

MEDIA RELEASE



Warren Entsch, MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

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PATENTING OF BUSINESS SYSTEMS

Federal Industry Parliamentary Secretary Warren Entsch MP today announced that the Government has accepted ten of the eleven recommendations of the Advisory Council on Intellectual Property (ACIP) in its report, *Review on the Patenting of Business Systems*.

The report examined the impact of business system patents on innovation. ACIP found, despite some concerns in various industries about patenting of business systems, there was little hard evidence of patents in this area either encouraging or suppressing innovation in Australia.

“The Australian Government agrees with ACIP’s recommendations that business systems remain patentable. However, given the concerns raised, the Government will continue to closely monitor this issue.” Mr Entsch said

The Government will take up ACIP’s suggestions regarding improvements in the information available to the public to better assist the business community in managing this relatively new area of intellectual property.

“I am pleased to see IP Australia, the federal government agency responsible for patents, has already commenced incorporating information on patenting in new areas like business systems within its public awareness programs,” Mr Entsch said.

“These improvements will assist the business community to better understand and manage the protection of their intellectual property.”

A copy of the Government’s response to ACIP’s report is available at www.acip.gov.au.

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