

MyEPO Portfolio

Feature guide: managing representative profiles and associations



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1. Introduction

The EPO publishes on its website a searchable database of professional representatives registered with the EPO who are authorised to represent applicants in European patent grant-related proceedings.

Applicants or opponents may represent themselves and perform procedural acts during proceedings, but only if they have their residence or principal place of business in an EPC contracting state.

If their residence or principal place of business isn't in an EPC contracting state, they are obliged to be represented by a professional representative and act through them in all proceedings established by the EPC other than in filing a European patent application.

And even if their place of resident or business is in an EPC contracting state, they may choose to appoint or consult a professional representative.

The **representative area** in MyEPO Portfolio allows registered professional representatives to manage the personal and contact information that is published about them on the EPO website.

The EPO will launch a new and improved searchable database on its website on 3 February 2025.

This database will list each registered professional representative with a standardised set of information. Any preferences expressed by representatives as to whether they should be included in the database or as to whether the business address they provided should be published will cease to apply as of 3 February 2025. The preference expressed for the publication of telecommunication details (email address, telephone number and website URL) will remain valid.

As a professional representative, you are advised to check the data we have on record before February 2025.

You can do this in the representative area of MyEPO Portfolio. You can make changes to telecommunication details directly in MyEPO Portfolio. For changes to name or postal address you will need to make a request to the EPO. For technical reasons, please do not update your telecommunication details on the same day as making a request to have your name or postal address updated by the EPO.

You can also delegate this to members of your IP support team.

You won't have access to your representative area until you have been entered on the list of professional representatives before the EPO. You can use MyEPO Portfolio to request entry on the list.

You can also request re-entry if you have been deleted from the list.

Company administrators can also use the **Applications and patents** area of MyEPO Portfolio to add and remove members of an association (Rule 152(11) EPC).

This feature guide explains how to use MyEPO Portfolio to manage representative profiles and associations, and you can read about the legal framework for professional representation on our website.

We have also published some frequently asked questions (FAQs), and you can always get in touch with us at epo.org/support or your key account manager if you're still not sure about something.

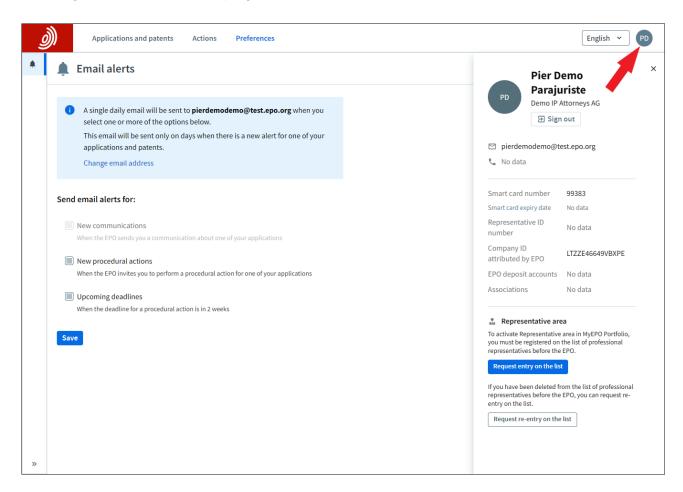
2. How to be entered on the list of professional representatives

You can use MyEPO Portfolio to file your request for entry on the list of professional representatives registered with the EPO. This authorises you to represent parties in European patent grant-related proceedings under Article 134 EPC.

If your entry on the list has been deleted, you can also request re-entry on the list.

In both cases, first make sure you have access to MyEPO Portfolio using your EPO account with two-factor authentication. If you are a new user of MyEPO Portfolio, follow the instructions on the Get access page of our website.

To request entry or re-entry on the list, sign in to MyEPO Portfolio and open your user profile by selecting the user icon in the top right-hand corner:

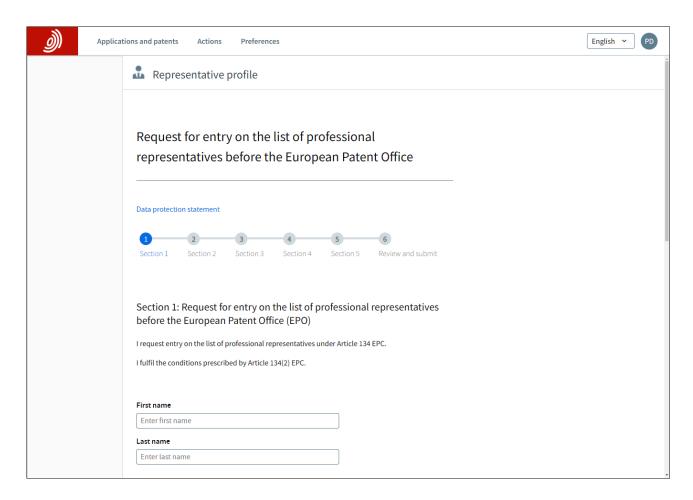


Select the "request entry" or "request re-entry" option and a screen appears that will guide your through providing the information needed to submit your request.

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As a professional representative, you are advised to check the data we have on record before February 2025. For more information see the FAQ.

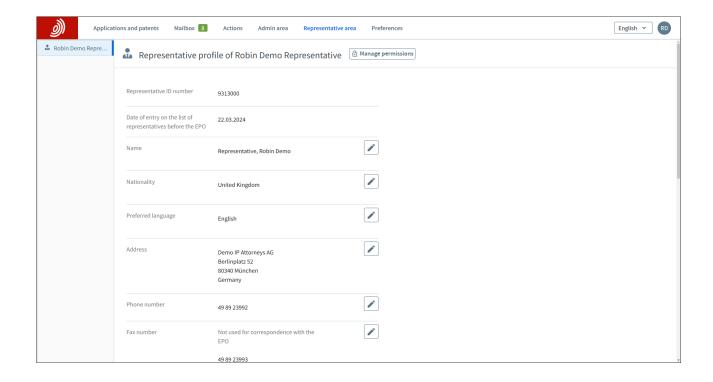


Provide the information indicated in each section of the request and finally review and submit your request.

If you aren't sure about some of the information requested, please have a look at the FAQs on entry to the list of professional representatives. If that doesn't help, you can always send an enquiry to our support team via our contact form.

Your request will be handled by the EPO. If there is a mistake in your request, you will be notified by post and can correct the mistake in MyEPO Portfolio.

Once your request has been processed successfully you will be notified. The next time you sign in to MyEPO Portfolio as a registered professional representative, you will see the option to access your personal representative area through the main menu of MyEPO Portfolio.



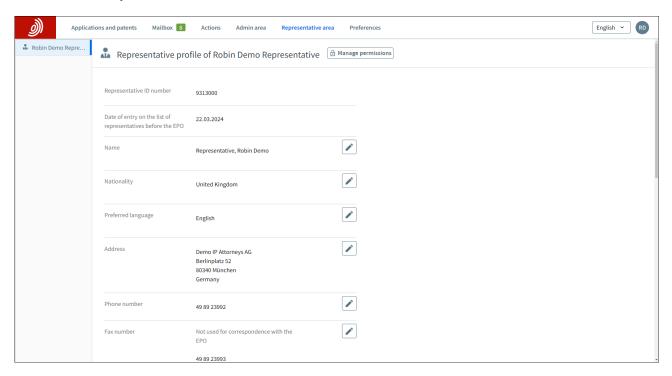
Once you have been registered on the list you can also delegate access to your representative area to other members of your company, by selecting the **Manage permissions** option. They will be able to edit information about your profile on your behalf.

3. Managing representative profiles

In your MyEPO Portfolio "representative area" you can request changes to your representative profile and can request to be deleted from the list of professional representatives before the EPO.

3.1 How to access the representative area

As a registered professional representative, you can access your representative area through the main menu of MyEPO Portfolio.



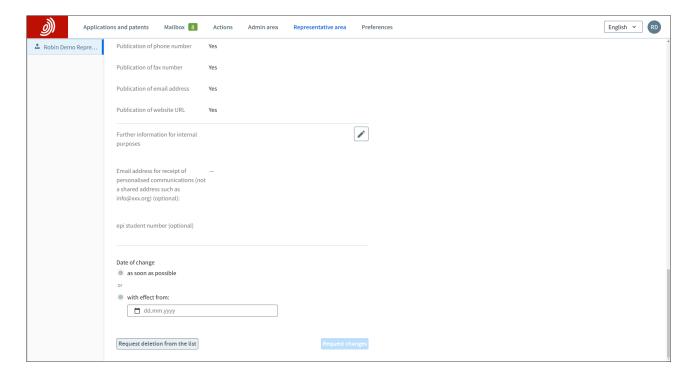
You can also delegate access to other members of your company by selecting the **Manage permissions** option. They will be able to edit information about your profile on your behalf.

3.2 Request changes to your representative profile

The EPO will launch a new and improved searchable database on its website on 3 February 2025. This database will list each registered professional representative with a standardised set of information. Any preferences expressed by representatives as to whether they should be included in the database or as to whether the business address they provided should be published will cease to apply as of 3 February 2025. The preference expressed for the publication of telecommunication details (email address, telephone number and website URL) will remain valid. As a professional representative, you are advised to check the data we have on record before February 2025. For more information see the FAQ.

Select any of the edit symbols on the screen to change your details. Follow the instructions to change the information and upload any supporting documents if requested.

At the bottom of the screen, indicate your preference for when the change should take effect, which can be as soon as possible or, in some cases, on a specific future date.



When you are ready, select **Request changes** to proceed. After submission, you have the option to download a copy of your request.

In some cases, the change requested will take place automatically. For changes to your name, nationality and/or address, the request will first need to be approved by the EPO.

A message will appear at the top of the page informing you that your request has been submitted and the EPO is processing it. Requested changes will appear highlighted in colour on your profile screen until they have been processed.

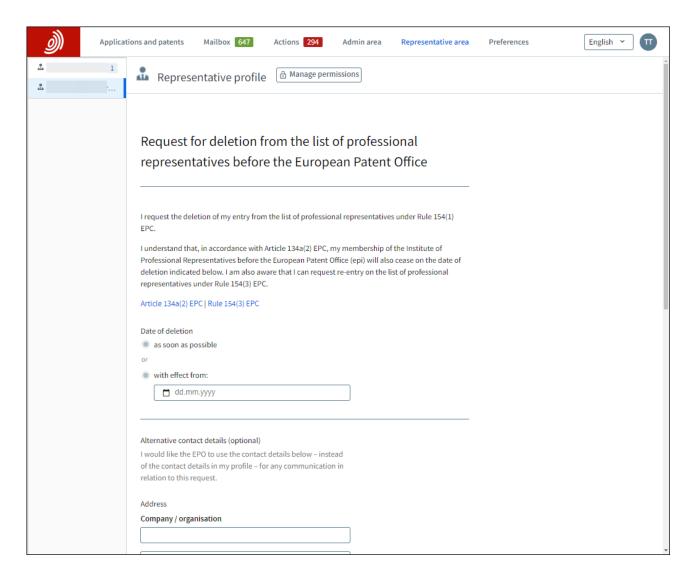
A confirmation letter will be sent to your Mailbox or to your registered postal address.

Please note: the preferred date of change cannot be guaranteed by the EPO, so the actual date may be different, for example due to EPO holidays.

3.3 Request deletion from the list of professional representatives

You can request to be deleted from the list of professional representatives before the EPO, by scrolling to the bottom of the screen and selecting **Request deletion** and filling in the form.

You may indicate new contact details, and if your Mailbox is still active a confirmation of your deletion will be sent to the Mailbox.



A message will appear at the top of the page informing you that your request has been submitted and the EPO is processing it. After submission, you have the option to download a copy of your request if you wish.

Once your request has been approved by the EPO, you will be deleted from the list and no longer have access to your representative area.

3.4 Handle deficiencies in representative area requests

Sometimes the EPO identifies an issue or deficiency with your change or deletion request.

When this happens, a message will appear at the top of your representative area profile, and a pending representative area action will appear in the **Actions** area.

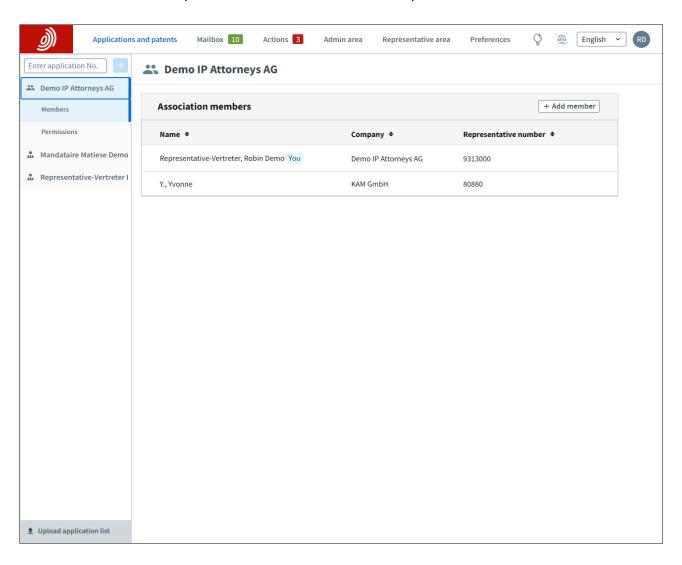
You can select the option to remedy the deficiency or choose to withdraw your request.

As always, all communications related to your request will be sent to your Mailbox or registered postal addresses.

4. Managing associations

Company administrators can use MyEPO Portfolio to add and remove members of an association (Rule 152(11) EPC) provided the association has been added as a recipient in the Admin area of MyEPO Portfolio.

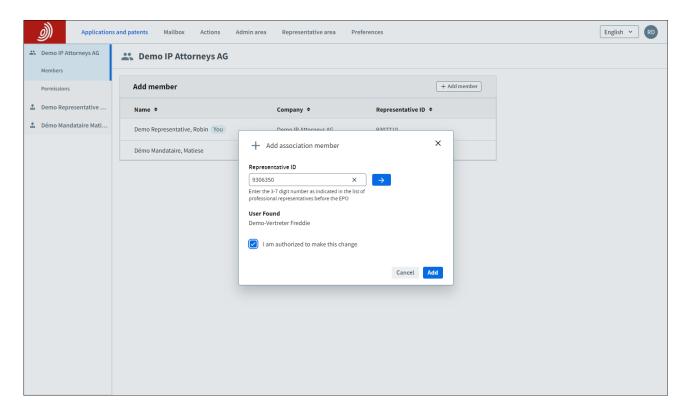
As a company administrator, you go to the **Applications and patents** area from the main menu, select the **association** in question and select the **Members** option.



4.1 Add a member to an association

Select the **Add member** button and enter the Representative number of the person you wish to add to the association. This can be any representative, whether or not they are a member of your MyEPO company. The name of the representative will be shown after you have entered the ID.

Before proceeding with the request, you have to confirm that you are authorised by both an existing association member as well as the person concerned.



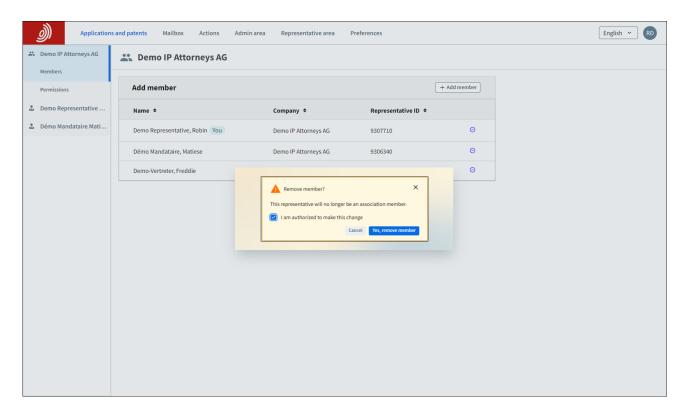
If you add or remove members of an association, a communication will be sent to your Mailbox (or postal address of the association if the association is not receiving communications electronically via the Mailbox) listing all additions and removals that took place that day.

The change takes effect immediately.

4.2 Remove a member from an association

Select the **deletion symbol** next to the name of the member that you wish to remove from the association. Please note: the deletion symbol will not appear if the association only has two members, since an association cannot have less than two members.

Before proceeding with the request, you have to confirm that you are authorised by both a remaining member of the association as well as the person concerned. In case you are unable to obtain such authorisation, please contact us at epo.org/support.



If you add or remove members of an association, a communication will be sent to your Mailbox (or postal address of the association if the association is not receiving communications electronically via the Mailbox) listing all additions and removals that took place that day.

The change takes effect immediately.