The Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) is responsible for the national database of trade marks.

This is an overview of the process you follow to register a trade mark in New Zealand.

**Application**
You file a trade mark application with IPONZ.

**Examination**
IPONZ examines your application and may issue an official compliance report.

**Acceptance**
IPONZ issues a note of acceptance.

**Advertisement**
IPONZ advertises your trade mark in the official trade mark journal.

**Registration**
IPONZ issues a certificate of registration for your trade mark.

**Renewal**
You need to renew your trade mark every 10 years.

**Opposition**
Another party may oppose registration of your trade mark within three months of the advertisement.

**Decision**
After hearing both yours and the other party’s arguments, IPONZ will decide whether to register your trade mark.

**Rejection**
If IPONZ’s objections cannot be overcome, it will reject your trade mark application.

**Objection**
If IPONZ raises any objections to your trade mark being registered, you need to respond in writing.