

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

Optimizing Patent and Trademark Examination Procedures



- Implemented the Accelerated Examination Program for Reexamination (AEPRe) to grant patents in as fast as **15** days
- Revised the Positive Patent Examination Pilot Program for Startups to expand the eligibility criteria
- Optimized the Industry Collaborative Patent Interview Pilot Program to accelerate patent processing timelines
- Enabled multi-way communication via telephone and video interviews for a more collaborative and user-friendly examination system
- Implemented the Collaborative Examination Program for Reexamination of Emerging Technology Patents to ensure consistent examination standards
- The average first office action pendency and the average disposal pendency for invention patents were **8.4** and **14.2** months, respectively.
- The average first office action pendency and the average disposal pendency for trademarks were **6.1** and **7.4** months, respectively.

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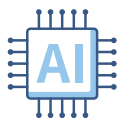
Developing Innovative Digital Service



- Launched brand new AI-assisted trademark image search in **March** to streamline searches for identical or similar trademarks
- Optimized the trademark review function with AI – completed automatic classification of trademark graphic paths in **April**, and automatic recommendations for goods and services in **November**.
- Expanded TIPONet's online services for changing applicant's representatives in **October** for convenience and efficiency.
- Wide-scale implementation of online examinations, which was implemented for patent rights and certificate management in **October**, and for payment of trademark registration fees in **November**.
- The percentages of online patent and trademark applications were **91.5%** and **89.2%**, respectively.
- The percentages of online delivery of patent and trademark documents were **91.7%** and **85.1%**, respectively.

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Driving IP Innovation in Key Industries



- Promoted Taiwan Patent GO since **April** to showcase excellent patents in international exhibitions and facilitate business opportunities.
- Launched Corporate Challenges × Talent Solutions for the Competition for Patent Portfolio Analysis in **March**.
- Promoted EV key components, AI innovation for medical devices, and patent portfolios for senior-oriented technologies.
- Strengthening trade secrets protection: Compiled the *Practical Guidelines for Managing Trade Secrets in Academic and Research Institutions*

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Bolstering the IPR Regime



- Enforced in **May**: Partial amendments to the Trademark Act, Enforcement Rules of the Trademark Act, Fee-charging Standards of Trademark, Regulations Governing Trademark Agent Registration and Management, as well as Operational Procedures for Accelerated Examination of Trademark Registration Applications.
- Amended in **June**: The Operation Directions on Hearings for Patent Invalidation Cases and the Operational Directions on Hearings for Trademark Dispute Cases.
- Amended in **October**: The Operational Directions for Deferral of Substantive Examination of Invention and Design Patent Applications.

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Expanding International IPR Collaborations



- In **May**: Working-level meeting with France
- In **June**: New Southbound Intellectual Property Conference
- In **October**: Taiwan-Philippines MOU on cooperation in intellectual property extended for four years
- In **December**: Taiwan-Canada IP Policy Dialogue Meeting

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