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New PPH Pilot Launched between China and Poland

According to Memorandum of Understanding of PPH Pilot between the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) and the Polish Patent Office (PPO), a PPH pilot between China and Poland is launched on July 1, 2013. The PPH pilot will last for two years until to June 30, 2015.

http://www.sipo.gov.cn/ztl/ywzt/pph/zxdt/201306/t20130628_805008.html

PPH Pilot between China and Russia Extends for Two More Years

Since the PPH pilot between China and Russia has been running smoothly during the last years and in the meantime good results has been achieved, the SIPO and the Russian Federal Service for Intellectual Property (ROSPATENT) codetermined a two-year extension of the PPH pilot between China and Russia, namely, the PPH pilot between China and Russia will expire on June 6, 2015. Meanwhile, the pertinent procedure of submitting a PPH request remains the same.

http://www.sipo.gov.cn/ztl/ywzt/pph/zxdt/201306/t20130628_804933.html

China IP Development Significantly Improved

China issued its national Intellectual Property (IP) development report earlier. The study, conducted by the IP Development and Research Center under SIPO, shows that China's IP cause develops fast since 2007, especially after 2008, the year of the implementation of the National IP Strategy.

According to the report, the average index of eastern region reached 73.25 last year, much higher than that of the western region (51.73).

China was in the transition period that turned from the increase of IP quantity to the enhancement of IP quality in terms of IP creation and utility. Meanwhile, the increase of IP number as well as the improvement of efficiency has been the major driving force for China's IP creation and utilization. From the perspective of IP protection, China has been paying great attention to IP protection, especially the coastal and developed areas.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201307/t20130703_805489.html

China on the Way in Innovation

The Chinese mainland fell one spot to 35 from last year in the Global Innovation Index 2013, jointly published by Cornell University, INSEAD, and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

China's leadership has strived to make innovation a strategic priority through increasing research and development spending on innovation. Overall, there are now more than 1,500 foreign research and development centers in China, according to the Ministry of Commerce, and this rapid evolution is also driving Chinese companies to focus management time and attention on innovation.

http://www.chinaipr.gov.cn/newsarticle/news/chinaword/201307/1762548_1.html

More Foreign Companies Involved in IPR Cases

The top court has seen an increase in intellectual property lawsuits involving overseas companies in the first five months of the year amid economic globalization and rising domestic awareness.

From January to May, judges nationwide announced verdicts in 24,544 intellectual property rights cases, up by 36.6 percent year-on-year, according to the Supreme People's Court.

About 2 percent of those cases, or 504 lawsuits, involved overseas litigants. Last year, 1.7 percent of 83,850 such lawsuits nationwide were foreign-related, according to the top court.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201307/t20130718_808408.html

US Companies Seek Tougher Enforcement of IP Laws

A report from the US-China Business Council identifies enforcement of laws and regulations on intellectual-property rights as a major concern among its 220 member companies. The best remedy, it says, is to ensure that penalties imposed by Chinese authorities in enforcing IP laws are stiff enough to deter violators and that more cases are handled by the criminal-justice system.

The USCBC also recommends increased resources and jurisdiction for the arm of China's State Council that deals with IP rights. This would enable the Leading Group on Combating IPR Infringement and Sales of Counterfeit Goods to ensure equal treatment for foreign and Chinese companies, address uneven IP-rights enforcement, step up enforcement of Internet-related IP violations and strengthen protection of companies' trade secrets.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=6025>

China to Double Fines for Trademark Infringement

China is expected to double the compensation ceiling for trademark infringement to 2 million yuan (325,400 U.S. dollars), according to the latest draft amendment to the Trademark Law.

Compensation ranging from 20,000 yuan to 2 million yuan shall be paid to the holders of trademark rights in the case of infringement, according to the draft tabled for a second reading at the ongoing four-day bimonthly session of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature. The move aims to better protect exclusive trademark rights and further crack down on infringement.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=5986>

Counterfeit production sites busted in South China

Police recently detained 22 suspects after they cracked down on 26 sites producing counterfeit products in Shantou, Guangdong province.

Meanwhile, police busted seven criminal gangs that produced fake products and infringed on intellectual property rights during operations that involved 220 police officers.

More than 970 sets of toys that infringed trademarks and IPRs, 6,699 counterfeit

schoolbags, 30,000 labels, plus 20 molds for producing fake products were seized after police destroyed 26 counterfeit production, warehousing and sales locations.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=5994>

The 6th IP5 Heads Meeting Held in U.S.

Tian Lipu, Commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) led a delegation to attend the 6th IP5 Heads Meeting in Cupertino of the United States. During the meeting, heads of the five offices from China, the United States, Europe, Japan and South Korea retrospect the past and look forward to the future with respect to their IP cooperation.

At the meeting, Tian introduced the latest developments of the "cloud patent examination solutions", and he also announced that the test system will be released recently. He invited the present directors to join the testing. Representatives of the five offices appreciated developments of the "cloud patent examination solutions", and they showed great interest in the testing system and said efforts must be made to conduct broader exchanges and cooperation on the solutions.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201307/t20130711_807547.html