

Topographical Protection

Topographies are three-dimensional structures of microelectronic semi-conductor products, e.g., microchips. Protection of the topography is exclusively related to the geometrical design and arrangement of these products and not to the technical function or the material construction; for this purpose there is the possibility of patent protection. Topography protection ensues in a pure registration process, i.e., the Patent Office does not inspect whether the registered topography qualifies for protection. Topography protection lasts for a maximum of 10 years