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**IP Abuse Rule Released**

The State Administration of Industry and Commerce (SAIC) of China has issued final Rules on Stopping the Abuse of Intellectual Property to Eliminate or Restrict Competitive Conduct on April 7 (Order No. 74) with an effective date of August 1, 2015. Corporate abuse of intellectual property rights to eliminate or restrict competition will face penalties.

[http://www.saic.gov.cn/zwgk/zyfb/zjl/fld/201504/t20150413\\_155103.html](http://www.saic.gov.cn/zwgk/zyfb/zjl/fld/201504/t20150413_155103.html)

**IP Laws and Regulations under Revision**

On April 1, State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of China started to solicit public comments on its new draft of **Patent Law Amendments**.

Deadline for submitting comments is April 28.  
[http://www.sipo.gov.cn/tz/gz/201504/t20150401\\_1095939.html](http://www.sipo.gov.cn/tz/gz/201504/t20150401_1095939.html)

SIPO has also started to solicit public comments on its **Examination Measures on Rescinding Integrated Circuit Layout Design Proprietary Right (Draft)**.

Deadline for submitting comments is May 1.  
[http://www.sipo.gov.cn/tz/gz/201504/t20150401\\_1095598.html](http://www.sipo.gov.cn/tz/gz/201504/t20150401_1095598.html)

On April 2, the State Council Legislative Affairs Office published a draft of the **Service Invention Regulations** along with an accompanying explanation. The draft was prepared with the assistance of SIPO and the Ministry of Science and Technology. Comments are due by May 2, 2015. The draft fully respect the autonomy of the parties, and adopts the principle of priority of the agreement on the rights of ownership and incentive remuneration reached by the parties according to law.

<http://www.chinalaw.gov.cn/article/cazjgg/201504/20150400398828.shtml>

**Supreme People's Court Set up IP Protection Office**

The Supreme People's Court recently set up a judicial protection research center for intellectual property rights. The center researches major IP judicial issues including those caused by the Internet and offer suggestions for IP laws, judicial interpretation and policies. The center will also showcase IP judicial protection achievements in China and become an international exchange platform for IP protection.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=7653>

### **China IPR Management Improving**

China has improved its intellectual property rights (IPR) management and received the most patent applications in the world in 2014 for the fourth year running. China received 2.36 million patent applications in 2014, including 928,000 invention patent application, up 12.5 percent year on year.

China had received a total of 16.1 million trademark applications by the end of March. It now takes less than nine months for a trademark to be approved, about one month less than 2013. China still lags behind the developed countries in trademark work, with only about 1,000 trademarks for every 10,000 market entities, while the figure is about 3,000 in developed countries.

[http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201504/t20150417\\_1103091.html](http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201504/t20150417_1103091.html)

### **Copyright Registration for Apps Soars in 2014**

The number of copyright registrations in China for apps tripled to 30,742 in 2014. The increase was the fastest of any type of software, said the report on software copyright registration in China for 2014 issued by the Copyright Protection Center of China, a semi-governmental organization that processes copyright registration.

Last year, the country registered copyrights for 218,783 software programs, up from about 100,000 in 2011, and registered about 72,000 new holders, 30.21 percent more than in 2013,

according to the report. About 71 percent of new software copyright holders in 2014 were corporations.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=7689>

### **HKSAR on Track to Be IP Trading Hub**

The government said it decided to promote Hong Kong as a trading hub for intellectual property, assets appearing in all aspects of modern life. A total of HK\$23 million has been set aside to fund the development of the industry earlier.

However, Hong Kong still has a long way to go towards an international IP trading hub.

One of the crucial tasks is to introduce an original grant patent (OPG) system in town.

[http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201504/t20150402\\_1096230.html](http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201504/t20150402_1096230.html)

### **Singapore to Establish Intellectual Property Representative Office in China**

Businesses and inventors venturing in to and out of China will soon benefit from greater protection, exploitation and commercialization of intellectual property through the establishment of an Intellectual Property Office of Singapore's (IPOS) Representative Office in Guangzhou, China.

IPOS, along with SIPO and the Guangdong Provincial People's Government, endorsed the project at the inaugural Trilateral Meeting in Guangzhou on April 14.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=7718>