
ERIC POTTER CLARKSON

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DOMAIN NAME PROTECTION - *.info*

As we mentioned in our recent newsletter regarding *.biz* domain names, new additional global top level domain (GTLD) registers are being established and *.info* is the next GTLD that will be available. Registration of *.info* names goes live on 1 October 2001 and these will be available to individuals and/or businesses.

In order to protect trademark proprietors, a “sunrise period” is to be employed. This will prevent unauthorised individuals/companies from registering *.info* names which they are not entitled to register (because they do not own the corresponding trademark).

Consequently, proprietors of existing trademarks that were registered prior to 2 October 2000 will be able to register that trademark as a *.info* domain name. The “sunrise period” is due to commence on **25 July 2001** and will expire on 27 August 2001 (non-extendible deadline).

It should be noted that *.info* “sunrise registrations” will be allocated on a first come first served basis. This is particularly relevant if, for example, the domain name in question is the subject of a registered trademark owned by different companies (covering different goods or services).

A *.info* registration obtained during the “sunrise period” will be valid for a 5 year period.

If the *.info* domain name that you wish to obtain is not a registered trademark owned by your company, then you will not be able to benefit from the “sunrise period”. In which case the *.info* registry will accept applications from 12 September onwards with a view to going live on 1 October. Once again, these will be allocated on a first come first served basis. These registrations will be for an initial term of 2 years.

Recommendation

1. If the *.info* domain name that you require is the same as the trademark that you have registered (prior to 2 October 2000), then we strongly recommend that a “sunrise registration” be filed on 25 July (bearing in mind that these will be allocated on a first come first served basis). Our charge for this will be £550 (plus vat) inclusive of the official fees. Please let us have your instructions by **Tuesday 24 July 2001**.

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PATENTS · TRADEMARKS · DESIGNS · COPYRIGHT

2. If you are not in a position to benefit from a sunrise registration and wish to file a *.info* application then please let us have your instructions by 31 August 2001 so that we may prepare the application and file this on the 12 September commencement date. We will charge £ 105 (plus vat) for this.

Please complete and return the attached reply slip if you require protection.

If you require any further information or advice, please contact Ian Buchan, David Minto, Sanjay Kapur, or John Peacock.

Reply to:
Trademark Formalities Department
Eric Potter Clarkson
Park View House
58 The Ropewalk
Nottingham
NG1 5DD
e-mail: epc@eric-potter.com
Fax: 0115 9552201

We wish to register the following trademarks as *.info* in the “sunrise period”:
Please continue list on additional sheet (if required).

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.....
.....

We wish to register the following *.info* domain names:
Please continue list on additional sheet (if required).

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Name of Applicant:
Address of Applicant:
Name and position of person authorising:

Please ensure that you obtain confirmation that your reply has been successfully received before the relevant deadline.

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.

N:072/cld/sk/lc

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Park View House + 58 The Ropewalk + Nottingham + NG1 5DD + UK
Tel: +44 (0)115 955 2211 Fax: +44 (0)115 955 2201
E-mail: epc@eric-potter.com Website: www.eric-potter.com