

It was originally planned that this issue would be devoted to computer contracts. However the Editors are pleased to announce that they no longer have to fossick for articles and that often interesting articles unrelated to the theme of the issue are sent to them for inclusion in the Journal. Hence, in this issue we publish as the lead article a most interesting review of the latest High Court decision in the Autodesk litigation. This is written by Julian Burnside QC who as most readers will be aware was the Senior Counsel for the Respondents in both applications to the High Court. Connie Carnabuci, from Mallesons Stephen Jaques, also considers the Autodesk case in her article on Max-

imising Legal Protection of Packaged Software. She looks at the ramifications of the Autodesk decision for copyright protection of computer software.

The computer contract articles include the second part of Susan Singleton's article on Computer Software Agreements and the Implementation of the EC Directive. In this second part, Ms Singleton discusses the effect of the implementation provisions on computer software agreements. Also included is an article by Enrique J. Batalla on Software Licence Agreements in Spain. He considers the categories of software protected by copyright and the validity of shrinkwrap li-

cences. He also looks at exclusive and moral rights and concludes that the Spanish Copyright Act is similar in many ways to copyright in common law countries. However he goes on to highlight where Spanish law differs from US and Australian law.

Continuing in an international vein we have published an article by Serge J. Girath on the Existence and Exercise of Intellectual Property Rights in IT Products and Services in the European Community. The author is Dutch and the article gives a most interesting insight into intellectual property protection of IT in Europe with a particular emphasis on the Netherlands.

In this issue we review Gordon Hughes and Anna Sharpe's book on Computer Contracts - Principles and Precedents. We also review Richard Morgan and Graham Stedman's book on Computer Contracts and Peter Groves book on Copyright and Designs Law. Also reviewed are two books on European intellectual property rights which provide comprehensive international reviews of information technology law.

Finally we have included short abstracts of a number of journals relating to the IT area.

As this edition goes to print the Copyright Law Review Committee is handing down its recommendations. If possible we will include a short abstract in this issue otherwise we promise a more comprehensive analysis in the next issue of the Journal.

As always we would be delighted to receive your contributions either in the form of an article, book review or abstract. Our print deadline for the next issue is 20 August 1993. ☺

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COMPUTERS & LAW

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