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SIPO: Patent Query System Now Online

A State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) patent query system went online in late April.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201205/t20120511_689484.html

SIPO Officially Launches Online Patent Fee Payment System

SIPO officially opened an online patent fee payment system.

The system provides payment services for 24 hours a day and seven days a week to facilitate users. Moreover, it provides real-time query services for applicants to help them avoid possible trouble and shorten the period between payment and patent approval so as to facilitate patent examination efficiency.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201205/t20120511_689519.html

China: 2,740,000 Valid Patents

Lately, SIPO publicized 2011 Annual Report of Chinese Patents in Force, which shows that as of the end of 2011, China had owned 2,740,000 pieces of valid patents and 84.1% were domestic patents.

Based on the Report, the valid patents in China have been keeping rapid increase in recent years and the component thereof has been optimizing. Till the end of last year, the valid invention patents in China had reached 697,000 pieces, up 23.4%, of which 351,000 were owned by domestic entities or individuals. Besides, invention patents for every 10,000 people in China hit 2.4 pieces.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/governments/201205/1293067_1.html

SAIC Identifies And Releases 599 Chinese Well-known Trademarks

The State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC) identified and released 599 Chinese well-known trademarks, including 410 well-known trademarks identified by SAIC in trademark management cases, 39 identified in opposition procedures and 150 identified by the Trademark Appeal Board of SAIC in opposed trademark review and dispute cases.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/governments/201205/1292104_1.html

SIPO: Efforts Continue to Strengthen IP Protection

By 2011, the time needed for full examination of an invention patent application averaged 22.9 months, with the first response from the patent office taking an average of 11.4 months, much quicker response times than before.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/governme nt/201205/1293810_1.html

China Plans to Enhance IPR Creation Capability

The capability to create intellectual properties will be significantly strengthened by 2015, with invention patents and international patent filings in strategic emerging industries amounting to twice those in 2010, expected by the Opinions on Enhancing IPR in Strategic Emerging Industries jointly formulated by SIPO, the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science and Technology, which also proposes a cooperation mechanism integrating research and production and covering multiple fields including consultancy, evaluation, finance and law.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/governme nt/201205/1292751_1.html

The Highlight of China's Anti-Monopoly Judicial Interpretation

On 8th May of 2012, the Supreme People's Court (the "SPC") issued the Regulations on Several Issues concerning the Law Application in the Hearing of Civil Disputes Arising from the Monopolistic Conduct (the "Judicial Interpretations"). The regulation will come into effect from 1st of June.

By the Judicial Interpretations, the anti-monopoly lawsuit shall be no longer pre-conditioned by the administrative determination. Unless the special designation, the civil monopolistic cases shall be governed by the intermediate court in the province capitals and the municipality directly under the control of the central government. Where the alleged monopolistic conduct is found to be the monopolistic agreement in accordance with the conditions stipulated in Article 13, paragraph 1(1)—(5), the defendant shall undertake the burden of proof about the effectiveness of the alleged monopolistic agreement in eliminating or restricting competition. Furthermore, the Judicial Interpretation also reduces the plaintiff's burden of proof in the cases of the dominant position of the public companies and other operators with exclusive operation qualification. For example, the plaintiff shall no longer prove the dominant position of the companies with a long monopoly history.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=4707>