

Title: Intellectual Property – Cases, Materials and Commentary (5th edition)

Authors: S. Ricketson, M. Richardson, M. Davison

Publication Date: October 2012

Published By: LexisNexis

The preface cites the following quote:

“...there is no new thing under the sun” Ecclesiastes 1:9

To a great degree, this quote goes to the heart of many of the debates in this exciting area of law.

The new 5th edition (the first edition was written solely by Sam Ricketson) of this well-known student text has been recently published.

The book is prescribed in many Intellectual Property courses and this latest edition is authored by Melbourne-based law lecturers, all of whom teach postgraduate degrees, specializing in Intellectual Property.

The book updates changes that have been introduced into Australian intellectual property law over the last 4 years since the 4th edition was published in November 2008.

As intellectual property lawyers will know, the legal landscape in this area has dramatically evolved. Some pertinent developments include:

- Significant court decisions;
- Major amendments to the area of patents;
- Changes introduced by the *Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Raising the Bar) Act 2012*, most of which will commence operation in April 2013 and introduce significant changes pertaining to patent law, trade mark law, design law and plant breeder’s rights, among others; and
- Policy issues and consideration of issues that called for public consultation and reform

All of which are canvassed in the book.

Important case law covered includes:

- *Telstra Corporation Ltd v Phone Directories Company Pty Ltd* (2010)
- *Fairfax Media publications Pty Ltd v Reed International Books Australia Pty Ltd* (2010)
- *Lucasfilm Ltd v Ainsworth* [2011]
- *IceTV Pty Ltd v Nine Network Australia Pty Ltd* [2009]
- *Roadshow Films Pty Ltd v iiNet Ltd* [2011]

While the book contains some useful diagrams and images of products, in the reviewer's view, it could have benefited with more.