

.EU DOMAIN NAME

Sunrise Period

The sunrise period for filing .EU domain names, which is available to trademark owners who qualify for ownership of .EU domain names, starts on **7 December 2005**. Applicants during the sunrise period must either be domiciled, or have a place of business, in the European Union and must own trademark rights in the European Union.

The end of the first phase of the sunrise period, which applies exclusively to owners of registered trademarks, expires on **7 February 2006**.

The second phase of the sunrise period, which applies exclusively to owners of registered and unregistered trademark rights within the European Union, expires on the **7 April 2006**.

Thereafter, .EU domain names will be granted to applicants who are either domiciled or have a place of business in the European Union, irrespective of whether they own relevant trademark rights, provided of course that the domain name requested has not been taken already.

Applicants who own registered or unregistered trademark rights within the European Union, and who wish to apply for .EU domain names, are recommended to do so as soon as possible to take advantage of the sunrise period.

Licensing

Trademark owners who are neither domiciled, nor have a place of business, in the European Union, but who own trademark rights in the European Union, can still obtain a .EU domain name which corresponds to their registered trademark provided that they license that trademark to a company or individual who is either domiciled or has an effective place of business in the European Union. That licensee can then apply for the .EU domain name that contains the registered trademark.

If you are interested in this please contact us as soon as possible so that we can advise you further. For further information please contact Ian Buchan, Sanjay Kapur or John Peacock.

The information in this Newsletter was correct at the date of release. More up to date information is available by contacting Eric Potter Clarkson. All comments contained here are of a general nature and full professional advice should be sought on any specific problem.

Please note that all our Newsletters can be found on our website at www.eric-potter.com.

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