



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES CONSEILS
EN PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS

INTERNATIONALE FÖDERATION
VON PATENTANWÄLTEN

Comments on the Compilation of the Replies to the Questionnaire on Graphical User Interface (GUI), icon and typeface / type font design (SCT/36/2)

Founded over 100 years ago, **FICPI** is the international representative association for IP attorneys in private practice throughout the world, with about 5,500 members in 86 countries and regions, including Europe, China, Japan, South Korea and USA.

FICPI aims to enhance international cooperation amongst IP attorneys and promote the training and continuing education of its members and others interested in IP.

FICPI strives to offer well balanced opinions on proposed international, regional and national legislation based on its members' experience with a great diversity of clients having a wide range of different levels of knowledge, experience and business needs of the IP system.

We welcome the invitation to comment on the compilation of replies to the questionnaire on graphical user interface (GUI), icon and typeface / type font designs (SCT/36/2). We consider that the effort to provide an overview of the practice of the various jurisdictions is highly valuable and that the outcome is useful, not only to the offices of the Member states, but also to users, including FICPI members and their clients, when considering how to protect these types of designs. The compilation highlights the differing approaches by offices in this area.

We note that at SCT36 it was agreed to invite to Member States to submit additional and/or revised replies before revising SCT36/2 for presentation at SCT37. We look forward to reviewing the revised document to see if the answers are provided in a more consistent fashion than in the first round, acknowledging the difficulties that drafting and answering such a questionnaire provide.

Following the publication of the revised compilation, FICPI will consider providing a similar survey to its members who practise in the field of design protection, to provide further validation of the work of the SCT in this area and comprehensive input based on the views of the users.

FICPI supports further discussion of the topics of the questionnaire and continuation of the work involved in mapping the various practices of the Member States, with a view to achieving some degree of convergence towards best practice in this area.



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IMPORTANT NOTE:

The views set forth in this paper have been provisionally approved by the Bureau of FICPI and are subject to final approval by the Executive Committee (ExCo). The content of the paper may therefore change following review by the ExCo.

The International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys (FICPI) is the global representative body for intellectual property attorneys in private practice. FICPI's opinions are based on its members' experiences with a great diversity of clients having a wide range of different levels of knowledge, experience and business needs of the IP system.

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The Australian Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys, FICPI Canada, Association of Danish Intellectual Property Attorneys (ADIPA), Suomen Patenttiasiamiesyhdistys ry, Association de Conseils en Propriété Industrielle (ACPI), Patentanwaltskammer, Collegio Italiano dei Consulenti in Proprietà Industriale, Japanese Association of FICPI, Norske Patentingeniørers Forening (NPF), Associação Portuguesa dos Consultores em Propriedade Industria I (ACPI), F.I.C.P.I South Africa, the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys – Swedish Association, Verband Schweizerischer Patent und Markenanwälte (VSP) and the British Association of the International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys are members of FICPI.

FICPI has national sections in Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Romania, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Turkey and the United States of America, a provisional national section in Poland and individual members in a further 41 countries and regions.

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