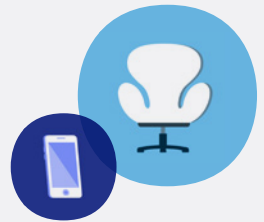
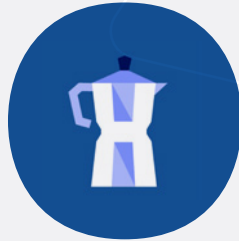


Hague System Information Kit

Secure protection for up to 100 designs, in over 90 countries, through one international application.



WIPO's Hague System provides a unique international mechanism for securing and managing design rights simultaneously in multiple jurisdictions, including:

Nine out of ten of the world's top economic markets
(2020 World Bank rankings)

The whole of Europe

And many more

You can file an international application under the Hague System if you:



are a national of ...



have a domicile or habitual residence in ...



have a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment in ...

... any Hague System member (referred to as "contracting party"), including any country of the European Union (EU) or the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI).

How it works

The Hague System provides a straightforward solution to international design protection that eliminates the need to file separate and multiple applications in individual countries or regions.



File

File one online international application through our eHague platform to register up to 100 designs in more than 90 countries.



Manage

Keep your international registration up-to-date, record a change in ownership or limit/renounce protection centrally through WIPO.



Renew

Renew your international registration directly through eHague for as many of the designs and as many of the contracting parties as you wish.

One international registration provides you with the equivalent of a bundle of national or regional registrations.

Intellectual property (IP) rights are territorial in character – the domestic laws of each contracting party govern the protection resulting from international registrations.

What are the benefits for you?



Minimal paperwork

File one international application, with one set of formal requirements, in one language to secure protection for up to 100 designs in more than 90 countries, following a simple online process.



Cost and time effective

Enjoy significant time and cost savings thanks to our single application framework. Decide for yourself whether to use legal representation in the international arena.



Centralized management

Manage and renew your international registrations directly with WIPO.



Global coverage

Protect your designs in over 90 countries.

Applying for international design protection

Step one

File

Go to the eHague platform and file your international application to secure protection of up to 100 designs in the same class (Locarno Classification) in more than 90 countries.

What is eHague?

eHague is a secure, intuitive, real-time platform that lets you digitally file your international design applications and renew your registrations. You can view and download your applications, make payments and reply to communications from WIPO directly through eHague. Don't worry about which forms you need to fill out, what documents you need to provide or what the costs are – eHague will do this for you.

Step two
**Formality
examination
by WIPO**

We will check your international application to ensure it complies with formalities and other requirements, including the quality of reproductions.

If the necessary
requirements
ARE MET...

You will receive
a certificate of
international
registration.

If the necessary
requirements
ARE NOT MET...

You will receive an
irregularity letter
explaining what is
missing or faulty;
you have three
months to fix
the irregularities.

Step three
Publish

Once approved, we will publish your international registration in the **International Designs Bulletin**.

When? Standard publication takes place twelve months after the date of international registration – normally the date on which you filed your application.

You can also request immediate publication or publication at a chosen time (up to 30 months from the filing date, subject to domestic laws) in order to time public disclosure of your designs based on your market needs.

What is the International Designs Bulletin?

An official publication, released weekly, that contains all data related to new international registrations. **It is the official data reference for everyone: holders of international registrations, IP offices and the public at large.**

Step four

Substantive examination

The IP offices of some designated contracting parties may perform further substantive review of your registration in accordance with their own domestic law. For example, are the designs morally acceptable? Note: only a handful of offices perform full examination on novelty (these are called “Examining Offices”).

What if protection is refused? You can contest refusals at the domestic level. Any office that refuses protection will inform you – through WIPO – of the substantive reasons for, and the procedure to contest, refusal.

IP rights are territorial so refusal by one office does not affect your international registration in other designated jurisdictions.

If no refusal is issued within six months of publication of an international registration – twelve months for examining offices and those with opposition procedures – protection is deemed to be granted under domestic laws.

Duration of protection

How long are international design registrations valid?

Five years

The initial period of protection under the Hague System is five years.

Renew twice or more

It is possible to renew an international registration at least twice.

Fifteen years or more

If the domestic law of designated contracting parties allows for a longer term of protection, your international registration will also benefit!

The Hague System guarantees at least 15 years of protection.

Fees

The cost of filing an international application varies according to the number of designs covered, the number of reproductions included, the contracting parties you designate, etc.

You can use the Hague System Fee Calculator to quickly estimate filing or renewal fees.

Hague System tools

Our complimentary informational tools and guides make filing an international application even easier for you:

Hague System Member Profiles

Search for country-specific general and legal information on any contracting party in our **Hague System Member Profiles**.



Hague System Guide for Users

Find detailed legal and procedural information on the Hague System in our comprehensive **Guide for Users**.

Guidance on reproductions

Consult our **Guidance on reproductions** to avoid common pitfalls when preparing reproductions.



Resources

You can find out more about the multitude of designs registered under the Hague System and in other data collections.



Global Design Database

The Global Design Database lets you search through the millions of designs that exist under the Hague System and in the collections of participating offices including China, the European Union, Japan and the United States of America.

Hague Express

Using Hague Express you can search for information on international registrations, including status and historical data.

Hague System Statistics

Hague System statistics give you all the latest information on which countries are the biggest users of the Hague System, who are the top filers, which are the top industry sectors and more.

Designs in action

The Hague System has helped countless companies of all sizes to protect and leverage their creative assets. Through our series of Hague System stories you can gain insights into how designs work in the real world and how they can help you obtain wider market recognition and increase your global competitiveness.

Featured stories include:



Kubota,
Japan
Designing
for the
future

Japanese corporation Kubota – an industry leader in agricultural and small construction machinery; engine design and production – uses design as a means to strengthen the value of its brand, adopting a ‘family look’ strategy with a unified design and color palette applied to all of its products.



Seacsub, Italy
Diving Deeper
into Design

For almost a century, snorkeling masks have remained essentially the same, with limited design innovation. Although full-face snorkeling masks started to appear on the market, they were heavy, cumbersome and unappealing. Seacsub came up with such a game-changing design with their Unica full face mask, that they completely revolutionized snorkeling.



TechSafe,
France
Designing
Smart
Urban Energy
Solutions

“SunScreen” is a road-side wall that acts as an extremely effective noise barrier and generates solar power. With aesthetics a major concern surrounding most renewable energy technologies, TechSafe had to ensure that SunScreen could easily blend into its surroundings. The solution: a simple and clean design, with a neutral and muted earth-tone color palette.



Neofect design and create smart gloves and boards for use in rehabilitation following injury or illness, helping people regain independence. Their award-winning 'Neomano' – a three-digit leather robo-glove, protected through WIPO's Hague System – is designed for comfort, strength, durability and naturally blends with the user.

Find out more

Do you want to know more about the Hague System and how you can leverage it to protect your designs internationally? Do you have any specific questions about the international application or registration process? **Contact Hague!**



Our Customer Service team is available to assist you throughout the lifecycle of your international design applications and registrations.

Webinars

We offer free interactive webinars on the Hague System, providing practical information on a wide range of topics related to international design protection and giving you the opportunity to interact directly with Hague System experts.



WIPO Hague System: Securing your designs since 1925.



www.wipo.int/hague



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WIPO Reference RN2022-25E
DOI: 10.34667/tind.46999