

# Status of automation at CIPC

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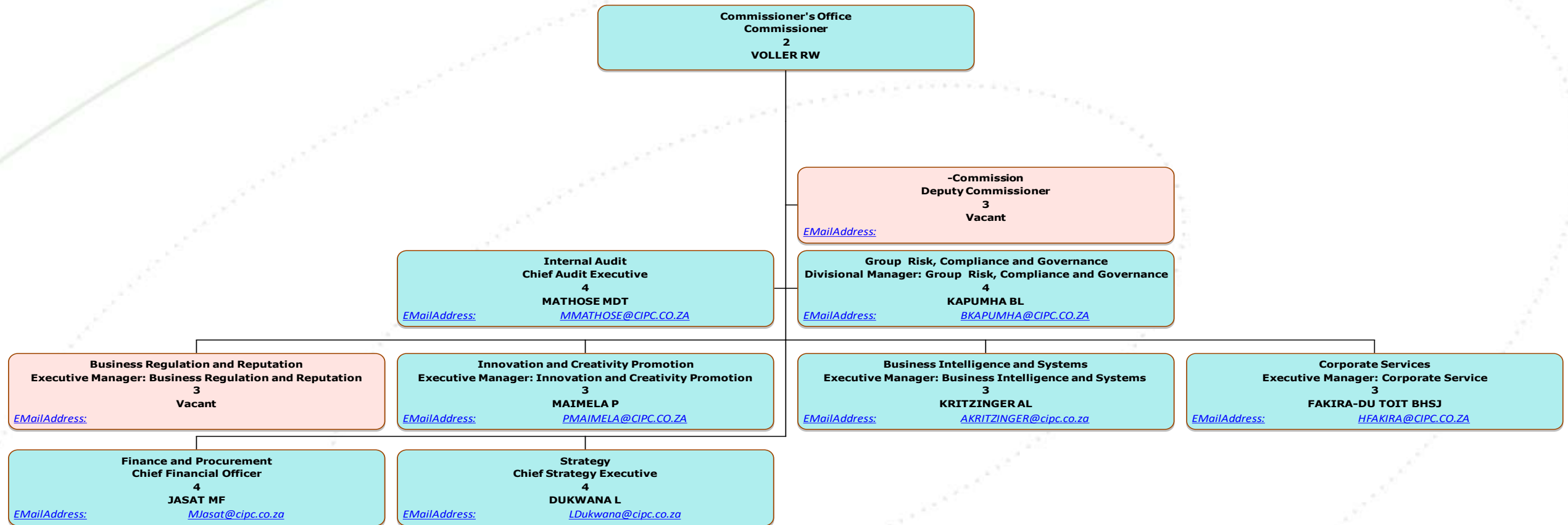
Companies and Intellectual  
Property Commission

a member of **the dti** group

# About CIPC

- Based in Pretoria, South Africa
- Walk-in centres in all 9 provinces
- Agency of the Department of Trade and Industry
- Formed in 2011
- Moved from being a registration office to regulator
- Regulates Companies Act and IP Laws

# Organisational Structure



- ~500 staff members
- 67 in IP
- 71 in Companies

# Vision and Mission

## Vision of CIPC

To be a reputable world-class regulator of business entities and intellectual property.

## Mission of CIPC

In partnership with others, we make it easy and attractive to do business in South Africa.

## Values

Passion for service, Integrity, Empowerment, Accountability, Collaboration

# Strategic goals and objectives

## Strategic Goal 1

Reduced administrative compliance burden for companies and IP owners, will be realised through three strategic objectives:

- a) 24/7 access to all CIPC products and services.
- b) Timely delivery of all CIPC products and services.
- c) An intelligent, innovative, high performance organisational environment.

# Strategic goals and objectives

## Strategic Goal 2

A reputable Business Regulation and IP Protection environment in South Africa, will be realised through two strategic objectives:

- a) Increased knowledge and awareness on Company and IP Laws.
- b) Improved compliance with the Company and IP Laws.

# Strengths and Weaknesses

<b>STRENGTHS</b>	<b>WEAKNESSES</b>
Strong partnerships and collaborative relationships in both public and private sector	Occasional system instability
Omni-channel strategy – greater accessibility	Steps within hybrid and manual processing that are not automated, such as manual indexing and automatic rejection notification for applications that do not meet process and document requirements
Efficient call centre and query resolution system	A slow rate of final deregistration for non-compliant companies and close corporations
Automation of processes	Optimised use of data
Credible regulator	Delays in finalisation of the Copyright Bill
Financial sustainability	A fragmented IP system
Good corporate governance	Misalignment between automation goals and human resource utilisation



# Key projects and activities

- a) Education and awareness of the public specifically focusing on Companies and Intellectual Property (IP)
- b) Facilitating the ease of doing business in respect of company and IP registration and Maintenance, annual returns and reducing the regulatory burden of small businesses.
- c) Monitoring compliance with the provisions relating to Social and Ethics Committees
- d) Capacity building for the implementation of a substantive search and examination system for patents and the accession to the Madrid protocol for International filing of Trade Marks
- e) Promoting accessibility and simplicity in the process for registration of IP, especially for small businesses and artists
- f) Combating piracy, trade marks and copyright infringements
- g) Effective monitoring of governance and high level enforcement activities, inclusive of Financial compliance via XBRL programme
- h) Ease of disclosure of CIPC data and effective analysis and mining of data sources



# New Legislation

- a) Amendment of Companies Act
- b) Copyright Amendment Bill
- c) Accession to Madrid Protocol on Trade Marks
- d) Amendment to Patents Act to include Substantive Examination

# Vision 2030

- Increased no of IP applications
- Automation of all workflow processes
  - Artificial intelligence
  - Robotics

# Current Transacting Channels

<h2>SELF-SERVICE CENTRES</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- CIPC owned centres &amp; partner offices</li><li>- Currently in 6 out of 9 provinces</li><li>- Fully automated - no paperwork</li><li>- Biometric verification with DHA</li><li>- Zero (0) to three (3) days</li><li>- Available</li></ul>	<h2>THIRD PARTIES</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Any interested intermediary or individual</li><li>- Available throughout the country</li><li>- Fully automated - no paperwork</li><li>- Biometric verification with DHA</li><li>- Must buy a fingerprint scanner</li><li>- Zero (0) to three (3) days</li></ul>	<h2>BANKS</h2>	<h2>BIZPORTAL</h2>	<h2>MOBILE APP</h2>
<h2>E-SERVICES</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Accessible to anyone from anywhere</li><li>- Hybrid - signed documents required</li><li>- Documents can be upload or emailed</li><li>- Back office verification</li><li>- Zero (0) to five (5) days, dependant on when customers return documents</li></ul>	<h2>MANUAL</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Forms downloaded from our website</li><li>- Must be emailed with supporting documents</li><li>- Less than 10% of registration transactions</li><li>- Takes longer</li><li>- Being phased out</li></ul>			



# BizPortal



# BizPortal

- Getting launched by the President in November
- Integration with SARS, UIF, Compensation Fund, BEE, Banks
- Future phases to include IP registration

# IP Systems



## CIPC Intellectual Property Online

South Africa's official portal for IP services

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# IP Stats

## Trade marks

The table below show the trend of trade mark applications:

TREND IN NEW APPLICATIONS (Financial Year)		RESIDENTS	NON-RESIDENTS
2011/2012	33 918	19 389	14 529
2012/2013	35 074	20 288	14 786
2013/2014	36 422	21 441	14 981
2014/2015	35 753	20 921	14 832
2015/2016	37 286	20 165	17 121
2016/2017	38 578	22 350	16 228
2017/2018	37 748	22 154	15 594

## Patents

PATENT APPLICATIONS LODGED	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Local applications	644	700	683
Provisional applications	1881	1917	1806
International applications	6800	6503	6231
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9325</b>	<b>9117</b>	<b>8720</b>



# IP Stats

## *Designs*

<b>DESIGNS APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>2015/2016</b>	<b>2016/2017</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>
Local applications	818	1040	974
International applications	1048	1045	1044
<b>TOTAL</b>	1866	2085	2023

# Infrastructure

- CIPC invested in server infrastructure – able to set up servers on demand
- Informix database, moving to Oracle
- Security
- Call centre system

# The Plan

- Implement IPAS on Patents
- Proof of concept for trade marks
- Possibly move entire IP to WIPO systems

The End

QUESTIONS?