

# Planned system maintenance: 11pm 31 October to 4 November 2019

The UK is preparing to leave the EU on 31 October 2019.

When we leave, all existing EU Trade Marks (EUTM), Registered Community Designs (RCDs) and International Registrations designating the EU will only cover the remaining 27 EU Member States. These registered rights will no longer provide protection in the UK.

On exit day, holders of existing EUTMs and International trade marks designating the EU will be provided with a comparable UK trade mark. Holders of an existing RCD and an International design designating the EU will be provided with a re-registered design. The Intellectual Property Office (IPO) will need to amend our systems and undertake maintenance to recognise the creation of these rights.

This work will affect our internal and external services for trade marks and designs.

Essential work will take place from 11pm 31 October 2019 until 4 November 2019.

## **Effect on services**

The following services will be affected:

### **Trade marks**

### **Designs**

To note: patents are unaffected by this disruption. You are still able to apply and renew through the normal process.

## **Effect on dates**

Digital application services will be unavailable on this date.

If the filing date of 31 October 2019 – 04 November 2019 is important you can apply for a [trade mark](#) or [design](#) through our paper application channels.

Customers can file an [opposition](#) between 31 October 2019, 01 November 2019 or 04 November 2019 as services using the paper form are unaffected.

You will not be able to file a threatened [opposition](#) and we advise that you do this in advance of 11pm on 31 October 2019. Customers should contact our information centre at [information@ipo.gov.uk](mailto:information@ipo.gov.uk) if they need to file during this service disruption.

You should respond in advance of any deadlines set by the IPO for your trade mark (including Right Start payments) or design application if it falls on 31 October 2019, 01 November 2019 or 04 November 2019.

## **Effect on our customer service delivery**

Internal services will be affected on 01 November and 04 November 2019.

This means we will be unable to view and advise on the progress of your trade mark or design application. All areas of our internal services, from receipt to post-registration of applications will be unavailable.

For more information please refer to [Intellectual property and Brexit](#).