

Finalizing the Unitary Patent Package Challenges and Ways Forward



Wednesday 8th February 2017

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre,
Brussels



Finalizing the Unitary Patent Package

Challenges and Ways Forward

Overview

Intellectual property and its protection have become vital for industry and individuals in our increasingly knowledge-based culture, reflecting a country's innovative activity and performance. In 2015 the European Patent has been applied for 160,022 times, an increase of 4.8% compared to the preceding year, with the top applicants coming from the manufacturing industry.

By granting the patent owner to decide on whether or how the invention can be used by others, patents guarantee protection for innovations. Thus far they can be issued either in the form of a national patent or a European Patent, requiring a separate registration in individual EU countries. In order to simplify the process by granting supranational protection and making it less costly as well as legally more secure, the European Union has long sought to introduce a single European patent and a single court for litigations of European patents.

Practitioners are sceptical about the effectiveness of the EPUE package and its effectiveness as a cost-saving initiative. Also, with the recent Brexit vote, additional straits are adding up, making the future of the Unitary Patent unclear.

This timely Symposium will offer an opportunity to inform and find out more about the current developments and challenges regarding the Unitary Patent and the Unitary Patent Court. The conference will evaluate advantages and disadvantages, build strategies for businesses on how to proceed and support the exchange of information and best practices with experts, practitioners and policymakers at EU level.

“ Removing bureaucratic obstacles, extra costs and the legal uncertainty of having 28 different and often contradictory systems makes the single market more attractive. This is a very good example of how justice policies can stimulate growth.”

Former Vice-President Viviane Reding, the EU's Justice Commissioner

Venue and Accommodation

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre
Avenue du Boulevard 17,
1210 Brussels
Belgium



Why Attend?

- ✓ Identify the latest developments regarding UP & UPC
- ✓ Qualify various issues, opportunities and challenges regarding UP
- ✓ Prepare for any eventuality and develop a successful transition strategy
- ✓ Analyse ways forward and challenges for the industry in Europe
- ✓ Examine practical issues such as the recruitment of judges, court procedures, fees and logistics
- ✓ Find out more about methods to prevent UPC bifurcation, infringement and revocation
- ✓ Develop strategies for protection and new portfolio creation under the new system
- ✓ Discuss the potential impact of the Brexit vote on the future of the EPUE package

Who Should Attend?

- Legal Advisers
- Chief Intellectuals
- Property Officers
- Heads of Patents
- Heads of IP
- IP Managers
- Patent Attorneys
- Local and Regional Government Departments and Bodies
- Small Business Federations
- Chambers of Commerce
- Local Authorities
- Training Managers
- Judges and Lawyers
- Project Managers
- Authors
- Executive Directors
- IP Law Experts
- National Governmental Organisations
- Regulatory Bodies
- International Organisations
- Academics, Researchers and Analysts

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Programme

- 09:30** Registration and Morning Refreshments
- 10:15** Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks
- 10:30** **Panel Session One: Encouraging Unifying Progress: The Unitary Patent & The Unitary Patent Court**
- The Unitary Patent and Unitary Patent Court: Ways Forward to Simplify the European Patent Process
 - Defining the Current State of Progress and the Expected Introduction of the UP & UPC.
 - Discussing the Latest Updates from the EPO Select Committee and UPC Preparatory Committee
 - Defining the Impact of the UPC and Developing Methods on How to Achieve a Consistency between the UPC Divisions
 - Exploring Practical Issues: Talking about the Recruitment of Judges, Court Procedures, Fees and Logistics
 - The Language Question : Between Translation Arrangements and Discrimination
- 11:15** Morning Coffee Break
- 11:30** **Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One**
- 12:30** Networking Lunch
- 13:30** **Panel Session Two: Finalizing the UP & UPC: Challenges and Open Future Questions**
- The Brexit Vote and How it Will Influence the UP & UPC
 - How to benefit from the Unitary Patent as a Business?
 - UPC : Finding Methods to Prevent Bifurcation, Infringement and Revocation
 - Finding out more about Interim Measures and the Transitional Period: Opting in or Opting out?
 - Implications Arising from the Non Participation of Spain and Croatia and the EPC Contracting States
 - Finding Strategies for Protection and New Portfolio Creation under the New System
- 14:15** Afternoon Coffee Break
- 14:30** **Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two**
- 15:30** Chair's Summary and Closing Comments

Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice

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Event Details

Date: Wednesday 8th February 2017
Time: 10:00am – 4:30pm
Venue: Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Brussels



Speakers Include:


- ✓ **Willem A. Hoyng**, Partner, HOYNG ROKH MONEGIER
- ✓ **Pierre Véron**, Lawyer, Member of the Paris Bar, Véron & Associés
- ✓ **Prof. Dr. Winfried Tilmann**, Of Counsel, Hogan Lovells, Düsseldorf
- ✓ **Darren Smyth**, Partner, Patent and Design Attorney, London, EIP Europe LLP, Author for The IPKat & IP Alchemist, Member of the Editorial team for the Journal of Intellectual Property Law & Practice
- ✓ **Katalin Lubóczy**, Member, UPC Preparatory Committee, Attaché for Intellectual Property, Audiovisual Policy and Consumer Protection, Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EU
- ✓ **Frank Van Coppennolle**, Head of High-Tech Patent Team, Gevers, European Intellectual Property Architects
- ✓ **Xavier Seuba**, Senior Lecturer and Researcher - Academic Coordinator and Judicial Training Manager, CEIPI
- ✓ **Amandine Leonard**, PhD Candidate - VLAIO Scholarship, Centre for IT & IP Law, KU Leuven

Forthcoming Events

- ✓ Occupational Safety and Health: Striving for Happy and Healthy European Workplaces 23rd February 2017
- ✓ The Future of Mobile Health in Europe: Empowering Citizens Through Technologically Integrated Healthcare 28th February 2017
- ✓ Cultural and Creative Industries in Europe: Maximising the Contribution of Culture towards Social and Economic Development 21st March 2017
- ✓ Ending Gender-Based Violence in Europe: Implementing Strategies for Protection and Prevention 29th March 2017

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