

**Intellectual Property Department
Government of the Hong Kong SAR**



Circular No. 1 of 2004

**Intellectual Property (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2001 (2 of 2001)
(Commencement) Notice 2004,**

Patents (General)(Amendment) Rules 2004,

Registered Designs (Amendment) Rules 2004, and

Trade Marks (Amendment) Rules 2004

The Amendment Rules

The Patents (General)(Amendment) Rules 2004, Registered Designs (Amendment) Rules 2004 and Trade Marks (Amendment) Rules 2004 (collectively referred to as the "Amendment Rules" below) come into force today, 7 May 2004.

The Amendment Rules amend relevant provisions of the Patents (General) Rules, Registered Designs Rules and Trade Marks Rules to :

1. facilitate the electronic filing and processing of patent applications and applications for registration of designs;
2. streamline procedures in the Patents and Designs Registries;
3. reduce fees payable on the filing of documents with the Patents and Designs Registries; and
4. require an agent to notify the respective Registrar of the address in Hong Kong where he resides or carries on his business activities.

The full text of the Amendment Rules can be viewed at <http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index.cgi?lang=e> (gazette date: 12 March 2004).

**Intellectual Property (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2001 (2 of 2001)
(Commencement) Notice 2004**

By virtue of the Intellectual Property (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2001 (2 of 2001) (Commencement) Notice 2004, provisions in the Intellectual Property (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2001 (2 of 2001) relating to the use of electronic means for the publication of patents and designs and other related notifications come into operation today.

The Commencement Notice can be viewed at <http://www.gld.gov.hk/cgi-bin/gld/egazette/index/cgi?lang=e> (gazette date: 12 March 2004).

Official Journal

With effect from 7 May 2004, the official journal of record specified under section 150A of the Patents Ordinance and section 84A of the Registered Designs Ordinance shall be the Hong Kong Intellectual Property Journal at <http://www.info.gov.hk/ipd/hkipjournal>. This will be published weekly on every Friday, and notices required to be published under the Patents Ordinance and the Registered Designs Ordinance will appear in it.

New Specified Forms for Trade Marks, Patents and Registered Designs

With effect from today, the Trade Marks, Patents and Designs Registries adopt new specified forms. The forms are published in the Hong Kong Intellectual Property Journal today.

The forms can be downloaded from IPD's website at <http://www.info.gov.hk/ipd/>.

Patents and Registered Designs Fees

The new fee schedules for patents and registered designs can be viewed at http://info.gov.hk/ipd/eng/iplaws/download/download_ipd_form.htm.

Enquiries

Enquiries on this circular can be made by e-mail to: enquiry@ipd.gov.hk

(Teresa Grant)
for Director of Intellectual Property

Teresa Grant (ADIP)
File Reference: 165/TMR/97
Date: 7 May 2004