

Entry into the national stage in Japan

The time limit in PCT Article 22(1) for entering the national stage was amended from 20 to 30 month from the earliest priority date and the time limit was effective on April 1, 2002. However, in Japan, because of the procedure for the amendment, the revise will be applied to the application that dead line for domestic filing is in or after September 2002. If the application that dead line for domestic filing is before September 1, 2002, the applicant need to be complete to file within 20 month from the priority date or need to require the International Preliminary Examination within 19 month from the priority date.