



Jean Charrière 1935-2007

Jean Charrière, ECTA's original First Vice President and President of the Association from 1984 to 1986, died on 14 July 2007.

Jean was involved in the establishment of ECTA from the very beginning, joining Eric Wenman and his select band of collaborators in 1979-80 as one of the representatives of France. His importance to the successful formation of the Association was perhaps reflected in his membership number being No. 2.

A most friendly man of considerable ability, charm and elegance, he was the perfect embodiment of his nation and represented it with great dedication in the formative years of the Association and beyond.

Among many loyalties, his foremost was to his wife Anne and their five children. A strong family man, he was delighted to see his family expand to include eleven grandchildren.

Educated in Paris, Jean received his Diploma of Hautes Etudes Commerciales (HEC) in 1959.

His professional career in the field of Trade Marks began when he became assistant to the Head of the Trade Marks Department of the Rhone-Poulenc Group in 1972. In 1978, he became Head of the Trade Marks Department of Roussel-Uclaf, an important French Pharmaceutical Laboratory, a position he held until his retirement.

In addition to the considerable contribution he made to the affairs of ECTA, as Founder member, member of the Professional Affairs

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Committee, Vice-President and President, Jean served as a member of the Trade Mark Committee of UNICE (now BusinessEurope), representing France, and as a member and subsequently as President of APRAM (Association des Praticiens du Droit des Marques et des Modèles), from 1990 to 1992.

Jean was only the second President of ECTA to have had his distinguished background in industrial practice. In that capacity, he hosted during his term of office Council and committee meetings at his company's offices near Les Invalides in Paris. Because of his charming generosity, outgoing character and friendliness, these meetings were always looked forward to and remembered with pleasure.

Jean Charrière's memory will be held in high regard by his many friends and colleagues, both at home and overseas.

Claude Sautory, former Executive Secretary of ECTA
Keith Havelock, Secretary General



Dr. Robert Freitag 1938-2007

We are sad to announce that Dr. Robert Freitag, a Past President of ECTA from 2000 to 2002, passed away on 21 November 2007.

Robert was elected to the Council of ECTA in 1990 and soon after, in 1992, he became its Secretary General for eight years. He devoted much time and energy to the development of the association which went through a very important phase, with the entry into force of the Community Trade Mark system, during the time he served as Secretary General. His contribution to ECTA's growth and recognition throughout the IP community is therefore undeniable.

A good-humoured man, knowledgeable, hardworking, and generous, he will be greatly missed.

He was good company and highly respected and esteemed by all in ECTA. In his private life, he was a strong family man, always looking after his wife Sylvia and his sons, and glad to see his grandchildren grow. His youngest grandson, Jonathan Timon, was born on 26 September last.

Born in Vigo and raised in Barcelona, Spain, he remained in contact with his mother country, where part of his family is still living. He was indeed a very special German member of ECTA, with a huge knowledge of the Spanish and Catalan languages. Robert felt mostly European and loved the supranational European feeling, which prevails in our association. He once expressed the view that "for building up Europe we would need many more ECTAs".

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He graduated in law in Freiburg, Germany, in 1968, and also finished his doctoral thesis at this time. From September 1968 until December 1998 he worked for Hoechst AG, the German pharmaceutical company, and was the head of its Trademark Department from 1992 until 1998.

In August 1998 he founded the Law firm Freitag & Best in Frankfurt. He devoted his life to IP Law and had the generosity to share his time with the duties of ECTA.

Robert Freitag's memory will be held in great affection and esteem by his many friends and colleagues.

Mireia Curell,
President of ECTA

Joao Pereira da Cruz,
Past President of ECTA and member of the Advisory Committee

Luis-Alfonso Durán,
Past President of ECTA and member of the Advisory Committee