

Revised Fees, Implementation of Goods and Services Tax and Change in Procedure for Amendment and Correction of Patents documents with effect from 1 April 2017

(Circular No. 1/2017, dated 3 Feb 2017)

As part of IPOS' commitment to encourage innovation and creativity in our Singapore IP landscape, the Registries will be introducing a series of fee revisions and new initiative with effect from 1 April 2017. A summary of the fee revisions is available in [Annex A](#).

Lower Filing Fees for Patents and Trade Mark Protection

Businesses can look forward to lower IP filing fees for patents and trade marks, effective 1 April 2017. This is in line with the nation's commitment to support and promote domestic innovation. Highlights of the fee revisions include:

- **Patents:** A 14% fee reduction to request for a search report / supplementary search report [from \$1,925 to \$1,650]
- **Patents:** A 25% fee reduction to request for a search & examination report [from \$2,600 to \$1,950] and a further \$300 discount on the fee to request for a search & examination report if a report under the Patent Co-operation Treaty has been established by IPOS for patent applications entering national phase into Singapore
- **Trade Mark National Applications:** A 30% discount per class for trade mark applications that utilise our pre-approved descriptions of goods and/or services [from \$341 to \$240]
- **Madrid International Registrations and Transformation:** A fee reduction for Madrid application and transformation to align with national electronic filing fee
- **All:** Fee removal for requests to appoint, change or remove an agent for a matter relating to an IP (Form CM1) and requests to alter or correct name, address and other particulars (Form CM2).

Other Fee Changes

A new two-stage excess claim fee structure (i.e., \$40 per claim in excess of 20 claims) will be introduced to streamline IPOS' patent application process, given that a patent application in Singapore has an average of 18 claims. The new excess claim fee structure serves to encourage applicants to take conscious effort to file concise claim sets which would lead to time and cost savings in the application process.

To encourage the release of non-performing IPs and discourage hoarding of IP, fees for surrendering or cancelling IPs have been removed. Renewal fees for both patents

and trade marks have also been adjusted upward. Businesses that take advantage of these changes and manage their IP portfolios strategically may enjoy savings, which could be used to further other business objectives.

All fee revisions will be effective for applications/requests made on or after 1 April 2017.

Implementation of Goods and Services Tax ("GST")

Effective 1 April 2017, IPOS will be GST-registered in accordance with Singapore's Goods & Services Tax Act. All invoices issued on or after 1 April 2017 will be subjected to GST, where applicable, and all published fees will be inclusive of GST. There is no change to the actual fees chargeable for filing at IPOS.

Change in Procedure for Amendment and Correction of Patents documents

With effect from 1 April 2017, an applicant will be required to submit a clean copy of the specification incorporating the amendment or correction sought when submitting a request for amendment or correction through IP²SG. This will reduce clarification and correction arising from inaccurate indication of the amendment or correction sought. Please note that a copy of the specification with the amendment or correction indicated (by striking through any deletion and underlining any replacement text) should still be submitted for reference purpose.