



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
GLOBAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ACADEMY

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U.S. Government Resources for Protecting Your Patents, Trademarks, and Copyrights

Information on protecting and enforcing intellectual property rights domestically and abroad may be obtained by calling the STOP Hotline at 1-866-999-HALT or from USG sites such as --

- For a brief overview of “intellectual property,” in the U.S. and abroad –
 - the “Online Intellectual Property Training Module” (an online training tool for small businesses (SMEs), as well as a “needs assessment” tool – 1.5 hours),
<http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/sme-module>
- To identify intellectual property assets, see –
 - the “USPTO IP Awareness Assessment Tool”
<http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/uspto-ip-awareness-assessment-tool>
 - There also is a simple tool in the above-referenced “Online Intellectual Property Training Module; see <http://www.stopfakes.gov/tutorials/data/us/menu/index.htm>
- For general patent information –
 - USPTO Inventors Assistance, <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/iac/index.jsp>;
 - frequently asked questions, <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/patents.jsp>;
 - video, “From Concept to Protection,” <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/edu-inf/index.jsp> (click on “Computer-based Training”)
 - the general knowledge course, “Basic Patent Training for Independent Inventors and Small Businesses,” <http://www.uspto.gov/video/cbt/certpck/index.htm>
 - “What does the USPTO do for independent inventors?” portal site at <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/index.jsp> (including links to, e.g., “Scam Prevention” - “Pro Se and Pro Bono” - “State Resources”)
 - America Invents Act (AIA) portal site at http://www.uspto.gov/aia_implementation/index.jsp
- For patents and more, check out the Inventors Eye, the USPTO e-newsletter, archived at <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/independent/index.jsp> (to subscribe, go to site)
- For help with patents and trademarks, check out your local Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) at <http://www.uspto.gov/products/library/ptdl/services/index.jsp>
- For trademark basics –
 - <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/basics/index.jsp>
 - trademark searching,
<http://tess2.uspto.gov/bin/gate.exe?f=tess&state=4810:a46140.1.1>
 - USPTO “TMIN,” the Trademark Information Network, which features engaging, broadcast-style, videos that cover important topics and critical application filing tips, <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/TMIN.jsp>
 - online filing, <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/index.jsp>
 - trademark scams, http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/solicitation_warnings.jsp

- For copyright registration in the U.S. –
 - U.S. Copyright Office website for registration and general information (including Circular 1, “Copyright Basics”): <http://www.copyright.gov>

- For enforcement in the U.S. –
 - Customs recordation, http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/trade/priority_trade/ipr/legal/
 - Section 337, International Trade Commission, http://www.usitc.gov/intellectual_property/inv_his.htm (see also 337 FAQs)
 - IPR Center, <http://origin.www.stopfakes.gov/us-gov-agencies/national-intellectual-property-rights-coordination-center> (criminal enforcement)

- International considerations –
 - 1-stop filing (patents): Patent Cooperation Treaty; see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pct/index.jsp (PCT Legal Administration page)
 - 1-stop filing (trademarks): Madrid Protocol; see <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/law/madrid/index.jsp>
 - “Experts’ Advice for Small Businesses Seeking Foreign Patents” (GAO Report), <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d03910.pdf>
 - Individual country IPR toolkits are available from <http://www.STOPfakes.gov> to address specific concerns about protecting intellectual property in different markets. <http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/country-ipr-toolkits>
 - Protecting intellectual property in China, <http://www.stopfakes.gov/china-ipr-webinar> (and be sure to check out the Transatlantic Portal, accessed through <http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/transatlantic-ipr-portal>)
 - Special 301 Report, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), <http://www.ustr.gov/about-us/press-office/reports-and-publications/2013/2013-special-301-report> (identifies countries where intellectual property protection and/or enforcement are problematic)
 - “International IP Advisory Program,” through which U.S. small businesses can obtain one hour of **free legal advice** on their IP issues in various countries, including Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Russia and Thailand and many others, <http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/international-ip-advisory-program>

Some non-USG resources on intellectual property --

Trademarks: International Trademark Association (INTA) website: <http://www.inta.org> and <http://www.inta.org/Membership/Pages/SME.aspx> (including, e.g., “Understanding Trademarks” – both US and international perspectives; Madrid Protocol (for filing internationally); Global Protection and Enforcement of Trademarks; even – Overview of Advertising Law)

Copyrights: “Copyright Term and the Public Domain in the US”: http://www.copyright.cornell.edu/public_domain/

Domain names: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) site: <http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/>. Also, at <http://www.inta.org/TrademarkBasics/Pages/Presentations.aspx>, see “Use of Trademarks in Domain Names & Domain Name Disputes)

Also, please see the following portal site for small- to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) site: <http://www.wipo.int/sme/en/>