

# Register a Trademark in Vietnam

Registering a trademark in Vietnam is essential for protecting your brand and ensuring legal exclusivity for your intellectual property. This guide provides a comprehensive overview of the process, necessary documentation, application stages, and timelines involved in registering a trademark in Vietnam.

 by IP team @ Herman, Henry & Dominic



# Step 1: Preliminary Search

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## Conduct Search

Before filing a trademark application, conduct a preliminary search to ensure your trademark is unique and does not conflict with existing trademarks. This search can be done through the Intellectual Property Office of Vietnam (IPVN) and WIPO databases.

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## Engage Professionals

Engaging a local law firm or an intellectual property consultant can help streamline this process and provide a thorough search report.



## Step 2: Prepare Documentation

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### Application Form

Completed and signed application form.

2

### Power of Attorney

If you appoint a representative to file on your behalf.

3

### Trademark Specimen

Five clear images of the trademark.

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### Goods/Services List

Detailed list of goods and services to be covered by the trademark, classified according to the Nice Classification.



# Steps 3-5: Filing & Examination

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## File Application

Applications can be filed in person at the IPVN offices or online through their system. Foreign applicants must file through a local representative.

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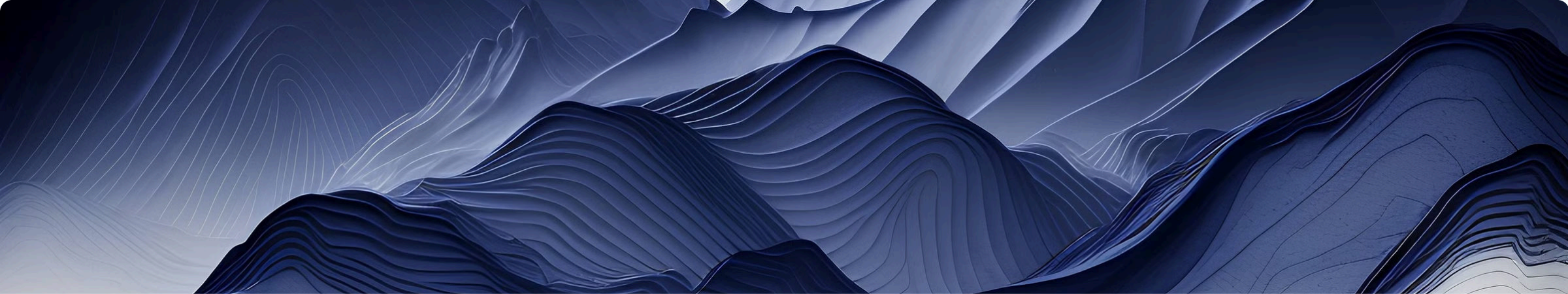
## Formality Examination

The IPVN conducts a formality examination within one month to ensure all required documents are complete and comply with legal requirements.

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## Publication

Upon successful formality examination, the application is published in the Official Gazette within two months, allowing third parties to file oppositions.



## Step 6: Substantive Examination

The substantive examination phase lasts approximately nine months, during which the IPVN thoroughly examines the trademark's distinctiveness and eligibility for registration. This phase includes an assessment of potential conflicts with existing trademarks.



## Step 7: Registration Certificate

If the trademark passes the substantive examination without opposition or objections, the IPVN issues a notice of intention to grant a registration certificate. The applicant must then pay the registration fee, and the certificate is issued within two to three months.

# Timelines and Duration

Preliminary Search	10-15 working days
Formality Examination	1 month
Publication in Official Gazette	2 months
Substantive Examination	9 months
Issuance of Registration Certificate	2-3 months

In practice, the entire process can take **14-18** months, sometimes longer due to the workload at the IPVN.

# Common Pitfalls and Tips



## Incomplete Documentation

Ensure all documents are complete and correctly formatted to avoid delays.



## Trademark Conflicts

Conduct a thorough preliminary search to identify potential conflicts.



## Translation Issues

For foreign applicants, ensure documents are accurately translated into Vietnamese.



## Oppositions

Monitor the publication period to address any oppositions promptly.



# ABOUT US



Herman, Henry & Dominic is an experienced team of lawyers and legal experts, based in Saigon and Hanoi. The firm is a member of the INTERNATIONAL TRADEMARK ASSOCIATION (INTA).

Herman, Henry & Dominic believes in building strong relationship with clients based on trust and respect. The firm maintains permanent good working relations with various governmental bodies in Vietnam to enable its team to access the resources necessary to produce timely and effective results for clients.

Herman, Henry & Dominic works under the motto: "Local Expertise & Global Standard."

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