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**Nikon Sues Bike Seller**

The Shanghai No 1 Intermediate People's Court has accepted a lawsuit by Nikon Corp against Zhejiang Nikang Electric Vehicle Co and an electric-powered bicycle seller surnamed Pan for trademark infringement and unfair competition, Shanghai Daily reports.

Nikon is seeking 2 million yuan compensation. It said the Zhejiang company used a "Nikom" logo, similar to Nikon's, on its electric-powered bicycles. In addition, the company's name is the same as Nikon's Chinese translation.  
*(Source: China Daily)*

**E-paper Provider Loses Lawsuit**

Wanfang Data, an Internet information content provider in China, has been ordered to pay more than 1 million yuan for copyright infringement. The company included 364 unpublished masters and doctorate dissertations in its database. The dissertations were then sold to public and college libraries for profit, the court of Chaoyang District in Beijing said recently. Wanfang Data also charged Internet users money to view and download the dissertations.

Wanfang Data was ordered to pay between 2,300 yuan and 5,100 yuan in damages to 364 academics. It was ordered to remove the plaintiffs' dissertations from its database and publish an apology on its website.  
*(Source: China Daily)*

**IP Judicial Protection Month**

From November 10, all-level courts in Shanghai are scheduled to publicly judge a selection of IPR-related cases and the proceedings will be streamed live online. Go to [www.hshfy.sh.cn](http://www.hshfy.sh.cn) for more information.

It's part of Shanghai Municipal Higher People's Court IPR judicial protection month with the theme of strengthening judicial protection and inspiring independent innovation.

Since the establishment of IPR tribunal in 1994, the court has handled over 9,000 IPR civil cases of the first and second instances. From 2003 to 2007, all courts in Shanghai judged a total of 303 IPR criminal cases of the first instance and concluded 288 ones.

The courts in Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region have also launched an IP judicial protection month. The people's courts at

different levels in Inner Mongolia will enhance the publicity of IP judicial protection work by hanging scrolls and laying exhibition boards, promoting IP protection awareness.

Since 1993, the courts at different levels have accepted 1,001 IP dispute cases, including 865 IP civil cases at the first instance, 127 IP civil cases at the second instance, eight IP administrative cases at the first instance and one IP administrative cases at the second instance. The trial cases concern patents, trademarks, Internet domain names, copyrights, unfair competition, commercial secrets and technology contracts.

*(Source: China Daily)*

### **Arbitration Center Launched**

The Shanghai Intellectual Property Arbitration Center was recently founded with 61 intellectual and law professionals appointed as arbitrators.

The center will offer a new channel to solve intellectual property disputes as well as file lawsuits and lodge complaints to government departments, officials say.

*(Source: China Daily)*

### **Joint Law Enforcement**

The IPR departments of 12 provinces and autonomous regions in western China recently held a conference on cooperation in patent administrative law enforcement in Chongqing and signed a cooperation

agreement on interregional investigation of patent-related cases.

According to the agreement, the parties involved will adopt a unified acceptance procedure for patent cases, rules of case handling and related law enforcement forms. Wherever infringement occurs, the local patent office shall make investigation on the spot and give necessary support and collaboration to the regions related to the case.

A conference will be hosted by each party in turn annually to sum up the experiences in the joint law enforcement agreement.

The agreement will integrate the competence of patent law enforcement of the 12 provinces including Sichuan, Guizhou, and Yunnan, says Yuan Jie, director of Chongqing Municipal Intellectual Property Office.

*(Source: China Daily)*

### **Training on IP Protection**

Beijing 12312 and Beijing Intellectual Property Administration Bureau recently held a training course on IPR Protection in France for enterprises that will attend the E-cards and Electronic Identification Technology Exhibition (Paris Card Exhibition) on November 4.

The course centered on the preparation work for the exhibition as well as the IPR protection system, procedure, and dispute handling in France, related issues and countermeasures.

Representatives from more than e-card enterprises such as Datang Microelectronics Technology Co Ltd and Beiqi Foton Motor Co Ltd participated in the training.

*(Source: China Daily)*

### **Fighting Internet Piracy**

Chongqing Municipal Copyright Bureau recently carried out a four-month special campaign against Internet infringement and piracy and punished 38 Internet infringement cases.

The campaign focused on four areas, namely Internet, LAN, Olympic copyright and private server.

The bureau found three cases of broadcasting 2008 Beijing Olympic Games illegally on the Internet.

*(Source: China Daily)*

### **New Department**

The State Intellectual Property Office recently set up a protection coordination department, responsible for organizing and coordinating IPR protection nationwide and work related to the implementation of the national IP strategy.

It was created after the former coordination and administration department was renamed the patent administration department.

The new department is responsible for formulating and promoting the implementation plans of the national IP strategy, boosting the establishment of inter-departmental

coordination mechanisms of the national IP strategy work, and strengthening the overall coordination of strategy implementation. The patent administration department will also draft the general and specific policies of IPR protection work nationwide, coordinating the special actions of IPR protection and overseeing IPR-related law-enforcement.

*(Source: China Daily)*

### **KTV Operators Taken to Court**

The China Audio-video Copyright Association (CAVCA) recently filed lawsuits in seven courts in Beijing against 100 Beijing-based KTV operators for allegedly refusing to pay royalties for songs and MTV videos they used.

The list includes popular KTV operators such as Tongyishouge and Huayangnianhua, the association says.

CAVCA, which is responsible for charging KTV operators, began to send notices to Beijing-based operators on September 27. It urged them to pay the royalties before October 10 and warned of legal actions if they failed to meet the deadline.

"Operators refusing to pay royalties would not only pay for using the products but also for their infringement on copyright," says Wang Huapeng, the association's director-general.

The association didn't rule out the possibility of further legal actions against other Beijing-based KTV operators.

At present only about 10 operators out of more than 1,000 Beijing-based karaoke bars pay royalties for the copyrighted audio-video products they use, according to CAVCA.

Last year, 15 provincial-level areas, including Beijing and Guangdong, decided to collect karaoke copyright royalties. The practice has been spreading nationwide. KTV operators must pay a daily charge of up to 12 yuan for each karaoke room for the use of musical and video products.

*(Source: China Daily)*