



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
GLOBAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ACADEMY

U.S. Government Resources for Protecting Your Patents, Trademarks, and Copyrights

Information on protecting and enforcing intellectual property rights domestically and abroad may be obtained by calling the STOP Hotline at 1-866-999-HALT or from these USG sites –

- For a brief overview of “intellectual property,” in the U.S. and abroad –
 - the “Online Intellectual Property Training Module” (an online training tool for small businesses (SMEs), as well as a “needs assessment” tool – 1.5 hours), <http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/sme-module>
- To identify intellectual property assets, see –
 - the “USPTO IP Awareness Assessment Tool” <http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/uspto-ip-awareness-assessment-tool>
 - There also is a simple tool in the above-referenced “Online Intellectual Property Training Module; see <http://www.stopfakes.gov/tutorials/data/us/menu/index.htm>
- For general patent information –
 - USPTO Inventors Assistance, <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/iac/index.jsp>;
 - frequently asked questions, <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/patents.jsp>;
 - computer-based training, “From Concept to Protection,” <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/edu-inf/index.jsp> (click on “Computer-based Training”)
 - the general knowledge course, “Basic Patent Training for Independent Inventors and Small Businesses,” <http://www.uspto.gov/video/cbt/certpck/index.htm>
 - “What does the USPTO do for independent inventors?” portal site at <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/index.jsp> (including links to “Scam Prevention” and to “State Resources”)
- For patents and more, check out the Inventors Eye, the USPTO e-newsletter, archived at <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/independent/index.jsp> (to subscribe, go to site)
- For trademark basics –
 - <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/basics/index.jsp>
 - trademark searching, <http://tess2.uspto.gov/bin/gate.exe?f=tess&state=4810:a46140.1.1>
 - USPTO “TMIN,” the Trademark Information Network, which features engaging, broadcast-style, videos that cover important topics and critical application filing tips, <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/TMIN.jsp>
 - online filing, <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/index.jsp>

- For copyright registration in the U.S. –
 - U.S. Copyright Office website for registration and general information (including Circular 1, “Copyright Basics”): <http://www.copyright.gov>

- International considerations –
 - 1-stop filing (patents): Patent Cooperation Treaty; see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pct/index.jsp (PCT Legal Administration page)
 - 1-stop filing (trademarks): Madrid Protocol; see <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/law/madrid/index.jsp>
 - “Experts’ Advice for Small Businesses Seeking Foreign Patents” (GAO Report), <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d03910.pdf>
 - individual country IPR toolkits are available from <http://www.STOPfakes.gov> to address specific concerns about protecting intellectual property in different markets. <http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/country-ipr-toolkits>
 - U.S. Government resources for protecting intellectual property in China, <http://www.stopfakes.gov/china-ipr-webinar> (and be sure to check out the Transatlantic Portal, accessed through <http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/transatlantic-ipr-portal>)
 - Special 301 Report, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), <http://www.ustr.gov/about-us/press-office/reports-and-publications/2013/2013-special-301-report> (identifies countries where intellectual property protection and/or enforcement are problematic)
 - “International IP Advisory Program,” through which U.S. small businesses can obtain one hour of **free legal advice** on their IP issues in various countries, including Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Russia and Thailand and many others, <http://www.stopfakes.gov/business-tools/international-ip-advisory-program>

Some non-USG resources on intellectual property --

Additional information about trademarks may be found at the International Trademark Association (INTA) website: <http://www.inta.org> and <http://www.inta.org/Membership/Pages/SME.aspx> (including, e.g., “Understanding Trademarks” – both US and international perspectives; Madrid Protocol (for filing internationally); Global Protection and Enforcement of Trademarks; even – Overview of Advertising Law)

Information about domain names may be found at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) site: <http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/>. Also, at <http://www.inta.org/TrademarkBasics/Pages/Presentations.aspx>, see “Use of Trademarks in Domain Names & Domain Name Disputes)

Also, please see the following portal site for small- to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) site: <http://www.wipo.int/sme/en/>