

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (USPTO)
OFFICE ACTION (OFFICIAL LETTER) ABOUT APPLICANT'S TRADEMARK APPLICATION

U.S. APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 79137561

MARK:

79137561

CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS:

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APPLICANT: Rosmersholm as

CORRESPONDENT'S REFERENCE/DOCKET NO :

N/A

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OFFICE ACTION

STRICT DEADLINE TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER

INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION NO. 1179290

STRICT DEADLINE TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTIFICATION: TO AVOID ABANDONMENT OF THE REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PROTECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION, THE USPTO MUST RECEIVE A COMPLETE RESPONSE TO THIS PROVISIONAL FULL REFUSAL NOTIFICATION **WITHIN 6 MONTHS** OF THE "DATE ON WHICH THE NOTIFICATION WAS SENT TO WIPO (MAILING DATE)" LOCATED ON THE WIPO COVER LETTER ACCOMPANYING THIS NOTIFICATION.

In addition to the Mailing Date appearing on the WIPO cover letter, a holder (hereafter "applicant") may confirm this Mailing Date using the USPTO's Trademark Status and Document Retrieval (TSDR) system at <http://tsdr.uspto.gov/>. To do so, enter the U.S. application serial number for this application and then select "Documents." The Mailing Date used to calculate the response deadline for this provisional full refusal is the "Create/Mail Date" of the "IB-1rst Refusal Note."

This is a **PROVISIONAL FULL REFUSAL** of the request for extension of protection of the mark in the above-referenced U.S. application. See 15 U.S.C. §1141h(c). See below in this notification (hereafter "Office action") for details regarding the provisional full refusal.

The referenced application has been reviewed by the assigned trademark examining attorney. Applicant must respond timely and completely to the issue(s) below. 15 U.S.C. §1062(b); 37 C.F.R. §§2.62(a), 2.65(a); TMEP §§711, 718.03.

SUMMARY OF ISSUES that applicant must address:

- False Connection Refusal
- Identification of Goods
- Entity Information
- Color Description

SEARCH OF OFFICE'S DATABASE OF MARKS

The trademark examining attorney has searched the Office's database of registered and pending marks and has found no conflicting marks that would bar registration under Trademark Act Section 2(d). TMEP §704.02; see 15 U.S.C. §1052(d).

FALSE CONNECTION REFUSAL

Munch's Estate, represented by the Munch Museum. Although Edvard Munch's estate is not connected with the goods provided by applicant under the applied-for mark, Edvard Munch's estate is so famous that consumers would presume a connection. Trademark Act Section 2(a), 15 U.S.C. §1052(a); see TMEP §1203.03, (c). See generally *Univ. of Notre Dame du Lac v. J.C. Gourmet Food Imps. Co.*, 703 F.2d 1372, 217 USPQ 505 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Cotter & Co.*, 228 USPQ 202 (TTAB 1985); *Buffett v. Chi-Chi's, Inc.*, 226 USPQ 428 (TTAB 1985).

The following is required for a showing of false connection under Trademark Act Section 2(a):

- (1) The mark sought to be registered is the same as, or a close approximation of, the name or identity previously used by another person or institution.
- (2) The mark would be recognized as such, in that it points uniquely and unmistakably to that person or institution.
- (3) The person or institution identified in the mark is not connected with the goods sold or services performed by applicant under the mark.
- (4) The fame or reputation of the named person or institution is of such a nature that a connection with such person or institution would be presumed when applicant's mark is used on its goods and/or services.

In re Jackson Int'l Trading Co., 103 USPQ2d 1417, 1419 (TTAB 2012); *In re MC MC S.r.l.*, 88 USPQ2d 1378, 1379 (TTAB 2008); TMEP §1203.03(c)(i); see also *Univ. of Notre Dame du Lac v. J.C. Gourmet Food Imps. Co.*, 703 F.2d 1372, 1375-77, 217 USPQ 505, 508-10 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (providing foundational principles for the current four-part test used to determine the existence of a false connection).

ISSUE REGARDING APPLICANT'S ENTITY TYPE

Applicant must specify its form of business or type of legal entity and its national citizenship or foreign country of organization or incorporation. See 37 C.F.R. §§2.32(a)(3)(i)-(ii), 7.25(a)-(b); TMEP §§803.03, 803.04, 1904.02(a). This information is required in all U.S. trademark applications, including those filed under Trademark Act Section 66(a) (also known as "requests for extension of protection of international registrations to the United States"). See 37 C.F.R. §§2.32(a)(3)(i)-(ii), 7.25(a)-(b); TMEP §§803.03, 803.04, 1904.02(a).

Acceptable entity types include an individual, a partnership, a corporation, a joint venture, or the foreign equivalent. See 37 C.F.R. §2.32(a)(3)(i)-(ii); TMEP §§803.03 *et seq.*

If applicant's entity type is an individual, applicant must indicate his or her national citizenship for the record. See 37 C.F.R. §2.32(a)(3)(i); TMEP §803.04. If applicant's entity type is a corporation, association, partnership, joint venture, or the foreign equivalent, applicant must set forth the foreign country under whose laws applicant is organized or incorporated. 37 C.F.R. §2.32(a)(3)(ii); TMEP §§803.03(b)-(c), 803.04. For an association, applicant must also specify whether the association is incorporated or unincorporated, unless the foreign country and the designation or description "association/associazione" appear in Appendix D of the *Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure* (TMEP). TMEP §803.03(c).

If applicant is organized under the laws of a foreign province or geographical region, applicant should specify both the foreign province or geographical region and the foreign country in which the province or region is located. See TMEP §803.04. To provide this information online via the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) response form, applicant must (1) locate the "Entity Type" heading and select "Other;" (2) locate the "Specify Entity Type" heading and select "Other" under the Foreign Entity option, and enter in the free-text field below both applicant's entity type and the foreign province or geographical region of its organization (e.g., partnership of Victoria); and (3) locate the "State or Country Where Legally Organized" heading and select the appropriate foreign country (e.g., Australia) under the Non-U.S. Entity option. See *id.*

IDENTIFICATION OF GOODS

The goods are:

Class 32: Beers, mineral waters and other non-alcoholic beverages

Class 33: Alcoholic beverages (except beers)

The identification of goods and/or services is indefinite and must be clarified. In particular, the applicant must specify the specific Class 32 beverages intended and delete the parentheses in Class 33 and incorporate the language therein into the body of the Class 33 identification. See TMEP §1402.01. Applicant may adopt the following identification, if accurate:

Class 32: Beers, mineral waters; non-alcoholic beverages, **NAMELY, {specify common commercial names of specific Class 32 beverages intended, e.g., fruit juices, energy drinks, isotonic drinks}**

Class 33: Alcoholic beverages **except beers**

For assistance with identifying and classifying goods and/or services in trademark applications, please see the USPTO's online searchable *U.S. Acceptable Identification of Goods and Services Manual* at <http://tess2.uspto.gov/netathtml/tidm.html>. See TMEP §1402.04.

In an application filed under Trademark Act Section 66(a), an applicant may not change the classification of goods and/or services from that assigned by the International Bureau in the corresponding international registration. 37 C.F.R. §2.85(d); TMEP §§1401.03(d), 1904.02(b). Further, in a multiple-class Section 66(a) application, an applicant may not transfer goods and/or services from one existing international class to another. 37 C.F.R. §2.85(d); see TMEP §§1402.07(a), 1904.02(c).

An applicant may amend an identification of goods only to clarify or limit the goods; adding to or broadening the scope of the goods is not permitted. 37 C.F.R. §2.71(a); see TMEP §§1402.06 *et seq.*, 1402.07 *et seq.*

DESCRIPTION OF MARK REQUIRED

Applicant has submitted a color drawing and provided a color claim, but has not provided the required description specifying where color appears in the literal and design elements in the mark. See 37 C.F.R. §§2.37, 2.52(b)(1); TMEP §807.07(a)-(a)(ii).

Generic color names must be used to describe the colors in the mark, e.g., magenta, yellow, turquoise. TMEP §807.07(a)(i)-(ii). If black, white, and/or gray are not being claimed as a color feature of the mark, applicant must exclude them from the color claim and include in the mark description a statement that the colors black, white, and/or gray represent background, outlining, shading, and/or transparent areas and are not part of the mark. See TMEP §807.07(d).

Therefore, applicant must provide a mark description that specifies where all the colors appear in the literal and design elements in the mark. See TMEP §807.07(a)(ii). The following is suggested, if accurate:

The mark consists of a design of a red and yellow sky over a blue, dark blue, grey and black body of water appearing to the right of a green and red area. On the left side of the design appears a red, yellow and orange bridge with three black human figures. The figure in the front of the design is black and has a yellow face.

If applicant has questions regarding this Office action, please telephone or e-mail the assigned trademark examining attorney. All relevant e-mail communications will be placed in the official application record; however, an e-mail communication will not be accepted as a response to this Office action and will not extend the deadline for filing a proper response. See 37 C.F.R. §2.191; TMEP §§304.01-.02, 709.04-.05. Further, although the trademark examining attorney may provide additional explanation pertaining to the refusal(s) and/or requirement(s) in this Office action, the trademark examining attorney may not provide legal advice or statements about applicant's rights. See TMEP §§705.02, 709.06.

WHO IS PERMITTED TO RESPOND TO THIS PROVISIONAL FULL REFUSAL: Any response to this provisional refusal must be personally signed by an individual applicant, all joint applicants, or someone with legal authority to bind a juristic applicant (e.g., a corporate officer or general partner). 37 C.F.R. §§2.62(b), 2.193(e)(2)(ii); TMEP §712.01. If applicant hires a qualified U.S. attorney to respond on his or her behalf, then the attorney must sign the response. 37 C.F.R. §§2.193(e)(2)(i), 11.18(a); TMEP §§611.03(b), 712.01. Qualified U.S. attorneys include those in good standing with a bar of the highest court of any U.S. state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and other federal territories and possessions of the United States. See 37 C.F.R. §§2.17(a), 2.62(b), 11.1, 11.14(a); TMEP §§602, 712.01. Additionally, for all responses, the proper signatory must personally sign the document or personally enter his or her electronic signature on the electronic filing. See 37 C.F.R. §2.193(a); TMEP §§611.01(b), 611.02. The name of the signatory must also be printed or typed immediately below or adjacent to the signature, or identified elsewhere in the filing. 37 C.F.R. §2.193(d); TMEP §611.01(b).

In general, foreign attorneys are not permitted to represent applicants before the USPTO (e.g., file written communications, authorize an amendment to an application, or submit legal arguments in response to a requirement or refusal). See 37 C.F.R. §11.14(c), (e); TMEP §§602.03-.03(b), 608.01.

DESIGNATION OF DOMESTIC REPRESENTATIVE: The USPTO encourages applicants who do not reside in the United States to designate a domestic representative upon whom any notice or process may be served. TMEP §610; see 15 U.S.C. §§1051(e), 1141h(d); 37

C.F.R. §2.24(a)(1)-(2). Such designations may be filed online at <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/correspondence.jsp>.

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All informal e-mail communications relevant to this application will be placed in the official application record.

WHO MUST SIGN THE RESPONSE: It must be personally signed by an individual applicant or someone with legal authority to bind an applicant (i.e., a corporate officer, a general partner, all joint applicants). If an applicant is represented by an attorney, the attorney must sign the response.

PERIODICALLY CHECK THE STATUS OF THE APPLICATION: To ensure that applicant does not miss crucial deadlines or official notices, check the status of the application every three to four months using the Trademark Status and Document Retrieval (TSDR) system at <http://tsdr.uspto.gov/>. Please keep a copy of the TSDR status screen. If the status shows no change for more than six months, contact the Trademark Assistance Center by e-mail at TrademarkAssistanceCenter@uspto.gov or call 1-800-786-9199. For more information on checking status, see <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/status/>.

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Munch (məŋk) [KEY](#), **Edvard** 1863-1944.

Norwegian artist whose works include etchings, lithographs, and paintings, such as *The Scream* (1893) and *Frieze of Life* (1897).

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