

**B1****Information on Contracting States****B1****FR****FRANCE****FR****General information**

Name of Office:	Institut national de la propriété industrielle (INPI) (France) National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) (France)
Location and mailing address:	15 rue des Minimes, CS50001, 92677 Courbevoie Cedex, France
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Internet:	<a href="http://www.inpi.fr">www.inpi.fr</a>
Does the Office accept the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4)?	Yes, by facsimile machine
Which kinds of documents may be so transmitted?	All kinds of documents
Must the original of the document be furnished in all cases?	Yes, within 14 days from the date of the transmission
Would the Office accept evidence of mailing a document, in case of loss or delay, where a delivery service other than the postal authorities is used (PCT Rule 82.1)?	No
Competent receiving Office for nationals and residents of France:	National Institute of Industrial Property (France), European Patent Office (EPO) or International Bureau of WIPO, at the choice of the applicant (see Annex C)
Does national legislation <sup>1</sup> restrict the filing of international applications with the European Patent Office (EPO) or the International Bureau of WIPO?	Yes, filing restrictions apply to: Applications by natural or legal persons having a residence or principal place of business in France <sup>2</sup>
Competent designated (or elected) Office if France is designated (or elected):	European Patent Office (EPO) (see National Phase)
May France be elected?	Yes (bound by Chapter II of the PCT)
Types of protection available via the PCT:	European patents
Provisions of the law of France concerning international-type search:	None (but the search carried out by the European Patent Office (EPO) on national applications is equivalent to an international-type search)

*[Continued on next page]*<sup>1</sup> Intellectual Property Code, Article L 614-18.<sup>2</sup> Unless the priority of an earlier application filed in France is claimed.

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Provisional protection after international publication:

Designation for the purposes of a European patent:

(1) International application published in one of the EPO official languages: damages, possibly seizure of the articles infringing the patent; however, the court hearing the infringement action stays proceedings until the patent is granted; any national requirements relating to the translation of the claims in the application must be met.

(2) International application published in a language which is not an EPO official language: the protection referred to in (1) does not become effective until the EPO publishes the international application supplied to it in one of its official languages.

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**Information of interest if France is designated (or elected)**

**See European Patent Organisation (EP) in Annex B2**

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