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April 3, 2009

Announcement: Fee Reduction for Trademark Applications in the EU

A substantial fee reduction was recently announced by the Community Trademark Office (OHIM) with respect to the registration fees for the CTM trademark application, which covers 27 countries of the EU. This single application covers the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

Beginning May 1, 2009, the official fees required to register a CTM trademark will be reduced by approximately 40%. Currently two types of official fees* must be paid in order to register a CTM trademark: application fees (Euro 750) and registration fees (850 Euro). Beginning May 1st, the application fee will increase slightly to Euro 900, but the registration fee will be eliminated.

There is also an opportunity to take advantage of an even bigger cost saving between now and May 1st. During this transition time period, the OHIM has announced that it will continue to charge the current application fee (Euro 750), but it will not charge any registration fees. Consequently, if you file an application during this transition time period, you will save more than 50% off of the previous official fees.

Following is a summary of the previous, current, and future fee levels:

Previous Fees: Euro 750 application fees + Euro 850 registration fees.

Transition Fees: Euro 750 application fees.

Post-May 1st Fees: Euro 900 application fees.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or if you would like additional information (trademarks@montagulaw.com).

*The fees discussed herein relate to applications which specify up to 3 classes of goods and services, and do not include attorney fees.