

Designs

Filing a design application in New Zealand

Filing requirements

1. Name and address(es) of applicant(s).
2. A copy of the design representations, either as drawings or photographs.
3. Name of the article the design is applied to.
4. Statement of novelty identifying the feature(s) of the design for which novelty is claimed. We can prepare this for you.
5. Authorisation of Agent signed by the applicant(s).
6. Information about the applicant's entitlement to the design, for example by assignment or as employer.

Additional requirements for convention applications

1. Details of the filing date and country in which the priority-forming application(s) was/were filed. Full name and street address of the basic applicant(s) in respect of the priority-forming application(s).
2. Details of the assignment from the basic applicant(s) to the New Zealand applicant(s), if the New Zealand applicant(s) is/are not the basic applicant(s).
3. Priority document (comprising a certified copy of the priority-forming application). If the priority document is not in English, a verified English translation of the priority document is also required. These documents are due within three months of the application filing date (extendible only in genuine and exceptional circumstances).

Next steps

After the design application is filed, IPONZ will examine the application within a few weeks to make sure it meets official requirements. IPONZ also searches other design registrations to decide whether the design is new and registrable.

If IPONZ raises any objections, we will have 12 months from the filing date of the application (extendible by three months) to reply.

Once any objections have been overcome and the application is acceptable, IPONZ registers the design and issues a certificate of registration. The design will then be advertised in the IPONZ journal and the design drawings made publicly available on the IPONZ online design database.

Term of protection

A New Zealand registered design lasts 15 years from the earliest priority date for convention applications, or the New Zealand filing date for non-convention applications.

Two renewal fees are due at the end of the 5th and 10th years.

Talk to AJ Park for the best advice about registering a design in New Zealand.

