Trademarks and Copyright

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A trademark is a word, name, symbol or design used in the trade of goods to indicate their origin and to distinguish them from other goods. A service-mark serves the same purpose as a trademark but identifies and distinguishes the source of a service rather than a product. The term “mark” is often used to refer to both trademarks and service-marks.

Trademark rights allow the owner to prevent others from using confusingly similar marks, but they do not prevent others from using clearly different marks to produce or sell similar goods or services. Trademarks used in interstate or foreign trade can be registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

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