

Press Release

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Patent Infringement action started



**KAVANAGH
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AUSTRALIA**

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Kavanagh Balloons Pty. Limited. of Australia has started Patent Infringement action in the United Kingdom against Cameron Balloons Limited.

Kavanagh Balloons Pty. Limited holds European Patent No.0671322, U.S. Patent No. 5,584,449 and Australian Patent No. 656118, each titled "Improvements in the Generation and Control of Inflatable Balloons". The deflation system covered by these Patents, known as Smart Vent, was invented by Australian balloon manufacturer, Phil Kavanagh and has been in use in hot air balloons since 1994.

Cameron Balloons Limited have continued to manufacture and market Smart Vent despite the fact their licence agreement for exclusive use was terminated in February, 1998. The action being taken against Cameron Balloons Limited is for infringement of the patents in regard to both the Smart Vent and Sidewinder deflation systems.

The claim against Cameron Balloons Limited seeks damages or an account of profits and an injunction to restrain Cameron Balloons Limited from further infringement. There is also a claim for unpaid royalties under the licence agreement.

Phil Kavanagh