

Netherlands (NL) Coverage

Patent Office Details

NL Patent Office
Prinses Beatrixlaan 2
2595 AL Den Haag

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 10366
2501 HJ Den Haag

Web: <https://english.rvo.nl/information/patents-and-intellectual-property-rights>

Official gazette: *Gazette de Industriële Eigendom*

Kinds of Protection

Patents of Invention	Granted for a term of 20 years from submission date. Patents of addition abolished from 12.01.1977
Supplementary Protection Certificates	Extensions of up to five years for pharmaceutical (human or veterinary use) or phytopharmaceuticals products (maximum 15 years from marketing).

Convention & Treaty Membership

Patent Cooperation Treaty	10.01.1979
European Patent Convention	07.10.1977
Signatory of:	Paris Convention (Stockholm wording) Budapest Treaty World Intellectual Property Organization International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

Filing for Patents

New products and processes are patentable and must not be obvious to one skilled in the art and must procure some result in any field of industry. A patent may relate to one invention only.

Applications may be filed, in Dutch or English, by the inventor who is defined as the first to file an application which is laid open to the public or published for opposition purposes. Applications may also be made by the assignee, whether an individual, corporation or firm.

Under the rules in effect prior to 01.04.1995, for priority to be claimed a certified copy of the specification and drawings must be filed within 16 months from the date of earliest filing in the Convention country. A translation of the application must also be provided. Priority must be claimed at the time of filing in the Netherlands or within 12 weeks.

Under the European Patent Convention, European patents may designate the Netherlands. The Netherlands is a signatory of the London Agreement and as a result for a granted European Patent, a translation of the claims into Dutch must be filed within three months of grant to preserve validity of the patent in the Netherlands. For a granted European Patent in French or German additionally a translation of the description into English or Dutch must also be filed. Under the *Patent Cooperation Treaty*, the Netherlands can no longer be designated directly in an international application, but only via a European patent application.

Under the Patents Act of 1995, no substantive examination will be carried out. However, within 13 months of the priority date, a request for a novelty examination can be filed. The patent will be granted within four months of the novelty search report being issued, and the duration of the patent will be 20 years from the application date. If a request for a novelty search has not been filed, the duration of the patent will be six years from the filing date. A novelty search may be requested by a third party after the patent has been granted.

Under the Act in effect prior to 01.04.1995, patents can only be granted to applications which have proceeded through a number of stages. In the preliminary stage, the application is laid open to public inspection after the expiry of 18 months from the filing date, or from the earliest priority, if claimed. In the next stage the applicant may request the patent office to subject the application to an examination. The report on the examination is laid open to public inspection. As soon as the application is published, the entire file will be laid open to public inspection.

Under the Patents Act of 1995, there is no provision for opposition. However, for applications falling under the Patents Act in effect prior to the Act of 1995, opposition to the grant of a patent could be made within four months from the date of publication. Publication for opposition purposes can only take place if the patent office is prepared to grant a patent on an application.

DWPI Coverage

Kind	DWPI Start Dates
A OPI application	1963 to March 1995*
B Examined accepted specification	1963 to March 1995*
B1 Granted patent	1 May 2017
C Granted patent	7 October 1997
C2 Twenty year New Law granted patent	April 1995
C6 Six year New Law petty patent	April 1995

*Note that pre-1974 DWPI coverage is limited by subject area as follows:

Coverage starts	Subject coverage
1963	Pharmaceuticals
1965	Agrochemicals
1966	Polymers
1970	All chemistry covered
1974	All technologies covered

DWPI Data elements	Notes
✓ Bibliographic data	
✓ English value-add title and abstract	
✓ Manual Codes	
✓ Chemical Indexing	DCR, Chemical Fragmentation, Polymer and Markush

Numeration

Kind Codes – A, A1, B, B1, C, C2, C6

Publication Numbers			
Original Data	Derwent Patent Search	Dialog	STN
<i>Published up to 1 April 1995</i>			
NLYNNNNNN	NLYNNNNNN	NL YNNNNNN	NLYNNNNNN
NL9400573	NL9400573	NL 9400573	NL9400573
<i>Published from 1 April 1995 onwards</i>			
NLnnnnnnn	NLnnnnnnn	NL nnnnnnn	NLnnnnnnn
NL1004126	NL1004126	NL 1004126	NL1004126

YY 2 digit year
 NNNNN 5 digit serial number
 Nnnnnnn 7-digit serial number

Application Numbers*			
Original Data	Derwent Patent Search	Dialog	STN
<i>Published up to 1 April 1995</i>			
NLYNNNNNN	NLYYYYNnnnA	NL YYYYNnn	NLYYYY-Nnn
NL19921746	NL19921746A	NL 19921746	NL1992-1746
<i>Published from 1 April 1995 onwards</i>			
NLYYYYnnnnnnn	NLYYYYnnnnnnnC	NL YYYynnnnnn	NLYYYY-nnnnnn
NL20102004982	NL20102004982C	NL 20102004982	NL2010-2004982

YY or YYYY 2 or 4 digit year
 NNNNN 5 digit serial number
 Nnn 1 to 5 digit serial number
 nnnnnnn 7 digit serial number

*Full coverage of application numbers commenced from DWPI update 199216