WITH THE WIDESPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19), WE WANT TO SEND OUR BEST WISHES FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY.
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS IN AFRICA!
As the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to spread in our region and across the globe, we want to assure you that our number one priority is the safety and well-being of our people, families, clients, and the communities in which we live and work.

Accordingly, we have put measures in place that help ensure both safety for our people and business continuity for our valued clients. We are consistently monitoring the situation and following all recommendations from the World Health Organization and local authorities. In the likely event of an office closure or any other disruption, our professionals have the technological and operational infrastructure to work remotely, and can access our firm’s servers through secure and encrypted connections that ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of all emails and documents.

To date, a few IP Offices in our region have curtailed their services and some are expected to follow suit in the coming days. Some will continue operating online or remotely, while others will be halting their operations completely. In the meantime, you may continue to send all your instructions, queries, and documents to your account managers and the people you are corresponding with at the offices concerned.

Where we are able to process your instructions we will do so, and in all other instances, we will docket all the instructions we receive from you, prepare all the required forms, and diarize all deadlines in order to ensure proper follow-up and organization. For more information on how to reach a particular office in the Saba IP Network, please click here.

Should you have any questions, or require any additional information on the above, please visit our website or contact us at support@sabaip.com.
SAUDI ARABIA | SAIP IS THE NEW TRADEMARK SHERIFF IN TOWN

In compliance with its mandate to unify all IP related matters under one authority, in the latest development, trademarks previously managed by the Ministry of Trade and Investment, have now been transferred under the umbrella of the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property.

With this update, SAIP showcases its efforts as a self-funded agency with consolidated enforcement power and streamlined procedures. It is worth noting that SAIP has been very active since its inception in late 2017, and recently began handling the registration of patents, layout designs of integrated circuits, plant varieties, industrial designs, and copyrights.

SAUDI Arabia shows its commitment to develop and establish a competent IP system and demonstrates its awareness of the strategic importance of IP on the country’s economic development.

TRADEMARK PROTECTION FRAMEWORK IN SAUDI ARABIA

Classification
10th edition – single class application. Class 33, alcoholic goods in class 32, pork meat in class 29, and Christmas trees and related products in class 28 cannot be registered

Search
Possible for word and device marks

Examination
On formal, absolute, and relative grounds

Opposition
60 days from publication date

Protection Term
10 Hijri years (approximately 9 years and 8 months) from filing date and renewable for like periods

Use
Vulnerable to cancellation if mark has not been used for 5 years from filing
GAZA | TRADEMARK REGISTRATIONS GOING ONLINE

Given the recent trend in going paperless in the region, the Trademark Office in Gaza announced that it is planning on introducing an electronic platform for the filing of trademark applications in the near future. The new process will involve uploading an electronic application to the online system, along with a soft copy of the power of attorney.

We expect this new practice to pave the way for a smoother trademark registration process and to accelerate the introduction of further electronic services at the TMO.

TRADEMARK PROTECTION FRAMEWORK IN GAZA

**Classification**
10th edition – single class application. Class 33 and alcoholic goods in class 32 cannot be registered

**Search**
Possible for word and device marks

**Examination**
On formal, absolute, and relative grounds

**Opposition**
3 months from publication date

**Protection Term**
7 years from filing date and renewable for periods of 14 years each

**Use**
Vulnerable to cancellation if mark has not been used for 2 years from filing date
In its ongoing efforts to advance the intellectual property scene in Egypt, the Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade of Egypt announced that it will begin accepting applications for the registration of geographical indications.

This is a welcome move since GIs will provide added value to local producers and will provide social upliftment for rural development in Egypt.
IT’S NOT ABOUT BEING THERE.
IT’S ABOUT BEING AWARE.

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18 OFFICES
1 STOP SHOP IP FIRM

COUNSELING | PROSECUTION | ENFORCEMENT | ANTI-COUNTERFEITING

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