

Inside this Issue

<u><i>Our new and improved Patents Manual of Practice and Procedure</i></u>	2
<u><i>Consult the European Patent Guide 2023</i></u>	2
<u><i>EPO-CNIPA Joint Communiqué: Chinese applicants may continue to designate EPO as ISA</i></u>	3
<u><i>USPTO Virtual Assistant now available for Patents customers</i></u>	3
<u><i>Changes to IPONZ procedure for PCT applications</i></u>	4
<u><i>From 1 January 2024 new equivalent amounts in PCT-fees are established</i></u>	4
<u><i>Close to 5 million new Non-Patent Literature Documents Now Available in PATENTSCOPE</i></u>	5
<u><i>Update to Trade Mark Practice Guidelines</i></u>	5
<u><i>Madrid e-Filing Now Live in Mongolia</i></u>	6
<u><i>Hague System – Change in the Individual Designation Fees: Canada</i></u>	6
<u><i>Hague System – Change in the Individual Designation Fees: Israel</i></u>	7
<u><i>Hague System – Change in the Individual Designation Fees: Republic of Korea</i></u>	7

1. Our new and improved Patents Manual of Practice and Procedure

**WE'VE MADE IT EASIER
TO ACCESS AND
NAVIGATE THE
MATERIAL**

We've released an updated version of the Patents Manual of Practice and Procedure!

Thank you to those who contributed their feedback and comments on the beta version. By applying this feedback, we've made it easier to access and navigate the material.

What has changed?

The changes include the following:

- *New chapter numbers and page references of the manual*
- *Updated content and wording to make the manual easier to read and use, ensuring the information is still accessible*
- *Version 2.0 will now become the official version.....[Read more](#)*

[GO TO TOP](#)

02. Consult the European Patent Guide 2023

**THE GUIDE IS
AVAILABLE IN THE
EPO'S THREE OFFICIAL
LANGUAGES IN BOTH
HTML AND PDF
FORMAT**

The latest edition of the "European Patent Guide - How to get a European Patent" was published today. This year's revision reflects the situation as it stood on 1 July 2023 and takes into account changes to the EPO procedures entering into force before or on that date.

The Guide gives applicants such as inventors, companies and their representatives, a general overview of the European patent granting procedure. The Guide is available in the EPO's three official languages in both HTML and PDF format.

The European Patent Guide is published in English, French and German and is only available electronically. The content of the..... [Read more](#)

[GO TO TOP](#)

03. EPO-CNIPA Joint Communiqué: Chinese applicants may continue to designate EPO as ISA

**INTERNATIONAL
PATENT APPLICATIONS
FILED IN ENGLISH
UNDER PCT UNTIL
NOV. 30, 2026**

[GO TO TOP](#)

EPO-CNIPA Joint Communiqué:

PCT applicants in China may continue to designate EPO as their ISA Nationals and residents of the People's Republic of China will continue to have the option to select the EPO as their International Searching Authority (ISA) for international patent applications filed in English under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) until 30 November 2026. This follows the success of the pilot scheme first started in December 2020, which is being extended for a further three years as mutually agreed between the European Patent Office (EPO) and the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA).....[Read more](#)

04. USPTO Virtual Assistant now available for Patents customers

**TOOL WILL GUIDE YOU
TO THE MOST UP-TO-
DATE INFORMATION IN
PATENT CENTER**

[GO TO TOP](#)

Last week, we launched the USPTO Virtual Assistant as a feature on select Patents webpages. This expansion from trademarks- to patents-related content continues our efforts to enhance our customer service and increase access to our resources.

"The USPTO is continuously working to create a more productive and efficient customer experience," said Kathi Vidal, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO. "It is an essential part of reaching all innovators where they are and providing them with the information they need to protect their inventions and brands.".....[Read more](#)

05.Changes to IPONZ procedure for PCT applications

ONCE THESE FEES ARE PAID, WE WILL THEN TRANSMIT THE APPLICATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

[GO TO TOP](#)

We are making some changes to the way Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) applications are processed at our office.

Currently when we receive a new PCT application, we will first send an invoice for the filing and search fees. Once these fees are paid, we will then transmit the application to the International Bureau, and provide applicants with an International Application Number and an International Filing Date. For new PCT applications from 30 October 2023: We will provide applicants with an Int'l Application Number and an Int'l Filing Date at the same time as our invoice. We may sometimes receive a deficient PCT application that does not meet the requirements to be considered an Int'l application.....[Read more](#)

06. From 1 January 2024 new equivalent amounts in PCT-fees are established

**WITH EFFECT FROM
1 JANUARY 2024**

[GO TO TOP](#)

Changed PCT fees from 1 January 2024 due to currency adjustments.

International filing fee 15 990 SEK

Reductions (under the Schedule of Fees, item 4):

– Electronic filing (the request being in character coded format): 2 410 SEK

– Electronic filing (the request, description, claims and 3 610 SEK abstract being in character coded format):

Handling fee Chapter II 2 410 SEK[Read more](#)

7. Close to 5 million new Non-Patent Literature Documents Now Available in PATENTSCOPE

INCORPORATING NON-PATENT LITERATURE (NPL) INTO YOUR PATENT SEARCH SERVES

[GO TO TOP](#)

Thanks to an exclusive collaboration between WIPO and the publisher IEEE, a vast collection of almost 5 million non-patent literature (NPL) documents from IEEE is now searchable in PATENTSCOPE.

IEEE publishes nearly a third of the world's technical literature in electrical engineering, computer science, and electronics. This includes more than 200 transactions, journals, and magazines published annually. In cooperation with John Wiley and Sons, Inc., IEEE also produces technical books, monographs, guides, and textbooks. IEEE journals are consistently among the most highly cited in electrical and electronics engineering, telecommunications, and other[Read more](#)

8. Update to Trade Mark Practice Guidelines

PRACTICE GUIDELINES TO CLARIFY OUR PRACTICES ON TRADE MARK APPLICATIONS THAT INVOLVE NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS, VIRTUAL GOODS AND SERVICES

[GO TO TOP](#)

IPONZ has updated its practice guidelines to clarify our practices on trade mark applications that involve non-fungible tokens, virtual goods and services, and manufacturing services. IPONZ has recently updated its trade mark practice guidelines as follows: Annexure to Computer Services

We've updated our Annexure to Computer Services practice guidelines to: Discuss our practices regarding trade mark specifications that involve non-fungible tokens (NFTs), virtual goods, virtual services, and virtual restaurant services.

Provide examples of specification terms that are likely to be acceptable to our examiners[Read more](#)

9. Madrid e-Filing Now Live in Mongolia

**PAYMENT METHODS
AVAILABLE WITHIN
MADRID E-FILING
INCLUDE CREDIT CARD,
CURRENT ACCOUNT
AND PAYPAL**

[GO TO TOP](#)

Mongolia is the latest Madrid System Member List of Madrid System Members – and the first in East Asia – to sign up to our Madrid e-Filing service, bringing the number of intellectual property (IP) Offices using the platform to 21.

Starting October 15, 2023, trademark holders from Mongolia will be able to file their applications for an international trademark registration online, directly via the website of the Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia (IPOM). Payment methods available within Madrid e-Filing at the IPOM will include credit card, current account and PayPal.

Madrid e-Filing will allow Mongolian trademark owners to expand the protection of their national trademark registrations in a secure and online environment.[Read more](#)

10. Hague System – Change in the Individual Designation Fees: Canada

**WITH EFFECT FROM
1 JANUARY 2024**

[GO TO TOP](#)

*From **January 1, 2024**, the [individual designation fees](#) applicable when designating Canada will increase. (PHOTO: GETTY/DOUCEFLEUR) The new fees will be as follows: 370 Swiss francs per international application. First renewal: 324 Swiss francs for each design. Subsequent renewals: free.*

Tip! You can find out more about Canada's laws and procedures in our [Hague System Member Profiles](#).[Read more](#)

11. Hague System – Change in the Individual Designation Fees: Israel

**WITH EFFECT FROM
1 DECEMBER 2023**

[GO TO TOP](#)

From December 1, 2023, the individual designation fees applicable when designating Israel will be reduced. The new fees will be as follows: 102 Swiss francs (default fee) and 61 Swiss francs (reduced fee) for each design included in an international application; First renewal: 128 Swiss francs for each design; Second renewal: 153 Swiss francs for each design; Third renewal: 179 Swiss francs for each design; Fourth renewal: 204 Swiss francs for each design.

More about reduced fees: Reductions apply when designating Israel in an Int'l application if you are: a natural person; a small entity whose yearly revenue does not exceed the amount set in the Israeli Design Regulations; or a higher education institution recognized by Israeli law; and you are not claiming priority of an earlier filing..... [Read more](#)

12. Hague System – Change in the Individual Designation Fees: Republic of Korea

**WITH EFFECT FROM
1 DECEMBER 2023**

[GO TO TOP](#)

From December 1, 2023, the individual designation fees applicable when designating the Republic of Korea will be reduced.

The new fees will be as follows:

162 Swiss francs for each design included in an international application;

First renewal: 260 Swiss francs for each design;

Second renewal: 615 Swiss francs for each design;

Third renewal: 710 Swiss francs for each design.....[Read more](#)