



*A different way of working with
European patent attorneys*

actionplus



Adamson**Jones**

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Applying for a patent in the UK or Europe involves a number of steps, spread over a considerable period of time and arising at irregular intervals. Sometimes, the timing of these stages is predictable, but often it is impossible to say when action will be required. It is not uncommon for cases to be dormant for a year or more and then to come back to life, for instance if an examination report is received and has to be reported to you.

The problem

Conventionally, when European Patent Attorneys alert you to action that is required, they contact you and charge you for doing so. There may be a standard service charge for recording a deadline and a charge for the professional time expended in writing to you. In many circumstances, this may be perfectly acceptable, but what if considerable time has passed since the last action on the case, and in the meantime you or your client have decided that it is no longer of interest? What if a case is of borderline interest and you are unsure whether it justifies continued expense? A bill out of the blue may then be an unwelcome surprise, and you may even have difficulty in passing the charge on to your client.

The solution

action**plus** is different. When we take an action on your behalf, we will charge you for doing so. But no charge is made for reporting the next action to you; in other words, the bill you receive is for the action we have taken plus reporting of the next event to you.

action**plus** is designed to give you the maximum possible degree of certainty in your expenditure: so far as it is possible to do so, we ensure that you do not incur any unexpected costs. Instead, you receive bills only in respect of work that you have asked us to do, after we have done it.

For instance, suppose we file a European patent application for you, based on a PCT application. The next step is for the European Patent Office to issue an invitation to amend the claims. Under action**plus**, we forward that invitation to you at no charge. It is only when you specifically ask us to carry out work in response that you incur further expense.

Once that work has been completed and invoiced, the next step may be receipt of the European search report. Again, that is reported to you with no further charge until you instruct us how to respond.

Similarly, when we respond to an examination report on one of your pending patent applications, under **actionplus** we make no charge for reporting the next development, whether that be a notice of allowance or a further examination report.

In every case, if we report the need for action, but you decide not to proceed, then we simply close our file at no cost to you.

Of course, at every stage of the process, wherever you require our input and advice we will be happy to provide it, and we will give you a firm prediction of costs whenever you need it.

With **actionplus** you know every step of the way that you will be charged only for work that you have instructed us to do: no more unexpected bills, no more costs on cases that are no longer of interest, no more difficulties in recharging unexpected bills to your clients, just the certainty of knowing that you will not incur further expenditure unless and until you give us the go ahead to do so.

actionplus has been designed with your needs in mind, to help you get the most cost-effective patent protection in Europe.

We hope that this guide helps you understand the benefits of our **actionplus** approach to patent prosecution, but if you have any questions at any time please do not hesitate to contact us at contact@adamson-jones.co.uk.



AdamsonJones

Tel +44 (0)115 947 7977 Fax +44 (0)115 947 7978

Email contact@adamson-jones.co.uk Online www.adamson-jones.co.uk

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Registered Office: BioCity Nottingham, Pennyfoot Street, Nottingham NG1 1GF United Kingdom