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1. USPTO announces Fast-Track Appeals Pilot Program

**USPTO TODAY
ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR
THE PTAB TO BEGIN
ACCEPTING PETITIONS FOR
EXPEDITED RESOLUTION OF
EX PARTE APPEALS**

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WASHINGTON — The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) today announced plans for the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) to begin accepting petitions for expedited resolution of ex parte appeals. The "Fast-Track Appeals Pilot Program" launches July 2, 2020. The required petition fee is \$400. "The Fast-Track Appeals Pilot Program serves as an extension of the Track One prioritized examination program, which has proven to be very popular with our nation's innovators," said Andrei Iancu, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO. "For the first time in USPTO history, applicants will be able to speed up both patent examination and ex parte appeals, thus obtaining decisions on their... [Read more](#)

2. WIPO PROOF Now Available in French and Spanish; in Nine Languages by Year-End

**WIPO LAUNCHED
ITS NEWEST DIGITAL
BUSINESS SERVICE FOR
SAFEGUARDING
INTELLECTUAL ASSETS,
CALLED WIPO PROOF**

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In May, WIPO launched its newest digital business service for safeguarding intellectual assets, called WIPO PROOF. We are delighted to announce that it is now available in French and Spanish. Since the launch, visitors from over 150 countries have come to the site, with a large percentage originating from French- and Spanish-speaking countries. We are pleased to make the site easier to use by launching versions in a total of nine languages between now and the end of the year. Importantly, the language versions of WIPO PROOF are much more than just a usability feature. As economic activity in our digitized world becomes increasingly defined by collaboration, the likelihood of national and cross-national disputes arising also increases... [Read more](#)

3. China Draft Patent Law Amendment Introduces Initial Framework for Patent Linkage for Pharmaceutical Patents and Patent Term Adjustment and Restoration

**STANDING COMMITTEE
OF THE NPC OF CHINA
PUBLISHED A SECOND
DRAFT AMENDMENT ON
THE PATENT LAW OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA**

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On July 3, 2020, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress ("NPC") of China published a second draft amendment (the "Draft") on the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China ("Patent Law"). Most notably among the Draft's proposed 29 revisions to the Patent Law, the Draft includes high-level provisions that would establish a framework for early resolution of pharmaceutical patent disputes between patentees and interested parties of approved drug products and applicants for follow-on drug products, often referred to as a patent linkage system. Specifically, the Draft includes new provisions that could create a jurisdictional basis—both for civil... [Read more](#)

4. Time limits related to the payment of patent and other fees shall be extended

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION
DECIDED THAT THE
TIME LIMITS RELATED
TO THE PAYMENT OF
PATENT AND OTHER FEES
SHALL BE EXTENDED**

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In accordance with Clause 8, Part 1 of the Article 17 of the Federal Law "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation Regarding Emergency Prevention and Relief", the Government of the Russian Federation decided that the time limits for the applicant, right holder and any other person to take actions, including those related to the payment of patent and other fees required for the federal executive body for intellectual property to take legally significant actions, provided for by Paragraph 3 of the Article 1246 of the Civil Code of the Russian Federation, expiring from March 30, 2020, to November 30, 2020, shall be extended until December 31, 2020, upon the... [Read more](#)

5. Budapest Treaty On The International Recognition Of The Deposit Of Microorganisms For The Purposes Of Patent Procedure

**BUDAPEST TREATY ON
THE INTERNATIONAL
RECOGNITION OF THE
DEPOSIT OF
MICROORGANISMS FOR
THE PURPOSES OF PATENT
PROCEDURE**

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Communication by the Government of India Relating to the Acquisition of the Status of International Depositary Authority by the National Agriculturally Important Microbial Culture Collection (NAIMCC). The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) presents his compliments to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and has the honor to notify the receipt from the Government of India, on December 30, 2019 and June 23, 2020, of written communications, dated December 13, 2019 and June 23, 2020, respectively, relating to the acquisition of the status of International Depositary Authority by the National Agriculturally Important Microbial Culture Collection (NAIMCC)... [Read more](#)

6. Analysis of trademark applications and the trend in business development in the past decade

**ANALYSIS OF
TRADEMARK
APPLICATIONS AND THE
TREND IN BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT IN THE
PAST DECADE**

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In recent years, TIPO has been publishing patent application analysis reports of domestic and foreign businesses' patent portfolios and the trend in their development. These reports have received great attention from various sectors. This year, with reference to the "World Intellectual Property Indicators 2019 (WIPI 2019)" published by WIPO IP Statistics Data Center, TIPO uses similar method to group Nice classes assigned to designated goods or services of trademark applications into ten industry sectors (see attached chart), and publishes the report "Analysis of the trend in trademark applications from 2010 to 2019 by industry sector." It is the result of collecting and org.... [Read more](#)

7. IPOPHL and PIDS Sign MOU on Strengthening IP Research

**IPOPHL AND PIDS SIGN
MOU ON STRENGTHENING
THE IPOPHL HAS
PARTNERED WITH THE
PIDS TO INCREASE
RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND
ENABLE IP POLICIES...**

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The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) has partnered with the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) to increase research activities and enable intellectual property (IP) policies to be more effective in driving innovation and creativity in the country. IPOPHL, through its Director General Rowel S. Barba, and PIDS, through its President Dr. Celia M. Reyes, signed on Tuesday, June 30, a memorandum of understanding for the two agencies to work jointly on IP research projects, capacity building, policy analysis and recommendations, and information sharing, among other areas of possible cooperation. The MOU was initiated by IPOPHL's... [Read more](#)

8. The Kyrgyz Republic Ratified the Protocol on the Protection of Industrial Designs

**PROTOCOL ON THE
PROTECTION OF
INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS TO
THE EURASIAN PATENT
CONVENTION OF
SEPTEMBER 9, 1994 WAS
RATIFIED BY THE KYRGYZ
REPUBLIC BY THE LAW..**

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The Protocol on the Protection of Industrial Designs to the Eurasian Patent Convention of September 9, 1994 was ratified by the Kyrgyz Republic by the Law adopted by the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic on June 11, 2020 and signed by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic Sooronbay Jeenbekov, on July 3, 2020. The Kyrgyz Republic became the third of the eight Contracting States to the Eurasian Patent Convention to have finalized the national procedures for ratification of the Protocol on the Protection of Industrial Designs, providing the required minimum of ratifications of the Protocol to enter into force. The Protocol on the Protection of Industrial Designs was adopted on September 9, 2019 at the diplomatic conference in Nur-Sultan, the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Protocol on the Protection of Indu... [Read more](#)

9. INDIA: Ancient Tribal Art form Registered as a GI

**SOHRAI-KHOVAR"
PAINTING OF THE
HAZARIBAGH REGION IN
THE INDIAN STATE OF
JHARKHAND WAS
REGISTERED AS A GI WITH
RESPECT TO HANDICRAFTS**

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In May 2020, the "Sohrai-Khoval" painting (bearing Indian GI No. 658) of the Hazaribagh region in the Indian state of Jharkhand was registered as a geographical indication (GI) with respect to handicrafts. The tribal artisans of Sohrai-Khoval paintings are indigenous to the Hazaribagh region and are exclusively women. The tradition and know-how of the artform is passed through generations as a matriarchal practice, from mother to daughter. The ancient art form, traditionally performed as ritualistic mural paintings by the tribal women, has now transcended to other media, such as handmade paper and cloth. The "Sohrai" paintings bear association to a local namesake harvest festival... [Read more](#)

10. Is a foreign company obliged to pay taxes on damages issued for illegal trademark use?

**DEPARTMENT OF
TAX AND CUSTOMS HAS
ISSUED A LETTER
CLARIFYING THAT WHEN
RECOVERING DAMAGES IN
FAVOUR OF A FOREIGN
COMPANY FOR THE
ILLEGAL USE OF...**

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The Department of Tax and Customs at the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation has provided an explanation regarding a controversial situation, in which a foreign entity with a permanent location in the United Kingdom had received damages for the illegal use of a trademark following a number of legal proceedings. Although such payments are considered income of the foreign legal entity on Russian territory, the company had not paid profit tax in Russia, leading to appeals before the Department of Tax and Customs. Having analysed the existing legal norms, the department published "On taxation on the territory of Russia of the damages adjudged to a foreign entity for the illegal use of a trademark" (30 April 2019 03-08-05/32197), explaining the sequence of actions in such cases... [Read more](#)

11. Patent Prosecution Highway Guidelines

**IPO AGAIN
STARTED ACCEPTING
FORM 5-1 UNDER
CHAPTER 5 OF THE PPH
GUIDELINES FROM 9TH
MARCH 2020 FOR
REMAINING 44 SLOTS**

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The filing of Form 5-1 under Chapter 5 of the PPH Guidelines commenced from 5th December 2019 as [notified on 4th December 2019](#). After scrutiny of 100 requests received, 56 requests were accepted by IPO and the applicants were allowed to file request for expedited examination on Form 18A. The IPO again started accepting Form 5-1 under Chapter 5 of the PPH Guidelines from 9th March 2020 for remaining 44 slots. After scrutiny of requests received in the second round, 35 requests were accepted by IPO as per the Guidelines and the applicants were allowed to file request for expedited examination on Form 18A. Since 9 requests slots are still available as per... [Read more](#)

12. Official proposal for revising design patent examination guidelines released

**NEW PATENT
EXAMINATION GUIDELINES
LOOK SET TO BOOST
DESIGN APPLICATIONS FOR
ICONS AND GUI AT THE
TAIWAN INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY OFFICE...**

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Computer-generated icons and graphical user interface (GUI) are designs that are generally produced by computer programs, are installed in and appear temporarily on electronic devices and are created by pattern or a combination of pattern and colour. Article 121(2) of the Taiwanese Patent Act states that a design patent can be obtained for computer-generated icons and GUI. The current patent examination guidelines for designs state that applicants should submit a specification, which must provide a title, an article or product to which the design could be applied and a description of the design, as well as drawings. An article to which an icon or a GUI design is applied comes under the generalised term 'display', which can be used when looking for a broad scope of protection. The specification and dra... [Read more](#)

13. Launch of PPH Pilot Programme between EAPO and PRH

**EAPO ANNOUNCES
THE PATENT PPH BETWEEN
EAPO AND THE FINNISH
PATENT AND
REGISTRATION OFFICE IS
TO BE LAUNCHED**

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The Eurasian Patent Office (EAPO) announces the Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Programme (PPH) between EAPO and the Finnish Patent and Registration Office is to be launched on August 1, 2020. The Programme is based on the Memorandum of Understanding on the Patent Prosecution Highway between the Finnish Patent and Registration Office and the Eurasian Patent Office of the Eurasian Patent Organization, signed by EAPO President Saule Tlevlessova and PRH Director General Antti Riivari this spring. The duration of the Programme will be 3 years, renewable upon mutual consent. The Procedure to file Request to the Eurasian Patent Office for accelerated patent.... [Read more](#)

14. Enterprises to Benefit as Singapore Furthers IP Cooperation with the Republic of Korea

**TODAY, ENTERPRISES
WILL BENEFIT FROM A NEW
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
(IP) COOPERATION
BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND
THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
(ROK)**

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Singapore, 1 July 2020 – With effect from today, enterprises will benefit from a new intellectual property (IP) cooperation between Singapore and the Republic of Korea (ROK). This partnership will allow innovative enterprises swifter access to markets in both countries. The ROK was Singapore's eighth largest trading partner last year with total of \$39.4 billion bilateral trade, while Singapore was the sixth largest foreign investor in the ROK in 2018. The Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) also recorded a 47% increase in patent applications originating from ROK in 2019. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to foster greater cooperation in bridging the innovation ecosystems of both countries was signed between Mr. Park Wonjoo, Commissioner of Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and [Read more](#)

15. Ukraine introduces new official opposition procedure for trademarks

**UKRAINE
HAS FINALLY ADOPTED
A NEW OFFICIAL
OPPOSITION PROCEDURE
FOR TRADEMARKS**

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We have very good news to share – Ukraine has finally adopted a new official opposition procedure for trademarks. The amendments were adopted by the Parliament of Ukraine on 21 July 2020, and are expected to be published shortly. Also the current rules provided a possibility to file oppositions against pending applications with the patent office, but the term and process itself have been very peculiar. In accordance with the old rules, the opposition had to be filed no later than 5 days before the decision on the application was issued. Therefore, it has been very difficult, almost impossible, to determine the actual due date for filing the opposition. After issuance of the accept... [Read more](#)

16. UNITED STATES: USPTO Proposes Increased Trademark Fees

**USPTO ISSUED
A NOTICE OF PROPOSED
RULEMAKING ON JUNE 19,
2020, TO SET OR ADJUST
TRADEMARK FILING FEES
ASSOCIATED WITH
APPLICATION ...**

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The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) issued a notice of proposed rulemaking on June 19, 2020, to set or adjust trademark filing fees associated with application prosecution, registration maintenance, and Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) actions. According to the USPTO, the “proposed fees will further USPTO strategic objectives by better aligning fees with costs, protecting the integrity of the trademark register, improving the efficiency of agency processes, and ensuring financial sustainability to facilitate effective trademark operations.” Among the many proposed adjustments, the cost for filing a Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) Standard application will rise from US \$275 to US \$350 per class. The fee for filing... [Read more](#)