

**Von:** newsletter.jurinfo@ipi.ch  
**Gesendet:** Dienstag, 21. Dezember 2004 08:27  
**Betreff:** Newsletter no. 10/2004 "Legal Information"

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

We have the pleasure of sending you herewith no. 10/2004 of our Newsletter "Legal Information". We hope you will enjoy reading it.

---

## Table of Contents:

1. Further processing without written request: Procedural change
2. Changes in the laws for protecting topographies, trademarks, designs and patents and the corresponding implementation ordinances
3. Biotechnology patents and biodiversity in the TRIPS Agreement
4. Parallel imports of patented products: new report of the Federal Council
5. Holiday Hours 2004

---

### 1. Further processing without written request: Procedural change

The Institute will no longer require a written request for further processing (in the case of missed deadlines). For more information in German: <http://www.ige.ch/D/jurinfo/documents/j10021d.pdf>, French: <http://www.ige.ch/F/jurinfo/documents/j10021f.pdf> or Italian: <http://www.ige.ch/I/jurinfo/documents/j10021i.pdf>.

### 2. Changes in the laws for protecting topographies, trademarks, designs and patents and the corresponding implementation ordinances

On December 3, 2004, the Federal Council decided that the federal act regulating the certification service for digital signatures (ZertES) as well as the revisions concerning electronic commerce with the Federal Institute of Intellectual Property, which affects the Topographies Law (Art. 16a), the Trademark Law (Art. 40), the Designs Law (Art. 26a) and the Patent Law (Art. 65a), should go into force January 1, 2005. The correspondingly conformed ordinances (topographies, trademark, designs, and patent law ordinances) will go into force at the same time. For more information: <http://www.ige.ch/E/jurinfo/j10004.shtm>.

### 3. Biotechnology patents and biodiversity in the TRIPS Agreement

Communication from Switzerland to the TRIPS Council of November 25, 2004, containing in its annex the third submission by Switzerland to the Working Group on PCT-Reform of October 26, 2004: <http://www.ige.ch/E/jurinfo/j1101.shtm#5>.

### 4. Parallel imports of patented products: new report of the Federal Council

In response to postulate number 03.3423 of the National Council Commission for Economic Affairs and Taxation (CEAT), the Federal Council adopted a new report on the problem of exhaustion of patent rights. The report draws the conclusion that it is for the time being not desirable to initiate negotiations with the European Union (EU) in view of applying a bilateral regional exhaustion of patents with it. The Federal Council proposes to maintain the national exhaustion of patents, whilst regulating the problem of ancillary rights in the Patent law, which is currently being revised (Press release of 3 December 2004 in German:

[http://www.ejpd.admin.ch/doks/mm/content/mm\\_view-d.php?mmID=2261&mmTopic=Patente](http://www.ejpd.admin.ch/doks/mm/content/mm_view-d.php?mmID=2261&mmTopic=Patente),

French: [http://www.ejpd.admin.ch/doks/mm/content/mm\\_view-f.php?mmID=2262&mmTopic=Patente](http://www.ejpd.admin.ch/doks/mm/content/mm_view-f.php?mmID=2262&mmTopic=Patente) or Italian: [http://www.ejpd.admin.ch/doks/mm/content/mm\\_view-i.php?mmID=2263&mmTopic=Patente](http://www.ejpd.admin.ch/doks/mm/content/mm_view-i.php?mmID=2263&mmTopic=Patente)).

## **5. Holiday Hours 2004**

During the holiday period we will be open as usual (M-F 8:00-12:00 a.m. and 1:00-5:00 p.m.) except for December 24th and December 31st when we will close at 12 noon.

Our normal operating hours return January 3, 2005.

Season's greetings and wishing you health, happiness, and prosperity for the year 2005.

Federal Institute of Intellectual Property  
Felix Addor  
Deputy Director General  
Chief Legal Officer

-----  
Wenn Sie diesen Newsletter zukünftig nicht mehr erhalten möchten, [klicken Sie bitte hier](#).  
Pour vous désabonner, [cliquez ici](#).  
Per disdire l'abbonamento, [cliccate qui](#).  
To Unsubscribe, [please click here](#).