



# HSM IP Patent Client Guide

## HAITI

### Registration

A patent can be registered in Haiti pursuant to the *Patents, Designs and Utility Models Act, 1924* which provides for local patent applications.

The following information and documentation is required:

1. one copy of the specifications
2. one copy of the claims
3. three copies of any drawings
4. Power of Attorney (notarised and legalised)
5. certified copy of priority document (if priority is claimed)
6. French translation of all of the above documents

It usually takes about four years for the Intellectual Property Service in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to process an application for registration. Paris Convention priority can be claimed. Once the registration is complete the Intellectual Property Service will issue a Registration Certificate.

### Patent Cooperation Treaty

Haiti is not a signatory to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). National phase filing of a PCT patent is not possible.

### Searches

Whilst there is no requirement to conduct a search in Haiti prior to the filing of an application for registration a search is recommended to ascertain that there will be no discrepancies concerning the innovativeness of the patent. The result can usually be provided within five working days.

### Expiry

A patent registration may be valid for 5, 10 or 20 years. A 5 or 10 year registration may be extended to the maximum of 20 years.

### Abandonment

Please inform us as soon as possible if you wish to abandon your patent or allow it to lapse so that we can update our records and advise the Intellectual Property Service accordingly. This will avoid us sending out unnecessary Reminder Notices.

### Assignment

Please inform us as soon as possible if the patent has been assigned so that we can file an application to record the assignment in Haiti.

To record the assignment of a patent registration the documentation required is the Deed of Assignment and a Power of Attorney with French translations.

It usually takes four months or less for the Intellectual Property Service to process an application to record an assignment. Once the recording is complete the Intellectual Property Service will issue a Certificate of Recording showing the assignment.

## Change of Particulars

Please inform us as soon as possible if there is any change to the registration so that we can file an application to record the change in Haiti.

To record a change of name and/or address for a patent registration the documentation required is the Deed evidencing the change and a Power of Attorney with French translations.

It usually takes four months or less for the Intellectual Property Service to process an application to record a Change of Particulars. Once the recording is complete the Intellectual Property Service will issue a Certificate of Recording showing the change.

## Our Firm

HSM IP Ltd. provides worldwide intellectual property services.

Based in the Cayman Islands our experienced team of attorneys and paralegals deliver first class service to a broad client base which includes major Fortune Global 500 brand owners, international law firms and other specialist IP practices.

Our interactive database enables us to proactively manage each client's portfolio efficiently and cost-effectively in an environmentally friendly and substantially paperless workplace. It also enables us to fulfil our clients specific reporting and invoicing requirements, including multi-currency invoicing and e-billing.

We offer a competitive schedule of fixed fees, inclusive of both disbursements and official fees, which enables us to provide clients with an accurate estimate of their project costs before embarking on a filing programme for their portfolio.

The growth of our firm has enabled us to establish a specialist Caribbean department whose members regularly contribute to leading IP publications.

Supported by HSM Chambers, an offshore law firm with experienced attorneys admitted in multiple jurisdictions, we have substantial experience in taking action to address the infringement of trade marks and patents and in the conduct of passing-off actions. We are also able to offer investigative services to identify the source of, and distributors of, infringing goods, working closely with police and customs officials as necessary.

Memberships: INTA, AIPLA, ITMA and IPCA.

## Contact Us

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*HSM IP Ltd. is a Law Firm recognised under the Legal Practitioners (Incorporated Practice) Regulations, 2006 (as amended).*

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