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INNOVATE SAFELY: COMPLETE GUIDE TO REGISTERING PATENTS AND UTILITY MODELS IN SPAIN

DATA PROTECTION AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (GDPR – IP)

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EXCLUSIVE LEGAL PROTECTION

Both patents and utility models grant exclusive rights over an invention, preventing third parties from manufacturing, using, or commercializing it without authorization.

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DIFFERENCES IN REQUIREMENTS AND DURATION

Patents require a higher level of inventive activity and last 20 years, while utility models are more accessible, with lower technical requirements and a duration of 10 years.

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PROCEDURES AND COSTS

The patent granting process is longer and more expensive, including a substantive examination. In contrast, utility models are granted faster and with less economic investment.

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INNOVATION STRATEGY

Choosing between a patent or a utility model depends on the type of invention, business goals, and available resources. Both figures are key tools to protect and monetize innovation.

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