THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

2017 Francis Gurry Lecture on Intellectual Property

Melbourne Law School

Public Event

Presented in conjunction with The Institute of Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys of

IPTA

The European patent system: serving the global economy

Benoît Battistelli
President, European Patent Office

While the driving force behind the innovation process is people, patents have an important role to play by opening the door to capital and business partners. A study published last year by the EPO and the EUIPO found that more than 40% of total economic activity and over a third of all jobs in the EU are generated by industries that make above-average use of intellectual property.

The European Patent Office has seen increasing demand for patents in the past five years – in 2016 alone it received nearly 160 000 applications. The attractiveness of the European patent system for innovators from Australia and elsewhere in the world will increase even further in coming years, through implementation of new Validation Agreements and with the launch of the Unitary Patent system in early 2018.

In this year's Lecture, the President of the EPO will explain these developments and explore their implications and benefits for Australian innovators.

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Benoît Battistelli

Since July 2010, Benoît Battistelli has been President of the European Patent Office, an international organisation with 38 member states, comprising all the members of the European Union, plus a number of further countries, including Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and several Southeast European states.

A graduate of the Paris Institute of Political Studies (IEP) and the National School of Administration (ENA), Mr Battistelli held various positions in the Directorate-General for Competition and Consumer Affairs and the Directorate of External Economic Relations at the Ministry of the Economy and Finance.

Mr Battistelli acted as Chief Advisor to Nicole Fontaine (Minister for Industry in the French government from June 2002 to May 2004), before being appointed Director General of the French National Institute for Industrial Property (INPI) in May 2004.

Mr Battistelli also chaired the Supervisory Board of the European Patent Academy from July 2005 to July 2008 and held the position of Chairman of the Administrative Council of the European Patent Organisation from March 2009 to June 2010, after serving as the Council's Deputy Chairman from December 2006 to March 2009.

Mr Battistelli has been awarded the title of Professor ***honoris causa*** by the Renmin University of China, Beijing and by the Menéndez Pelayo University in Santander, Spain.

Event Details

SYDNEY
Date: Tuesday 17 October 2017
Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Venue: Wesley Conference Centre, 220 Pitt St, Sydney

MELBOURNE
Date: Wednesday 18 October 2017
Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Venue: Melbourne Law School, 185 Pelham St, Carlton

Enquiries:
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Bookings:
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