

## Swedish court finds five guilty in fraudulent trade mark invoice case

On June 23, 2016, the District Court in Uppsala, Sweden, found five individuals guilty of attempted aggravated fraud, aiding and abetting attempted aggravated fraud and attempted fraud in connection with the issuing of fraudulent invoices.

The invoices, issued under the name of "OMIH Trademarks and Designs Registration Office," had been sent to users of the European Union trade mark system.

Until March 23, 2016, EUIPO was known as the Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market (trade marks and designs).

The European Union Intellectual Property Agency (EUIPO), which administers the European Union trade mark (EUTM) and the Registered Community Design (RCD), worked with the Swedish public prosecutor's office as it pursued the case.

The court handed down four custodial sentences of between one year and two months for four of the defendants, with one defendant receiving a suspended sentence. The Swedish public prosecutor has requested that the case be referred to the Court of Appeal in Stockholm.

EUIPO remains committed to protecting its users against fraudulent activities, in collaboration with enforcement authorities, partner IP offices and user associations, and by raising awareness about misleading invoices and other potential scams through its website and communication channels.

### **ABOUT THE EUIPO**

The [EUIPO](http://www.euiipo.europa.eu) is a decentralised agency of the EU, based in Alicante, Spain. It manages the registration of the European Union trade mark (EUTM) and the registered Community design (RCD), both of which provide intellectual property protection in all 28 EU Member States, as well as carrying out cooperation activities with the national and regional IP offices of the EU. Up until 23 March 2016, the EUIPO was known as the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM).

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