

## NETHERLANDS - NL

### Jurisdiction - General Information

The Netherlands has been a Contracting Party to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property since July 7, 1884. It has also been a Contracting Party to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) since July 10, 1979, but can only be designated through a European Patent. In addition, it is also a party to the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure and the Patent Law Treaty (PLT).

The Netherlands is a member of the European Patent Organization ([EPO](#)) and belongs to the “European patents with unitary effect” system, started on June 1, 2023, which provides a unitary effect for an European patent (EP) granted in 17 of the 27 European Union member countries (updated January 2024).

More legal information about intellectual property-related laws and regulations of the Netherlands can be found on [WIPO Lex](#).

### Online Patent Register and Online Gazette

The Netherlands has an [Online Register](#) and an [Online Gazette](#).

#### Features and search functionalities

The Online Register has a **Dutch** and **English interface**.

Through the Online Register you can retrieve information on **Fee Payment, Legal Status, Supplementary Protection Certificates (SPCs)**, and access the **Dossier/File Wrapper Information** and the **Full Publications**.

The Online Register can also be searched by **Applicant/Inventor Name** and by **Priority Data**.

It contains information about published patent applications, patent rights and certificates in the Netherlands since 1912.

The Online Gazette is published weekly in Dutch and English. It is searchable by selecting "Hoofdblad I.E." in the menu "Publicatiesoort" and then by number and/or by publication year (menu "Publicatiejaar") and can be displayed in PDF format. The current coverage is from 2009 to present.

European patents designating the Netherlands can be searched in the patent register or in the [European Patent Register](#).

### Additional Information

#### Particularities of patent protection in the Netherlands

Protection through **SPCs** is available.

In the framework of the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property, the national intellectual property offices of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg have developed a common IT system, the Benelux Patent Platform (BPP), to modernize and support all patent related business processes for the three national offices.

While the three national offices are adopting a shared IT system and have made an effort to harmonize their business processes and legal procedures to a large extent, they continue to conduct their work at a national level for patent protection.

### Search tips

An example of **Legal Status** is "lapsed" for national patent 1015875 on 2011.03.01 because of "non-payment of the annual fee".

It is possible to access the **Dossier/File Wrapper Information** or access the **Full Publication** e.g., for application 2004642, by selecting the tab "Documents".

The online gazette is a collection of the Patent Bulletins (De Industriële Eigendom). It can be searched through the Patent Information Portal (Octrooi-informatie Portal).