

Publications

Patent Office Updates You Need to Know (January 5, 2021)

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Carey C. Jordan

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CLIENT ALERT | 1.5.2021

As part of our dedication to helping our clients stay up-to-date on the ever-changing landscape as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic, we've compiled the following highlights of changes to patent, trademark, and copyright operations around the world. The following are a few recent updates.

As always, a complete list of countries may be [found in our Google Document](#).

Update Highlights

- The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has released new update regarding the [fee schedule](#). PCT fees to foreign offices changes, effective January 1, and the Trademark and Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) fee changes, effective January 2.
- European Patent Office (EPO) has released updated guidance regarding oral proceedings held by videoconference before the examining divisions, available [here](#). Further, the Office has released a notice concerning the taking of evidence by videoconference by the examining and opposition divisions, available [here](#).
- The United Kingdom IP Office (UKIPO) has confirmed that there will be limited access to IPO buildings, yet will maintain services for customers. Updates regarding guidance patent forms and fees can be found [here](#).
- The Israeli Patent Office will conduct all hearings in a manner consistent with government closures and allows parties to apply for virtual or in-person hearings.

- Other general closures & deadline extensions have been added to the document.

If you have any patent or trademark questions during this time, do not hesitate to contact us.

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Vorys COVID-19 Task Force

Vorys attorneys and professionals are counseling our clients in the myriad issues related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. We have also established a comprehensive Coronavirus Task Force, which includes attorneys with deep experience in the niche disciplines that we have been and expect to continue receiving questions regarding coronavirus. Learn more and see the latest updates from the task force at [vorys.com/coronavirus](https://www.vorys.com/coronavirus).