

IDC E-NEWS

Hello and welcome to IDC's E-News for June 2010.

Hunter Central Coast Export Awards 2010

Now in its ninth year, the annual Hunter Central Coast Export Awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding success of exporters across a wide range of industries from the Hunter and Central Coast regions. The Awards reward and profile the 'best of the best' businesses from the Hunter and Central Coast, recognising the effort, expertise and resources that they have consistently contributed to export. Entries for this year's Awards are now being called. For more information please phone 02 4962 0999 or email info@hunterexporters.com.au.

Innovate Port Stephens – Workshop Invitation

Innovate Port Stephens is hosting a free workshop on how to 'Protect Your Intellectual Property'. The workshop is focussed on protecting the intellectual property invested in your business. It will be presented by experienced patent attorney Nigel Lokan, an associate of Davies Collison Cave and will provide practical information for businesses on everything from copyright, patents, trade marks and other considerations to protect your business. The workshop will be held Thursday, 17 June at Heatherbrae NSW. [\[more\]](#)

CSIRO to Reap 'Lazy Billion' from World's Biggest Tech Companies

Australia's peak science body stands to reap more than \$1 billion from its lucrative Wi-Fi patent after already netting about \$250 million from the world's biggest technology companies, an intellectual property lawyer says. The CSIRO has spent years battling 14 technology giants including Dell, HP, Microsoft, Intel, Nintendo and Toshiba for royalties and made a major breakthrough in April last year when the companies opted to avoid a jury hearing and settle for an estimated \$250 million. [\[more\]](#)

OECD Innovation Strategy Embraces Australian Approach

An innovation strategy released by the OECD strongly supports ideas already adopted in Australia as part of the Rudd Government's innovation agenda, *Powering Ideas*. The OECD Innovation Strategy confirms that Australia is on the right track by focusing on innovation as a key driver of long-term economic growth. [\[more\]](#)

2010 Hunter Manufacturing Awards – Nominations Open

Hunter Manufacturing Awards Inc (HMA) is motivated by a mission to promote best practices in manufacturing. HMA believes this can be achieved by showcasing the achievements of the best to encourage and sustain the aspirations of those who want to be among them. HMA works collaboratively with key regional organisations to highlight the achievements of Hunter manufacturers and the importance of manufacturing in general. HMA acknowledges the significance of the Hunter's proud manufacturing history, and is committed to ensuring manufacturing plays an integral role in inventing the region's future. [\[more\]](#)

2010 Green Globe Awards

The Green Globe Awards are the leading environmental awards in NSW. Small and large businesses, not-for-profit groups, state government agencies, local councils and media organisations demonstrating environmental excellence in NSW are encouraged to nominate for the 2010 Green Globe Awards. Now in its 11th year, the Green Globe Awards recognise and showcase outstanding achievements in the sustainable use of natural resources in NSW and leadership in climate change. Nominations for the Awards are now open and will close at 5pm (EST) on Thursday 10 June 2010. [\[more\]](#)

Innovation ALERT™

Interested in the latest innovative ideas being filed with the Australian patent office? IDC's Innovation Alert™ provides a sneak preview at some of the latest Innovation Patents to be lodged.

Patent Number	Title	Applicant	Filing Date
2010100421	Weep Guard for Brickwork	Keith and Linda Marlborough	5 May 10
2010100424	Ceiling Sag Repair	David Willis	6 May 10
2010100455	Water Resistant Undercast Liner	BSN Medical, Inc	12 May 10
2010100477	Device for Securing a Wheel of an Upright Motorcycle to a Trailer	KYA Racing Pty Ltd	17 May 10
2010100483	Folding Stock Crate for Animal Transportation	Andrew Shedden	18 May 10
2010100493	Recovering Water	Botanical Water Holdings Pty Ltd	20 May 10
2010100541	Dual Velcro-strap Equine Over-reach Protection Boot	Robert Markou and Jose Martinez	31 May 10

Critical Care Bed Takes Out Top Prize in Australian International Design Awards

An intensive care hospital bed designed with safety, comfort, ease-of-use and aesthetics in mind for patients, health practitioners and hospital staff has taken out the top prize in the 2010 Australian International Design Awards. Designed and manufactured by New Zealand based company Howard Wright, the [M8 Intensive Care](#) is designed to reduce patient handling by allowing for a wide range of medical procedures to be performed without the need to transfer the patient from the bed. [\[more\]](#)

R&D Tax Credit Best in World

The Australian Government's proposed R&D Tax Credit is rated the world's best system for providing incentives to foster R&D activity, according to a report just released by KPMG. The *Competitive Alternatives 2010 Special Report: Focus on Tax* states: "the most dramatic change is for Australia, moving up from fifth place in 2008, to first in 2010. This change is a result of Australia adopting a new R&D tax credit system as of July 1st, 2010". [\[more\]](#)

Entrepreneurial e-Books available Free to Download

Dr Tom McKaskill, formerly a professor at the Australian Graduate School of Entrepreneurship before he retired, has written a series of books on entrepreneurship, venture capital and Business Angels investing, that he is making freely available on the web. He has set up a new website, www.drexite.net where six eBooks for entrepreneurs, angel & VC investors and advisors are available and has invited distribution of these books to the entrepreneurial and angel investor community.

Registering Business Names Made Easy

Red tape will be cut saving small business an estimated \$1.5 billion over eight years by letting business owners register their business names just once instead of in up to eight different states and territories. The Government will invest \$125.2 million over four years in a national system of registering business names. [\[more\]](#)

Tragedy Sparked Extreme Fire Survival Idea

Liam Ferguson and his family watched the sky turn orange on the day of the Black Saturday bushfires but, with the wind blowing away from their Latrobe Valley property, they thought they were safe. Then the wind changed. The tragedy got Ferguson, then a final year industrial design student, thinking about firefighting technology. He set about designing a fast, light vehicle that could penetrate rugged terrain and drive through a burnover. [\[more\]](#)

Coles to Turn Green Bags into Furniture

Coles this week will launch a project aimed at converting reusable shopping bags into outdoor furniture for schools. The group's operations director, Stuart Machin, said customers can make a difference on World Environment Day on June 5 by taking their old or unwanted reusable shopping bags to any Coles Supermarket for recycling as part of a two-week bag drive. All bags collected between June 3 and 17 will be recycled in Australia - the material turned into outdoor furniture to be donated to primary schools. [\[more\]](#)

For more of the latest innovation-related news and events, visit <http://www.innovation.org.au/news>.

