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1. IPONZ Updates to the Patents Examination Manual

RESTORATION OF PATENTS & EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE ADDED

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IPONZ has updated its Patents Examination Manual to include new sections on patent restorations and extensions of time, and take recent Hearings Office decisions into account.

New Patents Examination Manual sections - We have added new sections to our Patents Examination Manual covering Sections 117 to 128 of the Patents Act 2013, and Regulation 147 of the Patents Regulations 2014. The new sections are as follows:

Sections 117 to 128: Restoration of patents and patent applications - This new section outlines our practice and procedures relating to the restoration of patent cases.

Regulation 147: Extensions of time in exceptional circumstances - This new section outlines our guidelines, practices... [Read more](#)

2. Hague System – Changes in Individual Designation Fees: Canada

CHANGES IN INDIVIDUAL DESIGNATION & FIRST RENEWAL FEES

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There will be a change in the individual designation fees applicable to Canada as of January 1, 2022. New fees are as follows:

- 303 Swiss francs per design, when designating Canada in an international application;
- 265 Swiss francs for the first renewal of an international registration in which Canada is designated.

The Government of Canada has notified the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) of a declaration modifying the amounts of the individual designation fee payable in connection with an international application in which Canada is designated, and in connection with.. [Read more](#)

3. Jamaica Joins the PCT

**JAMAICA IS
154TH MEMBER OF
THE PCT UNION**

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On November 10, the Government of Jamaica deposited its instrument of accession to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) with WIPO's Director General, making Jamaica the 154th member of the PCT Union. The PCT will enter into force for Jamaica on February 10, 2022. Starting February 10, inventors in Jamaica can file patent applications under the PCT as a means of seeking patent protection in PCT member States.

Likewise, starting February 10th, foreign innovators and patent holders can use the PCT System to seek patent protection for their inventions in Jamaica.

Information about Jamaica's functioning as a PCT receiving Office and designated (or elected) Office will soon be... [Read more](#)

4. Hague System: Designating Japan – Streamlining of Procedures

**YOU CAN NOW
SUBMIT A SUPPORTING
DOCUMENT THROUGH
EHAGUE OR ANNEX II OR
V OF HAGUE SYSTEM
FORM DM/1**

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New! If designating Japan in an international design application, you can now submit a supporting document in the case of exception to lack of novelty, and/or a copy of a priority document directly to WIPO through eHague. (You may also use Annex II or V of Hague System form DM/1.) We will then send those documents to the Japan Patent Office (JPO) for you. Important! You must attach these documents to your international application at the time of filing, i.e., do not send them separately to WIPO.

How will this help you? - Previously, you had to submit these documents directly to the JPO, within three months (priority document), or thirty days (exception to lack of nov... [Read more](#)

5. UK-China Cooperation on Intellectual Property

**TO PROMOTE THE
NON-
DISCRIMINATORY &
TRANSPARENT
APPLICATION OF IP**

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The UK aims to promote the non-discriminatory and transparent application of IP rules within national IP regimes. Intellectual property protection is often an important part of successful business expansion into Chinese markets. This webpage is about intellectual property (IP) cooperation between the UK and China. For basic information on protecting and enforcing IP in China, please go to the publications section below. If you are a British company and would like to discuss specific IP issues in China in more detail, please contact commercialmail.beijing@fcdo.gov.uk. The UK aims to build an efficient, respected international IP system. This includes promoting non-discriminatory and transparent application of IP rules within national... [Read more](#)

6. JPO Held Discussions with INPI.fr on PPH and Examiner Exchange

**EXCHANGED VIEWS
ABOUT THE PPH,
EXAMINER EXCHANGE,
& MEASURES FOR ANTI
-COUNTERFEITING**

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Japan Patent Office Commissioner MORI held a meeting with the National Institute of Industrial Property of France (INPI) on October 28, 2021.

During the Meeting, Commissioner MORI exchanged information with Mr. Pascal Faure, Director General of INPI, regarding the latest IP trends and activities.

The two heads also held a discussion wherein they exchanged views regarding the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH), examiner exchange, and measures for anti-counterfeiting... [Read more](#)

7. EPO and WIPO sign Memorandum of Understanding

**THE EPO REMAINS
THE LARGEST
INTERNATIONAL
SEARCHING AUTHORITY
UNDER THE PCT SCHEME**

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On 8 November, EPO President António Campinos met online with Mr Daren Tang, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The organisations renewed their commitment to further improving the international patent system's support for innovation and signed a new Memorandum of Understanding on bilateral co-operation.

The agreement aims at improving the procedural framework of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) with a view to increasing its attractiveness and efficiency for applicants. Further focus areas for co-operation between the EPO and WIPO include classification, data exchange and the dissemination of patent information. The organisations emphasised the need to support the... [Read more](#)

8. EAPO and WIPO Signed Agreement in Relation to the EAPO Functioning as International Authority under the PCT

**THE PARTIES AGREED
ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION AND
COORDINATION OF
MEASURES AT THE
WORKING LEVEL**

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On November 22, 2021, the delegation of the Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) took part in the ceremony of signing the Agreement in relation to the functioning of the EAPO as the International Searching Authority (ISA) and the International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the PCT which was held at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

The draft Agreement, which was signed by the EAPO President Saule Tlevlessova and WIPO Director General Daren Tang, was approved by the PCT Union Assembly at the Fifty-Third (23rd ordinary) session in October 2021. Daren Tang congratulated the EAPO on obtaining a new status under the PCT and welcomed the expansion of the geography of international aut... [Read more](#)

9. USPTO implements the Trademark Modernization Act

**EX-PARTE
EXPUNGEMENT &
REEXAMINATION
PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR
REQUESTS TO EXTEND
OA RESPONSE
DEADLINES RULES
IMPLEMENTED**

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Regulations implementing the Trademark Modernization Act of 2020 (TMA) will go into effect on December 18, 2021. Individuals, businesses, and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will now have new tools to clear away unused registered trademarks from the federal trademark register as of December 18, 2021, and the USPTO will have the ability to move applications through the registration process more efficiently as of December 1, 2022.

The new ex parte expungement and reexamination proceedings provide a faster, more efficient, and less expensive alternative to a contested inter partes cancellation proceeding at the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB). Read the final rule to.. [Read more](#)

10. National Patent Collection of Poland Now Available In Patentscope

**POLAND IS 73RD
NUMBER OF NATIONAL
COLLECTIONS AVAILABLE
IN PATENTSCOPE**

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Following the signature of the Data Quality and Data Exchange Agreement during the WIPO General Assemblies in October 2021, the national patent collection of Poland is now available in WIPO's global patent search system PATENTSCOPE.

It includes 294,000 patent applications and utility models. Among which over 46,000 documents are Polish full-text (OCR) documents. Patent family information and one-click access to patent documents in the Polish national database are also available for this new collection.

The addition of the national collection of Poland brings to 73 the number of national/regional collections available in PATENTSCOPE... [Read more](#)

11. Taiwan and South Korea Sign MoU on Design Patent Priority Document Exchange

**APPLICANTS
ARE EXEMPT TO
SUBMIT HARD COPY
OF THE PRIORITY
DOCUMENTS**

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Taiwan and Korea signed an MoU on Electronic Exchange of Priority Document (PDX) for Design Patents on November 12, 2021, following the collaboration between Taiwan and Japan on Design Patent Priority Document Exchange in 2019. Through bilateral cooperation between the Taiwan Intellectual Property Office and the Korean Intellectual Property Office, applicants are exempt from submitting priority documents in hard copy. Priority Documents are required in the event that a subsequent patent application is filed with a priority claim. Under the MoU on the Exchange of Industrial Property Information and the Electronic Exchange of Priority Documents signed in 2015, the... [Read more](#)

12. IPOPHL partners with Pharmaceutical Security Institute to arrest surge of counterfeit pharma

**THE PARTNERSHIP
WAS SEALED TO
ADDRESS THE
CHALLENGE OF
DELIVERING SAFE
MEDICINES**

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The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Pharmaceutical Security Institute (PSI) to combat the increase of counterfeit medicines and pharmaceutical products in the market. "This synergy with PSI will help us better protect the value of IP that is meant for our country's economic gain and, of course, protect our consumers, especially where fake products involved can harm health and cost a life," IPOPHL Director General Rowel S. Barba said at the virtual signing of the MOU last Nov. 18. The MOU will provide the framework for the capacity building, awareness and exchange of information relevant to curb the sale, supply and consumption of counterfeit medicines... [Read more](#)

13.Hague System: Guidance on Including Multiple Designs in International Applications

**REFUSAL BY ONE
CONTRACTING PARTY
DOES NOT AFFECT YOUR
INTERNATIONAL
REGISTRATION IN OTHER
DESIGNATED
JURISDICTIONS**

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As part of our continuous efforts to make the Hague System's international design application process as easy to navigate as possible, we have produced new guidance that walks you through different scenarios and associated issues that may arise when including multiple designs in one application.

This will help you not only to understand the different substantive requirements of Hague System contracting parties, but also importantly to avoid potential processing delays or even refusals based on non-conformity of your designs... [Read more](#)

14. EPO extends pilot for oral proceedings in opposition by videoconference to 31 May 2022

**THE EPO IS
IMPROVING THE TOOLS
USED FOR CONDUCTING
ORAL PROCEEDINGS
BY VICO**

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In light of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, travel restrictions and preventive health measures limiting the parties' possibilities to attend oral proceedings on its premises, the EPO has decided to further extend its pilot project for conducting oral proceedings in opposition by videoconference (VICO) until 31 May 2022. Where there are serious reasons against holding the oral proceedings in opposition by VICO, oral proceedings will be postponed until after that date.

The EPO is committed to improving the tools used for conducting oral proceedings by VICO. It will continue to raise awareness and provide additional training to parties so that VICO tools become as close an approximation as possible to direct... [Read more](#)