

International Trademark Classification Adopted

As of July 6, 2009, the Secretary of State is adopting the international classification of goods and services as the primary classification used by the NC Trademark Registration Office, and it applies to all applications filed on or after July 6, 2009, and their resulting registrations, for all statutory purposes. See *N.C.G.S. §80-9*. Unless otherwise indicated, references to class or class numbers for goods or services, online and within the instructions and guidelines, refer to the “International Class Titles and/or International Class Numbers” as of July 6, 2009.

Prior to July 6, 2009, the NC Trademark Registration Office used its own classification of goods and services, which is different from the international classification. The prior North Carolina classification continues to govern for all statutory purposes for trademark applications filed on or before July 5, 2009, and all registrations issued on the basis of an application filed on or before July 5, 2009.

If a registration was issued under the North Carolina classification system, the Trademark Registration Office will change the class code to the International Class Number on all five-year affidavits of use and renewal applications mailed to the registrant on or after July 6, 2009, with the notification to file such document. See *N.C.G.S. §80-5*.

International Classification schedules are posted on the Trademark Registration Office website at <http://www.secretary.state.nc.us/trademrk> as of July 6, 2009 and at the USPTO website at <http://tess2.uspto.gov/netathtml/manual.html>.