

# Germany Patent Official Fees Reduction Rules

Version : 2020-04-27

## **1. Definitions / Requirements**

Any patent applicant or patent owner who submits a Declaration of Willingness to Grant a License (“the Declaration”) is entitled to a reduction of annual renewal fees.

- Nationality of licensee is not relevant.
- The Declaration does not necessarily have to be filed by a registered attorney, but it requires a special Power of Attorney which explicitly enables filing of the Declaration.
- The license is a non-exclusive one only and, once filed, means the patent applicant or patent owner will allow anyone to use the invention in return for reasonable compensation. It may be withdrawn at any time, provided that the patent applicant or patent owner has received no intention of using the invention and pays the sum by which the annual renewal fees have been reduced.

Note: The Declaration is binding. It means such a license will be available to anyone, including a competitor, who applies for it. Our German counsels, therefore, strongly recommend that the patent applicant or patent owner have a complete risk assessment before filing the Declaration.

## **2. Fee Reduction**

Patent annual fees reduced by 50%.

### **Remarks :**

- (1) The information above was collected on [August 9, 2018](#). In the event of any patent law changes in the said country, the new amendments shall prevail.
- (2) We are not responsible for verifying the client’s fee reduction qualification status and will follow the client's instructions to process the patent renewals payment. In case of any changes of client’s fee reduction qualification status, please inform us for processing in order to comply with the payment regulations of the patent laws of various countries.
- (3) We do not assume any legal liability in case of the case abandoned, payment failed or any other rights losses or damages caused due to the above mentioned client's instructions or incorrect data.