

Introduction to Computer Program Registration

The program registration was implemented under the Copyright Act and the Act on Special Provisions for the Registration of Program Works.

SOFTWARE INFORMATION CENTER (SOFTIC) carries out the program registration from 1987 as the registrar commissioned by the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

★TYPES OF PROGRAM REGISTRATIONS

(1) Registration of the date of creation (Article 76bis of the Law)

- The creation date of a program work may be registered regardless of whether it has been published or not.
- Application must be made within six months from the program's creation date.
- The applicant shall be the author of the program work.
- The program is presumed to have been created on the registered date. If a lawsuit is filed to determine which party holds the rights in the program, the registration of the program's creation date will provide valuable evidence.

(2) Registration of the date of first publications, etc. (Article 76 of the Law)

- The date on which the work was first published or made public may be registered.
- The application must be made by the copyright owner. If the work is anonymous or pseudonymous, the publisher of the work can also make the application.
- The program is presumed to have been first published or first made public on the registered date. If a lawsuit is filed to determine which party holds the rights, the registration of the program will provide valuable evidence.

(3) Registration of copyright (Article 77 of the Law)

- The registration of the transfer of copyright, the limitation on the disposal of copyright or the right of pledge established on copyright.
- An application for registration should, in principle, be made jointly both the obligee and the obligor.
- This registration is required for being effective against a third party.

(4) Registration of the true name (Article 75 of the Law)

- The true name of the author of a work that was published anonymously or pseudonymously may be registered by the author.
- The applicant shall be the author or the person specified in the author's will.
- The person whose true name has been registered is presumed to be the author of the work.
- The registration of the true name of the author extends the period of protection to 70 years after the death of the author.

★Materials to be submitted for all kinds of registration.

1. Application form
2. Specification
3. A copy of the program (CD-R, DVD-R)
4. Evidence of payment of the registration fee (¥47,100 per registration)
5. Registration tax (revenue stamp)

★If you need the details about the program registration, we accept orders of "GUIDE TO PROGRAM REGISTRATION in Japanese" (¥1,000 + tax).

SOFTIC SOFTWARE INFORMATION CENTER Copyright Registration Department

14th Floor, Atago-East Building, Nishi-Shinbashi, 3-16-11, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0003 JAPAN

TEL:81-3-3437-3071

FAX:81-3-3437-3398

E-mail:program@softic.or.jp

URL:http://www.softic.or.jp/