

Trademark Filings in Japan

January 13, 2011

1. Information We Need for Filing a Trademark Application

- The trademark
- The description/list of goods and/or services
- The full name of the applicant
- The full non-abbreviated address of the applicant.
- Application number and filing date of priority application, if any.

The priority can be claimed if the first application was filed in a foreign country within the last six months. A power of attorney is not required, unless the case is appealed or opposed in the future.

2. Description of Goods and Services

The JPO published "Acceptable Descriptions of Goods and Services," which can be viewed through www.ryuka.com/goods. The JPO is very strict in description of goods and services. The International standard goods/services are often objected as well. If the actual goods or services correspond to those in "Acceptable Descriptions", those descriptions should be used.

If the actual goods or services do not correspond to any Acceptable Descriptions, the goods or services should be listed specifically and the application should accompany a detailed explanation of the goods or services, such as pamphlets or print out of websites, so that the examiner clearly understands the goods or services. During prosecution, the applicant can limit, but cannot broaden nor shift goods and services. At the time of filing, it is recommended to add broad identification of goods and services to support future limitation, especially when the actual goods or services do not correspond to the "Acceptable Descriptions."

3. Time Schedule

Preliminary trademark search	One week
Filing a trademark application	Few days
Examination by JPO	Four to eight months (for the first office action)

4. Fee Schedule

(1) Trademark Searches

One Word mark in one class	JPY 29,000
for additional classes	JPY 20,000 per class

(2) Filing an Application

Filing fee (one trademark in one class)

Basic Fee	JPY 80,000
Official Fee:	JPY 12,000
Disbursement	JPY 3,000

Total JPY 95,000

Additional fee for additional classes

Our Fee	JPY 40,000 per class
Official Fee	JPY 8,600 per class

Basic fee is 60,000 for additional trademarks filed together if the designated classes and goods are exactly the same.

(3) Response to an Official Action

Reporting and docketing the OA	JPY 0
Filing a response	JPY 20,000 + JPY 25,000 per hour
Filing an extension of time	JPY 12,000

(4) Registration Fee (for ten years) after an Allowance

Our Fee	JPY 23,000
Official Fee	JPY 37,600 per class

For the filing, please feel free to use our online application form prepared at www.ryuka.com/en/services/tmapplication.htm. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us, or visit our homepage at www.ryuka.com/en. Thank you.

Truly yours,
Aki Ryuka

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