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On July 3, 6, 12, 13, and 18, TIPO held its 2018 seminars on IPR practices in Taipei, Taichung, Tainan, Kaohsiung, and Hsinchu, respectively. Materials from the meetings are now available on TIPO website. Topics covered at the seminars include the draft amendment to the Patent Act; analysis of evidence for the examination on the invalidity of patents; an introduction to the Taiwan Global Patent Search System (GPSS); and tips about patent and trademark application. A total of 63 pieces of feedback...

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For presentation and seminar materials, please visit:
<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=674606&ctNode=7127&mp=1>

For questions and feedback from participants and TIPO's corresponding responses, please visit:
<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=675847&ctNode=7127&mp=1>



TIPO holds a working-level meeting with the KIPO

On July 12, TIPO held its fourth working-level meeting with the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) in Taipei. Senior Deputy Director Jinyong Lee and Deputy Director Jun-Jae Lee of the KIPO took part in the meeting, and exchanged views and experiences with their Taiwanese counterparts on issues such as the Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) system, trade secrets protection measures, as well as the protection regime for IP in general. The two sides were satisfied about the fruitful results achieved at this exchange meeting and looked forward to next working-level meetings in the future to continue their discussion on issues of mutual concern.



Patent and trademark applicants failed to comply within a statutory period for their application as a result of the Typhoon Maria may apply for a reinstatement

According to Article 17 of the Patent Act, Article 12 of the Enforcement Rules of the Patent Act, Article 8 of the Trademark Act, and Article 9 of the Enforcement Rules of the Trademark Act, in the event when an applicant of a patent or trademark fails to comply within a statutory period, if such delay is caused by a natural calamity, then the applicant may apply for a reinstatement. As such, for patent or trademark applicants who failed to comply within a statutory period for their application as a result of the typhoon that hit Taiwan on July 10 and resulted in the cancel of work in certain counties or cities on July 11, if they apply for a reinstatement, TIPO will have a review of the applications and make the final decision on a case-by-case basis.



TIPO has uploaded the new version of IPC on its website

TIPO has uploaded the new version of the International Patent Classification (IPC) (2018.01) on its website. Applications made after July 16 will be categorized in accordance with the new IPC. Items printed in the Patent Gazette and the Patent Application Publication Gazette will also be categorized in accordance with the latest IPC, starting from August 11, 2018 and October 1, 2018, respectively.

For more information, Please visit:

<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=673206&ctNode=7127&mp=1>



TIPO releases IPR statistics for the first half of 2018

In the first half of 2018, TIPO received a total of 35,293 applications for invention, utility model, and design patents, a 1 percent drop from the same period last year. Among them, the number of invention patent applications has been on the rise for six seasons in a row.

For invention patent applications, by nationality of applicants, 8,408 applications were filed by Taiwanese nationals while 14,075 ones filed by foreigners, representing a 4 and 2 percent year-on-year increase, as well as a positive growth for the seventh consecutive season and a turn toward positive growth in the season, respectively. By nationality of applicants of foreign origins, Japan topped the list with 6,378 applications, followed by the US (3,263).

As for invention patent applications by domestic companies, the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC) came top with 345 applications, followed by AU Optronics (AUO) (244), MediaTek Inc. (177), Acer (163), and Hon Hai (138). TSMC has reclaimed the top spot again, with a 5 percent increase from the same period of last year. Other companies made it on to the top ten list include Pegatron Corporation and HTC, showing great growth potential with their 156 and 146 percent year-on-year increase, respectively. For applications by foreign companies, Qualcomm topped the list with 585 applications, followed by Applied Materials (229), Alibaba Group Holding Limited (213), Tokyo Electron Limited (TEL) (193), and Nitto Denko (156). Qualcomm outperformed its peers by an increase of 120 percent in this period.

In the meantime, the number of new applications for trademark registration (42,156) in the first half of 2018 has risen 4 percent from the same period last year, representing a seventh consecutive season of growth. Among them, 29,885 applications were filed by Taiwanese

nationals while 12,271 ones filed by foreigners, representing a 0.5 percent decrease and an 18 percent increase, respectively. By nationality of applicants of foreign origins, mainland China topped the list with 2,742 applications, followed by Japan (2,273), the US (2,089), Hong Kong (814), and South Korea (675). Figures of all of countries on the top-five list have all shown positive growth, with mainland China outperforming its peers with a 32 percent rise.



TIPO holds an information session on Fintech patents and relevant core technologies

Originated in the United States, the Fintech industry has been booming for many years. Lately, its popularity has spread to Asia, and the financial operators in Taiwan have started to play a part in the development of financial technologies in the past two years. As patents play a critical role in the protection of financial technologies, it is of great importance to make people more become aware of Fintech-related patent laws, how to make use of the patent system for the protection of Fintech-related innovations, as well as how to expand their patent portfolios on this front.

When it comes to expanding patent portfolios in the Fintech industry, currently Taiwanese businesses focus largely on the field of payment infrastructure and financial insurance. To help Taiwanese industry, government, and academia gain a better understanding about the development of Fintech patents, TIPO held an information session on Fintech patents and relevant core technologies on July 18. The first part of the event focused on trends regarding Fintech patents, with analysis and observation made concerning Fintech industries around the world in terms of their developments and the fields of relevant patent applications. In the second part, the discussion shifted towards the situation of Fintech patent application in Taiwan. Illustrations were made by providing real-world examination examples regarding Fintech patent applications. A total of about 120 people showed up for the event. Animated discussions have taken place, making the event a great opportunity for people to learn more about the development and trends of Fintech-related patents in Taiwan and foreign countries.

For presentation files used as the information session, please visit:
<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=674393&ctNode=7127&mp=1>



TIPO holds a seminar on the application of blockchain technology for the digital content industry

To help practitioners of the digital content industry and the public gain a better understanding of how to apply blockchain technology to the said industry, as well as the possible business models, legal issues, and relevant real-world examples on this front, TIPO held a seminar on August 1, where experts from the Branche International IP Law Firm of Japan as well as the Science and Technology Law Institute of the Institute for Information Industry (III) of Taiwan were invited to share their knowledge on relevant situations in Taiwan and Japan. About 150 people showed up for the event. Animated discussions have taken place, making the event a great opportunity for people in relevant industries to learn more about blockchain technologies as well as how the future might unfold for the sector.

For presentation files used as the information session, please visit:
<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=681092&ctNode=7127&mp=1>



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Ministry of Economic Affairs R.O.C.

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