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The workshop has a special focus on trade secrets investigations and prosecutions in practice. US experts shared their experiences in a number of fields, including the investigation and prosecution methods of complex scientific and technological trade secrets crimes, the consideration of trade secrets cases involving both civil and criminal proceedings, trade secrets charging decisions, determining the amount of damage awarded, as well as related real-world cases. Animated discussions have taken place between participating Taiwanese law enforcement officers and US expert lecturers, showing that the event has provided much food for thought and inspiration for local judiciary personnel in how they can carry out trade secrets investigations and prosecutions in the future.



TIPO holds World IP Day celebrations on April 24, 2018

This year, the World IP Day is celebrated under the theme: “Powering Change: Women in Innovation and Creativity”. As part of its celebration, TIPO jointly worked with the Taiwan International Federation of Creative and Technology (TIFOCAT), the Music Copyright Society of Chinese Taipei (MÜST), and the AIT, and invited outstanding female experts and artists from the invention, movie, music, and literature communities to share how they create, as well as their views as to how innovation can continue boosting Taiwan's industries. The talks were entertaining and interesting. Many people took part in the event where IP awareness was also promoted.



An EU-Taiwan seminar on IP capacity building for SMEs and academic and research institutions takes place on April 25

On April 25, 2018, TIPO, the European Economic and Trade Office (EETO), and the European Business and Regulatory Cooperation programme in Taiwan (EBRC), jointly held the 2018 EU-Taiwan Seminar on IP Capacity Building for SMEs and Academic and Research Institutions. The conference featured presentations by experts from both the EU and Taiwan, including Mr. Benoît Lory, minister counsellor, the EU Delegation in Beijing; Mr. Jorg Weberndorfer, IP Senior Expert, DG Trade, European Commission; Mr. Ignacio de Medrano, EUIPO Project Leader of IP cooperation programmers ECAP(Arise+) and IP Key in South-East Asia, based in Bangkok.; Ms. Aida Balbuena-Diez, Project Officer of the China IPR SME Helpdesk under the European Commission; Deputy Director-General Tu Chun-yi of the Department of Academia-Industry Collaboration and Science Park Affairs of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Business Manager Joseph Wang of the Technology Transfer and Law Center of the Industrial Technology Research Institute; Deputy Director-General Gloria Wu of the Science & Technology Law Institute of the Institute for Information Industry; COO Aileen Chang of the Wispro Technology Consulting Corporation; and Director Kao Tso-liang of the Information Service Division of TIPO.

A total of about 200 people from industry, government, academia, and research institutions showed up for the event, and heated discussions have taken place throughout the sessions

In the conference, the European experts shared EU academic plans, strategies to support SMEs to innovate and grow by making use of IPs, as well as its practices to support SMEs to safeguard their IP rights in mainland China and Southeast Asian countries; while Taiwanese experts shared Taiwan's strategies and practices to promote cooperation between industry and academia, as well as its major measures and plans to support SMEs and academic and research institutions in their efforts to strengthen IP capacity.



TIPO is to hold three information sessions on copyright in the cultural and creative industry in May and June

To help business owners in the cultural and creative industry gain a better idea about copyright, TIPO is to hold three information sessions covering sectors such as audiovisual and music industry, and digital publishing, as well as topics such as image licensing in May and June. Famous business operators in the industry as well as professional lawyers will be invited to talk about their practical experiences and the Copyright Act. By so doing, it is hoped that makers in the cultural and creative industry will have a better understanding about copyright laws as well as their rights protected under this Act.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=667987&ctNode=7127&mp=1>



TIPO publishes amendments to Chapter 11 of Part Two of the Patent Examination Guidelines, which has come into effect on April 1

TIPO published amendments to Chapter 11 ("Extension of Patent Terms") of Part Two ("Substantive Examination of Invention Patents") of the Patent Examination Guidelines, which has come into effect on April 1.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=665046&ctNode=7127&mp=1>



Draft amendments to Articles 4, 37, and 40 of the Patent Attorney Act has been passed by the Executive Yuan, and is now sent to the Legislative Yuan for further review

Draft amendments to Articles 4, 37, and 40 of the Patent Attorney Act has been passed at a Cabinet meeting at the Executive Yuan on April 26, and is now sent to the Legislative Yuan for further review. In the amendment, provisions prescribing that those who have "been certified to be suffering from a mental disability or other physical or mental impairment ... shall not practice as a patent attorney or patent agent" have been removed, to be in line with Article 27 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. By making the change, persons with disabilities will enjoy equal rights to work, allowing them to develop and stand on their own two feet while demonstrating Taiwan's determination to safeguard rights and interests of people with disabilities.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=666094&ctNode=7127&mp=1>



The 2018 National Invention and Creation Award is now open for submissions

To promote innovation, encourage people to invent and create, boost industrial development, and make Taiwan more competitive on the international stage, TIPO is to hold the National Invention and Creation Award again in 2018. This year, the award is open for submissions from April 10 to June 25. It is open to inventors, creators, and designers who have obtained a valid patent within the past six years (that is, a patent granted between January 1, 2012, and December 31, 2017, and remains valid at least until June 25, will be eligible to enter the competition).

The National Invention and Creation Award is held by TIPO once every two years. The theme this year is "Flipping the future with innovative energies". By choosing top-quality patents and awarding excellent inventors, utility model creators, and designers, TIPO aims to fire the public's enthusiasm for innovations and creations, thereby flipping Taiwan's future and making it more competitive on the international stage with its innovative energies.

There are two categories in the award: the invention and the creation categories. The invention category is open to inventors who have obtained an invention patent in Taiwan over the past six years; while the creation one is open to creators or designers who have obtained a utility model patent or design patent within the same period. In addition, those who have taken part in the competition but did not win, and whose patent was valid within the past six years, are entitled to enter the award once again, bidding for mega grants.

Winners of the award, either in the invention or the creation category, will receive a trophy and an award from the Ministry of Economic Affairs in a public ceremony. In addition, each winner can receive a grant, ranging from NT\$100,000 to NT\$400,000, as the award offers a total of NT\$8.8 million grants. Moreover, winners will also have the opportunity to take part in the Taiwan Innotech Expo, to be held in September 2019, for free. The Taiwan Innotech Trade Expo is an exhibition that attracts more than 60 thousand visitors every year. It offers participants an excellent chance to engage with business operators home and abroad, thereby allowing them to seek greater business opportunities.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/ct.asp?xItem=663829&ctNode=7127&mp=1>



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Intellectual Property Office
Ministry of Economic Affairs R.O.C.

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