

Inside this Issue

<u><i>U.S. and Brazil implement expanded PPH agreement</i></u>	2
<u><i>WIPO Begins Public Consultation Process on Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property Policy</i></u>	2
<u><i>U.S. Patent and Trademark Office releases policy statement on standards-essential patents subject to voluntary F/RAND commitments</i></u>	3
<u><i>European Cooperation: new online services in Austria</i></u>	3
<u><i>Schedule of PCT Fees at the JPO</i></u>	4
<u><i>New image recognition technology in design and trade mark search</i></u>	4
<u><i>CNIPA and EPO Enhance Comprehensive Strategic Partnership</i></u>	5
<u><i>Notice: Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)</i></u>	5
<u><i>Launch of New Patent System in Hong Kong</i></u>	6
<u><i>Singapore Joins Locarno Agreement as 58th Member</i></u>	6
<u><i>Improved e-filing for designs in Romania</i></u>	7

1. U.S. and Brazil implement expanded PPH agreement

**USPTO AND BRAZIL'S
INPI IMPLEMENTED A
NEW PPH AGREEMENT
ALLOWING FOR
APPLICATIONS FOR
MORE INDUSTRIES AND
HIGHER ANNUAL CAPS**

[GO TO TOP](#)

On December 1, 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and Brazil's National Institute for Industrial Property (INPI) put into effect a new Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) agreement that significantly expands on a prior agreement, allowing for applications for more industries and for higher annual caps. Under this pilot program of the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH), an applicant who receives a positive ruling on a patent claim(s) from either the Brazilian National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) or the USPTO may request accelerated prosecution of corresponding claim(s) in the other office. The PPH allows the applicant to obtain a patentability decision in the office of later examination (OLE) more quickly. Furthermo... [Read more](#)

2. WIPO Begins Public Consultation Process on Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property Policy

**WIPO TODAY
LAUNCHED A PUBLIC
CONSULTATION
PROCESS ON AI AND IP
POLICY, INVITING
FEEDBACK ON AN ISSUES
PAPER DESIGNED...**

[GO TO TOP](#)

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) today launched a public consultation process on artificial intelligence (AI) and intellectual property (IP) policy, inviting feedback on an issues paper designed to help define the most-pressing questions likely to face IP policy makers as AI increases in importance. Beginning December 13, 2019, WIPO published its issues paper with a call for comments from the widest-possible global audience. It is the latest step in WIPO's response to the ongoing interaction of AI with the IP system, including the use of AI applications in IP administration. "Artificial intelligence is set to radically alter the way in which we work and live, with great potential to help us solve common global challenges.. [Read more](#)

3. U.S. Patent and Trademark Office releases policy statement on standards-essential patents subject to voluntary F/RAND commitments

THIS POLICY STATEMENT MAKES CLEAR THAT SEPS SHOULD BE TREATED NO DIFFERENTLY THAN ANY OTHER PATENT, SUCH THAT ALL REMEDIES..

[GO TO TOP](#)

WASHINGTON - The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), jointly with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division today released a Policy Statement on Remedies for Standards-Essential Patents Subject to Voluntary F/RAND Commitments. The statement makes clear that standards-essential patents (SEPs) should be treated no differently than any other patent, such that all remedies are available depending on the facts of a case. The new statement leaves decisions on remedies for SEPs to relevant tribunals according to generally-applicable patent laws. The statement was the produc.. [Read more](#)

4. European Cooperation: new online services in Austria

APO, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EUIPO'S EUROPEAN COOPERATION PROJECTS, HAS IMPROVED THE SERVICE PROVIDED TO THEIR..

[GO TO TOP](#)

The Austrian Patent Office (APO), with the support of the EUIPO's European Cooperation Projects, has improved the service provided to their users through the launch of a set of modern online services for trade mark and design applications. The new digital services platform became available on 9 December 2019. This has been the third successful launch at APO of front office tools developed and offered by the EUIPO to the European Union national and regional intellectual property offices, following the introduction earlier this year of online forms to receive digital requests for registration of trade marks and designs. The new platform includes 44 new online services for trade... [Read more](#)

5. Schedule of PCT Fees at the JPO

**INCREASE IN
PATENT
COOPERATION TREATY
(PCT) HANDLING FEE
FROM JANUARY 1,
2019**

[GO TO TOP](#)

This article is only for applicants who filed international applications under the PCT, with a receiving Office other than the JPO (RO/JP).

[Important Notice] Increase in PCT Handling Fee from January 1, 2019 - This is to notify you that effective January 1, 2019, the handling fee for international applications filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) will decrease by JPY 300. Please take note of the revised total amount that you are to pay, which is provided below. (1) The amount of the preliminary examination fee payable shall be the amount in effect as of the date when payment is made. (PCT Rule 58.1(b))... [Read more](#)

6. New image recognition technology in design and trade mark search

**EUIPO IN IMAGE
RECOGNITION, THE
OFFICE HAS IMPLEMENTED
A NEW AI SOLUTION TO
ALLOW ITS USERS TO
CARRY OUT IMAGE-
BASED SEARCHES FOR
DESIGNS**

[GO TO TOP](#)

Surpassing the high quality solutions already in place at EUIPO in image recognition, the Office has implemented a new artificial intelligence solution (AI) to allow its users to carry out image-based searches for designs and trade marks, with new algorithms in place both in eSearch Plus and TMView. In the advanced search function of eSearch Plus, the new algorithms can make Locarno and Vienna class suggestions based on uploaded images, thus making searches for trade marks and designs easier.

EUIPO and image recognition for designs: the basics - Upload up to seven view images of a design to see if anything similar is already registered at the EUIPO. This fast, free of charge service is not only helpful before filing, but is also useful afterwards as a means to monitor your IP right... [Read more](#)

7. CNIPA and EPO Enhance Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

**CNIPA, SHEN
CHANGYU, AND THE
PRESIDENT OF THE EPO,
ANTÓNIO CAMPINOS,
AGREED TO ENHANCE
THEIR BILATERAL
COOPERATION IN THE..**

[GO TO TOP](#)

Recently, at their annual meeting in Suzhou, the Commissioner of the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), Shen Changyu, and the President of the European Patent Office (EPO), António Campinos, agreed to enhance their bilateral cooperation in the framework of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). The aim is to give patent applicants filing an international patent application in English at the CNIPA as Receiving Office the choice to opt for the EPO as their International Searching Authority (ISA). It is expected that this new option will be offered in the course of next year, and be implemented as a two-year pilot programme. CNIPA Commissioner Dr Shen... [Read more](#)

8. Notice: Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)

**PROCEDURE
GUIDELINES NOTICE
FOR PATENT
PROSECUTION
HIGHWAY (PPH)**

[GO TO TOP](#)

A Bilateral Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot program has commenced between the Indian Patent Office (IPO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO). The guidelines in this regard have been published on the website of Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks. The said guidelines are issued to address the procedures that applicants need to take to request expedited examination. Applicants can request expedited examination by a prescribed procedure including submission of relevant documents on an application which is filed with the Office of Later Examination (OLE) and satisfies the requirements described in these guidelines under the PPH pilot program between IPO and JPO based on the application which is determined to.. [Read more](#)

9. Launch of New Patent System in Hong Kong

**PATENTS REGISTRY
OF THE IPD HAS
STARTED ACCEPTING
AND EXAMINING
FILINGS UNDER THE
NEW PATENT SYSTEM
LAUNCHED**

[GO TO TOP](#)

HONG KONG - The Patents Registry of the Intellectual Property Department (IPD) has started accepting and examining filings under the new patent system launched (December 19) according to the official website of the Department. The new patent system essentially comprises an original grant patent (OGP) system which creates a direct route for seeking standard patent protection in Hong Kong with a maximum term of 20 years, as an alternative to the existing "re-registration" route. OGP applications are subject to substantive examination by the Registry for determining the patentability of the underlying inventions. The Director of Intellectual Property, Mr. David Wong, said, "The OGP system demonstrates the Government's commitment to... [Read more](#)

10. Singapore Joins Locarno Agreement as 58th Member

**SINGAPORE HAS
JOINED THE LOCARNO
AGREEMENT AS THE
58TH MEMBER OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM
FOR INDUSTRIAL DESIGN**

[GO TO TOP](#)

Singapore has joined the Locarno Agreement as the 58th member of the international classification system for industrial designs. WIPO Director General Francis Gurry on December 19, 2019, received Singapore's instrument of accession to the Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Singapore to the World Trade Organization and World Intellectual Property Organization, Hung Seng Tan. The Locarno Agreement will enter into force in Singapore on March 19, 2020.

About the Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs—The Locarno... [Read more](#)

11. Improved e-filing for designs in Romania

**OSIM IN ROMANIA
HAS NOW FULLY
IMPLEMENTED THE
UPGRADE OF ITS FRONT
OFFICE IT SYSTEM,
IMPROVING THE E-
FILING FOR DESIGNS**

[GO TO TOP](#)

The State Office for Inventions and Trademarks (OSIM) in Romania has now fully implemented the upgrade of its front office IT system, improving the e-filing for designs. The OSIM's digital platform, developed in cooperation with the EUIPO's European Cooperation programme, helps filing design applications in a simple and efficient way. The new e-filing service for designs allows users to submit design views in a digital format rather than on paper, which significantly simplifies the administrative processes and increases efficiency within OSIM. The new service is able to process standardised, multiple and divisional design applications. It also provides user guidance through the sections, previous design applications as a template to import data, and improved fees details. The EUIP... [Read more](#)