

ALERT
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NEW FEES FOR PATENTS IN THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

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by Jamal S. Smith
jamal.smith@thorntonsmith.com

The Registrar of Corporate Affairs, who is also the Registrar of Patents in the British Virgin Islands, issued the Registration of United Kingdom Patents (Amendment) Rules, 2014 on 5 March 2014 which among other things increases the total registration fees from \$25.00 to \$100.00, inclusive of publication fees. While the effects of these new Rules are still being considered, they will have a profound impact on the jurisdiction if they become enforceable.

Renewal of Patents

The new Rules also allow for the renewal of re-registered United Kingdom Patents in the British Virgin Islands by filing an application for renewal of the certificate of registration. Therefore, where it is necessary to renew a patent in the UK every year after the fourth anniversary of the filing date in the UK, it is now possible to renew the patent in the British Virgin Islands by paying the renewal fee of \$50.00.

Change of Name or Address

Where the name or address of the proprietor of a re-registered United Kingdom Patent has changed on the UK Register of Patents, it is now possible to have the name or address changed on the BVI Register. All that is now necessary is to provide a certificate issued by the UK Patent Office showing that the change was made in the UK and by paying the change fee of \$25.00.

It still remains necessary to have a solicitor in the British Virgin Islands to handle the patent in the British Virgin Islands.

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If you would like more information about patents in the British Virgin Islands, you may contact Jamal S. Smith.

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