

National, regional and international protection

The international application system Madrid Agreement / Madrid Protocol

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Cluj-Napoca 20 June 2011

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WHAT WE WILL COVER

- Comparison national, regional and international system - Refresh
- International system:
 - Madrid Agreement and/or Madrid Protocol for trade marks
- The registration of international trade marks via the Madrid Protocol
 - The CTM as a basis for an international application
 - Designating the EC in an international application



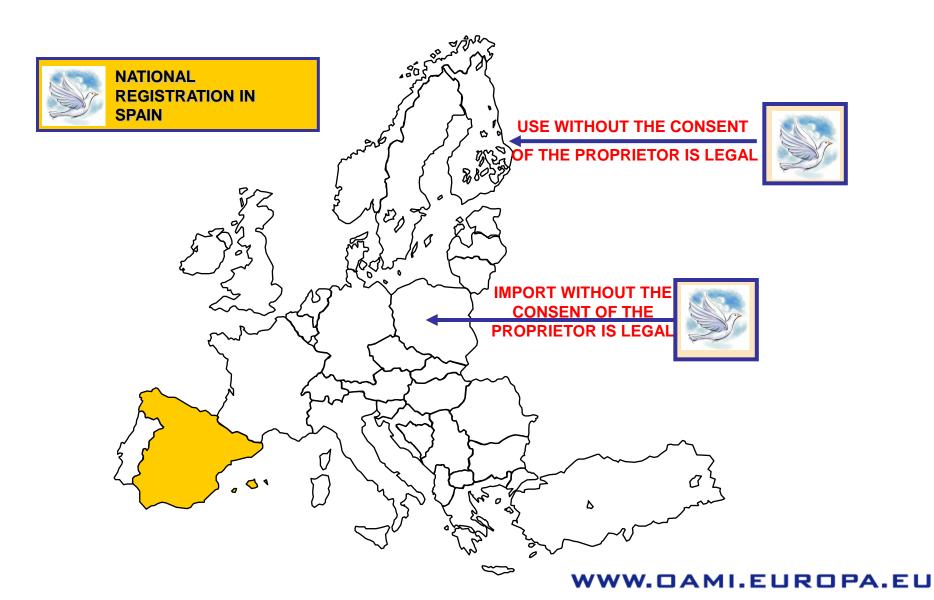
Comparison of the different systems: Refresh

- National systems
- Community trade mark system
- International system
 - Madrid Agreement (since 1891)
 - Madrid Protocol for trade marks (since 1996)

Or a combination of these systems At the free choice of the applicant.



National protection





National protection

- Protection for national territory only
- To be filed in the language of the country
- Representation before the office
- Specific procedures in each country
- Enforcement
 - National courts
 - Border enforcement
- Lower cost

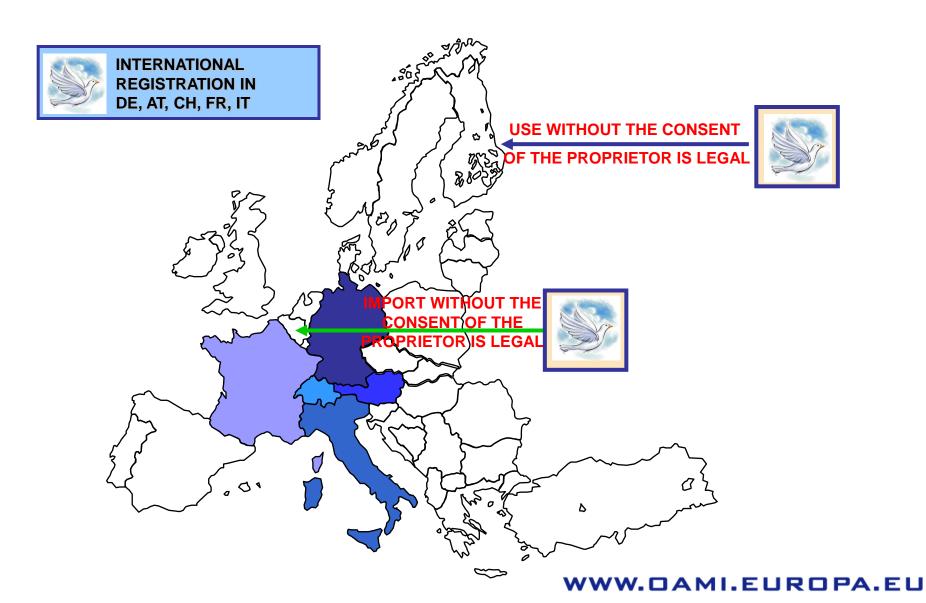


Community protection

- → OHIM (Alicante, Spain)
- Uniform protection throughout the whole Community
- Reduced administrative burden
 - Language choice: 22 languages of the EU
 - One date to be observed
 - Only 1 Office to deal with and to decide on registration
- No need for a prior national application
- Enforcement
 - Community trade mark courts
 - Border enforcement
- One set of fees (already reduced twice, on 22/10/2005 and on 1/05/2009)
- Specific for trade marks: Obligation to use easy to be met.



International Trade Marks





→ WIPO (Geneva, Switzerland)

Trade marks: the Madrid system

- Madrid Protocol
 - 81 Countries party
- Madrid Agreement
 - 56 Countries party



- Need for a basic application (or registration)
- One application filed directly to the National or Regional trademark office, the so called Office of Origin.
- Management of multi-national applications Centralized at the WIPO: Reduced administrative burden for filing.
- WIPO languages:
 - → Agreement: FR
 - → Protocol: EN, FR, ES
- Date of Reception at the Office of Origin
 - = Registration Date of the International TM



 Bundle of national rights: national offices decide on the ultimate registrability

- Enforcement
 - National courts
 - Border enforcement

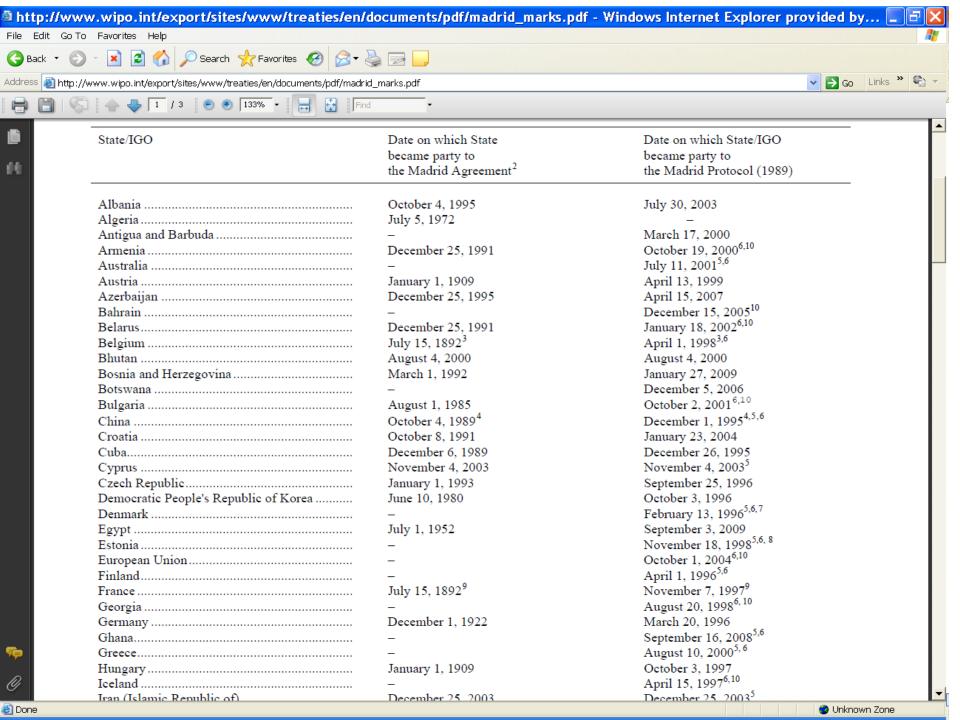
Representative before WIPO not compulsory

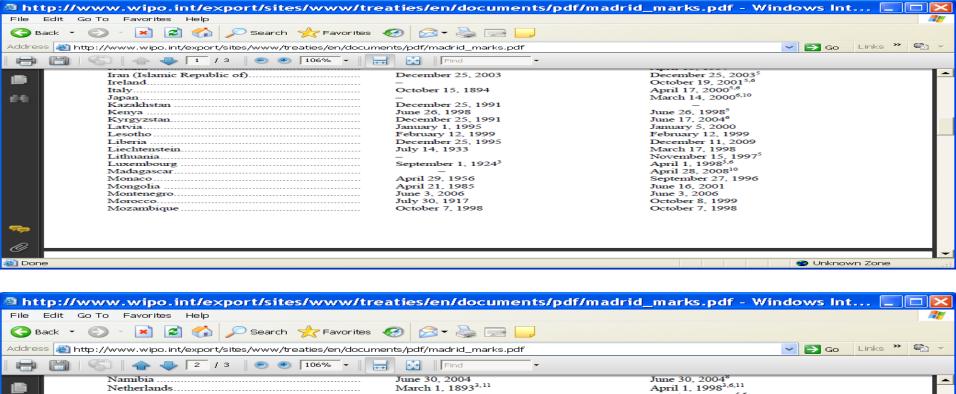


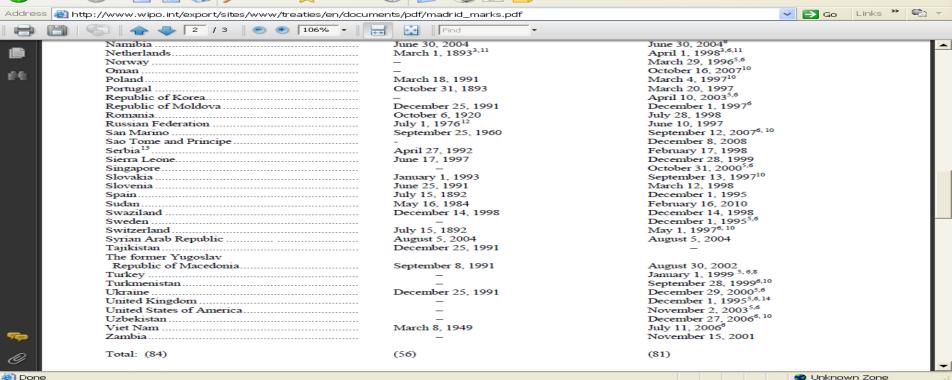
- Usually more economic than the direct route
- Same grant of protection as with national registrations
- Shorter examination period (than in some countries that might take up to 4 years)
- Pre-established examination and refusal period



- → Obligation to use the trade mark in each individual country,
- → otherwise possible loss of right in respective country









Madrid Agreement / Madrid Protocol

Intl. application has to be based on a <u>registration</u> in Office of Origin	Intl. application may be based on an application in Office of Origin
Communication in French	Communication in French, English, and Spanish
Registration for 20 years, paid in 10 year intervals	Registration for 10 years
12 month period to issue a refusal	Period to issue a refusal may be extended up to 18 months
No transformation of application after a central attack	Transformation of application after a central attack possible
Countries of the Madrid Agreement can be designated	Countries of the Madrid Protocol can be designated



Madrid Protocol: who may file?

 Applicant can file application only in its "home country"

- National of member country
- Entity domiciled in member country
- Entity with a "real and effective industrial or commercial establishment" in member country



Madrid Protocol: Overview Application procedure

- Need of a "Basic application" in Home Country
 - Application or Registration
 - Paris Convention priority available
- International Application Form
 - MM1 (FR), MM2 or MM3 form (EN, FR, ES as from 1/04/2004)
 - A color drawing is required if mark claims a color
 - Filed with the office of country of origin
 - Transmitted to WIPO within 2 months
- Examination
 - By each national trade mark office of the designated countries within 12 or 18 months
 - Opposition period may be longer



Madrid Protocol: Role of WIPO

- Ensures that filing requirements are met, including correct descriptions of goods and services
- Does not determine if mark qualifies for protection in designated countries
- Notifies Applicant directly of defects in application and Applicant has 3 months to correct

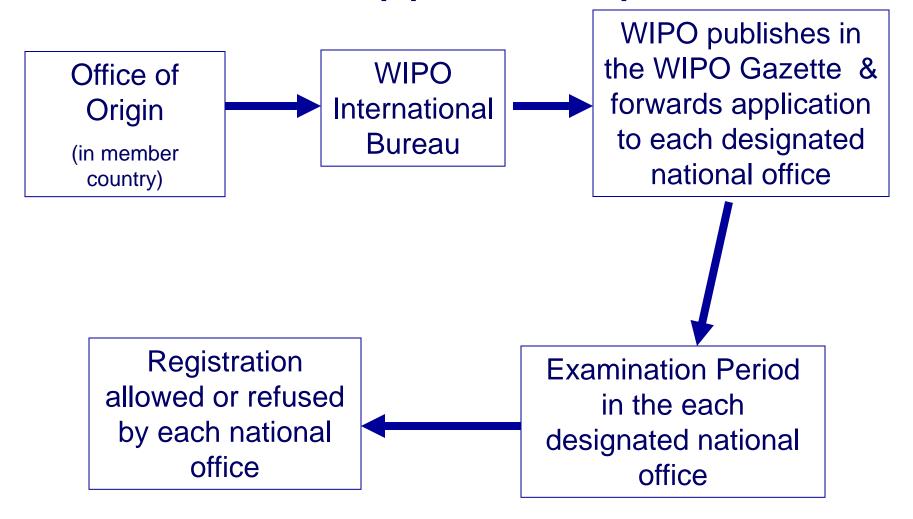


Madrid Protocol: Role of WIPO

- Records the registration in the International Register
- Publishes the registration in the WIPO Gazette of International Marks
 - Paper publication every 2 weeks (official publication)
 - CD rom publication every 4 weeks
- Notifies the national offices of International Registrations



Madrid Protocol: Overview Application procedure





Madrid Protocol: Subsequent Designations

- Additional designations may be made at any time to Madrid Protocol countries
 - MM4 form, to be presented to the International Bureau:
 - Through the Office of the Contracting Party of the holder if any of the CP is designated under the Madrid Agreement
 - Directly by the holder or through the Office of origin
 - The first International Application must be registered at WIPO: reg. no needed
 - Registration date is date of designation
 - Protection terminates at the end of the original Madrid Registration period



Madrid Protocol: WIPO Fees

 Payment in advance directly to the International Bureau in Swiss Francs

> →Offices of Origin may choose to collect and forward that payment.



Madrid Protocol: Additional Fees

- Renewal Fee
 - Same as initial registration fees
 - Paid within 6 months of the expiration of the 10 year term
 - Directly to WIPO

Change in ownership fee: 150 CHF



Madrid Protocol: Recordals centralized by WIPO

- Assignments and changes of ownership
- Changes in the name and address of the owner
- Limitations of the list of goods/services
- Renunciation of the protection in one or more countries
- Cancellation of the International Registrations

Recordal of licenses is not required but individual countries <u>may</u> have this requirement



Madrid Protocol: Risk of Central Attack

- During the first 5 years of International Registration
 - Cancellation of original registration or application in country of origin results in the cancellation of all International Registrations
 - 3 months to transform into national applications, retaining same Madrid Registration priority date
- After 5 years, the Madrid Registrations are independent of the Office of Origin registration



OHIM and the International System

 Since 1 October 2004 EC is party to the Madrid Protocol

- → Possible to use CTM application or registration as basis for International Application
- → Possible to designate CTM in the International **Application**





GENERAL FEATURES

- Languages and forms to be used
- → MM2, in any of the 3 WIPO languages
- → EM2, in any of the 22 official languages of the OHIM
 - When EM2 form is filed in a different lang. than ES, EN or FR, the appl./rep. shall either provide us a translation into 1 of the WIPO lang. or authorize us to use ours.
- Electronic communication between OHIM & WIPO
- OHIM does not handle WIPO fees



As an office of origin the OHIM:

- → Certifies that the international application corresponds to the basic CTM (triple identity rule)
- → A transmittal fee of 300 € is to be paid
- → Responses to irregularities from WIPO to be filed through OHIM (except for payment)
- → Dependency period of 5 years following the International Registration date: any partial or total cancellation of the scope of protection is to be notify to the WIPO



SUBSEQUENT DESIGNATIONS

- Languages and forms to be used
- → MM4, in any of the 3 WIPO languages
- → EM4, in any of the 22 official languages of the OHIM
 - Where necessary, when EM4 form is filed in a different lang. than ES, EN or FR, the appl./rep. shall either provide us a translation into 1 of the WIPO lang. or authorize us to use our.
- No transmittal fee
- Either through OHIM or directly to the International Bureau



OHIM as Designated Office



EC designated in an International Application

- Via MM2 or MM3 forms into EN, FR or ES
- Compulsory to indicate a 2nd language among the 4 officials <u>remaining</u> (<u>EN</u>, <u>FR</u>, <u>ES</u>, <u>DE</u>, <u>IT</u>).
- Publication into the WIPO Gazette
- Delays: between 5 and 7 weeks to inform OHIM about the designation
- Re-publication into Community Trade Mark Bulletin in part M.1.
- 18 months as from notification date to send a refusal



EC designated in an International Application

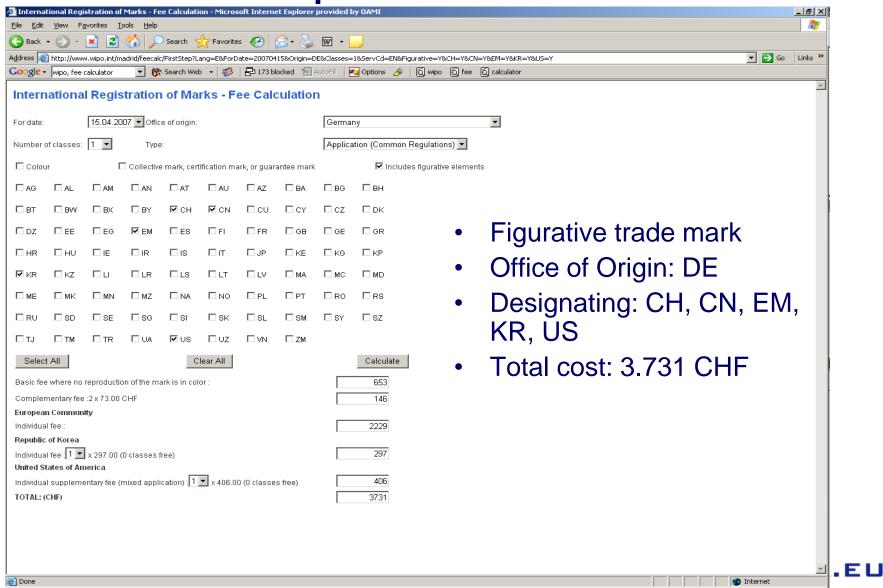
- Brief formality check:
 - 2nd language
 - Regulation governing the use (for collective mark only)
 - Owner from outside of the EU will be requested to designate a representative ONLY if irregularity is found at any level, i.e., formality, AG or opposition.
- AG check :during the first 6 months as from re-pub.
 - → If AG OK: "Interim status of the mark" (can be issued even when a provisional refusal has been issued)
- Opposition period: between the 6th and the 9th month as from re-pub.
 - → If NO opposition filed: Statement of Grant of Protection to WIPO



USEFUL INFORMATION

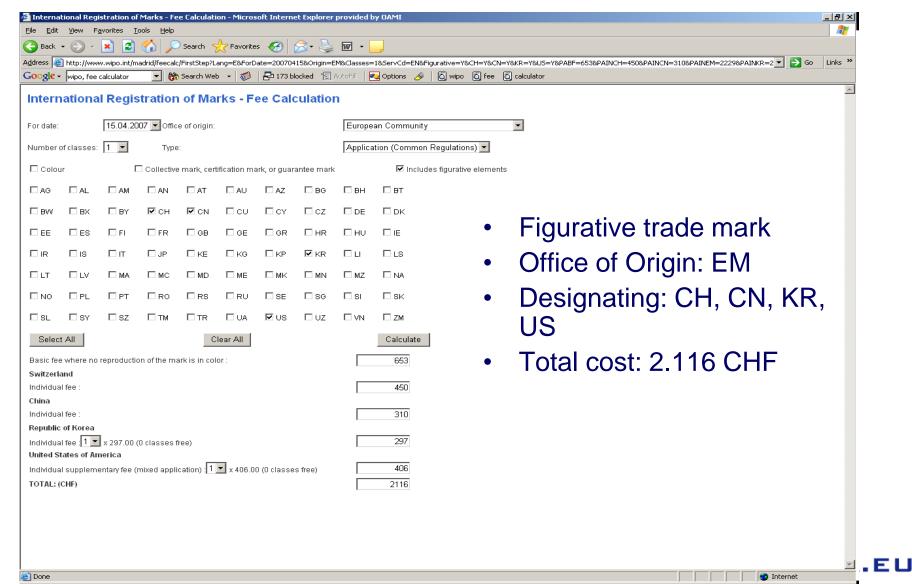


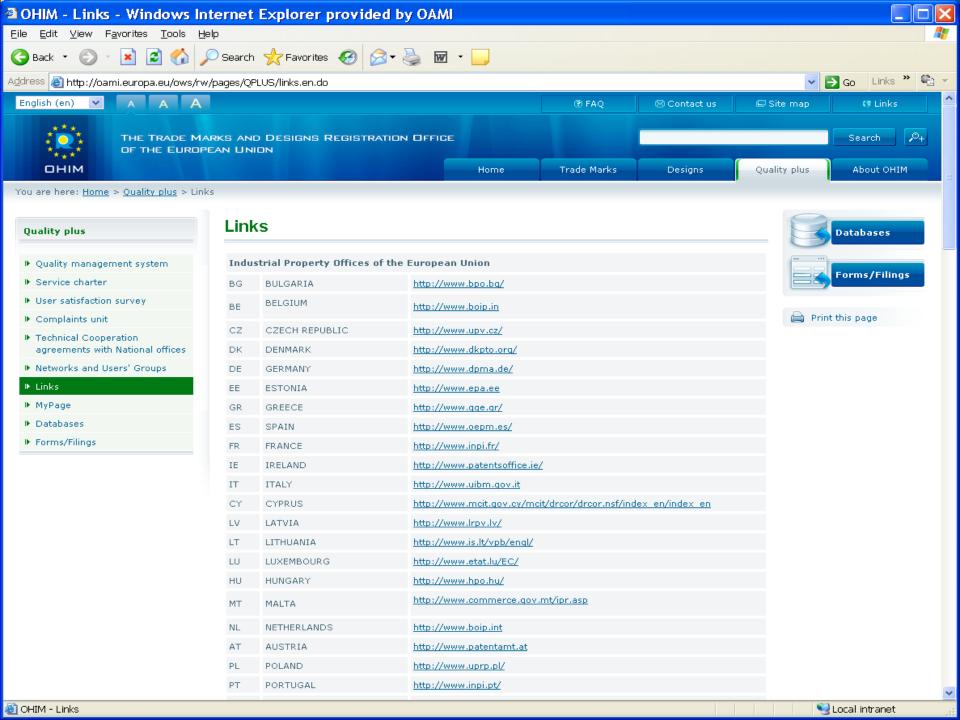
Madrid Protocol: Example Fee Calculation





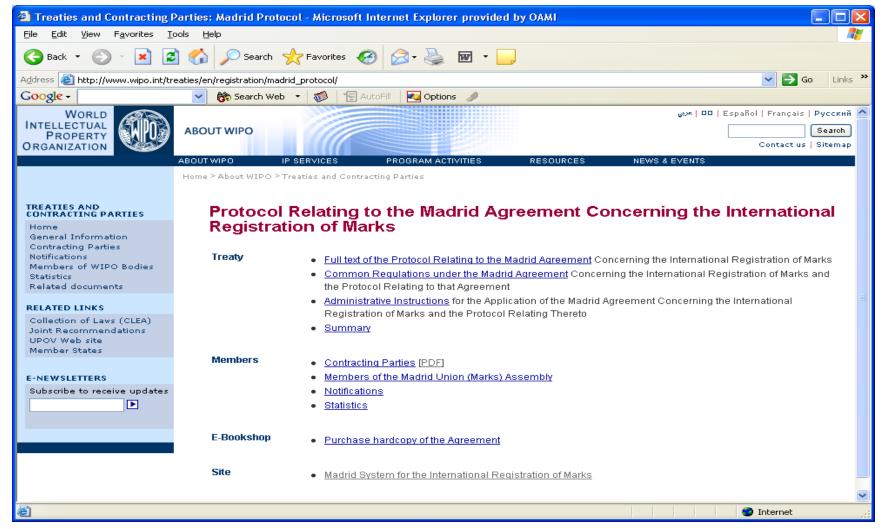
Madrid Protocol: Example Fee Calculation







International protection



Information:



(+ 34) 965 139 100 (switchboard/information center)



(+ 34) 965 139 400 (e-business technical incidents)



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