

Opening of the European Trademark Office (Office of Harmonization in the Internal Market or OHIM)

European Trademark Applications were being accepted since January 1, 1996 by OHIM before its formal opening. The formal opening ceremony for OHIM was on April 1, 1996 when it first opened its doors in Alicante, Spain. Three photograph below were taken at OHIM on the Saturday before the formal opening during a reception held by the president of OHIM for AIJA (Association Internationale des Jeunes Avocats) at a seminar on the European Trademark on March 30, 1996. Pictured is the formal meeting room at OHIM. Also shown is the public filing office, and photographs of the opening ceremony which which held in the community theater in the city of Alicante on April 1, 1996. Over 30,000 application have now been filed and the first applications have been published. Approximately 1/3 of the applications originate from companies in the United States.

Photographs



[Ceremony](#) for the opening of OHIM held at the Alicante theatre on April 1, 1996.



Outside the [Alicante theatre](#) prior to the opening ceremony held at the Alicante theatre on April 1, 1996.



The [Alicante harbor](#).



[City view](#) near the Esplanade, about 1 km from OHIM.



[OHIM](#) on the Saturday before the historic formal opening of the Office during the occasion an AIJA seminar on the European Trademark.



Abogados [filing documents](#) at OHIM on April 1, 1996, the first day formally open.

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