



MEDIA RELEASE

RICHARD MARLES MP

Parliamentary Secretary for Innovation and Industry

Friday, 26 June 2009

ATTORNEY PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD MEMBERS REAPPOINTED

Richard Marles, Parliamentary Secretary for Innovation and Industry, has announced the reappointment of two members to the Professional Standards Board for Patent and Trade Marks Attorneys.

The reappointed members are Mr David Webber and Ms Julie Ballance.

“Mr Webber and Ms Ballance are both patent attorneys and bring many years experience and expertise to the Board,” Mr Marles said.

The Board administers regulatory and disciplinary matters for patent and trade marks attorneys in Australia. It plays a critical role in ensuring that new patent attorneys are suitably qualified and able to provide valuable advice to clients.

“The Board plays an important role in our innovation system by ensuring Australian innovators are well served by the attorney profession,” Mr Marles said.

“In setting the qualification standards for attorneys, the board ensures new entrants to the profession are fully equipped to advise clients on the best way to protect their IP rights.

“The Board also provides the appropriate checks and balances in relation to the conduct and discipline of intellectual property professionals.”

Registration is compulsory for all patent attorneys wishing to obtain the right to practice as attorneys in Australia. Trade marks attorneys must register to obtain the right to describe themselves as trade marks attorneys.

More information is available at <http://www.psb.gov.au>.

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