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A New Promotion Plan Issued to Speed up Building China an IP Powerhouse

Recently, the Promotion Plan for the Implementation of the National Intellectual Property Strategy and acceleration of building an IP powerhouse in 2016 was issued, after the review by the first plenary session of the Inter-Ministerial Joint Meeting for implementation of National IP strategy and approved by the State Council.

The Plan identified 6 major tasks and 99 work measures with clear responsibilities in a bid to promote the implementation of national IP strategy and speed up building an IP powerhouse.

With respect to rigid IP protection, the promotion plan listed perfect IP laws and regulations in its key tasks, focused on promoting legislations in patent law, copyright law, anti-fair competition law and Regulations on Patent Commissioning.

Other tasks include the establishment of IP protection mechanism concerning imports, formulation of guidance of strengthening patent enforcement, perfection of patent enforcement in the field of E-commerce and exhibition, research in IP protection of

business model, software legalization and more special action on IP infringement such as "Sword Action" "Red Shield" "Lightening".

The Plan placed emphasis on IP creation and utilization, in which fostering IP-intensive enterprises, invigorating IP operation market and developing IP service apart from improving the quality of IP creation are indicated.

New integrated reform pilot will be carried out in eligible places, where products related to IP will be incorporated into the system of national economic accounting and index of IP will be included into national economic and social in development program.

The Plan also requires formulating policies on IP assessment, establishing an IP reviewing mechanism of key economic activities, studying IP management of national science and technology program, setting out policies of patent commissioning, strengthening supervision and management of copyright collective management organization and trademark agency.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201607/t20160706_1278682.html

China Initiated Special Campaign "Sword Net 2016"

China's National Copyright Administration, the State Internet Information Office, the Ministry of Industry and information and the Ministry of Public Security jointly initiated a special campaign "Sword Net 2016" in June.

This time's Sword campaign aims to crack down on infringement and piracy of online literature and APPs and to regulate the online advertisement alliance in five months.

The campaign would focus on combating infringement and piracy of unauthorized illegal distribution of online literature, news, movies and television programs, safeguarding legal rights and interests of right holders. It would be centered on investigating and handling infringement and piracy in APPs, E-business platforms, maintaining normal order of online copyright. It would further regulate copyright order of online music, cloud storage services and news reproduced through the internet, building a sound ecological environment for online copyright protections.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201607/t20160720_1281488.html

China Import and Export Fair Sees Fewer Disputes

IP disputes dropped by 20.6 percent to 479 at the latest China Import and Export Fair in the provincial capital Guangzhou, which ran from mid-April to early May. The drop was partly due to the province's IP-driven growth

campaign, according to local authorities. Most of the disputes centered around home appliances, motorcycles and kitchenware. Of the more than 23,000 exhibitors at the event, 326 were found to be involved in IP infringement.

To learn what the right holder can do tackle infringement on trade fairs in China, please see our article at <http://afdip.com/index.php?ac=article&at=read&did=2597>

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=8604>

CTMO to Setup New Database to Enhance Communication with Right Holders When Discovering Infringement

The Chinese Trademark Office (CTMO) is creating a new database to improve trademark supervision, enforcement and launch quick actions against infringement by timely getting in touch with trademark holders during the activities.

According to the Chinese Trademark Association who helps in collecting the contact information of trademark registrants and right holders, the new database is setup particularly for valid Chinese trademarks which are famous, important and often suffered from infringement. The collection will be performed on an annual basis. There will be no charge involved.

<http://afdip.com/index.php?ac=article&at=read&did=2606>

IP Court Cases to Come under Tighter Jurisdiction

The Supreme People's Court issued the opinions on the promotion of combined IP trial mechanism, according to which the "three-in-one" mode for intellectual property cases that integrates civil, administrative and criminal trials will be further promoted in courts nationwide.

The initial move to explore the "three-in-one" trial mode was made by the IP division of the Shanghai Pudong New Area People's Court. It has dealt with nearly 10,000 IP civil, administrative and criminal cases during the past two decades, and has accumulated ample experience that can be studied by other courts.

Statistics from the People's Court Daily showed that the courts received 130,000 civil, administrative and criminal IP cases of the first instance in 2015, up 11.7 percent year-on-year. The number of concluded cases also increased compared with 2014, without any increase in the number of judges.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201607/t20160713_1280008.html

SIPO-PRV, SIPO-UKIPO and SIPO-IPO PPH Programs Extended as from July 1, 2016

To continuously provide efficient and convenient Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) services to applicants, the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) has reached agreement with the Swedish Patent and

Registration Office (PRV), the Intellectual Property Office of the United Kingdom (UKIPO) and the Icelandic Patent Office (IPO) respectively on the extension of the pilot programs.

The pilot programs will be extended indefinitely as from July 1, 2016.

The requirements and procedures of the program remain unchanged.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201606/t20160628_1277250.html

SIPO& EPO Decide to Renew MOU on Patent Classification

The SIPO and the European Patent Office (EPO) decided to renew the MOU on beefing up patent classification cooperation for another 6 years.

According to the MOU, SIPO would classify all invention patent applications in technology field via CPC since January this year, and share the relevant classification data with EPO. EPO continues to provide specific CPC classification training for SIPO. Both SIPO and EPO would hold regular work group meeting to discuss topics on quality assurance, information technology and training exchange.

Under the original MOU, SIPO has tried to classify 470,000 newly published patent documents via CPC classification.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201607/t20160713_1279998.html