

Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs

Implementation of weekly publication of the *International Designs Bulletin*

1. The *International Designs Bulletin* (hereinafter referred to as “The Bulletin”) is the official publication of the International Register of the Hague system and is published only in electronic format on the WIPO website at: <http://www.wipo.int/hague/en/bulletin/>.
2. Currently, the Bulletin is published at the end of every month and contains any international registrations due for standard or deferred publication during that month as well as all other recordings made in the International Register during the previous month. At its meeting held from May 30 to June 1, 2011, the *ad hoc* Working Group on the Legal Development of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs recommended the modification of the publication cycle from a monthly to a weekly publication. The International Bureau then consulted the Offices of all the Contracting Parties on the suitability of a target date of January 1, 2012, for the implementation of a weekly publication of the Bulletin. All the replies received expressed support for the proposed date.
3. Consequently and after a transitional period at the beginning of 2012, the weekly publication of the Bulletin will take place every Friday, as further described below.

Timing and contents of publication, refusal period

4. Under the weekly publication cycle, the Bulletin is published every week on Friday and contains any international registration due for standard or deferred publication that week as well as all other recordings made in the International Register during the previous week. More precisely, regarding international registrations as such, their publication will take place as follows:
 - international registrations effected by Friday in a given week and in respect of which immediate publication was requested will be published in the Bulletin issued on Friday of the following week;
 - international registrations for which deferment of publication was requested will be published in the Bulletin issued on the first Friday after the expiry date of the deferment period; and
 - international registrations in respect of which neither immediate nor deferred publication was requested, will be published in the Bulletin issued six months after the date of the international registration, or as soon as possible thereafter.

5. In this context, it is recalled that, in accordance with Rule 18(1)(a) of the Common Regulations Under the 1999 Act and the 1960 Act of the Hague Agreement, the prescribed period for the notification of refusal of the effects of an international registration begins from the date of publication of the international registration.

Transitional period

6. It is recalled that the current monthly publication cycle will remain in practice until the end of 2011, meaning that the last issue of the Bulletin in 2011 (Bulletin No. 2011/12) will be published on January 31, 2012. According to standard practice associated with a monthly publication, the last recording day considered for insertion of data in that issue will be December 31, 2011, and that issue will also include any international registrations due for standard or deferred publication during January 2012, namely, international registrations with a registration date from July 1 to 31, 2011, in respect of which no immediate publication or deferment of publication was requested, as well as international registrations for which deferment of publication has been requested and with a date of expiry of the deferment period from January 1 to 30, 2012.

7. With a view to avoiding an overlap with the last issue of the Bulletin in 2011, publication of the first three weekly issues of the Bulletin in 2012, that is, issues Nos. 2012/1 to 2012/3, will be postponed. Their publication will take place on the same day as the publication of issue No. 2012/4, that is, on Friday, February 3, 2012. Consequently, the refusal period concerning the international registrations published in issues Nos. 2012/1 to 2012/4 of the Bulletin will begin from February 3, 2012.

8. As from issue No. 2012/5, to be published on Friday, February 10, 2012, the normal cycle of a single issue of the Bulletin per week will apply, and each issue will notably contain international registrations due for standard or deferred publication according to the principles indicated under paragraph 4, above.

Layout of the Bulletin

9. The move to the weekly cycle will provide the opportunity to introduce minor changes in the layout of the Bulletin, however, it will induce no change in its general structure nor its contents.

December 20, 2011