



## Warning against misleading requests for payment

The German Patent and Trade Mark Office has been contacted by a number of applicants and holders of IP rights. The clients had received allegedly official invitations to pay from private firms for the entry of their IP titles in publications or private registers. The accompanying letters regularly convey the impression that the recipients must pay the requested amount. Frequently, the letters contain details such as the file number or the application or registration dates. Sometimes, print-outs of the official gazettes (Markenblatt, Geschmacksmusterblatt, Patentblatt) are attached.

The DPMA would like to remind all customers that the registration of or changes in relation to IP rights are published ex officio and that official fees are collected exclusively by the German Patent and Trade Mark Office, as a rule in advance. Payment forms issued by other senders should be examined carefully. The DPMA has repeatedly filed criminal charges for fraud. To our regret, it is difficult to sue these firms, since the invitations to pay are usually posted abroad and new senders tend to appear.

### IP applications:

The German Patent and Trade Mark Office points out that effective IP protection is only achieved by filing an IP application with the German Patent and Trade Mark Office or with another authority of intellectual property protection.

**Official fees** charged in connection with an IP right **in the procedure before the German Patent and Trade Mark Office** must be paid **exclusively to the account indicated by the German Patent and Trade Mark Office**.

The following companies, in particular, are unrelated to duties and services of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office:

- AGN Marken- und Unternehmens Veröffentlichung
- AGR Allgemeine Gewerbedatei e.K.
- ALCOON Deutsches Zentralregister für Marken und Patente München
- ALCOON Europäisches Zentralregister für Marken und Patente München
- Allgemeines Datenregister
- Allgemeine Gewerbeverwaltung (AGV)
- **Allgemeines Unternehmensregister (AUR) \*NEW\***
- AZIS Deutsches Zentralregister für Marken und Patente München
- AZIS Europäisches Zentralregister für Marken und Patente München
- BDAV Betriebsdaten Archiv UG
- Community Trade Marks and Designs Limited
- CPTD - Central Patent & Trademark Database
- DEPA Datenarchiv
- **DEPA Data Archives \*NEW\***



- Deutsches Zentralregister für Marken und Patente München
- DMPR - Deutsches Marken- und Patent Register
- **DPA - Deutsches Patent und Marken Register \*NEW\***
- eBR elektronisches Bundesregister
- eBR elektronische Bekanntmachung für Marken / Gebrauchsmuster / Patente
- Euro IP Register
- **Europäisches Zentralregister für Marken und Patente \*NEW\***
- **European Central Register of Brands and Patents \*NEW\***
- **European Central Registration Service \*NEW\***
- European Patent Agency (sic!)
- European Trade marks and Designs
- FIPTR Federated Institute for Patent- & Trademark Registry
- I.B.F.T.P.R. International Bureau for Federated Trademark Patent Register
- I.B.I.P. International Bureau for Intellectual Property
- IOPTS International Organization for Patent & Trademark Service Corporation
- Marken & Patent Registerverzeichnis
- **Marken- und Patentregister \*NEW\***
- **Marken- und Unternehmensveröffentlichungen \*NEW\***
- Matic-Verlagsgesellschaft mbH
- MC - Register of Trading
- MDS Marken Deutschland Servicegesellschaft
- **MGH - UnternehmensVeröffentlichung Marken - Patente \*NEW\***
- MILASTO Company S.A.
- **ODM srl. \*NEW\***
- OHMI Office for international registration
- **Patent Trademark Register \*NEW\***
- Register Community Trade marks
- Register of Commerce - Markenregisterverzeichnis
- **Register of International Patents \*NEW\***
- **RIPT s.r.o. \*NEW\***
- TM-Edition International Catalogue of Trademarks
- TM Selection - Trademark Selection GmbH
- USA TradeMark Ent., INC.
- VPM Deutsches Verzeichnis für Marken und Patente München
- WBIP World Bureau Intellectual Property
- WDTP Worldwide Database of Trademarks and Patents
- WIG-Wirtschaftszentrale für Industrie und Gewerbe AG
- WIHH-Wirtschaftsinstitut für Industrie, Handel, Handwerk AG
- WIPD World Intellectual Property Database
- W.O.I.P. Globex World Organisation Intellectual Property
- WPTI s.r.o. World Patent and Trademark Index



- **ZDV - Zentrales Datenverzeichnis \*NEW\***
- Zentrales Gewerbe Register
- ZGR Zentrale für Gewerbliche Marken-Registrierungen
- **ZGV \*NEW\***
- ZRMP Deutsches Zentralregister für Marken und Patente München
- ZUGV Zentrale für Unternehmens- und Gewerbeveröffentlichungen

### Renewals of IP rights:

IP rights can be renewed by timely direct payment of the respective renewal fee / annual fee to the account of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office. See [http://www.dpma.de/docs/service/formulare\\_eng/allgemein\\_eng/a9510\\_1.pdf](http://www.dpma.de/docs/service/formulare_eng/allgemein_eng/a9510_1.pdf) for information on the amount of the renewal fee / annual fee.

The following companies, in particular, have not been commissioned or authorized by the German Patent and Trade Mark Office:

- Deutsche Markenverlängerung AG
- DFA Deutsche Finanz Administration GmbH
- DMV-Deutsche Markenverlängerungs GmbH
- DPMV-Deutsche Patent- und Markenverlängerung GmbH
- **DMPVA UG (haftungsbeschränkt) \*NEW\***
- ECTO SA
- European Trademark Organisation S.A.
- Intellectual Property Agency Ltd.
- Nationales Markenregister AG
- **Nationales Patentregister AG \*NEW\***
- Patent & Trademark Organisation LLC
- Trademark Renewal Service Ltd.