



## Intellectual Property Alert: U.S. Patent Office is reducing (some) fees

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The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is reducing fees that applicants must pay in order for their applications to issue as patents. Large entities currently pay \$2,080 after receiving a notice of allowance for an application to issue as a patent. That fee includes the issue fee of \$1,780 and a publication fee of \$300. Effective January 1, 2014, the issue fees will be reduced and the publication fee will be eliminated. The new fees will be:

Patent Type	Large Entity	Small Entity	Micro Entity
Utility or Reissue	\$960	\$480	\$240
Design	\$560	\$280	\$140
Plant	\$760	\$380	\$190

The USPTO is also eliminating the fee to record a patent assignment. After January 1, 2014, there will not be a fee to record an assignment if the assignment is submitted electronically. The fee will remain at \$40 if the document is not recorded electronically.

Issue fees are due three months from the date the notice of allowance is issued. Therefore, for notice of allowances received after October 1, 2013, applicants may consider waiting to pay the issue fee until after January 1, 2014, in order to take advantage of the fee reductions and reduce the costs associated with their intellectual property.

For more information, please contact:

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### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

It is critical in today's technology-driven, global marketplace to effectively procure and manage intellectual property. Our clients rely on us to provide prompt, thorough and efficient counsel on matters involving patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade dress, trade secrets, intellectual property procurement, and enforcement. We focus on management and enforcement for Fortune 500 companies, mid-cap companies and start-ups. Supported by the talents of our litigation and business law attorneys, our IP attorneys deliver a complete range of innovative and comprehensive solutions, as well as insightful industry expertise. Our in-depth approach enables us to meet the business goals of our diverse client base. In fact, the hallmark of our IP practice is to dovetail our clients' intellectual property needs with their business plans and strategies, presenting a cohesive and thorough outcome.