

ACTIVATION OF THE FAST ACTION AND ON-CALL SERVICE PROTOCOL

ALIMENTARIA 2026 TRADE FAIR HOSTELCO 2026 TRADE FAIR

COMMERCIAL SECTION OF THE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE OF BARCELONA

The panel of Judges of the Commercial Courts of Barcelona (Commercial Court of Barcelona), within the framework of the Statute Protocol of the Commercial Court of First Instance of Barcelona (approved by decision of 15 July 2014 of the Standing Committee of the General Council of the Judiciary), at its meeting held on 4 December 2025,

1. STATE:

On 21 October 2025, a formal request was received for the activation and application of the aforementioned Fast Action and On-Call Service Protocol for the **ALIMENTARIA Trade Fair** (International Food and Beverage Exhibition) and the **HOSTELCO Trade Fair** (International Restaurant and Hospitality Exhibition), both of which will take place in Barcelona from **23 to 26 March 2026**. These events will showcase the most innovative products and will serve as a platform for emerging trends in the food, restaurant and hospitality sectors.

AND HEREBY AGREE:

1. That, in the event of conflicts between the companies participating in these events as holders of intellectual and industrial property rights, as well as disputes concerning competition law, which may give rise to applications for preliminary injunctions, as has occurred on previous occasions, and in order to avoid, to the extent possible, adopting ex parte interim measures while ensuring the adoption of effective measures to protect those rights, the Judges of the Commercial Courts of Barcelona agree to activate the Fast Action and On-Call Service Protocol established for the Mobile World Congress and to apply and extend it to the ALIMENTARIA and HOSTELCO 2026 Trade Fairs.

2. That the commitments undertaken shall remain in force during the week preceding the event, with special dedication on the event dates, from 23 to 26 March 2026, and shall consist of the following:

- a) To grant priority and preferential processing to applications for ***preliminary inquiries and/or fact-finding measures*** relating to patents, infringement of trade marks, industrial designs and intellectual property rights, as well as acts of unfair competition and unlawful advertising concerning food products, beverages and, in general, materials that are to be exhibited or displayed at the aforementioned trade fairs.
- b) To grant priority and preferential processing to ***urgent preliminary injunctions (whether ex parte or inter partes)*** relating to patents, infringement of trade marks, industrial designs and intellectual property rights, as well as acts of unfair competition and unlawful advertising concerning food products, beverages and, in general, materials that are to be exhibited or displayed at the aforementioned trade fairs..
- c) To undertake **to resolve within two days (48 hours)** any applications for preliminary inquiries and/or fact-finding measures, and within the same 48-hour period any applications for ex parte preliminary injunctions from the moment they are filed with the Court; and to resolve applications for preliminary injunctions requiring a hearing within a maximum period of ten days from their filing, provided that a *protective letter* has been submitted.
- d) Within the framework of a potential conflict involving industrial or intellectual property with another company, and in the light of the reasonable fear of being subject to an application for an ex parte preliminary injunction, **to resolve on the same day of filing (within 24 hours) the admission of protective letters**. The admission and immediate resolution of such protective letters aims, to the extent possible, to avoid the adoption of ex parte preliminary injunctions, thereby enabling, first, the defendant to present its arguments and, second, its readiness to appear before the Court immediately to address any application for ex parte preliminary injunctions..
- e) To assess the urgency referred to in Article 733 of the Spanish Civil Procedure Act (LEC) in the adoption of ex parte preliminary injunctions, unless this would compromise the success of the interim measure, the prior conduct of the applicant and the promptness with which it reacted upon becoming aware of the alleged infringement shall be decisive. In this regard, it shall be important that the application for urgent preliminary injunctions be filed sufficiently in advance such that, in good faith, it does not reasonably prevent the defendant from being heard, where the holder of the allegedly infringed right had prior knowledge of the possible infringement and could have filed its application in due time.
- f) To adopt, ex officio or at the request of a party, the specific measures necessary to preserve the confidentiality of information that may constitute a trade secret and has been submitted in proceedings

concerning the infringement of trade secrets, or in any other type of proceedings in which its consideration is required for adjudicating the merits. All such measures shall be adopted within the framework of Act 1/2019 of 20 February on Trade Secrets and Directive (EU) 2016/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016, and in accordance with the Special Protocol on the Protection of Trade Secrets adopted by this Commercial Court of Barcelona for that purpose.

2. HEREBY AGREE:

- To communicate and report the foregoing commitments, and in particular the preventive and ongoing on-call service during business days and public hearing hours throughout the **week preceding the event and, with special dedication, during the event dates from 23 to 26 March 2026**, to the Governing Chamber of the High Court of Justice of Catalonia and its Hon. President, for approval, if applicable, and for submission to the General Council of the Judiciary (CGPJ) for the same purposes.
- To communicate and report this agreement to the CGPJ for its dissemination through the website and its Press Office, and to the respective Press Office of the High Court of Justice of Catalonia, if applicable.
- To communicate and publish this agreement to the various professional associations as well as to the national and international public bodies and agencies competent in matters of intellectual and industrial property.

In Barcelona, on 4th December 2025.

Commercial Section of the Court of First Instance of Barcelona.