

INFORMATION TRADEMARK APPLICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The legal basis for trademark legislation in Suriname is a Royal Ordinance from August 19, 1912, which was modified by the Decree of August 31, 1984.

Trademark protection is obtained by registration; however an unregistered trademark can be protected due to prior use. The jurisdiction in Suriname follows the "First to use" system. Paris Convention priority can be claimed.

The International Classification of Goods is used.

Multi-class applications are allowed. The registration of services (Service Marks) is not permitted.

A trademark application has to be filed before the Government Office of Intellectual Property (known as "*Bureau Intellectuele Eigendom*") in Suriname by a local trademark agent. Therefore a Power of Attorney (POA) is needed and it is required that the original POA be submitted.

The application process takes approximately 18 months from first filing to registration.

The registration is published in the Official Gazette for advertisements in Suriname (known as "*Advertentieblad van de Republiek Suriname*"). This publication takes place for opposition purposes and the duration of the opposition period is about 6 months after the publication date.

A trademark registration in Suriname is valid for ten (10) years from the registration date. The registration is renewable for periods of ten (10) years.

REQUIREMENTS

Application for registration and for renewal of trademarks:

1. Power of attorney made out in the English and Dutch language on which the name and title of the signatory as well as the signing date must be stated explicitly and which must be provided with an original signature and a corporate seal or firm stamp*. Forms will be sent by our Office upon request.
2. Fifteen (15) prints of the trademark, not bigger than 4 x 4 cm, if the trademark is a design or a word & device mark. In case of a trademark in color, state explicitly if the colors should be claimed.

* If applicant does not have a firm stamp or corporate seal, the power of attorney must be legalized by Apostille or by notarization.

3. Specification of goods and classes covered by the registration. In case of renewal of a registration the same goods and classes should be mentioned as in the original registration. However items in the original registration can be deleted without extra costs.
4. Name, Christian name and domicile of the applicant.
If the applicant is a corporation, this must be stated, mentioning under the laws of which Country or State it is incorporated and the complete address.
5. If the priority of a foreign application or registration must be claimed, then a certified legalized copy of the application of registration must be submitted.

Entry of assignments (or mergers):

1. Legalized by Apostille document of assignment (or extract from same) signed by the assignor and assignee, stating the names of the signatories explicitly.
The addresses of the assignor and the assignee must be explicitly stated thereon.
2. Power of attorney made out in the Dutch and English language, with an original signature of the assignee, stating the name and title of the signatory explicitly as well as the signing date and which must be provided with a corporate seal or firm stamp* .
3. If the trademark is a design or word & device mark, also fifteen (15) prints of the mark, not bigger than 4 x 4 cm.
4. Specification of the goods and class covered by the registration.
5. If the trademark was not registered by our Office, a copy of the certificate of registration or last renewal and a list of the changes that were recorded earlier; eventually a copy of the certificates of these changes.

Entry of change of name:

1. Legalized official proof of the change of name.
2. Power of attorney in the Dutch and English language in the new name, with an original signature stating the name and title of the signatory explicitly as well as the signing date and which must be provided with a corporate seal or firm stamp* .
3. If the trademark is a design or word & device mark, also fifteen (15) prints of the mark, not bigger than 4 x 4 cm.
4. Specification of the goods and class covered by the registration.
5. If the trademark was not registered by our Office, a copy of the certificate of registration or last renewal and a list of the changes that we recorded earlier; eventually a copy of the certificates of these changes.

Entry of change of address:

1. Legalized official proof of the change of address.
2. Power of attorney in the Dutch and English language with an original signature of the owner of the trademark, stating the name and title of the signatory

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explicitly as well as the signing date and which must be provided with a corporate seal or firm stamp* .

3. If the trademark is a design or word & device mark, also fifteen (15) prints of the mark, not bigger than 4 x 4 cm.
4. Specification of the goods and class covered by the registration.
5. If the trademark was not registered by our Office, a copy of the certificate of registration or last renewal and a list of the changes that we recorded earlier; eventually a copy of the certificates of these changes.

Cancellation of a registration:

1. Power of attorney in the Dutch and English language with an original signature of the owner of the trademark, stating the name and title of the signatory explicitly as well as the signing date and which must be provided with a corporate seal or firm stamp* .
2. If the trademark was not registered by our Office, a copy of the certificate of registration.

Deletion of items from a registration:

1. Power of attorney in the Dutch and English language with an original signature of the owner of the trademark, stating the name and title of the signatory explicitly as well as the signing date and which must be provided with a corporate seal or firm stamp* .
2. If the trademark is a design or word & device mark, also fifteen (15) prints of the mark, not bigger than 4 x 4 cm.
3. If the trademark was not registered by our Office, a copy of the certificate of registration or last renewal and a list of the changes that we recorded earlier; eventually a copy of the certificates of these changes.

REMARK

For each set of ten (10) applications in the same category e.g. registration or renewal, one power of attorney with an original signature will be sufficient, executed as required by the Office of Intellectual Property, and one set of original legalized documents with respect to the records.

For renewal of, change of address and/or change of name with one trademark registration, one power of attorney with an original signature will be sufficient, executed as required by the Office of Intellectual Property.

* If applicant does not have a firm stamp or corporate seal, the power of attorney must be legalized by Apostille or by notarization

OUR FEES

Fees here stated include the fees for the Government Office of Intellectual Property, office expenses, turnover tax of 8%, the expenses of telefaxes and more than usual and reasonable correspondence.

Extensive translations will be charged at US\$ 10,-- (ten US dollars) per 100 (hundred) words.

Fees are given in US dollars and are valid until further notice.

Fees are approximately:

Registration of a trademark	US\$	555.00
Renewal of a registration	"	555.00
Change of name	"	375.00
Change of address	"	375.00
Assignment	"	450.00
Cancellation of a registration	"	300.00
Deletion of items from a registration	"	300.00
A certified copy of a registration/renewal	"	130.00
A non-certified copy of a registration	"	85.00
Search (one trademark [word or logo])	"	100.00
Legal action	Variable	

Note: - On the attorney's fee and office expenses also a turnover tax of 8% must be paid.

- Since the exchange rate between the US\$ and the € is a floating exchange rate, it could change off and on and that should be taken into account.

REDUCTION

For more applications in one category (e.g. registration, renewal or etc.) a reduction will be granted only on our fees as stated in the schedule hereunder.

5 - 10 applications:	5%
10 - 15 applications:	10%
16 - 20 applications:	15%
21 - 25 applications:	20 %
More than 25 applications:	25%

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