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Intellectual Property Government Open Data - Read Me

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# Getting started

This document is the first step for new users for the Intellectual Property Government Open Data (IPGOD) and IP Government Open Live Data (IPGOLD) released by IP Australia.

## What is IPGOD / IPGOLD?

IPGOD/IPGOLD includes over 100 years of data on all IP rights administered by IP Australia, comprising patents, trade marks, designs and plant breeder’s rights. The data is highly detailed, including information on each aspect of the application process from application through to granting of IP rights. The IP data also includes unique identifiers for IP Right applicants and their agents, which allow research and analysis at the firm level.

Each iteration of IPGOD provides a snapshot of IP data of applications filed up to the final day of the previous year. For example, IPGOD 2017 includes applications with a filing day at or before 31/12/2016. IPGOLD contains the same data set as IPGOD, with the majority of the information being updated weekly.

IP Australia releases both products to serve different purposes. Researchers may find a preference for IPGOD as the data sets remain constant over time. This means that a research methodology that uses IPGOD 2016 as a source could be reproduced exactly years later. Developers and analysts may find a preference for IPGOLD as it always contains the most up to date data available without any change in file format structure.

## How do I use IPGOD / IPGOLD?

IPGOD is large, with hundreds of millions of data points across 40 tables. Many of the tables of IPGOD contain over 1.5 million rows, making them too large to open with Microsoft Excel. In addition to this, analysis often requires information from separate tables which requires specialised software for merging.

We recommend that advanced users interact with the IPGOD/IPGOLD data set with the right tools. This includes a wide range of big data/statistical software (e.g. R, SQL, Tableau, STATA).

For users without access to these tools, we recommend having a look at IP NOVA (ipnova.ipaustralia.gov.au). IP NOVA is a web-based search engine and data visualisation tool developed by IP Australia to help users discover patents, trade marks and plant breeder’s rights applications from the IPGOD data set.

IP NOVA delivers visualisation and business intelligence that enables end users to quickly gather information regarding a specific keyword such as location, industry or field of work, and perform customisable analysis from both a macro and micro perspective without having to have big data/statistical software to access IPGOD data set.

# Technical information about IPGOD / IPGOLD

Most of the technical information about IPGOD / IPGOLD exists in the data dictionary. The data dictionary contains a range of useful information and metadata to help users traverse use the data sets. This information includes details such as a description of each table and each variable, the data type of each variable, how tables link together, the frequency tables are updated, and known data quality issues.

# What support exists

IPGOD Data Dictionary from the same location as this Guide on www.data.gov.au

Man, Bradley. 2014. Overview of the Intellectual Property Government Open Data. IP Australia Economic Research Paper 02. http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/uploaded-files/reports/IP\_Government\_Open\_Data\_Paper\_-\_Final.pdf

Julius, T. D. & Rassenfosse, G., 2014, “Harmonising and Matching IPR Holders at IP Australia.”, Melbourne Institute Working Paper Series Working Paper No. 15/14. <http://melbourneinstitute.com/downloads/working_paper_series/wp2014n15.pdf>

## Who do I contact about IPGOD / IPGOLD

Any queries / questions about IPGOD or IPGOLD should be directed at the [ipgod@ipaustralia.gov.au](mailto:ipgod@ipaustralia.gov.au) mailbox. If you have a question, please don’t hesitate to ask! We are looking to work with our end users to continually improve our data product.

## Where can I find more information about IP rights

IP Australia publishes a number of sources on its website to help its customers and the general public navigate the IP system. IP Australia’s website is available at [www.ipaustralia.gov.au](http://www.ipaustralia.gov.au).

The following links provide basic information on each IP Right:

Patents

<https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/patents/understanding-patents/patent-basics>

Trade marks

<https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/trade-marks/understanding-trade-marks/trade-mark-basics>

Designs

<https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/designs/understanding-designs/design-basics>

Plant Breeders Rights

<https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/plant-breeders-rights/understanding-pbr/pbr-basics>

# Use cases

IPGOD is used as a backbone in much of the economic research conducted by IP Australia (<https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/about-us/economics-ip/research-program>).

IPGOD is being used in IP NOVA, a visually immersive search engine with business intelligence capabilities that helps users discover patents, trade marks, and plant breeder's rights from IP Australia's database (ipnova.ipaustralia.gov.au).

IPGOD has been used heavily in the Productivity Commission's research review into IP (http://www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/completed/intellectual-property/report).

IPGOD has also become featured in the National Map (https://nationalmap.gov.au/) and has been used extensively in research by the Department of Industry.

IPGOD has also been frequently cited in a popular patent blog, Patentology (<http://blog.patentology.com.au/search/label/IPGOD>).

We are always interested in hearing about how you are using our data. If you’re using IPGOD, drop as a line and tell us what you think!