Use of Registered Trade Marks in Specifications of Goods and Services
(Circular No. 38/2007, dated 14 November 2007)

Registered trade marks which are ordinary dictionary words are allowed to be used in specifications of goods and services as a descriptor. This practice is consistent with our previous journal notice on the use of the term, “Internet”, which has become generic. However, words which are invented and have been registered as trade marks will not be acceptable in specifications of goods and services. Instead, applicants should use ordinary English words to describe their goods and services. For example, a specification of goods which reads "bluetooth-enabled devices for communications, namely telephones, handsets, headsets, speakers, microphones and earphones” should be amended to “devices for communications which are enabled by short range radio technology, namely telephones, handsets, headsets, speakers, microphones and earphones”.