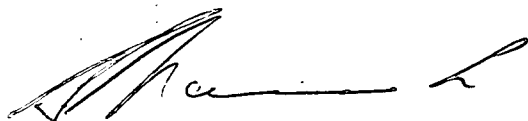
You may respond to this refusal by making submissions, providing evidence of use of the trade mark in Australia and/or by requesting a hearing. If you wish to respond in any of these ways, you **must** do so in writing and supply an address for service in Australia.

The evidence of use could show:

- * prior use, or
- * honest concurrent use, or
- * any other circumstances.

Before deciding whether to provide evidence you should consider the following:

- *Evidence is usually in the form of a statutory declaration giving a history and indication of the extent of the use of your trade mark in Australia.*
- *Gathering and compilation of this material may be time-consuming and expensive*
- *The evidence you provide may still be insufficient to overcome the refusal.*



for
REGISTRAR OF TRADE MARKS

Examiner's Telephone Contact: (02) 6283 2669

EVIDENCE OF HONEST CONCURRENT USE, PRIOR USE or OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES

Subsections 44(3) and 44(4) *Trade Marks Act 1995*

Introduction

Your International Registration Designating Australia (IRDA) cannot be accepted for protection because it conflicts with another trade mark, or trade marks.

The refusal of your IRDA under section 44 may be overcome if you can show **one** of the following:

- Your trade mark was honestly adopted and has been used in Australia for a significant period of time concurrent with the earlier filed trade mark and before your filing date (**honest concurrent use**); or
- You or the person from whom you acquired the trade mark have continuously used your trade mark in Australia on the same or similar goods or services from before the filing date of the earlier filed trade mark(s) until at least the date you filed your application (**prior use**); or
- Other circumstances (see below)

You Should Be Aware

If your own IRDA is accepted under one of the above provisions, the trade mark owner of any earlier registration or application may oppose registration of your trade mark. You will then be required to defend the opposition. This will involve serving evidence. If you are not successful, costs may be awarded against you.

Beyond this, you should be aware that if you are infringing a registered trade mark you run a serious risk of legal action being taken against you by the owner of that registration.

Honest Concurrent Use

Evidence required – You may send me a **letter** which must be accompanied by a **witnessed declaration**.

The **letter** is your formal response to my report. The letter should clearly set out the following:

- the number of your IRDA;
- the name of the holder;
- any submissions in support of your IRDA

The **declaration** provides the information I need to determine whether the use of your trade mark in Australia is sufficient to accept your trade mark for protection. The declaration needs to be made out by:

- you; or
- if the holder is a company, a principal officer or other authorised employee of the company (for example a director); or
- someone else who is authorised by you to make the declaration (for example, a lawyer)

The following information should be included in the **declaration**:

- the name of the person making the declaration;
- the position of the person making the declaration (if the holder is a company)
- when the trade mark was chosen.(this must be **before your filing date**);
- why the trade mark was chosen;
- who has used the trade mark:
 - you or your company;
 - someone you or your company has authorised or allowed to use the trade mark; or
 - a predecessor in title (the person from whom you acquired the trade mark);
- whether you knew of the earlier filed trade mark;
- when the trade mark was first used in Australia (please give the year and, if possible, the month);
- whether it has been used continuously (or, if it has not been used continuously, when and for how long it has been used);
- where the trade mark has been used (states and regions in Australia);
- the goods or services the trade mark has been used in connection with;
- examples of how the trade mark has been used in Australia (you should attach promotional materials and advertising and outline where and how the materials and advertising have been used);
- how much you have spent each year (in Australian Dollars) on advertising and promotional materials in connection with the trade mark;
- annual turnover figures in Australian Dollars. If the trade mark has been used on a wide range of goods or services the figures should be broken down to refer to goods or services of a similar nature; and
- any other information you think could be relevant showing how the trade mark has been used

Prior Use

Evidence required –You may send me a **letter** which must be accompanied by a **witnessed declaration**.

The **letter** is your formal response to my report. The letter should clearly set out the following:

- the number of your IRDA;
- the name of the holder;
- any submissions in support of your IRDA

The **declaration** provides the information I need to determine whether the use of your trade mark in Australia is sufficient to accept your trade mark for protection. The declaration needs to be made out by:

- you; or

- if the holder is a company, a principal officer or other authorised employee of the company (for example a director); or
- someone else who is authorised by you to make the declaration (for example, a lawyer)

The following information should be included in the **declaration**:

- the name of the person making the declaration; and
- the position of the person making the declaration (if the holder is a company);
- **when** the trade mark was **first used in Australia** (please give the year and, if possible, the month);
- **how** the trade mark was first used. You should provide examples of how the trade mark was applied and advertised or, where these are no longer available, explain exactly what actions you claim amount to “use”. An unsupported statement such as “I first used this trade mark in 1990” is not sufficient, and you should go on to explain just what actions you rely on as being use.
- whether the trade mark has been used continuously in Australia since its first use. The declaration should provide factual information, eg sales value by year, that will allow an examiner to be satisfied that use has been continuous;
- whether the trade mark was **still being used when you lodged your IRDA**;
- the goods or services the trade mark has been used in connection with.

Other Circumstances

There may be other circumstances that are relevant. A common example would be if you were using your trade mark with the permission of the owner of the earlier filed trade mark and/or that owner is prepared to consent to the protection of your trade mark. If you believe that this or some other relevant circumstance applies to you, please tell me about it in your letter and I will write to you about it.

Confidential Information

IP Australia will accept your **declaration** in- confidence

IP Australia will not accept your **letter** in-confidence

Therefore information you consider confidential should only be included in the **declaration**.

Release of Information

Other people may request access to information you have provided to the Trade Marks Office. **Letters** will become available for public inspection (API). **Declarations** will not become API; however, copies of declarations may be requested under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act). If this occurs, IP Australia will seek your comments prior to release of declarations.

Legal Advice

A trade mark attorney may be able to assist you with advice and outline the likely costs, risks and benefits of the trade mark options available for your business.

IP Australia

Trade Mark : 721341

Word: WANNABE

Image:

Class/es: 25

Status: Registered/Protected

Kind: n/a

Lodgement date: 7 November 1996

Sealing date: 20 February 1998

Acceptance adv: 6 November 1997

Registered from: 7 November 1996

Registration adv: 12 March 1998

Renewal due: 7 November 2016

Owners: Ruggeri S.P.A.
Via G.B. Pirelli snc-Zona ind.le A
Civitanova Marche (MC)
ITALY

Address for service: Shelston IP
Level 21
60 Margaret Street
SYDNEY 2000 NSW

Goods & Services:

Class: 25

Shoes being leather shoes and rubber shoes, boots, lace up boots, slippers and sandals

Endorsements:

IP Australia

Trade Mark : 834009

Word: WANNABE

Image:

Class/es: 25

Status: Registered/Protected - Renewal Due

Kind: n/a

Lodgement date: 4 May 2000

Sealing date: 8 January 2001

Acceptance adv: 14 September 2000

Registered from: 4 May 2000

Registration adv: 25 January 2001

Renewal due: 4 May 2010

Owners: Wanted Clothing Co Pty Ltd
088-403-383
225 Barkly Street
BRUNSWICK 3056 VIC
AUSTRALIA

Address for service: MIDDLETONS
Level 25 South Tower
525 Collins Street
MELBOURNE 3000 VIC

Goods & Services:

Class: 25

Women's and men's clothing excluding footwear

Endorsements:

Regulation 17A.28 Grounds for rejecting IRDA

- (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 (6) (a) to the filing date in respect of an application were a reference to the date of international registration or the date of recordal, 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

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) 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 a 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 a use of the trade mark by the predecessor in title (see subsection 7(3) and section 8).

- (2) 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 (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.

- (3) In deciding the question whether or not a trade mark is capable of distinguishing the designated goods or services from the goods or services of other persons, the Registrar must first take into account the extent to which the trade mark is inherently adapted to distinguish the designated goods or services from the goods or services of other persons.
- (4) Then, if the Registrar is still unable to decide the question, the following provisions apply.
- (4) Then, if the Registrar is still unable to decide the question, the following provisions apply.
- (5) If the Registrar finds that the trade mark is to some extent inherently adapted to distinguish the designated goods or services from the goods or services of other persons but is unable to decide, on that basis alone, that the trade mark is capable of so distinguishing the designated goods or services:
 - (a) the Registrar is to consider whether, because of the combined effect of the following:
 - (i) the extent to which the trade mark is inherently adapted to distinguish the designated goods or services;
 - (ii) the use, or intended use, of the trade mark by the applicant;
 - (iii) any other circumstances;the trade mark does or will distinguish the designated goods or services as being those of the applicant; and
 - (b) if the Registrar is then satisfied that the trade mark does or will so distinguish the designated goods or services—the trade mark is taken to be capable of distinguishing the applicant's goods or services from the goods or services of other persons; and
 - (c) if the Registrar is not satisfied that the trade mark does or will so distinguish the designated goods or services—the trade mark is taken not to be capable of distinguishing the applicant's goods or services from the goods or services of other persons.

Note 1: For goods of a person and services of a person see section 6.

Note 2: 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 (1) and 7(3) and section 8).

- (6) If the Registrar finds that the trade mark is not inherently adapted to distinguish the designated goods or services from the goods or services of other persons, the following provisions apply:
- (a) if the applicant establishes that, because of the extent to which the applicant has used the trade mark before the filing date in respect of the application, it does distinguish the designated goods or services as being those of the applicant—the trade mark is taken to be capable of distinguishing the designated goods or services from the goods or services of other persons;
- (b) in any other case—the trade mark is taken not to be capable of distinguishing the designated goods or services from the goods or services of other persons.

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: 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 (1) and 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.

Note 1: For deceptively similar see section 10.

Note 2: For similar services see subsection 14(2).

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.

- (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.