



**OFFICE FOR HARMONIZATION IN THE INTERNAL MARKET
(TRADE MARKS AND DESIGNS)**

**VACANCY NOTICE FOR PRESIDENT OF THE OFFICE (M/F)
VEXT/09/587/AD 15/P**

1. THE OFFICE FOR HARMONIZATION IN THE INTERNAL MARKET (OHIM)

The Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs), “the Office”, is established by Council Regulation (EC) No 207/2009 of 26 February 2009¹ on the Community trade mark (OJ EU L 78, 24.03.2009).

The Office is an Agency of the European Union which has legal personality and financial and administrative autonomy, and is responsible for administering the Community trade mark and design systems. Community trade marks and designs registered by the Office produce their effects throughout the whole of the European Union.

The Office is headed by a President. It is presently organised into various departments, which are run by directors who have been delegated tasks and powers to run operations. There is also a Vice-President who assists the President, and acts as his deputy in his absence, and who may act as director of one or more departments. However, the President has the power to organise the Office as he thinks appropriate, within the framework of the Staff Regulations.

Since the Office opened for business in 1996, over 500,000 Community trade mark applications have led to registration. The Office exists alongside national trade mark offices. 87,000 Community trade mark applications and 77,000 Community design applications were filed during 2008. The Office’s budget for 2009 is approximately EUR 200 million and the number of staff is in the region of 700.

The OHIM applies a policy of equal opportunities and accepts applications without distinction on the grounds of sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation.

The languages of the Office are Spanish, German, English, French and Italian.

The Office has its seat in Alicante, Spain.

2. POST TO BE FILLED

The Office is seeking candidates for the post of President (m/f).

¹ Regulation 207/2009 is the codified version of Council Regulation (EC) No 40/1994 of 20 December 1993 on the Community trade mark, which has been substantially amended.

3. DESCRIPTION OF FUNCTIONS

The President represents the Office and is responsible for its management. As President, he has a number of formal, legal and administrative functions, which are referred to in Article 124 of the Council Regulation (EC) No 207/2009. He represents the Office before European Institutions and acts as “ambassador” for the Office on an international, national and local level. He is the appointing authority for staff in the Office, and is responsible for drawing up and executing the budget. It is a very high profile post which demands exceptional leadership and communication skills as well as strong intellectual abilities and the proven ability to be effective in an international framework.

The objectives of the President are:

To manage the office within the framework established by the various EU Regulations applicable (Community trade mark regulation, Community design regulation, Financial and Staff regulations);

To ensure that the Office meets its quality of service standards;

To continue to improve the Office’s performance, as measured, in particular, by regular surveys of user satisfaction;

To ensure that the Office continues to develop its legal practices so that the rights it grants have a good presumption of validity, and contribute to a harmonised system of intellectual property rights within the EU;

To ensure that the stakeholders of the Office, including the EU Institutions and the Administrations of the Member States continue to have a high degree of confidence in its strong and effective management;

To further strengthen cooperation between the OHIM and the national offices in the Member States, and other national and international organisations in the field of IP.

4. APPOINTMENT

The successful candidate will be appointed by the Council of the European Union upon a proposal from the Administrative Board of the Office.

The date foreseen for taking up the duties is 01/10/2010.

5. CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

A five-year contract as a member of temporary staff pursuant to Article 2(a) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Communities, in grade AD15 will be offered to the chosen candidate. The basic monthly salary on the 1 July 2008 corresponding to the first step of this grade was 14,405.66€.

6. PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will have established a track record as an outstanding leader in one or more organisations that are comparable in some way to that of the Office. As well as meeting the basic admissibility requirements set out below, the ideal candidate:

- must have exercised significant management responsibilities at a senior level;
- should have demonstrated the competences associated with high profile external communications, e.g. addressing conferences, communication with the Press and other media;
- should have a good understanding of the public service environment in which the Office operates;
- should desirably have experience of international negotiation or cooperation;

- should desirably have knowledge and experience in the intellectual property field;
- should desirably have experience in an organisation delivering services to the public or business sector;
- should desirably have knowledge of the languages of the Office beyond the minimum requirements.

7. ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The minimum qualifications and experience required are as follows:

- A level of education which corresponds to completed university studies attested by a diploma when the normal period of university education is four years or more, or a level of education which corresponds to completed university studies attested by a diploma and appropriate professional experience of at least one year when the normal period of university education is at least three years;
- At the deadline for submitting applications, a minimum of 15 years' post-graduate experience, acquired after the relevant qualifications above were obtained;
- A thorough knowledge of one official language of the European Union and a satisfactory knowledge of a second. One of these languages must be one of the five languages of the OHIM, namely, Spanish, German, English, French or Italian.

The successful candidate must also meet the general conditions for employment as a servant of the European Union, notably:

- be a national of one of the Member States of the European Union;
- must not have been convicted or found guilty of a criminal offence;
- must be physically fit to carry out the duties;
- be able to complete a full 5 year mandate before reaching retirement age, i.e. the end of the month in which the person reaches the age of 65.

8. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications may be submitted by e-mail or by courier, using the application form available on the Office's website:

<http://oami.europa.eu/ows/rw/pages/OHIM/career/career.en.do>

Those sent by e-mail should be sent to the following address: ABBCIF@oami.europa.eu

Those sent by courier should be sent to:

Chairperson of the Administrative Board
Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market
(Trade Marks and Designs)
Avenida de Europa, 4
E - 03008 Alicante
SPAIN

Applications must arrive before midnight on 29/10/2009.

Please note, in particular, that all sections of the form must be completed. An incomplete application form (for example one bearing remarks such as "see CV attached") will not be taken into account.

Candidates who are invited to interview (see selection procedure below) will also be required by the time of the interview to have supplied the relevant supporting documents relating to the basic requirements laid down, and other qualifications and experience claimed:

- 1) copy of an identity document (such as a passport or ID card);
- 2) copies of diplomas;
- 3) copies of certificates relating to the professional experience mentioned in points 6 and 7.

Other documents, particularly curricula vitae, will not be taken into consideration. It is to be noted, in particular, that any qualifications or professional experience which cannot be supported by documentary evidence, such as copies of diplomas or certificates of employment, will be disregarded and that this may result in the application being rejected.

9. SELECTION PROCEDURE

Selection will be conducted subject to the control of the Administrative Board of the Office. An advisory committee appointed by the Administrative Board will conduct a preliminary screening of applications to assess admissibility, and to decide on which candidates should be invited to an interview or to other tests. The Administrative Board will then decide on a short list of up to three candidates to be submitted to the Council of Ministers for a final decision.

10. PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

As the body responsible for organising the selection, the OHIM ensures that applicants' personal data is processed as required by Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1). This applies in particular to the confidentiality and security of such data.

11. APPEAL

If a candidate considers that he/she has been adversely affected by a particular decision, he/she can lodge a complaint under Article 90(2) of the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Communities, at the following address:

Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market
Human Resources Department
Avenida de Europa, 4
E-03008 Alicante
SPAIN

12. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained from:

Mr Peter Lawrence
Vice-President and Director of the Human Resources Department
Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs)
Office 1A-3/20-21
Avenida de Europa 4
E - 03008 Alicante
SPAIN
e-mail: peter.lawrence@oami.europa.eu

** If there are discrepancies between the different linguistic versions, the English one should be taken as the correct version.*