

Welcome to our online training session:

Introduction to Intellectual Property and Intellectual Property Rights



European IPR Helpdesk, August 29th, 2018

Get your ticket to innovation.

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Road Map

- Intellectual Property & Intellectual Property Rights
- IP Rights asset value
- IP protection tools & costs of IP rights
- IP monitoring & searches
- Where to get more information

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What is meant by "intellectual property" and "intellectual property rights"?



Intellectual Property



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Such creations have an intangible nature

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Results of creative efforts from the human intellect

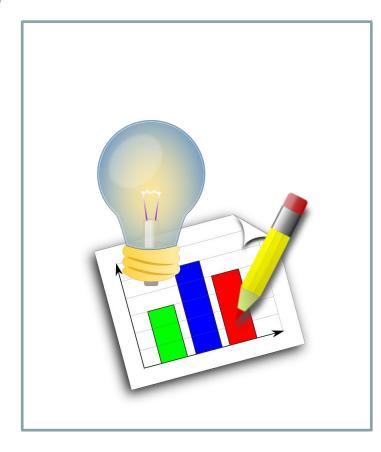
> Intellectual Property

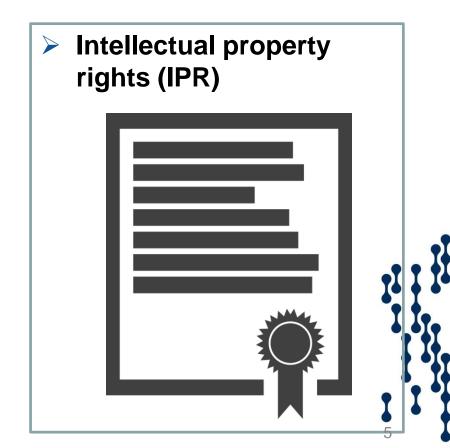


Intellectual Property Vs Intellectual Property Rights

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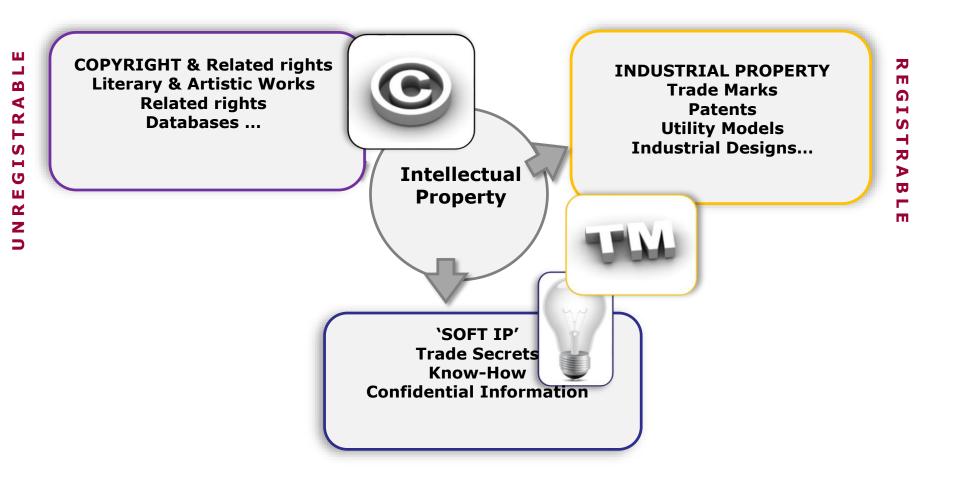
Intellectual Property (IP)











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Which are the Intellectual Property protection tools available?



Industrial Property



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- **Patents** and **utility models**: inventions
- Industrial designs: innovative designs
- Trade Marks: brands
- And other righs (such as Geographical Indications), but not covered on this module







Principle of Territoriality

• IP rights are territorial rights. In general, the exclusive rights are only applicable in the country or region in which a patent has been filed and granted, in accordance with the law of that country or region.

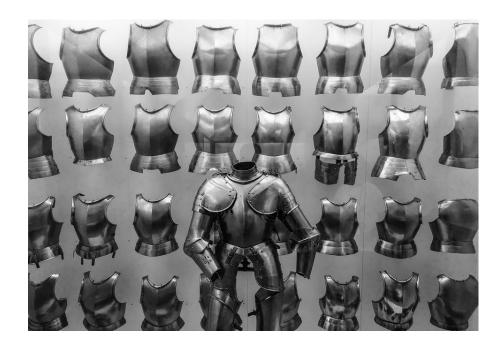






Rights Conferred

• An IP right grants to its owner a monopoly on the product of the mind protected. Nobody without his authorization may use, commercialize etc. the protected item.







Duration of the protection

- Intellectual Property rights grant a monopoly on the intellect creation for a limited amount of time depending on the type of right that is protected.
- Copyrights 70 years after the death of the author
- Patents 20 years after the filing
- Industrial designs 25 five years after the registration
- Trademarks indefinitely as long as renewal fees are payed







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Beyond Exclusivity!

Intellectual Property Rights are an **opportunity for:**

- Advertising:
- Merchandizing:
- Franchising:
- Certifying:



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Beyond Exclusivity!

Intellectual Property Rights are an **opportunity for:**

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• Advertising:







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Beyond Exclusivity!

Intellectual Property Rights are an **opportunity for:**

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• Merchandizing:







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Beyond Exclusivity!

Intellectual Property Rights are an **opportunity for:**

• Franchising:



TOP OF THE WORLD





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Beyond Exclusivity!

Intellectual Property Rights are an **opportunity for:**

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• Certifying:

Trade Marks



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What is a trade mark (TM)?

It is a **sign**, or a combination of signs, used in trade to identify and distinguish the goods or services of one enterprise from those of another. A trade mark owner is granted exclusive rights to:

- use the mark in relation to the goods or services with respect to which it is registered
- prevent others from using a substantially identical or deceptively similar mark in relation to identical or similar goods or services.

What can be protected as trade mark?

Words, letters, numerals, pictures, shapes and colours, as well as any combination of the above.

The registration of less traditional forms of trade marks is now allowed, such as three-dimensional signs (like the Coca-Cola bottle), audible signs (sounds, Nokia jingle), or olfactory signs (smells).



Trade Mark Examples



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I amsterdam.

Trade Mark Requirements



Which are the requirements to seek registration?

In order for a sign to be eligible for trade mark protection, it must:

- Be distinctive
- Not be deceptive
- Not be descriptive
- Not belong to the exclusions provided by the law
- Be in conformity with public order and morality.





Trade Mark Registration



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How to register a trade mark?

NATIONAL TM

Applications must be filed before your **National TM Office**

- accompanied by:
- a clear reproduction of the mark including any colours, forms, or three-dimensional features,
- list of goods or services to which the mark would apply.
 Registrations can be cancelled in case of non-use.

COMMUNITY TM

One single application, in one official language may be filed at the Office for the Harmonisation of the **EUIPO in Alicante – Spain.**

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INTERNATIONAL

By filing an international application, TM protection can be obtained in each states member of the Madrid system, designated by the applicant. Applications may be submitted: •to your National

- trademark Office
- to the EUIPO
- to the WIPO.

Patents



What is a patent?

It is a title providing the *inventor* and/or the *applicant* with the **exclusive right** to prevent others from possessing, using, selling, manufacturing and importing the patented **invention** or offering to do any of these things within a territory.

What can be patented?

Patents maybe granted for any invention concerned with the *functional* and *technical* aspects of *products* and *processes*. To qualify for patent protection the invention must fulfil the so-called

- conditions of patentability:
- Patentable subject matter
- Novelty
- Inventive step (non-obviousness)
- Industrial Applicability (utility)

European Patent Convention





Inventions are patentable, with the following exclusions (Art 52 EPC):

•Discoveries, scientific theories and mathematical methods;

Aesthetic creations;



E=MC²

•Schemes, rules and methods for performing mental acts, playing games or doing business, and programs for computers:

• Presentations of information.









• Art 54: European Patent Convention:

An invention shall be considered to be new if it does not form part of the state of the art.

State of the art : Everything made available to the public by means of a written or oral description, by use, or in any other way, before the date of filing of the European patent application.

Evaluate carefully disclosure and dissemination activities



Industrial Applicability



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Art 57 European Patent Convention:

 An invention shall be considered as susceptible of industrial application if it can be made or used in any kind of industry, including agriculture.



Patents



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Patent Registration



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What are my options?

NATIONAL PATENT

In general, an application filed before your National Patent **Office (NPO)** must be accompanied by:

- a specification containing a detailed description of the invention,
- one or more claims,
- any drawings referred to in the description or claims and an abstract
- the required filing fee.

INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION

By filing an international application, patent protection can be obtained in each designated states amongst 148 worldwide. PCT applications may be submitted:

•to your NPO,

- to the EPO, or
- to the WIPO.

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Patent Registration



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EUROPEAN PATENT

- One single application, in one official language may be filed:
- at your NPO, or
- At the EPO
- The EPO grants patents having the effect of a national patent in designated countries (currently max. 38). You may decide to maintain it in force in some or all of them.

EUROPEAN PATENT With Unitary effect

- One single application, written in French, English or German will grant a title that is going to be valid throughout the 26 european countries. (Turkey Norway etc... are excluded)
- It will be active when the <u>Unified Patent Court</u> <u>Agreement</u> will be ratified

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The Unified patent court



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Will be competent for all European patents, including also those with Unitary effect.

Affected by BREXIT????

Established by the <u>Unified Patent</u> <u>Court Agreement</u>

Website: https://www.unified-patent-court.org/

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About the UPC

The Unified Patent Court (UPC) will be a court common to the Contracting Member States and thus part of their iudicial system. It will have exclusive competence in respect of European patents and European patents with unitary effect. The exclusive competence is however subject to exceptions during the transitional period. The UPC's rulings will have effect in the territory of those Contracting Member States having ratified the UPC Agreement at the given time. The UPC will not have any competence with regard to national patents

The UPC Agreement is open to accession by any Member State of the European Union. The Agreement is not open to states outside of the European Union. Up to date, all European Union Member States except Spain and Poland have signed the

The preparatory committee

The Preparatory Committee is composed of all the Signatory

States to the Unified Patent Court Agreement (18351/12) (see also Regulations 1257/2012@ and 1260/2012@). All these states undertook to establish the new court and the Preparatory Committee's function is to oversee the various work streams. There are five major work streams which will constitute the work which needs to be completed. These are:

- Legal framework
- · Financial aspects
- Information technology
- Facilities, and
- Human resources & Training

The Preparatory Committee will exist until the Court is established. Currently this is expected to last two years and during this time it will have its own Rules by which it is governed. Its work programme is set out in a <u>Roadmap</u>. Its <u>external</u> communication plan outlines how it will update users and stakeholders, by what means and the type of documents that will appear on this website.

The Committee has endorsed the brochure titled 'An Enhanced European Patent System' which provides a useful overview.



Chair Alexander Ramsay Sweden

Cases

Search

Click here to log into the UPC Case Management System

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Latest News

Alexander Ramsay's interview with EUROFORUM on the Unitary Patent and the Unified Patent Court 15 December 2015

13th meeting of the Preparatory Committee – 7 & 8 December 2015 09 December 2015

Unified Patent Court – Rules of procedure 27 October 2015

12th meeting of the Preparatory Committee – 19 October 2015 20 October 2015

Protocol to the UPC Agreement 01 October 2015

more »

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Update:



• EPO published a <u>Unitary Patent Guide</u>: August 2017

Unitary Patent guide

Obtaining, maintaining and managing Unitary Patents



1st edition, August 2017

The "Unitary Patent Guide" aims to provide companies, inventors and their representatives with an outline of the procedure involved in obtaining a Unitary Patent from the European Patent Office (EPO) once it has granted a

Download

Unitary Patent guide (PDF, 823 KB)

European patent on the basis of the provisions laid down in the European Patent Convention (EPC).



Utility Models: A faster and reduced option for inventions protection



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What is a utility model?

It is a title of protection for certain **inventions**, such as inventions in the mechanical field. Utility models are usually sought for technically less complex inventions or for inventions that have a short commercial life.

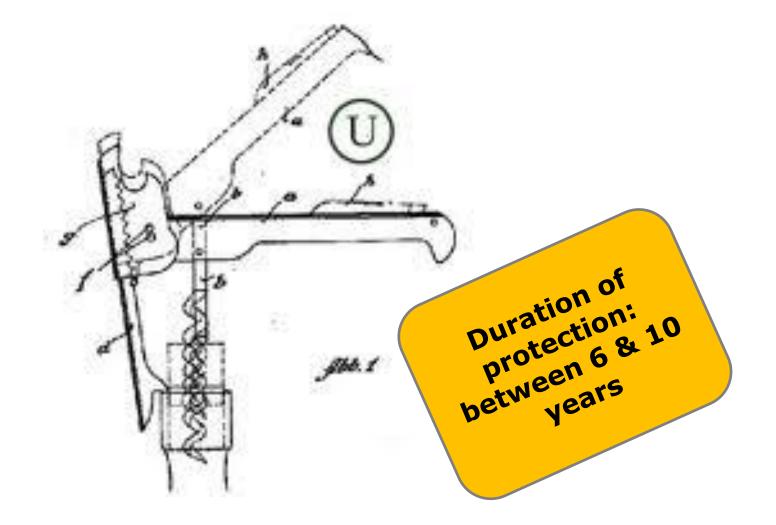
In the EU only **17 countries** provide a registration process for utility models. The latter is significantly **simpler and faster than the patent application process**, taking - on average - six months. Finally, utility models are much **cheaper** to obtain and to maintain.



Utility Models



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Industrial Designs



What is an industrial design?

It refers to the right granted to protect the **original, ornamental and non-functional** features of a product that result from design activity. The right concerns merely the appearance (the 'design') of a product, not the product itself.

What can be protected?

An industrial design may be granted in relation to the visual features of a product (i.e. shape, ornamentation, pattern, configuration, etc.). Designs that are dictated solely by the article's function are excluded from protection.

To qualify for protection the design must show:

Novelty Individual character





Industrial Designs





Design Registration



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How to register a design?

NATIONAL DESIGN

An application must be filed before your **National Intellectual Property Office** (NIPO), accompanied by any representation of the design suitable for reproduction.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

One single application, in one official language may be filed at the EUIPO in Alicante – Spain.

INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION

By filing a single international application to **WIPO in Geneva**,

you may be able to obtain design protection in several states that are members of The Hague system.



Factsheet:



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Copyright

- Does not protect the ideas themselves but only the concrete form of expression of ideas
- The creativity protected is the originality of the authored work!



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What are copyright and related rights?

Copyright protects **literary and artistic works**, such as poems, novels, music and paintings, but also cinematographic works, architectural works and many others.

Related rights are related to the protection of works of authorship under copyright. Their purpose is to protect the legal interests of certain persons and legal entities who contribute to making works available to the public such as performing artists, producers of phonograms, broadcasters, etc.

What are the rights granted?

Copyright owners can prohibit or authorise that their works be:

- copied or reproduced (e.g. printed publications or sound recordings)
- distributed to the public
- performed in public
- translated into other languages
- adapted, such as novel into screenplay...



Copyright



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Do I need to apply for copyright protection?

- No formal registration process is required
- Copyright protection arises
 automatically upon creation of the work, provided that it is original.

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What is "soft IP"?



Confidential business information



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No specific definition

The terms "Soft IP" can be used to describe the intellectual assets which are not included in industrial property or in literary and artistic works, but have an important value for organisations. Usually, this refers to know-how, trade secrets, confidential information.

Protection of Soft IP

- Is not achieved by registration
- Falls under the category of intangible rights associated with other IPR
- Free of charge
- Does not involve long or complex registration processes, BUT requires appropriate internal management







What are the costs of IP rights?



Costs of IPR

Approximately, the costs of the different IPR are as follows:

- Patent:
 - National: estimated examination and delivery between 20 € (Estonia) and 900 € (Finland)
 - *European*: estimated examination and delivery 5.600 €

(7 countries or more) (Cost reduction foreseen with unitary patent protection)

 Unitary Patent? Not yet clear. Translation costs should be much lower (only three official languages), as well as litigation cost (regulated all over europe by the European Patent court)

Trade mark:

- National: estimated examination and delivery between 11 € (Estonia) and 440 € (Italy)
- *European*: estimated examination and delivery 900
 €
- Industrial design:
 - National: estimated examination and delivery between 6.50 € (Estonia) and 430 € (Finland)
 - *European*: estimated examination and delivery 350

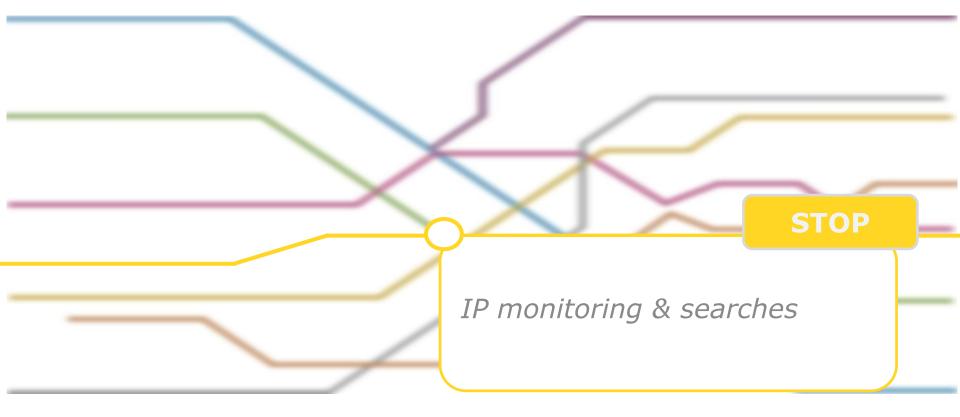


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IP Monitoring & Searches



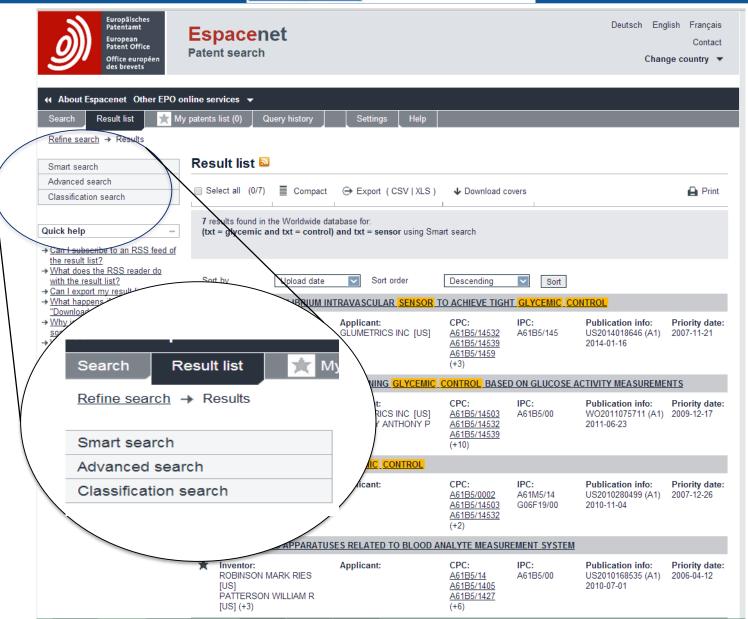
Regularly searching IP databases and other resources is important in order to:

- check novelty
- check availability of a trade mark or design
- check priority of competing products and services
- have a look at your competitors' products and services
- check expiration date of other IPRs
- carry on a market study
- make sure you do not infringe third parties' rights
- detect third parties' alleged infringements













Thank you.

We look forward to getting in touch with you!

For further questions and general IP advice, please contact our Helpline team:

service@iprhelpdesk.eu Phone +352 25 22 33-333 (Helpline) Fax + 352 25 22 33-334 (Helpline) www.iprhelpdesk.eu

For questions related to our training activities, please send us an email at: training@iprhelpdesk.eu







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