

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

**APPLICATION SERIAL NO.** 79098086

**MARK:** BP

**\*79098086\***

**CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS:**

Patentanwälte Freischem  
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50677 Köln  
FED REP GERMANY

**CLICK HERE TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER:**  
[http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response\\_forms.jsp](http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response_forms.jsp)

**APPLICANT:** BIERBAUM-PROENEN  
GMBH & Co KG

**CORRESPONDENT'S  
REFERENCE/DOCKET NO:**

N/A

**CORRESPONDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

**OFFICE ACTION**

**STRICT DEADLINE TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER**

TO AVOID ABANDONMENT OF APPLICANT'S TRADEMARK APPLICATION, THE USPTO MUST RECEIVE APPLICANT'S COMPLETE RESPONSE TO THIS LETTER **WITHIN 6 MONTHS** OF THE ISSUE/MAILING DATE BELOW.

**ISSUE/MAILING DATE:**

**INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION NO. 0555078**

This is a **PROVISIONAL FULL REFUSAL** of the trademark and/or service mark in the above-referenced U.S. application. *See* 15 U.S.C. §1141h(c).

**WHO IS PERMITTED TO RESPOND TO THIS PROVISIONAL FULL REFUSAL:**

Applicant may respond directly to this provisional refusal Office action if applicant is not represented by an authorized attorney. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.193(e)(2)(ii). Otherwise, applicant's authorized attorney must respond on applicant's behalf. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.193(e)(2)(i). However, **the only attorneys who are authorized to sign responses and practice before the USPTO** in trademark matters are as follows:

(1) **Attorneys 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; and

(2) **Canadian agents/attorneys** who represent applicants located in Canada and (a) are registered with the USPTO and in good standing as patent agents or (b) have been granted reciprocal recognition by the USPTO.

*See* 37 C.F.R. §§2.17(e), 2.62(b), 11.1, 11.5(b)(2), 11.14(a), (c); TMEP §§602, 712.03.

Foreign attorneys, other than authorized Canadian attorneys, are not permitted to represent applicants

before the USPTO. *See* 37 C.F.R. §§2.17(e), 11.14(c), (e); TMEP §602.03-.03(b). That is, foreign attorneys may not file written communications, authorize an amendment to an application, or submit legal arguments in response to a requirement or refusal, among other things. *See* 37 C.F.R. §11.5(b)(2); TMEP §§602.03(c), 608.01. If applicant is represented by such a foreign attorney, applicant must respond directly to this provisional refusal Office action. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.193(e)(2)(ii).

## **DESIGNATION OF DOMESTIC REPRESENTATIVE:**

The USPTO encourages applicants who do not reside in the U.S. to designate a domestic representative upon whom notices or process may be served. 15 U.S.C. §§1051(e), 1141h(d); 37 C.F.R. §2.24(a)(1)-(2); *see* TMEP §610. Such designations may be filed online at <http://www.uspto.gov/teas/index.html>.

## **THE APPLICATION HAS BEEN PROVISIONALLY REFUSED AS FOLLOWS:**

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.

PLEASE NOTE: Applicant is encouraged to email or telephone the trademark examining attorney to resolve the issues raised below.

### **Search for Conflicting 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).

### **Entity and Citizenship Information Required**

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 an international registration to the U.S."). *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 thereof. *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. 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. 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.*

### **Description of the Mark Required**

The applied-for mark is not in standard characters and applicant did not provide a description of the mark with the initial application. Applications for marks not in standard characters must include an accurate and concise description of the entire mark that identifies literal elements as well as any design elements. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.37; TMEP §§808.01, 808.02, 808.03(b).

Therefore, applicant must provide a description of the applied-for mark. The following is suggested:

**The mark consists of the stylized capital letters BP.**

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 §§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.

/Amy E. Hella/  
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**TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER:** Go to [http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response\\_forms.jsp](http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response_forms.jsp).

Please wait 48-72 hours from the issue/mailling date before using TEAS, to allow for necessary system updates of the application. For *technical* assistance with online forms, e-mail [TEAS@uspto.gov](mailto: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 Trademark Applications and Registrations Retrieval (TARR) at <http://tarr.uspto.gov/>. Please keep a copy of the complete TARR screen. If TARR shows no change for more than six months, call 1-800-786-9199. For more information on checking status, see <http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/status/>.

**TO UPDATE CORRESPONDENCE/E-MAIL ADDRESS:** Use the TEAS form at <http://www.uspto.gov/teas/eTEASpageE.htm>.

