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Thank you for reading the September 2023 issue of Sterne Kessler's MarkIt to Market® newsletter. This month, we discuss the significant revisions to the FTC's guidelines for endorsements and examine the benefits of design patent protection as a companion to trademark protection, specifically in the context of trade dress and graphical user interface designs.

Our <u>Trademark & Brand Protection practice</u> here at Sterne Kessler is devoted to guiding companies of all sizes in developing and maintaining strong brands around the world. There is always something new and exciting happening in our unique IP niche, and we bring you updates each month to help you keep on top of it all. Thanks for your readership. If there is something you would like us to cover, please don't hesitate to reach out to us and let us know! In This Issue: > FTC Guidelines Influence How Influencers Influence

> How Design Patents
Can Complement
Brands' Trademark
Portfolios

Kind Regards,

Monica Riva Talley Editor

### **FTC Guidelines Influence How**

#### Influencers Influence

By: James "Jamie" P. Hanly

While social media influencers were showing off pictures from the Amalfi Coast this summer, the



Federal Trade Commission (FTC) was finalizing its guidelines regarding the endorsements that paid for their vacations in Italy.

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# How Design Patents Can Complement Brands' Trademark Portfolios

By: Em Richardson

Many brand owners are familiar with the value of registered trademarks, which safeguard the goodwill cultivated between mark holders and consumers by reducing confusion as to the source of the associated goods. However, owners may not appreciate another type of intellectual property right that can complement their trademark portfolios: design patents.

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