



## Copyright/Trademark symbols:

### Summary of the general rules ® ©

® means « Registered Trademark » (as registered/validated by the Trademark Office).

™ means « Trademark » (any mark filed with a Trademark office or non-registered).

© means « Copyright »

#### Remarks:

- As should first be recalled, the © (*copyright*) is a reserved right notice concerning any work that can be copyrighted (all TGS's documents/website). This symbol is generally followed by the name of the copyright holder, and the year of first publication. The aim is to inform any third parties and to deter potential infringers.
- There is **no obligation in EU** to use the ® or ™ types of symbol with your trademark to assert and secure your trademark rights. « The recognition of rights does not require that any sign or statement of a patent, utility model, registration of a trademark, or filing of an industrial drawing be mentioned or affixed on the respective product ».
- You do not have to systematically use the ® symbol to have your trademark right recognized. However, in certain countries, including the United-States, the use of the ® symbol is a **prerequisite for obtaining damages**, or is even sometimes essential in order for the trademark holder to be able to file an infringement action.
- In EU, the ® symbol does not have to be used systematically, but it offers two major advantages, as it both **prevents infringement and deters potential infringers**.
- It is advisable to affix this registration symbol into any medium that reproduces the registered trademark (particularly if your trademark is meant to be exported to the US and you don't want to be limited in terms of the actions you may wish to take there). However, you should be careful with the risk of deception or third parties, as long as the trademark has not been registered. The registration sign ® can only be used in countries where the trademark has effectively been registered with the Trademark Office (i.e. in the meantime, when the trademark has simply been filed to allow the owner to use the ™ symbol).
- There is **no particular requirement** as to the precise **positioning or size** of the symbols.