

February 2014

Dear Suzuki Teachers,

The German Suzuki Association has good news for you:

The repeated threats by the European Suzuki Association (ESA) against all German Suzuki Association teachers are, and always have been, without any legal foundation.

In 2011, 2012 and 2015 the ESA had informed you in writing that you were no longer entitled to call yourselves *Suzuki Teachers*.

Also, that you were not allowed to use the name of *Suzuki* in any other context.

The German Suzuki Association has, by initiating proceedings at the German Patent and Trademark Office, now resolved the issue. After four years altogether, the German Federal Patent Court has now passed judgement at the highest level, which became legally binding yesterday.

**This means that you – the German Suzuki Association members – have the following rights at present:**

1. You may call yourselves *Suzuki Teachers*.
2. You may use the term *Suzuki Method*.
3. You may organise and conduct lessons, workshops, and training courses under the name of *Suzuki*.

**However, you do not have the right to:**

The Suzuki logo, featuring the word "Suzuki" in a stylized, bold, serif font with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the upper right.

1. Refer to your Suzuki activities using the Suzuki “figurative mark” (with this particular design);
2. Have this lettering printed, for example, on t-shirts or similar garments, to wear it in public, let your students wear it, or use it otherwise;
3. Offer for sale or produce objects like violin shoulder rests, metronomes or piano stools carrying – irrespective of the figurative mark – the name of *Suzuki*.

The ESA had threatened hundreds of European Suzuki teachers to ban them from exercising their professional activities, unless they were members of the ESA or any other national association recognised by the ESA, should they use the name of *Suzuki* “without authorisation”.

The reason given for this decision had always been the trade mark ownership by the International Suzuki Association (ISA) and their right to the name of *Suzuki*, as well as the assertion that the ISA owned all rights to the name of *Suzuki*. This has been proved to be untrue.

**In Europe, the ISA trademark is valid only in connection with the figurative mark shown above.**

**Also, the ISA right to the name of Suzuki relates only to objects,**

**BUT NOT TO TEACHING ACTIVITIES.**

Any statements to the contrary on the ISA and ESA homepages and in the ESA journal no. 32, 2012, **are wrong.**

We are pleased to be able to put an end to this state of uncertainty which the ESA had wrongfully brought about among our members for years.

Should you have any questions on this matter, you may address the German Suzuki Association by e-mail (dsg.pieck@gmail.com).

Wishing you successful and untroubled working conditions in the field of pedagogy for the future,

Yours,

***The Board of the German Suzuki Association***

Site language

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**CTM****CTM-ONLINE - Detailed trade mark information**

- Overview
- Trade mark
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- Description of the mark
- Owner
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- Exhibition priority
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**CTM-ONLINE - Detailed trade mark information**

**Trade mark name :** Suzuki  
**Trade mark No :** 003969342  
**Trade mark basis:** CTM  
**Number of results:** 1 of 1

[Online Inspection Request form \(for MyPage users with current account only\)](#)



**Trade mark**

**Filing date:** 29/07/2004  
**Date of registration:** 21/10/2005  
**Expiry Date:** 29/07/2014  
**Nice Classification:** 9, 16, 41 ([Nice classification](#))  
**Trade mark:** Individual  
**Type of mark:** Figurative  
**Vienna Classification:** 27.5.1 ([Vienna Classification](#))  
**Acquired distinctiveness:** No  
**Applicant's reference:** RA/EG/T45899EM  
**Status of trade mark:** [CTM registered](#) ([Glossary](#))  
 CTM registration published (B1)   
 ([Publication B1 or Publication B2](#))  
 ([History of statuses](#))

**Filing language:** English  
**Second language:** French

**Graphic representation** 
**List of goods and services**

**Nice Classification:** 9  
**List of goods and services** Musical recordings; musical audio-visual recordings; computer programs relating to music; educational computer programs; downloadable musical recordings; electronic publications.

**Nice Classification:** 16  
**List of goods and services** Printed publications; books, magazines, periodicals, manuals and catalogues; printed music; sheet music; musical scores; paper, pads and books for musical notations.

**Nice Classification:** 41  
**List of goods and services** Musical, educational and instructional services; tutorials, courses, seminars and lessons relating to music; musical entertainment services; music publishing services.

**Description**

**Description of the mark:** -

**Owner**

**Name:** International Suzuki Association  
**ID No:** 200679  
**Natural or legal person:** Legal entity  
**Address:** 212 S. Cottonwood Drive,  
**Post code:** 75080  
**Town:** Richardson,  
**Country:** UNITED STATES  
**Correspondence address:** INTERNATIONAL Suzuki Association 212 S. Cottonwood Drive,  
 Richardson, Texas 75080 ESTADOS UNIDOS (DE AMERICA)

**Representative**

**Name:** KILBURN & STRODE LLP  
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**Seniority** 

No entry for application number: 003969342.

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**Exhibition priority** 

No entry for application number: 003969342

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**Priority** 

No entry for application number: 003969342.

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**Publication** 

**Bulletin no.:** [✚ 2005/018](#)  
**Date of publication:** 02/05/2005  
**Part:** A.1

**Bulletin no.:** [✚ 2005/048](#)  
**Date of publication:** 28/11/2005  
**Part:** B.1

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**Opposition** 

No entry for application number: 003969342.

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**Cancellation** 

No entry for application number: 003969342

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**Appeals** 

No entry for application number: 003969342.

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**Recordals** 

**Title:** Representative  
**Sub-title:** Change of name and professional address  
**ID No:** 003783779  
**Bulletin no.:** [✚ 2009/013](#)  
**Date of publication:** 14/04/2009  
**Part:** C.2.1

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**Renewals** 

No entry for application number: 003969342.



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Version: 9.2.0