

# The Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement

The Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs (Hague Agreement) went into effect for the United States on May 13, 2015.

Accordingly, beginning May 13, 2015, it became possible for U.S. applicants to file a single international design application either with the World Intellectual Property Organization or through the USPTO as an office of indirect filing to obtain protection in a number of countries that are party to the Hague Agreement.

In addition, applicants filing international design applications on or after May 13, 2015 were able to designate the United States for design protection. U.S. design patents resulting from applications filed on or after May 13, 2015 will have a 15-year term from issuance.

Please visit the [U.S. Patent and Trademark Office](#) for more information.