
FAQs On Trademarks In Nigeria

What is a trademark?

A trademark is a symbol, recognisable name or design, which is legally registered and used exclusively by the owner to identify and distinguish their product or entity from those of others.

When can a trademark be registered in Nigeria?

A trademark deemed eligible for registration in Nigeria, must contain or consist of certain items such as

- a. The name of a company, individual or firm represented in a unique or particular manner
- b. The signature of the applicant for or that of a predecessor in his business, and
- c. An invented word or invented words.

How are trademarks registered in Nigeria?

An application for the registration of a trademark is made to the Trademarks, Patents and Designs Registry with the requisite documentation.

Does the registration of a trademark in one class grant an exclusive right to use it for other goods and services?

No. Although you have the exclusive right to use your trademark, another party may legitimately use the same trademark for goods and services that are not similar to yours.

How long is a registered trademark valid for in Nigeria?

A trademark lasts for seven years and is renewable after that for periods of 14 years.