OAPI Trademark Online Manual

(law firms)





GLOBAL IP & CONSULTING FZ LLE

OAPI Trademark Manual

OAPI trademarks are easily filed online through the GlobalIPCo.com online filing system.

Rights

An OAPI trademark registration prevents others from using a brand name / logo / slogan which is the same as, or confusingly similar to your trademark registration in the following OAPI member States:

Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Togo.

Unlike an ARIPO trademark, where individual member States may be selected, an OAPI trademark automatically covers all member States.

Search

A free public database for OAPI trademark searches is accessible via OAPI Online (http://siege.oapi.int:9092/wopublish-search/public/trademarks). However, the database is not updated and our agent can request a trademark registrabilty search (time for results: approx. 21 working days) for:

	Agent's fee	Official fee	Total fee
First class	Euro 77	Euro 146	Euro 223
Each additional class	Euro 10	Euro 16	Euro 26

Filing an OAPI trademark through GlobalIPCo

- 1. Register on GlobalIPCo.com (there is no subscription / license fee. You are only charged for actions instructed);
- Receive a discount code that reduces pricing for law firms and add this to your profile; and
- 3. Complete the OAPI trademark application form:

Note: OAPI trademark applications must be filed in English / French.

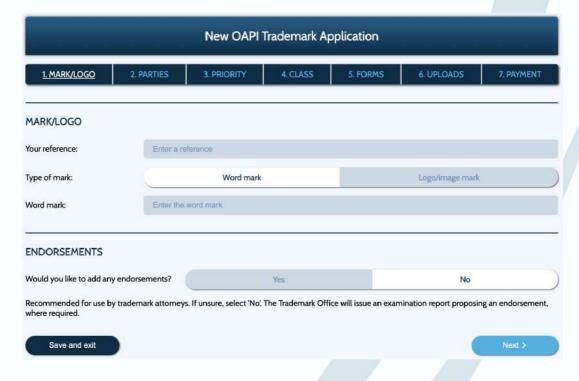
Mark / Logo page

• Your reference: This is the reference used within your business to identify the trademark application.

• Type of mark:

Word mark

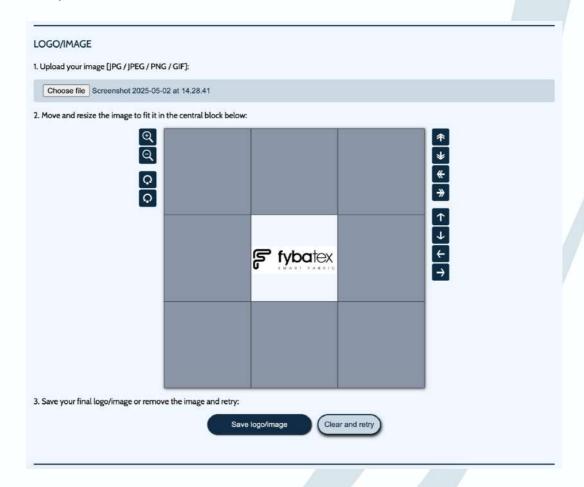
• Word mark: Type the word/s of the trademark, e.g. GLOBAL IP CO.



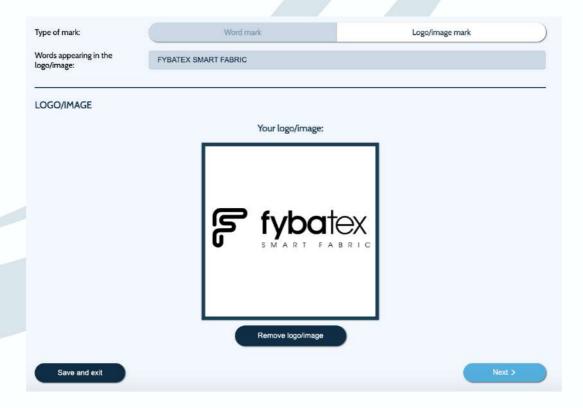
Logo/image mark

- Words appearing in the logo/image: Type all the words and/or numbers appearing in the image. If there are no words/numbers, leave blank.
- Foreign language: If the word mark or logo includes non-English/French text (and/or text not in the Latin alphabet), see the endorsement section below.
- Upload your image and resize the image to fit in the central block:

Example:



Click Save logo/image and review the saved image:



Where the trademark application is for a logo, a "description of the mark" must be added.

• Endorsements:

Transliteration:

If the mark includes non-Latin characters, for example "Technik school 北京", rewrite the entire mark in Latin characters, i.e. "Technik school **Beijing**"

Endorsement that will be submitted: *The transliteration of the mark is "Technik school Beijing"*.

Note: Transliteration is a conversion of text from one alphabet (e.g. Chinese characters) to another alphabet (e.g. Latin / Roman alphabet). Translation is the conversion of a word in a foreign language (e.g. Chinese pinyin) into English/French where both words are in the same alphabet.

Translation / No meaning statement:

If the mark has non-English/French words, indicate whether the non-English/French words have meaning in English/French. If yes, provide the English/French translation of the entire mark. For example, "Technik school 北京" should be translated to "Technology school Beijing".

Endorsement that will be submitted: *The translation of the mark is "Technology school Beijing"*.

Disclaimers:

Disclaim words that are commonly used in the trade associated with the class(es) in which the mark is to be filed. For example, for the mark "Irresistible **Fruit**" in class 29, consider disclaiming "**fruit**".

Endorsement that will be submitted: *Registration of this trademark shall grant no right to the exclusive use of "fruit" separately and apart from the mark.*

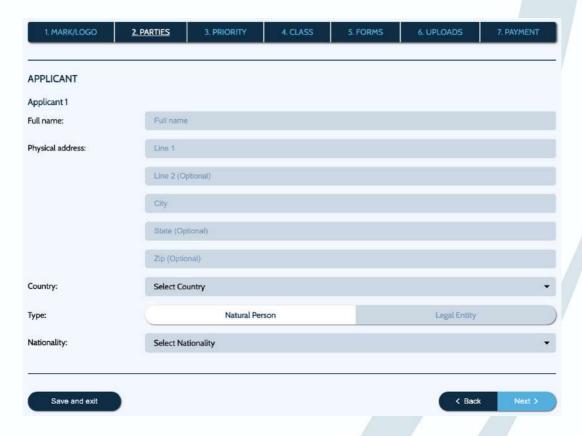
NDORSEMENTS				
ould you like to add any endorsements?	Yes		No	
ecommended for use by trademark attorneys. If here required.	f unsure, select "No". The Trade	mark Office will issue an exa	mination report proposing an endors	emen
Transliterations				
Does the mark include any non-Latin character	ers?	Yes	No	
Please provide the transliteration of the entire		he Enter the transliteration of the mark		
entire mark as written in corresponding Latin o	Example: If the	mark is "Technik school 北京",	the transliteration is "Technik school Běi	jing".
Translation / No Meaning statement				
Does the mark contain any non-English words	s?	Yes	No	
Does the mark have meaning in English?		Yes	No	
Please provide the English translation of the e	entire mark: Enter the En	nglish translation of the mark		
	Example: If the	mark is "Technik school 北京",	the translation is "Technology school Be	ijing".
Disclaimers				
Disclaiming words that are commonly used in	the trade associated with the	classes in which the mark is t	to be filed.	
Would you like to add any disclaimers?		Yes	No	
Disclaimer 1				

Note: The OAPI TMO does not issue office actions relating to association of trademark applications.

Parties page

• Applicant: The applicant may be a natural person, a juristic person (e.g. a company) or a trust. Insert the applicant's physical (not postal) address. When inserting the address, use consecutive rows and do not strictly follow the prompts in the rows (e.g. the Zip code may be entered in the third address row).

Although, OAPI permits co-ownership of trademarks. Apart from charging an additional Euro 199 to claim co-ownership, the OAPI TMO also requires the applicants to submit a co-ownership agreement. Due to the complexity of co-ownership agreements, the GlobalIPCo system does not file OAPI trademarks that cite more than one applicant.



Priority page

Priority: Priority may be claimed from trademark applications filed no more than 6 months earlier. To request priority, a copy of the priority application may be uploaded at the time of filing. If the priority application is not in English/French, the English/French translation (with translator's notice confirming that the translation is "true and correct") should be added at the end of the priority application (as a single pdf file).

A <u>certified copy</u> (hard copy) of the priority document (with translation, if applicable) must be couriered to our agent for submission to the OAPI Trademarks Office (TMO) within 3 months of filing. Our agent's courier address is:

3rd Floor Ndema Mpako Bldg, Opposite Omnisports Stadium Douala-CAMEROON

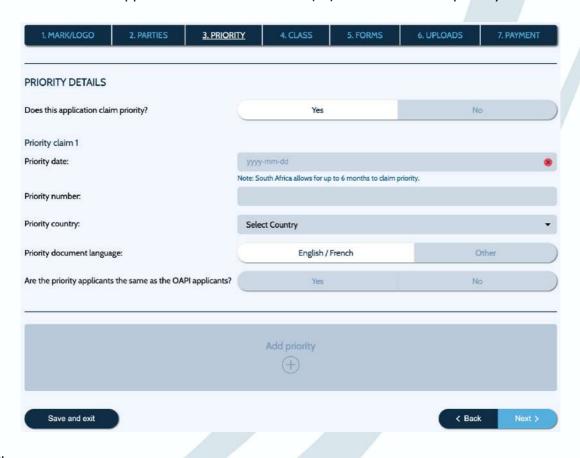
Tel: +237 675991605/696306162 Contact person: Arielle MPECK

Email: arielle@ampeckandpartners.com

This 3 month period cannot be extended and failure to lodge a copy with the OAPI TMO will result in the priority claim being deemed abandoned, requiring a restoration request to reinstate priority.

Notes:

- A multi-class OAPI trademark application may claim more than one priority (with different priority dates).
- If the OAPI trademark applicant is different to the priority trademark applicant, a cession of priority rights agreement must be submitted to the OAPI TMO.
- If the same mark claims priority in a few classes and does not claim priority in other classes, two OAPI trademark applications must be filed one OAPI trademark application for the classes that claim priority and a second OAPI trademark application for the other class(es) that do not claim priority.



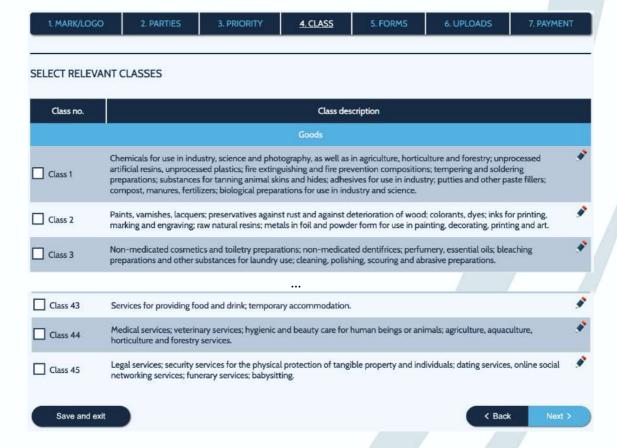
Class page

• **Select class(es):** OAPI permits multi-class trademarks. A single OAPI trademark will be filed, covering all the classes selected.

Trademark protection is limited to the goods/services within the selected class/es. If the incorrect class is selected, the trademark may not be enforced.

OAPI uses the 12th Edition (12-2023), of the Nice Classification of Goods and Services (https://www.wipo.int/classifications/nice/nclpub/en/fr/).

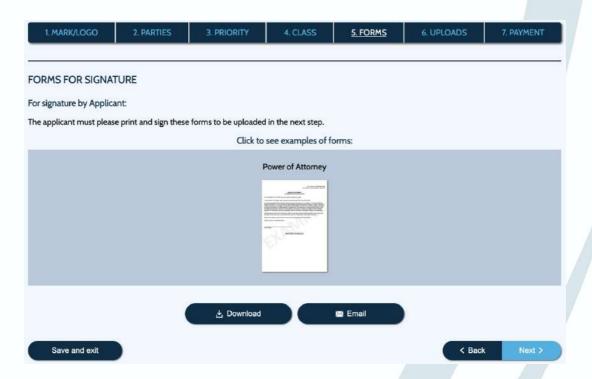
The description of Goods / Services within a class should be edited. Select the appropriate goods / services. You may also substitute the Goods / Services with your own Goods / Services. Do not select include all the goods / services in the class, as doing so will likely result to an office action being issued.



Forms page

 Forms: Download the Power of Attorney for signature. A <u>colour</u> scanned copy of the simply signed / stamped Power of Attorney must be uploaded to the system. The original signed Power of Attorney should also be couriered to our agent (see the courier address under the priority section).

The OAPI TMO may issue an Official Notice requiring the original Power of Attorney to be submitted, in which event the original Power of Attorney must be submitted within 3 months of the date of the notice (extendable by a further 30 days, if applied for before expiry of the 3 month period).



Note: No legalization or notarisation of the Power of Attorney is required. Unfortunately, the OAPI trademark legislation still requires original signed Power of Attorney form to be lodged with the OAPI TMO.

Uploads page

• **Upload:** Upload the signed Power of Attorney; the priority document (if priority is claimed); and an English / French translation of the priority document (with translator's notice) (if the priority document is not in English / French).



Payment page

File / pay: Pay by credit card to complete the filing. The costs are:

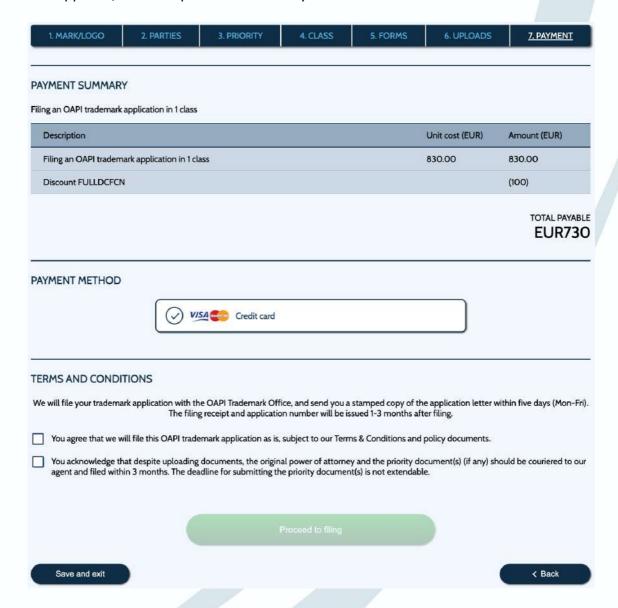
	Official fee	Total fee
Filing:	First class: EUR 549	First class: EUR 730
	Additional class: EUR 115	Additional class: EUR 165
Claiming priority:	EUR 115 per priority	EU 120
	document submitted	
Routine response to	EUR 0	EUR 65
office action - Routine:		
Routine response to	EUR 62	EUR 130
office action – Requiring		
change to register		
(before first		
publication):		
Routine response to	EUR 92	EUR 160
office action – Requiring		
change to register (after		
first publication):		
Requesting 30 day	EUR 0	EUR 65
extension to respond to		
office action		
Courier:		EUR 95 per courier
		parcel, provided that up
		to 10 OAPI trademark
		certificates may be
		included in a courier
		parcel

Note: The filing fee covers filing, publication and issuance of the registration certificate.

If an office action is issued, the charge for a routine response (i.e. submitting outstanding documents or adding a disclaimer) is EUR 65 (irrespective of the number of classes). Office actions should be responded to within 3 months of issuance. This deadline may be extended by 30 days if the request for extension is submitted before expiry of the 3-month deadline. The cost to request a 30-day extension is EUR 65.

An office action that requires a change on the register incurs an additional official fee (that depends on whether the change is made before or after first publication). Examples of such office actions include: translation of the mark, correcting the applicant's name.

Additional costs will be incurred if the trademark is objected to on the basis of a lack of distinctiveness / the trademark being descriptive, or if the trademark is opposed, which is quoted on a case-by-case basis.



Note: OAPI trademarks cannot be paid using a "user account".

Process

The OAPI trademarks office examines trademarks to ensure that they meet the formal and substantive requirements. After publication, the trademark application lies open to opposition for 3 months.

Should registration of the trademark application be opposed, we will send you the notice of opposition and put you in touch with our filing agent. You may choose either to retain our filing agent to deal with the opposition or to engage another OAPI trademark attorney. Should you succeed in defending against the opposition, you will be able to complete the trademark registration process on the system.

Upon receipt of the registration certificate, a scanned copy will be emailed to you. Optionally, you could request courier of the certificate.

Timelines:

Filing receipt and number:	Issued within 1-3 months of filing. (The stamped application letter is returned within 5 days of filing)
Examination:	Within 1-3 months of filing.
Publication:	Typically within 1-4 months of filing. Trademarks are open to opposition for 3 months, calculated from the publication date.
Issuance of certificate:	Typically within 6-12 months of filing. A paper certificate is issued.

Renewal

An OAPI trademark is renewed on each 10th anniversary of the OAPI trademark filing date.

	Official fee	Total PayAnnuity fee (inclusive of official fee)
	First class: EUR 765	EUR 896
Renewal fee	Each additional class: EUR 154	EUR 164
Late payment	EUR 199 (irrespective of the	TBA
penalty	number of classes)	IBA

Renewals may only be paid up to 6 months prior to the due date (and up to 6 months after the due date, subject to a late-payment penalty). Failure to pay a renewal by expiry of the 6 month grace period will require the trademark to be restored.

Where we did not file the OAPI trademark, we require a signed power of attorney, which should be couriered to our agent.

Late-payment:

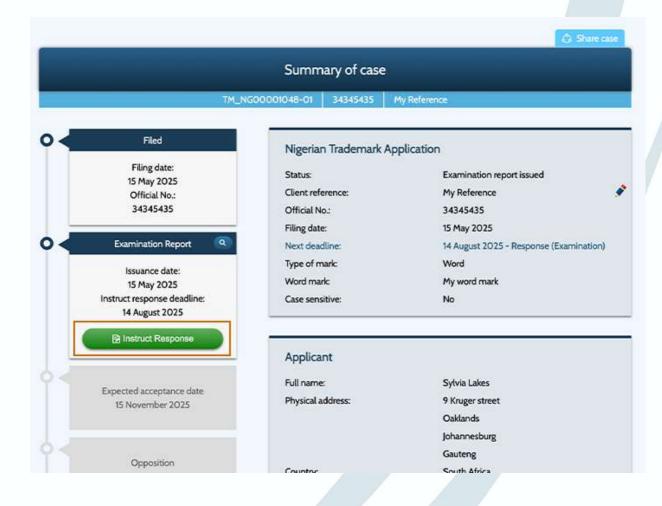
Renewals may be paid during the 6 month grace period on payment of a penalty of Euro 199 (official fees only, irrespective of the number of classes).

Non-use

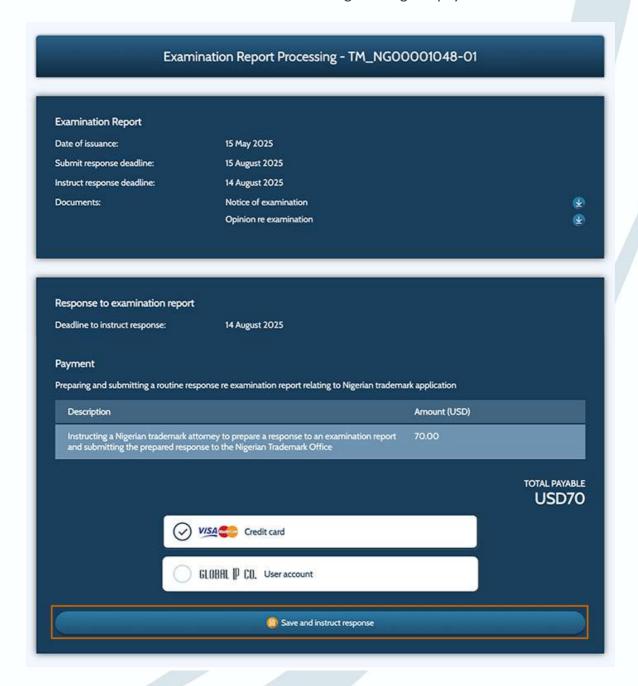
An OAPI trademark may be susceptible to being revoked if not used for 5 consecutive years prior to the date of bringing the cancellation action before the competent court.

How to respond to an office action

1. Click INSTRUCT RESPONSE



2. Click SAVE AND INSTRUCT RESPONSE to go through to payment



How to request courier

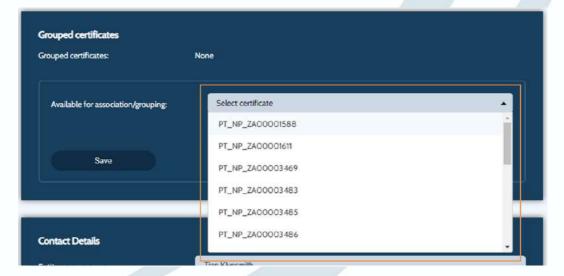
1. Click REQUEST COURIER



2. Click GROUP OTHERS WITH THIS CERTIFICATE



3. Select other case to be grouped in the courier parcel



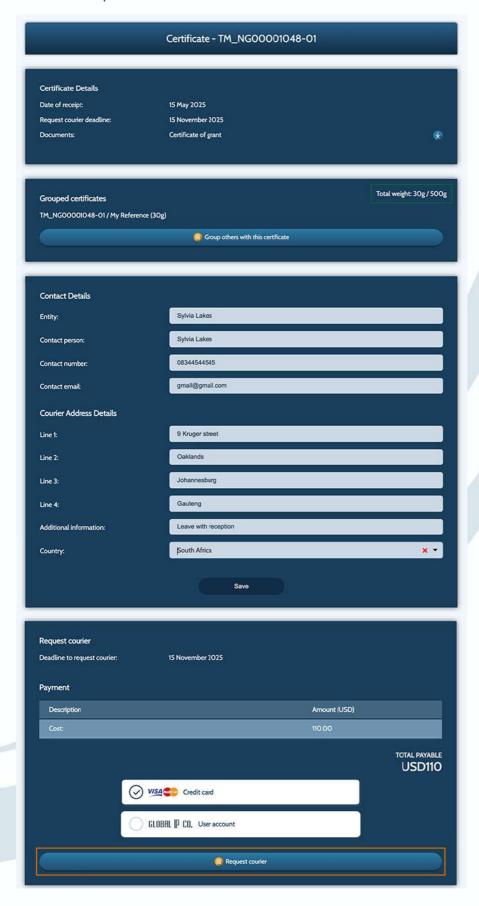
4. Add other cases until the parcel includes 10 OAPI trademark certificates (i.e. the original case plus the 9 added cases)



5. Click SAVE to courier all 10 certificates in a single courier parcel



6. Complete the Contact Details and Address sections and click REQUEST COURIER



Tariff of fees (2025) – OAPI Trademarks

	Official fee	Total fee
File OAPI trademark (using GlobalIPCo		
system)		
- First class	EUR 549	EUR 730
- Each additional class	EUR 115	EUR 165
- Each priority document submitted	EUR 115	EUR 65
Includes: filing, reporting office action,		
first and second publication, grant and		
receiving certificate		
Routine response to office action (if any)		
- No change to register	EUR 0	EUR 60
- Change to register before first	EUR 62	
publication		
- Change to register after first	EUR 92	
publication		4
Courier of trademark certificate (using		\$110, provided
GlobaliPCo system)		that up to 10
		OAPI trademark
		certificates may
		be included in a
Denouvel		courier parcel
Renewal		
If we are and the such Double we the		
If processed through PayAnnuity		
Each 10 th anniversary of the OAPI		
trademark filing date		
- First class	EUR 765	EUR 896
This class	2011 703	2011 030
- Each additional class	EUR 154	EUR164
Assignment; Change of: applicant's		
name; applicant's address;	EUR 406	TBA
Change of address for service	EUR 146	TBA

GLOBAL | P & CONSULTING FZ LLE

https://globalipco.com/ip-online