



PATHFINDER - NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT & LEGISLATION

Keywords: Government, legislation, New Zealand legal system

This pathfinder introduces the exporter to the key sources of information about the Government of New Zealand and its legal system. It also includes sources which provide access to case law.



Parliament of New Zealand | Pāremata Aotearoa

<http://www.parliament.nz/en-NZ>

A very comprehensive site covering a wide range of topics relating to the New Zealand Parliament. It includes access to MPs and their electorate profiles. The search facility enables exporters to search for references to industries, products or markets. The Select Committee for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade is easily accessed through this site.



Online Coverage of Parliament

<http://www.inthehouse.co.nz>

This website provides searchable online coverage of Parliament using YouTube clips or posts. The posts/clips may be delivered in answer to keyword searches, or having clicked on 'Latest Topics' and 'Latest Bills & Questions'. By clicking on the name of a Member of Parliament you are able to see all the video posts that are available relating to that Member. The site was built for the Clerk of the House to make Parliament more accessible. It also links to social networking tools such as Facebook.



New Zealand Government

<http://www.beehive.govt.nz/>

This is the official website of the New Zealand Government. It gives quick access to Portfolios such as Trade and Trade Negotiations with Press releases, speeches and newsletters.



New Zealand Legislation

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>

Legislation is a generic word which covers all 'pieces' of New Zealand law. The laws themselves may be called Acts or Statutes, and as well there are Regulations or Statutory Regulations. This website provides free public access to New Zealand Acts (Public, Local, and Private) – these are laws made by Parliament and are sometimes called the New Zealand Statutes. Bills, which are proposed Acts, and Statutory Regulations are also available on this website.

For an introduction to the New Zealand Legislation website, what it provides, and the status of legislation on the site, see [About this site](#). The [Guide to using the New Zealand Legislation website](#) will help you get started in using the site.

It is provided by the New Zealand Parliamentary Counsel Office/Te Tari Tohutohu Paremata (PCO). However please note that the electronic versions of legislation on this website, and any legislation printed from this website:

- have no official status
- are made available for information only and should not be relied on as the authoritative text
- are intended to become the official source of New Zealand legislation in the future.

You can buy official copies of legislation from Legislation Direct at <http://www.legislationdirect.co.nz/> or from selected bookshops. Copies are also available in many public libraries.



Government services website | Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa

<http://newzealand.govt.nz/>

This site focuses on the services that both local and central government can offer. It also contains contact details for public organisations and local councils under an A-Z listing. Use the search facility to search for trade and export.



TheyWorkForYou

<http://theyworkforyou.co.nz/>

Based on TheyWorkForYou.com a similar site in the United Kingdom, this site aims to make it easier for people to access the operations of the New Zealand Parliament. It creates links between the debates of the House of Representatives and Bills, Ministerial Portfolios, Committees, and MPs.

Note: This website is not being kept up to date in 2010 but may be resurrected in 2011 for the New Zealand General Election.



Courts of New Zealand | Ngā Kōti o Aotearoa

<http://www.courtsofnz.govt.nz/>

[About Courts](#) provides information about the role, history and structure of the courts. [Court Business](#) includes court sitting calendars and case summaries, and assists media and lawyers in using this information. [From the Courts](#) provides news from the Higher Courts, including decisions of public interest.

There is a search facility and exporters can search on 'business' or 'companies' to bring up cases including New Zealand firms.



Judicial Decisions Online

<http://jdo.justice.govt.nz/jdo/Introduction.jsp>

Judicial Decisions Online provides a searchable database of judgments and decisions sourced from New Zealand Courts and Tribunals



Law Commission | Te Aka Matua o Te Ture

<http://www.lawcom.govt.nz/>

The Law Commission is an independent crown entity. It is a central advisory body established to undertake the systematic review, reform and development of the law of New Zealand. From time to time the Law Commission publishes study papers on issues for discussion. For example a search on 'trade' retrieves a number of papers relevant to the exporter.

The Commission's website includes a link to Talklaw. TalkLaw is the New Zealand Law Commission's online consultation site. It gives you the opportunity to have your say on law reform projects. Input from the public is important and will influence recommendations for changes to the law.

<http://talklaw.co.nz/>



New Zealand Legal Information Institute

<http://www.nzlii.org/>

This website provides free access to legal information in New Zealand with case law, legislation and treaties. The case law held on this database is very recent so cases of significance may not be available through this service. However it does include decisions of the Customs Appeal Authority of New Zealand and New Zealand Commerce Commission Decisions. The latter may give you information about ownership of companies, and mergers and acquisitions.



New Zealand Maritime Law

<http://www.maritimelaw.org.nz/index.html>

This site is not an official government site but has been organised to provide interested persons with access to New Zealand case law and legislation relating to maritime law. Such cases may be of interest to exporters. The Links page lists further websites related to maritime law as well as a link to full-text articles in the *Australian and New Zealand Maritime Law Journal*.



New Zealand Commerce Commission

<http://www.comcom.govt.nz/index.aspx>

The Commerce Commission enforces legislation that promotes competition in New Zealand markets and prohibits misleading and deceptive conduct by traders. The Commission also enforces a number of pieces of legislation specific to the telecommunications, dairy and electricity industries.



New Zealand Companies Office

<http://www.companies.govt.nz/cms>

The Companies Office is the government agency responsible for the administration of corporate body registers, including the Companies Register. Its online services include forming a company, obtaining a company tax number, maintaining company details and managing receiverships, liquidations and voluntary administrations.

The Companies Office also has a blog which provides a platform for clients to share information, advice and contribute to the development of new services:

<http://blog.companies.govt.nz/>



Fraudnet

http://www.icc-ccs.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1&Itemid=11

FraudNet has been set up to combat the global problem of fraud and asset recovery. The New Zealand member of Fraudnet is: Wilson Harle – a legal firm. See: www.wilsonharle.com

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Please cite as:

Siddle, G. (2010) Pathfinder- New Zealand Government & legislation. Palmerston North: New Zealand School of Export.

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