



PP 6/20

IP Federation position statement on the Unified Patent Court

Founded in 1920 in the UK, IP Federation represents IP intensive companies who are extensively involved in business activity in Europe and internationally across a range of industries – a list of members is attached. Not only do our members own considerable numbers of IP rights, both in Europe and elsewhere, but they are affected by the activities and IP rights of competitors and third parties. They may be either plaintiffs or defendants in IP related court actions, across the globe. IP Federation believes that a cost effective, high quality and balanced IPR framework is a critical component in industry's present and future successes in the global economy and in social progress.

The IP Federation has consistently supported a Unified Patent Court (UPC) established by an agreement of which the UK was a member. We have also made clear that in our view the system is significantly devalued with the UK not participating. Whilst it appears there are prospects for the UPC to come into force despite the UK's withdrawal, there are many open questions which bear on whether, when, and in what form that might happen. The IP Federation would like to see these resolved in the near future. In view of the degree of uncertainty presently surrounding the project, the IP Federation is awaiting further developments with interest and looks forward to commenting in more detail when the final form of the project is clear.

IP Federation
23 December 2020



IP Federation members 2020

The IP Federation represents the views of UK industry in both IPR policy and practice matters within the EU, the UK and internationally. Its membership comprises the innovative and influential companies listed below. The CBI, although not a member, is represented on the Federation Council, and the Council is supported by a number of leading law firms which attend its meetings as observers. It is listed on the joint Transparency Register of the European Parliament and the Commission with identity No. 83549331760-12.

AGCO Ltd
Airbus
Arm Ltd
AstraZeneca plc
BAE Systems plc
BP p.l.c.
British Telecommunications plc
British-American Tobacco Co Ltd
BTG plc
Canon Europe Ltd.
Caterpillar U.K. Ltd
Cummins Ltd.
Dyson Technology Ltd
Eisai Europe Limited
Eli Lilly & Co Ltd
Ericsson Limited
Ford of Europe
GE Healthcare
GKN Automotive Limited
GlaxoSmithKline plc
Hitachi Europe Ltd
HP Inc UK Limited
IBM UK Ltd
Johnson Matthey PLC
JuuL Labs UK Holdco Ltd
Merck Sharp & Dohme (UK) Ltd
Microsoft Limited
Nokia Technologies (UK) Limited
NEC Europe
Ocado Group plc
Pfizer Ltd
Philips Electronics UK Ltd
Pilkington Group Ltd
Procter & Gamble Ltd
Reckitt Benckiser Group plc
Renishaw plc
Rolls-Royce plc
Shell International Ltd
Siemens plc
Smith & Nephew
Syngenta Ltd
UCB Pharma plc
Unilever plc
Vectura Limited
Vodafone Group