



**WIPO | HAGUE**

The International  
Design System

# **Sub-regional Workshop on the Hague System for Stakeholders in Botswana, Ghana, Namibia, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe**

**The Hague System – Overview, Benefits and Success Stories**

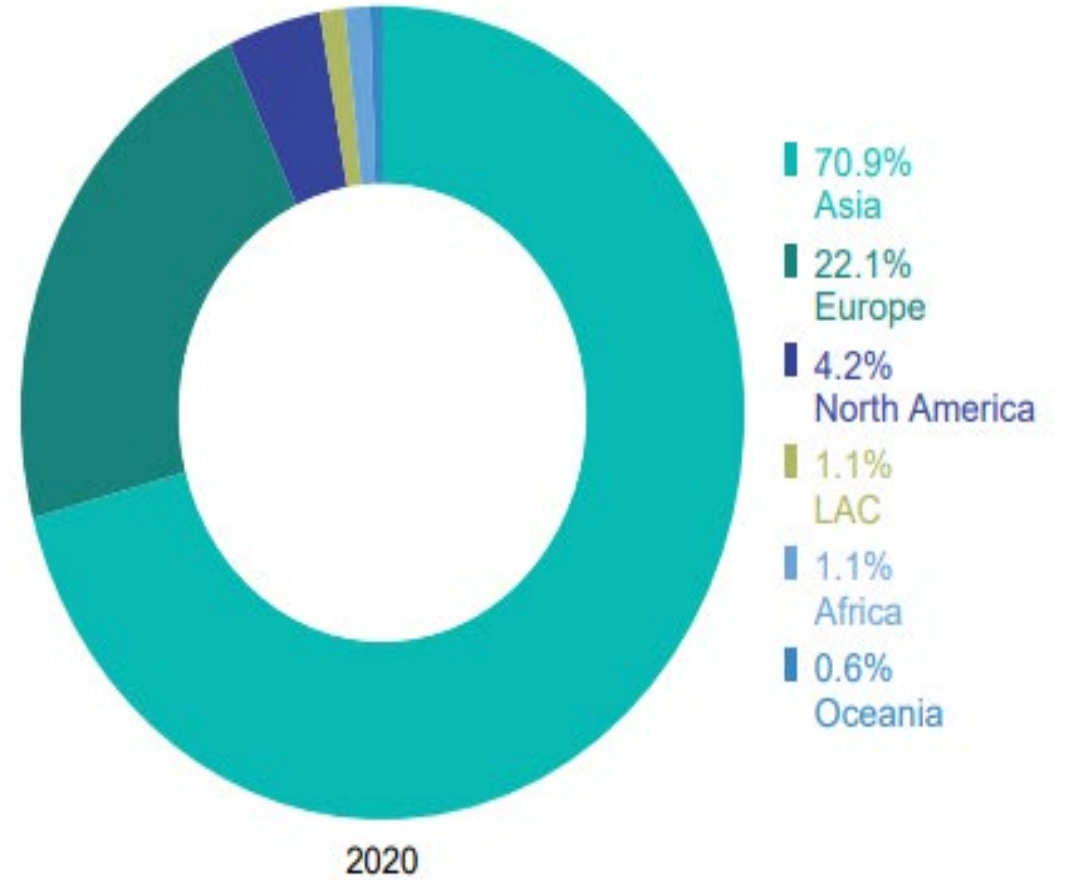
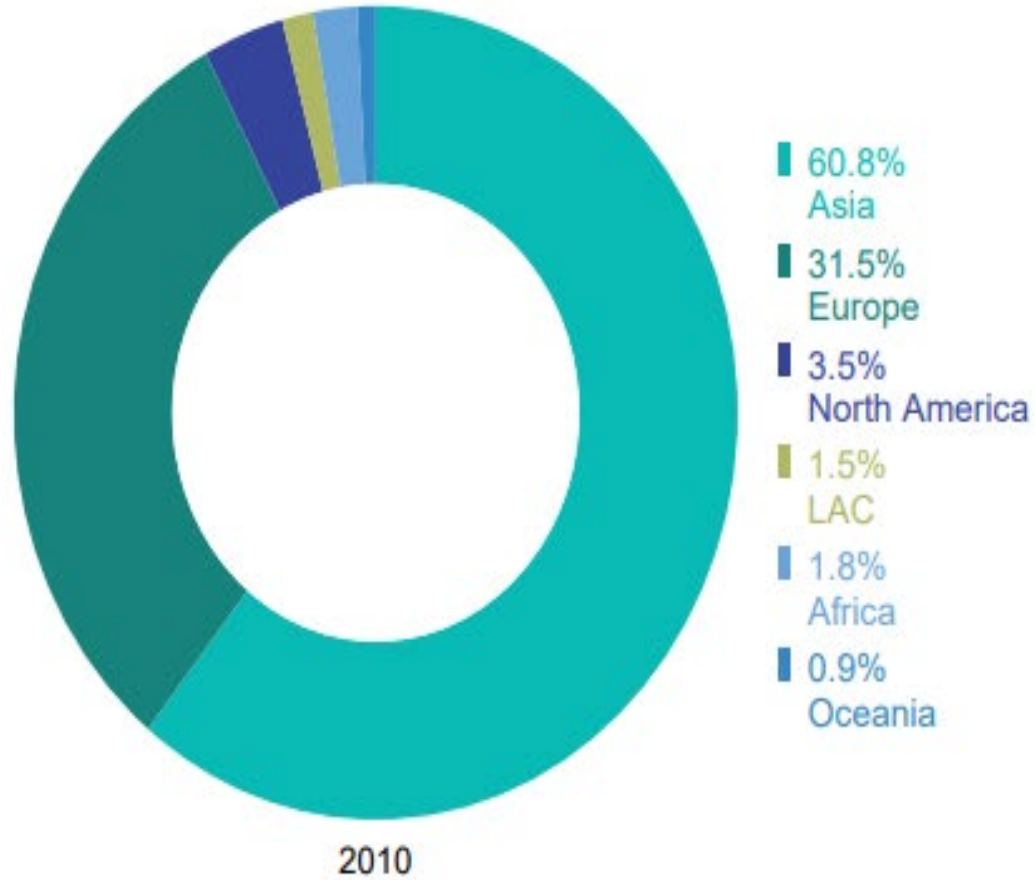
**Max Germeil, Associate Market Analyst  
Hague Development and Promotion Section,  
Hague Registry, Brands and Designs Sector, WIPO**

**November 1, 2022**

# Overview of the Hague System

- Designs in Action and Why Protecting them?
- The Framework and the Features of the Hague System
- The Domestic Route vs Hague International Route
- Recent Accessions to the Geneva Act (1999)
- Advantages of the Hague System (3 Es)
- The International Design Registration Process
- Some of Hague Resources
- Some Statistics
- The Success Stories
- Developments and innovations

# Application Design Counts by Regions 2010 and 2020



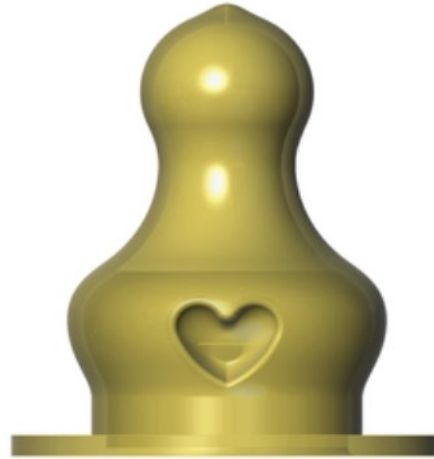
# Some industrial design samples



DM/210497 - CH



DM/213280 - CH



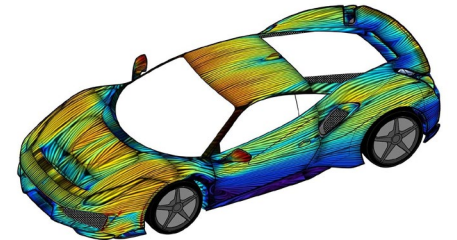
DM/213179 - DK



DM/211778 - CN



DM/210612 - US



DM/209317 - IT

# Why protect your designs?



**Hague Agreement Concerning  
the International Registrations  
of Industrial Designs**

Treaties

of November 6, 1925



- I. Hague Act 1960
- II. Complementary Act of Stockholm 1967  
as amended on September 28, 1979
- III. Geneva Act 1999

**Common Regulations**

(as in force on January 1, 2022)  
and

**Administrative Instructions**

(as in force on January 1, 2019)

**WIPO Publication No. 269E/22**



2022



**The Hague  
System**

**+ National  
laws and  
regulations**



# Declarations or Cohabitation

## Subject of the declarations per CPs (1/2)

<b>Additional mandatory elements of the international application</b>	Description of design	Article 5(2)(b)(ii)	China, Romania, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam
	Claim	Article 5(2)(b)(iii)	United States of America, Viet Nam
	Identity of the creator	Article 5(2)(b)(i)	Romania
	Special requirements concerning the creator	Rule 8(1)(a)(i)	Finland, Ghana, Hungary, Iceland, Mexico
	Oath or declaration of the creator	Rule 8(1)(a)(ii)	United States of America
<b>Applicant's contracting party</b>	Prohibition of filing through the office	Article 4(1)(b)	African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), Belarus, Belize, Benelux, Canada, Croatia, European Union, France, Israel, Latvia, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, San Marino, Slovenia, Ukraine, United Kingdom
	Prohibition of self-designation	Article 14(3)(a)	None
<b>Date of effect of the international registration</b>	Extension up to six months	Rule 18(1)(c)(i)	China, Mexico, Russian Federation, United States of America
	According to domestic law (safeguard)	Rule 18(1)(c)(ii)	China, Jamaica, Japan, Republic of Korea, United States of America
<b>Deferment of publication</b>	Deferment of publication for less than 30 months from priority date (* from filing date)	Article 11(1)(a)	<b>6 months:</b> Denmark, Finland, Israel*, Norway  <b>12 months:</b> African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), Belize, Benelux, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Croatia, Estonia, Jamaica, Samoa, Slovenia, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom*  <b>18 months:</b> Singapore*
	No deferment of publication	Article 11(1)(b)	Belarus, Hungary, Iceland, Mexico, Monaco, Poland, Russian Federation, Ukraine, United States of America, Viet Nam

## Subject of the declarations per CPs (2/2)

<b>Designation fees</b>	Level of standard designation fee	Rule 12(1)(c)(i)	<b>Level two:</b> Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Morocco, Norway, Poland, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine  <b>Level three:</b> Brunei Darussalam, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, Georgia, Ghana, Iceland, Jamaica, Lithuania, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Viet Nam
	Individual fee in respect of a designation made under the 1960 Act	Rule 36(1)	Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova
	Individual fee in respect of a designation made – and a renewal requested – under the 1999 Act	Article 7(2)	African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), Canada, China, European Union, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, United States of America
<b>Designs / reproductions</b>	Individual designation fee payable in two parts	Rule 12(3)	Mexico, United States of America
	Requirement of unity of design	Article 13(1)	China, Estonia, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Romania, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, United States of America, Viet Nam
<b>Refusals</b>	Certain views of the design required	Rule 9(3)(a)	China, Republic of Korea, Viet Nam
	Extension to 12 months of the refusal period	Rule 18(1)(b)	Canada, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, Iceland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye, United States of America
<b>Other</b>	No effect of change in ownership until specified statements or documents are received by the office	Article 16(2)	African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), China, Denmark, Jamaica, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, United States of America
	Security clearance	Rule 13(4)	Russian Federation, United States of America
	Common office of several states	Article 19(1)	Benelux (Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands)

# Practices and Procedures

## HAGUE SYSTEM MEMBER PROFILES

1  
Select members

2  
Select details

3  
Member information

Which member(s) are you interested in?

Search member



All groupings

- No deferment
- Limited deferment
- Unity of design

- Examining offices (novelty, see [Article 1\(xvii\) of the 1999 Act](#))
- DAS participating offices for design applications
- OAPI

- EU
- LDCs



# Legal and Procedural Resources

- The Guide to the Hague System walks you through the various steps involved in the international registration of designs and includes background information and descriptions of Hague System procedures and requirements with relevant legal citations;
- Guidance on preparing and providing reproductions in order to forestall possible refusals on the ground of insufficient disclosure of an industrial design by examining Offices;
- Guidance on including multiple designs in an international application to avoid issues.

# Main Features (1/2)

- One single international application to register up to 100 designs in 94 countries ( at present);
- A unique mechanism for obtaining and managing design rights in multiple countries or regions through a single application, in a single language (English, French or Spanish) and paying a single set of fees, in only Swiss Francs;
- An international registration is equivalent to a series of national or regional registrations;
- Subsequent management of the international registration of designs (modifications, updates and renewals) is done in a single step through WIPO, saving more time and money.

## Main Features (2/2)

- Schedule the publication date of your international registration among three options – immediate publication, standard publication deadline of 12 months or publication at a chosen date - to fit your business strategy, asking that the publication be done only when you are ready to market your design;
- Renew your international registration in selected or all the Contracting Parties initially designated, and for less or all the designs that the registration included, directly with WIPO;
- Wherever you may be and at any time, benefit from electronic communications sent either to you as holder or to your representative, keeping you informed of the status of your international registration.

# Who can use the Hague System?

- Nationals of Contracting Parties (CPs) or of member states of IGOs that are CPs
- Anyone with a domicile or habitual residence in a CP
- Anyone with a real and effective industrial/commercial establishment in a CP

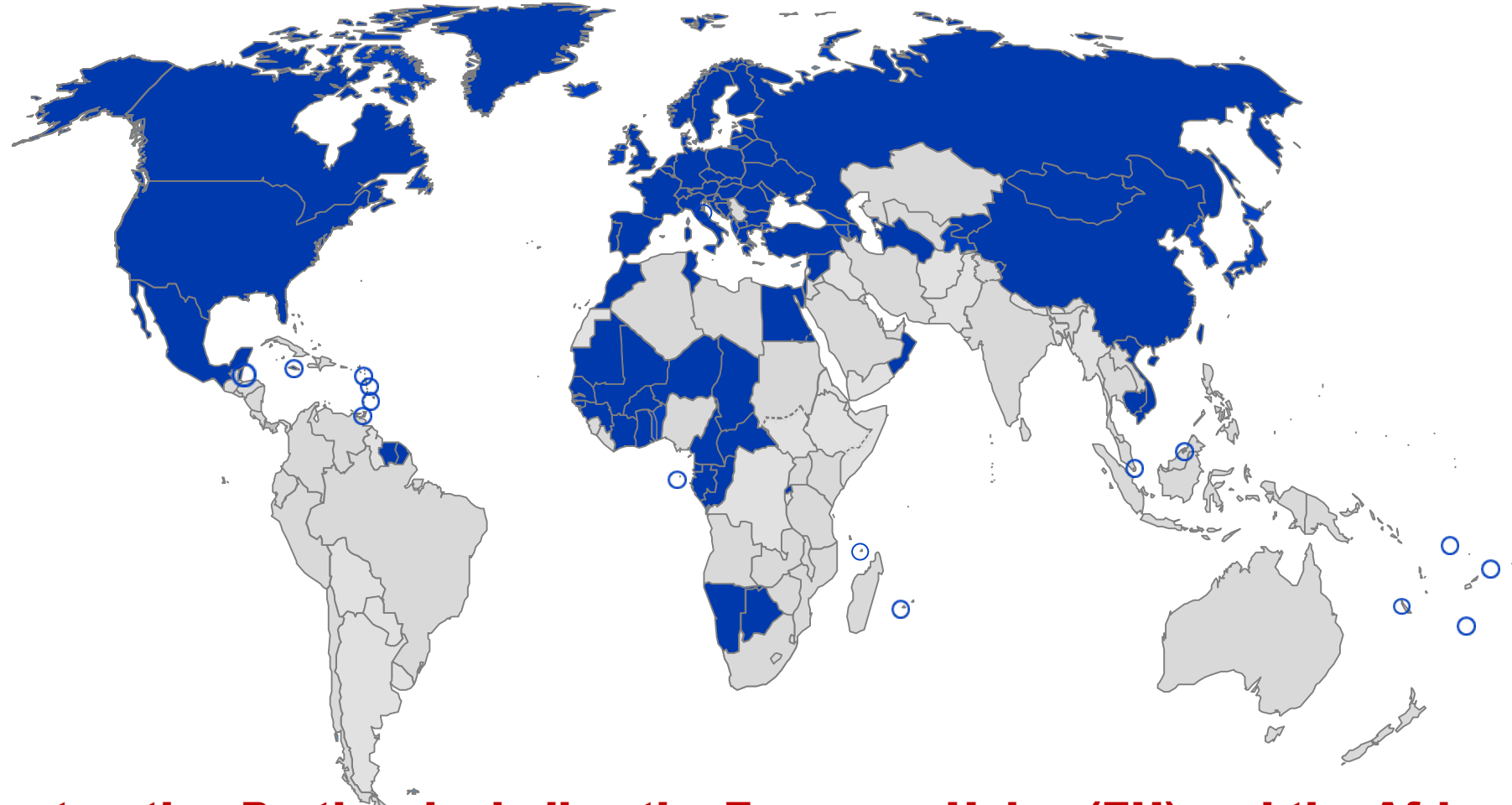
## Particularities:

- ✓ The applicant does not need to have a **basic design** in that CP
- ✓ The applicant may designate its own CP for protection
- ✓ Applicants located in CPs not yet members have their options to use the Hague System





# Members of the Hague Union (1999 Act)



**77 Contracting Parties, including the European Union (EU) and the African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) or 94 countries**



# Recent Accession to the Geneva Act (1999)



**Morocco** (July 22, 2022)



**China** (May 5, 2022)



**Jamaica** (February 10, 2022)



**Belarus** (July 19, 2021)



**Suriname** (September 10, 2020)



**Mexico** (June 6, 2020)



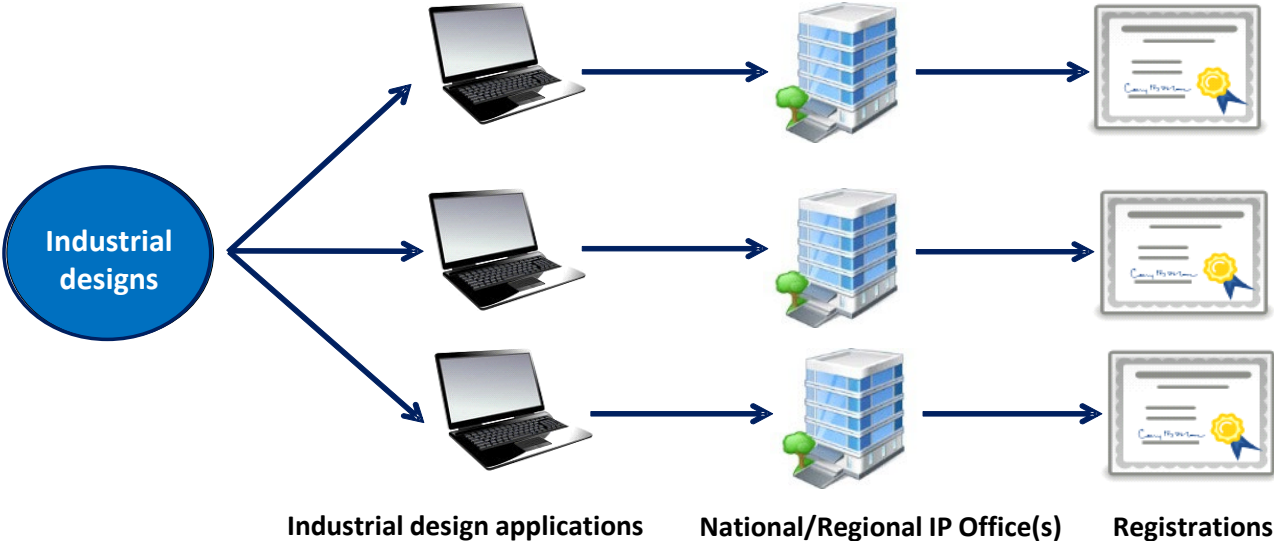
**Israel** (January 3, 2020)



**Samoa** (January 2, 2020)

# Domestic Route vs. Hague International Route

## Domestic/Paris Route



## The Hague System

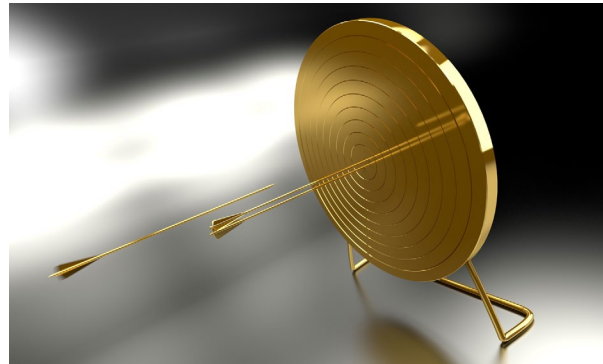


# Advantages of the Hague System

## The 3 Es of the Hague System



■ **Ease of Use**



■ **Efficiency**



■ **Economical**

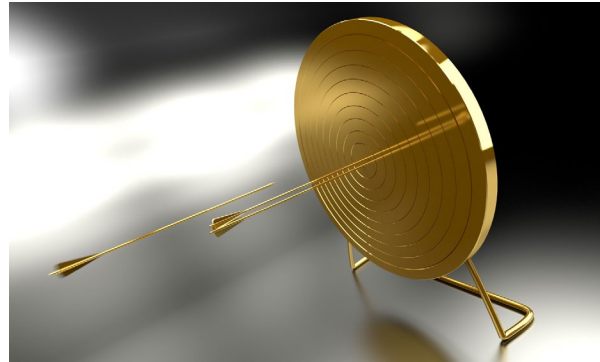
# Advantages of the Hague System

## The 3 Es of the Hague System



### ■ Ease of Use

Anywhere at any time  
Intuitive – integrating the mandatory formal requirement  
Electronic notifications  
Online renewal



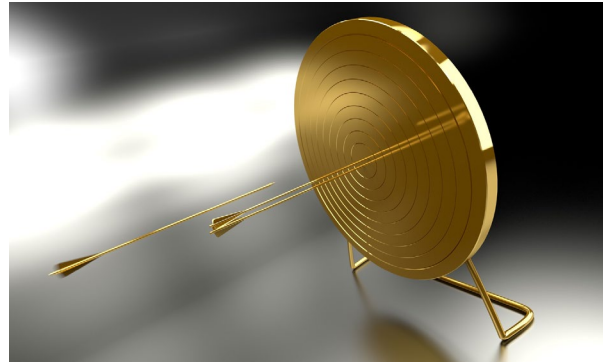
### ■ Efficiency



### ■ Economical

# Advantages of the Hague System

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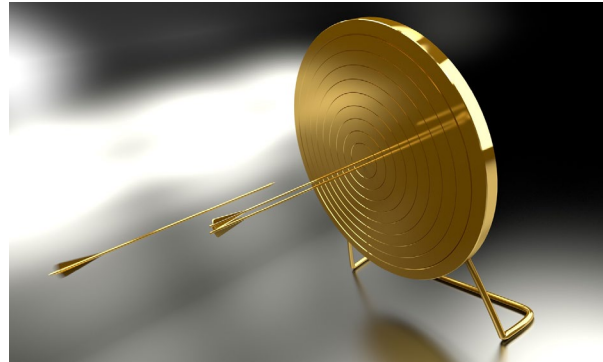
### ■ Efficiency

One international application (*up to 100 designs belonging to the same Locarno Class*)  
One language  
One set of fees  
One currency  
Centralized management

### ■ Economical

# Advantages of the Hague System

## The 3 Es of the Hague System



### ■ Ease of Use

Anywhere at any time  
Intuitive – integrating the mandatory formal requirement  
Electronic notifications  
Online renewal

### ■ Efficiency

One international application (*up to 100 designs belonging to the same Locarno Class*)  
One language  
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Centralized management

### ■ Economical

Key benefit of the Hague System



# Key Services of the Hague System

## eHAGUE SERVICES

### FILE

Smartly file an application online anytime,  
anywhere.

Get started

### RENEW

Renew your registration the easy way.

Get started

### MANAGE REPRESENTATIVE

Appoint or cancel a representative

Get started

### MY WORKBENCH

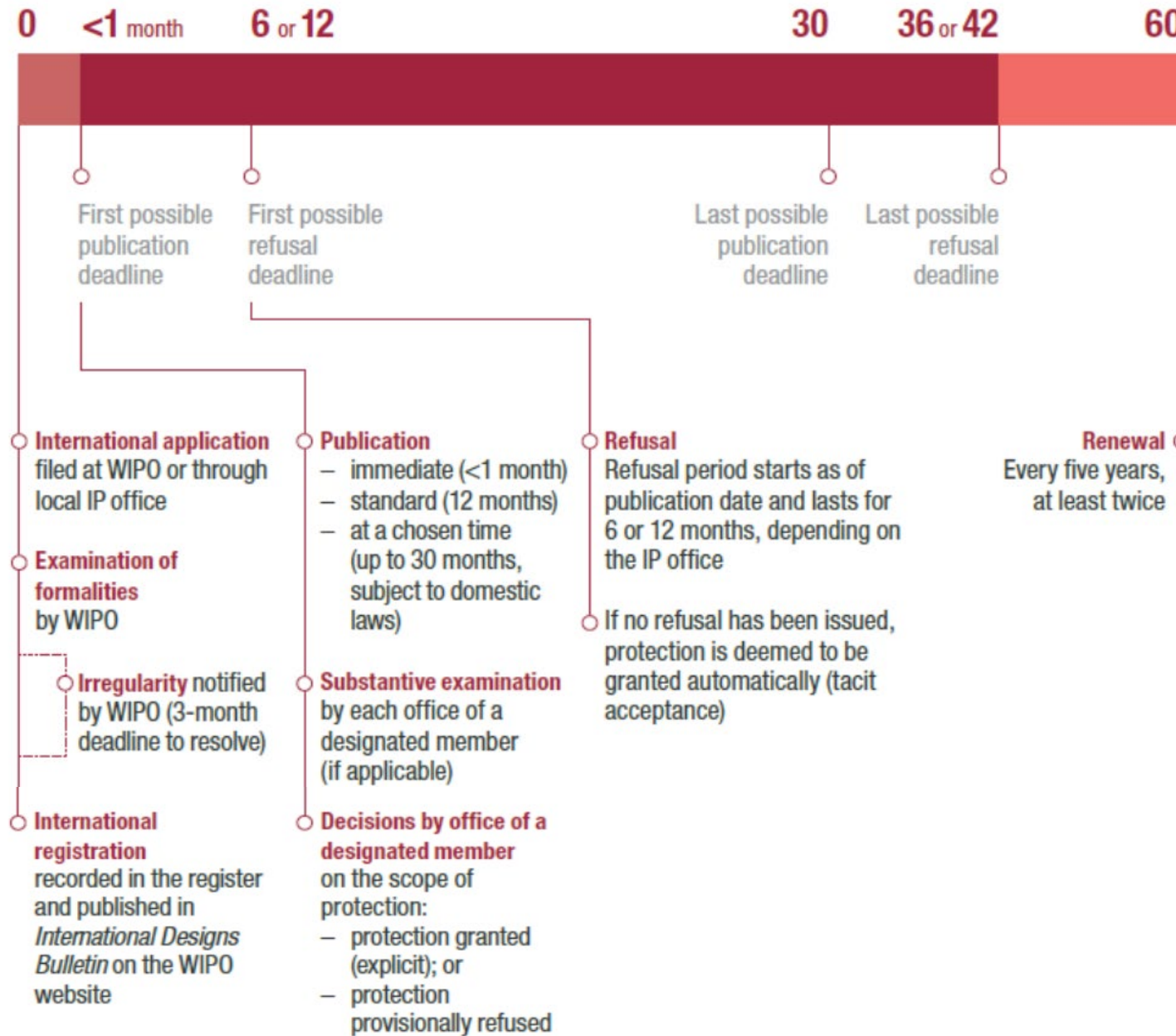
Open my workbench

Get started

# Optimal Use of eHague

- Discover the interface, the features to maximize eHague when filing an international application;
- Take time to familiarize yourself with the tool;
- Get the most out of eHague by:
  - ✓ Utilizing the available resources to assist you during the filing process;
  - ✓ Creating a WIPO account;
  - ✓ Utilizing the intuitive aspects of eHague to create, edit and file the international design application online;
  - ✓ Paying the taxes related to the filing;
  - ✓ Contacting and communicating with WIPO directly (the examiner) regarding the application during the examination process; and
  - ✓ Managing a registration or portfolio of international design registrations.

# The Hague Design Registration Process



# Some Resources and Online Tools

## Want to know more?



Video: designs and protection



Digital Information Kit



Designs in Action



Webinars

## Using the Hague System

The Hague System supports you throughout the lifecycle of your designs, from application for protection through to renewal.



How the Hague System works

Learn all about the process of



Filing applications and renewing registrations



Managing registrations

Find out how to make changes



Searching protected designs

Check what your competitors

# Some Resources and Online Tools

## HAGUE SYSTEM MEMBER PROFILES

Access a wide range of information on the practices and procedures of Hague System members. Select the members or relevant groupings. For complementary resources, consult the [Hague System website](#).

1 Select members → 2 Select details → 3 Member information

Which member(s) are you interested in?

Search member

All groupings

No deferralment  
 Limited deferralment  
 Unity of design  
 All members

Examining offices [novelty, see [Article 11](#) of...]  
 DAS participating offices for design applications  
 OAPI

EU  
 LDCs

[OA] African Intellectual Property Organization  
 [AL] Albania  
 [AM] Armenia  
 [AZ] Azerbaijan  
 [BY] Belarus  
 [BZ] Belize  
 [BX] Benelux  
 [BJ] Benin  
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 [SN] Senegal  
 [RS] Serbia  
 [SG] Singapore  
 [SI] Slovenia  
 [ES] Spain

## WIPO IP PORTAL MENU International Designs Bulletin

HELP ENGLISH LOGIN

The Bulletin is the official publication of the Hague System. It contains data regarding new international registrations, renewals, and modifications affecting existing international registrations. The search feature below covers entries published in the Bulletin after 2012. For older records, please refer to the Bulletin archives.

Browse by Bulletin Search by Registration Number

Publication Year: 2021 Bulletin No. - Publication date: 12 - 26.03.2021

Recording Type: Registrations (1960 and 1999 Acts)

Query

Registration Number =

International Registration Date =

Priority Data =

Locarno Classification =

Indication of Products =

Holder =

Designated Contracting Parties =

**Shortcuts**

- Help
- Bulletin archives 2004-2011
- Download XML Bulletin
- Notes on Bulletin information
- Country Codes (ST.3) Pdf
- INID Codes (ST.80) Pdf
- Locarno classification

## WIPO IP PORTAL MENU Hague System Fee Calculator

2022 HELP ENGLISH LOGIN

### Hague System Fee Calculator

Enter the details below to quickly estimate the application or renewal fees in Swiss francs (CHF)

Type: International Application

Date: 25.01.2022

Applicant's State of origin (Hague "1960" Act): Not Selected

Applicant's Contracting Party (Geneva "1999" Act): Not Selected

Add the number of industrial designs: 1

Add the number of reproduction(s) of the industrial design(s): 1

If using the paper application form, add the number of pages of reproductions: (free if you use the e-filing interface) 0

Add the number of words of description: 0

Locarno Classification (for KR designations only): 1

Economic Status (for US designations): Undiscounted (default)

Economic Status (for IL designations): Undiscounted (default)

Economic Status (for MX designations): Undiscounted (default)

Continue

**Related Links**

- Schedule of Fees
- Individual fees
- FAQs
- E-filing Forms

Benelux (BX) designation includes Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands  
 European Union (EM) designation includes its 27 Member states  
 African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) designation includes its 17 Member states

## WIPO IP PORTAL MENU Global Design Database

HELP ENGLISH LOGIN

A world-wide collection of industrial designs data; including WIPO Hague registrations and information from participating offices.

SEARCH BY Design Names Numbers Dates Country Priority

Indication of Product =

Design class =

Description =

search

**FILTER BY** Source Status Designation Locarno Class Reg Year Expiration Holder

Source	Status	Designation	Locarno Class	Reg Year	Expiration	Holder
AL Designs	297	BN Designs	191	BW Designs	203	
CA Designs	181,038	CH Designs	130,581	CN Designs	6,253,162	
CR Designs	1,938	DE Designs	1,223,519	EM Designs	1,406,689	
ES Designs	464,723	FR Designs	784,049	GE Designs	2,531	
ID Designs	52,481	IN Designs	63,318	IT Designs	49,132	
JP Designs	598,850	JO Designs	2,193	KE Designs	1,225	
KR Designs	889,778	MX Designs	1,000	RU Designs	1,000	

1 - 10 / 13,393,955 DESIGN

Sort by Reg. Date - desc

NZ ID 428724

FLUID CONNECTOR

2021-04-01

KPR U.S., LLC

NZ ID 428723

FLUID CONNECTOR

2021-04-01

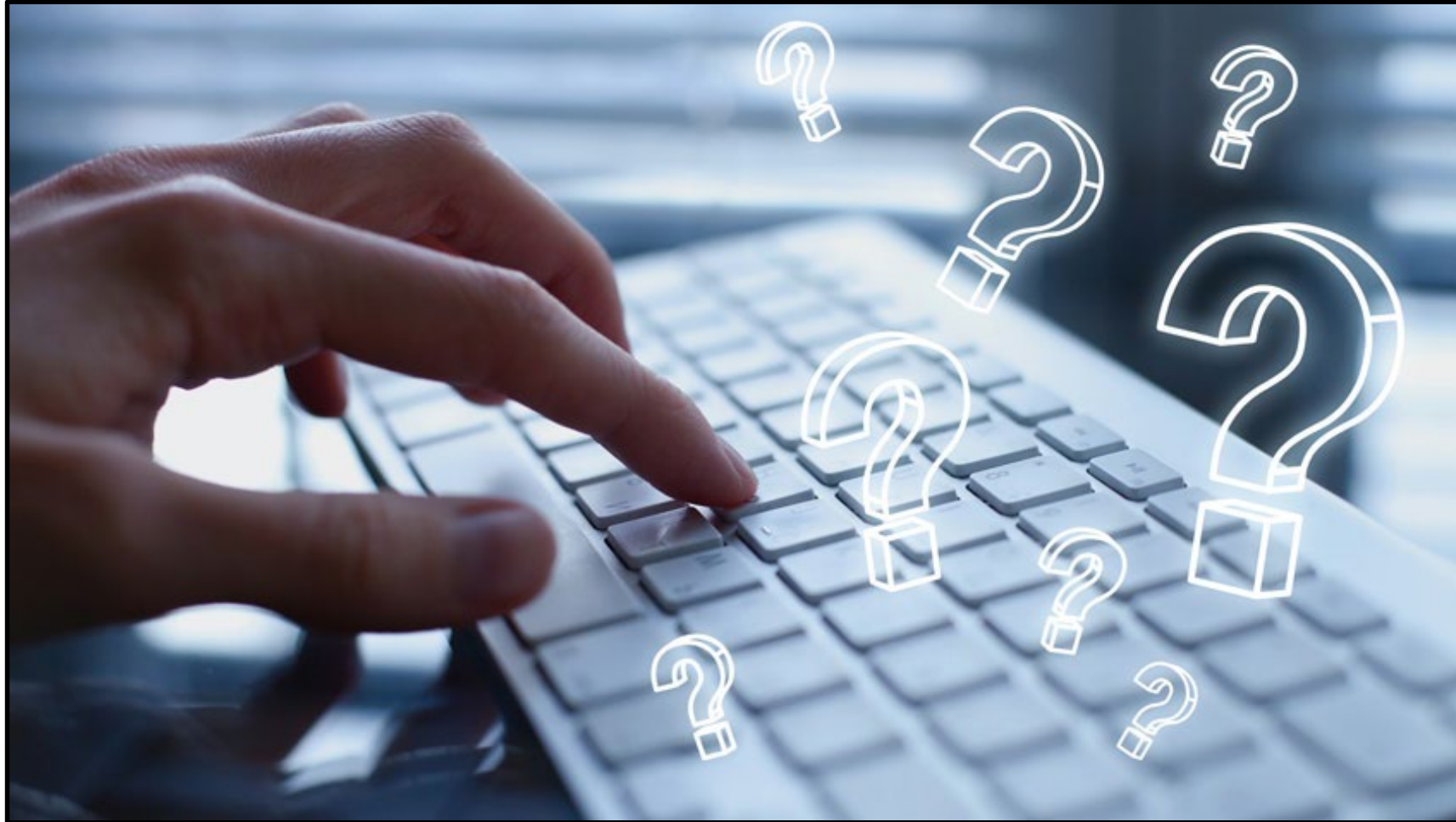
KPR U.S., LLC

NZ ID 428722

FLUID CONNECTOR

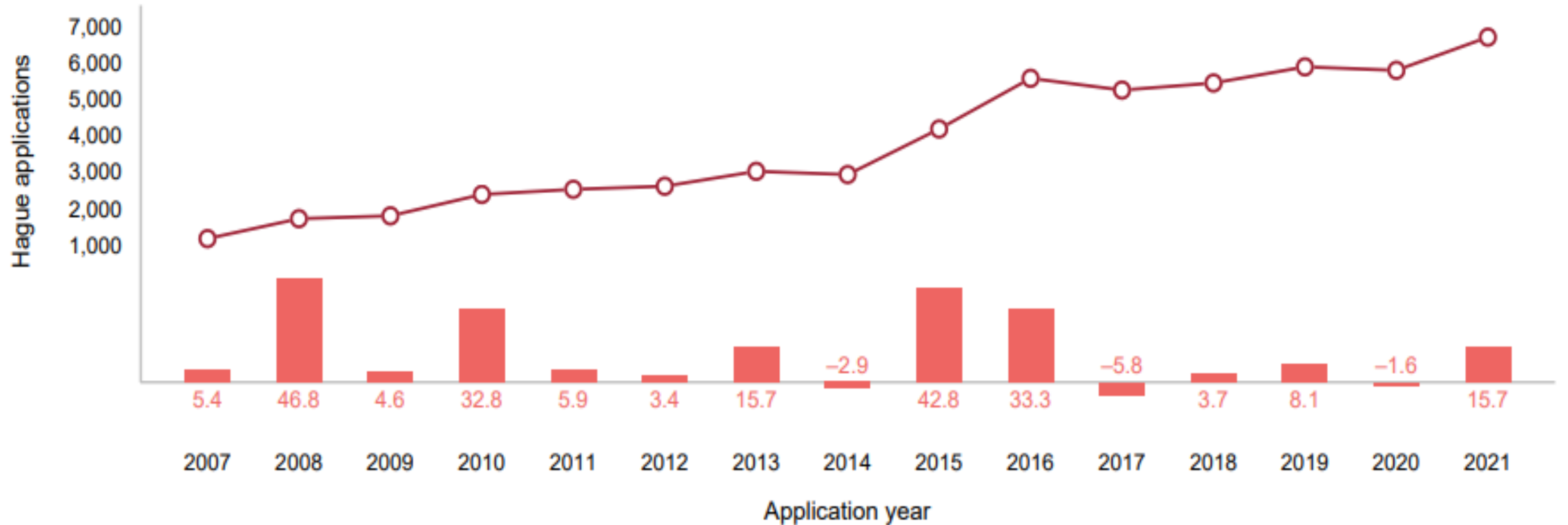


# Some Statistics





# Growth of International Applications 2007/2021



■ HAGUE APPLICATIONS ■ GROWTH RATE (%)

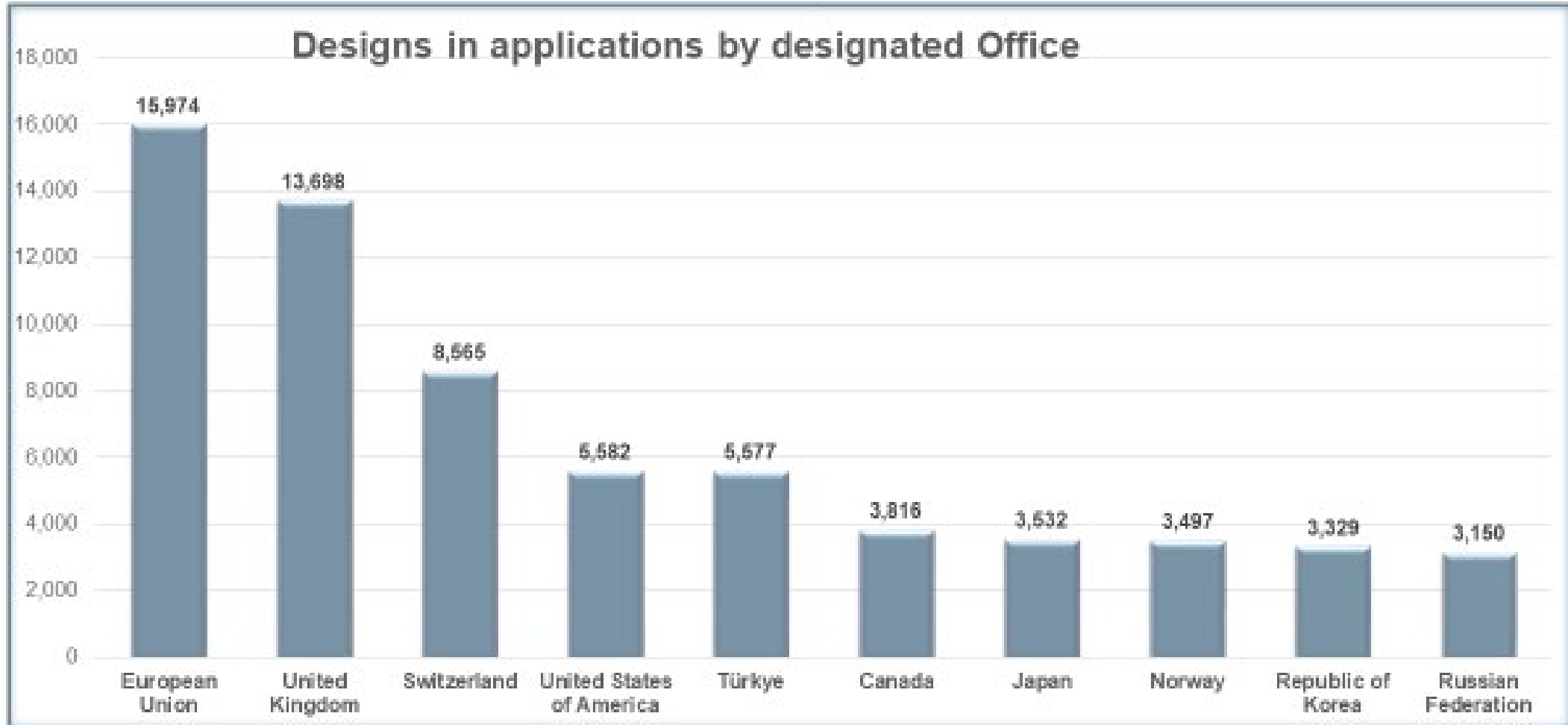
# Which countries filed most in 2021?

Country	Designs
1. Germany	4,469
2. United States of America	2,610
3. Italy	2,051
4. Switzerland	1,826
5. France	1,585
6. Republic of Korea	1,419
7. Netherlands	1,223
8. Japan	907
9. UK	858
10. China	621

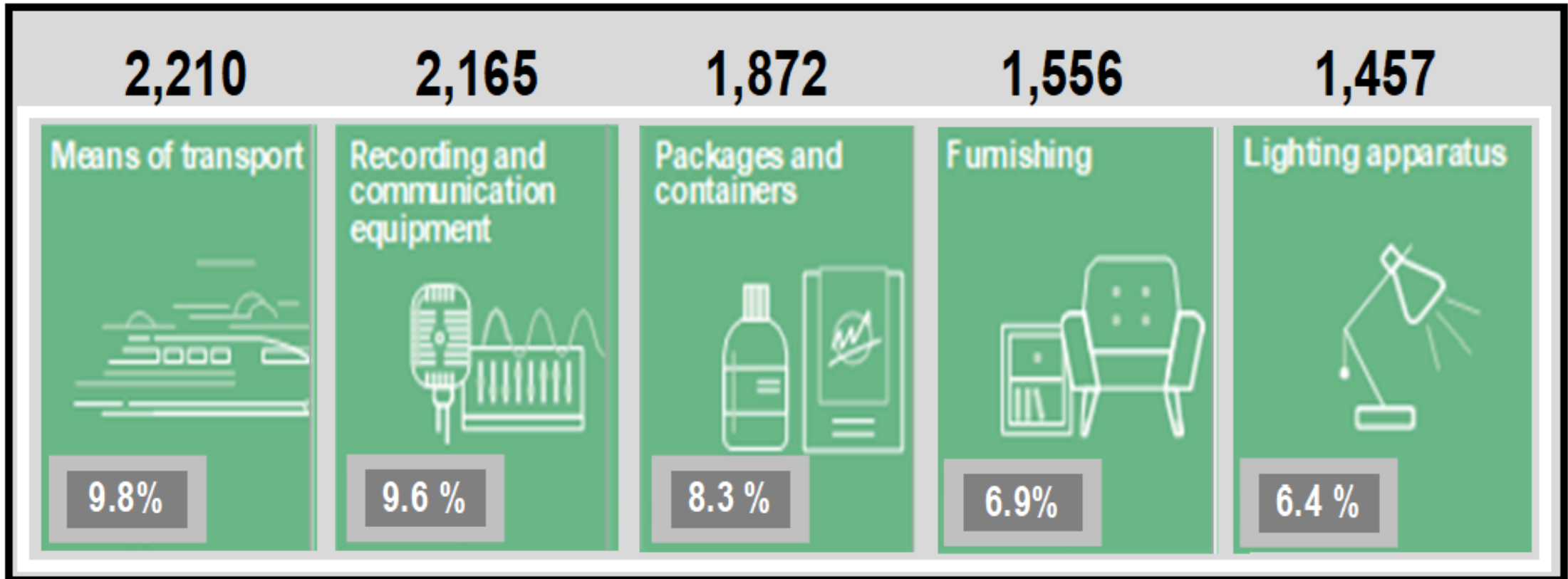
# Top 10 companies in 2021

Ranking	Applicant's name	Origin	Number of designs contained in published applications		
			2019	2020	2021
1	SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.	Republic of Korea	929	859	862
2	KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.	Netherlands	371	463	678
3	PROCTER & GAMBLE CO.	U.S.	405	623	665
4	LG ELECTRONICS INC.	Republic of Korea	598	478	655
5	VOLKSWAGEN AG	Germany	536	524	403
6	PSA AUTOMOBILES SA	France	221	187	303
7	THUN S.P.A.	Italy	241	175	284
8	BEIJING XIAOMI MOBILE SOFTWARE CO., LTD.	China	172	516	227
9	LUQOM GMBH	Germany	0	0	216
10	HARRY WINSTON SA	Switzerland	94	132	196

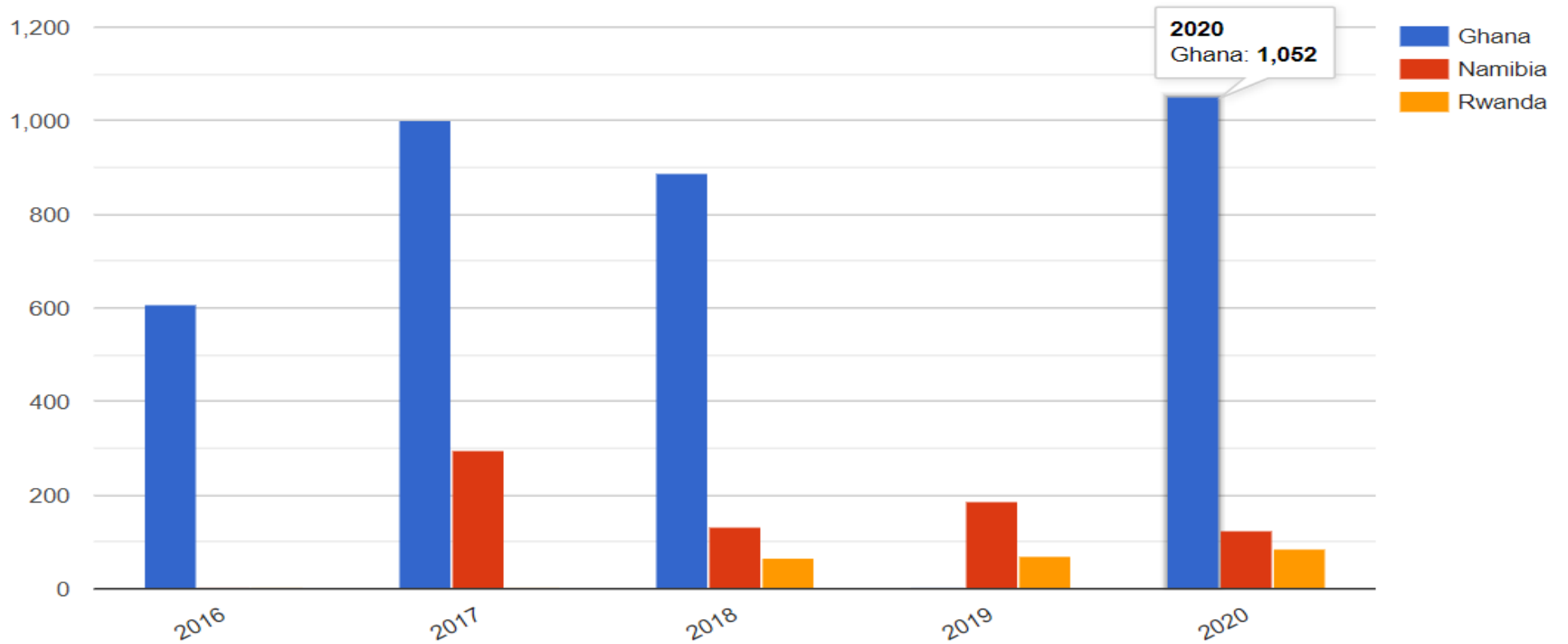
# Top 10 Designated Contracting Parties in 2021



# Top Five Classes in 2021

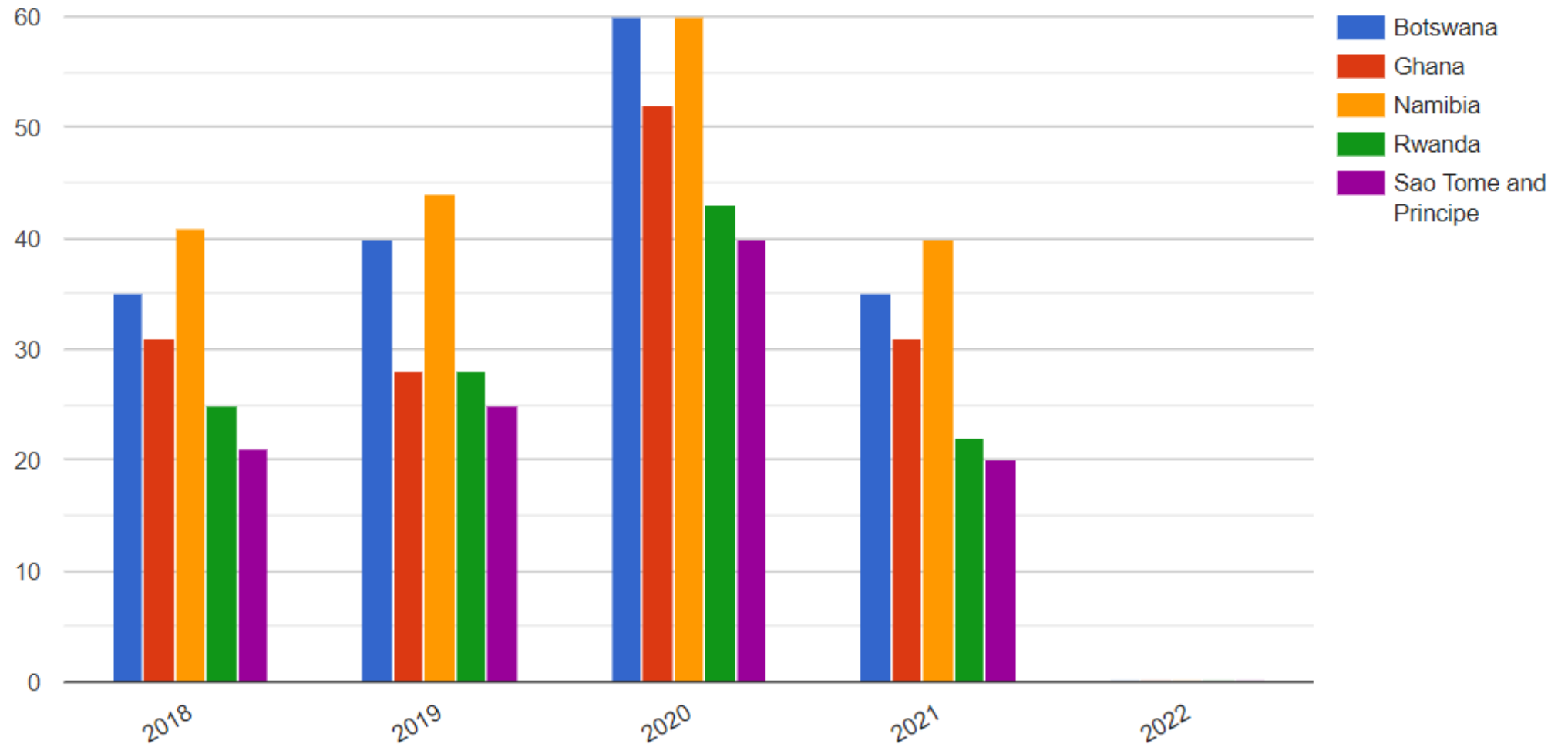


# Design count by Offices (Ghana, Namibia and Rwanda), from 2016/2020





# International Registrations by Designated Offices – 2018 to 2021



# Hague System Stories and Designs in Action

- From Morocco Ingelec's double switch and socket design:  
<https://www.wipo.int/ipadvantage/en/details.jsp?id=2649>;
- From Japan Daio Paper's uniquely designed 'Night Junior' disposable diaper: <https://www.wipo.int/ipadvantage/en/details.jsp?id=12428>;
- From Italy Diving Deeper into Design with Seacsub:  
[https://www.wipo.int/hague/en/stories/hague\\_system\\_stories\\_seacsub.html](https://www.wipo.int/hague/en/stories/hague_system_stories_seacsub.html);
- From China Xiaomi – Improving Lives through Good Design:  
[https://www.wipo.int/hague/en/stories/hague\\_system\\_stories\\_xiaomi.html](https://www.wipo.int/hague/en/stories/hague_system_stories_xiaomi.html)
- Other Hague System Stories and Design in Action:  
<https://www.wipo.int/hague/en/stories/>

# Developments and innovations

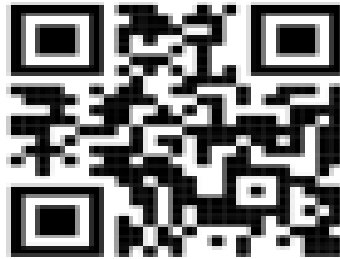
- Recent and future developments of eHague;
- Legal outcome or improvements recently put in place to better assist users;
- Webinars delivered throughout the year;
- Partnerships with IP umbrella associations and with IP Offices of Contracting Parties, and « Open Discussions » and « Guided Dialogues » with national and regional end-users of the Hague System;
- Live Chat between users and experts of the Hague System at WIPO.



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Visit us at:

<https://www.wipo.int/hague/en/>



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### News

[All news](#)

[The Hague System at AIPLA 2021](#)  
October 22, 2021

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[Search for Designs and more Using WIPO IP Portal Widgets](#)  
October 18, 2021

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[Designs in Action: Neofact – Connecting People with Design and Technology](#)  
September 23, 2021

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[Hague System – Exclusive use of electronic communications](#)

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