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China supports foreign applications for patent protection of SMEs

Secretary General of China Intellectual Property Research Institution Zhang Yuncai said in an interview that many China's governmental departments are cooperating to support the SMEs to apply the patent protection in foreign countries, and to provide the safeguards of policies, laws and finance for the overseas IPR maintenance of Chinese enterprises.

Zhang Yuncai introduced that, China has set up about 50 overseas IPR maintenance centers. In order to solve the capital problem of SMEs, The Chinese Finance Department will allocate special funds with 100 million yuan to aid SMEs to apply for foreign patents.

Zhang expressed that, in recent years, China's IP legal system has continuously moved closer to related international laws and regulations, and now has not lagged behind the developed countries. Meanwhile, China's ability on patent administrative law enforcement has continuously enhanced which provides favorable IP environment for the investment, trade and R&D of foreign invested enterprises.

<http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/677511.shtml>

10th China Patent and Hi-tech Products Expo opened

On the morning of June 23, the 10th China Patent and Hi-tech Products Expo was opened in Qufu. The director of State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) Tian Lipu and other related departments' leaders were present at the opening ceremony. The theme of the expo is "innovation, cooperation and development", which aims at combining the innovative resources, integration of production, and platform of S&T financing to accelerate the industrialization of hi-tech industries and boost the transformation of technical innovation, patent technologies and S&T achievements to production. It also intends to construct the exhibition and trade of both patents and high technologies, as well as emphasis teaching and research, including to attract talents..

<http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/670985.shtml>

SIPO undertakes analysis and forewarning in 9 tech areas

Lately, it is learnt from the start-up conference on patent analysis and forewarning held by the leading group office for the patent analysis and forewarning of State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) that, this year, SIPO will kick off the projects for patent analysis and forewarning in 9 areas including integrated circuit packaging and key equipments. Deputy Director of SIPO He Hua and Gan Shaoning were present at the conference and issued credit certificates to the excellent people in the projects in 2009.

The goals for the SIPO work on patent analysis and forewarning are to boost the technical innovation of China, keep away the patent risks in industrialization of big projects, avoid repeated investment, enhance the starting point of the research, and accelerate the cooperative development of economy and S&T. In the past two years, SIPO has finished 15 patent analysis and forewarning projects, such as LED lighting, high-end optical preetching machine, pure electric vehicle motor, photovoltaic, and wind power. Some achievements of the projects offered supports to related governmental policies. This year's 9 projects are held by 6 examining departments of SIPO including those for electrical invention and chemical invention.

<http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/government/669412.shtml>

Copyright protection forums to be held in HK in August

Two forums on strengthening copyright protection in the digital environment will be held in August, Hong Kong's Commerce and Economic Development Bureau said Monday.

Stakeholders including copyright owners, online service providers and academia will attend the forums, according to a bulletin released by the Information Service Department of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's government.

The first forum will be held in the city's Museum of Art's lecture hall from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 7. The second forum will be held at the Hong Kong Central Library's lecture hall from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Aug. 23.

<http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/news/headlines/678958.shtml>

The Patent Information Annual Conference of China to be Held in Beijing

The Patent Information Annual Conference of China (PIAC China, http://www.cnipr.com/piac/index_eng.html), hosted by the State Intellectual Property Office of the P.R.C and organized by the Intellectual Property Publishing House, will be held in Beijing from September 8-9 for the first time, and thereafter on an annual basis.

PIAC China aims to establish an international communication platform for national IP offices, patent information users, patent information service providers, patent attorneys, and other IP organizations. In addition to the main conference sessions, participants will be able to participate in specific topic discussions in workshops, and focused training courses. Alongside the conference there will be an IP-based products and services exhibition.

http://www.sipo.gov.cn/sipo_English/news/official/201006/t20100624_523016.html

SIPO Issues a Report on Overseas IP Environment

On July 7, an international IP environment forum aiming to guide companies to safeguard their overseas rights and providing public welfare IP information to them was held at Beijing. Six experts from domestic and abroad delivered wonderful speeches on the U.S., Japan and ASEAN's IP environment, the U.S. ITC 337 investigation practice, IP risk assessment in foreign trade, and how to respond accordingly.

At the forum, the first group of reports on foreign IP environment were issued by SIPO. Four reports on the U.S. and Europe were in the center of attention. Because of its universality and practicality, the report will be provided to governments and companies in need for free. Some reports on IP environment of Japan and South Korea will also be issued this year.

http://www.sipo.gov.cn/sipo_English/news/official/201007/t20100716_525616.html

Microsoft Settles Software Piracy Dispute Against CITIC-Kington

Microsoft Corporation settled its software piracy dispute with CITIC-Kington, who agreed to purchase 3.23 million yuan (476,753 U.S. dollars) worth of software from Microsoft Thursday, said local court officials on Friday.

Microsoft sued CITIC-Kington Securities Co., Ltd. for operating nine types of 958 copies of unlicensed Microsoft software worth over 2 million yuan at Hangzhou Intermediate People's Court in October 2009, according to prosecutors.

However, the two companies settled the case out of court. As part of the settlement, CITIC-Kington will purchase 3.23 million yuan in software from Microsoft. The two companies also agreed to cooperate on software asset management and IT management.

Yu Weidong, Microsoft China's senior director on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues, said that settling a lawsuit and building long-term partnerships were an important way for Microsoft to handle IPR issues.

CITIC-Kington declined to comment on the lawsuit.

CITIC-Kington Securities Co., Ltd. was funded by CITIC Securities Co., Ltd. in Hangzhou in September 2006 with a registered capital of 885 million yuan.

http://www.sipo.gov.cn/sipo_English/news/iprspecial/201007/t20100719_526352.html