



# **Roving Seminar on WIPO Services and Initiatives**



**London, United Kingdom  
April 30, 2018**

# **PARALLEL PROGRAM A (BUSINESSES)**

## **Protecting Your Intellectual Property At Home And Abroad**

# The Hague System: Introduction and Future Developments



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Head, Development and Promotion Section  
The Hague Registry  
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

**London, April 30, 2018**

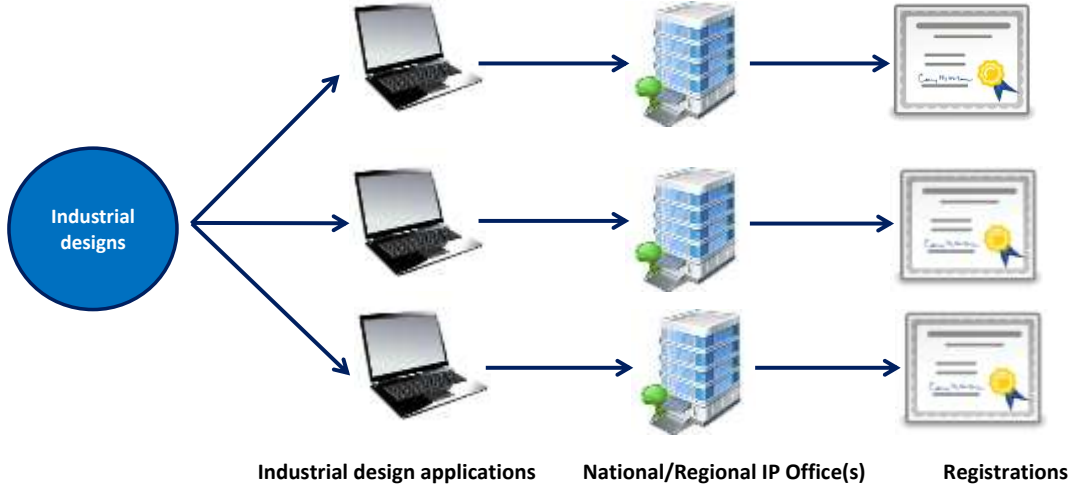
# Hague System: A Simple But Timeless Concept

The centralized acquisition and maintenance of industrial design rights by filing a single international application for a single international registration with effect in one or more designated Contracting Parties



# Independent filings vs. Hague Route

## Direct/Paris Route



## The Hague System



# Main Features of the Hague System



## Simplicity

The Hague System enables holders to obtain protection for their designs with a minimum of formality



## Cost-effectiveness

Payment of a single set of fees in one currency



## Efficiency

Considerable facilitation of the subsequent management of the registration



## Flexibility

Right holders have more opportunities in targeting national, regional or global markets

# What is the Hague System?

## One to many relationships

- File a single international application for a single international registration in which one or more Contracting Parties are designated

## “Bundle of rights”

- If no refusal, the resulting international registration has the effect of a grant of protection in each designated Contracting Party



# The Hague System is a Procedural Arrangement

Issues such as:



the conditions for protection



the refusal procedure to be applied when deciding whether a design may be protected



the rights which result from protection

are governed by the law of each Contracting Party designated in an international registration



# The International Application

In English, French or Spanish

May be filed directly with the International Bureau through the E-filing interface but also on paper

May comprise several different designs up to a maximum of 100 if they belong to the same class of the International Classification (Locarno)

One set of fees (in CHF) is to be paid

# The Hague System Procedure: Role of the International Bureau

Formal examination

Recording in the International Register

Sending the certificate to the holder

Publication in the International Designs Bulletin

Notification to members through the publication in the Bulletin

If the International Bureau finds that the international application does not fulfill the applicable requirements, it invites the applicant to make the required corrections within three months from the date of invitation sent by the International Bureau.

International registration has the same effect as a regularly-filed application in all designated Contracting Parties.

# The Hague System Procedure (II)

## Refusal by a designated Contracting Party

on same substantive grounds as for national/regional filings

must be communicated within time limit

effect limited to territory of the member that has refused

## International registration (where not refused)

no refusal = same rights as a local design registration



a bundle of independent national/regional rights

advantages of central management

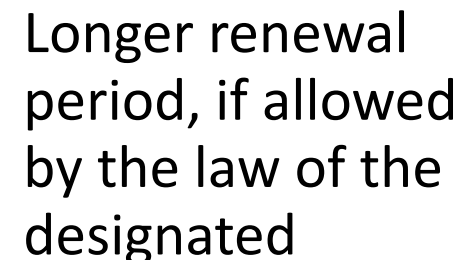

# The Hague System Procedure (III)



Duration of protection:  
five years



Renewable at  
least twice



Longer renewal  
period, if allowed  
by the law of the  
designated  
Contracting Party

# General Advantages of the Hague System



## Hague System (international route)

one Office for filing  
one language  
one currency  
one international registration  
one renewal  
one modification  
foreign attorney or agent  
(first needed if refused)



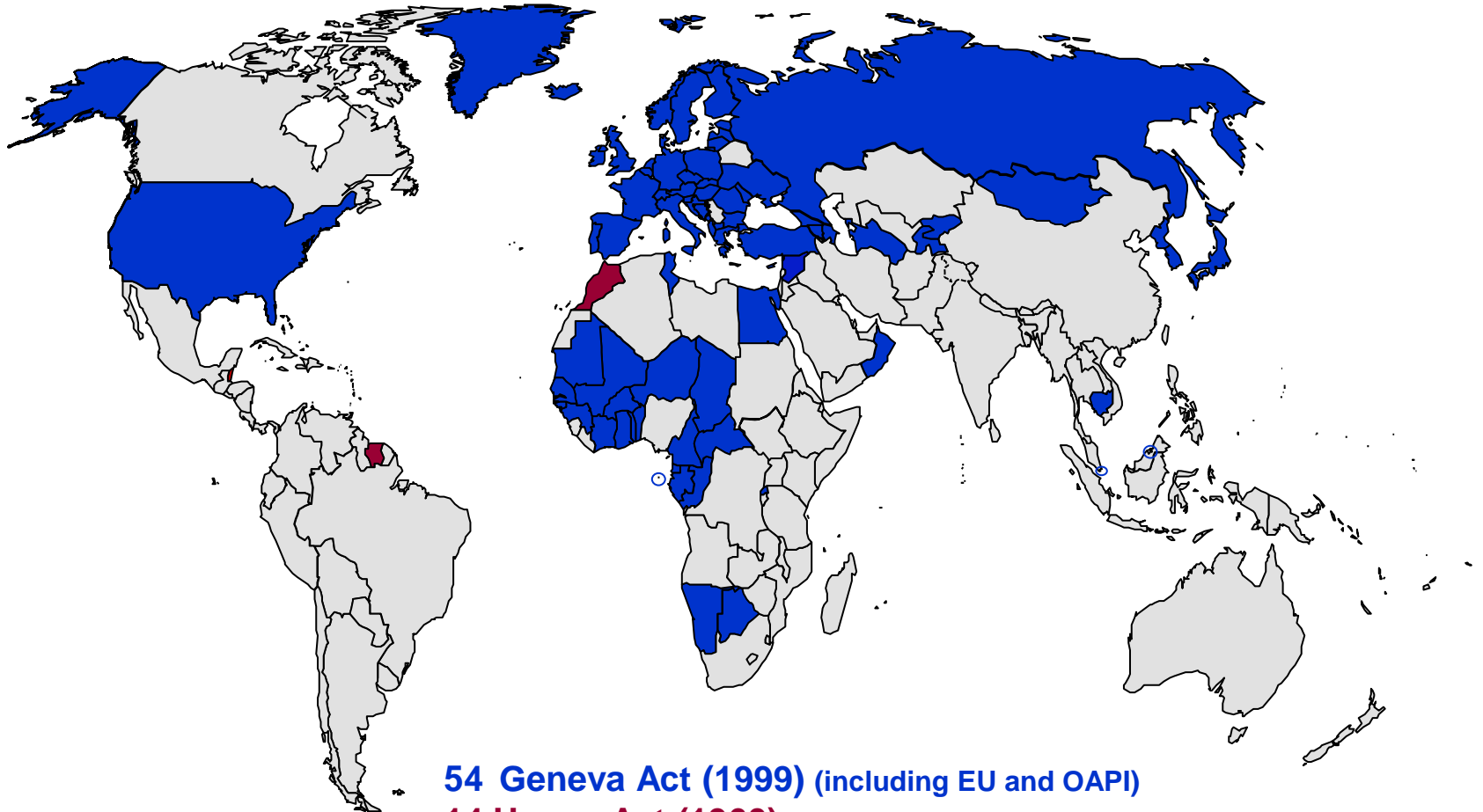
## National/regional route

many Offices for filing  
many languages  
many currencies  
many registrations  
many renewals  
many modifications  
foreign attorney or agent  
(first needed at filing)



# **Going Global – Geographical Scope of the Hague System**

# Hague Union



**54 Geneva Act (1999) (including EU and OAPI)**

**14 Hague Act (1960)**

**68 Contracting Parties**



# Hague Union Members According to the Most Recent Applicable Act

## Geneva Act (1999)

•African Intellectual Property Organization, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, D.P.R. of Korea, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, European Union, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Iceland, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Norway, Oman, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Y.R. of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom\* and the United States of America (54)

\* The Geneva (1999) Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs will come into force in respect of the United Kingdom on June 13, 2018.

## Hague Act (1960)

•Belgium, Belize, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Mali, Morocco, Netherlands, Niger, Senegal and Suriname (14)

# Geneva Act (1999)

## Recent Accessions



United Kingdom\*  
(March 13, 2018)



Russian Federation  
(November 30, 2017)



The Kingdom of Cambodia  
(November 25, 2016)



D.P.R. of Korea  
(June 13, 2016)



United States of America  
(February 13, 2015)



Japan  
(February 13, 2015)



Republic of Korea  
(March 31, 2014)

## Potential Accessions



China



Morocco



ASEAN countries



Israel



Canada



Mexico



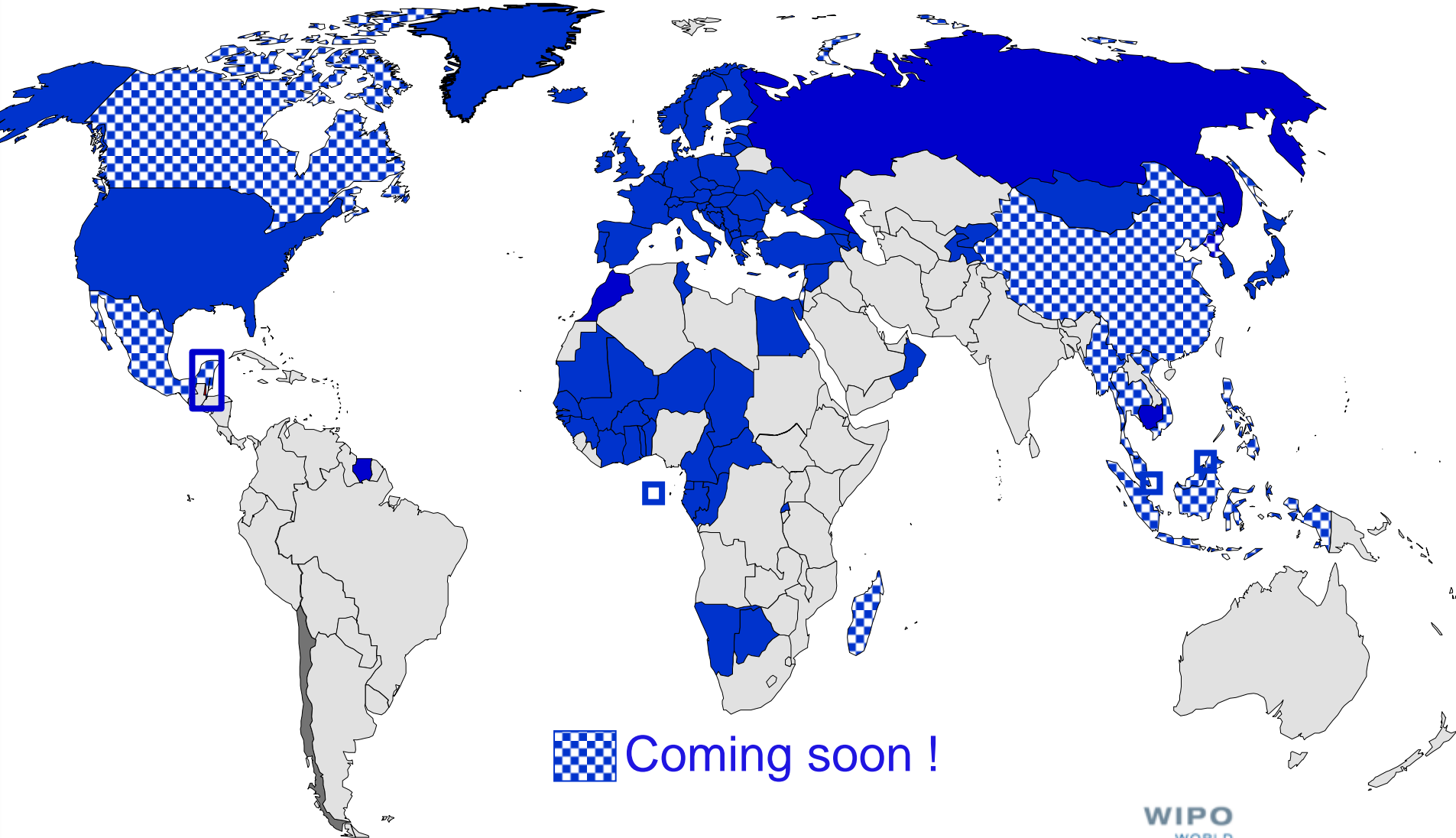
Madagascar



Belize

\* The Geneva (1999) Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs will come into force in respect of the United Kingdom on June 13, 2018.

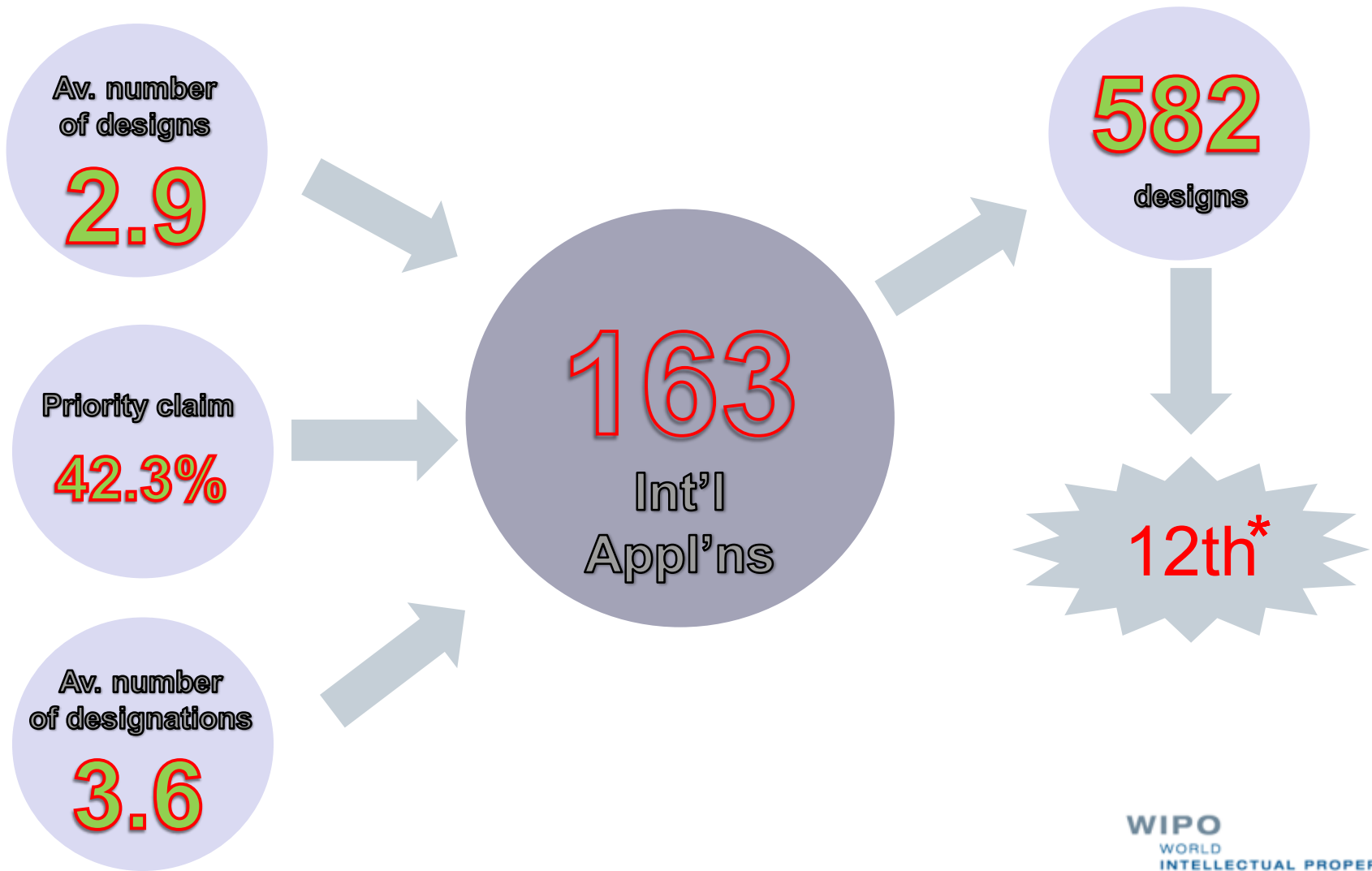
# Hague System : Current and Foreseen Coverage



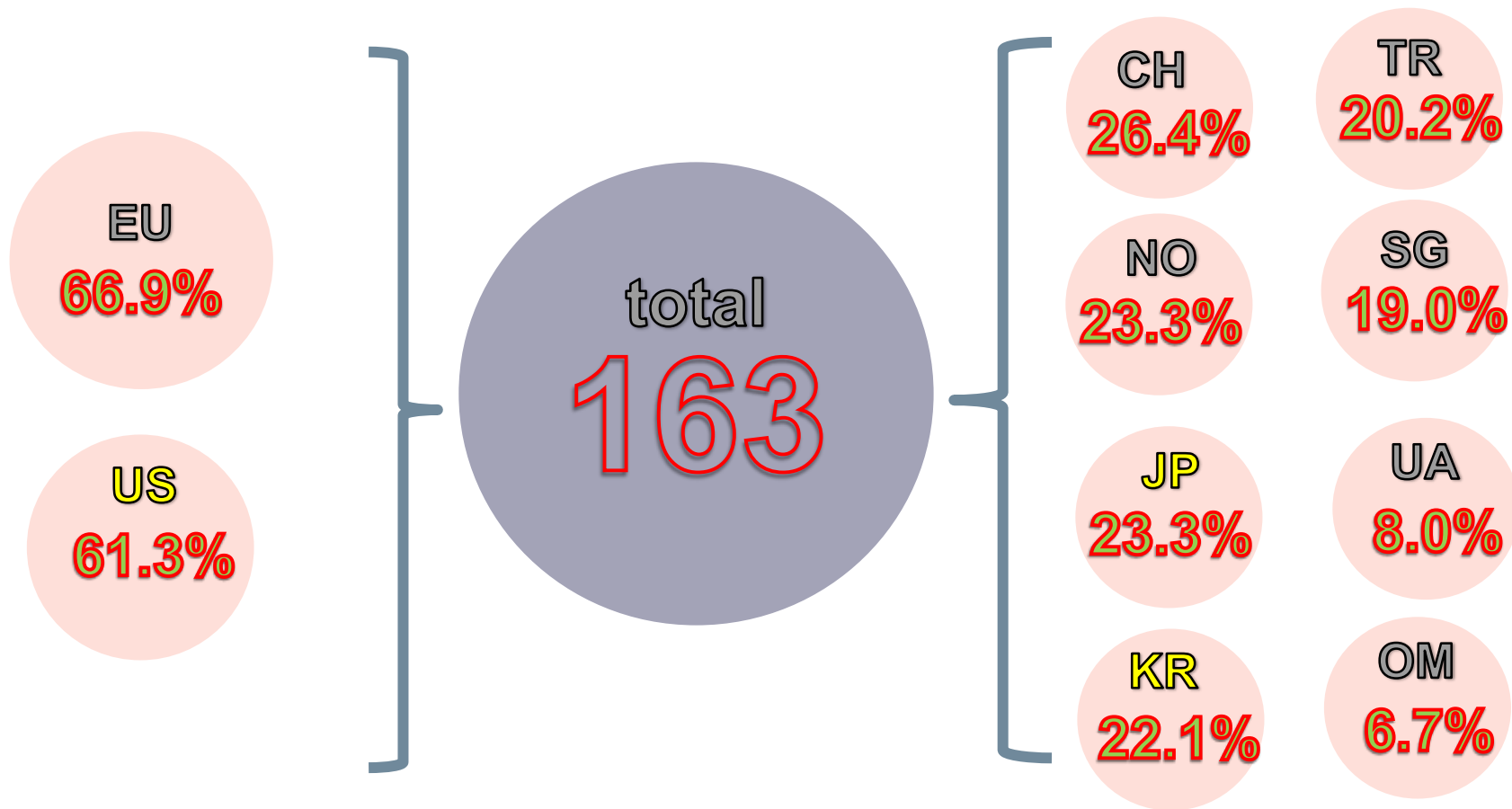
 Coming soon !

# UK Filings in 2017-2018

(Jan.2017-Mar.2018)



# Designations in 2017-2018 UK Filings: Top 10

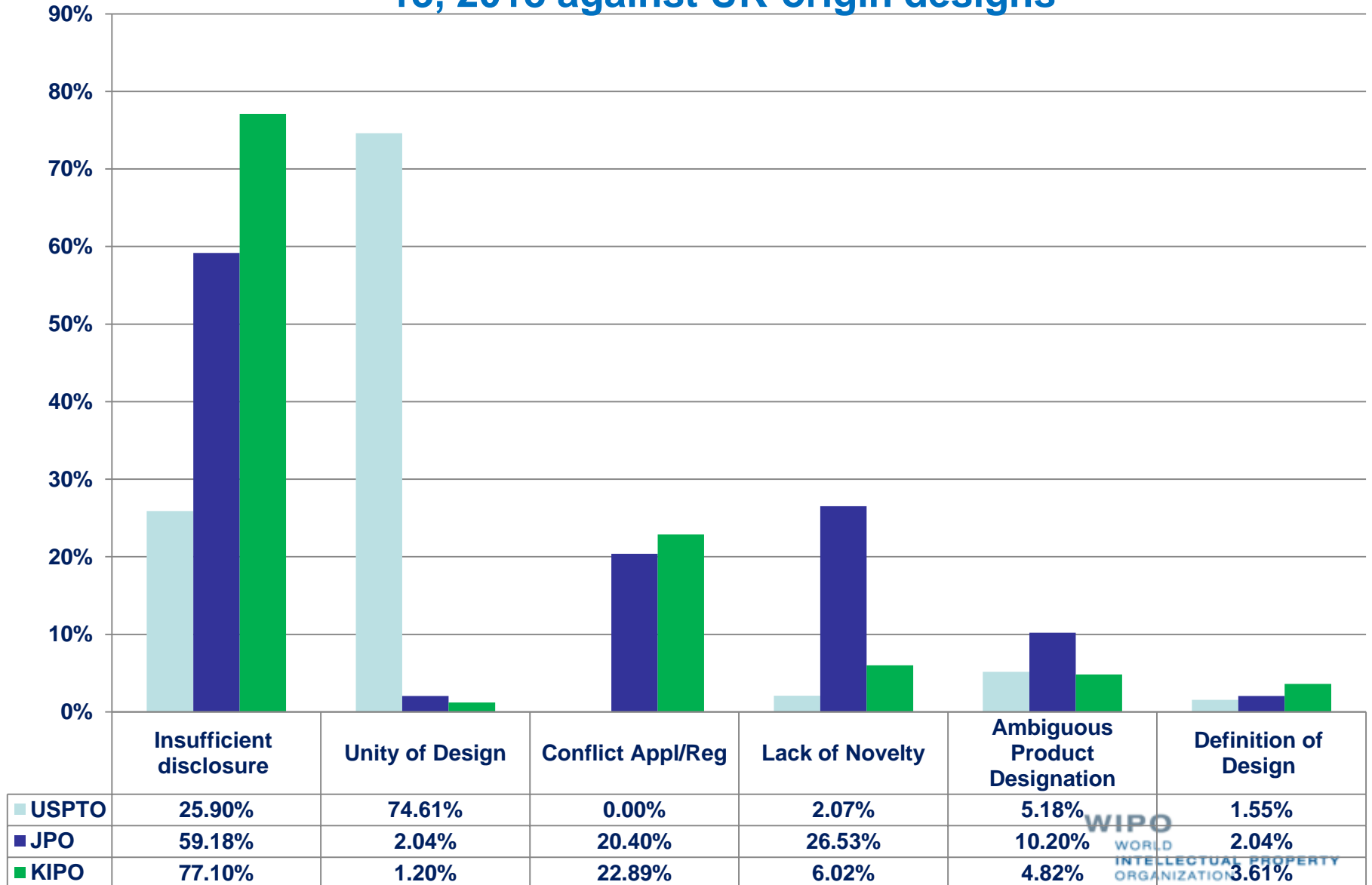


# **UK Filings in Examining Jurisdictions:**

## **How Have They Been Faring?**

# USPTO, JPO & KIPO - Refusal Grounds

## Representative sample of refusal recorded up to March 13, 2018 against UK-origin designs



Source: Internal WIPO



# WIPO's Reaction to Help Users

- Intelligent **E-filing** system to keep it simple
- Prevention of omission or systemic mistakes
- Prepopulated declarations and claim
- Links to national websites for guidance
  - on prior art issues
  - the applicable level of fees (USPTO)
  - on related design practice (JPO and KIPO)

# Guidance on Reproductions

Disclosure criteria may differ depending on jurisdiction. This new Guidance is a useful tool to help applicants forestall possible refusals on the ground of insufficient disclosure of an industrial design by Examining Offices.

Prepared in consultation with Examining Offices under the Hague System and several user organizations

Detailed guidance on how to prepare and provide reproductions to overcome the most common refusal issues

- Not enough views
- Unclear representations of the claimed design
- Unclear relief or contours of surfaces of a three-dimensional product
- Difference in form/color between the representations of the claimed design

Information on which guidance should be taken into account when designating specific Contracting Parties

Not self-sufficient or all inclusive

Guidance on Preparing and Providing Reproductions in Order to Forestall Possible Refusals on the Ground of Insufficient Disclosure of an Industrial Design by Examining Offices available at:

[http://www.wipo.int/edocs/hagdocs/en/2016/hague\\_2016\\_9.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/edocs/hagdocs/en/2016/hague_2016_9.pdf)

# Hague Express Database

## Hague Express

The Hague Express Database, updated weekly, includes bibliographical data and, as far as international registrations governed exclusively or partly by the 1999 and/or by the 1960 Act(s) of the Hague Agreement are concerned, reproductions of industrial designs relating to international registrations that have been recorded in the International Register and published in the International Designs Bulletin as of issue No. 1/1999. International registrations that have lapsed are not removed from the database.

### SEARCH BY

Design Names Numbers Dates Country

Indication of Products = watch  
 Locarno =  
 Description =

search ↗

### CURRENT SEARCH

PROD:watch ✕

### FILTER BY

Designation Locarno Class Reg. Date \* Contracting Party \*

CH	1,535	MC	1,131	TN	991	MA	963	LI	960
FR	894	DE	890	IT	889	EG	887	BX	851
BE	851	NL	851	LU	851	ES	813	ME	684
MK	683	GR	666	MD	642	MN	634	SG	611
TR	594	UA	591	ID	586	EM	583	KP	556
RS	523	VA	489	SI	462	CW	409	BQ	408
SX	406	GE	380	RO	378	KG	376	BZ	364

Display: List Sort: Count - desc

filter ▼

1 - 10 / 1,627

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10 per page

1 / 163

Reg. No	Holder	Reg. Date	Locarno Cl	Ind. Prod.	Des.	Designs	Image
DM/046674	HYBEK JÖRG	1999-02-03	03-01	Etui pour montre	AN,EG,ES,ID,MA,TN,V	1	
DM/082429	CARTIER CREATION STUDIO SA	2013-12-13	10-02	1. Watch; 2. Watch case; 3. Watch dial; 4. Watch; 5. Watch bracelet; 6. Watch dial; 7. Watch dial	CH,EM,SG,TR	8	
DM/083367	FRANCK MULLER WATCHLAND SA	2014-04-09	10-02	1. Montre-bracelet	EM,MC,SG	1	
DM/065382	SWATCH AG (SWATCH SA) (SWATCH LTD.)	2004-05-12	10-02	1. Montre-bracelet	BQ,CW,EG,ID,SX,TN,I	1	
DM/073485	BÉDAT & CO SA	2010-03-26	10-02	Watch	BX,KP,CH,EM,LI,OA,S	1	
DM/073351	HUBLOT SA, GENÈVE	2010-03-18	10-02	Watch	CH,EM,SG	1	
DM/073317	OMEGA SA (OMEGA AG) (OMEGA LTD.)	2010-02-12	10-02	Watch	BZ,MA,MC,ME,AL,AM,I	1	
DM/072570	ALEXIS BARTHELAY (SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME)	2009-10-20	10-02	Watch	MA,CH,EG,EM,OM,SG	1	

# Global Design Database

**Global Design Database** A world-wide collection of industrial designs data, including WIPO Hague registrations and information from participating national offices.

**SEARCH BY**

Design Names Numbers Dates Country

Indication of Products \*

Design class \* =

Description \*

**FILTER BY**

Source Designation Locarno Class Reg. Year


CA Designs	166,387	ES Designs	97,240	JP Designs	544,785	NZ Designs	47,479
US Designs	806,481	ID Designs	96,680	WO Designs	95,795		

Display:  Sort:

1 - 10 / 1,774,860 Display: 10 per page 005013

Reg. No.	Source	Holder	Reg. Date	Locarno Cl.	National Cl.	Ind. Prod.	Designations	Designs	Image
D0837718	USD	SUMITOMO ELECTRIC HARDMETAL, CORP.	2018-01-16	08-03	US D08-020	Cutting tool	US	1	
D0837764	USD	Shalkross, Richard Scott	2018-01-16	10-04	US D10-005	NPT/UN thread identification kit	US	1	
D0837771	USD	Fibit, Inc.	2018-01-16	11-01	US D11-094 US D10-126	Receptacle insert for a wearable fitness band system	US	1	
D0837772	USD	EASYREAD TIME TEACHER LIMITED	2018-01-16	10-07	US D10-126	Clock	US	1	
D0837795	USD	Brunswick Corporation	2018-01-16	12-16	US D12-150 US D09-434	Shock absorbing hub assembly for a marine propulsion apparatus	US	1	

# E-Filing Portfolio Manager

Welcome ASTON88 

## Portfolio Status


Number of application(s) sent: 46  
Number of application(s) unsent: 10




## E-Filing Manager Menu

E-Filing Application  
E-Filing Communications (0 unread)  
E-Filing Tutorial

File an international application | **Sent application(s)** | Unsent application(s)

## Application(s) sent to the International Bureau

(1 of 5) 

	WIPO reference ⇅	Filing date ⇅	Applicant(s) ⇅	Locarno Class ⇅	Designation(s) ⇅	Status ⇅	A.R.
1	WIPO4059	05/08/2016	Jack Smith	6	JP, KR, RS, SG, SN, SY, US	Examination	
2	WIPO4151	05/08/2016	New Designs SA	2	DE, ES, GH, JP, US	Registered	
3	WIPO4146	27/07/2016	Helen Williams	3	JP, KR, TR, UA, US	Abandoned	

# Improvement of the E-Filing Interface



Receive and download notifications from the IB relating to international applications



Send corrections to irregularities or defects



Retrieve in real-time current status of IA



Indication of access code obtained from the IP office of first filing, so that the IP office of the designated Contracting Party is able to access the priority document via the WIPO Digital Access Service (DAS).

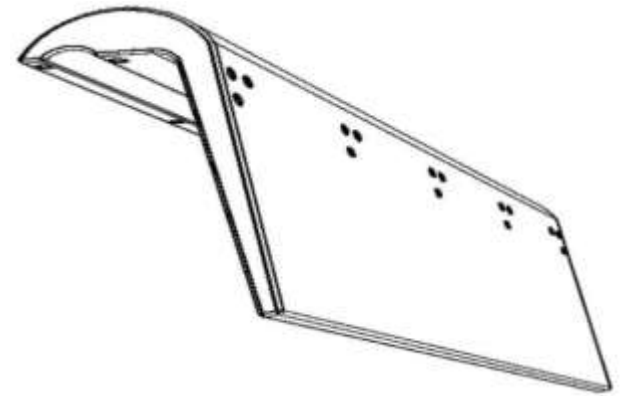
# New Hague Information Tools

■ New functionalities available at [www.wipo.int/hague](http://www.wipo.int/hague)

- **Contact Hague Form**
  1. Single point of contact for users;
  2. History
  
- **Hague Member Profiles Database**
  1. Compilation of data;
  2. Search tool



# Success Stories from the UK



DM/92589 DM/92567 DM/95951  
DM/92108 DM/96359 DM/91433

**WIPO**  
WORLD  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
ORGANIZATION

# Thank You!

[www.wipo.int/hague/en](http://www.wipo.int/hague/en)





## Annex: Some Statistics

# International Registrations - 2017



5,041 international registrations were inscribed containing 19,241 designs



3.66% decrease compared to the respective period in 2016 in the number of registrations



9.3% increase compared to the respective period in 2016 in the number of designs

# International Applications - 2017



5,213 international applications were received containing 19,429 designs (max. 100 designs / application)



6.27 % decrease compared to the respective period in 2016 in the number of applications



3.8% growth compared to the respective period in 2016 in the number of designs

# 2017 - Five Most Popular Classes in International Registrations



**Class 14**

**Recording, communication or information retrieval equipment**

**579 registrations (11.5%)**



**Class 12**

**Means of transport or hoisting**

**451 registrations (9.0%)**



**Class 6**

**Furnishing**

**368 registrations (7.3%)**



**Class 10**

**Clocks and watches and other measuring instruments, checking and signaling instruments**

**363 registrations (7.2%)**

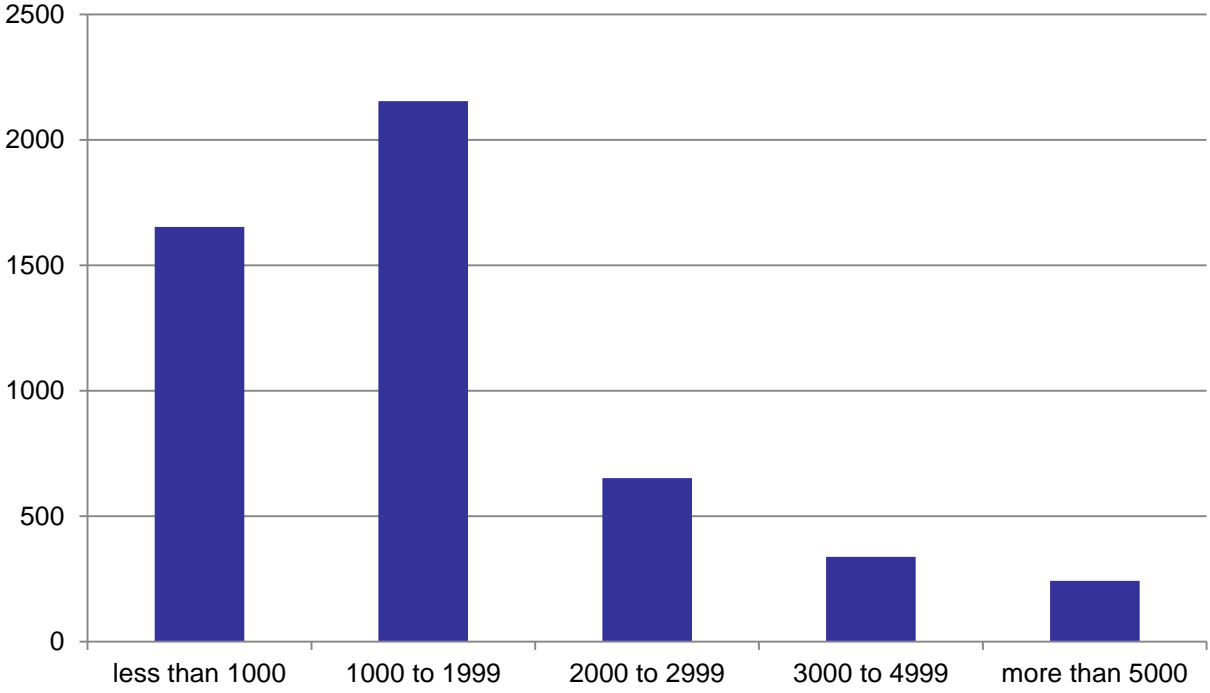


**Class 26**

**Lighting apparatus**

**326 registrations (6.5%)**

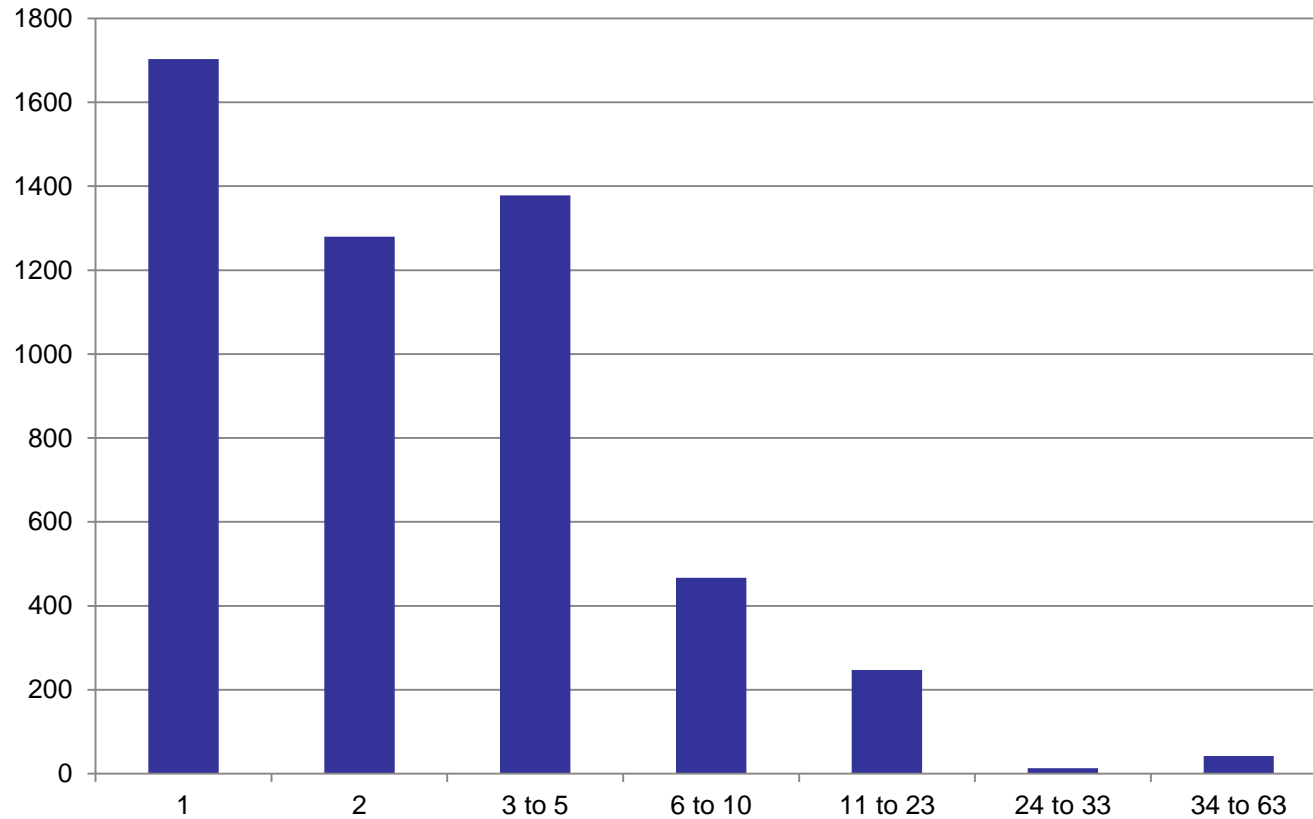
# Amount of Fees Paid per International Registration (2017)



IR	1653	2154	652	339	243
%	33.8%	42.7%	12.9%	6.7%	4.8%

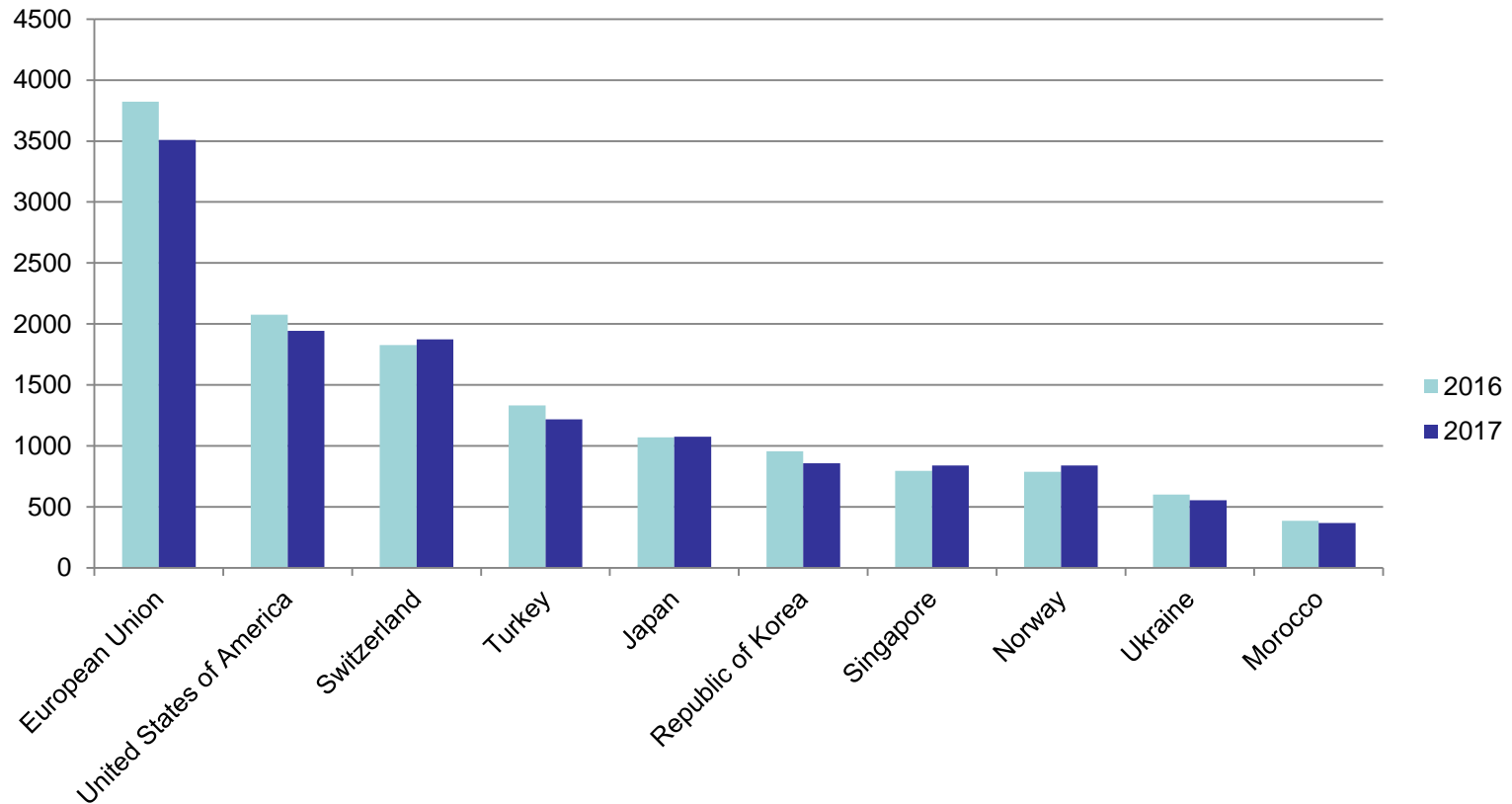


# Designations in International Registrations (2017)



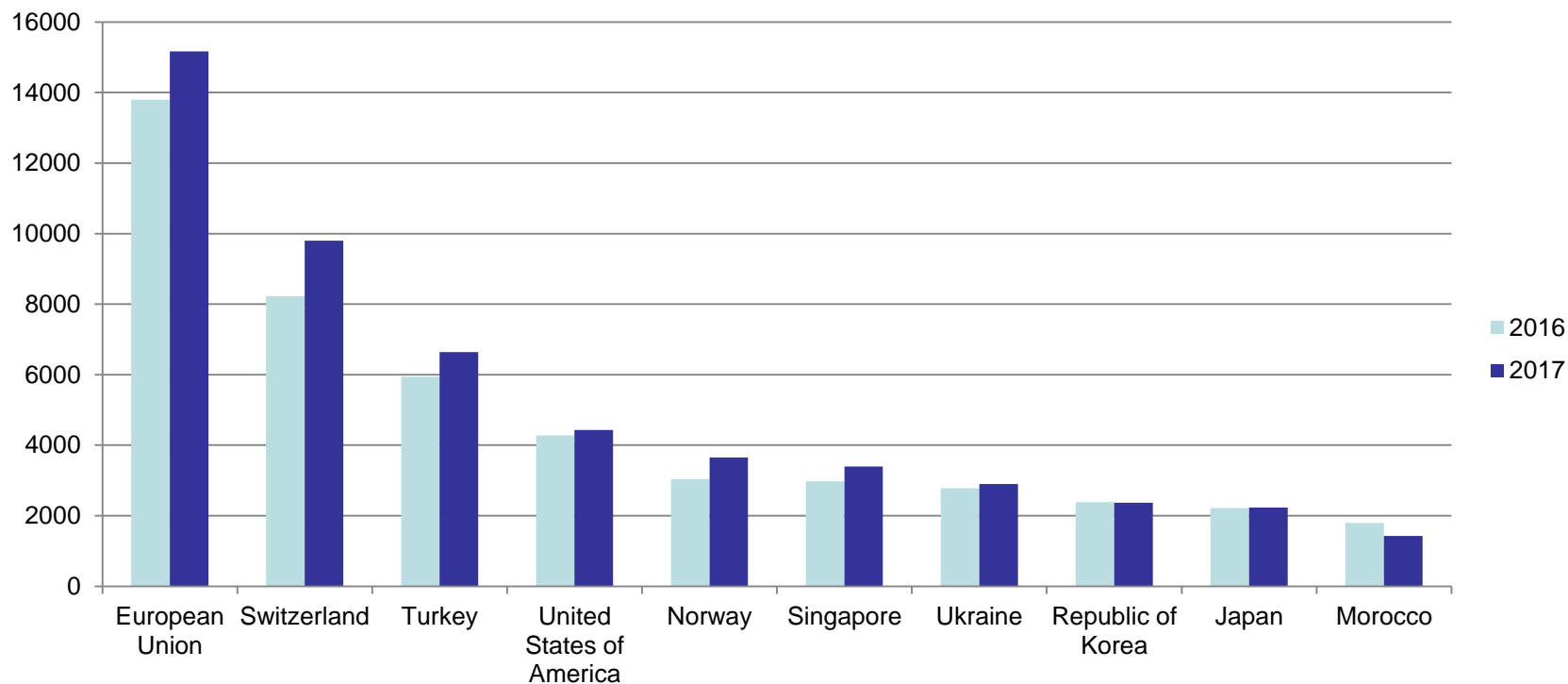
IR	1703	1280	1378	467	247	13	42
%	32.3%	25.0%	26.9%	9.1%	4.8%	0.3%	0.8%

# Most Designated Contracting Parties in 2017 (international registrations)



\* Since the effective accession (May 13, 2015)

# Most designated Contracting Parties in 2017 (number of designs recorded)



# International Registrations in Force in the International Register (on December 31, 2017)

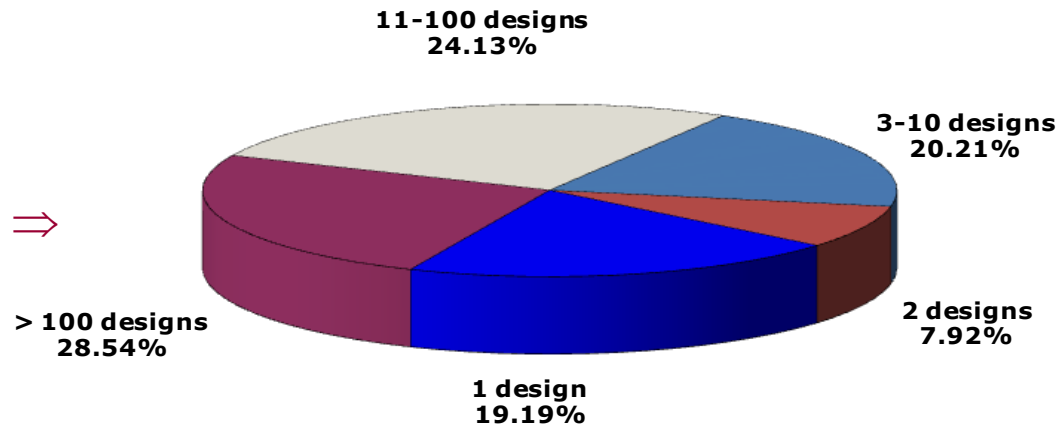
## Industrial Designs

**Right-holders  
(9,805)**

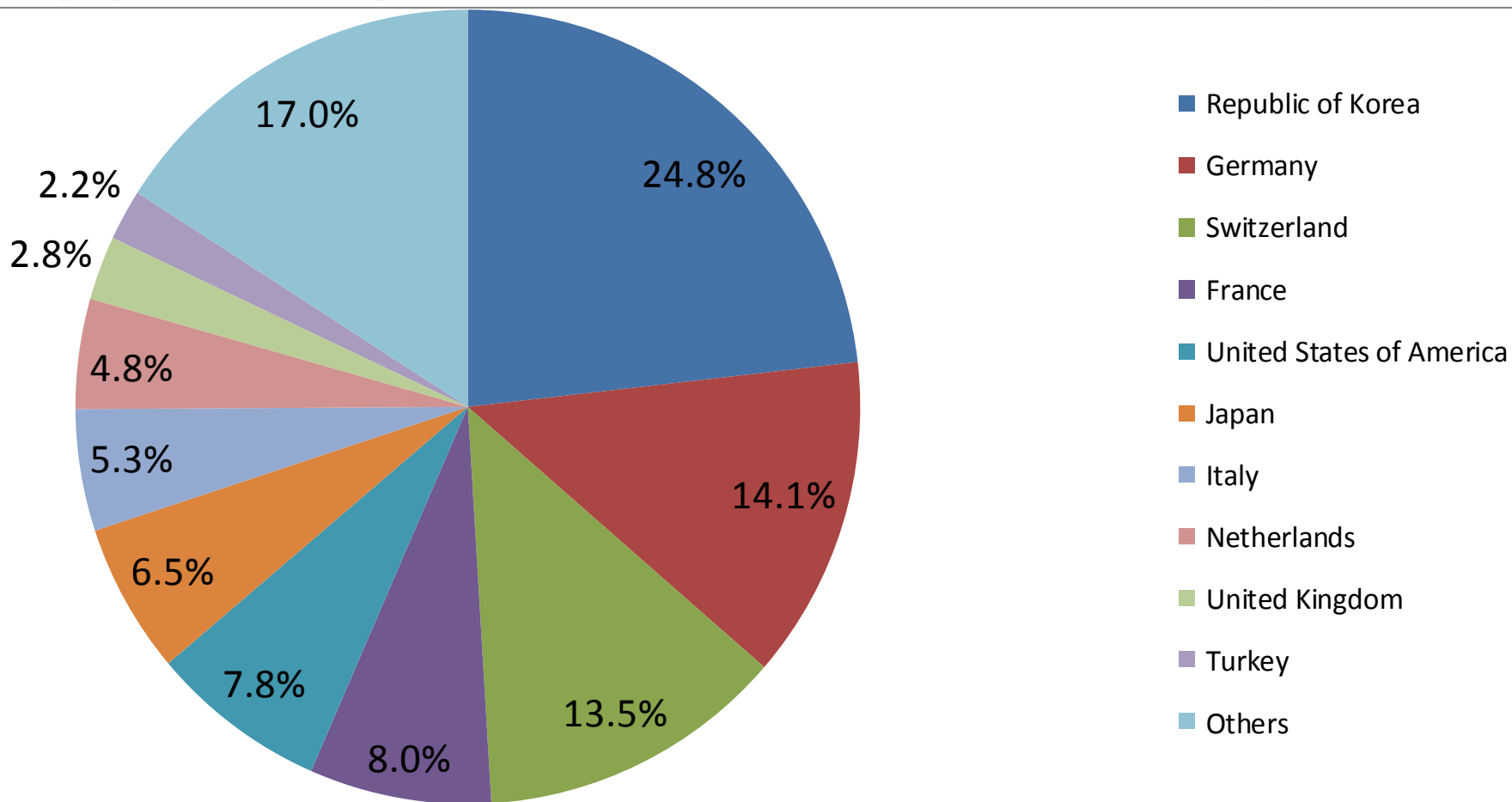


Industrial designs by right-holder	Number of right-holders	
1 design	6558	67.19%
2 designs	1360	13.87%
3-10 designs	1498	15.28%
11-100 designs	328	3.35%
> 100 designs	31	0.32%
<b>All</b>	<b>9805</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

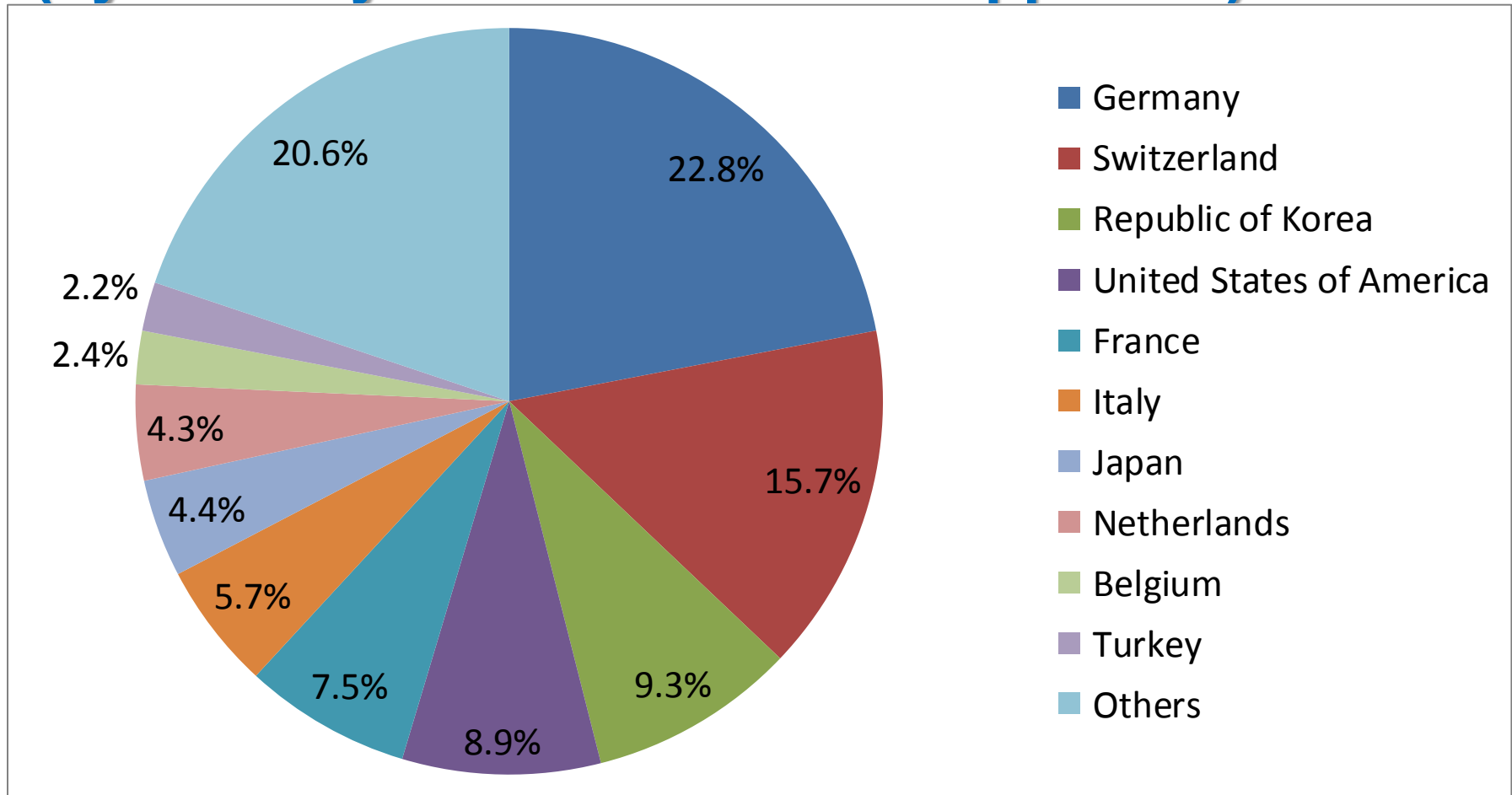
**Registrations  
in force  
(34,324)**



# Origin of Filers of International Applications (by Country of Address of the Applicant) - 2017



# Origin of Filers per Designs in International Applications (by Country of Address of the Applicant) - 2017



# The Madrid System

## Introduction and Future Developments



Mr. Matthew Forno, Senior Counsellor,  
Madrid Information and Promotion Division,  
Madrid Registry, Brands and Designs Sector  
(BDS), WIPO

**London, April 30, 2018**

# The Madrid System is Convenient

- Access a centralized filing and management procedure
- File one application, in one language and pay one set of fees for protection in multiple markets
- Expand protection to new markets as your business strategy evolves



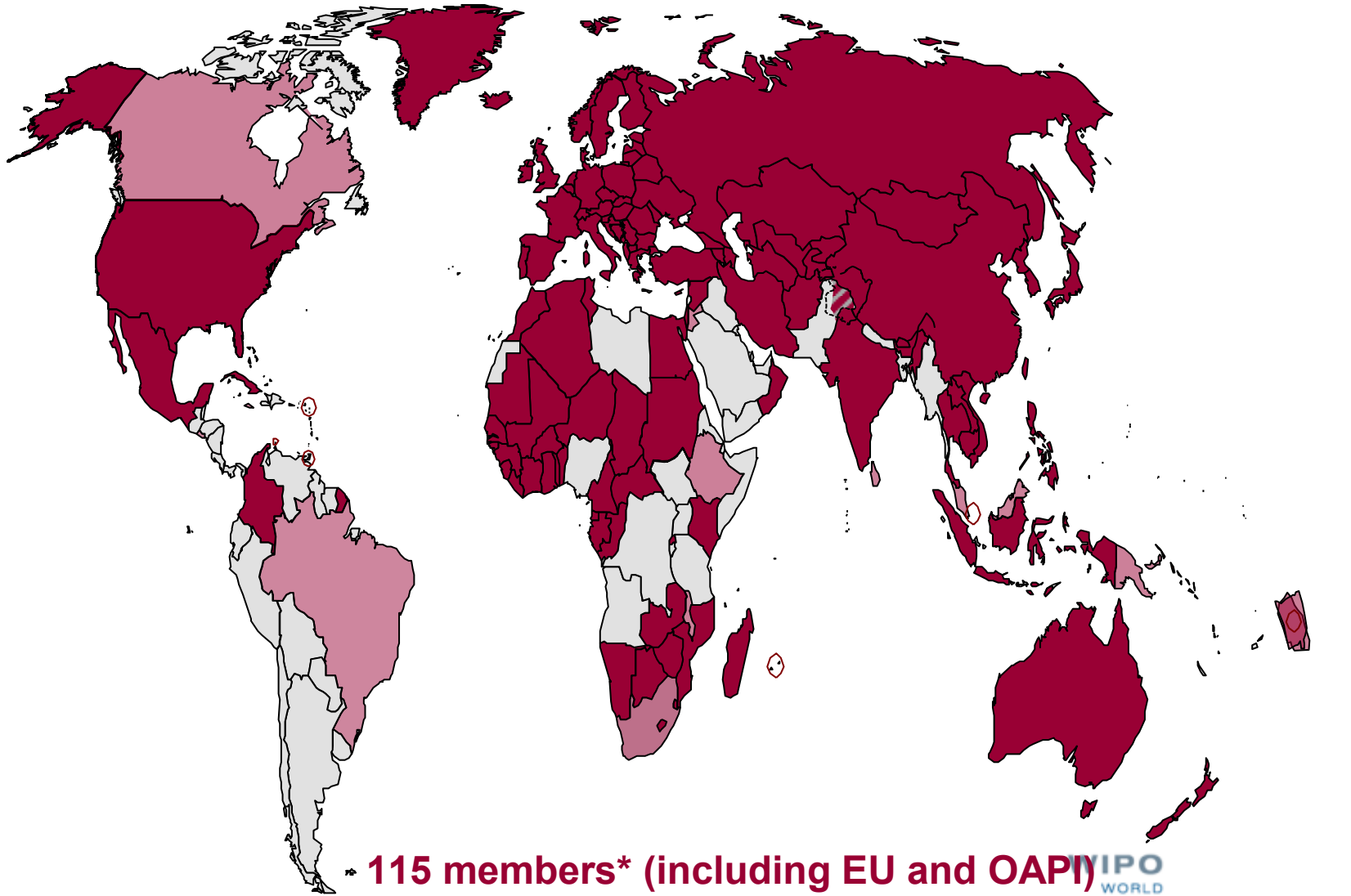
# The Madrid System is Cost-Effective

- File an international application, which is the equivalent of a bundle of national applications, effectively saving time and money
- Avoid paying for translations into multiple languages or working through the administrative procedures of multiple IP Offices

# The Madrid System is Global

- Currently: 117 countries covered by the 101 members
- Markets that represent more than 80% of world trade
- Recent accessions include:
  - 2014: OAPI and Zimbabwe
  - 2015: Algeria, Cambodia, The Gambia and Lao People's Democratic Republic
  - 2016: Brunei Darussalam
  - 2017: Thailand, Indonesia
  - 2018: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

# Accession Outlook 2018/19



**115 members\* (including EU and OAPI)  
covering 131 countries**

# How the Madrid System Works

## The International Trademark Registration Process



# Stage 1

## Application through your Office of origin

- To be entitled to use the Madrid System, you must:
  - Have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment in, or
  - Be domiciled in, or
  - Be a national of a member of the Madrid System
- Before filing an international application, you need to have registered or filed an application (**basic mark**) in your Office of origin
- Submit an **international application** through this same IP Office, which will certify and forward it to WIPO

# Stage 2

## Formal examination by WIPO

- WIPO conducts a **formalities examination**
- Once requirements have been met, the mark is **recorded in the International Register**
- WIPO sends a **certificate of international registration** to the holder and notifies the IP Offices, of the **designated Contracting Parties (dCP)**, in which protection is sought
- The scope of protection is not known at this stage. It is only determined **after substantive examination** and decision by the IP Offices, as outlined in Stage 3

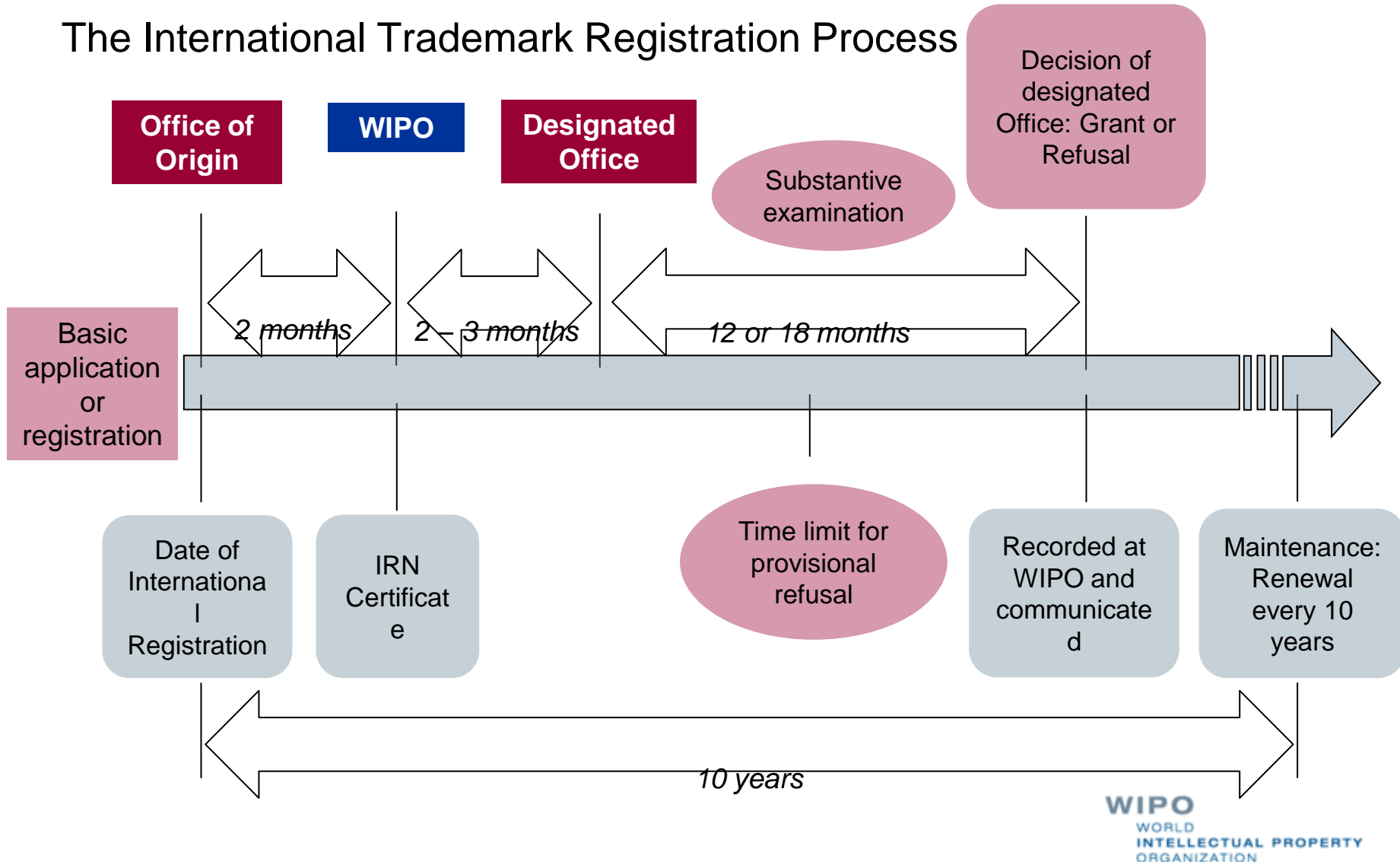
# Stage 3

## Substantive examination by IP Offices (Office of the dCP)

- IP Offices make **a decision within 12 or 18 months** in accordance with their legislation. WIPO records the decisions and notifies you
- If an IP Office refuses to protect your mark, it will not affect the decisions of other offices. You can contest a refusal decision before the IP Office concerned
- If an IP Office accepts to protect your mark, it will issue **statement of grant of protection**
- The international registration is **valid for 10 years**. Renew directly with WIPO with effect in the dCPs

# Timeline

## The International Trademark Registration Process





# Costs

Fees are payable to WIPO in Swiss francs

- Basic fee\*
  - 653 Swiss francs – b/w reproduction of mark
  - 903 Swiss francs – color reproduction of mark
  
- Fees for designated Contracting Parties (dCP)
  - Standard fees – complementary (100 Swiss francs per dCP) and supplementary (100 Swiss francs per class beyond 3)
  - OR
  - Individual fees where this is declared

\* Applicants from [Least Developed Countries](#) benefit from a 90% reduction in the basic fee

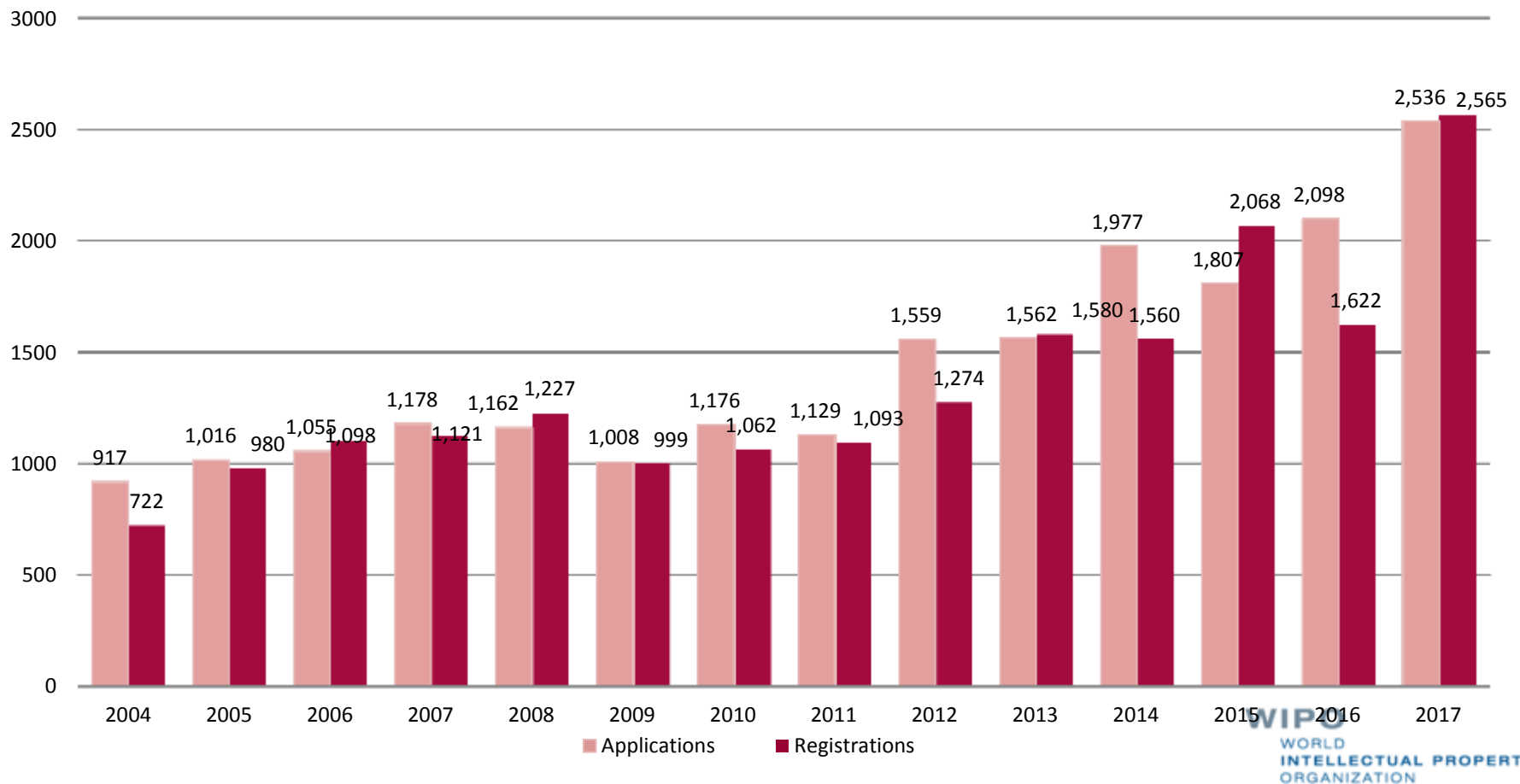
# General Profile

## International Registrations

Average Number of Designations	6.7
Average Number of Classes	2.47
Average Fee	CHF 2,968
All Fees	70% < CHF 3,000

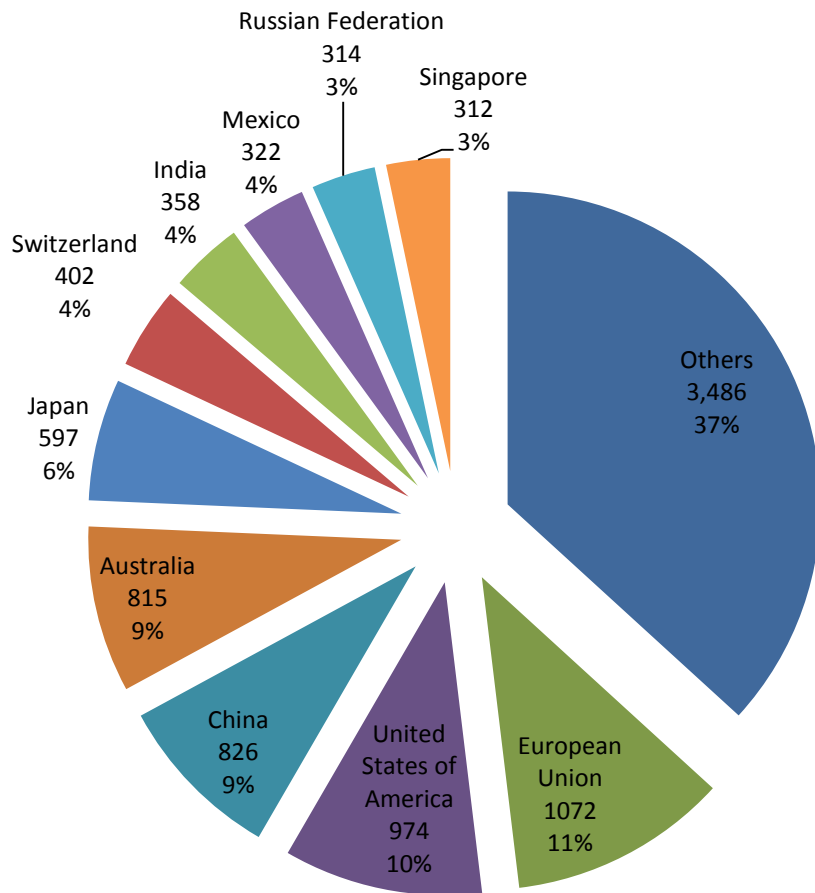
# International Applications and Registrations: United Kingdom

International Applications and Registrations by Office of Origin: UK



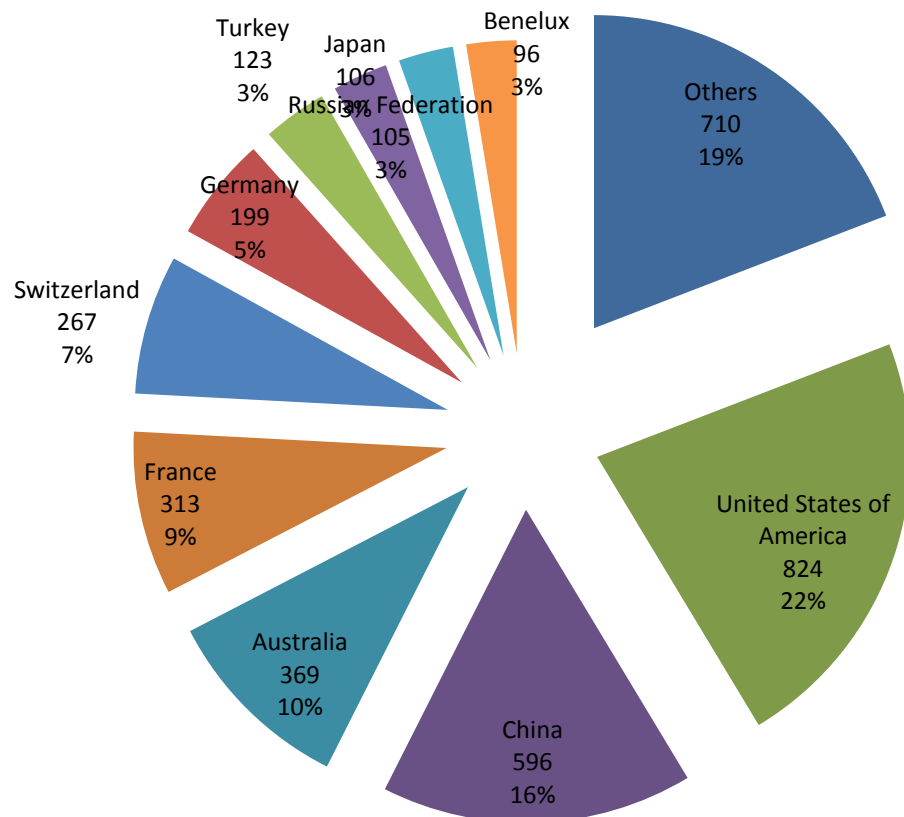
# Top Designated Contracting Parties: UK Holders

Designations in international registrations & subsequent designations by DCPs, Country of Holder: United Kingdom (2016)



# Designations of United Kingdom by Country of Holder

Designations of United Kingdom in international registrations & subsequent designations by Country of Holder (2016)



# Website and E-Services

- The Madrid Website provides information on how to [search before filing](#), [file an application](#), [monitor](#) and [manage registrations](#), and [how to pay](#) fees.
- [Madrid E-Services](#) are available to assist users at each stage of their mark's lifecycle.



# E-Services

Search



File



Monitor



Manage



## Global Brand Database

- search existing marks from national & international sources
- trademarks, appellations of origin and official emblems

## Madrid Goods & Services Manager

- compile a list of approved goods & services terms in 18 languages

## Member Profiles Database

## Fee Calculator

## Madrid Monitor

- track real-time status of registration
- watch competitors' marks
- e-alerts
- consult the WIPO Gazette

## Madrid Portfolio Manager

- access documents
- request changes
- modify, designate & renew
- pay fees
- obtain extracts

# Recent Developments

- Accession of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- Rule Changes in the Common Regulations
- Classification Guidelines
- WIPO Current Account
- [Madrid Monitor](#) – integrates [ROMARIN](#) (the [WIPO Gazette](#), [Madrid E-Alert](#) and [Real-time Status](#))
- [Member Profiles Database](#)
- [Contact Madrid](#) service (online form) – *Nov. 1, 2017*
- Madrid System webinars



# Classification Guidelines

- Purpose – to decrease irregularities
- Describes WIPO classification practices
- Divided into three sections:
  - General information – Nice Classification and Madrid
  - Classification principles applied by WIPO
  - Practical information on the acceptable format to list indications of goods and services



# WIPO Current Account Changes

- No minimum number of transactions
- Initial payment of CHF 2,000
- Minimum balance – notification sent to users if balance is less than CHF 200
- A form to open the account available on the website
- Email address required
- Account statement sent by email only

# NEW – Contact Madrid



Single point of  
contact



Standardized input  
data

Mandatory fields  
Input fields allow better  
understanding of needs



Quick & automated  
distribution to  
relevant team  
Speedy processing  
of requests

# Keep Updated on the Madrid System

- Visit the Madrid Website [www.wipo.int/madrid/en](http://www.wipo.int/madrid/en)
- Register to free [Madrid Webinars](#)
- Subscribe to [Madrid Notices](#), our legal and news updates
- Sign up for [Madrid Highlights](#)



**Thank you  
for your attention**

[matthew.forno@wipo.int](mailto:matthew.forno@wipo.int)



# Introduction to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)



Mr. Michael Richardson, Director,  
PCT Business Development Division,  
PCT Legal and International Affairs Department,  
Patents and Technology Sector (PTS), WIPO

**London, April 30, 2018**

# WHY INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION?



# International Patent Protection

- Attract investors
- Increase bargaining power
- Strengthen your market position
- Licensing opportunities





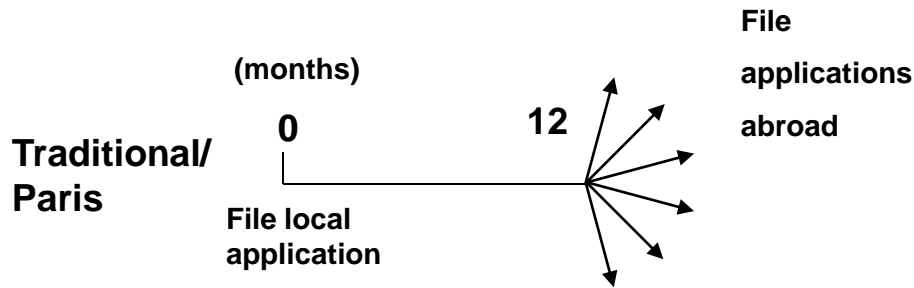
# WHY PCT?

# Questions

- Do you really know whether your invention is new and patentable?
- Do you really know whether there is a market?
- Do you really know where that market could be?
- Do you have a realistic strategy to develop that market?
- Including enough consideration of design and branding?
- Do you have the capacity or partners to finalize a product and supply the market?

# Postpone Costs

Fees for:  
translations  
Office fees  
local agents  
30 months vs 12 months



# Strong Basis for Patenting Decisions

## Example: PCT International Search Report

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 50-14535 B (NCR CORPORATION) 28 May 1975 (28.05.75), column 4, lines 3 to 27	7-9, 11
X	GB 392415 A (JONES) 18 May 1933 (18.05.33) Fig. 1	1-3
Y	page 3, lines 5-7	4, 10
A	Fig. 5, support 36	11-12
X	GB 2174500 A (STC) 5 November 1986 (05.11.86) page 1, lines 5-15, 22-34, 46-80; Fig. 1	1-3
Y		4
A	US 4322752 A (BIXTY) 30 March 1982 (30.03.82) claim 1	1
A	GREEN, J.P. Integrated Circuit and Electronic Compass, IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, October 1975, Vol. 17, No. 6, pages 1344 and 1345	1-5

Symbols indicating which aspect of patentability the document cited is relevant to (for example, novelty, inventive step, etc.)

Documents relevant to whether or not your invention may be patentable

The claim numbers in your application to which the document is relevant

# Summary of Advantages

Not an international patent, but (for most) a safer and more efficient route into the international patent system

- Postpone costs
- Strong basis for patenting decisions
- Opportunity for centralized amendments
- Protection from certain inadvertent errors
- Harmonizes formal requirements
- Can result (if PCT reports are positive) in accelerated national phase processing

# Key Messages

- Study the market properly
- Get professional assistance early
- Find good partners
- But don't disclose your invention before filing your application without a non-disclosure agreement
- Think about the effect of branding and appearance as well as technical functionality
- Consider the differences in markets worldwide
  
- Use the PCT if it helps you to do this effectively

# PCT TESTIMONIALS

# Testimonial: Start-up

**Nokero** (produces solar-powered lights which replace kerosene lamps and candles used in developing and least-developed countries--it has so far distributed over 1.4 million lights in 120 countries and won a United States Patent and Trademark Office's Patents for Humanity Award)

***“When it comes to patenting, because we operate in so many different markets, we use WIPO’s Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). Every start-up has limited funds and the PCT is a great mechanism for delaying patent filing costs, allowing time to test the market and overcome any unforeseen technical problems. Without the PCT, protecting an invention in international markets would be a high-risk strategy with huge upfront costs.”***

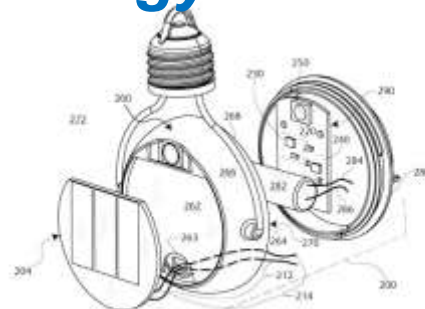


FIG. 5

Source: WIPO Magazine, February 2016



# Testimonial: Inventor

Professor Shuji Nakamura—co-winner of the 2014 Nobel Prize for Physics for his work on blue LED technology



***“... The PCT is critical for these early stage technologies because it gives us the opportunity to protect our patents globally while allowing the market and the technology to mature further before determining which countries might be most valuable to commercial partners.”***

# Testimonial: Large Company

Qualcomm:

- Started in 1985 with 7 people
- Today more than 170 offices in more than 40 countries, and 33,000 employees
- \$25.3 billion in revenue in FY 2015
- #5 user of PCT in 2017: 2,163 PCT applications published



***“Over the past 25 years, Qualcomm has been one of the largest users of the PCT system. To date we have filed more than 9,000 patent applications. International patent applications are important to the protection of innovations around the globe. The PCT helps put innovation into practice by providing a simple and cost-effective way to file international patent applications. The PCT is critical for Qualcomm because we are, above all, an innovation company....[PCT] has been a vital partner in the success of our company and the growth of the wireless industry.”***

CEO Paul Jacobs, 2011

# RECENT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

# PCT Changes from July 2017

- National Offices required to provide national phase entry information (Rules 86 and 95)
  - better information on worldwide scope of protection
- Receiving Offices required to forward search and classification information from priority applications (Rules 12*bis*, 23*bis* & 41)
  - Intended to improve work-sharing
  - Some exceptions

# Future Developments

- Further improvements to electronic filing and processing
  - Don't use fax!
  - Better integrated payment systems
  - Integration with patent management systems
  - Color drawings
  - Full text applications
- Continued efforts towards quality of international search
- IP5 collaborative search and examination
- Fee reductions for universities?

# More Information

[www.wipo.int/pct/en](http://www.wipo.int/pct/en)

- Applicant's Guide
- Monthly Newsletter
- Videos
- Distance learning course
- Webinars
- Seminar calendar