

#### CARIFORUM Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation

International classification and available search databases

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Liina Puu 27/10/2022



CARIFORUM



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caripi-hub.eu



An international classification for industrial designs.

Two official languages, French and English.

Its structure and contents are adopted and amended by the Committee of Experts from the countries party to the Locarno Agreement.

The Classification is administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)-The Locarno Union, Assembly, Committee of Experts



- A list of classes and subclasses-32 classes and 219 subclasses, in total over 5000 terms
- Products are classified first according to their purpose and subsequently according to the object that they represent
- The classification is equipped with short notes giving clue in which class/sub-class a product is classified. No definitions of the objects which the indications of products represent.



 The product(s) must be indicated in such a way as to allow classification in both the relevant class and subclass of the Locarno Classification

 The use of terms listed in the heading of a given class of the Locarno Classification is not per se excluded, but it is not recommended.

 Applicants should select terms listed in the heading of the subclass (e.g. garments in subclass 02-02) or more specific terms from among those listed in the subclasses of the class in question (e.g. jackets in subclass 02-02).



- Classification serves exclusively administrative purposes, in particular allowing third parties to search the registered Community design databases
- Applicants do not themselves have to classify the products in which their design is intended to be incorporated or to which it is intended to be applied



- Neither the product indication nor the classification affects the scope of protection of a Community design as such.
- A registered Community design confers on its holder the exclusive right to use the relevant design in all types of products, and not only in the product indicated in the application for registration

## CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT INDICATIONScarIPI

- A common multilingual database that contains all the product indications accepted by the harmonised EU IP offices.
- Based on the Locarno Classification structure (containing the same classes, subclasses and recommendations), includes its product indications and add more.
- Supplementation enriches the database and better maps the different goods for which a design could be registered



#### CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT INDICATIONS Backround

When a product indication does not appear in the Locarno list, each office must determine whether the product indication is acceptable based on its respective established criteria

Varying interpretations of acceptability have resulted in inconsistent practices developing among offices over the past decade since there were no common rules

Applicants may find it difficult to have a unique list of product indications for the same design in various offices

### CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT INDICATIONS

#### **Benefits**

**1** CP7 provides a comprehensive and accessible resource for users of a European harmonised database of product indications and a search platform

**2** IP Offices and users will improve the ability to search and find a product indication

**3** The harmonised database will contribute to limiting the risk of objection based on formalities and reduce the costs associated with filing design application in different IP Offices



#### CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT INDICATIONS Phase

**1.1** Creation of a harmonised product indication database

**1.2** Creation of a common practice on product indications

**1.3** Creation of a search tool for the harmonised product indication database

**1.4** Implementation and communication strategies



# CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT

2.1 Taxonomi sation of the harmonised product indications database

**2.2** Continuity plan: creation of a harmonised workflow tool to propose, modify or delete product indications



## **CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT** INDICATIONS Step 1: Creation of the common database in English Step 2: Acceptability process for product indications Step 3: Conceptualisation of the harmonised database Step 4: Database translation into 23 EU languages Design and development of a search tool for the harmonised product indication database **Creation of a Common Practice on Product indications**



#### CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT INDICATIONS Step 1: Common database in English

One database with 17,000 Product Indications in English accepted

5,000 Locarno

12,000 Non-Locarno



#### CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT INDICATIONS Step 3: CONCEPTUALISATION

What is conceptualisation? Conceptualisation is the process of creating concepts. The conceptualisation process takes indications, matches them based on synonymous equivalence and puts them into a concept.

What is a concept? A concept is a group of product indications that are synonymous to one another. Each concept contains at least one product indication. A concept's meaning is derived from its English version and must have the same meaning across all languages.



#### **CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT INDICATIONS** Step 3: CONCEPTUALISATION

What is a master? The principal product indication of a concept is called a master. Each concept also has a 'master indication'. A master is an indication that best represents the concept. Each concept has only one master.

What is a variant? A variant is every other indication in a concept that is not a master. A variant is synonymous with its master and all other indications in the concept.



#### **CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT INDICATIONS** DESINGCIass functionalities:

41 IP offices- 15 non-EU IP offices, 30 languages

Search term: product indications that have been pre-accepted by the harmonised offices, and the class/subclass to which they belong

**Translate term:** Allows users to find the translation of the pre accepted product indications in any of the 23 EU languages

**Browse term:** Allows users to browse the classes, subclasses and product indications in the harmonised database

Locarno Classification headings information and browse

## CP 7 HARMONISATION OF PRODUCT INDICATION

Extended product indications Classification

DesingClass administrative module

- Taxonomy of harmonised database
- Locarno extention to further layers

- Harmonised workflow
- Propose, modify or delete product indications

Images

- Images Associated to concepts in DesignClass
- Images retreived from DesignView

#### **DESIGNCLASS ADMINISTRATION**



Office create a product indication in EN via tool

Cycle closesresults of voting are published Product indications are sent to CdT for translation into all EU working languages

Voting periood 16 days

Office submitts the product indication for voting



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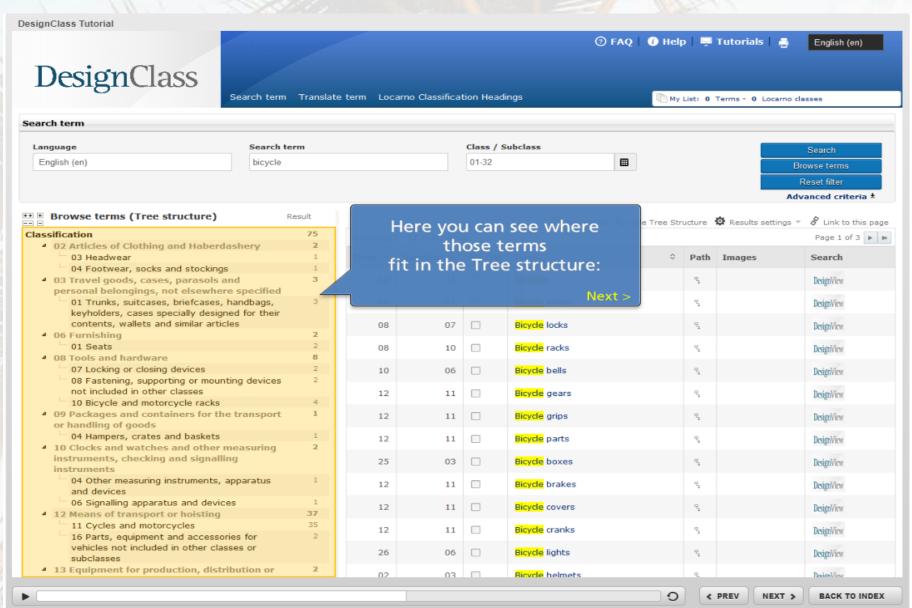
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#### **DESIGNCLASS- TRANSLATION**



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#### **DESIGNCLASS- TRANSLATION**



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## Thank you \* Gracias \* Merci \* Bedankt

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