

Intellectual Property Office of Singapore

Registry of Trade Marks

Circular No. 1/2025: Partial replacement of national registrations by protected international trade marks (Singapore)

**Partial replacement of national registrations by protected international trade marks (Singapore)<sup>1</sup>**

(Circular No. 1/2025, dated 7 January 2025)

Pursuant to the amendment of Rule 21(3)(d) of the Regulations Under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, rule 26 of the Trade Marks (International Registration) Rules will be amended to cater for the partial replacement of national registrations by protected international trade marks (Singapore). The amendments can be accessed [here](#).

From **1 February 2025**, holders of protected international trade marks (Singapore) who request to record the replacement of their national registration via IPOS' Form MP2, will no longer be required to cancel the goods and/or services in the national registration that are not covered in the protected international trade mark (Singapore). There will be no replacement for the goods and services in the national registration that are not covered in the protected international trade mark (Singapore).

For more information on the above, you may wish to refer to the **Annex** or send us an email at [ipos\\_enquiry@ipos.gov.sg](mailto:ipos_enquiry@ipos.gov.sg).

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<sup>1</sup> A “protected international trade mark (Singapore)” refers to an international registration or subsequent designation designating Singapore that has become protected in Singapore, as outlined in rule 17 of the Trade Marks (International Registration) Rules.

## ANNEX

### **What is replacement?**

Replacement is a feature of the Madrid Protocol that allows holders of international trade mark registrations who have an earlier national registration in designated Contracting Parties, to benefit from the latter's earlier date of protection and to reduce costs of renewal by consolidating the rights of a national registration and an international registration into a single international registration.

In other words, where the scope of goods and/or services in the earlier national registration in Singapore is deemed replaced by the protected international trade mark (Singapore), the holder would only need to renew the protected international trade mark (Singapore). The protected international trade mark (Singapore) will continue to benefit from the earlier date of the national registration, enabling the holder to save on renewal costs.

### **Conditions for replacement**

<b>Before 1 February 2025</b>	<b>On/After 1 February 2025</b>
a. The mark must be the same for both the earlier national registration and the later international trade mark that has become protected in Singapore;	
b. The national registration must be in the name of the same holder of the protected international trade mark (Singapore);	
c. The date of the protected international trade mark (Singapore) is later than the date of the national registration; and	
d. All of the goods and/or services in the national registration are found in the protected international trade mark (Singapore).	d. <b><u>At least some of the goods and/or services</u></b> in the national registration are found in the protected international trade mark (Singapore)

When the conditions for replacement are met, the protected international trade mark (Singapore) is deemed to automatically replace the relevant national registration. However, replacement will only be recorded upon request.

Replacement does not occur for the goods and services claimed in the national registration that are not covered in the protected international trade mark (Singapore). The holder may wish to continue to renew the national registration in respect of these goods and services to retain their protection.

### **Recording a replacement with IPOS**

A replacement is recorded on IPOS' Trade Marks Register after the holder of the protected international trade mark (Singapore) has lodged Form MP2 and IPOS has approved the same.

IPOS will notify the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) regarding the replacement thereafter. Once notified, the International Bureau will record the replacement details in the International Register and publish them in the WIPO Gazette of International Marks.



**B. Recordal of a partial replacement – some goods and services of an earlier national registration are claimed in a later protected international trade mark (Singapore) (IPOS’ practice on/after 1 February 2025)** <sup>new</sup>

If conditions for partial replacement are met, IPOS will approve the replacement recordal request filed via Form MP2 ***without*** requiring the cancellation of the goods and/or services in the national registration that are not claimed in the protected international trade mark (Singapore). For such instances, holders may wish to continue to renew these goods and/or services in the national registration to retain their protection.

Diagram 2

