

Dated: May 18, 2022.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2022-11071 Filed 5-23-22; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-T-2022-0017]

USPTO To Accelerate Transition To Issuance of Electronic Trademark Registration Certificates; Issuing Next Certificates on May 24, 2022

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is accelerating the transition date for issuance of electronic trademark registration certificates to May 24, 2022. On and after that date, the electronic registration certificate will be the official registration certificate. Because of a nationwide shortage of the specialized paper, and a recent vendor disruption, the USPTO will not issue registration certificates between May 10 and May 23, 2022, while the USPTO transitions to this new program. The new program will make the issuance of registration certificates more resilient. After the USPTO begins issuing electronic registration certificates, trademark owners will have the option to order paper “presentation” copies. Registrants will also continue to be able to order certified copies of their trademark registrations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Catherine Cain, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Examination Policy, USPTO, at 571-272-8946 or TMFRNotices@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The USPTO published a notice in the **Federal Register** on May 2, 2022 (87 FR 25623), notifying the public that it would begin issuing trademark registration certificates electronically via the Trademark Status and Document Retrieval (TSDR) system on June 7, 2022. The USPTO is accelerating the transition date for issuance of electronic trademark registration certificates to May 24, 2022. The new date accelerates the benefits of the electronic certificates, quickly adjusts for a paper vendor disruption that recently presented, and improves the resiliency of the USPTO to issue trademark registrations going forward.

The USPTO will not issue registration certificates between May 10 and May 23, 2022, while it transitions to the new, electronic process. In the course of addressing the issue caused by the paper shortage, the status of some applications was inadvertently changed to registered on May 10. The USPTO corrected the status of those applications to pending on May 11.

As stated in the May 2, 2022 notice, upon implementation of electronic trademark registration certificates, all registration certificates issued by the USPTO will be made under the electronic signature of the Director and with a digital seal, which will authenticate the registration. The USPTO will upload the official registration certificate to the TSDR database, and an electronic notice will be emailed to the trademark owner and all email addresses of record with a link to access the certificate upon issuance. Trademark owners will be able to use the emailed link to view, download, and print a complete copy of the registration certificate at no charge at any time. Trademark owners who file an initial application on or after the implementation date will be able to order presentation copies for \$25 per copy through the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS). Trademark owners who filed an initial application before the implementation date will be able to order one presentation copy for free. Trademark owners will continue to be able to order certified copies of their trademark registration for a fee. The certified copy certifies the status and title of the registration and includes the signature of an authorized certifying officer.

Katherine K. Vidal,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2022-11196 Filed 5-23-22; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[OMB Control No. 0651-NEW; Docket No. PTO-C-2022-0018]

Information Collection; Improving Customer Experience (OMB Circular A-11, Section 280 Implementation)

AGENCY: Department of Commerce, United States Patent and Trademark Office.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Agency) as

part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, is announcing an opportunity for public comment on a new proposed collection of information by the Agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on new collection proposed by the Agency.

DATES: Submit comments on or before: July 25, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments identified by Information Collection 0651-NEW, Improving Customer Experience (OMB Circular A-11, Section 280 Implementation), by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking portal:* <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments to <https://www.regulations.gov>, will be posted to the docket unchanged.

Mail: Kimberly Hardy, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. 0651-NEW, Improving Customer Experience (OMB Circular A-11, Section 280 Implementation).

Instructions: Please submit comments only and cite Information Collection 0651-NEW, Improving Customer Experience (OMB Circular A-11, Section 280 Implementation), in all correspondence related to this collection. To confirm receipt of your comment(s), please check [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), approximately 2-3 business days after submission to verify posting (except allow 30 days for posting of comments submitted by mail).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Charles Thomas, Customer Experience Administrator for Trademarks, and/or Toni Krasnic, Customer Experience Administrator for Patents, via email to Charles.Thomas1@uspto.gov and/or Toni.Krasnic@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

Under the PRA, (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520) Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of information” is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes Agency requests