

Dear Trademark Representatives,

As we approach the end of the year, I would like to take a moment to express our appreciation for your (active) involvement with the Bureau for Intellectual Property Sint Maarten (BIP SXM) and the valuable contributions you have made throughout the past year.

Fruitful year

BIP SXM has experienced a dynamic year marked by numerous engagements, including 13 presentations/workshops and a specially curated workshop dedicated to trademark representatives like yourself ([see video: IP professional workshop 2023](#)). Your participation in these events has been instrumental in fostering a collaborative environment and enhancing the overall intellectual property landscape.

Aspirations and areas of focus

As we reflect on the past year, we are keenly aware that continuous improvement is essential to meet the evolving needs of our stakeholders. In the spirit of exploration and growth, we would like to share some aspirations and areas of focus you might expect from BIP SXM in the coming year:

1. Continued Communication Channels:

We are committed to improving communication and ensuring that you receive timely and relevant information. In the new year, we plan to continue our regular newsletters, to keep you informed about the latest developments and updates in the IP world. In addition, we look forward to your volunteered contributions to the newsletters. Your article will offer you the chance to expose your hidden IP knowledge to your peers which in turn can lead to future collaborations.

2. Implementing Feedback Mechanism:

Your input is invaluable to us. To enhance our services further, we will be establishing a robust feedback mechanism, including regular surveys and feedback sessions. Your insights will play a crucial role in shaping the future of our offerings.

3. Considering Expanded Training Opportunities:

Building on the success of the specialized workshop, we are considering the possibility of expanding our training initiatives. This may involve exploring options such as webinars, online courses, and industry-specific seminars to cater to the diverse needs of trademark representatives. Naturally, there will be a small fee involved for attendance as the Bureau works hard to provide quality content at a reduced rate.

4. Considering Digital Transformation Initiatives:

Embracing digital technologies is an area of interest for BIP SXM. We are exploring the potential of digital transformation initiatives, such as online filing systems and automated processes, to enhance efficiency in trademark representation. This may take us a while, however we are committed to get the ball rolling in the coming year.

5. Exploring Collaborative Initiatives:

Collaboration remains a cornerstone of our success. We aspire to explore collaborative (one-on-one) projects and possibly a networking event in the coming year to foster a stronger, more interconnected intellectual property ecosystem on Sint Maarten and within our region.

Brief Survey

Additionally, to kickstart our collaborative efforts, we have attached a [survey link](#) seeking your valuable input. Your responses will play a pivotal role in shaping the direction of our initiatives.

Introducing a yearly fee

Moreover, as part of our commitment to enhancing services, we anticipate introducing a yearly trademark representative fee sometime next year. This fee will contribute to the ongoing improvement of our services and assist us in providing more robust support to trademark representatives.

Conclusion

These aspirations and initiatives underscore our commitment to continuous improvement and collaboration. We look forward to exploring these possibilities together, and your ongoing engagement and insights will be invaluable in shaping the path forward.

Thank you for your dedication to the field, and we look forward to another year of collaborative opportunities.

Best regards,

Vincentia Rosen-Sandiford
Director
Bureau for Intellectual Property Sint Maarten



The Bureau for Intellectual Property Sint Maarten (the Bureau) is an independent governing body and public service provider in the field of Intellectual Property, incorporated by law on October 1st, 2015. The services of the Bureau are aimed at securing IP rights for individuals, entrepreneurs and (larger) companies that are established nationally, regionally, and internationally, doing business, or creating and selling (artistic) works in or from Sint Maarten.

The Bureau maintains a neutral position towards the public. One of its main tasks is to provide information on all procedural aspects relating to intellectual property rights on Sint Maarten, namely trademarks, copyrights and patents. Given the fact that the Bureau is neutral and objective in its service to all entrepreneurs, individual (legal) advice is prohibited.

Mrs. Vincentia Rosen-Sandiford is the Director of the Bureau since its inception. During her professional career she has worked in both the private and public sector. Besides her talent for business and change management, she is passionate about increasing IP awareness in and for Sint Maarten.

SEASON'S *Greetings*



May your holidays be filled with the **joy of creativity**, the **warmth of innovation**, and the **spirit of intellectual curiosity**. As we celebrate the season, let's also reflect on the remarkable ideas and breakthroughs that have shaped our world.

Here's to a new year filled with even more brilliant discoveries and protected innovations.

Office Closure

Please note that our office will be closed to the public from:
Friday, December 22nd, 2023 through **Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024**.
Regular business hours will resume on **Wednesday, January 3rd, 2024**.

The online trademark registration system continues to be available for filing your application for a trademark via our website: www.bip.sx.

For trademark filings, kindly email trademarks@bip.sx.
For all urgent matters, kindly email info@bip.sx.

Warmest Wishes,



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Vol 3 – 2023 Event Calendar

📅 IP Events Calendar	📍 Location	🌐 Website
23/01/24 25/01/24 WIPO: advanced patent analytics training seminar and workshop	Pretoria, South Africa	www.wipo.int
20/03/24 21/03/24 INTA: The business of AI	New York	www.inta.org
20/03/24 21/03/24 World IP Review Summit	Chicago, Illinois	www.wiprsummit.com

* This list is not exhaustive.