

## Japanese Design Patent System Overview for International Customers

Japanese Design Patent System is similar to that of the US and other countries.

- Hague Agreement supported
- Paris Convention priority supported
- First-to-file basis examination

The following are points to be noted for International Customers:

### Representative

- An applicant residing outside Japan has to assign an agent residing in Japan, required by the law. This applies to amendments via Hague Agreement, too.
- A certified patent attorney usually works as an agent.
- POA is not required for filing an application (required for amendments for Hague Agreement registration).

### Figures

- Figures without shades are preferable.
- One design per one application rule is rather strict in Japan, compared to the US. Some of US applications may be required to be divided into multiple applications.

### Paris Convention

- Original (i.e. paper) Priority Certification documents must be submitted (i.e. have to be mailed by you to us) by 3 month after the priority date.

Please consult us for more information ([info@techvisor.jp](mailto:info@techvisor.jp)).