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1. EPO concludes working agreement on search co-operation with Slovenian Intellectual Property Office (SIPO)

THE BENEFITS OF THE WORKING AGREEMENT FOR SLOVENIAN APPLICANTS, WHICH BECOMES EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST JAN. 2024

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On 4 September, the European Patent Office (EPO) and Slovenian Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) concluded a working agreement on search co-operation. EPO President António Campinos was welcomed to Slovenia by Mr Matjaž Han, Minister of the Economy, Tourism and Sport, and by SIPO Director Ms Karin Žvokelj. In Otočec, Ms Žvokelj and President Campinos signed the agreement, which aims to help the national office provide its users with high-quality search products in a timely manner. Slovenia becomes the 17th contracting state with which the EPO currently has a working agreement on search co-operation in place.

President Campinos's exchanges with Minister Matjaž Han continued their discussions of December last year, when Slovenia....[Read more](#)

02. TIPO Offers New Examination Services for Design Patents

TIPO WILL BEGIN ACCELERATED EXAMINATION OF DESIGN PATENTS FROM SEPTEMBER 1ST

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TIPO is expanding the range of examination services for design patents, including options for accelerated examination and simultaneous adjustment of the deferred examination period for design patents:

*1. **Accelerated Examination:** To combat design infringement and assist design competition winners and new startups obtain rights to their design creations as quickly as possible, TIPO will begin accepting applications for accelerated examination of design patents from September 1. Applicants that meet one of the following.... [Read more](#)*

03. Agreement on the enhancement of Japan-ASEAN IP Cooperation at the 13th Japan-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting in Singapore

**ECONOMIC RESEARCH
INSTITUTE FOR ASEAN
& EAST ASIA - INTRO-
DUCED A NEW SURVEY
TO BE LAUNCHED IN
FY2023**

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On September 6, 2023, the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and the intellectual property offices (IPOs) of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member States held the 13th Japan-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting in Singapore. This meeting was held within IP WEEK, an IP event organized by the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore. At this meeting, JPO and ASEAN IPOs agreed on the FY2023-2024 Japan-ASEAN IP Rights Action Plan. Additionally, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) presented their final report on the study of patent examination practices....[Read more](#)*

04. Welcome to the new EPO website

**USERS ARE HAPPY
WITH THE SITE'S
STRUCTURE, SO YOU
WILL RECOGNISE MANY
NAVIGATION LABELS**

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The EPO is pleased to launch its new website today. With an improved search experience, informative sections for inventors and SMEs, a transparency portal and a responsive design optimised for all devices, the new EPO website has been designed to meet the evolving needs of our users in the digital era.

In re-developing the site, we gathered input from user satisfaction surveys, focus groups, usability tests and our customer services. Today's re-launch reflects your feedback, significantly improving the site's navigation, search experience and overall look and feel. Our research showed that users are happy with the site's structure, so you will recognise many navigation labels. However, you may notice some slight changes as we introduce.....[Read more](#)

05.2022 Trends & Comparisons: Taiwan Invention Patent Applications and WIPO PCT Applications

TAIPEI AND HSINCHU CITY COLLECTIVELY ACCOUNT FOR 55.4% OF ALL RESIDENT INVENTION APPLICATIONS IN TAIWAN IN 2022

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Of Taiwan's invention patent applications, semiconductors (with a share of 14.5%) claimed the top spot among 35 technology fields in 2022, while computer technology (10.4%) took the lead for all WIPO PCT applications. In Taiwan, invention patent applicants from Taiwan, Mainland China, Japan, the US and R. Korea filed mostly in semiconductors, while the top 5 countries (regions) filed mostly in computer technology, digital communication and electrical machinery in WIPO PCT applications. As for applicants, TSMC and Huawei took the lead in Taiwan and WIPO PCT applications, respectively.....[Read more](#)

06. System for the Team Supporting AI Examinations to be Enhanced to Achieve Efficient and Highest-Quality Examinations of AI-Related Inventions

AI WILL BE UTILIZED IN CREATIVE PROCESSES IN A WIDER RANGE OF FIELDS TO A GREATER DEGREE THAN PREVIOUSLY POSSIBLE

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In January 2021, the Japan Patent Office (JPO) launched a Team Supporting AI Examinations, an internal body in which the respective examination divisions collaborate outside of the technical fields they are responsible for in examinations of AI-related inventions. The JPO hereby announces that it will enhance a system for the team to achieve the efficient and highest-quality examinations of AI-related inventions.

In January 2021, the JPO launched a Team Supporting AI Examinations, an internal body which consists of experts on AI examination, management officials, and other officials.....[Read more](#)

7. IPOPHL expands to MIMAROPA with new satellite office

IT IS NOT JUST A PHYSICAL SPACE; IT IS A HUB OF POSSIBILITIES, A BEACON OF SUPPORT FOR THE INVENTORS AND CREATORS WHO DRIVE PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

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The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) opened its intellectual property (IP) satellite office (IPSO) in MIMAROPA (Mindoro Oriental & Occidental, Marinduque, Romblon, and Palawan) last August in a bid to provide accessible IP services to the region. At the ceremonial opening of IPOPHL's 16th satellite office, Director General Rowel S. Barba said the establishment of the IPSO for MIMAROPA marks a significant milestone for IPOPHL's ongoing mission to support innovation, creativity and economic development across the country. "While MIMAROPA is well-known for its abundant agricultural produce, bountiful forests and beautiful beaches, its MSMEs are also unlocking the region's potential through[Read more](#)

8. The role of patents in the pharmaceutical sector

FOR SHARING KNOWLEDGE AMONG A LARGE RANGE OF ENTITIES, INCLUDING STARTUPS, SMES, UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS THAT DEVELOP VALUABLE MEDICINES IN A VARIETY OF FIELDS

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Today, senior experts from the European Patent Office (EPO) met online with representatives of the European Alliance for Responsible R&D and Affordable Medicines to discuss aspects of the patent system in the pharmaceutical sector. The discussion highlighted the importance of transparency and dialogue with civil society, especially when it comes to innovation with the potential to save lives and improve the well-being of millions of people. Participants exchanged on questions related to the patent granting process, with a focus on health-related technologies. The EPO invited the European Alliance to contribute to the public online user consultation on the Guidelines for Examination, which runs each year from February to April. The EPO also invited the European Alliance to participate....[Read more](#)

9. Bahrain Updates its Patent and Utility Model Fees for Individuals

**UPDATED SCHEDULE
FOR PATENT AND UTILITY
MODEL FEES FOR INDIVIDUALS
WAS APPLIED ON SEPTEMBER
22, 2023**

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MANAMA – The Minister of Industry and Commerce has issued the Ministerial Decision No. 67 of 2023 updating the official fees of patent and utility model registration for individuals. The updated schedule for patent and utility Model fees for Individuals was applied on September 22, 2023, which has amended the previous schedule for individuals.

Service	Fees (Individual)
Patent application filing and formality examination	40 BHD (106 USD)
Substantive examination by the Patent Office	250 BHD (663.12 USD)
Patent grand and publication	50 BHD (133 USD)

.....[Read more](#)

10. Introducing the USPTO's new cloud-based trademark search system with basic and advanced search options

**LAUNCH OF THE BETA
VERSION OF OUR NEW
TRADEMARK SEARCH
SYSTEM**

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As we recently noted, we are improving our search tools frequently used by patent and trademark filers and web visitors to provide a more multi-faceted, reliable search experience. To that end, we are excited to announce the launch of the beta version of our new trademark search system. This new, cloud-based search system will replace our current system (Trademark Electronic Search System, or TESS) to make searching for trademark registrations and/or applications easier – a necessary step for any aspiring or current business owner looking to protect their brand....[Read more](#)

11. USPTO issues milestone 1 millionth design patent

DESIGN PATENT 1 MILLION COMES 181 YEARS AFTER PRINTER GEORGE BRUCE RECEIVED THE FIRST DESIGN PATENT GRANTED IN 1842

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) today officially issued U.S. design patent 1 million, an important milestone in American innovation and creativity. Granted to Agustina Huckaby of Fort Worth, Texas, design patent 1 million is for the ornamental design for a dispensing comb. Huckaby, a licensed cosmetologist, holds another patent for a different comb design and markets her business under the federally registered trademark *Pomp and Powder*.

The USPTO grants design patents for new, original, and ornamental designs for an article of manufacture. Protecting the way something looks, as opposed to how it works (covered by a utility... [Read more](#)

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12. U.S. Copyright Office Issues a Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Related to Termination Rights, Royalty Distributions, Ownership Transfers, Disputes, and the Music Modernization Act's Statutory Mechanical Blanket License

INITIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 26, 2023, AT 11:59 P.M. EASTERN TIME

The U.S. Copyright Office has published a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking modifying an earlier proposed rule regarding the applicability of the derivative works exception to termination rights under the Copyright Act to the statutory blanket mechanical license established under the Music Modernization Act. The supplemental notice also expands the proposed rule's scope to address matters relevant to identifying the proper payee to whom the mechanical licensing collective must distribute royalties. The supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking and instructions on how to submit comments are available here. Initial written comments must be...[Read more](#)

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13. U.S. Copyright Office Extends Deadline for Comments on Artificial Intelligence Notice of Inquiry

PUBLIC HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE FULSOME RESPONSES TO THE OFFICE'S QUESTIONS

The U.S. Copyright Office extended the deadline to submit comments in response to its August 30, 2023, notice of inquiry regarding artificial intelligence and copyright. The new deadlines will ensure that members of the public have sufficient time to prepare fulsome responses to the Office's questions so the Office can proceed with its inquiry with the benefit of a complete record of public input and feedback.

Initial written comments are now due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on Monday, October 30, 2023. Reply comments are now due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on Wednesday, November 29, 2023.....[Read more](#)

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14. U.S. Copyright Office Issues Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Regarding Access to Electronic Deposits

TO REDUCE THE NEED FOR COPYRIGHT OWNERS TO DEPOSIT PHYSICAL COPIES

The Copyright Office has issued a notice of proposed rulemaking to update its regulations regarding electronic deposits of published works submitted to the Office eligible for selection by the Library of Congress for addition to its collections. The proposed rule expands the categories of electronic deposits covered by current regulations with the same limitations on access as currently in place. The proposed changes are part of ongoing steps by the Library and the Office to encourage the submission of works in electronic form and reduce the need for copyright owners to deposit physical copies. The notice of proposed rulemaking and instructions on how to submit comments are available....[Read more](#)

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