



# Industrial Design Registration in Vietnam

≡ **by Herman, Henry & Dominic**

Industrial design registration is a crucial process for protecting the unique visual aspects of products in Vietnam. It grants exclusive rights and prevents unauthorized use. This comprehensive guide outlines the steps involved in registering industrial designs, including necessary documentation, application procedures, and the renewal process. Understanding the importance of industrial design protection is essential for maintaining a competitive edge in the market and safeguarding investments in innovation and design.

# Step-by-Step Guide to Registering Industrial Designs

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## Step 1: Preparation and Eligibility

Ensure your design is new, original, and not publicly disclosed. It should not be similar to any registered or applied designs in Vietnam or other countries.

2

## Step 2: Documentation

Prepare required documents: design pictures/drawings, description, Power of Attorney (if applicable), priority right documents, and proof of application fee payment.

3

## Step 3: Filing the Application

Submit application directly or online through the National Office of Intellectual Property (NOIP) of Vietnam. Direct filing can be done in person or by post to NOIP offices in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, or Da Nang.



# Application Process Continued



## Step 4: Formality Examination

NOIP conducts a formality examination within one month to ensure the application is complete and meets requirements. Applicants can amend if issues are identified.

## Step 5: Publication

Accepted applications are published in the Industrial Property Official Gazette within two months, allowing for public inspection and potential opposition.

## Step 6: Substantive Examination

NOIP assesses the design's novelty and originality within 9-12 months of publication. Applicants can respond to objections or amend the application if necessary.

## Step 7: Grant of Protection Certificate

Upon successful examination, the applicant pays fees, and NOIP issues the protection certificate, valid for five years from the filing date.



# Importance of Industrial Design Protection

## Competitive Edge

Protecting industrial designs prevents competitors from copying or imitating the design, safeguarding the company's investment in innovation and design.

## Market Value

Industrial design protection enhances the market value of the product, contributing to its overall worth and appeal.

## Brand Differentiation

Protected designs can be a significant factor in brand differentiation, helping products stand out in the market.

## Consumer Preference

Unique, protected designs can influence consumer preference, potentially leading to increased sales and brand loyalty.

# Renewal Process

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## Initial Protection

The protection certificate for an industrial design is valid for five years from the filing date.

2

## First Renewal

The protection can be renewed for an additional five-year term. Renewal applications must be submitted and fees paid before the expiration of the current term.

3

## Second Renewal

A second renewal for another five-year term is possible, following the same process as the first renewal.

4

## Expiration

Failing to renew in time results in the design losing its protection, exposing it to potential infringement.

# ABOUT US



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Contact us at [info@ezlawfirm.org](mailto:info@ezlawfirm.org).