



Notices of the President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office 2020

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Notice No. 1/20**of the President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office of 14 May 2020 concerning the Guidelines for the Search under section 43 of the Patent Act (Search Guidelines)**

The Guidelines for the Search under section 43 of the Patent Act (Search Guidelines) have been revised and will take effect from 1 June 2020.

The Search Guidelines are primarily addressed to the examination sections. They were adapted on occasion of the revision of the layout of the search report (see note of 24 January 2020 on the search report for a patent application under section 43 of the Patent Act).

A free copy of the Search Guidelines (form P3611.1) can be obtained from the German Patent and Trade Mark Office or downloaded from the DPMA website under "Guidelines and notes on the patent procedure".

The President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office
Cornelia Rudloff-Schäffer

1243/1-4.3.3/2019-1

Notice No. 2/20**of the President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office of 2 October 2020 concerning the Guidelines for the Examination of Trade Mark Applications and for Keeping the Register (Richtlinie Markenmeldungen – Trade Mark Applications Guidelines)**

The Guidelines for the Examination of Trade Mark Applications and for Keeping the Register (Trade Mark Applications Guidelines) of 1 August 2018, in the version of 1 May 2019, were amended with effect from 1 September 2020.

The purpose of the Trade Mark Applications Guidelines is to ensure consistent and speedy examination of trade mark applications and register matters. The current version of the guidelines (in German) is available here on our website: "Ordinances and guidelines governing the trade mark procedure".

The President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office
Cornelia Rudloff-Schäffer

1243/1-4.3.3/2020-1

Notice No. 3/20**of the President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office of 19 October 2020 concerning the opening hours of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office from 24 December 2020 to 1 January 2021**

Opening hours of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office for the offices in Munich, Jena and Berlin – Information and Service Centre – from 24 December 2020 to 1 January 2021

The German Patent and Trade Mark Office will be closed between 24 December 2020 and 1 January 2021 (inclusive). Cash payments will not be possible during that period. The search rooms will be closed. The enquiry units will not be staffed.

Furthermore, the desk of the Document Receiving Service in the Munich office will be closed from Thursday, 24 December 2020 to Friday, 1 January 2020 (inclusive). Please note that the Document Receiving Service cannot accept business documents during that period. As an alternative, you can use the night letterboxes of the three offices in Munich, Jena and Berlin.

The DPMAdirekt services (Pro and Web) for online filing of IP applications as well as the DPMAreger service will be fully available during the closure period of the office.

The President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office
Cornelia Rudloff-Schäffer

2043 E 9 - 4.1.2

Notice No. 4/20**of the President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office of 3 September 2020 concerning the publication of the Patent Gazette (*Patentblatt*), the Trade Mark Journal (*Markenblatt*) and the Design Gazette (*Designblatt*) on the official Internet platform DPMAregister in 2021**

In 2021, in accordance with the regulations, patents and utility models, trade marks and designs will be published for the last time on 31 December 2020. Generally, publications take place on Thursdays (for patents and utility models) and on Fridays (for trade marks and designs).

If planned publication days coincide with public holidays in Bavaria, the publication days shall be brought forward by one day in each case. If the previous day is also a public holiday, the publication days shall be brought forward by another day to the previous working day.

In 2021, the following publication dates will be affected by this regulation:

- 2 April 2021 (trade marks and designs) – rescheduled to 1 April 2021
- 13 May 2021 (patents and utility models) – rescheduled to 12 May 2021
- 3 June 2021 (patents and utility models) – rescheduled to 2 June 2021

The President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office
Cornelia Rudloff-Schäffer

544 E 9 – 2.1.2

Notice No. 5/20

of the President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office of 17 November 2020 concerning the cessation of the receipt of IP applications by the Patent- und Normenzentrum in Bremen

From 1 January 2021, the

**Patent- und Normenzentrum
Hochschule Bremen
Neustadtswall 30
28199 Bremen**

will no longer be available for the purpose of receiving patent, utility model, trade mark or design applications, as announced by the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection in the Federal Law Gazette I No. 50, p. 2336, on 9 November 2020.

From 1 January 2021, it will no longer be possible for applicants to file legally effective patent, utility model, trade mark or design applications with the Patent- und Normenzentrum in Bremen.

Further information on the filing of IP applications with the authorised patent information centres in the legally permitted cases is available on the "Patent Information Centres" site in the "Cooperation" section on our website.

The President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office
Cornelia Rudloff-Schäffer

3610/14-4.3.3/2020-1

Notice No. 6/20**of the President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office of 8 December 2020 concerning the amount of provision costs for the supply of machine-readable data (weekly publications on patents and utility models, trade marks and designs in the form of data packages via DPMAconnectPlus) in 2021**

Within the scope of fulfilling its statutory duties in connection with the different types of IP rights, the German Patent and Trade Mark Office produces machine-readable data that can be supplied to third parties for setting up, developing and updating their own IP databases and other information systems and services. This requires the conclusion of a contract and the payment of the provision costs. These costs are determined on an annual basis and communicated to the public.

The costs for the provision of the weekly publications on patents and utility models, trade marks and designs in the form of data packages will be reduced from 10 euros in 2020 to 8 euros per data category and per delivery in 2021.

The President of the German Patent and Trade Mark Office
Cornelia Rudloff-Schäffer

1519/2-001 – 2.1.2