

**FOI Release**  
***Information released under the Freedom of Information Act***

**Title:** Request for information about trade mark procedures

**Date of release:** 29 August 2013

**Information request:**

- 1) How many oppositions did you receive in 2011?
- 2) How many trademarks were challenged in 2011?
- 3) How many people are working in the trademarks service?
- 4) Is there any distinction between absolute ground examiners and relative grounds examiners? If yes, how many are absolute ground examiners and how many are relative ground examiners? (In France, we have this difference.)
- 5) How many online trade mark applications and paper trade mark applications did you have in 2011?

**Information released:**

- 1) 1,512 (new oppositions filed during 2011). We publish this information in our Facts & Figures. We don't record a figure for all types of challenges, but you may find some information in Facts & Figures.
- 3) The number of trade mark examiners is 70 (full and part-time, equivalent to 63 full time workers). The number of clerical workers is currently 17 (equivalent to 13.2 full time workers).
- 4) We do not differentiate between absolute and relative grounds work so each examiner covers all aspects of examination work.
- 5) We did not record electronically filed applications during 2011. However we have recently started recording since we adopted a fully electronic case file system in April 2013.