

deemed to be the common descriptive name of goods or services solely because such mark is also used as a name of or to identify a unique product or service. The primary significance of the registered mark to the relevant public rather than purchaser motivation shall be the test for determining whether the registered mark has become the common descriptive name of goods or services in connection with which it has been used; or”.

Par. (4). Pub. L. 100-667, §115(5), substituted “(4) At” for “(d) at”, and “title.” for “title; or”.

Par. (5). Pub. L. 100-667, §115(6), substituted “(5) At” for “(e) at” and redesignated former pars. (1) to (4) as subpars. (A) to (D), respectively.

1984—Par. (c). Pub. L. 98-620 inserted provision that a registered mark shall not be deemed to be the common descriptive name of goods or services solely because such mark is also used as a name of or to identify a unique product or service, and that the primary significance of the registered mark to the relevant public rather than purchaser motivation shall be the test for determining whether the registered mark has become the common descriptive name of goods or services in connection with which it has been used.

1982—Pub. L. 97-247 struck out “verified” before “petition to cancel” in provision preceding par. (a).

1962—Pub. L. 87-772 inserted provisions which require a verified petition to cancel a registration, redesignated par. (d) as (e), added par. (d) which is composed of provisions formerly part of par. (c), and in said par. (c), substituted “registrant” for “assignee”, and struck out “on which the patent has expired” before “or has been abandoned”, and “has been assigned and” before “is being used by”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2020 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 116-260, div. Q, title II, §225(g), Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 2208, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting sections 1066a and 1066b of this title and amending this section and sections 1065, 1070, 1071, and 1094 of this title] shall take effect upon the expiration of the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 27, 2020], and shall apply to any mark registered before, on, or after that effective date.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1999 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 106-43 effective Aug. 5, 1999, and applicable only to any application for registration filed on or after Jan. 16, 1996, see section 2(e) of Pub. L. 106-43, set out as a note under section 1052 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 201(a)(4) of Pub. L. 105-330 effective Oct. 30, 1998, and applicable only to any civil action filed or proceeding before the United States Patent and Trademark Office commenced on or after such date relating to the registration of a mark, see section 201(b) of Pub. L. 105-330, set out as a note under section 1051 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-667 effective one year after Nov. 16, 1988, see section 136 of Pub. L. 100-667, set out as a note under section 1051 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1982 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-247 effective six months after Aug. 27, 1982, see section 17(c) of Pub. L. 97-247, set out as a note under section 294 of Title 35, Patents.

FINALITY OF JUDGMENTS PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 8, 1984

Pub. L. 98-620, title I, §104, Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3336, provided that: “Nothing in this title [amending this section and section 1127 of this title and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 1051 of this title] shall be construed to provide a basis for reopening of

any final judgment entered prior to the date of enactment of this title [Nov. 8, 1984].”

REPEAL AND EFFECT ON EXISTING RIGHTS

Repeal of inconsistent provisions, effect of this chapter on pending proceedings and existing registrations and rights under prior acts, see notes set out under section 1051 of this title.

RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS TO CANCEL REGISTRATION OF TRADEMARKS

For provisions restricting the use of funds authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 41 et seq. of this title for fiscal year 1980, 1981, or 1982, for the purpose of taking any action under this section with respect to the cancellation of the registration of any mark on the ground that such mark has become the common descriptive name of an article or substance, see section 18 of Pub. L. 96-252, set out as a note under section 57c of this title.

Executive Documents

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of functions of Federal Trade Commission, with certain exceptions, to Chairman of such Commission, see Reorg. Plan No. 8 of 1950, §1, eff. May 24, 1950, 15 F.R. 3175, 64 Stat. 1264, set out under section 41 of this title.

§ 1065. Incontestability of right to use mark under certain conditions

Except on a ground for which application to cancel may be filed at any time under paragraphs (3), (5), and (6) of section 1064 of this title, and except to the extent, if any, to which the use of a mark registered on the principal register infringes a valid right acquired under the law of any State or Territory by use of a mark or trade name continuing from a date prior to the date of registration under this chapter of such registered mark, the right of the owner to use such registered mark in commerce for the goods or services on or in connection with which such registered mark has been in continuous use for five consecutive years subsequent to the date of such registration and is still in use in commerce, shall be incontestable: *Provided*, That—

(1) there has been no final decision adverse to the owner's claim of ownership of such mark for such goods or services, or to the owner's right to register the same or to keep the same on the register; and

(2) there is no proceeding involving said rights pending in the United States Patent and Trademark Office or in a court and not finally disposed of; and

(3) an affidavit is filed with the Director within one year after the expiration of any such five-year period setting forth those goods or services stated in the registration on or in connection with which such mark has been in continuous use for such five consecutive years and is still in use in commerce, and other matters specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) hereof; and

(4) no incontestable right shall be acquired in a mark which is the generic name for the goods or services or a portion thereof, for which it is registered.

Subject to the conditions above specified in this section, the incontestable right with reference to a mark registered under this chapter

shall apply to a mark registered under the Act of March 3, 1881, or the Act of February 20, 1905, upon the filing of the required affidavit with the Director within one year after the expiration of any period of five consecutive years after the date of publication of a mark under the provisions of subsection (c) of section 1062 of this title.

The Director shall notify any registrant who files the above-prescribed affidavit of the filing thereof.

(July 5, 1946, ch. 540, title I, §15, 60 Stat. 433; Pub. L. 87-772, §10, Oct. 9, 1962, 76 Stat. 771; Pub. L. 93-596, §1, Jan. 2, 1975, 88 Stat. 1949; Pub. L. 97-247, §10, Aug. 27, 1982, 96 Stat. 320; Pub. L. 100-667, title I, §116, Nov. 16, 1988, 102 Stat. 3941; Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(9) [title IV, §4732(b)(1)(B)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-583; Pub. L. 111-146, §3(b), Mar. 17, 2010, 124 Stat. 67; Pub. L. 116-260, div. Q, title II, §225(e)(1), Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 2207.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Acts March 3, 1881 and February 20, 1905, referred to in text, are acts Mar. 3, 1881, ch. 138, 21 Stat. 502 and Feb. 20, 1905, ch. 592, 33 Stat. 724, which were repealed insofar as inconsistent with this chapter by act July 5, 1946, ch. 540, §46(a), 60 Stat. 444. Act Feb. 20, 1905, was classified to sections 81 to 109 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2020—Pub. L. 116-260 substituted “paragraphs (3), (5), and (6)” for “paragraphs (3) and (5)” in introductory provisions.

2010—Pub. L. 111-146, §3(b)(1), substituted “right of the owner” for “right of the registrant” in introductory provisions.

Par. (1). Pub. L. 111-146, §3(b)(2), amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) read as follows: “there has been no final decision adverse to registrant’s claim of ownership of such mark for such goods or services, or to registrant’s right to register the same or to keep the same on the register; and”.

Par. (2). Pub. L. 111-146, §3(b)(3), inserted “United States” before “Patent and Trademark Office”.

1999—Pub. L. 106-113 substituted “Director” for “Commissioner” in par. (3) and in two places in concluding provisions.

1988—Pub. L. 100-667, in introductory provisions, substituted “paragraphs (3) and (5)” for “subsections (c) and (e)”, in par. (3) “paragraphs” for “subsections”, and in par. (4) “the generic name for the goods or services or a portion thereof, for which it is registered” for “the common descriptive name of any article or substance, patented or otherwise”.

1982—Pub. L. 97-247 substituted “registration” for “the publication” in provision preceding par. (1).

1975—Par. (2). Pub. L. 93-596 substituted “Patent and Trademark Office” for “Patent Office”.

1962—Pub. L. 87-772 substituted “(c) and (e) of section 1064” for “(c) and (d) of section 1064” in provision preceding par. (1), and struck out “or trade name” after “in a mark” in par. (4).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2020 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 116-260 effective upon the expiration of the 1-year period beginning on Dec. 27, 2020, and applicable to any mark registered before, on, or after that effective date, see section 225(g) of div. Q of Pub. L. 116-260, set out as a note under section 1064 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1999 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 106-113 effective 4 months after Nov. 29, 1999, see section 1000(a)(9) [title IV, §4731] of Pub. L. 106-113, set out as a note under section 1 of Title 35, Patents.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-667 effective one year after Nov. 16, 1988, see section 136 of Pub. L. 100-667, set out as a note under section 1051 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1982 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-247 effective six months after Aug. 27, 1982, see section 17(c) of Pub. L. 97-247, set out as a note under section 294 of Title 35, Patents.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1975 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 93-596 effective Jan. 2, 1975, see section 4 of Pub. L. 93-596, set out as a note under section 1111 of this title.

REPEAL AND EFFECT ON EXISTING RIGHTS

Repeal of inconsistent provisions, effect of this chapter on pending proceedings and existing registrations and rights under prior acts, see notes set out under section 1051 of this title.

Executive Documents

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of functions of other officers, employees, and agencies of Department of Commerce, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of Commerce, with power to delegate, see Reorg. Plan No. 5 of 1950, §§1, 2, eff. May 24, 1950, 15 F.R. 3174, 64 Stat. 1263, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employment.

§ 1066. Interference; declaration by Director

Upon petition showing extraordinary circumstances, the Director may declare that an interference exists when application is made for the registration of a mark which so resembles a mark previously registered by another, or for the registration of which another has previously made application, as to be likely when used on or in connection with the goods or services of the applicant to cause confusion or mistake or to deceive. No interference shall be declared between an application and the registration of a mark the right to the use of which has become incontestable.

(July 5, 1946, ch. 540, title I, §16, 60 Stat. 434; Pub. L. 87-772, §11, Oct. 9, 1962, 76 Stat. 771; Pub. L. 97-247, §11, Aug. 27, 1982, 96 Stat. 321; Pub. L. 100-667, title I, §117, Nov. 16, 1988, 102 Stat. 3941; Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(9) [title IV, §4732(b)(1)(B)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A-583.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Act Feb. 20, 1905, ch. 592, §7, 33 Stat. 726.

AMENDMENTS

1999—Pub. L. 106-113 substituted “Director” for “Commissioner”.

1988—Pub. L. 100-667 substituted “used on or in connection with the goods or services” for “applied to the goods or when used in connection with the services”.

1982—Pub. L. 97-247 substituted “Upon petition showing extraordinary circumstances, the Commissioner