

# RULES FOR USAGE AND SUPERVISION (last amended at the General Meeting of Members on 18.11.2016)

# Article 1. Definitions

In these rules, the following definitions apply:

BMM:	Benelux Association of Trademark and Design Law (BMM)
Ordinary Member:	A private individual who is professionally involved in one of
	the Benelux countries with trademark and design law (as
	defined in article 5 point 2 of the BMM statutes).
Authorised BMM Member:	Ordinary member of the BMM who has successfully passed
	the BMM examination or any other examination recognised
	by the BMM; has had at least three years' work experience
	within the Benelux countries as a trademark and design
	attorney (as defined in article 5(3) of the BMM statutes).
Authorised BMM Representative:	Authorised BMM Member who meets the requirements of
	the Professional Competence Regulations for an Authorised
	BMM Representative
Code of Honour:	Code of conduct of the BMM, as set down and amended in a
	manner described in article 19 point 1 of the BMM statutes.
Certification Mark:	The word and figurative mark as shown above.
Supervisory Board:	Supervisory body, as described in article 15 of the BMM statutes.
Committee:	the body described in article 14 of the BMM statutes, along
	with the managerial body described in article 16 point 8 of
	the BMM statutes.
Complaint:	a complaint as described in article 16 point 1 of the BMM
	statutes.

## **Article 2 Common characteristics**

- 1. The BMM maintains a Registry of Accredited Trademark Attorneys, which is managed by the BMM Committee. The BMM Committee may delegate that task to a special commission it has appointed.
- 2. An Authorised BMM Member is entered in the Registry at his or her request. To remain in the Registry, an Authorised BMM Member must continue to meet the requirements set by the *Professional Competence Regulations for an Authorised BMM Representative.*
- 3. A BMM Member who is entered in the Registry and has not been suspended may publicise this fact by using the Certification Mark when exercising his or her profession, in such a way that it complies with article 6, introduction and points a and b of the Code of Honour. Authorised persons who are removed from the Registry are prohibited from making any use of the Certification Mark.
- 4. The common characteristics of the services that the Certification Mark is intended to guarantee thus consist of the fact that they are offered by an Authorised BMM Member who meets the requirements for entry in the Registry.
- 5. The BMM may impose more specific rules relating to the way the Certification Mark is to be used.

# **Article 3 Supervision and penalties**

- Usage of the Certification Mark in conflict with the terms of this set of rules or in conflict with the more specific rules described in article 2 part 5 will result in a violation of article 11 of the Code of Honour. The penalties for such usage are set down in article 16 point 10 of the BMM statutes. This clause applies insofar as the more specific regulations do not stipulate otherwise.
- 2. Monitoring compliance with the Code of Honour is entrusted to the Supervisory Board (and, secondly, to the Committee, in accordance with article 16 point 8 of the BMM statutes), in accordance with article 15 point 1 of the BMM statutes.
- 3. The BMM Committee has set up a special commission entrusted with the preparation and submission of a Complaint on behalf of the Committee.
- 4. The commission described in article 3 point 3 will monitor the use of the Certification Mark, at least once a year, by means of sample checks, and will meet at least once a year to decide on the basis of its own investigations and reports from third parties on whether to lodge a Complaint.

### Article 4 Adoption and amendment

1. These rules are adopted by the General Meeting of Members of the BMM. They can be amended by a decision of this General Meeting of Members by means of a simple majority of the votes validly cast.

### **Article 5 Transitional clause**

 At his or her request, an ordinary member described in article 5 point 2 of the BMM statutes, who can demonstrate that s/he had at least 15 years of work experience as a trademark and design attorney in the Benelux countries before the Certification Mark was filed with the Benelux Office for Intellectual Property, can also be entered in the registry described in article 2 point 1.

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