Latest News

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE

TIPO announced the draft amendments to the Trademark Act

To make sure the Trademark Act fits the country's practice needs, starting from 2018, TIPO has been drafting amendments to the Act. Two consultation meetings, one attended by invited experts and scholars and the other on trademark examination quality, as well as a public hearing on the draft amendments to the Trademark Act, were held. Upon analyzing the suggestions provided by all circles of society on the public hearing on October 15, 2019, TIPO proposed the draft amendments to the Tradem

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EPAPER

- A new measure debuts feel free to fill in our feedback form for trademark examination guality
- TIPO inaugurated a new website on copyright for all to use

TIPO News & Events

- The 2019 Advanced Technologies and Music Licensing Trends Symposium was held
- TIPO publishes a study on AI patent applications in Taiwan and reasons for rejections
- "Celebrate TIPO's 20th Anniversary" is publishing
- The 2019 TIPO International Intellectual Property Litigation Conference was a success

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In this latest draft, a total of 14 articles were amended and two new articles were added. The main points are as follows:

- 1. Paragraph 2 of Article 6 specifies that the qualifications of trademark agents other than attorneys or agents who have been licensed to practice matters related to the trademark in question. Paragraph 3 of the same article sets the rules for registration requirements, as well as the managerial measures to be adopted by competent authorities, for trademark agents.
- 2. The accelerated examination mechanism for trademark application will only be applicable to "cases of application for trademark registration" in the future. The contents amended in Paragraph 2, Article 14 of Chapter I (General Provisions) will be listed in Paragraph 8, Article 19 of Section I, Chapter II (Application for Registration) instead, and serve as the reference for setting a feecharging standard for accelerated examination in Article 104, also amended. Specific guidelines will be in place soon for the public in line with the accelerated examination program of the invention patent application.
- 3. Conditions such as "where a final judgment of the court has been rendered" in Sub-paragraph 15, Paragraph 1, Article 30 were to be deleted at first. However, many attendants of the public hearing noted that deleting such content may lead to more disputes. Since it has been difficult for TIPO to verify the conditions when examining a trademark application case, drawing references from Paragraph 2, Article 60 of the EU Trade Mark Regulation, we decided to move the content regarding the provision of reasons for approving/disapproving an application request in the sub-paragraph to Paragraph 2, Article 57 in the amended Trademark Act, as

the grounds of invalidation filed by an interested party. After the parties have provided their reasons, TIPO will determine whether to perform the invalidation or not. Such is unbound by the five-year peremption period.

4. Section IV, Chapter II (Opposition) was to be removed from the Trademark Act, and a consensus was reached among members of society at public hearings. However, as we are planing to amend the adversary system for trademark disputes, considering that it is better to make comprehensive structural changes instead of partial amendments, the section is retained for now. In the future, amendments on the adversary system will be made in a setting in which legal stability is prioritized.

For more information (in Mandarin), please visit:

A comparison table for the before and after revision articles of the Trademark Act

https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/dl-125550-ee5f451e9b4243a0ae172463614421e3.html

General explanation on the amendments to the Trademark Act

https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/dl-125552-3a5a2e1b8a0d493f9ae9d1f34f2cafb8.html



A new measure debuts - feel free to fill in our feedback form for trademark examination quality

TIPO just released the Feedback Form for Trademark Examination Quality on November 19, 2019. The goal is to help applicants learn more about the application status and resolve questions if any, in a shorter period of time. All members of society are encouraged to utilize the service.

When filling in the form, an applicant is required to provide his/her name, email address, cell phone or land line number, subject, and content. If this has to do with a specific case, the applicant should specify the application or registration number, so as to facilitate the process. In principle, the agency in charge will send a reply within three business days upon reception of the form. In a special case or when the case relates to general principles, it might not be possible for TIPO to reply within three working days. Instead, the staff member in charge will contact the applicant by phone or email first, and then send another email to explain the follow-up dealings after discussions.

All comments on the quality of trademark examination will be carefully taken into account for improving examination work and relevant procedures. However, if the applicant wishes to register trademark or remedy deficiencies, please send the required documents according to the laws in paper copies or through the electronic trademark application system, so as to avoid any delays which may affect the applicant's rights.

For more information (in Mandarin), please visit: https://tiponet.tipo.gov.tw/swsfront35/SWSF/SWSF01001.aspx?sysid=030&funid=0003



TIPO inaugurated a new website on copyright for all to use

To improve public service quality and advocacy effectiveness, TIPO introduced new technologies and designs to its website. The existing single-format website has been reset as a main site with a few sub-websites. TIPO hopes to make it easier for people to find the information they need in the new setting, as some noted that it was difficult to find things although the site was informative.

The main site was already launched in September this year (2019) and the new sub-website on copyright is also available now, upon certain online construction. In the meantime, the old site on copyright is still in operation. All members of the public are encouraged to utilize them.

The features of the new sub-website on copyright are:

- 1. In olive green, with geometric graphics. The visual structure conforms to that of the main site.
- 2. The site is divided into a few sections according to the site's content. Quick links and mega menus are provided, for users to quickly find the information they want to read.

The other two sub-websites on patent and trademark are scheduled for completion by end of April next year (2020).



The 2019 Advanced Technologies and Music Licensing Trends Symposium was held

On December 10, 2019, TIPO held the Advanced Technologies and Music Licensing Trends Symposium at its activity hall on 18F. At the symposium, experts from internationally renowned collective management organization – Japanese Society for Rights of Authors, Composers and Publishers (JASRAC) – shared their insights on the Music Modernization Act in the US and its influence on copyright management in multi-territorial licensing in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as music copyright administration using advanced technologies. The event aimed to help music professionals and fans of music to learn more about digital music licensing and management, as well as rights management of emerging technology applications by international collective management groups.



TIPO publishes a study on AI patent applications in Taiwan and reasons for rejections

After decades of development, artificial intelligence (AI) is ready to carry out tasks which could only be done by humans previously, such as playing chess and handwriting recognition. Researchers continue to develop applications and this shall comprehensively change the ways we work, learn, have fun, and interact with one another.

The study aimed to learn about the application circumstances of AI-related patents in Taiwan. It analyzed the much discussed tech trends among industries, the functions and types of the technologies in question, and the fields which they might apply to. Also, questions and suggestions on patent examination practices were reviewed. Applicants in the AI field are especially encouraged to utilize the results.

For more information (in Mandarin), please visit: https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/dl-253935-66daeddeddc741a19ef1af79b94e0d36.html



"Celebrate TIPO's 20th Anniversary" is publishing

TIPO is 20 years old!

In the past 20 years, in response to technological advancement and an ever-evolving global IP environment, TIPO has carried out various law amendments and actively collaborated with its international counterparts. It has also devoted to improving public services, too, such as enhancing examination efficacy, offering services online, and setting up local offices. After two decades of hard work and with generous support from society, TIPO has successfully brought Taiwan's IP system up to a global level.

In celebration of TIPO's glorious 20-year history, "Celebrating TIPO's 20th Anniversary," a special publication, has been released. All members of society are encouraged to browse it.

For more information (in Mandarin), please visit:

Download the PDF version of "Celebrating TIPO's 20th Anniversary" at: https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/np-175-1.html

The electronic version of "Celebrating TIPO's 20th Anniversary": https://pcm.tipo.gov.tw/PCM2010/PCM/ebook/special/mobile/index.html



The 2019 TIPO International Intellectual Property Litigation Conference was a success



As a part of the Intellectual Property Talent Program which TIPO entrusted National Taiwan University to organize, on November 8, the 2019 TIPO International Intellectual Property Litigation Conference on Patent Invalidation Litigation was held. IP experts from the United States, Germany, Japan and South Korea were invited to give lectures at the conference, and shared their observations of and experiences in patent and trademark invalidation procedures and practices from each country's perspectives. A total of 245 people were drawn to attend this highly informative event, and they all gained a clearer picture of patent and trademark invalidation procedures through the insights shared by the participating lecturers, attorneys, and court judges. Such insights can well serve as references for law amendments in Taiwan in the near future, too. TIPO looks forward to building a mechanism which not only abides by the laws but also suits the industry's needs.



For more news, please visit TIPO's website .

Please contact us if you have any suggestion or question about our monthly news. We will make corrections or write back to you as soon as possible. Our email address is: ipogp@tipo.gov.tw .



Intellectual Property Office Ministry of Economic Affairs R.O.C. Office Hours: 9:00~12:00, 13:30~17:30 Add : 185 Hsinhai Rd., Sec. 2, 3F; Taipei 10637, Taiwan, R.O.C

The site has been optimized for monitors with over 1024x768 resolution, with window maximized Tel : +886-(02)-2738-0007 Fax : +886-(02)-2377-9875