

Filing an EU design application

Why obtain an EU registered design?

- Provides a registered right that is deemed to be valid until proven otherwise.
- Has deterrent value to competitors looking to do the same thing.
- Option to defer publication to keep details confidential e.g. before a product launch.
- Can include multiple designs in one application, providing greater cost savings.
- 12 months grace period for filing application after first public disclosure.

What are the benefits of a Community Registered Design?

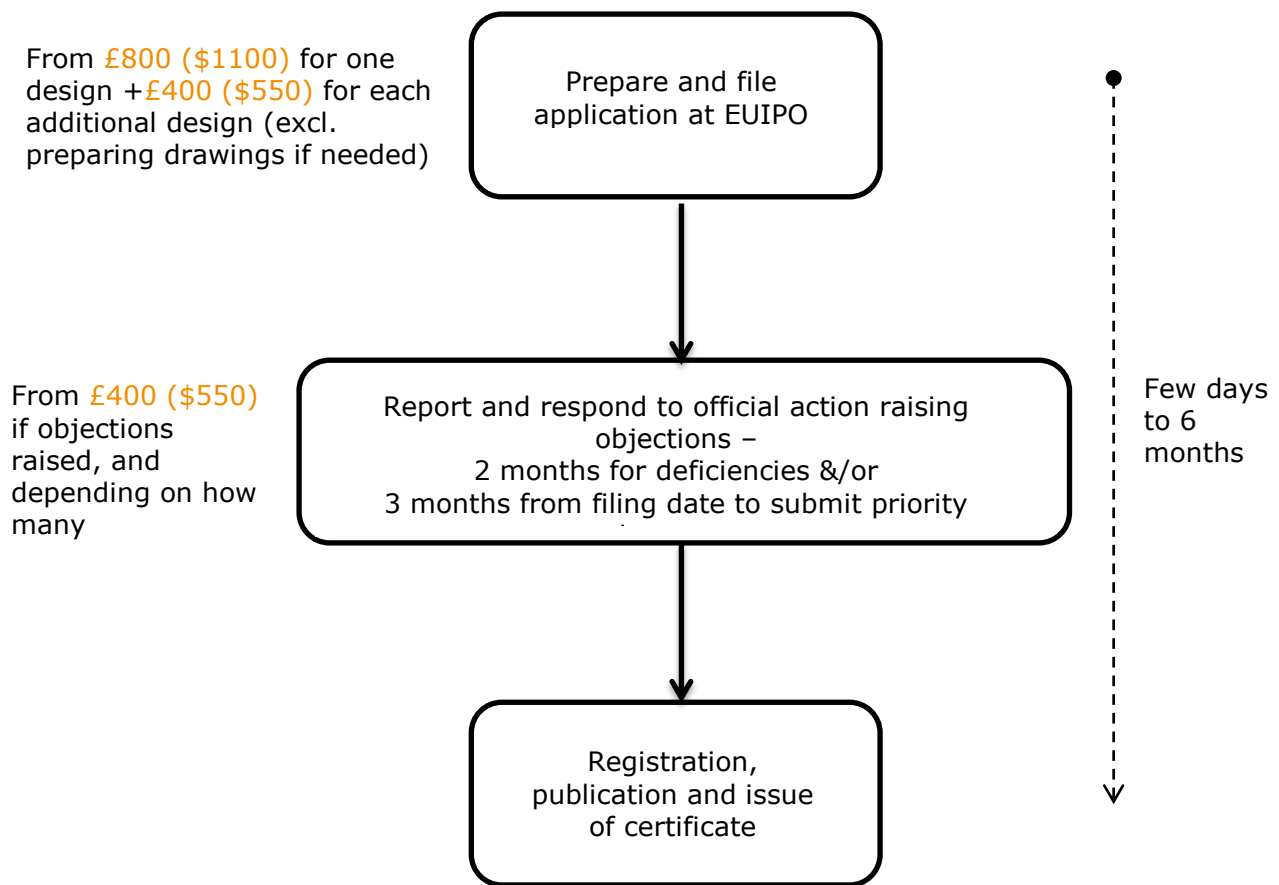
- Cost effective – from around £800 (\$1100) for a single design – compared with several thousand pounds to file separately in each country.
- Central prosecution at one IP office, and all proceedings can be in English.
- Fast and simple – registration in around three to six months maximum.
- Predictable costs, less administration.
- Provides a single registration enforceable throughout the whole of the EU.

Filing strategies and options

How best to proceed will depend on your requirements and budget. We can work with you to advise on the best and most cost-effective filing strategies. For example:

- File ad-hoc applications on a design-by-design basis.
- Submit an integrated collection of designs e.g. annually to reduce costs.
- Make use of the six month priority period for filing applications in other countries.
- Consider filing an international (Hague application) for further cost savings for multi-country protection.

Filing and prosecuting a design application in Europe



* All costs and timescales are approximate and based on exchange rate as of January 2018.

At Barker Brettell, we have a large group dedicated to designs and copyright, made up of a mix of patent and trade mark attorneys. Please contact designs@barkerbrettell.co.uk if we can be of any assistance.