

## Leaflet European Patent in the Republic of Malta

### Territory

This part of the European patent covers the territory of the Republic of Malta.

### National patent number

The Maltese part of the European patent will be assigned a national patent number.

### Duration

Provided that the annual national renewal fees are paid, the patent has a duration of 20 years from the European filing date.

### Compulsory use

A patented invention must be worked sufficiently in the Republic of Malta. If a patented invention is not so worked within 4 years from the date of filing the application or within 3 years from grant (whichever period ends last) and there are no circumstances justifying the non-working or insufficient working, the patent will become subject to the grant of non-voluntary licenses, if such license is requested by any person any person who proves that he is able to work the patented invention.

### Marking

Marking is not compulsory. Putting into circulation or selling an article with a word on it which implies that the article is patented where it is not, is an offence.

### EU member countries

The Republic of Malta is a member of the European Union (EU). As far as patents are concerned, this has the consequence that once products protected by the patent are sold by or with the permission of the patentee in one EU member country, shipment of these products into and out of other EU member countries basically cannot be prevented. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions on this issue.