

RANGE OF SERVICES

Representation and consultation in all areas of industrial property protection in any technical field:

Representation before the

- GPTO (German Patent and Trademark Office)
- BPatG (Federal Patent Court)
- EPO (European Patent Office)
- EUIPO (EU Intellectual Property Office)
- Community Trade Mark / Design Courts
- WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization)
- BSA (Agency for the protection and national listing of new plant varieties)
- CPVO (Community Plant Variety Office)
- UPC (Unified Patent Court)
- LG (Regional Court)
- OLG (Higher Regional Court)
- BGH (Federal Court of Justice)

German, EU, International Trademarks

- Administration and handling before the respective authorities
- Registration procedures
- Opposition procedures
- Reconsideration procedures
- Appeal procedures
- Trademark cancellation
- Trademark litigation
- Delimitation agreements
- Licence agreements for trademarks
- Opinions on infringement and validity

German, Community, International Designs

- Application and registration procedures
- Administration and handling before the respective authorities
- Registration procedures
- Cancellation procedures
- Defence and enforcement
- Settlements
- Opinions on infringement and validity

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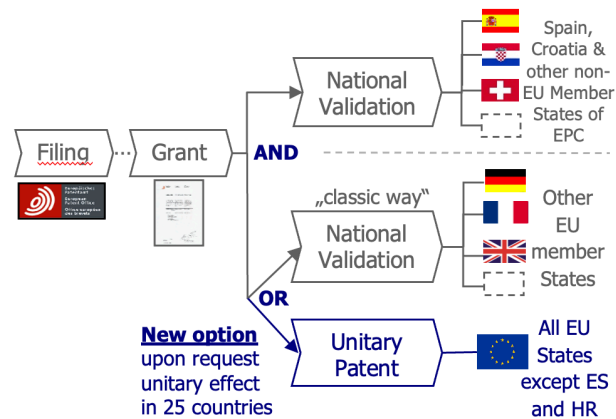
www.wbetal.com



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INTO PATENTS**
NEWS FOR INTA 2026 LONDON



UNITARY PATENT



- Decision to be made only after grant of patent (within 1 month of publication of grant of patent)
- Only a single full translation of the specification of the European patent required
- Annual fee to be paid with the EPO
- Entry into force depends on ratification process of UPC agreement

UNIFIED PATENT COURT

- 18 out of 25 EU Member States have already ratified UPC agreement
- The Agreement on a Unified Patent Court (UPC) entered into force on June 1, 2023. Since then, lawsuits (for infringement, invalidity, etc.) can be filed there
- Since its start, a total of 471 infringement actions and 79 separate nullity actions have been filed with the UPC
- Competent for both Unitary Patents and classical European patents

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DESIGN

What's the benefit?

- Protection across all member states through a single application
- More cost-effective than multiple national applications
- Quick registration, often completed in a few days because there is no substantive examination
- Multiple applications can be bundled together through collective applications

EU DESIGN REFORM 2024/2025

Stronger protection for digital designs, simpler procedures, and enhanced enforcement across the EU

Main Changes (Fully applicable from 1 July 2026)

- **Broader definition of Designs**
Protection now includes digital and animated designs (e.g. UI, animations)
- **Expanded concept of "Product"**
Covers virtual and non-physical objects
- **3D printing addressed**
Prohibits sharing and distribution of CAD files and print templates
- **Repair clause**
Spare parts for repair purposes are excluded from design protection
- **Stronger enforcement**
Measures against imports, transit goods, and digital infringements
- **Simplified application system**
Multiple designs in one application (up to 50)
Simplified fee structure
- **New Design Symbol**
(D) to indicate registered design protection

EUROPEAN UNION TRADE MARK

What's the benefit?

- A single application provides trademark protection across all 27 member states (equal rights, equal period of validity, centralized administration)
- More cost-effective than multiple national applications
- Simpler and more centralized enforcement through EU procedures.

Official Fees

One class:	€ 850
Two classes:	€ 900 (+ € 50)
Three classes:	€ 1.050 (+ € 150)

Also: Opposition, cancellation & appeal fees reduced!

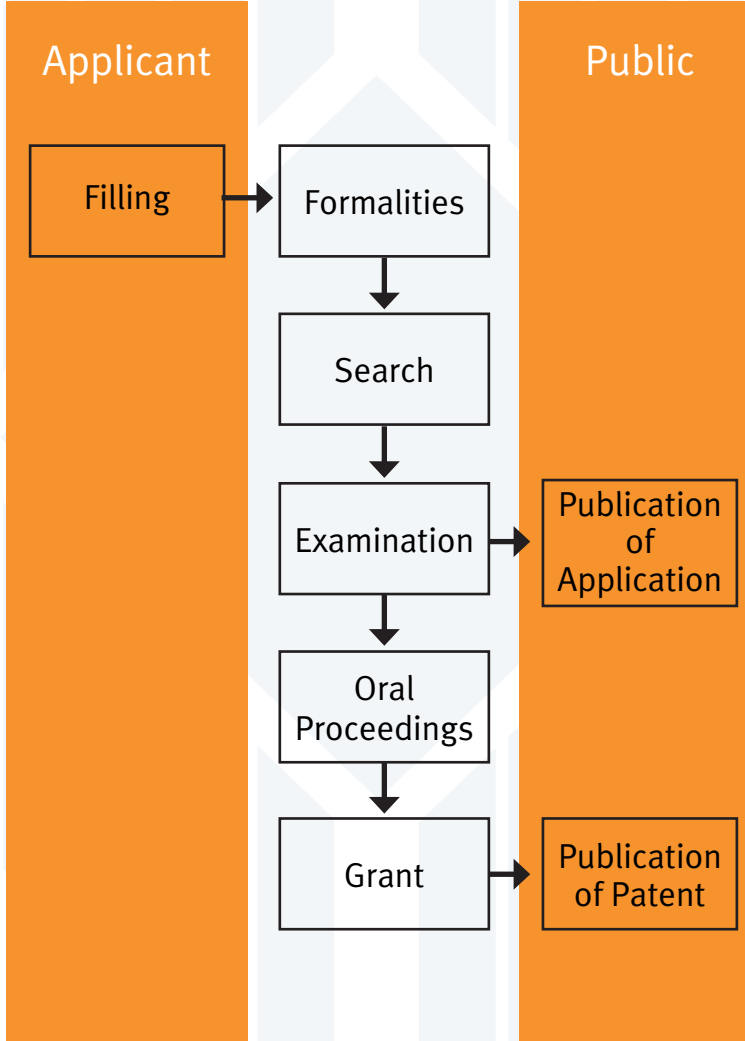
NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN EU TRADEMARK LAW

1. More restrictive interpretation under Article 7 UMV
 - A lack of distinctiveness is consistently affirmed.
 - Even an image element cannot overcome the descriptive nature of the word element if it has no independent meaning.
2. Strengthening of the legal use of a trademark
 - The distribution of expired goods may exceptionally qualify as rights-preserving use, provided the trademark owner was actively involved.
 - Consent under Article 18(2) UMV may already exist if there is an economic connection between the trademark owner and the distributor.
3. Trademark Law vs. Online Marketplaces
 - In Louboutin vs. Amazon, the European Court of Justice ruled that platforms may be liable if offers appear as their own.

EP

COMPARISON OFFICIAL FEES – PCT NATIONAL PHASE EP v DE

DE



3y: € 725

€ 135
€ 1.595
€ 2.010
€ 720

€ 60
€ 150

3y: € 70

(€ 5.185)

(€ 290)

4y: € 885

5y: € 1050

€ 1.135

4y: € 70

5y: € 100

€ 2.660

€ 5.595

€ 8.255

€ 260

€ 240

€ 450

+ extra cost for validation(s)

no validation required