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Regulations on Reducing Patent Fees to Come into Force on September 1, 2016

The regulations on Reducing Patent Fees jointly issued by the Ministry of Finance and National Development and Reform Commission would come into force on September 1, 2016.

According to the roughly calculation by the Ministry of Finance, the patent fee would be reduced by about 4.1 billion yuan every year after implementation of the opinion.

In 2006, the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) formulated regulations on reducing the rate of patent cost based on the former implementation regulations of Chinese patent law. Nearly 70% patent applicants or patentees enjoyed the above privileges. In 2015, a total of 3.5 billion yuan of patent fees were reduced.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201608/t20160817_1286695.html

PPH Pilot Program between the SIPO and the ILPO Extended Indefinitely as from August 1, 2016

On August 1, 2014, the SIPO and the Israel Patent Office (ILPO) launched the PPH pilot

program, whose duration was 2 years. It is scheduled to expire on July 31, 2016.

The PPH pilot program between the SIPO and the ILPO will be extended indefinitely as from August 1, 2016. Related requirements and procedures remain unchanged.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201608/t20160805_1284673.html

China Issues 13th Five-Year Plan on Scientific and Technological Innovation

Recently, the 13th Five-Year Plan on national innovative development plan was issued by the State Council of China, depicting the scientific and technological innovation development of China in next five years.

According to the plan, the comprehensive ability of innovation would rank the 15th place in the world. The S&T and innovation policy would continue improving. The IPR would be effectively protected. Among the major indexes, by 2020, the contributing percentage of science and technology would increase from 55.3% to 60%. The number of invention patent owned by per 10,000 heads would increase from 6.3 to 12, that of PCT filing would be doubled from the currently 30,500.

The plan stresses to implement IP strategy and accelerate to building China into an IP power house; improve the IP laws and regulations; aggravate punishment for the crime in IP infringement, improve compensation, conduct punishment compensation system and reduce safeguarding cost; improve enforcement mechanism for IP infringement, strengthen the coordination between administrative enforcement and judicial protection, beef up IP comprehensive administrative enforcement; establish a green channel for patent examination; guide the market players to create and use IP, promote the commercialization of innovative achievements by building a IP interests share mechanism; implement IP management in central finance S&T plan, establish an IP evaluation system; build a multiple IP system for serving business and foster a group of brand IP services.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201608/t20160817_1286696.html

SIPO Releases the First Report on National Patent Survey

The SIPO released The 2015 Report on Patent Survey in China, which was the first time that the SIPO released a report on national patent survey.

According to the report, the implementation rate of valid invention patents in China has reached 50%. Among the respondents, enterprises generally have a higher level of patent utilization, while universities and

colleges mainly implement their patents via grant license thereof, not forming industrialization. At the present stage, most Chinese patentees are discontented with the protection level of patent in China, and hold the opinion that it should be strengthened. The percentage of patentees having been infringed in recent years, however, has dropped significantly, and patentees now expect the administrative authorities to take more responsibility by becoming the initiator of legal procedures against infringements.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201608/t20160802_1284168.html

China Registered 11.223 Million Valid Trademarks by the End of June

Recently, the Trademark Office under China State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC) published Chinese trademark registration data on the trademark registration facilitation reforms briefing. As of the end of June this year, 11.223 million valid trademarks have been registered in China, accounting for about one third of the total valid registered trademarks of the world.

During the first half of this year, over 1.74 million trademark applications have been filed in China and the total applications of the whole year is expected to reach 3.5 million. Since 2002, the Chinese trademark registration application has ranked first in the world for 14 consecutive years.

According to SAIC's recent opinions on the facilitation reforms of vigorously promote the trademark registration, a few measures were adopted to promote trademarks development, such as to add trademark registration application acceptance at the local office, to establish trademark examination collaborating centers outside Beijing, to fully implement the liberalization of the online application for trademark registrations; to gradually expand the online service of registration application, to shorten the issued time of trademark registration application acceptance notice from 6 months to 3 months so as to achieve the electronic registration of trademarks during the whole process step by step.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/official/201608/t20160810_1285256.html

Alibaba Cooperate with Customs to Combat IP infringement

E-commerce giant Alibaba Group signed an intellectual property protection memorandum with Hangzhou Customs on July 26 to cooperate on a range of measures, including investigation and resource sharing to combat IP infringements in cross-border trade. Alibaba will introduce a range of measures, including closing accounts that have been verified as fraudulent by customs and using big data analysis to both assist customs in law enforcement and find shops and related individuals involved in fraudulent cross-border e-commerce.

<http://www.chinaipmagazine.com/en/news-show.asp?id=8636>

Universities to Retain All Earnings from Research Findings

Chinese universities will have the autonomy in transferring the intellectual property from scientific research and shall keep all the earnings, a government document said.

According to a circular released by the Ministries of education, and science and technology on Friday, no less than half of the net earnings from transfers shall be rewarded to researchers.

Major contributing researchers and faculty members should take no less than 50 percent of the total rewards, said the circular.

China has created a series of policies to encourage scientists to translate their research into commercial products. The State Council in March issued a regulation that provides detailed measures for academics and inventors on how to commercially exploit their work, as the country pushes for innovation-driven development.

Authorities are also encouraging research institutions and technical personnel to transfer or licensing their achievements or to invest with them as trade-ins.

Performance in translating scientific outcomes to products will be considered in the overall evaluation of research and higher learning institutions, according to the policies.

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/iprspecial/201608/t20160822_1287422.html