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SAIC to Combat Malicious Trademark Registration and Free Riding

China's State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC) will take an active approach in governing domestic food market and improving market owner registration procedures.

Local AICs are urged to fully comply with applicable legislations, including laws and regulations on trademark, advertising, anti-monopoly and unfair competition, to give full play of their role as a market regulator and administrative enforcement executor.

To be more specific, malicious trademark registration, as well as any form of monopoly, abuse of market dominance and free riding of food trademarks, will be severely combated.

An effort will also be made to guide and monitor mass media advertising to avoid over exaggeration of therapeutic effect of ordinary food.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/governme nt/201307/1765902_1.html

Intellectual Property Rights Cases in the Half of 2013 Increased

It is the 5th anniversary for China to implement the national intellectual property strategy. Procuratorial organs at various levels conscientiously perform their duties of investigation and prosecution in this regard and exercising legal supervision over judicial activities in line with law, thus handling a number of IPR infringement criminal cases. The organs have approved arrest of 19,786 criminal suspects and prosecuted 29,481 from 2008 to 2012. In the first half of 2013, procuratorial organs nationwide have approved arrest of 2,176 criminal suspects.

Crimes were typically committed by natural persons, featured by joint offence, geographical distribution, hidden means of commitment and difficult investigation.

Trademark infringements outstand among others, accounting for 80% of all IPR infringement cases.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/governme nt/201308/1768860_1.html

Supreme People's Procuratorate Calls for Cooperation on IPR Cases

National prosecutors have charged 3,805 suspects with infringements of intellectual property rights in 2,253 cases between January to June, according to the Supreme People's Procuratorate.

The majority of the cases occurred in economically developed areas and involved individuals who know how to exploit intellectual property rights in a stealth manner. SPP will strengthen cooperation with judicial organs in handling such cases and enhance supervision to make sure such cases are handled legally.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/governme nt/201308/1769598_1.html

Court Hands Down Milestone Ruling on Trade Secrets

A Shanghai court recently issued the country's first ban on the circulation of trade secrets.

A US Drug Company filed the lawsuit with Shanghai No 1 Intermediate People's Court against a former employee surnamed Huang for violating the company's confidentiality agreement. Huang downloaded 21 documents containing the company's business secrets without authorization and was discovered later.

The court judged in favor of the company, the first ruling of its kind under a revised Civil Procedure Law enacted on Jan 1, 2013.

The civil ruling from the Shanghai court will be precedent for imposing a ban on circulation of trade secrets nationwide. It marks a significant step toward bringing the nation in line with advanced international practices.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=6104>

China's First Intellectual Property Service Alliance Established in Zhongguancun

On July 30, a ceremony was held in Zhongguancun Science Park (often referred to as "China's Silicon Valley") which marked the establishment of China's first intellectual property service alliance. More than 400 representatives attended this ceremony and a total of 53 intellectual property service companies become members of this alliance. In addition, the Beijing Intellectual Property Bureau and seven commercial banks signed a strategic cooperation agreement for intellectual property financing.

It is said that the establishment of the alliance is a valuable attempt for Zhongguancun to vitalize existing resources for innovative development, and it is a giant step to realize a cluster effect for intellectual property services. Meanwhile, it is hoped that it can facilitate the development of emerging industries with strategic importance by offering professional and quality service for Zhongguancun companies.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201308/t20130805_811124.html

Asia-Pacific IPR CBD Starts Construction in Zhangjiang Pudong

As an important carrier for Shanghai to become a center for Asia-Pacific intellectual property rights, Asia-Pacific IPR CBD began constructed recently. It is promoted, invested, constructed by private enterprises and will better utilize IPR projects, scientific and technological findings, and non-government capital in the future.

The whole project is to be completed through three phases. Phase one is infrastructure construction, phase two is the creation of an IPR competent personal training base, and phase three includes an industrialization base.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201307/t20130731_810314.html

China and Sweden Strengthen Cooperation on Copyright Protection

Chinese delegation leading by Mr. Yan Xiaohong, Deputy Director of the General Administration of Press and Publication (GAPP) and Deputy Director of the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC), visited Sweden and other European countries. During the meeting with Swedish side, he introduced China's achievements in copyright legislation and enforcement as well as outcomes in copyright collective management. Both sides conducted in-depth exchanges on China's revised copyright law and copyright protection and the entry into Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances, among others.

Both countries found common ground in the fundamental system and philosophy of copyright, which would allow further exchanges and cooperation.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=6093>

Video Conference between China and Russia to Combat Piracy

Chinese and Russia have signed an agreement to target piracy and enhance capacity building. Officials from Intellectual property (IP) administrations in China and Russia further discussed on potential cooperation to combat pirated products via video conference.

By far, enforcement authorities have cracked down upon 233 such illegal production lines, and have shut down or punished another eight enterprises bearing lawful business certificates but involved in piracy production.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/chinaword/201307/1766656_1.html

Fifth PCT Seminar Tour Held in Beijing and Xi'an

From June 17 to 21, the Fifth Seminar Tour of Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) was held successfully in Beijing and Xi'an, co-sponsored by SIPO (State Intellectual Property Office) and WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization). Nearly 300 representatives from industry associations,

enterprises, scientific research institutes, colleges and universities, and agencies attended the seminars. Extensive and deep discussions were unfolded on issues such as PCT system and its advantage, submission of PCT applications, priority claims, functions of receiving office and agency, and correcting defects related with application submission. This has brought in new vision and thinking of protecting their own rights in the overall international patent system for enterprises and practitioners.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201307/t20130724_809290.html

First IP Workshop among China, Japan and South Korea Kicks Out in Beijing

Co-hosted by China Intellectual Property Society, Intellectual Property Association of Japan and Korea Industrial Property Law Association, the first IP workshop among China, Japan and South Korea was organized by the Academic Advisory Committee of China Intellectual Property Society and was addressed by deputy commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office Gan Shaoning, among others.

During the one-day workshop, experts and other participants from the three countries actively exchanged ideas on the latest development of respective IP legal systems, among other hotspot topics.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/chinaworld/201307/1766644_1.html

2013 Survey on Global IP Firms Kicks Off

China IP and China Daily officially co-launched the 2nd "Survey on Global IP Service Firms." Factors such as agencies strength, scale, personnel structure, featured services, and China-related business status, are included in the survey. Based on the statistics and opinions collected from the survey, a report and a firm ranking list will be compiled to assist readers. Existing statistics and the results from last year will also be taken into consideration. China IP hopes to build an information platform to connect Chinese enterprises with elite international IP firms.

Results of the survey will initially be released at the 4th China IP Annual Forum through a number of media. It will also be published in both the English and Chinese edition of the magazine.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=6067>