

# Patent and design searching links

JAMES & WELLS  
**CHAMPIONS  
OF INNOVATION.**

It is always advisable to perform a search prior to filing a patent or design application or manufacturing and marketing new products.

A search will assist in establishing whether a new invention or design is suitable for patent or design protection. Searching can also help in determining whether a product or process can be commercialised without infringing the rights of others.

For more information on the different searching options see 'Patent searching options'.

We recommend conducting your own initial searching prior to instructing our specialised searchers.

The following links are to some of the websites on which registered patents or designs can be searched by using keywords on the appropriate searching, library or online services page for each website.

This list of links is not meant to be comprehensive or definitive, and is just a few of the resources that are available for searching intellectual property rights online.

Australian Intellectual Property Office  
[http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/patents/search\\_index.shtml](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/patents/search_index.shtml)

Canadian Patents Database  
<http://patents1.ic.gc.ca/intro-e.html>

European Patent Register  
<http://ep.espacenet.com>

Google Patents  
<http://www.google.com/patents>

Japanese Patent Database  
[http://www.ipdl.ncipi.go.jp/homepg\\_e.ipdl](http://www.ipdl.ncipi.go.jp/homepg_e.ipdl)

New Zealand Patents, Trade Marks and Designs  
<http://www.iponz.govt.nz/cms>

World Intellectual Property Office  
<http://www.wipo.int/patentscope/search/en/search.jsf>

United Kingdom Patent Searches  
<http://www.ipo.gov.uk/pro-types/pro-patent.htm>

United States Patents & Trade Marks  
<http://www.uspto.gov>

If after your initial searching you still consider your product or process to be new, please contact us to discuss what to do next. We can advise whether a commercial search is needed prior to preparing a patent and/or design application or launching a product.

## Disclaimer

The above is provided for general information purposes only and does not take the place of specific legal advice. For more specific advice on all aspects of intellectual property law please contact us.