

D YOUNG & CO TRADE MARK NEWSLETTER *no. 112*

September 2020

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We are pleased to share the news that our German team has now moved to our new more spacious Munich office (Rosental 4, 80331 Munich). We wish the team well in their new "office home". We have also welcomed European Patent Attorney Jennifer O'Farrell to the partnership this month, strengthening our patent capability in the fields of immunology, molecular biology, biotechnology and biochemistry.

The Covid-19 pandemic is dramatically changing our lives but has also fostered opportunities for innovation and new ways to stay connected with our global IP community. As we reach the last few months of 2020 we look forward to participating in events and meetings that enable us to stay connected through virtual channels.

Events



06-15 October 2020

WTR Connect

Partner Richard Burton will be attending this online event that will bring together a series of digital sessions organised around major trade mark themes.

16-20 November 2020

INTA Annual & Leadership Meetings

Members of our trade mark team will be attending the November INTA Annual Meeting and Leadership Meeting, which will be held virtually this year.

www.dyoung.com/news-events

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Shape marks

Jaguar Land Rover v Ineos High Court rejects appeal to register shape marks

In *Jaguar Land Rover v Ineos Industries Holdings (Ineos)*, the High Court of England & Wales has concluded that Jaguar Land Rover's trade mark applications for the shape of certain models of its Defender range were not valid.

This case demonstrates the difficulties in obtaining trade mark protection for shapes in the United Kingdom and the issues associated with survey evidence.

Background

In 2016, Jaguar Land Rover applied for, among others, four UK trade marks, two for the shape of the Land Rover Defender 90 and two for the shape of the Land Rover Defender 110 (in each case with and without the wheel). These applications were for classes 9, 12, 14, 28 and 37.

3186701 (Series 1)



3248751 (Series 2)



3164283 (DEFENDER 90)



3158947 (DEFENDER 90 SPARE WHEEL)



3164282 (DEFENDER 110)



3158948 (DEFENDER 110 SPARE WHEEL)



Ineos opposed the applications on the basis of sections 3(1), 3(2) and 3(6) of the Trade Marks Act 1994. Ineos is a chemicals company, but is developing a 4x4 called the Grenadier, due for launch in 2021.

UK Intellectual Property Office

Before the UKIPO, the hearing officer, Allan James, held that:

- The applications lacked inherent distinctiveness pursuant to s. 3(1)(b) for goods related to motor vehicles;

- The applications had not been shown to possess acquired distinctiveness for such goods; and
- The applications had been made in bad faith in relation to vehicles other than 4x4 vehicles.

He concluded that the applications were not valid save for those goods unrelated to motor vehicles. It followed that he did not need to decide s. 3(2).

With regard to inherent distinctiveness, the hearing officer relied on *Floyd LJ's* decision in *London Taxi Corp v. Frazer-Nash Research*, namely it was for him to assess whether the applications "depart significantly from the norms and customs of the sector".

He had before him, among other things, evidence from two different design experts, adduced by Jaguar Land Rover and Ineos respectively. Jaguar Land Rover's design expert pointed to the vertical windscreen, arrow shot windows and alpine roof windows of the Defender as being particularly distinctive. Jaguar Land Rover also relied on published comments from journalists, such as Graham Hope in *Auto Express*, who said that "[t]he original Mini apart, there's arguably no other British car that is as instantly recognisable ...".

The hearing officer concluded, however: "I find that the shapes and appearance of the Defender did not depart significantly from the norms and customs of the passenger car sector ...". He went on to say that "[i]t is true that the use of 'arrow shot' rear windows and alpine side windows was unusual, if not unique, in the passenger car sector at the relevant dates. However, I find that these are minor variations from the norms and customs of the passenger car sector."

As to acquired distinctiveness the hearing officer relied on *Windsurfing Chiemsee* and *Nestle v Cadbury*, explaining that he should consider: "... the market share held by the mark; how intensive, geographically widespread and longstanding the use of the mark has been; the amount invested by the undertaking in promoting the mark; the proportion of the relevant class of

> Case details at a glance

Jurisdiction: England & Wales

Decision level: High Court

Parties: Jaguar Land Rover Ltd (appellant) and Ineos Industries Holdings Ltd (respondent)

Date: 03 August 2020

Citation: [2020] EWHC 2130 (Ch)

Decision: <https://dycip.com/jaguar-landrover-ineos>

persons who, because of the mark, identify goods as originating from a particular undertakings; the statements from Chambers of Commerce and industry and other trade and professional associations.”

Notably, Jaguar Land Rover submitted survey evidence supported by a Mr Malivoire, a renowned expert in UK trade mark surveys. Mr Malivoire concluded that 50% of those surveyed identified the shape with Land Rover. The hearing officer went behind this conclusion, however, finding that the range was in fact 20-40%. He also pointed to the relative small sales of the Defender prior to 2016 (circa. 6,000 units) and the small amount of advertising in support of it when concluding that the applications lacked acquired distinctiveness.

High Court

Jaguar Land Rover appealed to the High Court. While Jaguar Land Rover broadly accepted that the hearing officer directed himself correctly at law, it argued that some of the respective tests had been incorrectly applied or that the hearing officer had made errors in his findings of fact. Her Honour Judge Melissa Clarke heard the appeal.

HHJ Clarke found for Ineos, upholding the hearing officer's decision. The court emphasised that its role was one of review and that it should not substitute its own assessment for that of the hearing officer unless it was satisfied that there was a material error in law or his findings were wrong so as to oblige the court to substitute its own view.

Having considered Jaguar Land Rover's concerns regarding the evidence, HHJ Clarke concluded that she should not interfere with the hearing officer's assessment and that the applications were not valid.

Author:

Antony Craggs



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IP & Brexit

Your Brexit IP questions answered Our guide, checklist, presentations & webinars

Now is the time to review trade mark and design portfolios



It is the final quarter of 2020 and the end of the Brexit transition period is fast approaching. The UK's exit from the EU will have significant implications for EU trade marks, design rights and also domain names.

Now is the time to review trade mark portfolios, filing strategies, licensing and co-existence agreements and pending EU proceedings, so that the end of the transition period is as smooth as possible.



Client Brexit checklist

To help our clients navigate the course of the next few months, we have put together a Brexit checklist, available on request as a PDF or webinar, outlining steps that can be taken before 31 December 2020 and into 2021 to ensure the continued protection of IP rights.

Our Brexit checklist provides a convenient summary of action points to consider before and after 01 January 2021. Please contact your usual D Young & Co attorney to obtain your copy.



Presentations

We have prepared an update on UK, EU and German trade marks which also covers Brexit. If you would like a personalised presentation for you and your business, please do let us know.



Online Brexit resources

We have created a dedicated resource area with guides, webinars and articles covering the impact of Brexit on IP and sharing the latest updates from the UK Government: www.dyoung.com/brexit.



Webinars

We have created a series of "bite-sized" webinars that discuss Brexit implications for trade marks and designs. These are available at: www.dyoung.com/brexit.



"IP After Brexit" guide

Our guide to IP after Brexit is regularly updated and available to view on our website at: www.dyoung.com/brexit.



Your Brexit questions

Our team is available to answer your specific IP & Brexit questions by email at: brexit@dyoung.com.

EUIPO trade mark focus

A short overview on trends from 2010 to 2019

➤ Further information

The latest EUIPO report builds upon and updates the first edition of the Trade Mark Focus Report, first published in 2018.

For more information about the 2020 report see: <https://dycip.com/euiipo-focus-july2020>

In this article we summarise key points from the recently published "EUIPO Trade Mark Focus – 2010 to 2019 Evolution" report, which focuses on the successful progress of EUTMs over the last decade.

Global EUTM filing volumes and countries

Between 2010 and 2019 there were nearly 1.27 million EUTM filings. There was an exceptional growth of 63.1% when comparing the 2019 and 2010 filing volumes. The percentage of EUTMs filed via the Madrid system slightly increased from approximately 14.5% in 2010 to 17.8% in 2019.

Most EUTM filings originate from the EU, led by Germany and followed by the UK, Italy, Spain and France. However, the EU share fell over the past decade from 71.3% in 2010 to 64.7% in 2019. The three top non-EU countries filings originate from the US, China and Switzerland, representing almost 2/3 of all non-EU direct filings. Thereby, China increased its share from 1.4% in 2010 to 9.5% in 2019 and filings have grown by 1,027.9% compared to 2010.

Global direct EUTM filing applicants

The top 10 direct EUTM filers come from large multinational enterprises and market leaders in their respective sectors (LG Electronics, L'Oréal, Novartis, Samsung, Huawei, Dracco Brands, GSK, P&G, Johnson & Johnson, Novamatic). However, the top 10 filers collectively only represent 1.3% of overall EUTM applications, which were filed by over 497,000 different applicants.

Global direct EUTM filing classes

Direct EUTM filings between 2010 and 2019 included over 3.4 million associated classes of the Nice Classification, headed by class 9 (electrical apparatus; computers) and followed by class 35 (advertising; business management) and class 42 (scientific & technological services), the three of which representing slightly over 25% of the total classes filed.

Examination of EUTM filings

The average deficiency rate was at almost 35%, of which the vast majority (46%) related to classification of goods and services.

Refusal of EUTM filings (absolute grounds)

In the past decade, more than 52,000 absolute grounds refusals were issued. The majority (54.9%) of such refusals concerned trade marks devoid of any distinctive character, followed by an additional 41.8% of trade marks refused due to descriptiveness. The vast majority of the absolute grounds refusals were accepted by the applicants as on average only 14.4% of the refusals were appealed. Interestingly, the appeal rate fell from almost 16% in 2010 to less than 12% in 2019.

Publication of EUTM filings

Between 2010 to 2019 approximately nine out of ten EUTM applications were published (that is, not withdrawn or refused due to deficiencies). The average time from EUTM filing to publication (regular track) was reduced by 78.5% from on average 37 working days in 2010 to on average eight working days in 2019. Fast track filings were introduced in 2014 and are published on average in less than seven working days.

EUTM registration: timeliness

During the last decade, more than 1.13 million EUTMs were registered. The EUIPO improved its timeliness for direct filings by 22.1%. The average time of a direct EUTM from filing to registration decreased from six months in 2010 to 4.7 months in 2019 (in cases of no deficiencies or oppositions). For IR marks designating the EU, the corresponding time period decreased from more than ten months in 2010 to approximately seven months in 2019.

Global direct EUTM registration owners

These are for the most part identical with the list of top 10 applicants, including nine of the ten top 10 EUTM applicants (LG Electronics, L'Oréal, Novartis, Samsung, GSK, Huawei, Johnson & Johnson, P&G, Novamatic, Nestlé). Of these top ten, which represent 1.3% of overall EUTM registrations from the past decade, enterprises based in Europe account for 49.2%, while Asian companies file 38% and North American firms the remaining 12.9%.

EUTM opposition proceedings

More than 176,000 oppositions were filed during the period of 2010 and 2019. While the number

of oppositions per year remains relatively stable, the opposition rate per application decreased from 14.3% in 2010 to 10.7% in 2019 due to the higher growth in absolute filing figures.

Interestingly, 63% of all the oppositions in the past decade were resolved during the "cooling-off" period. If a decision was taken, on average about 35% of the oppositions were totally rejected, about 35% were partly upheld and approximately 30% were successful leading to a total refusal of the application. On average, in 2019 a decision was taken faster in approximately 19.3 months compared to approximately 23.1 months in 2010.

English is the predominant language of the proceedings (increasing from 78.5% in 2010 to 83.7% in 2019) followed by German (7.9% in 2019) and Spanish (4.0% in 2019). Most oppositions were filed by parties from Germany (25.5%), followed by Spain, the US, the UK and France.

EUTM cancellation proceedings

More than 16,000 cancellation actions were filed during the period of 2010 and 2019 with an annual growth rate of 10.1%. However, the cancellation rate remained stable in the past decade. More than 40% of all cancellation motions were withdrawn, while approximately 1/4 of all decisions confirm a full cancellation and only approximately one in ten cancellation motions is rejected. On average, in 2019 a decision was taken faster in approximately 14.7 months compared to approximately 18.3 months in 2010. English is the predominant language of the proceedings (on average 74.8% in the past decade) followed by German (14.8% in 2019) and Spanish (3.8% in 2019).

EUTM renewals

In the past decade, over 353,000 EUTM registrations were renewed. On average, more than 50% of the EUTMs were renewed (for the first or second time).

EUTMs in force

As of 01 January 2020, there were over 1.6 million EUTMs in force.

Author:

Jana Bogatz



First Grade International v KO-CO Foods

Indirect confusion for KO-CO at the UKIPO

➤ Case details at a glance

Jurisdiction: United Kingdom

Decision level: UKIPO

Parties: KO-CO Foods Ltd (the applicant) and
First Grade International Limited (the opponent)

Date: 15 July 2020

Citation: O-353-20

Decision (PDF): <https://dycip.com/ko-co>

In this case, the UKIPO held that there was no likelihood of **direct** confusion between the figurative KO-CO application and the earlier koko and KOKO DESIRE marks, but that there was a likelihood of **indirect** confusion.

Background

The applicant, KO-CO Foods Ltd, applied to register KO-CO as a figurative mark, with a small image of a palm tree in the second "O" of KO-CO (as shown below), for various chocolate, cocoa and confectionery goods in class 30.

The application was opposed by First Grade International Limited on the basis of a likelihood of confusion with its earlier UK trade mark registrations for koko, including the figurative koko marks which feature palm trees over the first letter "o" in koko (as below left) and a palm tree over part of the "k" and second "o" in koko (as shown below right) and the word mark KOKO DESIRE – the opponent's marks cover classes 29 and 30, in particular coconut-based goods, puddings and desserts.

The evidence

The opponent filed evidence of use to support a claim that its marks had an enhanced distinctive character, whilst the applicant submitted evidence to support its defence that there was no likelihood of confusion. Proof of use was not an issue in this case, which was decided on the basis of written submissions and no hearing.

In analysing the evidence, the UKIPO noted that a number of arguments put forward by the applicant in relation to its evidence were irrelevant. In particular:

1. The circumstances in which goods

are marketed should not be taken into account for the purposes of a likelihood of confusion. The applicant had submitted evidence to argue that the packaging and colours used by the parties were different, however the UKIPO confirmed that the comparison should be on the basis of notional and fair use.

2. The applicant's survey evidence was not relevant as the question posed in the survey had asked whether two products were from the same company, however the images shown had featured the respective packaging, which were not part of the trade marks to be compared. In addition, the products included in the survey had been only a subset of those relevant to the proceedings.
3. "State-of-the-register" evidence of "similar" trade marks reaching registration was not relevant in the absence of further evidence that such marks were in use, and confirmation on whether there were existing commercial arrangements which could enable trade marks to coexist.
4. Lack of actual confusion was not relevant, as the reason for an absence of confusion could be that a mark has only been used in a limited way or that its manner of use would not provoke confusion.

In addition, the opponent's evidence of use was not relevant to the outcome of the case as it did not support use of the goods found to be identical or similar to those under the application.

Likelihood of confusion – direct or indirect?

"Dessert products" and "confectionery" covered by the opponent's class 30 specification were considered broad terms that encompassed the chocolate, cocoa and confectionery goods applied for; and were also considered similar to the applicant's cocoa-based ingredients for confectionery products.

The koko and KO-CO figurative marks were held to be: phonetically identical; conceptually identical or highly similar,

with the palm trees evoking the concept of coconuts or cocoa; and visually similar to a "fairly high" degree. The visual comparison noted that the marks differed in their capitalisation but that both marks begin "KO", end in "O" and contain palm trees. The location of the palm trees was not decisive as the word elements koko and KO-CO contained the majority of the marks' distinctive character. There was also a medium level of similarity when comparing the applicant's mark with KOKO DESIRE.

In assessing the overall likelihood of confusion, the average consumer was taken to be the general public, with a low level of attention given the in-expensive nature of the goods; and it was also noted that consumers are likely to rely on visual cues when selecting goods in store or online, with phonetics playing a role, for example through spoken requests to sales assistants and word-of-mouth recommendations.

Overall, the UKIPO held that consumers would **not** mistake the marks for each other due to the differences in spelling and configuration of the marks, noting the importance of visuals in the purchasing process, and therefore there was **no likelihood of direct confusion**.

However, whilst consumers may notice that the marks contain differences, given the overlap in the prefix "KO" and suffix "O", and noting that both marks contain palm trees, it was held that consumers with their fairly low level of attention may think that the applicant's mark is another brand of or a brand linked to the opponent, such that there was a **likelihood of indirect confusion**.

The opposition was therefore successful and the application will be refused (subject to any appeal).

This case distinguishes between a likelihood of direct and indirect confusion, and highlights that not all evidence submitted into proceedings has probative value.

Author:

Jennifer Heath

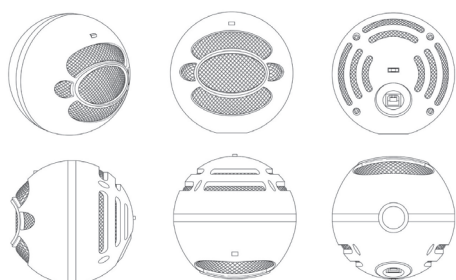


Logitech's 3D shape mark EUIPO drops the mic

➤ **Case details at a glance**
Jurisdiction: European Union
Decision level: Board of Appeal
Parties: Logitech Europe SA
Date: 03 July 2020
Citation: R2630/2019-4
Decision (PDF): <https://dycip.com/3d-logitech>

In case R 2630/2019-4, the Fourth Board of Appeal of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) dismissed Logitech's appeal against the refusal to register its 3D mark for the shape of a microphone. The Board of Appeal agreed with the examiner's assessment that the mark lacked distinctive character under article 7(1)(b) of the European Union Trade Mark Regulation.

In January 2019, Logitech applied to register the three-dimensional mark shown below, which shows the external appearance of the relevant goods, namely microphones in class 9.



In September 2019, the examiner refused Logitech's application in its entirety on the basis that the mark consisted of a combination of presentational features typical of the shape or appearance of a spherical microphone head with visible parts for the light which signals the on/off status, grids (the elliptical shapes depicted in the first and second images shown above), connector socket and the part for attaching or fastening it to the holder. The sign was not considered to be markedly different from the basic shapes commonly used for the goods at issue but a mere variation. As such, the relevant public would not perceive the sign as a trade mark because it did not constitute a significant departure from the norms and customs of the sector.

Logitech filed an appeal against the decision, arguing that the ball shape of the microphone and grid are not common or typical, and that the examiner had erroneously assessed the evidence presented.

The EUIPO disagreed and did not overturn examiner's decision.

It was noted that, in the absence of any graphic or word elements, consumers are not used to making assumptions about the origin of products based on their shape or the shape of their packaging. As such, it can be more difficult to establish distinctive character in relation to 3D marks as opposed to word and figurative marks.

The Board of Appeal pointed out that the essential function of a trade mark is to designate commercial origin, whereas the main features of Logitech's mark were dictated by function.

With regard to the goods in question, the EUIPO observed that microphones target both general customers as well as professionals displaying a high level of attention.

Reviewing the ball shape of the microphone, the Board of Appeal pointed out that rounded microphone heads are a classic shape within the sector and that a trend for rounded microphone heads was repeated throughout the appellant's evidence. The rounded shape was also primarily considered a functional rather than aesthetic necessity, serving as a receptacle for mechanical and electrical components.

The grid shape and the mesh grille also lacked distinctive character. The Board of Appeal disagreed with Logitech's argument that the four connected elliptical shapes of the sign constitute a figurative element with additional distinctive character. The Board of Appeal noted that these merely represent the borders surrounding the mesh grille (a general characteristic of all microphones) and that the elliptical aspect of the mark represented a particular grid type, not a label, name or figurative element. The grid shape was also considered to be dictated

by function – it is influenced by the spherical shape of the microphone head and the configuration of protective casing relative to the mesh or membrane, which permits the entry of sound for amplification purposes.

Logitech's further argument that the examiner did not give due consideration to a previously accepted registration, namely European Union Trade Mark no. 004348348 owned by Shure Acquisition Holdings Inc (shown below) also failed.



The prior registration relied on features a visible logo and as such was not genuinely comparable to Logitech's application.

With the appeal dismissed in its entirety, an examination of Logitech's subsidiary claim that the mark has acquired distinctiveness through use has now been remitted for further prosecution.

Author:
Agnieszka Stephenson



In short

This decision serves as a reminder that shape marks can be problematic to obtain before the EUIPO, particularly where the shape in question is functional. As such, in certain circumstances, applicants may be better placed to include non-functional decorative features to a product and educate the public via strategic advertising campaigns to associate those features of the product with the brand as part of its trade mark strategy.

Invalidity proceedings (In)Divisibility of the grounds of invalidity and the need for reasoned statement

Case details at a glance

Jurisdiction: European Union

Decision level: General Court

Parties: L. Oliva Torras SA v European

Union Intellectual Property Office

Date: 10 June 2020

Citation: T-100/19

Decision: <https://dycip.com/t-100-19>

Does Art. 25(1)(b) of the Community Design Regulation (CDR) require the EUIPO to assess whether all requirements under Art. 4-9 CDR are met? If the answer is no, when is there a need for a reasoned statement?

The General Court decision in Case T-100/19 – among other points of law – focussed on these two questions, answering the first question in the negative. Thereby, the General Court explicitly stated that the scope of the invalidity action would be determined by the arguments, facts and evidence adduced by the parties.

With regard to the second question, the General Court used the opportunity to confirm previous rulings, but agreed with the applicant that in the circumstances of the present case, the Board of Appeal erroneously failed to provide reasoning as to why Art. 4(2)(b) CDR applies.

Background

Both parties are Spanish companies offering vehicle components. Frio S.L. owns a registered Community design (RCD) for “machine coupling”. L.Oliva Torras attacked the validity of the design on the grounds of Art. 25(1)(b) CDR, which states: “1. A Community design may be declared invalid only in the following cases: (b) if it does not fulfil the requirements of Articles 4 to 9”.

In particular, L.Oliva Torras argued that the Frio S.L.’s machine coupling design would:

1. lack novelty (Art. 5 CDR) and individual character (Art. 6 CDR); and
2. be applied to or incorporated in a complex product and could not remain visible during normal use by the end user (Art. 4(2)(b) CDR), arguing that since the component would be installed between the engine and the cooling system of the vehicle and the hood of the vehicle would be closed, the component shown in the design would not be visible to the end user, namely the driver of vehicle itself.

At first instance, the invalidity division found the design to be valid.

Board of Appeal decision

This was subsequently confirmed by the Board of Appeal. In its decision the Board of Appeal provided reasoning why the design would be novel and have individual character.

However, the Board of Appeal failed to give any reasoning as to why the design would meet the requirements of Art. 4(2)(b) CDR; albeit having explicitly requested the parties to comment on this issue.

The General Court’s decision

L.Oliva Torras filed an appeal with the General Court *inter alia* arguing that the ground for invalidity under Art. 25(1)(b) CDR would warrant an assessment of whether all requirements set out under Art. 4-9 CDR are met. Furthermore, L.Oliva Torras claimed that the Board of Appeal decision did not provide for the necessary reasoning with regard to Art. 4(2)(b) CDR.

Is the ground of invalidity under Art. 25(1)(b) CDR divisible?

In short, the General Court held that while Art. 25(1)(b) CDR generally requires that all requirements under Art. 4-9 CDR are met, the scope of the invalidity action would be determined by the arguments, facts and evidence adduced by the parties in the invalidity proceedings. In light of that, the EUIPO is under no obligation to assess grounds of invalidity that have not been explicitly asserted and substantiated by the invalidity applicant. This confirms the EUIPO’s approach to this as reflected in the guidelines.

Was there a need for a reasoned statement?

However, where this has been done, there would also be a need for a reasoned statement if the action was to be dismissed. Given that the parties had been explicitly requested to comment on Art. 4(2)(b) CDR (and had done so), the General Court concurred that the Board of Appeal had an obligation to assess the invalidity of the design consisting of hidden components in complex products. Since the Board of Appeal failed to do so, the General Court annulled the contested decision for lack of reasoned statement.

What to take away from this?

It remains to be seen if the Court of Justice will confirm this view.

For the time being, in order to ensure that the EUIPO (and subsequent instances) assesses the validity of a design with regard to all potential validity requirements, the invalidity applicant should submit all potentially relevant arguments, facts and evidence and explicitly assert which validity requirements are not met.

Otherwise, a new application for invalidity will have to be filed in order to assert an additional ground(s) not contained in the initial application.

Author:

Yvonne Stone



In short

The invalidity applicant should make sure to put forth all potentially relevant arguments, facts and evidence when attacking a design and specifically refer to each requirement that they believe is not met.

Related article

In a welcome announcement, the EUIPO has confirmed that with effect from 12 September 2020, the EUIPO is in a position to retrieve priority documents from the WIPO DAS scheme to support a priority claim in an EU registered design application.

Read more online at:

<https://dycip.com/wipodas-euiipo>.

D YOUNG & CO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

And finally...

D Young & Co news

Our new Munich office Rosental 4, 80331 Munich

Our new Munich office is located at Rosental 4, 80331 Munich, Germany



In response to the flourishing of our Munich-based IP team, we are delighted to announce the team have moved to more spacious office premises. In the heart of Munich.

Our new office is situated on Rosental, between Rindermarkt and Viktualienmarkt. Due to the proximity of Marienplatz and Sendlinger Tor we will enjoy excellent transport connections and will be within easy walking distance of the European Patent Office and German Patent and Trademark Office as well as a variety of banks, hotels and restaurants.

Neil Nachshen, D Young & Co Chairperson, comments: "This is an exciting new era for the firm as we strengthen our roots in Munich and invest in the further

expansion of our German team. Since we first opened an office in Munich in early 2016 our clients have benefited from the expertise of our growing team working seamlessly with our UK offices, at a local, European and global level. We very much look forward to welcoming clients to our new work space in central Munich."

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