Advantages of DPMAdirekt

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 The XML format used for electronic applications is based on an open standard. This guarantees independence from commercial software systems.
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We will be pleased to answer your questions any time and provide information on how to file IP applications.

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Questions on **DPMA**direkt

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DPMAdirekt

Online Filing of IP Applications



DPMAdirekt online filing of IP applications

DPMAdirekt allows you to file IP applications with the German Patent and Trade Mark Office (DPMA) in a legally effective way.

This option is available for:

- patent applications (German, European and PCT)
- trade mark applications
- utility model applications
- design applications
- entry into the national phase of a PCT application for the grant of a patent or for the registration of a utility model
- subsequent filing of documents relating to a patent and utility model application (DE)

This includes:

- examination request 1 and search request
- description, claims, abstract¹, drawings
- replies to office actions including attachments (amended claims, description, drawings)
- accompanying letter

The full list is available in German at www.dpma.de under Service – E-Dienstleistungen – DPMAdirekt und DPMAdirekt Web – DPMAdirekt.

- oppositions in patent procedures
- appeals in patent and trade mark procedures
- applications for determination or declaration of invalidity in design procedures
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DPMAdirekt – application process

Customer

You will be prompted to fill in clear on-screen forms for submitting the data required for the requests. The data will automatically be converted into the data format required by the DPMA. You can use any software to draw up the other application documents.

However, please convert your files into PDF or XML files so that we can process them.

In a second step, applicants can check by means of the **DPMAdirekt** software whether all required details have been included.

The **DPMAdirekt** software is available free of charge from our office.

Please send the completed and verified application to the Virtual Post Office (VPS) of the DPMA. Your application must be provided with a digital signature². The data will be encrypted before the transmission and will thus be protected from unauthorised access.

application

Upon receipt of your application, we will send you a confirmation. We will provide your application with a digital time stamp (DRN). Then it will be decrypted and checked for computer viruses. The validity of your digital signature will also be verified. Unsigned, incorrectly signed or infected files will not be accepted.

After a few minutes, you will find an acknowledgement in your electronic mailbox, specifying the filing date and the official file number. As a rule, you will not receive an additional acknowledgement by post.

German Patent and Trade Mark Office

Virtual Post Office (VPS)

We will check again whether your application is complete and correct. If the data are complete and syntactically correct, we will deposit a legally binding acknowledgement in your electronic mailbox at the VPS, specifying the filing date and the official file number.

The data will be transmitted to the units in charge of processing. Our staff will examine the contents of the application. For example, we examine whether your invention is patentable.

If your application is for a utility model or a trade mark, we check the eligibility for registration.

acknowledgement specifying the file number

- 1 only for patent applications for procedural reasons
- 2 You need a signature card for establishing a digital signature. A list of approved signature cards is available at www.bundesnetzagentur.de and at www.dpma.de (in German).