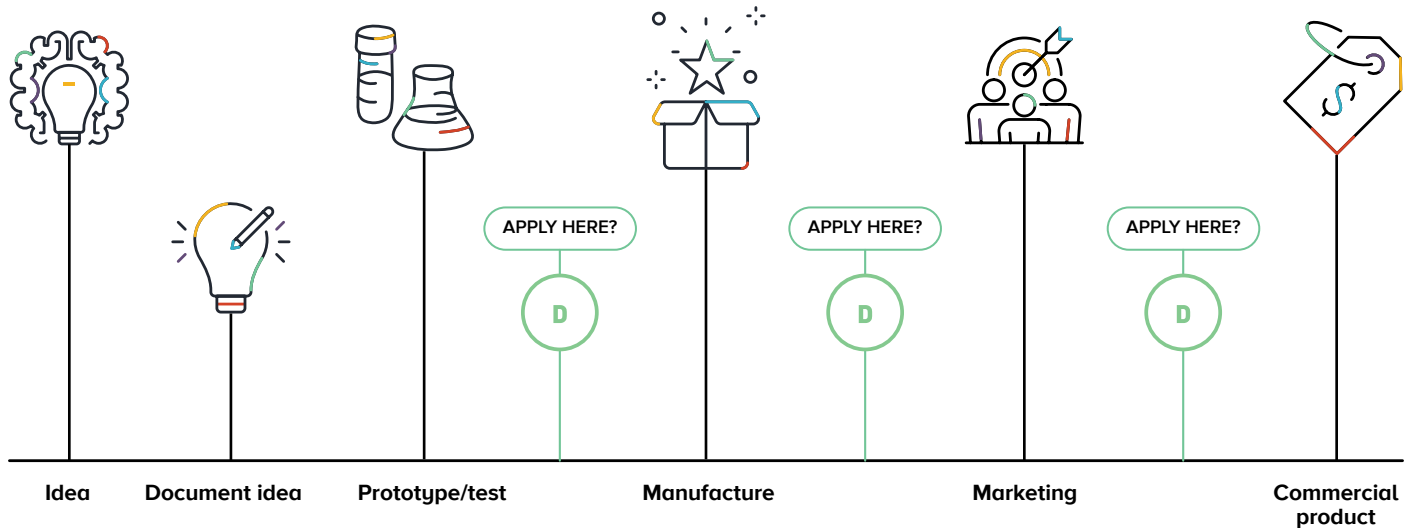


# Incremental Designs

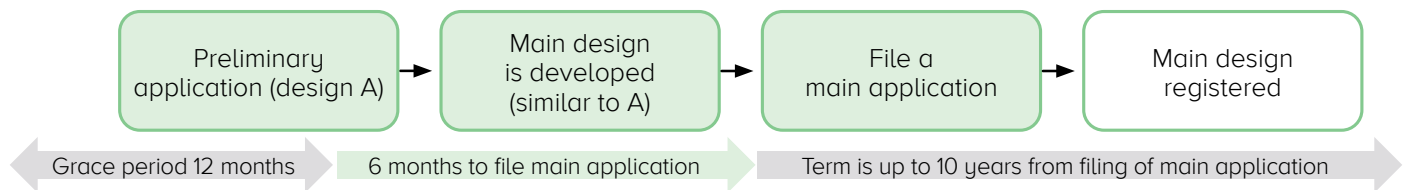


The current designs system does not address the incremental nature of developing designs. IP Australia proposes to allow designers to protect their designs as they develop their products throughout the design lifecycle.

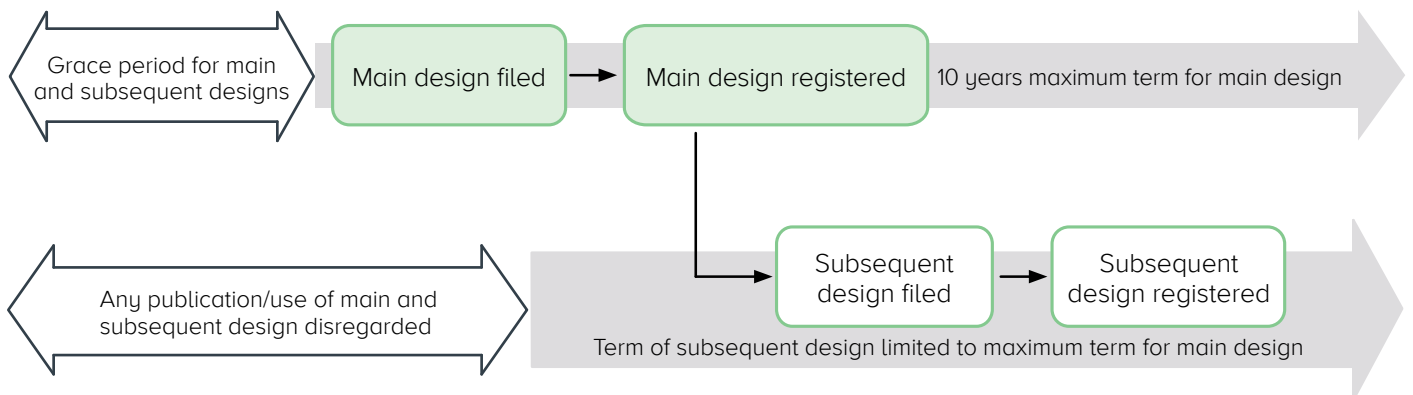


## Two proposals for reform:

**1. Preliminary designs:** before registering the main design. The designer can file a low-cost application for a preliminary design (preliminary application) and can further develop the design for up to 6 months, before filing a main application for a design with incremental changes from the preliminary design (main design).



**2. Post-registration linking:** after registering the main design. The owner of a registered main design can link it to a subsequent design which has incremental changes to the main design. This ensures that publishing or using the main design does not make the subsequent design unprotectable.



These proposals are not alternatives and together are intended to provide added flexibility throughout the design process.



For more information visit our website.

