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Intellectual Property Arrangements Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
Canberra City ACT 2601

To the Commission

Cameron Canvas is family business that has been in operation for over 35 years manufacturing and selling a wide range of Australian made canvas goods, camper trailers and slide-on campers. We are an innovative company that strives to deliver quality and service and under increasing pressure from competitive overseas markets such as China. As labour and manufacturing is costly in Australia in comparison to overseas, I find it is essential to continually develop and undergo R&D processes to keep our products new, fresh and innovative. I have a number of active patents but am finding there is a lack of protection on these patents, it is costly to have and to protect these patents and without proper regulation, it makes it difficult for me to advertise and show my products without a fear of someone copying my ideas which have cost me considerable time, money and effort. There has been a number of instances in that my innovative products have been copied but due to a lack of protection and funds, unable to do anything.

I urge the commission to give more intellectual protection to Australian companies who out of necessity to survive in these tough economic times and competitive global markets, have spent valuable time, effort and resources developing innovative products.

Yours sincerely,

Bronte Scholz
Director, Cameron Canvas