Time in Months Action 0 File Priority Application 12 FILE EUROPEAN APPLICATION 14-16 Search Report Issued 18 Publication of application and search report with search opinion 24 Pay designation fee Request examination and pay fee Respond to search opinion 30 Examination Letter from examiner Arguments or amendments submitted 36 **44**¹ GRANT 53 End of opposition period - 9 months from grant Patent expires 252

¹ May take longer depending on how smoothly the application goes through examination and on the date of publication of the search report.

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