

## JORDAN

Kindly be advised that there were no amendments introduced in the year 2002 to the Jordanian Patent and Designs Law No.33 of 1953. Nevertheless, the amendments were introduced in the year 1999 by Patent Law No.32 of 1999 and in the year 2001 by the temporary Patent Law No.71 of 2001 published in the Official Gazette No.4520 dated 13/12/2001 (“the Law”).

Kindly note that these amendments were carefully made in order to conform to the TRIPS, in accordance with Jordan’s position as an official member in the WTO (April 11, 2002). Although the Patent Law No.32 of 1999 made more significant amendments, the Law introduced some new amendments to include the following:

- 1- Inventions whose application for registration for the first time was outside the Kingdom were filed by the owner more than eighteen months prior to the date of filing for registration in the Kingdom, shall no longer be excluded from the patent protection as the case was in the Patent Law No.32 of 1999.
  
- 2- The Law deems the importation of subject goods of the patent to the Kingdom as utilization of the patent.
  
- 3- The Law reorganized the patent rights of both the employer and the employee. The right of an employer to a patent shall be to the benefit of the employer if the invention conducted by the employee in his employment relates to the activities or business of the employer or if the employee uses in his attempt to conduct his invention with his experiences. However, with the information, instruments or the articles of the employer under his own disposal, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing. As for employees, the right to a patent shall be to the benefit of the employee, if the invention conducted is not related to activities or business of the employer and the employee does not use in his attempt to conduct this invention with the experiences, information, instruments, raw materials of the employer, under the employee’s own disposal, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

4- The Law protected the imported goods covered by patent protection, as these goods may not be imported by any licensee. If licensing contract prohibit such importation to the Kingdom, the Law provided that patent owner shall notify in writing the Customs Administration and the Patents Registrar of the Ministry of Trade & Industry in this respect. The Patents Registrar of the Ministry of Trade & Industry shall, at the expense of the patent owner, publish this notification in at least one of the local daily newspapers and the applicable legislations shall apply on same.

*This report is provided by Yousef S. Khalilieh of RAJAI K.W. DAJANI & ASSOCIATES in Amman, Jordan.*