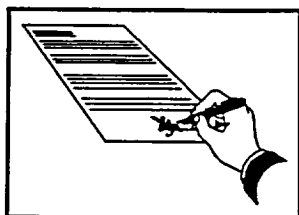


Singapore Registrar of Patents and Trademarks. Initial patent registration is valid for 16 years. Renewal patent protection is also available. Applications are not examined for novelty and there are no opposition proceedings. A British patent that is not registered in Singapore has no protection. This procedure is under examination by the Singapore Government and is expected to change within the next few years.

Trade marks are protected by registration under the Trade Marks Act. Owners of trade marks already registered in Britain generally enjoy priority in Singapore, provided that the request for operation is made with six months of foreign registration. Initial registration covers a period of seven years, and is renewable for an additional period of 14 years. The trademark is open for opposition within two months of advertisement in the *Government Gazette*.



FORMS OF BUSINESS ORGANIZATION

A business enterprise in Singapore may be a sole proprietorship, a partnership, or an incorporated company. A Canadian firm may also establish a branch office, a representative office, or a wholly-owned subsidiary. The form of a company preferred by most foreign companies is the private limited company.

FURTHER READING

Singapore Business-The Portable Encyclopedia for Doing Business with Singapore, published by World Trade Press, 1505 Fifth Avenue, San Rafael, California 94901, 1994

The Investor's Guide to Singapore, (1994) published by Singapore International Chamber of Commerce, 6 Raffles Quay, #10-01, Hancock Tower, Singapore 0104.