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1. WIPO Digital Access Service for Priority Documents

**WIPO DAS FOR
PRIORITY DOCUMENTS,
A PCT APPLICANT CAN
REQUEST THE IB TO
RETRIEVE A COPY OF AN
EARLIER APPLICATION
FROM DAS**

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It is recalled that, by using the WIPO Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (DAS), a PCT applicant can request the International Bureau (IB) to retrieve a copy of an earlier application from DAS for use as a priority document, instead of providing or arranging for the provision of a certified copy. Note that, in order to be able to make use of the DAS service, it is the office with which the earlier application was filed which needs to be a DAS depositing Office, and not necessarily the receiving Office with which the international application is filed.

European Patent Office :- Since 1 November 2018, the European Patent Office (EPO) has been acting as depositing and accessing office for European patent applications.... [Read more](#)

2. EPO and Jordan launch negotiations on validation agreement

**THE HEADS OF
THE EPO AND THE
JORDANIAN IPPD MET
IN MUNICH TODAY TO
START NEGOTIATIONS
ON A VALIDATION
AGREEMENT**

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The heads of the EPO and the Jordanian Industrial Property Protection Directorate (IPPD) met in Munich today to start negotiations on a validation agreement. The agreement aims to provide inventors and businesses with a simple and cost-effective way of obtaining patent protection in Jordan based on a European patent and patent application filed at the EPO. Under the future agreement, an applicant can have European patent applications and patents validated in Jordan, where they will enjoy the same legal effects as national Jordanian applications and be subject to national law. The future agreement will also be accompanied by an advanced technical co-operation.. [Read more](#)

3. INTA Offers Free In-Person Trademark Legal Services to Boston-Area Small Businesses and Entrepreneurs

**INTA ANNOUNCED
IN A PRESS RELEASE
THAT IT WILL BE
HOSTING A PRO BONO
TM CLINIC ON MAY 20,
DURING ITS UPCOMING
ANNUAL MEETING IN
BOSTON**

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NEW YORK – *The International Trademark Association (INTA) announced in a press release that it will be hosting a Pro Bono Trademark Clinic on May 20, during its upcoming Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. Nonprofits, small businesses, and individuals seeking legal services relating to trademarks will have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with trademark attorneys who will be donating their time to assist those in the Boston area. "Today, Boston is a thriving hub of commerce, a hotbed of innovation, and home to an ever-expanding pool of talent. These entrepreneurs are poised to make important contributions to the economy," said INTA CEO Etienne Sanz de Acedo.... [Read more](#)*

4. The 2019 EU-Taiwan Seminar on Geographical Indications

**TIPO AND
THE EETO HELD THE
2019 TAIWAN-EU
GEOGRAPHIC
INDICATIONS
SEMINAR**

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TIPO and the European Economic and Trade Office (EETO) held the 2019 Taiwan-EU Geographic Indications Seminar on March 20 together. The conference featured presentations by experts from both the EU and Taiwan, including Ms. Natalie Nathon, International Relations Officer, Dir A — International, DG AGRI, European Commission; Mr. Benedetto Francesco Ballatore, Inspector and Policy Official of the Italian Ministry of agricultural food forestry and tourism policy (Mipaft)- ICQRF department; Ms. Virginie Dessimiroff, Legal Director of the BNIC (Bureau National Interprofessionnel du Cognac); Mr. Guo-Chi Lee, Section Chief, Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan; Mr. Chi-Fan Liu, Township Mayor, Yuchih Township Office, Nantou... [Read more](#)

5. Changes to the PCT Publication Schedule

**CHANGES TO
THE PCT PUBLICATION
SCHEDULE
PUBLICATION OF
31 MAY 2019**

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Due to the fact that Thursday, 30 May 2019, will be a non-working day at WIPO, the PCT applications (as well as any Official Notices (PCT Gazette)) which would normally have been published on that day will be published on Friday, 31 May 2019. The date of completion of technical preparations for that publication will, however, remain unchanged, and any changes that should be taken into account for the purposes of international publication should be received by the International Bureau by midnight (Central European Time (CET)) on Tuesday, 14 May 2019. The publication Official Notices (PCT Gazette) is part of the Gazette published by the International [Read more](#)

6. Intellectual Property Office (Philippines) to Begin Operating as an International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authority

**IPO (PHILIPPINES)
WAS APPOINTED
AS ISA AND
INTERNATIONAL
PRELIMINARY
EXAMINING AUTHORITY**

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It is recalled that the Intellectual Property Office (Philippines) was appointed as International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) at the 49th session of the Assembly of the PCT Union, which was held in October 2017 (see [PCT Newsletter No. 10/2017](#)). On 10 April 2019, the Intellectual Property Office (Philippines) notified WIPO that it will begin operating as an ISA and an IPEA with effect from 20 May 2019. Furthermore, the Office has, with effect from 20 May 2019, specified itself in addition to the Australian Patent Office, European Patent Office, Japan Patent Office, Korean Intellectual Property Office or United States Patent.... [Read more](#)

7. Artificial Intelligence Based Image Search Tools in EUIPO and WIPO

IMPORTANCE OF A FULL LOGO SEARCH OR IMAGE SEARCH THAT HELPS THE OWNERS OF THE MARKS TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THEIR MARK

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When it comes to protecting a brand, securing the trademarks and logos is something that is at the topmost priority. Before proceeding for the registration of your logos and trademarks, it is always advisable to ensure right at the beginning that, whether the mark is available for use or not. It is imperative that one must make sure that their mark is not infringing on someone else's intellectual property.

Here comes the importance of a full logo search or image search that helps the owners of the marks to determine whether or not their mark is infringing on someone else's IP to determine to go ahead or not for the registration of such mark. [Read more](#)

8. Canada: Managing Canada's Changing Trademark Landscape: Registrations And Renewals

REPORTED THAT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO CANADA'S TRADEMARK LAW WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON JUNE 17, 2019

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In a previous bulletin, " Save the Date: Preparing for Canada's New Trademark Regime Coming Into Force on June 17, 2019", we reported that significant changes to Canada's trademark law will come into effect on June 17, 2019. Over the next two months, BLG will prepare and circulate a bulletin series to provide some tips and practical considerations on how trademark owners may tailor their trademark and brand protection strategies in light of these upcoming changes. This first bulletin focuses on pending applications that can be registered before June 17, 2019, and on renewals of existing trademark registrations.

1. Declaration of Use and Term of Registration :- Under current Canadian trademark law, when a pending.... [Read more](#)

9. Amendments to the PCT Regulations

**PCT REGULATIONS,
AS IN FORCE FROM 1
JULY 2019, ARE
AVAILABLE IN ARABIC,
CHINESE, ENGLISH,
FRENCH AND SPANISH
ON THE RIGHT HAND
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It is recalled that the Assembly of the PCT Union adopted, during its 50th session which was held in Geneva from 24 September to 2 October 2018, amendments to PCT Rule 69.1(a) that will enter into force on 1 July 2019 (see PCT Newsletter No. 10/2018). The amendments will allow the International Preliminary Examining Authority to start international preliminary examination once it is in possession of the demand for international preliminary examination, the relevant fees, either the international search report or the declaration by the International Searching Authority under PCT Article 17(2)(a), and the written opinion established under PCT Rule 43bis.1, except where the applicant expressly requests to postpone the start of the international [Read more](#)

10. The first non-traditional trademark registrations have been granted in Mexico

**THE FIRST
NON-TRADITIONAL
TM REGISTRATIONS
HAVE BEEN GRANTED
IN MEXICO**

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The Mexican Industrial Property Law was significantly amended last year through two batches of amendments. Read this Kat's reviews on the first batch [here](#) and the second one [here](#) and [here](#). The second batch of amendments to the Law entered into force on 10 August 2018 and modified a number of provisions related to trademarks. One such amendment provides that trade dress, scents, sounds, holograms, the combination of colors and certification marks are entitled to trademark protection under Mexican IP Law. In a public ceremony that took place on 7 February 2019, Juan Lozano, Director of the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI) handed trademark registration certificates to the following owners: Hasbro, Inc. for... [Read more](#)

11. Singapore to Offer World's Fastest Patent Application-to-Grant for AI Inventions

**IPOS ANNOUNCED
IN A PRESS RELEASE
THAT IT WILL
ACCELERATE GRANTS OF
AI RELATED PATENT
APPLICATIONS TO JUST
SIX MONTHS, WHICH
WILL BE THE FASTEST IN
THE WORLD**

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SINGAPORE – With immediate effect, the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) announced in a press release that it will accelerate grants of Artificial Intelligence (AI) related patent applications to just six months, which will be the fastest in the world.

The Accelerated Initiative for Artificial Intelligence (AI2) (人工智能专利优先计划) will strongly complement Singapore's shift to a digital economy, and support innovative enterprises who need to bring their AI products faster to global markets. Now, innovators can expect their AI patents to be granted in as quickly as six months, compared to a typical period of at least two years or more. See Annex A for eligibility criteria.

Today's world economy is driven by innovation and digitization. Industry 4.0 has arrived, and AI is at the forefront of this development. According to a 2017 report, AI could potentially double Singapore's annual economic growth rates from 3.2% to 5.4% by 2035.

The drive towards AI is gaining momentum within the Government with a five-year Digital Government Blueprint plan launched last year for ministries and agencies to adopt one AI project by 2023. Companies in Singapore have also taken a proactive stance towards AI. 50% of businesses in telecom, insurance, finance, IT and retail have adopted AI solutions, with the remaining 30% indicating that they will do so by mid of this year. Globally, the number of companies imple.... [Read more](#)