

## IP Australia Opening Statement

### Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2015

Thank you for the opportunity to make an opening statement.

I would like to take the opportunity to inform Senators of some of the work that IP Australia is doing to assist Australian businesses and researchers to collaborate and commercialise their ideas. This is a key priority of the current Australian Government, as demonstrated through the *Industry Innovation Competitiveness Agenda*, and IP Australia is actively engaged in a number of initiatives to contribute to this priority.

The **IP Toolkit for Collaboration** was developed jointly by IP Australia and the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science to assist research organisations and their industry partners to manage intellectual property (IP) rights during collaborative projects. Discussions around IP can be a contentious issue in collaboration agreements. The IP Toolkit was launched in September 2015 on [business.gov.au](http://business.gov.au) and aims to make these discussions easier by providing information, model contracts, case studies and tips to help parties reach agreement on IP issues.

A related initiative is **Source IP**, which is expected to be launched in November 2015. Source IP will provide an online marketplace to connect the business community with IP generated from public sector research organisations and universities. Source IP will provide information about IP that is currently available to license, develop and commercialise and allow interested parties to make contact with the people who own that IP. We hold a wealth of information in our databases and this initiative will help put that information in the hands of businesses that can use it.

We have also established our **Patent Analytics Hub** to enable universities and publicly funded research institutions to have access to in-depth analysis of patent information, to inform business and research strategies. For example, we can look at patenting activity in specific technology areas or by specific organisations and use this information to help universities identify potential collaborators and competitors.

We are very excited about the potential for these initiatives to contribute to improved commercial outcomes for Australian businesses and researchers. We hope this may also be of interest to Senators and MPs.