

Opposition systems

Finland

According to the Patents Act of Finland,¹ any person, including the proprietor of the patent, can file an opposition against a granted patent. The opposition must be filed in writing within nine months from the date of the grant of the patent and it must specify the grounds on which it is made. The proprietor of the patent will be notified thereof and he will be given an opportunity to make observations on the opposition. According to Section 25 of the Patents Act, a patent shall be revoked on the following grounds:

- (i) the invention lacks novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
- (ii) the patent relates to an invention the description of which is not sufficiently clear to enable a person skilled in the art to carry out the invention;
- (iii) the patent contains subject matter not included in the application as filed;
- (iv) the scope of protection was extended after the notice that the application can be accepted.

An opposition fee must be paid.

¹ Patents Act 15.12.1967/550.