
Foreword

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the fifth edition of the *World Trademark Review Yearbook*, the reference companion to the acclaimed daily updates of www.WorldTrademarkReview.com and the bi-monthly features of *World Trademark Review*. While the email service keeps practitioners abreast of trademark law developments worldwide in a concise and user-friendly format, and the magazine provides in-depth coverage of national and regional trends, this yearbook is an invaluable reference guide to trademark law in 28 key jurisdictions. It enables practitioners to acquire new, or refresh their existing, knowledge of trademark law in countries where their clients have business interests. This edition also includes a special focus on case law from the European Union.

Although the yearbook does not seek to provide specific legal advice and should not be read as such, it does provide a detailed comparison of some of the most important aspects of trademark law around the world. For the busy lawyer, the yearbook also contains a wallchart, which has proved to be very popular with practitioners and in-house counsel alike. The wallchart summarizes the main aspects of the country chapters, giving immediate answers to key questions such as “Can foreign entities register marks?” and “Are punitive damages available for infringement?”. In addition, this year each wallchart entry also appears at the end of the relevant chapter, making it even easier to check on key issues in each country. Due to space constraints, the chart only provides a brief overview. Therefore, we advise readers to refer to the country chapters for more information: answers are rarely, if ever, an unconditional ‘yes’ or ‘no’.

This year’s edition has been published in partnership with both MARQUES (the Association of European Trademark Owners) and the International Trademark Association. We would like to thank these well-respected industry organizations for their assistance and support.

As with the daily email service, the yearbook has been written by trademark specialists, for trademark specialists. The country chapter contributors’ profiles can be found in the last section of the book. Only those firms and organizations with an unparalleled track record in the field of trademark law were invited to contribute to the yearbook. We would like to thank all of them for their effort and continued commitment to this project.

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Commissioning editors