



Introduction to IP

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The different types of IP (I)

Legal right What for? How? Application and New inventions **Patents** examination Application and Utility models New inventions registration Original creative or **Exists** Copyright automatically artistic forms

The different types of IP (II)

What for? How? Legal right Distinctive identification Use and/or Trade marks of products or services registration Registered External appearance Registration designs Valuable information Reasonable efforts Trade secrets not known to the public to keep secret

One product - many IP rights

Trade marks

- NOKIA
- Product "208"
- Start-up tone

Copyright

- Software
- User manuals
- Ringtones
- Start-up tone
- Images



Patents and utility models

- Data-processing methods
- Operating system
- Operation of user interface

Designs

- Form of overall phone
- Arrangement and shape of buttons
- Position and shape of screen

Trade secrets

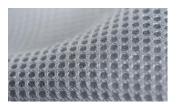
Some technical know-how kept "in-house" and not published

The importance of intellectual property (I)

- IP is an essential business asset in the knowledge economy
 - Sandvik AB: innovative high-technology tools and steel technology
 - ARM Holdings: licenses its technology to microprocessor companies
- IP protects small innovative firms
 - W. L. Gore & Associates: GORE-TEX[®]
 - Dolby Laboratories: invented noise-reduction technology



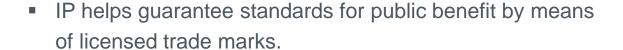






The importance of intellectual property (II)

- IP is needed to enable the release of IP into the public domain under controlled conditions.
 - General Public License (GPL): Linux
 - Creative Commons License



- Fairtrade International (FAIRTRADE)
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)





The IP System

Innovators

make significant investments in developing new products



Competitors

benefit from their efforts





Heavy pressure may drive the innovator out of business

Can offer similar or identical products at a cheaper price



Get a free ride on the back of the innovator's creativity and inventiveness



IP system

Rights over the use of inventions, designs, brands, literary and artistic works

Examples of valuable intellectual property



Coca-Cola®



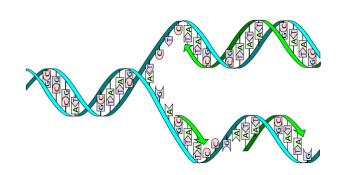
Apple® iPod touch®



Harry Potter



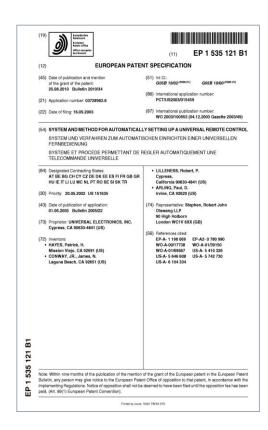
Polaroid® instant camera



DNA copying process

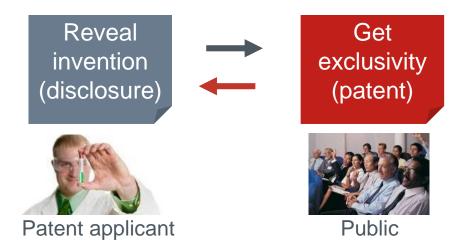
PATENTS

What is a patent?



Patents are granted in nearly every country in the world!

- A legal title which grants the holder
 - the exclusive right to prevent others from making, using or offering for sale, selling or importing a product that infringes his patent without his authorisation
 - in countries for which the patent was granted
 - for a limited time (up to 20 years).
- In return for this protection, the holder has to disclose the invention to the public.



What exactly can be patented?

Patents protect inventions which solve technical problems:

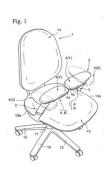
chemical substances, pharmaceuticals



processes, methods, uses



products, devices, systems





For an invention to be patented, it must usually be

- ✓ new to the world (i.e. not available to the public anywhere in the world)
- ✓ inventive (i.e. not an "obvious" solution), and
- ✓ susceptible of industrial application

In most countries, patents are not granted for business methods or rules of games as such, or for methods of treatment, diagnostics and surgery on the human or animal body.



DATABASES

What is a database?

 A database is a collection of independent works, data or other materials arranged in a systematic or methodical way and individually accessible by electronic or other means.

Scope of protection

- Directive 96/9/EC on the legal protection of databases
- Copyright protection
 - Structure
 - Originality
 - Authorship
 - Limited protection
- Sui generis protection
 - Contents
 - Investment
 - Maker
- Computer programs excluded

Rights and limitations

- Copyright
 - Restricted acts
 - Exceptions
- Sui generis right
 - 15 years
 - Prevent:
 - Extraction
 - Re-utilisation

TRADE MARKS

What is a trade mark?

- A trade mark is any sign, capable of being represented graphically, which distinguishes the goods and services of one undertaking (company or organisation) from those of another
- Many different types: word, figurative, colour, shape
- Absolute grounds for refusal
 - Distinctiveness
- Relative grounds for refusal
 - When peaceful co-existence of marks is impossible

Routes for registration

- National
- International
- EU
 - European Union Trade Mark

Scope of protection

- Exclusive right, but
 - principle of speciality
 - principle of territoriality
- Potentially perpetual (renewal every ten years)
- Risk of loss of protection if:
 - not used after five years
 - found to be invalid
- Allowed uses

DESIGNS

What is a design?

- A design is the outward appearance of the whole or parts of a product resulting from its features.
- A product is any industrial or handicraft item.
- Requirements for protection
 - Novelty
 - Individual character
- Some exclusions

Registered and unregistered design rights

- National
- International
- EU
 - registered Community design
 - unregistered Community design

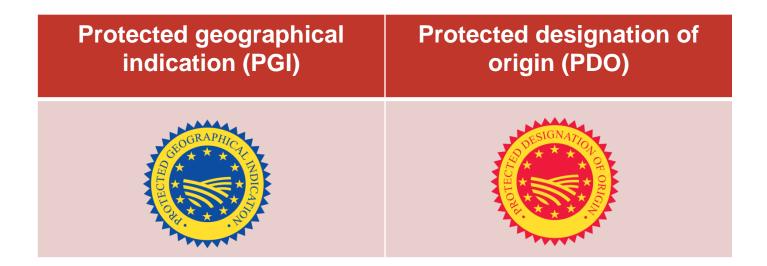
Scope of protection

- Exclusive right
- Principle of territoriality
- Duration
 - registered design rights: maximum 25 years
 - unregistered design rights: 3 years
- Allowed uses

GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS

What are geographical indications?

- Geographical indications identify a good as originating in the territory of a country or a region or locality in that territory, where a given quality, reputation or other characteristic of the good is essentially attributable to its geographical origin.
- Protection under EU legislation

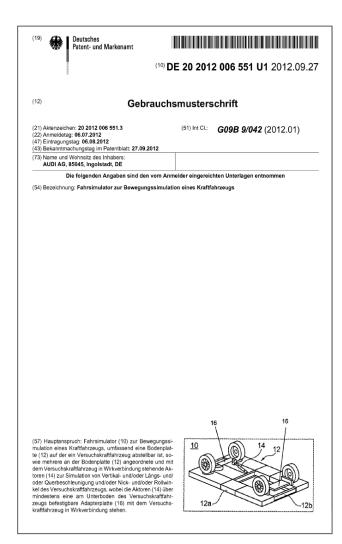


Difference between PGIs and PDOs

- Stricter conditions apply to PDOs:
 - Link between place name and product is essentially or exclusively due to the particular geographical environment.
 - All stages from production, processing and preparation are located in the defined geographical area.

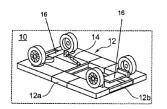
UTILITY MODELS

What is a utility model?



- A utility model grants the holder the exclusive right to prevent third parties from:
 - exploiting an invention (e.g. making, using, offering for sale)
 - without authorisation in the country where the utility model was registered for a short period (3 to 10 years).
- The holder has to disclose the invention to the public.

Reveal invention (disclosure)



Get protection (utility model)

Scope of protection compared with patents

Utility models

- Registered territorial IP right
- Available in limited number of countries
- No central filing in Europe
- Protection for 3 -10 years
- Search reports in some countries only
- Registered and published after a few months
- Generally no substantive examination (novelty, inventiveness)
- Reviewed only in revocation or infringement proceedings

Patents

- Registered territorial IP right
- Available in most countries
- Central filing possible (e.g. EPO for Europe)
- Protection for up to 20 years
- Search reports standard
- Application published after 18 months
- Substantive examination (novelty, inventive step)
- Grant or refusal after substantive examination procedure

PLANT VARIETY RIGHTS

What are plant variety rights?

- Exclusive exploitation rights for new plant varieties
- Four requirements for protection:
 - novelty
 - distinctness
 - uniformity
 - stability
- Right holder = breeder
- Obtained through registration

Scope of protection

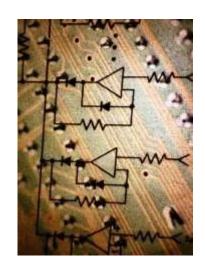
- Duration
 - At least 20 years
 - At least 25 years for varieties of vine and tree species
- Subject-matter
 - Propagating material
 - Harvested material
- Acts subject to authorisation
- Exceptions

SEMICONDUCTOR TOPOGRAPHY RIGHTS

What are semiconductor topography rights?

Semiconductor topography rights protect layout designs of integrated circuits.

- Three-dimensional components and layers and their interconnections
- Copying relatively easy
- Reverse engineering accepted practice



Substantive requirements

- Original, i.e. the result of the creator's own intellectual effort
- Not commonplace

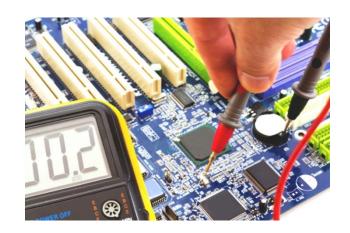
Formal requirements

TRIPS member states may prescribe:

- registration
- disclosure of electronic function
- registration fee
- commercial exploitation

Scope of protection

Rights prevent others from reproducing, selling or importing <u>part or all</u> of the protected design and of products incorporating it



Duration of protection

10-15 years from the date of creation of the layout design



Exceptions and limitations

- No infringement if for private use, research or teaching
- Reverse engineering to foster innovation
- Independent creation of an identical design
- Innocent infringement

COPYRIGHT

What is copyright?

- Copyright protects any production of the human mind, such as literary and artistic works.
 - This production must be an expression and not a mere idea.
 - The expression must be original.
- Copyright creates a special legal relationship between authors and their work.
- It confers legal protection for a limited period of time.

Scope of protection

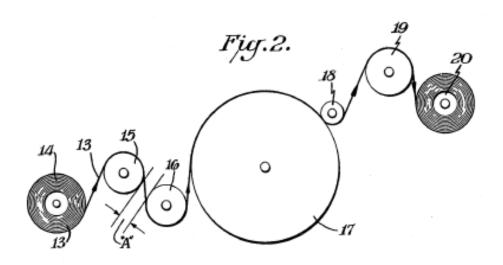
- Economic rights
 - relate to the economic exploitation of the work
 - are freely transferable or licensable
- Moral rights
 - relate to a moral interest of the author
 - are always retained by the author
- Exceptions and limitations
- Infringement and remedies

TRADE SECRETS

What are trade secrets?

- Information that
 - is not generally known or easily discovered
 - has a business, commercial or economic value (actual or potential) because the information is not generally known
 - is subject to reasonable efforts to maintain secrecy
- Unlimited life, provided the information does not become public knowledge.

Scope of protection





Images from www.coca-cola.com

Means of protection

Practical

- Limited access to information
- "Need to know"
- Encryption of data
- Monitored entry to installations

Contractual

- Restrictive covenants in employment contracts
- Non-disclosure agreements

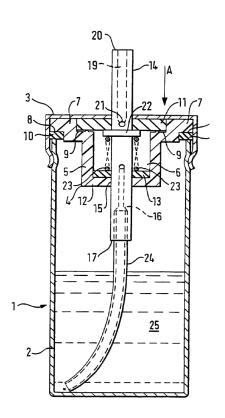
IP in the real world

A practical exercise to help you decide what IP to use and when

An anti-allergy sprayer and spray

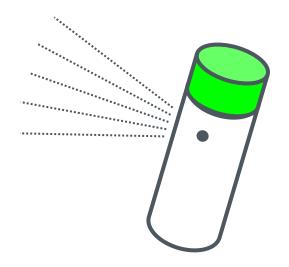


NEBU-ALLERG



Which elements can be protected?

- Medicinal product
- Nozzle
- Pumping system
- Sprayer can



- Brand name:
 - "NEBU-ALLERG"

Logo



- Slogan:"Proce groop for great
 - "Press green for go!"
- Domain name
- Advertising material

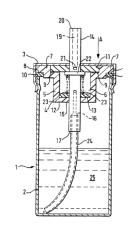
Patents and designs (I)

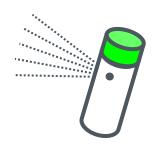
Medicinal product

Patents for

- the active ingredient?(the "chemical X")
- the method of making X?
 Better as a trade secret?
- the formulation?(combination of X with other ingredients)
- the method of use?
 (i.e. treatment of allergies using X)







Patents and designs (II)

Nozzle

- patent
- utility model

Pumping system

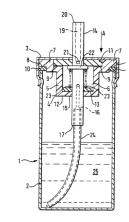
- patent
- utility model

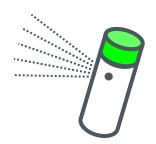


Sprayer can

- designs: registered and unregistered
- trade mark

But who owns all this IP?





Trade marks, copyright and domain names

Brand name: NEBU-ALLERG trade mark ®

Logo: trade mark ®



- Slogan: "Press green for go!" trade mark ®
- Advertising material: copyright ©

- Domain names:
 - www.nebu-allerg.com
 - www.thegreenbutton.com

Who owns all this IP?

What next?

- Patents search for free in Espacenet's
 90+ million documents
- Trade marks and designs search for free in eSearch plus
- Seek professional advice
 - Is your invention novel, inventive and patentable?
 - Do you risk infringing other people's rights?
 - Who could you license it to?
 - Who could you license from?
 - Who are your potential customers, suppliers and competitors?







