

IP INFORMATION FAIR & CONFERENCE JAPAN UNITARY PATENT : YOUR GATEWAY TO PROTECT INVENTIONS IN EUROPE

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OUTLOOK

1. THE EPO AND THE UNITARY PATENT SYSTEM

2. HOW TO OBTAIN A UNITARY PATENT?

3. A NEW OPTION THAT IS TAKING TRACTION

THE EPO

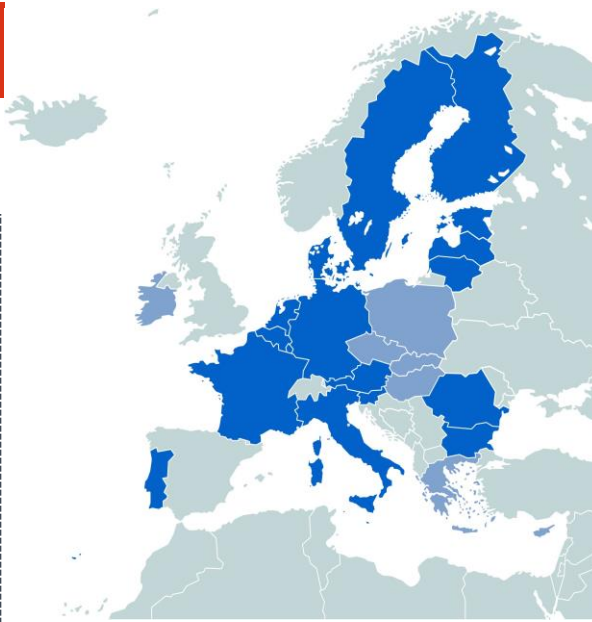
- The **European Patent Convention** provides the legal framework for the granting of European patents via a centralized procedure before the **European Patent Office**
- Protection is provided in up to **40 European countries** based on a single application in either **English, French or German** (three official EPO languages)
- We are the second largest intergovernmental institution in Europe, and self-financing (i.e. revenue from fees covers operation and capital expenditure)
- 40 member states including the 27 European Union members



THE UNITARY PATENT SYSTEM

UNITARY PATENT

- Based on European patent granted by the EPO
- Request for unitary effect with the EPO within one month
- Registered if all requirements are met



UNIFIED PATENT COURT

- Uniform and harmonized jurisprudence in Europe
- First instance: central division in Paris (+ Munich / Milan) and local or regional divisions
- Court of Appeal in Luxembourg

- So far **18 states**: AT, BE, BG, DE, DK, EE, FI, FR, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI
- UPC Agreement still to be ratified by 7 states from the EU: CY, CZ, GR, HU, IE, PL, SK
- 2 EU states are not part of the enhanced cooperation: ES, HR

EFFECTIVE AND RELIABLE PATENT PROTECTION IN EUROPE

Cost Efficiency

- No registration fee: only renewal fees are due
- One renewal fee: Top-4 covering 18 countries
- 76% cost reduction over 10 years compared with validating and maintaining protection across 18 UP member states
- Reduced administrative costs to maintain the patent (annuity management, register matters)

Legal certainty

- UPC : single enforcement forum ensuring broader injunction reach and reduced multi-country litigation
- Accelerated EPO oppositions (in case of parallel UPC proceedings)
- UP Guidelines on the procedure before the EPO

Governance tools

- UP Register maintained by the EPO as part of the EP Register
- UP Dashboard provides up-to-date statistics on use and trends
- Deep Tech Finder provides insights regarding the patent strategy of micro-entities and SMEs in Europe

Learn more about the Unitary Patent in Japanese: [Introductory brochure](#) and [subtitled Unitary Patent overview](#)

LEGAL CERTAINTY WITH THE UNIFIED PATENT COURT

Solid similarity in approach towards fundamental patentability issues

The description serves as key aids in assessing added matter

- EBoA - [G1/24](#)
- UPC - [CoA335/2023](#)

Added matter assessed under the EPO's "gold standard"

- EBoA - [G 2/10](#)
- UPC - [CoA764/2024, CoA774/2024](#)

Inventive step interpretation

- EBoA - [G 2/21](#)
- UPC - [CoA528/2024, CoA529/2024](#)



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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

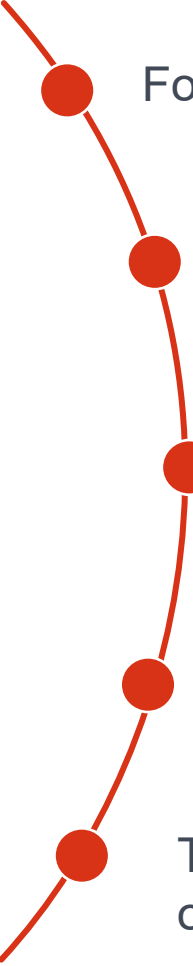


The designation of any of the 25 participating member states in the enhanced cooperation should **not be withdrawn**

The European patent should **not contain different set of claims** for any of the 25 participating member states

The proprietor should **not be subject to the restrictive measure** (Art. 5s(2) Regulations (EU) No 833/2014 as amended by Regulations (EU) 2024/1745 (= EU sanctions on Russia))

FORMAL REQUIREMENTS – CONTENT OF THE REQUEST



Formal request of the **proprietor** of the European patent

Request must be filed with the EPO **no later than one month** after the mention of the grant of the European patent is published in the European Patent Bulletin

Request must be filed in writing and in the **language of proceedings and include** particulars of the proprietor of the European patent and number of the European patent

Particulars of the representative who **needs to be appointed if the proprietor resides in a non-EPC contracting state**

Translation of full specification into one EU language, either English (if publication is in German or French) or any other EU language (if publication is in English)

LEGAL REMEDIES

Eligibility

If eligibility requirements are not met, there is no possibility of reestablishment of rights

Time limit

If the one-month limit to file the request for unitary effect is not observed, the proprietor can file a request for re-establishment of rights within 2 months from removal of the cause of non-compliance

Renewal fee

If the renewal fee is not duly paid, the proprietor can file a request for re-establishment of rights within one year from expiry of the unobserved time limit

Further processing

Further processing available in EP proceedings does not apply to time limits in UP proceedings

REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER OF RIGHTS, LICENCES, RIGHT IN REM

Requirements

- A Unitary Patent can be transferred only for all participating UP member states
- Requirements: request, evidence and fee (if not filed via MyEPO)

Registration

- Transfer of rights and rights in rem are recorded for all participating UP member states
- Licences may be recorded for all or part of the territories of the participating UP states
- Further 15% reduction in renewal fees when registering an intention to license

PLACE OF BUSINESS (APPLICABLE LAW FOR THE UNITARY PATENT AS AN OBJECT OF PROPERTY)

Voluntary indication of a place of business on the date of filing of the European patent application

Place of business provided **together** with the request for unitary effect

Place of business in a **UPCA-effective member state** at unitary effect registration

Form 7000 provides a **specific field for entering a place of business**

Place of business **not** shown in **UP Register** if UPCA is **not effective** in the member state

REGISTER FOR UNITARY PATENT PROTECTION

Smart search Advanced search Help

Quick help

- How many search terms can I enter per field?
- Can I use truncation?
- How do I enter an EP application/publication number?
- How do I enter a WO/PC/I application/publication number?
- What are the valid date formats?
- Can I enter a date range for my search?
- How do I enter the name of a person or an organisation?
- How can I find out if an occupation was filed in a specific technical field?
- How do I enter an International Patent Classification (IPC) symbol?
- How do I enter keywords in the title?
- How do I enter an appeal case number?
- What does "Open recent" mean?

Maintenance news

News flashes

Related links

Advanced search

Enter numbers with or without country code

Publication number e.g. EP1883031

Application number e.g. EP07010825

Priority number e.g. US20030423700

Enter one or more dates (and/or date range for publication date)

Filing date e.g. 2007/09/19

Publication date e.g. 2007/09/19

Priority date e.g. 2007/09/19

Date of grant e.g. 2007/09/19

Unitary effect request date e.g. 2007/09/19

Unitary effect registration date e.g. 2007/09/19

Enter the name of one or more persons or organisations

Applicant(s)/Proprietor(s) e.g. IBM

Inventor(s) e.g. Smith

Representative e.g. van de gucht

Opponent e.g. bast


 Europäisches Patentamt
 European Patent Office
 Office européen des brevets

Deutsch English Français Contact

European Patent Register

[About European Patent Register](#)
[Other EPO online services](#)
[Register Alert \(email alerts\)](#)

Smart search Advanced search Search results Help

Quick help

- How can I navigate through the results?
- Can I sort the result list?
- Why are there dots instead of a name in the Representative column in my result list?

Maintenance news

News flashes

Related links

Search results

Refine search Export (CSV | XLS) Print

Sort by Application No. Sort order ascending Sort

76 items found, displaying 1 to 20
Search term(s): und + yes

1 2 3 4

Retransmission method, wireless communication apparatus, and relay station

Application No.	Publication No.	Applicant	Unitary Patent	Representative	IPC
EP	EP		Request date: 14.09.2016 Registration date: 15.09.2016		H04L1/16 H04L1/18 H04L1/00 (+5)

FLUORORESIN POWDER COATING COMPOSITION EXCELLENT IN BASE PROTECTION

Application No.	Publication No.	Applicant	Unitary Patent	Representative	IPC
EP	EP		Request date: 10.10.2016 Registration date: 20.10.2016		C09D5/03 C09D127/12

Method and thermal recasting assembly for producing a hardened, thermally recast workpiece

Application No.	Publication No.	Applicant	Unitary Patent	Representative	IPC
EP	EP		Request date: 30.04.2014 Registration date: 07.05.2014		B21D22/20 B21D24/16 B21D3/16 (+4)

Navigation apparatus, operation control method, and mobile terminal apparatus

Application No.	Publication No.	Applicant	Unitary Patent	Representative	IPC
EP	EP		Request date: 30.04.2014 Registration date: 07.05.2014		G01C21/26

REQUESTING UNITARY EFFECT – ONLINE FILING 2.0 (FORM 7000)

[Online Filing 2.0 service](#) is available on the EPO website can be accessed after completing the [Online Filing 2.0 registration form](#)

Start a procedure

Save in folder *

Submissions ▼

Form *



EP 1001

Request for grant of a European patent



EP 1200

Entry into the European phase (EPO as designated or elected Office)



EP 2300

Notice of opposition to a European patent



UP 7000

Request for unitary effect



PCT/RO/101

PCT/RO/101 – PCT – Request



PCT/IPEA/401

PCT/IPEA/401 – PCT – Demand

User's file reference*

Application number

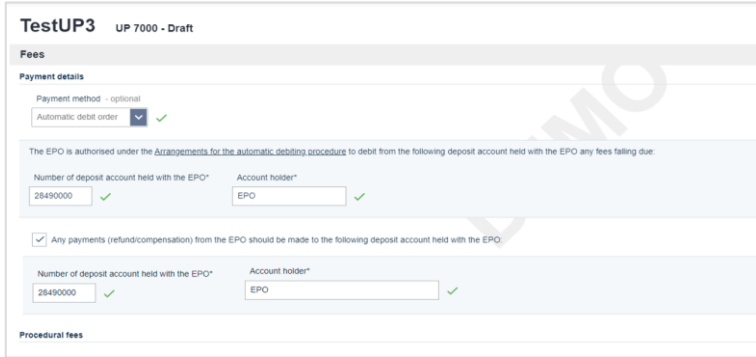
EP _____*__

Language of the proceedings*

▼

PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

- Unitary Patent fees can be paid by debit from a deposit account held with the EPO (via OLF 2.0 or Central Fee Payment), credit card or a bank transfer
- The payable Unitary Patent fees include registration of transfer fee, certified copy fee, registration or cancellation of licences and other rights fee, renewal fees, re-establishment fees, Additional fee R10(4) UPR
- All relevant information related to [Unitary Patent Fees](#) can be found on the EPO website



The screenshot shows a form titled "TestUP3 UP 7000 - Draft". Under the "Fees" section, the "Payment details" are specified. The "Payment method - optional" is set to "Automatic debit order" with a green checkmark. Below this, a note states: "The EPO is authorised under the Arrangements for the automatic debiting procedure to debit from the following deposit account held with the EPO any fees falling due:". This is followed by two rows of input fields. The first row has "Number of deposit account held with the EPO*" set to "28490000" and "Account holder*" set to "EPO", both with green checkmarks. The second row is identical, with a checked box for "Any payments (refund/compensation) from the EPO should be made to the following deposit account held with the EPO:".

Example: Automatic debit order and refund instructions

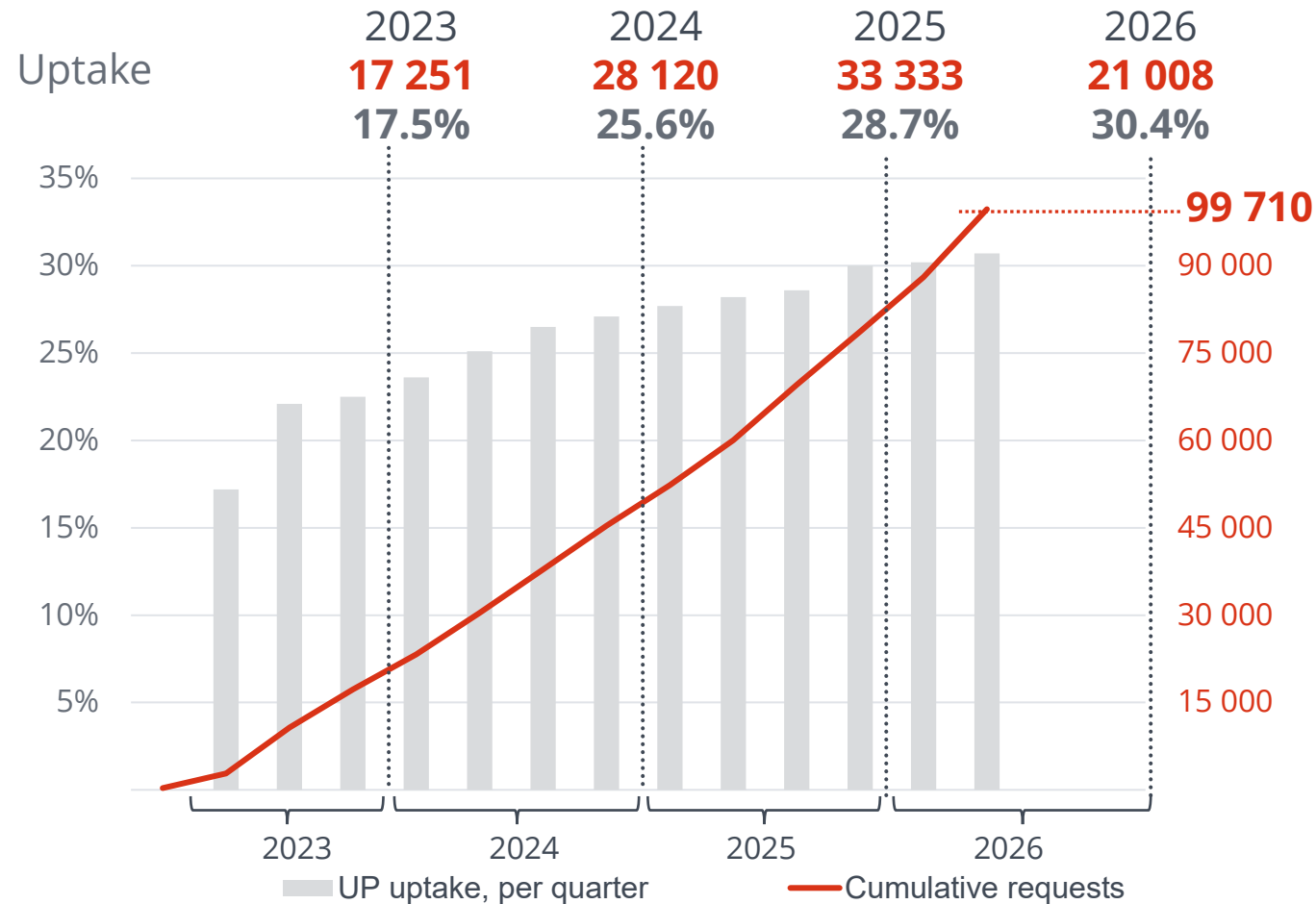
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RISING UNITARY PATENT UPTAKE



+30.9% increase from Q1–Q2 2025 to Q1–Q2 2026

Nearly 1 in 3 European patents registered as UP



3 775 UP requests from Japanese users since launch

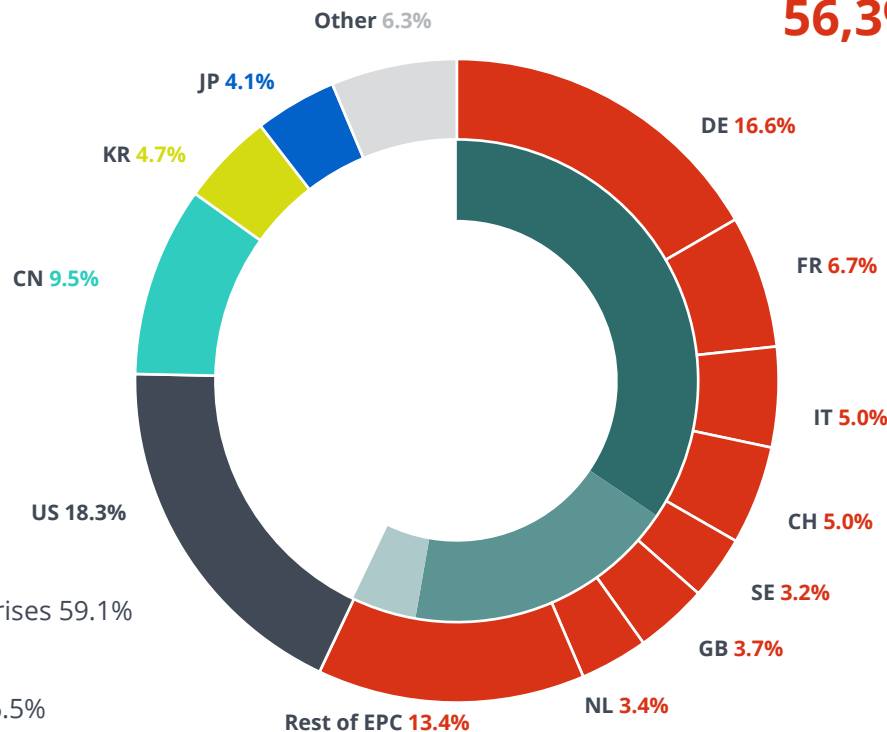
+56.2% increase from Q1–Q2 2025 to Q1–Q2 2026 for Japanese users

UPTAKE AND PROPRIETOR MAKEUP (STATUS 21.07.2026)

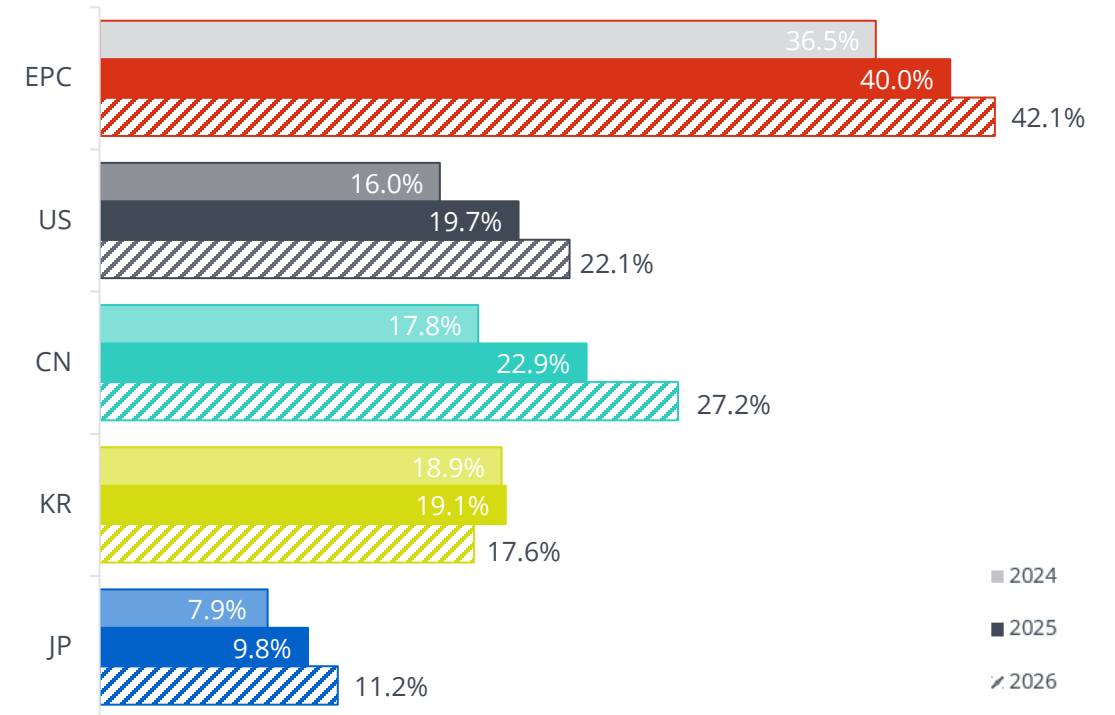
Origin and makeup of proprietors 2026

Non-EPC
43,7%

EPC40
56,3%



Uptake rate IP5



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!