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EPO Fees for 2014

Fees for European patents are adjusted by the EPO every two years; this year will see the first significant increase since 2012. The EPO has published the fees that will apply from 1 April 2014. Most fees increase by around 4-5%, but there are a few exceptions. See [CA/D 14/13](#) for the information in full.

Of particular note is the new **fee structure for second and subsequent generation** divisional applications. This was mentioned in [our update](#) of October 2013. The fees are less punitive than suspected and are **NOT** likely to deter applicants given the fees already payable (application and renewal fees) on filing a divisional application late in the procedure.

Additional fee in the case of a divisional application filed in respect of any earlier application which is itself a divisional application	
fee for a divisional application of second generation	210
fee for a divisional application of third generation	420
fee for a divisional application of fourth generation	630
fee for a divisional application of fifth or any subsequent generation	840

There is also to be a 10% increase in the **fee for European or supplementary European search** (from 1165 to 1285 Euro).

Also of note, is the significant (50%) increase in the **Fee for appeal** (from 1240 to 1860 Euro). However, from the same date, there is also a revised Rule (see [CA/D 16/13](#)) that makes it possible to have 50% of an appeal fee reimbursed if the appeal is withdrawn under specific circumstances. It is likely these measures are being introduced with the intention of reducing the significant EPO appeals backlog.

The new fees shall be applicable for payments made on or after 1 April 2014, rather than on the due date of the fee. So where it is legally possible, making payment in advance of 1 April 2014, should avoid the increase.

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If you would like further advice on this or any other matter, please contact Mark Lunt at mlunt@hgf.com or your usual HGF representative or visit our [Contact Page](#) to get in touch with your nearest HGF office.

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