

HOW TO REGISTER A TRADE MARK AS A EUROPEAN UNION TRADE MARK

What rights does a European Union trade mark registration give you?

A European Union trade mark (EUTM) registration covers all 28 member states of the European Union*. A EUTM Registration has to be renewed every ten years. A EUTM registration gives you exclusive rights to use the trade mark in the European Union. A trade mark registration can stop another trader using a mark which is either identical or similar to the registered trade mark, in relation to goods or services which are identical or similar to the registered goods and services. In certain circumstances, a trade mark registration can stop the use of an identical or similar mark on wholly dissimilar goods.

EUTM registrations are vulnerable to revocation if the trade mark covered by the registration has not been used in any five-year period following the date of grant of the registration. A EUTM registration can be used to claim 'priority' in relation to trade mark applications filed outside the European Union, if such applications are filed within six months of the filing date of the EUTM application. This means that if a foreign trade mark application is filed within six months of the EUTM application and priority is claimed, the filing date of the foreign application will effectively become that of the EUTM application.

*Member states of the European Union:

Austria	Finland	Luxembourg	Sweden
Belgium	France	Malta	Republic of Ireland
Bulgaria	Germany	The Netherlands	Romania
Czech Republic	Greece	Poland	United Kingdom
Cyprus	Hungary	Portugal	
Croatia *	Italy	Slovak Republic	
Denmark	Latvia	Slovenia	
Estonia	Lithuania	Spain	

**Effective 1st July 2013*

What information do we require to file a European Union trade mark application?

- Full name and address of applicant;
- Country and state, if appropriate, of incorporation of the applicant;
- Details of the trade mark to be registered;
- If the trade mark consists of a logo, a good representation of the logo, preferably by e-mail in jpeg format;
- Details of the goods and services to be sold under the trade mark;
- Details of any foreign trade mark application on which priority is to be claimed, if appropriate.

EUROPEAN UNION TRADE MARK APPLICATION PROCESS (ASSUMING NO SIGNIFICANT OBJECTION)

