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## 1. Schedule of PCT Fees at the JPO

**NO OTHER FEES  
INCREASED EXCEPT  
THE PCT HANDLING  
FEES**

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*This article is only for applicants who filed international applications under the PCT, with a receiving Office other than the JPO (RO/JP).*

**Increase in PCT Handling Fee from January 1, 2022** - This is to notify you that effective January 1, 2022, the handling fee for international applications filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) will increase by JPY 900. Please take note of the revised total amount that you are to pay, which is provided below.

|  | Until December 31, 2021 | From January 1, 2022       |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Additional fee (ISA/JP) for an application in English | JPY 126,000             | JPY 126,000<br>(No change) |

[Read more](#)

## 2. China-Portugal (Portugal) Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Experiments Extended for Another Five Years

**FROM JANUARY 1,  
2022 UNTIL DECEMBER  
31, 2026**

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*According to the joint decision of CNIPA and INPI, China-Portugal (Portugal) Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Experiments will be extended for another five years from January 1, 2022 until December 31, 2026.*

*Relevant requirements and process of submitting PPH requests in the two sides will remain unchanged.*

*CNIPA started the PPH experiments with INPI on January 1, 2014, which have been extended twice and will terminate until December 31, 2021. (Translated from CNIPA Website Chinese Version)... [Read more](#)*

## 3. Jamaica Joins the Hague System

**THE 1999 ACT  
WILL ENTER INTO  
FORCE IN JAMAICA ON  
FEB. 10, 2022.**

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*Jamaica is the latest country to join the Hague System bringing the total number of countries covered to 93. The Government of Jamaica deposited its instrument of accession to the 1999 Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement on November 10, 2021. Jamaica is the 67th contracting party to the 1999 Act and 76th member of the Hague Union.*

**What does this mean for designers worldwide?** - From February 10, 2022, companies and designers in Jamaica will be able to seek international protection of their designs, in as many of the 93 countries covered by the Hague System as desired, facilitating their expansion into international markets. In parallel, non-residents seeking design protection in Jamaica... [Read more](#)

## 4. China and Mexico Signed a New Memorandum of Understanding on Intellectual Property Cooperation

**CONTINUED TO  
EXPAND IN THE FIELDS  
OF PERSONNEL  
TRAINING, PATENT  
EXAM, INFORMATION  
EXCHANGE**

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*On December 7, Shen Changyu, head of CNIPA met with Alfredo Lunden, head of Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI) via video and signed a new MOU between the two sides.*

*Shen Changyu said Mexican Institute of Industrial Property was the first government agency for intellectual property that established partnership with CNIPA in Latin America and was an important partner. For years, the cooperation between the two sides continued to expand in the fields of personnel training, patent examination, information exchange and achieved fruitful results. He hoped that the two sides would continue to maintain close communication and further enhance cooperation so as to provide better services for users of intellectual pro... [Read more](#)*

## 5. UAE Introduces New IP Laws

**NEW IP LAW  
ENTERED INTO FORCE  
FROM JANUARY 2,  
2022**

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*ABU DHABI – As the United Arab Emirates continues to improve the Intellectual Property environment to be an attractive market for businesses, it decided to bring legal reform to the laws relating to Intellectual Property. The new IP laws were approved by Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and will be fully enacted starting from January 2, 2022. The new amendments on Intellectual Property laws are summarized as follows:*

**Trademarks Law** - *The federal law concerning trademarks was amended to expand the scope of protection to cover three-dimensional trademarks, holograms and sound trademarks. The amendments also include registration of geographical names of trademarks or products whose name is associated... [Read more](#)*

## 6. PPH pilot program between the Japan Patent Office and the National Institute of Industrial Property of Argentina

**ACCELERATED  
EXAMINATION SYSTEM  
BASED ON  
RESOLUTION 56/2016**

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**JPO-INPI PPH pilot program will end** - *On 31 December 2021, the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and the National Institute of Industrial Property of Argentina (INPI) will end the PPH pilot program they have been implementing since 1 April 2017 because Argentina's national system allows an early grant of a patent to applications filed with the INPI based on Japanese applications.*

**Accelerated examination system based on Resolution 56/2016** - *Despite the end of the JPO-INPI PPH program, Argentina's Resolution 56/2016 that instituted the country's accelerated examination system in 2016 will remain applicable to those who wish to quickly obtain patents equivalent... [Read more](#)*

## 7. AI cannot be named as inventor on patent applications

**APPLICATIONS  
DESIGNATING THE AI  
SYSTEM DABUS AS  
INVENTOR WERE FILED  
IN MULTIPLE  
JURISDICTIONS,  
INCLUDING AT THE EPO**

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*In public oral proceedings today, in combined cases J 8/20 and J 9/20, the Legal Board of Appeal of the EPO confirmed that under the European Patent Convention (EPC) an inventor designated in a patent application must be a human being.*

*The board dismissed the applicant's appeal. The written decision and reasons will be issued in due course and will be available via the European Patent Register. The Boards of Appeal have issued a communiqué with further details.*

**Further information -**

**Communiqué of the Boards of Appeal** - Today, the Legal Board of Appeal announced its decision to dismiss the appeal in cases J 8/20 and J 9/20. The Legal Board of Appeal confirm... [Read more](#)

## 8. Fees of PCT Application in the International Phase to Be Collected in RMB Standard From December 01

**EVERY YEAR, THE  
WIPO WILL PUBLISH THE  
RMB STANDARD OF THE  
FEES OF PCT  
APPLICATION IN THE  
INTERNATIONAL PHASE  
FOR THE NEXT YEAR**

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*From December 01, 2021, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding for Remittance of (PCT) Fees signed between China National Intellectual Property Administration and World Intellectual Property Organization, China National Intellectual Property Administration will collect the fees of PCT application in the international phase subject to the RMB standard published by the World Intellectual Property Organization, which will no longer be calculated by the Swiss Franc standard.*

*According to some reports, according to the latest fee standard published by the World Intellectual Property Organization in November 2021, National Intellectual Property Administration issued the standard for collecting the fees of PCT... [Read more](#)*

## 9. ATMS as the Australian Official Journal of Trade Marks

**THE DAILY  
JOURNALS ARE  
SEARCHABLE IN THE  
AUSTRALIAN TRADE  
MARK SEARCH (ATMS)  
DATABASE**

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*Under the Trade Marks Act 1995, the Registrar is required to advertise the outcomes, actions and status points of applications. These advertisements currently take place in the Australian Official Journal of Trade Marks via a daily publication of a PDF version of the Official Journal of Trade Marks, available on the IP Australia website.*

*Each publication presented in the daily Journal is also searchable within the Australian Trade Mark Search (ATMS) database.*

*Details of each publication can be viewed within the 'History and Publications' section of the detailed view of each mark.*

[Read more](#)

## 10. China-Denmark Signed the First Memorandum of Understanding on Intellectual Property Cooperation

**CONTINUE TO  
CARRY OUT LEGAL  
POLICY EXCHANGE,  
PROMOTE PPH  
COOPERATION, AND  
DEEPEN PRACTICAL  
COOPERATION ON IP**

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*Days ago, Shen Changyu, head of China National Intellectual Property Administration and Sunn Stipe Sorensen, head of Danish Patent and Trademark Office held a video conference. At the meeting, the two sides signed a MoU between China Intellectual Property Administration and Danish Patent and Trademark Office. Shen Changyu said that in recent years, the two sides held frequent and deepening exchanges and cooperation. This time, the two sides reached the first Memorandum of Understanding on Intellectual Property Cooperation, which was a new landmark in the cooperation between the two sides. He hoped that based on this, two sides would continue to carry out legal policy exchange, promote Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) coop... [Read more](#)*

## 11. Patent Prosecution Highway between the JPO and the USPTO

**SINCE 1 JAN.  
2022, BOTH OFFICES  
STRIVE TO MEET THE  
TARGET AS THEY  
EXAMINE EACH  
APPLICATION**

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*The JPO and the USPTO have commenced the full-implemented Patent Prosecution Highway program on 4 January 2008. Since 6 January 2014, the both offices participate in the Global PPH.*

**An initiative to improve the predictability of the timing of the examination on the Patent Prosecution Highway** - The JPO and the USPTO have agreed to set a target deadline for issuing office actions for PPH applications in order to improve the predictability of the timing of the examination.

*Since 1 January 2022, both offices strive to meet the target as they examine each application. For specific details, please see the joint announcement below. Joint Announcement... [Read more](#)*

## 12. EAPO Expanded its Participation in the WIPO DAS Service in Regard to Industrial Designs

**THE EAPO ACTS  
AS A DEPOSITING  
OFFICE IN THE WIPO  
DAS SERVICE BY  
PLACING IN THIS  
DIGITAL LIBRARY**

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*The EAPO enables applicants to use the Digital Access Service for Priority Documents of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO DAS) in relation to industrial design applications from December 1, 2021.*

*As of that date, applicants, when claiming priority in an industrial design application in accordance with Rule 80 (1) of the Patent Regulations under the Eurasian Patent Convention on an earlier application previously placed in the WIPO DAS digital library may submit to EAPO the access code for this application within WIPO DAS instead of a submitted copy of the earlier application.*

*An applicant may deposit an earlier industrial design application into the WIPO DAS digital library through the... [Read more](#)*

## 13. New Caribbean Trade Mark Tool Available Online

**CARIBBEAN TMCLASS  
HELPS YOU SEARCH FOR,  
AND VERIFY, THE  
CORRECT GOODS/  
SERVICES IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH  
NICE AGREEMENT**

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On 9 December 2021, the CARIFORUM Directorate and the CARIFORUM Intellectual Property and Innovation Project, CarIPI, will be launching a new consultation tool, Caribbean TMclass, a regional interface of TMclass.

This classification tool developed by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and IP Offices of the EU Member states, is already used by more than 80 IP Offices worldwide. Caribbean TMclass is multilingual and provides free-of-charge access to the lists of terms accepted as suitable to identify goods and services for the purposes of the registration of marks by participating Caribbean IP Offices. Please see the following link for more information on the... [Read more](#)

## 14. Notice regarding commencement of third year of PPH pilot program between IPO and JPO

**THIRD YEAR OF  
THE PILOT PROGRAM  
WITH EFFECT FROM  
20TH DEC. 2021**

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A Bilateral Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot program commenced between the Indian Patent Office (IPO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO) with effect from 5th December 2019. The guidelines in this regard have been published on the website of Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks. The IPO will start accepting Form 5-1 under Chapter 5 of the PPH Guidelines for the third year of the pilot program with effect from 20th December 2021. The number of requests will be limited to 100. The following points are to be noted while submitting a request to IPO under the said PPH program:

- The number of the requests for the PPH in IPO will be limited to 100 cases per year on first come first serve basis. [Read more](#)

## 15. Revamp of Hague System Forms: a New Look, a New Layout

**THE FORMS, WHICH  
ARE AVAILABLE  
IN ENGLISH, FRENCH  
AND SPANISH – ARE  
NOW IN EDITABLE  
PDF FORMAT ONLY**

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*New for January 2022! We have modernized the look, and enhanced the layout and content of our Hague System forms in order to improve user experience and make the completion of our forms simpler and more efficient.*

### **What are the main changes?**

*Apart from a new color scheme and adjusted layout, we have:*

- Revised the language used in the forms;
- Added new fields and continuation sheets so that you can provide us with more comprehensive details; and;
- Deleted superfluous fields to make completion of the forms and processing of your requests more straightforward. [Read more](#)

## 16. Amended “Positive Patent Examination Pilot Program for Startups” Effective Jan. 1, 2022

**THERE IS A  
CAP LIMIT OF 5  
APPLICATIONS PER  
STARTUP PER YEAR**

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*Since January 1, 2021, TIPO has been implementing the “Positive Patent Examination Pilot Program for Startups” to offer assistance in evaluating patent acquisition probability and provide advice on ways to promptly obtain patent rights.*

*Upon receiving positive responses to the results of the pilot program, TIPO has decided to amend and conduct it for an additional year.*

*Moreover, during the pilot program of 2022, there is a cap of 6 applications each month and a limit of 5 applications per startup per year. [Read more](#)*

## 17. Amended Accelerated Examination Program (AEP) Effective Jan 1, 2022

**ACCELERATED  
EXAMINATION RESULTS  
ISSUED WITHIN 6  
MONTHS INSTEAD OF 9  
MONTHS**

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*In order to promote the research and development of green patents and accelerate commercialization of related products, the scope of applicability of AEP will be expanded to include green technologies such as energy-saving, carbon emission reduction, and resource-saving technologies.*

*In addition, applications on the grounds of "essential to commercial exploitation" and "inventions related to green technologies" will have their accelerated examination results issued within 6 months instead of 9 after filing all necessary documents, expediting the examination process of relevant cases. The amended Accelerated Examination Program is... [Read more](#)*