



REGISTERING YOUR TRADEMARK

The protection of a sign that distinguishes the goods and services of one entity from those of another

Search Request with the National Office

It is recommended that you make a pre-application search request to search the IPRD's national database and check if there is a similar or identical registered mark.

The search request should include:

1. the word/s you wish the search to be conducted on;
2. the device / label / logo;
3. the class or classes you wish the search to be carried out in.

If you have any doubts under which goods and services class number the trademark falls, the following links will help you to find the correct class:

UK IP Office: <http://www.patent.gov.uk/t-find-class>

OHIM: <http://oami.europa.eu/ows/rw/pages/QPLUS/databases/euroace.en.do>

Please note that class numbers 1 to 34 are for products, whilst 35 to 45 are for services.

The pre-application search request may be made either online, by email, fax or post and this service carries a fee of €11.65 per word and per class or per logo and per class. Alternatively, a search may be carried out at the office by searching the register manually for which no fees are involved.

It is also recommended to search the Community Trademark database at:

http://oami.europa.eu/CTMOnline/RequestManager/en_SearchBasic?transition=start&source=Login.html&language=en&application=CTMOnline

Filing an Application with the National Office

An application form is to be submitted to the Commerce Division's Industrial Property Registrations Directorate either online or by downloading the conventional form from:

www.ipo.gov.mt

The fee is of €116.47 per trademark per class, and this will cover a period of 10 years from the date of application.

Examination and Registration

The process for registration will take around 8 (eight) months to 1 (one) year from application date.

- This process entails the checking of correctness of the application form;
- The creating of a file and the inputting and scanning in the National Trademark Database;
- The absolute examination of the trademark with regards to the National Law;
- The relative examination of the trademark with regards the National and Community Databases.

Methods of Payment

Payment may be done either:

1. directly at the IPRD's Cash Office, room 109, by cash (exact amount), cheque or HSBC Quick Cash, VISA Card, VISA Electron, MASTER Card, MAESTRO and DINERS Card International;
2. by post - the application form together with a cheque payable to 'The Comptroller of Industrial Property';
3. online at: www.ipso.gov.mt

Public Office Hours

Winter (1st October - 15th June): 08:30 - 12:00; 13:30 – 16:00

Summer (16th June - 30th September): 08:00 - 12:00

A minimum of 30 minutes prior to the Cash Office closing time is recommended for a pre-application search.



**Information Supplied by the
Industrial Property Registrations Directorate**
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