



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

34, chemin des Colombettes, P.O. Box 18, CH-1211 Geneva 20 (Switzerland)
‡ (41-22) 338 91 11 – Facsimile (International Industrial Design Registrations Section): (41-22) 338 97 38
e-mail: intreg.mail@wipo.int – Internet: <http://www.wipo.int>

THE HAGUE AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

Entry into force of the Common Regulations: Publication of the Bulletin

1. In view of the entry into force, on April 1, 2004, of the Common Regulations under the 1999 Act, the 1960 Act and the 1934 Act of the Hague Agreement (see Information Notice No. 12/2003), the attention of users of the Hague system is drawn to the following.

Mode of Publication

2. Under the current international procedure, the *International Designs Bulletin* (hereinafter referred to as “the Bulletin”) is published by the International Bureau on CD-ROM.

3. Pursuant to Rule 26(3) of the Common Regulations under the 1999 Act, the 1960 Act and the 1934 Act, the publication of the Bulletin will take place on **WIPO’s Internet website**, at the following address: *www.wipo.int*.

Timing of publication

4. In contrast with the current Regulations, the general rule under the Common Regulations is that publication will take place **six months** after the date of the international registration, unless the applicant requests one of the following:

– an immediate publication (by ticking the appropriate box in item 13 of the international application form). It being understood that the notion of “immediate” publication should take account of the time required by the International Bureau to carry out the relevant technical preparations;

– a deferment of publication. It is in particular to be noted that, unlike the current position, deferment of publication will not be possible where a Contracting Party has been designated *under the 1934 Act*. Furthermore, the fee which is currently applicable where deferment of publication is requested (93 Swiss francs) will no longer be required under the Common Regulations.

5. For further information on issues concerning publication, including the conditions to be met for requesting deferment of publication and the duration of such deferment, users are invited to refer to the *Guide for the International Registration of Industrial Designs*, which may be consulted on WIPO’s website.

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