

Intellectual Property Department
24-25/F, Wu Chung House
213 Queen's Road East
Wanchai
Hong Kong

29 December 2001

Intellectual Property Department

Circular No. 7 of 2001

Classification of goods and services for trade marks

Schedule 4 of the Trade Marks Rules (Cap. 43 sub. leg.) is based on the World Intellectual Property Organization's seventh edition of the Nice Classification.

2. The Committee of Experts set up pursuant to the Nice Agreement has decided on certain changes in the Nice Classification to enter into force on 1 January 2002 (the eighth edition). (A summary of the changes is available at this department's website.) However, the Trade Marks Registry will continue to follow the Trade Marks Rules (Cap. 43 sub. leg.) and the seventh edition of the Nice Classification in classifying goods and services until further notice.

3. The continued use in Hong Kong of the *seventh* edition of the Nice Classification will not affect an applicant's right to claim priority in Hong Kong on the basis of an application made elsewhere using the *eighth* edition of the Nice Classification. Applicants should, however, follow the classification under the Trade Marks Rules (Cap. 43 sub. leg.) when making applications in Hong Kong until further notice.

4. Any queries regarding this Circular may be addressed to Chief Intellectual Property Examiner (TM)1 / Miss Magdalene Ling at telephone no. 2961 6842 or Acting Chief Intellectual Property Examiner (New Law) / Ms Joey Wong at telephone no. 2961 6865.

(Stephen Selby)
Registrar of Trade Marks