

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC BOTSWANA



Searching for Brands Using the **WIPO Global Brand Database** 

at the

WIPO Workshop on the Development of the Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) Network from 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018 at BIH, Gaborone Botswana.

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# What is the Global Brand Data Base?

- The Global Brand Database is your gateway to more than 28,540,000 records from 35 national and international collection of registered TMs
- Its the first step in researching whether a mark similar or identical to yours already exists
- It is a free public resource developed by WIPO for searching trademark and other brand information such as domain name
- Search the Global Brand Database before filing a trademark application, or to simply browse marks in markets that interest you.
- It has five different types of searchable fields which are divided into separate tabs for convenience.
- Specific information and hints are available for each individual tab: Brand, Names, Numbers, Dates, Class and Country.
- It can be used to search an image for visual similarity of brands

## What is the Global Brand Data Base?.....

### Features

- Perform a trademark search by text or image in brand data from multiple national and international sources, including trademarks, appellations of origin and official emblems.
- Easily search multiple brand-related data sources and receive instant feedback, letting you explore the brand landscape in a new and powerful way.
- It is fast and flexible, interactive and dynamic with immediate feed back
- 'Fuzzy'- is able to deal with uncertain or incomplete information AND SO can perform phonetic and word matches
- Can search US and Vienna image classifications by description
- Customisable search results and can analyse data

## Global Brand database.....

- It has a wealth of data from Madrid Trademark registrations (administered by WIPO), Lisbon Appellations of origin, Article 6ter emblems, national trademarks from countries that have decided to join the GDB e.g Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Papua New Guinea, Korea, Israel, Indonesia, Switzerland....
- Botswana became a member of the Madrid Protocol from 5<sup>th</sup> December 2006 and therefore trademarks registered by CIPA may soon be part of GBD particularly those that have registered under the Madrid protocol.
- Although the Global Brand Database covers a number of large trademark collections, it may be prudent to also search the registers of national/regional IP Offices. You may also consult a trademark attorney.

# Why Search a TM Using Global Brand Data Base?

- The Global Brand Data Base is useful to entrepreneurs and businesses
- Brand land scape as an entrepreneur you are interested in knowing what brands are in the market that you are interested in selling your goods or services
- Details about brands the search will show you information on similar brand images or names and the classes of goods for which it is applied.
- This can help you decide on whether to use it in a particular market or to change your proposal depending on what you find in the data base
- The search may assist a new entrepreneur to know what a trademark looks like, how it represents goods in the market
- The search will assist professionals in advising their clients on the proposed brand, name or symbol
- Local enterprises can expand their business and benefit from exporting to other countries with full knowledge of the marks registered in the export market.
- It will help in taking strategic decisions about business while majority in this room may be scientists, the question is why invent if not for the market?

### How to access the GBD

### www.wipo.int/branddb

### www.wipo.int



## The Global Brand Database page

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## Search by- criteria

- Main search area and it allows specific terms for search
- As you enter terms into a particular field, the data base provides suggestions on possible matching terms
- All queries entered in the field in each tab, click the search button to add those terms into the current search area - with matching records in the results area
- Searchable fields are divided into separate tabs i.e <u>Brands</u>, <u>Names</u>, <u>Numbers</u>, <u>Dates</u>, <u>Class</u> and <u>Country</u>

# Search by .....

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# Search by.....

- Brand: Brand search lets you search for terms linked to the brand
- The three fields in this tab are:
- Text lets search text related to the brand
- Image class search records with images that match term(s) you enter
- Goods/ services search for records with list of goods/services that match
- Name: search names associated with the record
- The two fields in this tab are:
- Holder name of the holder/ owner
- Representative legal representative
- Numbers: lets you search numbers associated with the brand
- The two fields in this tab are:
- Publication number
- Application number

# Search by.....

- Dates: Search dates associated with the each record- dialog will pop up to allow you enter a specific date or a range or use the *YYY-MM-DD* format. Even 'today' or 'now' can work
- The three fields in this tab are:
- -Registration date
- -Application date
- Expiration date
- Classes: gives search for any classifications associated with the brand
- The two fields in this tab are:
- Image class Vienna classification- when you describe the image, the db will give numerical codes that match your description
- Nice Class numerical codes that describe goods or services associated with the brand
- Country which will be either country of origin or a designated one

## Image similarity search

## assistance in image classification entry

SEARCH BY										
OLANGIT DI	Brand	Names	Numbers	Dates	Class	Country				
Image Class	▼ =	sun								
(Vienna)		01.03								
Goods/Servic	ces 🖛	01.03	.01: <u>Sun</u> risir	ng or setti	ng					
Class (Nice)		01.03	.02: Other re	presentat	ions of th	e sun				
		01.03.06: Sun with landscapes								
		01.03	01.03.07: Sun with human beings or parts of the human body							
		01.03	01.03.08: Sun with animals							
		01.03	.09: Sun with	plants						
		01.03	.10: <mark>Sun</mark> with	i <mark>clou</mark> ds, r	ain, drop	s of water or				
		repre	sentations of	other nat	ural phen	iomena				
		01.03	.11: Sun with	manufac	tured arti	cles or industri	al products			
		01.03	.12: Sun with	other fig	urative el	ements				

# Image Similarity Search

Assistance in Vienna Classes entry

	Brand	Names	Numbers	Dates	Class	Country	_	
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Goods/Servic Class (Nice)	ces 🐂	e.g. 2	5, footwear					
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Vienna Classification: 02.02.06 Babies

# Filter by.....

- This area of the db displays info that helps you narrow your search to only particular categories.
- Filters have separate tabs accordingly i.e source, image, status, application date, designation, Nice Class or Registration date
- Source filter: original information- from the international TM register (Madrid System), emblems that is armorial bearings, flags and other state organisations protected under international law (Art. *6ter Paris Convention*) and appellations of origin
- Image filter: can rank the results of your search by their visual similarity. The search allows comparison according to shape, colour, texture, composite. The purpose of such detailed search is to allow you to customise your search to match your needs.
- WIPO does not store copies of the image searched, once analysis of the image is done, all records are removed from the servers.

## Filter by.....



# Filter by.....

Status: shows current status of records matching your search

- Active
- Pending not yet in force, awaiting examination
- Inactive due to expiration, withdrawn ....
- Origin: shows origin of the record which is usually the national office of the applicant. You can use the drop down menu to select all countries of origin or a map
- Application date: year of application
- Expiration: search by date of expiration
- Nice: Class of goods and services
- Registration: Date of registration- pending applications may have no date
- **Designation:** countries designated in each record
- Current Search this area serves two purposes that is displays all terms and filters entered and allows you to manipulate those terms. A record must match all the terms in this area to be displayed. Need to clear this area for every new search to avoid confusion

## Conclusion

- While the Global Brand Database does not search all registered trademarks from around the world,
- It is a great first step when looking into domain name and potential trademark registration
- When registering domain name, trademark, consider searching the GBD.





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