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The Supreme People’s Court Introduced Judicial Explanations to Express the Jurisdiction of the Trademark Cases

The Supreme People’s Court issued the Explanations on Jurisdiction and Law Application of Trademark Cases for Implementation of Modified Trademark Law.

The Explanations will be implemented from May 1st, 2014, under which the jurisdiction of the various courts in administrative appeals and recognition of well known marks was reaffirmed.

Basically, the intermediate courts in Beijing shall have the jurisdiction over administrative cases in connection to the decisions of the Trademark Appeal Board and the Trademark Office.


SIPO Released Its Latest Draft of Service Invention Regulations

The Service Invention Regulations have been discussed for three rounds, and the SIPO recently released its lastly-revised version to the public.

The draft appears to adhere to the principle that gives priority to contracts or agreements between employers and employees. However, minimal compensation standards are set in the draft to be applied to employee compensation claims. It also maintains protections for inventors when a patent disclosure is not filed for a patent and maintained as a trade secret, but the enterprise has benefited from the invention.


Provisions on the Recognition and Protection of Well-Known Trademarks released for Public Opinions

The State Administration for Industry & Commerce issued an announcement on soliciting public comments on the Provisions on the Recognition and Protection of Well-Known Trademarks. The revision draft is added to 24 Articles and redefines well-known trademarks, and Article 10 provides for the evidential materials which can be used.

The deadline for feedbacks is May 13, 2014.

http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2014-04/14/content_2658741.htm
China's IP Law Enforcement Steadily Improved

After years of development, China's patent administrative enforcement has made remarkable achievement, holding up the blue sky for the nation's intellectual property industry. From January to December of 2013, the national patent administrative enforcement cases totaled 16,227, up 79.9% year on year, including 5,056 patent dispute cases (4684 of which were patent infringement dispute cases), up 101.4% year on year; and 11,171 investigating counterfeit patent cases, up 71.5% year on year.


China Inspects Implementation of Patent Law

China’s top legislature has started a round of inspections on the implementation of its Patent Law.

Inspectors will investigate how local authorities have worked to help create a sound environment for supporting patents and protecting inventors’ rights, according to the NPC. They will also review the work of companies, colleges and scientific institutions to improve their applications for patents and the utilization and protection of their patents.

The aim of this inspection is to improve authorities' work in protecting intellectual property rights and encouraging innovation.


China Attaches High Importance to IPR

Chinese vice Premier Wang Yang remarked that China will continue to place great importance on intellectual property rights protection and will try to create better conditions for fair competition and developing an innovation-based economy.

He said that because of a trade dispute between Corning Inc. and China's Hebei Dongxu Investment Group Ltd., which has been amicably resolved by Corning licensed to Dongxu technology and Dongxu paid Corning fees to make Gen 6 and below flat panel display glass on the Chinese mainland.

Wang said the concord between the two companies was a model for properly resolving trade disputes between enterprises of two countries and hoped that Corning Inc. would work with its Chinese partners to expand their win-win cooperation.


China to Crack Down on Online Piracy, Counterfeit Goods

The Chinese government is set to launch a series of clampdowns relating to online infringement as part of its latest bid to improve IP enforcement.

The nationwide campaign will focus on tackling deceptive advertising online and shutting down websites hosting illegal videos and music. Tighter measures will also be
implemented on internet service providers and domain-name registrations.

Despite focusing predominantly on online issues the office also pledges to target patent infringement and ensure trade secrets and geographical indicators are better protected.

The release also urged stepping up revision of relevant laws and regulations to facilitate the crackdown adding that any companies violating IP laws could be blacklisted. [Link]

The New PCT International Patent Application System was Introduced

China’s PCT international patent application international review and process management system (CE-PCT System) was introduced formally in April.

The patent applicants could submit the relevant documents for PCT international patent application via either the CE-PCT electronic application website or the PCT-SAFE electronic application software.

Designed and developed by SIPO, the CE-PCT System is composed of the receiving and collection subsystem, the process management subsystem, the retrieval primary review subsystem, the inquiry statistics subsystem and the electronic application subsystem. [Link]

ZTE Won 337 Investigation Cases for the Second time in Two Months

Regarding the Section 337 Investigation launched by the US International Trade Commission, ZTE Corporation (ZTE) has welcome the final determination of the United States International Trade Commission (ITC) rejecting the claims of Technology Properties Limited LLC (TPL) on March 3.

This is the second time that ZTE scored a victory in the 337 investigation in 2 months.

From the results, it's clear that ZTE would go further if the operation of patent has been highly valued. The capability for patent operation is closely related to IP strength. Only by promoting patent operation ability can Chinese companies do well in international competition. [Link]

Lenovo Splashes $100M to Get Mobile Patents from Unwired Planet

Lenovo announced that it has purchased a portfolio of 21 batches of patents from Unwired Planet Inc for 100 million U.S. dollars. Lenovo has owned 4,500 mobility patents, taking a big step towards internationalization. The market share shows that Lenovo has become the third largest mobile producer after Apple and Samsung. [Link]