Conditional protection

even without an IP right

Deciding not to register your patent, trade mark or design doesn’t mean that you are necessarily helpless against counterfeiters. If you don’t want to formally protect your intellectual property with the IPI, you can also simply keep an invention secret where practical.

If competitors act illegally by using a copied version of your product that misleads customers, you can most likely take the case to court under the Federal Act on Unfair Competition (in German).

DOCUMENTS & LINKS

- An overview of IP rights