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**Patent Law Revisions Up for Public Comment**

SIPO has just made its proposed draft of revisions to the patent law available on line. This draft is intended to address patent enforcement challenges.

With these sets of amendments, China is now in various stages of revising all major IP statutes: the Copyright Law is with NCA in its second draft, the Trademark Law is with the State Council Legislative Affairs Office (SCLAO), and the Anti-unfair Competition Law is also in some stage of review by either SAIC or the SCLAO.

[http://www.sipo.gov.cn/tz/gz/201208/t20120810\\_736864.html](http://www.sipo.gov.cn/tz/gz/201208/t20120810_736864.html)

**China Steps Up IPR Protection via Judicial Construction**

New development was achieved last year on IPR protection via the nation's efforts in enhancing its judicial regime and strengthening IPR enforcement, revealed by an annual report on China's rule of law.

The operation carried out by the Chinese government to combat IPR infringement and the manufacture and distribution of counterfeit

and shoddy products yielded satisfying results, where over 90 thousand cases concerning trademark infringement had been filed.

Meanwhile, people's courts at all levels further enhanced their capability in the trial of IPR cases, such as those in relation to online works and intangible cultural heritages, contributing to the healthy development of cultural industry.

[http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/governmment/201207/1673481\\_1.html](http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/governmment/201207/1673481_1.html)

**Chinese Courts Give Tough Sentences for IPR Infringements**

Chinese courts have handed out sentences ranging from six months to six years to 18 people involved in 10 cases of intellectual property rights (IPR) violations, the latest move to show the country's determination to combat piracy.

This movement of cracking-down on piracy was join-forced by the Supreme People's Court, the Ministry of Public Security, the General Administration of Press and Publication, and the National Office against Pornographic and Illegal Publications.

[http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201207/t20120727\\_730606.html](http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201207/t20120727_730606.html)

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### **SIPO Announce a New Regulation to Expedite Invention Patents**

The State Intellectual Property Office recently announced that a new regulation on the priority handling of patent applications for strategically important inventions will take effect on Aug 1.

The measure will enable filings for patents on "major inventions" to be processed within one year. Beneficiaries include sectors such as environmental protection, energy conservation, information technology, advanced manufacturing, new materials, clean energy, and alternative-energy vehicles.

[http://ipr.chinadaily.com.cn/2012-07/25/content\\_15617043.htm](http://ipr.chinadaily.com.cn/2012-07/25/content_15617043.htm)

### **Chinese Police's IP Enforcement Efforts Rewarded in Global Anti-Counterfeiting Awards**

On the World Anti-Counterfeiting Day, results of the fourteenth annual Global Anti-Counterfeiting Awards (GAC Awards) were announced at a ceremony in Paris. China's intellectual property enforcement named Operation Sword launched during the period between October 2010 and December 2011 were rewarded with two honors in the 2012 GAC Awards, under the categories of National Public Body Award and Individual Achievement Award respectively.

The Chinese winner of the National Public Body Award was Economic Crime Investigation Division of Ministry of Public

Security. It successfully investigated 43,550 cases resulting in 54,658 arrests, destruction of 32,573 manufacturing sites and over 700 distribution chains. The total value of fake goods involved approximated 2.5 billion yuan.

[http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201207/t20120724\\_728950.html](http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201207/t20120724_728950.html)

### **Patent Applications Received and Granted Maintain Rapid Growth in Half Year**

According to the latest statistics, SIPO received a total of 857,000 patent applications in the first half of this year, up 26.8% year on year. Among the patent applications received, there were 258,000 inventions, up 18.3%; SIPO also granted a total of 530,000 patents, up 19.1%, among them, 107,000 were inventions, up 28.9%. Chinese patents received and granted maintain rapid growth in the first half of this year.

[http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201208/t20120801\\_732642.html](http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201208/t20120801_732642.html)

### **USPTO Report on Patent Developments in China**

USPTO had released its report on patent enforcement in China. The report summarizes five areas: China's patent legal regime; rule of law problems; evidence collection, recognition, and preservation; effectiveness and enforcement of remedies; and administrative enforcement.

<http://chinaipr.com/2012/07/21/uspto-report-on-patent-developments-in-china/>