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

U.S. APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 79238439

MARK: ST-REMY EXTRA OLD XO FRENCH BRANDY

79238439

CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS:

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APPLICANT: E. REMY MARTIN & C°

CORRESPONDENT'S REFERENCE/DOCKET NO: N/A
CORRESPONDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS:

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http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response_forms.jsp

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OFFICE ACTION

INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION NO. 1417193

FRANCE.

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.

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).

SUMMARY OF ISSUES:

- Drawing
- Description
- Entity and Citizenship
- Translation

DRAWING

The drawing is not acceptable because it will not create a high quality image when reproduced. See TMEP §807.04(a). Specifically, the drawing appears over pixelated and is blurry. A clear drawing of the mark is an application requirement. 37 C.F.R. §2.52.

Therefore, applicant must submit a new drawing showing a clear depiction of the mark. All lines must be clean, sharp and solid, and not fine or crowded. 37 C.F.R. §\$2.53(c), 2.54(e); TMEP §\$807.05(c), 807.06(a). Additionally, the USPTO will not accept a new drawing in which there are amendments or changes that would materially alter the applied-for mark. 37 C.F.R. §2.72; see TMEP §\$807.13 et seq., 807.14.

In addition, it appears that applicant is applying for a design mark that is trade dress of product packaging for the goods. Therefore, applicant must depict the mark in the drawing to include broken or dotted lines to show the position of the mark on the goods or container. 37 C.F.R. §2.52(b)(4); TMEP §§807.08, 1202.02(c)(i). Specifically, the outline of the bottle and the cap must be depicted in dotted lines. Applicant must show the mark itself using solid lines. See 37 C.F.R. §§2.52(c), 2.54(e); TMEP §§807.05(c), 807.06(a).

For more information about drawings and instructions on how to submit a drawing, please visit the Drawing webmage.

DESCRIPTION

Applicant must provide an accurate and complete mark description because the mark description in the application does not include all elements and/or colors shown in the mark. A complete mark description for a mark depicted in color must identify all the literal and design elements in the mark and specify where the colors appear in those elements. See 37 C.F.R. §§2.37, 2.52(b)(1); TMEP §807.07(a)-(a)(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).

In addition, it appears that applicant is applying for a design mark that is trade dress of product packaging for the goods. Therefore, applicant must specify all elements in the drawing that constitute the mark and are claimed as part of the mark and any elements which are not part of the mark and indicate that the matter shown in broken or dotted lines is not part of the mark and serves only to show the position or placement of the mark.

The following description is suggested, if accurate:

The mark consists of trade dress of the packaging for the goods consisting of a black bottle with the tip of the cap appearing in gold; a design of a gold lion within a gold outlined circle appears in the center portion of the bottle; the gold wording "ST-REMY" appears below the lion design on the front portion of the bottle; a gold horizontal band appears below the wording "ST-REMY"; a gray rectangular label appears below the band and contains the silver wording "EXTRA OLD" appearing above a design of a silver lion which appears behind the red wording "XO" appearing in large font above the smaller silver wording "FRENCH BRANDY FRANCAIS"; the design of three fleur-de-lis appears below the label with the first being blue, the second being white and the third being red; the dotted lines forming the outline of the bottle and cap are not part of the mark and serve only to show the position or placement of the mark.

ENTITY AND CITIZENSHIP

The application does not indicate applicant's legal entity and citizenship, or state or country of organization or incorporation. Accordingly, applicant must specify its legal entity and its national citizenship or foreign country of organization or incorporation. See 37 C.F.R. §§2.32(a)(3)(i)-(ii), 2.61(b); TMEP §§803.03, 803.04. This information is required for all U.S. trademark applications, including those filed under Trademark Act Section 66(a). See 37 C.F.R. §7.25(a)-(b); TMEP §1904.02(a).

Acceptable legal entities include an individual, a partnership, a corporation, a joint venture, or the foreign equivalent. See TMEP §§803.03 et seq. If applicant's legal entity is an individual, applicant must so specify and provide his or her national citizenship. TMEP §803.03(a). If applicant is a corporation, association, partnership, joint venture, or the foreign equivalent, applicant must so specify and provide the foreign country under whose laws applicant is organized or incorporated. TMEP §803.03(b)-(c). 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 to Office Action form, applicant must open the response form, answer "Yes" to wizard question number 5, find the "Owner Information" page, and do the following: (1) locate the "Entity Type" heading on that page 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.

TRANSLATION

Applicant must submit an English translation of all foreign wording in the mark. 37 C.F.R. §§2.32(a)(9), 2.61(b); see TMEP §809. In the present case, the wording "FRANCAIS" requires translation.

The following translation statement is suggested:

The English translation of the word "FRANCAIS" in the mark is "French".

TMEP §809.03. See attached translation evidence.

RESPONSE GUIDELINES

For this application to proceed further, applicant must explicitly address each refusal and/or requirement raised in this Office action. If the action includes a refusal, applicant may provide arguments and/or evidence as to why the refusal should be withdrawn and the mark should register. Applicant may also have other options specified in this Office action for responding to a refusal and should consider those options carefully. To respond to requirements and certain refusal response options, applicant should set forth in writing the required changes or statements. For more information and general tips on responding to USPTO Office actions, response options, and how to file a response online, see "Responding to Office Actions" on the USPTO's website.

If applicant does not respond to this Office action within six months of the issue/mailing date, or responds by expressly abandoning the application, the application process will end and the trademark will fail to register. *See* 15 U.S.C. §1062(b); 37 C.F.R. §§2.65(a), 2.68(a); TMEP §§718.01, 718.02. Additionally, the USPTO will not refund the application filing fee, which is a required processing fee. *See* 37 C.F.R. §§2.6(a)(1)(i)-(iv), 2.209(a); TMEP §405.04.

When an application has abandoned for failure to respond to an Office action, an applicant may timely file a petition to revive the application, which, if granted, would allow the application to return to active status. See 37 C.F.R. §2.66; TMEP §1714. The petition must be filed within two months of the date of issuance of the notice of abandonment and may be filed online via the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) with a \$100 fee. See 37 C.F.R. §§2.6(a)(15)(ii), 2.66(a)(1), (b)(1).

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. §§2.62(c), 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 U.S. commonwealths or U.S. territories. 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.

/Mariam Aziz Mahmoudi/ Trademark Examining Attorney LO 115 United States Patent & Trademark Office Tel. (571) 272-9733 mariam.mahmoudi@uspto.gov

TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER: Go to http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response_forms.jsp. Please wait 48-72 hours from the issue/mailing date before using the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS), to allow for necessary system updates of the application. For technical assistance with online forms, e-mail TEAS@uspto.gov. For questions about the Office action itself, please contact the assigned trademark examining attorney. E-mail communications will not be accepted as responses to Office actions; therefore, do not respond to this Office action by e-mail.

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 http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/status/. 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@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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