

Newsletter April 2010

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China Celebrated 25th Anniversary of Patent Law

April 1 this year witnessed the 25th anniversary of implementing the Chinese Patent Law. In the past 25 years, successful implementation of IP system rendered tremendous contribution to the development of the Chinese economy and society.

China received merely 14,000 patent applications in 1985, in contrast to 977,000 filed in 2009. As of February 28, 2010, China has received cumulative 5.95 million patent applications and granted 3.17 million patents. After becoming a member state of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in 1994, filings by Chinese nationals soared from only 103 in 1994 to 8,000 in 2009, leaping to the fifth position in the world. By the end of 2009, China has received a total of 33,600 international applications. From 1985 to the end of 2009, nationwide local IP administrations had received a total of 17,894 patent disputes and handled 12,679 cases of counterfeit patents.

http://www.sipo.gov.cn/sipo_English/news/iprspecial/201004/t20100406_510539.html

Patent officers of China, America, Japan, Korea and Europe held Meeting

The five patent offices of China, America, Europe, Japan and Korea have 80% of the patent applications in the world according to the statistics of WIPO; this was learnt from the third Meeting of China State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), European Patent Office (EPO), Japan Patent Office (JPO) and Korea Intellectual Property Office (KIPO).

Along with the economic globalization, the world's patent applications are increasing continuously, and the five offices are facing the challenge of the dramatic increase of work and backlog of patents pending files. In order to avoid the unnecessary work among the five offices and strengthen the efficiency and quality of patent examination, the five offices planned to carry out patent examination operation in 2007. This is the third session of the five offices' meeting, the previous two sessions were held in May 2007 and October 2008 in Hawaii of US and Cheju Island of Korea, respectively.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/639703.shtml

Faster Trademark Examination Boost Strategy Implementation

According to the State Administration of Industry and Commerce (SAIC), in 2009, SAIC examined 114,700 (88.69%) more trademark applications over its original goal of 1.3 million. The examination period has cut to 17 months. It effectively strengthens the implementation of trademark strategy.

In 2009, SAIC reached its historic high in examining, climbing to 830,500 and ranking No.1 in the world for eight years in a row. As of the end of 2009, China has become the top trademark power house in the world, with sweeping No.1s of numbers of applications, applications examined and living registered trademarks.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/640578.shtml

2010 China IPR Protection Plan issued

To promote the implementation of National IPR Strategy in 2010, the 28 national IPR organizational members had a meeting on National Intellectual Property Strategy and instituted 2010 National IPR Strategy Implementation Plan (hereinafter referred to as 2010 Implementation Plan), which was printed and carried out as of March 26. On

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the basis of the summary of IPR strategy implementation in 2009, 2010 Implementation Plan defined the emphasis in implementing National IPR Strategy.

2010 Implementation Plan put forwards specific measures from nine aspects, i.e. elevating IPR creation capability, spurring IPR transformation and utilization, quickening IPR legal system construction, raising IPR law enforcement level, enhancing IPR administrative management, exploiting IPR agency service, strengthening IPR talent construction, boosting IPR cultural building and enlarging IPR foreign exchange and cooperation.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/637962.shtml

Patent protection crucial to foreign R&D

Foreign high-tech investment in China remains robust as the nation continues to be the first choice for multinational R&D, Qian Fangli, deputy director of Foreign Investment Department of Commerce, said at a forum hosted by the Quality Brands Protection Committee (QBPC) discussed how to protect innovation and continue to attract international R&D investment.

Foreign investment accounted for 29.4 percent of the total in the high-tech sector in the first three quarters of last year. More multinationals have established R&D facilities in China as their business centers in the Asia-Pacific region or upgraded them as global R&D centers. Efforts at increasing innovation should not only focus on the number of patent applications, but also pay more attention to the quality of products.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/633581.shtml

Enhance the Sports Industry's IP Innovation, Application, Protection and Management Level

The State Council recently released the Guidance on Accelerating the Development of Sports Industry. It explicitly stated that the development and protection of intangible assets of sports industry should be enhanced and the sports industry's IP innovation, application, protection and management level should be improved.

Guidance pointed out the need to strengthen the development, management and protection of sports industry's intangible assets including names of sports events and activities, as well as logos. Sports enterprises should enhance sports product's brand building and promote trademark strategy so as to increase the added value and enhance the market competitiveness of sports products.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/635749.shtml

Judicial interpretation on patent and trademark rights grants and determinations to be drafted out

2010 China IPR Protection Action Plan elaborated 164 concrete measures and disclosed that the Supreme People's Court will draft out judicial interpretation for the trial of the cases involving patent and trademark rights grants and determinations.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/640321.shtml

NCAC combats pirated audio and video products

It is learnt from National Copyright Administration (NCAC) on April 15 that the copyright law enforcement departments in the whole country successively took 209,716 enforcement actions, inspected 65,517 business locations with audio and video products, totally banned 3,238 illegal stalls, captured 3,071,092 pirated audio and video products and investigated 404 cases.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/640442.shtml

GAC investigates 280 million pieces of infringing products

General Administration of Customs (GAC) publicized on April 19 that, in 2009, the customs adopted the measure of suspension to a total of 67,000 batches of import and export products suspected of infringing intellectual property rights, and actually captured 66,000 batches, which were increased by 4.1 times and 5 times respectively compared with 2008; the value was 450 million yuan and increased by 53%. The export products still accounted for the majority viewing from the recent captured infringing products.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/641774.shtml