

## **THE EUROPEAN PATENT CONVENTION**

Whilst it is necessary to file applications on a country by country basis. There are a number of regional treaties or arrangements where a patent applicant can file 1 patent application to obtain grant in a number of countries within that region.

The four principal regions where this is possible are:

<b>ARIPO</b>	several countries in Africa with a predominantly British colonial background
<b>OAPI</b>	several countries in Africa with a predominantly French colonial background
<b>Eurasia</b>	several counties that were formerly states within the USSR
<b>EPC</b>	European Patent Convention comprising 38 member states in Europe, including EEC member countries and non – member countries.

In the case of the EPC, once the single application has been accepted by the European Patent Office (EPO) it is necessary to “validate” this application in individual member states where the applicant requires patent protection. Following validation, patents are then national in nature eg: Germany, France, Italy etc.

Dennemeyer provide a European Validation service to streamline this process and to manage costs. Details of this service are set out on the following pages.

## LEGAL SERVICES

## European Patent Validation

*You have successfully gone through the prosecution and grant stage for your European patent (EP), but you still have a final stage to complete: national validation. Despite efforts to reduce the burden on applicants to provide translations into several European languages, in many contracting states an EP will still come into force only when validated.*

The validation requirements generally must be met within a three month period from the European grant date. Typically, the process involves submission of powers of attorneys, filing translations of the patent specification and claims in national languages, payment of official fees and handling any related documentation according to the local particularities of each country law.

### Supervision by a dedicated patent attorney

Throughout the entire process, a single Dennemeyer patent attorney will supervise your EP validation from start to finish, ensuring uniform quality, responsiveness, and ability to react on short notice instructions.

With Dennemeyer, you will benefit from competitive fees due to our longstanding, stable agent network along with direct validation in a number of contracting states to the European Patent Convention.

### Directly validate in many European countries

Dennemeyer can directly validate European Patents in the following contracting states: **Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, France, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.**



### Local expertise and know-how at law firm standards

In other countries, we cooperate with carefully chosen local counsels selected using a thorough process in accordance with our quality management standards.

Necessary translations are prepared either directly by the local counsels or by a translation agency instructed by us, depending on considerations with respect to quality and efficiency as well as according to legal requirements.

### Your benefits with Dennemeyer

- A single patent attorney supervises your case throughout the process
- Uniform quality, responsiveness, and ability to react on short notice instructions
- Competitive fees and a stable agent network through Dennemeyer's market strength in other areas (annuities, renewals, filing and prosecution)
- ISO 9001 certified and all record keeping and archiving according to law firm standards
- Directly validate European Patents in many contracting states to the European Patent Convention
- Single point of contact during validation stage and beyond (annuity reminders are forwarded centrally to Dennemeyer)
- Integration with other Dennemeyer services improves comfort and security for clients.

*"The strength of our EP Validation service derives from our ability to provide a cost effective validation process and at the same time ensure high quality at every level involved (translations, payments, record keeping, and communication with client) through our local multilingual attorneys who can directly cover many jurisdictions."*

**Dr. Robert Fichter**

Director, Dennemeyer & Associates



## The validation process: an overview



## EP Validation as part of the European Patent Process

Filing Prosecution	Rule 71(3) Communication	Decision to grant a European Patent	Validation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Acceptance of documents intended for grant</li> <li>» Submission of claims translations into other official languages</li> <li>» Payment of official grant and publication fees</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Submission of Powers</li> <li>» Registration as Address of Service or Representative</li> <li>» Submission of translation (if applicable)</li> <li>» Payment of official fees (if applicable)</li> </ul>
Prosecution Stage	Grant Stage		Validation Stage (3 months)