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Intellectual Property Office to make first fee cuts in a decade

LONDON - The UK's Intellectual Property Office (IPO) is proposing its first cuts in trade mark charges for more than a decade.



On Monday it will reveal proposals to reduce its fees by for trademark applications made electronically by 15% and offer additional price reductions for companies opposing applications.

It will also allow them to pay only part of the application fee up-front, meaning that less money will be lost when applications are abandoned.

Trademarks allows businesses to protect the name of a business or product, a logo, shape or colour and can be used to generate revenue from licensing or franchising.

Margaret Arnott, partner at patent and trademark attorney Mathys and Squire LLP said that the move will be particularly important for small businesses.