



## THE REGISTERED COMMUNITY DESIGN

*The protection of a novel shape or pattern as applied to a particular object*

The Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) was set up in 1994 as the official European Union (EU) Agency responsible for registering Trademarks and Designs that are valid in all 27 countries of the EU.

### Design Search

Since a Registered Community Design (RCD) acquires protection in the EU's 27 Member States, it is therefore also protected in Malta. For this reason it is recommended that before filing a new RCD application, a Search is carried out on OHIM's RCD Database by using the following internet link:

<http://oami.europa.eu/RCDOnline/RequestManager>

### Applications with the OHIM

OHIM's RCD e-Filing service (<http://oami.europa.eu/en/design/efentry.htm>) makes the online filing process easy, secure and fast. Using the RCD e-Filing you will:

- enter the registration process quickly. Some RCD applications are registered almost immediately;
- receive confirmation of your RCD number immediately;
- pay by credit card;
- be able to generate and print the official receipt;
- benefit from online checks to ensure error-free filing and secure your filing date;
- be able to store and automatically recall your contact details for subsequent applications.



*Information Supplied by the*

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