

## **Feedback on the Trade Marks Work Manual Chapters dealing with Collective, Certification and Series of Marks**

(Circular No. 8/2014, dated 9 May 2014)

### **Introduction**

The Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) seeks feedback on the new chapters of Trade Marks Work Manual – namely collective and certification marks, as well as proposed updates to the current chapter on series of marks.

### **New Chapters of the Work Manual on Collective and Certification Marks, and Updated Chapter on Series of Marks**

As part of IPOS' ongoing effort to provide greater clarity to applicants in relation to the submission and examination requirements of collective and certification marks, new chapters have been introduced to the [Trade Marks Work Manual](#) covering the said topics. The added chapters will explain what collective and certification marks are, how they differ from “ordinary” trade marks, and how they would be examined and processed at the Registry of Trade Marks. In addition, the guidelines for structure and content of regulations governing collective and certification marks are also drawn up to assist applicants in preparing the regulations.

Further, in providing greater certainty in examination decisions relating to applications for series of trade marks, the Registry has reviewed and brought the relevant chapter in the Trade Marks Work Manual up to date with references to our current trade mark examination practices.

The key amendments are made to the following areas:

- (a) Assessment of a series of trade marks
- (b) Misspellings in a series of trade marks
- (c) Differences in backgrounds
- (d) Positioning of Chinese characters
- (e) When a black and white mark is deemed to be dissimilar from the same mark in colours

## **Feedback**

IPOS invites interested parties to provide feedback on the proposed new and updated chapters of the Trade Marks Work Manual by 6 June 2014.

The feedback may be sent via email or hardcopy to the following:

Registry of Trade Marks  
Intellectual Property Office of Singapore  
51 Bras Basah Road #01-01, Manulife Centre  
Singapore 189554

Email: [kathryn\\_tham@ipos.gov.sg](mailto:kathryn_tham@ipos.gov.sg)