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## 1. Introduction

A divisional application is a new application which is separate and independent from the earlier application. Therefore, divisional applications are to be treated in the same manner as ordinary applications and are subject to the same requirements, unless specific provisions of the EPC require something different (see **G 1/05**, OJ 2008, 271). The most important provisions on European divisional applications are **Art. 76 EPC** and **R. 36 EPC** (**R. 25 EPC 1973**).