STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1980 No. 1146

PATENTS

The Patents (Amendment No. 3) Rules 1980

Made - - -	*2nd August* 1980
Laid before Parliament	*8th August* 1980
Coming into Operation	*1st September* 1980

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 123 and 124(3) of the Patents Act 1977(**a**), hereby makes the following Rules:—

1. These Rules may be cited as the Patents (Amendment No. 3) Rules 1980 and shall come into operation on 1st September 1980.

2. The Patents Rules 1978(**b**) shall have effect subject to the following amendments:—

(1) in Rule 34, for the words "three years and six months", wherever they appear, there shall be substituted the words "four years and six months";

(2) in Rule 83(3), for the words "three and a half years after the declared priority date" there shall be substituted the words "four years and six months after the declared priority date or, where there is no declared priority date, the date of filing of the application for the European patent (UK)"; and

(3) in Rule 85(3)(*c*), for the words "three and a half years" there shall be substituted the words "four years and six months".

Reginald Eyre,
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State,
Department of Trade.

2nd August 1980.

(**a**) 1977 c. 37.

(**b**) SI 1978/216, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Rules.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Rules.)

These Rules further amend the Patents Rules 1978 so as to extend the period within which an application for a patent must comply with the Patents Act 1977 and the Patent Rules 1978, as amended, from three years and six months to four years and six months and make corresponding extensions in relation to:—

(*a*) applications for European patents (UK) which are to be treated as applications for patents under the Patents Act 1977; and

(*b*) international applications for patents ie applications made under the Patent Co-operation Treaty.