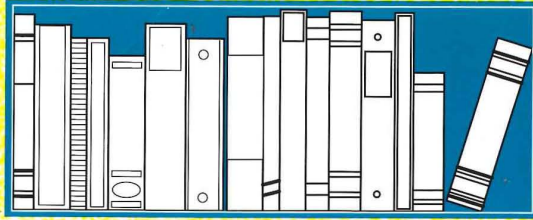


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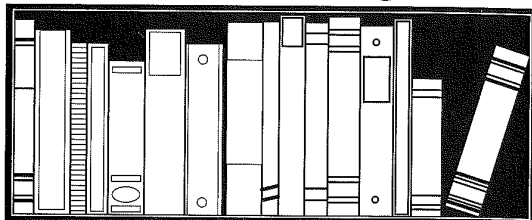
**TRADEMARK MANUAL
OF
EXAMINING PROCEDURE
(TMEP)**

Third Edition, January 2002



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Foreword to the Third Edition

The Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure (TMEP) may be downloaded free of charge from the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) website at www.uspto.gov.

The Manual is published to provide trademark examining attorneys in the USPTO, trademark applicants, and attorneys and representatives for trademark applicants, with a reference work on the practices and procedures relative to prosecution of applications to register marks in the USPTO. The Manual contains guidelines for Examining Attorneys and materials in the nature of information and interpretation, and outlines the procedures which Examining Attorneys are required or authorized to follow in the examination of trademark applications.

Trademark Examining Attorneys will be governed by the applicable statutes, the Trademark Rules of Practice, decisions, and Orders and Notices issued by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commissioners, or Deputy Commissioners. This third edition incorporates into the Manual Office practice and relevant case law reported prior to January 24, 2002. Policies stated in this revision supersede any previous policies stated in the second edition, examination guides, or any other statement of Office policy, to the extent that there is any conflict.

Suggestions for improving the form and content of the Manual are always welcome. They should be addressed to:

Commissioner for Trademarks
Attention: Editor, Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure
2900 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202-3513

Mary E. Hannon
Editor

Anne H. Chasser
Commissioner for Trademarks

GENERAL INFORMATION

107 Trademark Manuals

The following manuals may be downloaded free of charge from the USPTO website at www.uspto.gov, or purchased in DVD-ROM format from the USPTO's Office of Electronic Information Products.

- *Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure* (TMEP)
Stock No. 903-010-00000-2
- Trademark Trial and Appeal Board Manual of Procedure (TBMP)
Stock No. 903-022-00000-1

The *Acceptable Identification of Goods and Services Manual* can be downloaded free of charge from the USPTO's website at www.uspto.gov, or purchased in DVD-ROM format from the USPTO's Office of Electronic Information Products. For information about purchasing DVD-ROM products, call (703) 306-2600.

108 Status Inquiries

108.01 Internet Information

The Trademark Applications and Registrations Retrieval (TARR) database on the USPTO website at <http://tarr.uspto.gov> provides detailed, up to the minute information about the status and prosecution history of trademark applications and registrations. The TARR database is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The Board Information Systems Index (BisX), available online at www.uspto.gov, provides detailed information about the status of proceedings pending before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.

108.02 Recorded Status Messages

The Trademark Status Line provides access, via touch-tone telephone, to the current status and location of federal trademark application and registration records. The Status Line is available at (703) 305-8747 from 6:30 a.m. until midnight, Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday. After the welcoming message and the tone, callers should enter the seven-digit registration number and the “#” symbol, or the eight-digit application number (*i.e.*, the two-digit series code followed by the six-digit serial number) and the “#” symbol, to obtain the current status and status date. If the serial number for an application is less than six digits, or if a registration number is less than seven digits, a sufficient number of leading zeroes must be added to the number. All calls are answered in the order received. Callers may request information for up to five application or registration records per call.

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