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Latest News

► 2015 World IP Day Celebration—Get up, stand up. For music

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► 2015 Cross-strait forum on trademark

Legislative News

► TIPO holds public hearing on extending design patent terms in Taiwan and introducing the system of deferring publication of patents

TIPO News & Events

► TIPO to hold information meetings on helping corporations increase their patent capacity and value

► Learn and have fun at TIPO's Facebook page

► Workshop on practices of patent e-filing

► IPR Trends Q1 2015: Patent and Trademark Statistics

Enforcement

► IPR Infringement Cases Processed by NPA in April 2015

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2015 Cross-strait forum on trademark



The 2015 cross-strait forum on trademark was held on April 23 in Taipei with an attendance of over 200 people from respective academic institutes, government agencies and industries. This year's event focused on the following topics: the establishment and operation of China's IP Court, new trademark laws and examination of immoral trademarks, analysis of cases involving the protection of well-known trademarks and trademarks with some degree of recognition, and cross-strait cooperation on development strategies of brand names. TIPO's Director General Wang, Mei-hua gave a welcome speech at the event, now in its 10th year, saying that this trademark forum over the years has led to many constructive discussions of each other's trademark legal regimes and contributed to the business sectors of both sides. The forum closed with Liu Junchen, Deputy Director of China's State Administration of Industry and Commerce, presenting a trademark registration certificate to Taiwan's "Slack Season Danzai Noodles Enterprise" and

announcing that the initial approval has been granted to the MIT Smile Mark. With years of cooperation now coming to fruition, the two sides across the strait will continue to work together on the basis of mutual trust to step up trademark protection, develop a platform for jointly-developed Chinese brand names, and ultimately create a mutually win-win situation.



TIPO holds public hearing on extending design patent terms in Taiwan and introducing the system of deferring publication of patents

In view of global trends and application strategies for domestic industries, TIPO held a public hearing on extending design patent terms and introducing the system of deferring publication of design patents. Scholars, experts, patent agents and applicants were invited to the event for discussion. TIPO proposed revising legislation to extend design patent term from the current 12 years to 15, explaining that the number of domestic design patents remaining effective after the 12th year is growing. In turn, this could greatly benefit SMEs in terms of their competitiveness while also keeping Taiwan's design patent regime in line with international norms. Seeing that this deferral of patent publication could to some extent impact domestic SMEs, the attendants suggested stalling its introduction but instead focusing on developing a system for requesting deferral of examination.



TIPO to hold information meetings on helping corporations increase their patent capacity and value



Following the information meeting on helping corporations strengthen their patent portfolios coorganized with associations for key technologies and regional industry-university cooperation centers in 2014, TIPO has made plans to hold 20 more meetings in 2015 to help corporations increase their patent capacity and value. These meetings will focus on MOEA's "Mittelstand companies," providing guidance through customized courses to corporations to stay current with the trends in technological development and to step up their patent R&D capacity and value. The three meetings coorganized with Chunghua Telecom Laboratories, HIWIN Technologies Corp., and Agricultural Technology Research Institute on April 14, 21, and 23 saw attendance of 260 people exchanging views on practical matters involving patent. Later on, TIPO will be holding other meetings at VIVOTEK Inc., Solar Technology Inc., Daxin Materials Corp., HIWIN Technologies Corp., and MPI Corp. In addition, with commercialization of R&D results and technology transfer gradually gaining momentum among universities and research institutes, TIPO will continue to work with industry associations, regional industry-university cooperation center, and research institutes to comprehensively uplift patent capacity and value.



Learn and have fun at TIPO's Facebook page

TIPO's new Facebook page now offers a wide array of informative and entertaining contents. These include ROC's first approved patent, an overview of comic book creator-inventor Liu Hsing-chin, patent commercialization news, analysis of future development in vehicles using new types of energy, patents involving innovative technologies, e-filing and seminar news. Visit TIPO's Facebook page and add us to your friend list now at <https://www.facebook.com/TIPO.gov.tw>.



Workshop on practices of patent e-filing

On April 28, TIPO held a workshop on the practices of patent e-filing to enable better understanding of its service and operation. The workshop addressed problems that could arise from e-filing. Legal experts from 23 law firms attended the event and had a round table with people from the business sector. For more inquiries or suggestions, contact us at 02-81769009 or tipoeservice@tipo.gov.tw.



IPR Trends Q1 2015: Patent and Trademark Statistics

The number of overall new patent applications filed in Q1 2015 concluded at 17,221, accounting for an 11.88% decrease from Q1 2014. Of these, the numbers of invention patents filed by Taiwan and foreign nationals were down by 12.23% and 12.41, respectively. Applications by domestic and foreign corporations saw Foxconn Technology Group and Intel Corporation consecutively topping the chart. The semiconductor industry was the fifth among top-ten patent filing industries. Also, the number of pending invention patent applications was down to 93,754. In trademark, the number of applications (17,379) remained unchanged as in Q1 2014. Of these, the number of applications (12,630) by Taiwan nationals saw a 3.23% drop whereas foreign applications (4,749) grew by 6.62%. The top three trademark filing countries in Taiwan were the US (888), mainland China (847), and Japan (801). The US's application number stayed the same as in Q1 2014 whereas China and Japan respectively grew by 50.71% and 6.09%. Detailed stats is now available at <http://www.tipo.gov.tw/lp.asp?CtNode=7123&CtUnit=3195&BaseDSD=7&mp=1> .



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