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1. The U.S.-Mexico Patent Prosecution Super-Highway

PATENT PROSECUTION HIGHWAY (PPH) AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE USPTO AND MEXICO

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The Patent Prosecution Highway agreement between the USPTO and Mexico's IMPI was set to expire this year, and the status of the program going forward was uncertain. But on January 28, the Offices announced a new, even more streamlined agreement. For the past several years, the patent offices in the United States and Mexico have operated under a type of patent examination fast-tracking and work-sharing agreement known as a Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH). This agreement between the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI) was set to expire in June of this year, and the status of the program going forward was uncertain. But on January 28, the Offices announced...[Read more](#)

2. Outline of Accelerated Examination/Accelerated Appeal Examination System for Design Applications

GUIDELINES FOR ACCELERATED EXAMINATION/ ACCELERATED APPEAL EXAMINATION SYSTEM FOR DESIGN APPLICATIONS

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Since its introduction on December 15, 1987, the accelerated examination/accelerated appeal examination system concerning applications for design registration has been operated to precisely cater for social needs for early protection of designs.

1. Accelerated examination system: *The accelerated examination system is a system enabling an examination to be conducted more quickly than under the regular examination upon an appellants' request.*

11-1 Applications eligible for accelerated examination - *An application for design registration that meets the requirements in (1) or (2) below is eligible for accelerated examination. Please note that applications containing new subject matt... [Read more](#)*

3. New in PATENTSCOPE : Patent Families And More

**NEW IN
PATENTSCOPE :
PATENT FAMILIES
AND MORE**

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As of today, you will find information related to patent families for PCT applications [PDF](#), Patent Families help in PATENTSCOPE. A new option, under refine Options, will give access to family member and the indication PCT family will appear in the documents in question. There are more than 2,7 million unique PCT patent families available in PATENTSCOPE. Each family includes: **1.** a PCT member considered to be the main representative of the family; **2.** national applications that have specified a prior PCT application; **3.** national entry phase records, and priority application of the PCT application when unique and first publication. **4.** priority application of the PCT application when unique and first publication. Searchable Coo... [Read more](#)

4. Turkish Patent and Trademark Office Publishes Guideline for Design Examination

**TPTO HAS
PUBLISHED GUIDELINE
FOR DESIGN
EXAMINATION
GIVE INFORMATION
REGARDING**

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Turkish Patent and Trademark Office ("TPTO") has published Guideline for Design Examination ("Guideline") to give information regarding the practice of the provisions on design application within Industrial Property Law numbered 6769 ("IPL") and the Regulation on the Application of the IPL. The Guideline also aims to ensure consistency among decisions. The Guideline explains and elaborates design practices in detail, including the definition and essential features of design, application filing procedure, and qualifications for applicants. Furthermore, the Guideline includes information regarding the application processes for both national and international institutions. The Guideline also explains "Issues to be Considered Sec... [Read more](#)

5. Visual search in TMview extended to Benelux

**TMVIEW'S VISUAL
SEARCH FACILITY,
WHICH ALLOWS USERS
TO SEARCH FOR TM
IMAGES IN THE WORLD'S
LARGEST ONLINE TM**

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TMview's visual search facility, which allows users to search for trade mark images in the world's largest online trade mark database continues to grow. The Benelux Office of Intellectual Property (BOIP) made its trade mark images available to the visual search tool in TMview on 5 February 2020. In 2017, an image search facility, which enable to search for trade marks using images, was implemented in TMview on a pilot basis. The extension of the TMview visual search to the BOIP follows its extension to the IP offices of Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and ... [Read more](#)

6. IPOPHL Expects Robust Boost in IP Use as Innovation Law's Set in Motion

**IPOPHL WELCOMES
THE SIGNING OF THE
IMPLEMENTING RULES
AND REGULATIONS OF
THE LANDMARK
REPUBLIC ACT 11293 OR
THE PHILIPPINE**

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The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) welcomes the signing of the implementing rules and regulations of the landmark Republic Act 11293 or the Philippine Innovation Act of 2018, a move that will finally jumpstart the country's innovation advancements, especially of micro, small, and medium (MSME) enterprises, toward a faster track. Under the approved guidelines, the 25-member National Innovation Council (NIC), which is led by the President of the Philippines to forge the country ahead in innovation development, shall issue a policy direction to ensure that relevant government agencies mainstream the harnessing of the intellectual property (IP) system for national progress. At the signing ceremony held... [Read more](#)

7. Notice: Patent Prosecution Highway

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

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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. Since 44 requests were found not eligible as per the PPH Guidelines, the IPO will again start accepting Form 5-1 under Chapter 5 of the PPH Guidelines from 9th March 2020. The number of requests will be limited to 44. The Indian Patent Office (IPO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO) commence a Bilateral Patent Prosecution Highway pilot program (hereinafter referred to as "PPH Pilot Program") consisting of Normal PPH1 and PPH MOT. [Read more](#)

8. CNIPA to Cease Issuing Paper Patent Certificates from March 3, 2020

**CNIPA RECENTLY
ISSUED AN
ANNOUNCEMENT ON
MATTERS RELATED TO
ELECTRONIC PATENT
CERTIFICATES AND
ELECTRONIC SEALS**

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China's National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) recently issued an Announcement on Matters Related to Electronic Patent Certificates and Electronic Seals of Electronic Patent Application Notices (Decree No.349), in which it pointed out: As of March 3, 2020, the CNIPA will issue electronic patent certificates for electronic patent applications through the patent electronic application system, instead of paper patent certificates. Right owners of electronic patent applications may request for a paper patent certificate through the electronic patent application website (<http://cponline.cnipa.gov.cn>). From February 17, 2020, the CNIPA will no longer use the seal of "Patent Application Acceptance of the CNIPA" but the seal of "Patent... [Read more](#)

9. New EUIPO Guidelines for Examination enter into force

**NEWEST EDITION
OF THE GUIDELINES
FOR EXAMINATION OF
EUTMS AND RCDS
ENTERED INTO FORCE
ON 1 FEB. 2020**

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The newest edition of the Guidelines for Examination of EUTMs and RCDs entered into force on 1 February 2020 following their adoption by the Executive Director of the Office on 12 December 2019. They are available in both HTML and PDF format on the EUIPO website. More information on the substantial changes that have been made can be found in the article 'The 2020 Guidelines', published in the December 2019 edition of Alicante News (p. 11), or the webinar delivered on 21 January 2020 on the 'New EUIPO Guidelines'. For the time being, the newest edition of the Guidelines is only available in the five Office languages: English, French, German, Italian and Spanish. Please note that the previous webpage containing only PDF versions has... [Read more](#)

10. Decisions on trademark opposition in China published online

**CHINESE
TRADEMARK OFFICE HAS
ANNOUNCED THAT
DECISIONS ON
TRADEMARK
OPPOSITION IN CHINA
PUBLISHED ONLINE**

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*The Chinese Trademark Office has announced that decisions on trademark opposition in China are now published online. This is in force since 1 January 2020. The China National Intellectual Property Office (CNIPA) has recently announced that opposition decisions in the field of trademarks are now published online as of January 1, 2020. Opposition decisions are published on the China Trademark Network within 20 working days from the date of posting, except in one of the following cases: **1.** if they concern business secrets and the privacy of the parties; **2.** if the party requests confidentiality in writing and the Trademark Office deems it appropriate; **3.** if the Trademark Office considers other special circumstances inappropriate for publication... [Read more](#)*

11. Copyright Office Announces New Fee Schedule

**COPYRIGHT
OFFICE IS ANNOUNCING
A NEW FEE SCHEDULE
FOR SERVICES IN
THE FOLLOWING
AREAS**

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The Copyright Office is announcing a new fee schedule for services in the following areas: registration, recordation, record retrieval, search and certification, the Licensing Division, and other services. These fees, which track those detailed in a report to Congress in fall 2019, will take effect on March 20, 2020. The final rule establishing the new fee schedule was published in the Federal Register today and is available here. This new fee schedule is the product of a process encompassing a comprehensive cost study, evaluation of the Office's budget requirements, and consideration of over 160 public comments. It also reflects modifications to the Office's earlier proposals based on public comment, including a reduction in certain... [Read more](#)

12. New e-filing for designs in Denmark

**DANISH PATENT
AND TRADEMARK
OFFICE (DKPTO) HAS
IMPLEMENTED A
NEW DESIGN E-FILING
SYSTEM**

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The Danish Patent and Trademark Office (DKPTO) has implemented a new design e-filing system, which went live on 17 February 2020. Developed in cooperation with the EUIPO under ECP1 (European Cooperation Project), the new system is configured to process both standard and multiple design applications. The system includes tooltips with further information and the automatic numbering of designs and views, integration with Design Class and coloured, validated Locarno classes and subclasses, and the automatic calculation of fees as users navigate their way through the e-filing process. The new system also allows users to file validated applications in a digital format, and contains a simplified and updated architecture and technology stack, to simplify the IT administrative.... [Read more](#)

13. New Zealand joins TMview

**IPONZ
MADE ITS TRADE
MARK DATA AVAILABLE
IN THE TMVIEW
SEARCH TOOL**

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On 17 February 2020, The Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) made its trade mark data available in the TMview search tool. With the integration of IPONZ, TMview now contains data from 73 participating offices. With the addition of more than 685,000 trade marks from IPONZ, TMview provides information and access to more than 57 million trade marks. Since the introduction of TMview on 13 April 2010, the tool has served more than 67 million searches from 169 different countries, with Spain, China and Germany among the most frequent users. The integration of IPONZ is a concrete result of the International Cooperation programme managed by EUIPO in collaboration with its international partners... [Read more](#)

14. Fast Track Examination

**APPLICATION
FOR TRADEMARK
REGISTRATION WHICH
SHALL BE SUBJECT TO
FAST TRACK
EXAMINATION**

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1. Outline of the Fast Track Examination - Fast track examination is an examination operation where applications that meet the conditions will be examined in about 6 months from the filing date. 1 The length of time may be adjusted according to the state of commencement of regular examinations for applications.

2. Application for Trademark Registration Which Shall be Subject to Fast Track Examination - Applications that satisfy both of the following requirements shall be subject to the fast track examination: (1) An application for trademark registration in which only the goods or services published in the "Examination Guidelines for Similar Goods and Services" "Regulation for Enforcement of the Trademark Act" or "International Classification of Goods and Services (Nice Classifi... [Read more](#)