



1st November, 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: IP 42 – Need For Statutory Licences In Australia

I am one of Australia’s leading English text book writers for secondary schools. I often write as a member of a team and I am enormously proud of our latest series, *National English Skills 7-10*, which is proving very popular with both teachers and students alike. It is available in either digital or print form. At this stage, copies are also being exported to New Zealand.

Australia’s secondary text books (digital and print) in all subjects are among the world’s best. I am often mesmerised by the mathematics textbooks published by Australian subsidiaries of Wiley Jacaranda, Oxford University Press, Macmillan, Pearsons and others. Their products are indeed beautiful and make mathematics enticing for students. Mathematics was not like this in my day. English and the other subjects are just as delightful.

However in the world scene , we are a very small market. Australia has only twenty five million people and years 7-12 would not have more than two hundred thousand students in each, with many publishers vying for their share of the market. Unfortunately for educational authors and publishers, copying (digital and print) in our high schools is rife. I ought to know as I am still a teacher at the chalk face in NSW schools. The many copying machines in a typical high school run continuously all day. Teaching is a matter of survival and our view is that if something is good you need to copy it as soon as you can. Of course, this leads to better teaching, but without an organisation such as CAL in this copying climate, authors would receive poor rewards for the strenuous and time consuming efforts they put into writing their digital and print textbooks.

Without CAL, Australian authors and their publishers would not be able to remain financially involved. We would be forced to import books from England, Hong Kong, America and Canada. This would be a terrible blow for Australian education. I am concerned that if the publishers can’t make a profit in Australia, they will soon concentrate their efforts elsewhere.

Yours sincerely,

Rex Sadler M.A.