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China Sees 565,000 Invention Patent Applications in First Half of 2017

A total of 565,000 applications for invention patents were handled in China in the first half of 2017, statistics from the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) showed.

The number was a 6.1 percent rise on a yearly basis, as 209,000 invention patents were issued, according to the statistics.

Also, more than 20,000 applications for Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) were submitted by Chinese applicants via the SIPO over the first six months of the year, an increase of 15.3 percent on a yearly basis.

Of the 8,837 cases involving patent disputes, while 8,666 related to patent infringement.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201707/t20170721_1312803.html

The Top 500 Valuable Brands Released in Beijing

Based on financial data, brand strength and analysis of consumer behaviors, the top 500 valuable Chinese brands in 2017 were released in Beijing a few weeks ago.

The State Grid Corporation of China ranked 1st, and its brand value is considered to reach 329.887 billion RMB. Tencent (325.112 billion RMB), Haier (291.896 billion RMB), China Life Insurance Co. (287.156 billion RMB) and Huawei (255.982 billion RMB) also enter the top 5. They were not only national brands in China, but also global brands.

The value of the top 500 valuable brands in 2017 amounts to 15558.006 billion RMB,

increasing by 17.25% (an increase of 2288.376 billion RMB).

As for the distribution of the top 500 brands in China, Beijing had 96 brands, ranking 1st, mainly because headquarters of central enterprises with profitability were concentrated in Beijing. Guangdong came in the second with 88 brands and Shandong was placed as the third with 45 brands. There were 441 brands with nationwide influence, taking up 88.20% of the total. The number of brands with worldwide influence was 49.

The top 500 brands covered 25 industries, including food and beverage (of 82 brands), light industry (65), building materials (41), media (34), automobile (33) and so on.

<http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/article/centralgovernment/201706/1907657.html>

IPO-EGYPO PPH Pilot Program Launched on July 1, 2017

According to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Cooperation between the SIPO and the Egyptian Patent Office (EGYPO) has launched on July 1, 2017 for two years until June 30, 2019.

After the launch of the SIPO-EGYPO PPH pilot program, the applicant may submit a PPH request to SIPO following the Procedures to file a request to SIPO for PPH Pilot Program between SIPO and EGYPO ([link](#)), or submit a PPH request to EGYPO following the Procedures to file a request to EGYPO for PPH Pilot Program between EGYPO and SIPO ([link](#)).

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201706/t20170630_1312342.html

Unified PPH Request Form Adopted by 19 PPH Authorities

SIPO joined other IP Offices complete a unified PPH request form. Based on this project, IP authorities from different countries co-designed a unified PPH request form template for use by all participating parties.

By June 30, 2017, the template has been applied by related IP departments of 19 countries and regions including China, Europe, Sweden, Finland, Austria, Israel, Hungary, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Australia, the United States, Russia, Canada, Denmark, the United Kingdom, South Korea, Japan and Egypt.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201707/t20170713_1312550.html

Police's Efforts to Ensure IP Rights Protection for All

At the conference of the Quality Brands Protection Committee of the China Association of Enterprises with Foreign Investment in June, a deputy director of the Economic Crime Investigation Bureau of the Ministry of Public Security, the nation's top police authority, addressed that the police authorities, as judicial law enforcement, are the "last barrier" to protect intellectual property rights and they will give equal protection to domestic and foreign right holders.

The ministry and many local police forces have also established cooperation with IP rights owners and industry association. The ministry has also established IP criminal enforcement cooperation mechanisms with 35 international law enforcement agencies, such as the International Criminal Police Organization, and has participated in the investigation of more than 40 international cases in the past two years.

Since 2011, the public security authorities nationwide have investigated about 190,000 criminal cases on IP infringement and the manufacturing and sales of counterfeit and

substandard goods, involving total potential value of 120 billion yuan (\$17.5 billion).

Among those cases, 2,400 were under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Security and all of them have concluded.

The ministry's most closely scrutinized areas include counterfeit food, medicines, farming materials and clothes, passing-off patents and trade secrets violations.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201706/t20170629_1312328.html

IP Development Situation Evaluation Report Revealed Comprehensive Developments in 2016

The SIPO recently issued the 2016 China IP Development Situation Evaluation Report, which shows that China IP comprehensive development index has been improving stably since 2010, doubled from 100 points in 2010 to 200.3 points in 2016.

In parallel to the steady increase in the number of IP rights, IP protection index sees a significant increase, from 100 points in 2010 to 216.6 points in 2016. In 2016, 48,916 cases are handled by patent administrative law enforcement, up 36.5% year-on-year. Valid customs recordation for IPR reaches 27,873, up 25.9% year-on-year.

Also, China enjoyed a higher rate of IP utilization. Software export rose from 26.7 billion US dollars in 2010 to 49.5 billion US dollars in 2016.

Trademark pledge financing rose from 14.5 billion yuan in 2010 to 65 billion yuan in 2016.

It is also noticeable that the patent commercialization rate stood at 46.0%; the number of transfer of patent filing right and patent right headed 137,897, 23.1 times as 2010. Patent pledge rose from 8.06 billion yuan in 2010 to 43.6 billion yuan in 2016.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201706/t20170623_1312222.html