

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Article: BIP SXM fee restructuring
- Mark your calendar
- What's new
- IP Learning
- Upcoming events

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



'Save the Date' BIP 10th year anniversary.



## BIP SXM FEE RESTRUCTURING

Dear Trademark Representatives,

Global inflation has reshaped economic systems worldwide, affecting local businesses, industries and daily life. Factors such as automation, advanced technologies and global trade have driven these transformations. Markets, financial operations, and consumer behavior have all been impacted by the global inflation, forcing businesses and individuals to adjust to these changing economic conditions.

The Bureau for Intellectual Property Sint Maarten (BIP SXM or the Bureau) remains committed to adapting its services and operations to meet the aforementioned evolving challenges. However, since October 1st, 2015, BIP SXM has maintained the same fees for national trademarks. These fees date back to the time of the Netherlands Antilles in 2005.

Rising operational costs, the obligation for technological advancements, and the requirement to align with international intellectual property standards have all contributed to an increase in the Bureau's financial obligations. As a result, BIP SXM is now faced with the challenge of addressing these rising costs while also ensuring its continued commitment to providing essential services in the intellectual property field.

To continue delivering efficient, high-quality services and enhance the protection of intellectual property rights in Sint Maarten, the Bureau must implement adjustments to its fee structure. The Bureau is therefore preparing draft legislation regarding the new fees, which we plan to submit to the minister by the second quarter of 2025, with the goal of securing approval and implementation in the third quarter of 2025.

### Why These Adjustments are Necessary

After careful consideration, the decision to adjust fees has been made to ensure the continued efficiency and quality of services provided by the Bureau. These changes are vital to sustain our operations and enhance our ability to protect intellectual property rights in Sint Maarten.

### The following fee adjustments are being considered:

- **Fee Adjustments:** To address rising operational costs and support necessary system improvements for better service delivery.
- **Introduction of Annual Representative Fees:** To improve communication, provide additional resources, and streamline the trademark registration and management process.

### Key Drivers Behind These Changes:

- **Technology:** Modernizing systems is crucial for streamlining application processes and safeguarding trademark data.
- **Global Standards:** Aligning with international intellectual property frameworks ensures Sint Maarten can offer effective protections.
- **Sustaining High-Quality Services:** To maintain the service quality trademark holders (TM holders) and trademark representatives (TM representatives) expect, these adjustments are necessary to keep up with rising costs and technological demands.

These measures will enhance the Bureau's ability to support the TM representatives and TM holders, ensuring the continued protection of trademarks in Sint Maarten.

## Our Commitment

The Bureau values its longstanding partnership with the TM representatives and is committed to fostering collaboration as we move forward. While fee changes can be challenging, these adjustments are designed to enhance the IP system in Sint Maarten, benefiting both the representatives and the businesses they serve.

We look forward to continuing our successful collaboration and working together to protect and advance intellectual property rights in Sint Maarten.

Thank you for your understanding and continued cooperation.

Kind 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.*



## WHATS NEW!

Bermuda's new trademark law takes effect April 1st, 2025.

Bermuda's updated trademark legislation introduces significant changes, including the establishment of a single trademark register, 10-year trademark terms and expanded protections for service and non-traditional marks. The law also enhances enforcement measures and imposes stricter penalties for misuse, providing greater legal clarity for businesses operating locally and internationally.

To read more, click the [link](#) for the full article.

Source: Spoor & Fisher



## IP LEARNING

BOIP Explainer - Reputation in a Virtual World - Author: Tomas Westenbroek (Legal Officer)

To read more, click the [link](#) for the LinkedIn article.

Source: BOIP



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Vol 1 2025 Event Calendar

#### April

1st

**INTA: Green Branding and Sustainability Claims: Navigating Trademarks in an Eco-Conscious World** ▶ [Inta.com](#)  
Location: [In-person, \(Palo Alto\)](#)

2nd

**INTA: Green Branding and Sustainability Claims: Navigating Trademarks in an Eco-Conscious World** ▶ [Inta.com](#)  
Location 1: [In-person, \(Minneapolis, MN\)](#)  
Location 2: [In-person, \(Philadelphia, PA\)](#)  
Location 3: [In-person, \(New York, NY\)](#)  
Location 4: [In-person, \(Indianapolis, IN\)](#)

**3rd** INTA: Green Branding and Sustainability Claims: Navigating Trademarks in an Eco-Conscious World ▶ [Inta.com](https://www.inta.com)

Location 1: [In-person, \(Houston, TX\)](#)

Location 2: [In-person, \(Miami, FL\)](#)

**3rd** WIPO: AIPPI Türkiye International Intellectual Property Seminar – Alternative Dispute Resolution Methods in IP Law ▶ [wipo.int](https://www.wipo.int)

Location: [Hybrid](#)

**9th** INTA: Green Branding and Sustainability Claims: Navigating Trademarks in an Eco-Conscious World ▶ [Inta.com](https://www.inta.com)

Location 1: [In-person, \(Portland, OR\)](#)

Location 2: [In-person, \(Milwaukee, WI\)](#)

Location 3: [In-person, \(Plano, TX\)](#)

Location 4: [In-person, \(New York, NY\)](#)

Location 5: [In-person, \(Nashville, TN\)](#)

Location 6: [In-person, \(Hartford, CT\)](#)

**10th** INTA: Green Branding and Sustainability Claims: Navigating Trademarks in an Eco-Conscious World ▶ [Inta.com](https://www.inta.com)

Location: [In-person, \(San Francisco, CA\)](#)

**15th** WIPO: LESI Patent Mediation and Arbitration: Trends and Resources ▶ [wipo.int](https://www.wipo.int)

Location: [Virtual](#)

**23rd** WIPO: WIPO Conference – 25th UDRP Anniversary ▶ [wipo.int](https://www.wipo.int)

Location: [Hybrid](#)

**26th** World Intellectual Property Day ▶ [wipo.int](https://www.wipo.int)

IP and music: Feel the beat of IP

**27th - 21st** WIPO: Tech & IP Licensing Disputes, LESI Annual Conference ▶ [wipo.int](https://www.wipo.int)

Location: [In-person](#)

May

**17th - 21st** INTA: 2025 Annual Meeting ▶ [Inta.com](https://www.inta.com)

Location: [In-person, \(San Diego, California\)](#)

**20th** IPCA at INTA 2025: The 10th half-yearly meeting ▶ [ipca.web](https://www.ipca.web)

Location: [In-person, \(San Diego, California\)](#)

June

**17th** INTA: Is it Really You? NIL, Deep Fakes, and Personal Branding ▶ [Inta.com](https://www.inta.com)

Location 1: [In-person, \(Washington, D.C.\)](#)

Location 2: [In-person, \(New York, NY\)](#)

**18th** INTA: Is it Really You? NIL, Deep Fakes, and Personal Branding ▶ [Inta.com](https://www.inta.com)

Location 1: [In-person, \(Indianapolis, IN\)](#)

Location 2: [In-person, \(Houston, TX\)](#)

Location 3: [In-person, \(Seattle, WA\)](#)

**23rd** INTA: Is it Really You? NIL, Deep Fakes, and Personal Branding ▶ [Inta.com](https://www.inta.com)

Location: [In-person, \(Detroit, MI\)](#)

**24th** INTA: Is it Really You? NIL, Deep Fakes, and Personal Branding ▶ [Inta.com](https://www.inta.com)

Location: [In-person, \(Arlington, VA\)](#)

**25th** INTA: Is it Really You? NIL, Deep Fakes, and Personal Branding ▶ [Inta.com](https://www.inta.com)

Location: [In-person, \(Philadelphia, PA\)](#)

• This list is not exhaustive.



Disclaimer:

The Bureau is not a regulatory body and therefore does not have any law enforcing authorities. By law the Bureau carries out tasks pertaining to the registration of trademarks, provides information to the public regarding intellectual property rights, and thereto related matters. The Bureau's position is neutral. Given the fact that the Bureau has to serve all entrepreneurs, it cannot take the side of one party in a conflict, since this would automatically result in no longer being able to serve all. The Bureau cannot act against any infringement of intellectual property rights or the suspicion thereof. Furthermore, the law does not provide for any instruments for the Bureau to conduct any procedures in relation to infringement or dispute settlement. In the event of any (suspected) infringement, a lawsuit should be filed with the civil court by the owner of the intellectual property rights.