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**TERMS OF BUSINESS**

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**BAILEY WALSH & CO.LLP**

**TERMS OF BUSINESS**

Thank you for instructing Bailey Walsh & Co. LLP to act as your Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys. We will provide you with confidential professional advice on intellectual property and related matters.

We will carry out all work for you under these terms of business. Any further terms agreed between us will be set out in a letter and will take priority over these terms.

**OBLIGATIONS OF BAILEY WALSH & CO. LLP**

Our Partners and qualified staff are members of the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA) and/or the Chartered Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys (CITMA), and all our staff are regulated persons within the meaning set out by our regulator IPREG as either “those authorised by IPREG to carry on a reserved legal activity or those not so authorised but who are a manager or employee of those authorised to carry on a reserved legal activity”. As such all our staff will comply with the relevant codes of professional conduct of these Chartered Institutes and IPREG. Details can be found at: <https://ipreg.org.uk/>

It is our responsibility to (a) practise competently, conscientiously and objectively, putting the interest of our clients foremost while observing the law and our duty to any court or tribunal; and (b) avoid any conflict of interest.

We will perform our work with a high level of professional skill and care and acknowledge that we will be liable to you for losses, costs or expenses caused by negligence or wilful default found as a result of our work.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

It is often helpful if you can nominate an individual within your organisation to act as a primary point of contact for us and keep us updated if this changes. However, unless otherwise agreed, we will assume that any person within your organisation may instruct us on your behalf, unless they clearly do not have the appropriate authority.

We rely on our clients to give us timely, complete and accurate information and instructions. We prefer where possible to have oral instructions confirmed in writing in order to avoid any possible misunderstandings.

There are often time limits imposed on the filing, prosecution and maintenance of intellectual property rights and failure to meet these time limits can result in irrevocable loss of the rights concerned. Whilst it is our responsibility to keep you informed of any relevant time limits, we cannot accept any responsibility if you fail to provide us with instructions that are clear, complete and early enough to allow us to act within such official time limits. Furthermore, we will not incur costs on your behalf or take other action in respect of any matter in the absence of your specific instructions to do so. In the event of late instructions or late payment to us, urgency charges may be charged and interest on any amounts which are overdue may be added.

**INFORMATION**

It is important that you inform us promptly of any changes in relation to (a) any primary contact; (b) your name, address, telephone/fax numbers and e-mail address; or (c) any change of ownership to your intellectual property rights. These changes often have to be officially registered. Furthermore, please remember that registration of intellectual property rights can take a number of years and there may be little activity for long periods of time, followed by a situation which requires immediate action. We cannot accept responsibility for any loss of rights as a consequence of your failure to inform us of a change in contact details.

**PRIVACY INFORMATION**

Bailey Walsh & Co. LLP is a ‘Controller’ as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). We will only collect and store information from you that is relevant to the matter that you have instructed us to deal with. In particular, we may collect and store personal details (name, address and other contact details) and financial details (bank account information) which is defined as ‘personal data’ under the GDPR.

We will use your information to provide advice in relation to Intellectual Property and this is necessary for the provision of such services to you. We may also use your information for administering accounts, processing bank/credit card details in order to obtain payment and the prevention and detection of fraud. We will not use or share your information with any third party for marketing purposes.

We will only share your information with third parties such as barristers, overseas intellectual property specialists, or courts and tribunals, with whom it is necessary to engage in the provision of services to you. Where you authorise us to do so we may also disclose your information to family, associates or other professional representatives. We may also disclose your information to debt collection agencies if an invoice remains outstanding beyond the agreed period for payment.

We will keep your information on a secure protected hard drive based on one of our servers throughout the period of time that we do work for you and afterwards for a period of at least 6 years as we are required to do by law.

You have rights under the GDPR including the right to access a copy of the information we hold about you. Further information can be obtained from our Data Protection Officer, Philip Stephenson, at [mail@bailey-walsh.com](mailto:mail@bailey-walsh.com). If you are unhappy about how we are using your information then initially you should contact our Data Protection Officer and if your complaint remains unresolved then you can contact the Information Commissioner’s Office at [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

**INSTRUCTING THIRD PARTIES TO ACT ON YOUR BEHALF**

During our work for you we may need to instruct third parties (i.e. foreign attorneys) to act on your behalf. We may instruct such third parties directly on your behalf, or alternatively you may need to sign a power of attorney or similar appointment to engage such third parties. Whilst we shall endeavour to select third parties we regard as being of good quality, such parties are not part of this firm and we will not be liable for any default or negligence by said parties. The parties we choose to work with are selected based ,at least in part, on their professional skills and qualifications in the technical field in question and their cost effectiveness. These criteria are reviewed regularly by us to ensure we continue to offer our clients the best combination of third party professional experience, reliability and cost effectiveness and that the performance standards of these third parties and ourselves are maintained. It should be noted that some of the third parties we instruct may work with us on a reciprocal basis. However, we receive no commission or incentives as a result of selecting to use any specific third party. Any third party we instruct will, to the best of our knowledge, be authorised and regulated by their country’s regulatory authority to act in relation to the work which we instruct.

Normally, we are invoiced by foreign third parties in their own currency or in US Dollars which are susceptible to fluctuations in exchange rates between the time the work was instructed and the time at which an invoice is issued and paid. This change, which may be positive or negative, will be reflected in the amount of the invoice to you for the work. We may also receive refunds of fees which we have paid on your behalf as a result of subsequently receiving instructions from you to withdraw or cancel the work. If we have invoiced you for that work and the invoice includes the fees we have paid and the refunds are provided directly from the relevant Intellectual Property Office to us we will pass this on to you, minus any reasonable administrative charge. Should any refunds be received by any third parties acting under our instruction we will endeavour to have that refund returned to us so that we can pass the same onto yourselves.

**PROFESSIONAL FEES**

Our charges are principally based on the amount of professional time spent on a particular matter, although other factors may also be taken into account. Such factors may include the size and complexity of the matter and the degree of urgency involved. Fixed charges may apply in relation to specific tasks (e.g. the actual filing of a patent application). Where possible we will always endeavour to clearly set out our charges or an estimate of cost in advance of undertaking work on your behalf.

Our hourly rates are primarily based on the seniority and experience of the professional staff involved. These rates are reviewed periodically. Our charges are calculated at the rates which are current when the work is carried out. Please ask us if you would like to be sent details of these rates.

You will be responsible for any expenses we incur on your behalf. These expenses may include Patent, Trade Mark and/or Design Office fees, Counsel’s fees, Court fees, the cost of any expert or other agents (including any translators, draftsperson or foreign lawyers). They may also include items such as photocopying, courier charges, travel and meeting expenses, telephone and fax charges. In the case of foreign matters, costs may vary with exchange rate fluctuations.

Our normal payment terms are 30 days of receipt of our invoice. We may ask for payment on account, particularly with regard to new clients or for large transactions. When we make such a request, we will usually not carry out any instructed work until the requested payment has cleared into our bank account, so good time should be allowed.

If a requested payment on account is not made or if an invoice remains unpaid after the 30 day payment period on the invoice, we reserve the right to suspend all work on your behalf and/or charge interest. This is without prejudice to our right to invoice for work undertaken before such suspension and to take legal action and/or to use a debt collection agency for the payment of our costs. You will be responsible for the consequences of the suspension of work, which may include the irrevocable loss of, or failure to obtain, intellectual property rights

**OWNERSHIP OF FILES**

Our files remain the property of our firm at all times. If you would like to transfer your work to other professional advisors, we will copy the relevant parts of the file relating to your work as you request (at your expense) and release the copy file(s) when all our charges have been paid.

**SEARCHES**

Any searches you request may be carried out by us, by Patent, Trade Mark and/or Design Offices or by an independent specialist searching firm. Due to the limitations and occasional errors in classifications, indices, computer databases and official records, no search can be guaranteed for comprehensiveness or accuracy.

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

We cannot act simultaneously for two clients whose interests in the matter on which we are advising conflict, unless (exceptionally) both clients consent to such an arrangement. When potentially taking on a new client, we try to identify conflicts of interest that may preclude us from acting. However, sometimes conflicts arise later and, in these circumstances, we reserve the right to decline to act further, at least in relation to the area of conflict, for one of the clients in question, generally the client with the shorter relationship with us. Due to obligations of confidentiality it is often not possible for us to identify the other client or the subject matter involved when we advise a client that we can no longer act for them.

**CLIENT CARE AND COMPLAINTS**

We value our good relationship with our clients. However, we accept that from time to time, difficulties and misunderstandings may arise. If you have any problems you should feel free to discuss your concerns with the member of our professional staff dealing with your work. If, after such discussions, you feel that the matter has not been adequately dealt with, please ask that person to refer you to the senior member of our firm appointed to handle client complaints. We aim to resolve any complaint made within 8 weeks of the complaint having been made.

If we cannot resolve the matter, we will explain why and, if you wish, you can contact the Legal Ombudsman who will consider your complaint and seek to resolve the issue. This is a free service. Information can be found at [www.legalombudsman.org.uk](http://www.legalombudsman.org.uk). The contact telephone number is 0300 555 0333; email address: [enquiries@legalombudsman.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@legalombudsman.org.uk); postal address: PO Box 6806, Wolverhampton WV1 9WJ.

**TERMINATION OF RELATIONSHIP**

You may terminate our relationship at any time by writing to us. If there is a good reason which prevents us from continuing to act for you, we may terminate the relationship ourselves by giving you reasonable notice. In either case, if the relationship is terminated we will require you to pay any outstanding charges and expenses up to and including the date of such termination.

**MONEY LAUNDERING REGULATIONS AND CLIENT’S MONIES**

In order to comply with money laundering regulations, which may be relevant at a particular instant of time, we may require new clients of the firm to supply proof of identity to us. Appropriate proof of identity includes one of an original passport or photo-card driving license **and** one of a utility bill or bank statement in the case of individuals; or confirmation of the registered company details and proof that an individual is authorised to act on behalf of the company in the case of a company. Where possible, we normally request that this documentation is supplied to us prior to initiation of work.

Client money is defined as money “held or received from you by our firm in connection with work undertaken for you. This does not include any advance payments where the terms have been agreed. Where we do hold any clients money for longer than 14 days and that money is unallocated against invoiced work or work which has been instructed, that will be kept in a separate bank account by us and will be repayable at any time only to the same client that provided the money unless it has by that time been allocated to pay for instructed work.

**GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION**

English law shall apply to the construction and interpretation of our relationship and the English courts shall have non-exclusive jurisdiction to resolve any disputes arising in relation to it.

The above terms will apply until varied or replaced with alternative terms agreed with you in writing. Please note that no change to the terms of our agreement will be valid unless agreed in writing by a Partner of this Firm.

Signed by: ----------------------------------

Print name: ---------------------------------

Date: -----------------------------------------

On behalf of------------------------------

**Please retain a copy of the agreement for your files and send a copy of the completed agreement back to us.**

**Please supply us with the documentation required for money laundering regulations.**

**Please also confirm below in writing the correspondence address and billing address for any work undertaken by us on your behalf.**