



Important Activities and Works

SIPO-DKPTO, SIPO-NBPR, SIPO-KIPO, SIPO-IMPI and SIPO-APO PPH Pilot Programs Extend

The Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot programs between the State Intellectual Property Office of the P. R. China (SIPO) and the Danish Patent and Trademark Office (DKPTO), and between SIPO and the National Board of Patents and Registration of Finland (NBPR), will both be extended as of January 1, 2014. The SIPO-DKPTO PPH pilot program will be extended for two years until December 31, 2015. The SIPO-NBPR PPH pilot program will be extended infinitely.

The Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot programs between the State Intellectual Property Office of the P. R. China (SIPO) and the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), between SIPO and the Mexican Institute of Intellectual Property (IMPI), and between SIPO and the Austria Patent Office (APO), have all been extended as from March 1, 2014. The SIPO-KIPO PPH pilot program will be extended for two years from March 1, 2014 to February 29, 2016. The SIPO-IMPI PPH pilot program will be extended infinitely. The SIPO-APO PPH pilot program will be extended for two years from March 1, 2014 until February 29, 2016.

SIPO-INPI and SIPO-SPTO PPH Pilot Programs Started on January 1, 2014

According to the Memorandum of Understanding on the PPH Pilot Program between China's State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) and the Portuguese Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) and the Memorandum of Understanding on the PPH Pilot Program between SIPO and the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (SPTO), the SIPO-INPI and SIPO-SPTO PPH pilot programs have officially started on January 1, 2014. The SIPO-INPI PPH pilot program will last for two years until December 31, 2015, and the SIPO-SPTO PPH pilot program will last for three years until December 31, 2016.

IP5 PPH Pilot Program Starts on January 6, 2014

According to the consensus reached by European Patent Office (EPO), Japan Patent Office (JPO), Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), State Intellectual Property Office of P. R. China (SIPO), and the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on the IP5 PPH pilot program, the three-year-long IP5 PPH pilot program was launched on January 6, 2014 and will last till January 5, 2017. During this time, applicants can make PPH requests to the SIPO following *Procedures to File a Request to the State Intellectual Property Office of the P. R. China (SIPO) for Participation in the IP5 Patent Prosecution Highway (IP5 PPH) Pilot Program*, and to the aforementioned four other Offices following their respective requirements and process.

Regulations on Patent-related National Standards (Provisional) to come into force

Regulations on Patent-related National Standards (Provisional), jointly developed by the Standardization Administration of China and the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO), now comes into force. The Regulations for the first time regulate issues concerning patent-related national standards, including patent information disclosure, patent exploitation license and mandatory special patent-related national standards.

China's PPH Cooperation Network has taken shape

On November 1 2011, SIPO launched the first pilot PPH program. Up to now, SIPO has reached cooperation agreements with the patent offices from 16 countries and regions including Japan, USA, South Korea, Canada, etc. A network for PPH cooperation has been developed and attracted extensive attention from domestic and foreign patent applicants and patent agencies. As of the end of 2013, Chinese applicants have submitted 836 PPH requests overseas, all of which were given accelerated examination to certain extent. The SIPO have received 5,602 PPH requests in total, most of which were filed by American and Japanese applicants.



China introduced a new system for online filing of PCT international applications

The new system, referred to as CE-PCT, came into operation on March 31, 2014. Patent applicants may submit related documents at the international stage of PCT international applications through the e-application website of CE-PCT and the e-application software of PCT-SAFE. The CE-PCT system is designed and developed by the SIPO, and has such functions as case management, case inquiry, authorized management and online payment. After the CE-PCT system comes into operation, the way of submitting documents through the PCT-SAFE software will be kept. It is noteworthy that for new patent applications submitted through PCT-SAFE, only paper follow-up intermediate documents will be accepted.

The White Paper on China's IPR Protection in 2013 Published

On April 22, 2014, the SIPO released the *White Paper on China's IPR Protection in 2013*. According to the white paper, in 2013, the Chinese government brought its intellectual property strategy deeper, intensified efforts of intellectual property protection, and made big strides forward in intellectual property system construction, examination and registration, law enforcement, mechanism and capability building, publicity, education and training, as well as international cooperation. In 2013, the number of patent applications received in China grew rapidly. Altogether 2,377,000 patent applications were received throughout the year, up by 15.9% year on year, of which 825,000 were applications for invention patents, up by 26.3% year on year. The patent examination capacity continued to improve. An accumulation of 355,000 substantive examinations of invention patent applications were made throughout the year, up by 3.1% year on year. International patent applications received through the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) reached 22,924 in number throughout the year, up by 15% year on year. The number of trademark applications kept growing rapidly. Copyright registration kept growing steadily. In 2013, the national administrative enforcement departments filed altogether 262,000 cases of intellectual property infringement and cases of producing and selling shoddy and counterfeited commodities, transferred 4,550 cases to the judicial office, and destroyed 5,441 dens; the national public security departments investigated and uncovered 55,000 criminal infringement and counterfeiting cases, caught 59,000 criminal suspects; the national procuratorial organs ratified arrest of 9,161 infringement and counterfeiting cases, 14,000 criminal suspects, and examined 14,000 prosecution cases and 23,000 persons; and the national judicial organs trialed

and concluded 12,000 criminal cases concerning infringement and counterfeiting, and effectively adjudicated 17,000 people.

Cultivation of National-level Markets for Standardized Intellectual Property Protection Initiated

On May 30, 2014, the SIPO identified 65 professional markets to be the first batch of national markets for standardized intellectual property protection to be cultivated. According to the arrangements, the markets to be cultivated with approval shall complete the construction within 2 years. The work will focus on intellectual property protection in key field and areas, cultivate a group of professional markets, each of which has a strong sense of intellectual property protection, completely constructed rules and regulations, a strong ability to protect intellectual property and standardized management; give full play to the leading and demonstrative role of these professional markets in local areas and their respective industries; and gradually build an intellectual property protection system for professional markets that are guided by the government, participated in by industrial and commercial associations and sponsored by the markets.

The 7th IP5 (SIPO, USPTO, EPO, JPO and KIPO) Heads Meeting Held

From June 4 to 6, the 7th Meeting of IP5 Heads of Offices among China, the U. S. , EU, Japan and South Korea was held in Busan, South Korea. Shen Changyu, the Commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office of P. R. China (SIPO), led the delegation to attend the meeting. At the meeting, the IP5 heads listened to the main achievements of IP5 cooperation in the past year, agreed on approvals of increasing the openness of patent information at the IP5 level, the IP5 strategy for timeliness, convening quality control meeting, etc. They also made sufficient communication about the work plan for the next step on projects including global dossier and patent harmonization.

The 5th China-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Conference Held

On June 30, 2014, the 5th China-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Conference was held in Vietnam. At the conference, the latest progresses of intellectual property work in China were introduced; hot-spot issues in the



field of intellectual property were discussed in depth; a thematic introduction, made by the SIPO, on Cloud Patent Examination System was listened to; and *China-ASEAN 2014-2015 Intellectual Property Cooperation Work Plan* was deliberated and passed.

SIPO-UKIPO, SIPO-IPO, SIPO-PRV and SIPO-IPO PPH Pilot Programs Launched

According to the agreement between the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO) and UK Intellectual Property Office (UKIPO), that between the SIPO and Icelandic Patent Office (IPO), that between the SIPO and the Swedish Patent and Registration Office (PRV), and that between the SIPO and Israel Patent Office (IPO), the SIPO-UK-IPO, SIPO-IPO, SIPO-PRV and SIPO-IPO PPH pilot programs have been officially launched on July 1, 2014 and shall last for two years until June 30, 2016. The SIPO-IPO PPH pilot program will be officially launched on August 1, 2014 until July 31, 2016. The applicant may submit the PPH application to the SIPO, the UK-IPO, the Icelandic Patent Office, the PRV and the Israel Patent Office following related procedures.

WIPO China Office Opened in Beijing

On July 10, the opening ceremony of China Office of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) was held in Beijing. It is the 5th of its kind to be opened worldwide after WIPO offices in Brazil, Japan, the United States and Singapore. Dr. Francis Gurry, Director General of WIPO, Wang Anshun, Mayor of Beijing and Shen Changyu, the Commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office of China (SIPO), attended the opening ceremony and gave speeches, and unveiled the WIPO China Office together with leaders of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of China and the National Copyright Administration of China. The WIPO China Office will serve as a new bond and a communication platform for the cooperation and communication between China and WIPO. Meanwhile, it will provide international intellectual property service for Chinese enterprises and innovators and help China better participate in international cooperation and communication.

8th SIPO–EPO Heads Meeting Held

On September 19, 2014, the 8th Heads Meeting between the SIPO and European Patent Office (EPO) was held in Munich, Germany. Shen Changyu, Commissioner of the SIPO, and Benot Battistelli, President of EPO, led delegations to attend the meeting. Both reviewed mutual cooperation in the year of 2014, and exchanged views on PPH, patent examination business, patent classification, staff training and automation, among other future cooperation plans.

Series of Meetings of the 54th Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO held

Series of meetings of the 54th Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO were held in Geneva, Switzerland on September 22, 2014. Shen Changyu, the Commissioner of China's State Intellectual Property Office, led the Chinese government delegation—which was made up of delegates from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of China, the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television of China, the State Intellectual Property Office of China, China's Permanent Mission to Geneva and Hong Kong SARG Intellectual Property Department—attended the meetings. Shen Changyu made a general speech at the meeting, introduced the latest development of intellectual property in China since 2014, disclosed information about the implementation of the national intellectual property strategy, construction of the intellectual property law system, intellectual property creation and application, and notified that China had officially approved *Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performance*. Shen Changyu gave opinions on intellectual property affairs under the framework of WIPO. He believed that we should fully play and extend the role of PCT system as the existing international patent filing system in order to make it more efficient and further improve its quality; appropriately balance the development levels of different countries at different stages, and fully meet the needs of small and micro enterprises; give full attention to the concerns of developing countries in WIPO "Development Agenda" and continue to provide strong support for its implementation; insist on promoting intellectual property and commission on genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore among governments as to conclude an international legal instrument. During the Assemblies, Shen Changyu also had a meeting with Gurry, Director General of the WIPO, and both signed a bilateral cooperation agreement; met with the ambassador of Chinese permanent mission to Geneva; attended the 3rd "BRICS" Intellectual Property Office heads meeting;



held bilateral talks with the intellectual property department directors of more than 10 countries and regional organizations such as Russia, EU Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market, Australia, Canada, Chile, Iran, Israel, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Sweden, Ethiopia and Poland, and reached a number of cooperation consensus.

China and Singapore Signed Memorandum of Understanding on IPR

Under the witness of Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli and Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean, Shen Changyu, Commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), and Tan Yih San, Chief Executive of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS), signed the *Memorandum of Understanding on Intellectual Property Rights between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Singapore*. According to the MOU, China and Singapore will strengthen exchanges in intellectual property creation, utilization, protection and management and promote the cooperation of intellectual property organizations from the two countries. Both sides will continue to hold high-level dialogues and exchange views on issues of common concern including intellectual property cooperation and development, and the formulation and implementation of intellectual property strategies, laws and regulations. They will conduct intellectual property information and experience sharing including spread of their respective intellectual property culture, personnel training as well as intellectual property management and service; make the Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City a pilot area for mutual intellectual property cooperation, and actively explore comprehensive pilot reform of intellectual property utilization and protection; strengthen exchange and cooperation in intellectual property utilization, share experience in intellectual property valuation and appraisal, promote the implementation, trading and commercialization of intellectual property; strengthen cooperation in intellectual property examination and authorization and provide high-quality and convenient service for the innovative entities, including the enterprises from both countries, through PPH and other mechanisms; enhance exchange of ideas on and cooperation in the building of the intellectual property automation system and the sharing of documents and data; and exchange views on major issues concerning international intellectual property system discussed by the World Intellectual Property Organization and other international organizations. Cooperation between SIPO and IPOS has been on for over 10 years and seen fruitful results. The signing of the MOU raises bilateral cooperation in intellectual property to a brand-new level, and helps both sides to enhance experience exchange, information sharing and pragmatic cooperation so as to achieve mutually beneficial win-win outcome and common development.

SIPO and EPO Heads Meeting Held

On November 12, 2014, the SIPO and EPO Heads Meeting was held in Brussels, Belgium. SIPO Commissioner Shen Changyu and EPO Director Benot Battistelli led delegations to attend the Meeting. During the meeting, both signed *SIPO–EPO Bilateral Cooperation Work Plan 2015*, reviewed mutual cooperation in the year of 2014, exchanged ideas on the implementation of the intellectual property strategy by China, the amendment of the Chinese patent law, and the latest progresses of the single European patent system, and exchanged views on key topics such as Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC), patent examination business, data switching and migration, PCT and IP5 cooperation. Both agreed to hold a series of events to commemorate the 30th anniversary of mutual cooperation next year.

The 8th International Exhibition of Inventions Held

On November 19, 2014, the 8th International Exhibition of Inventions jointly held by China Invention Association and International Federation of Inventors' Associations was held in Kunshan, Jiangsu Province. This four-day exhibition themed with "Get together in Kunshan, Let the Invention Dream Shine" covered an exhibition area of over 20,000 square meters, had more than 1,000 exhibition booths, and nearly 3,000 exhibition projects. All Chinese provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities and related industry associations, the People's Liberation Army of China formed groups to take part in the exhibition. Thirty countries and regions including the US, Germany, South Korea, Sweden, Russia, Hungary, Philippines, Poland and Thailand, and five international organizations including the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) sent delegations to participate in the exhibition.

China to Open Its Patent Information Resources to the IP5 Offices of China, the United States, Europe, Japan and South Korea

Since December 10, 2014, the SIPO would allow the public to access for free all the patent documents and their updates archived by the intellectual property offices of China, the United States, the European Union,



Japan and South Korea. It is the first platform in the world to provide the public with both its own basic patent data and foreign basic patent data. Opening the public documents and their updates is a concrete measure to meet the requirement, of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council, for streamlining administration and delegating power to lower levels and advancing the disclosure of government information. It will effectively ensure the implementation of the innovation-driven development strategy, stimulate market vitality, promote the development of the intellectual property service sector, and produce great economic and social benefits. After the patent documents and their updates are opened to the public, the patent data resources service test system built by the SIPO will allow the public to access at free all the latest patent documents and their updates archived by the intellectual property offices of China, the United States, the European Union, Japan and South Korea—including China's recorded patents for invention, utility model or design, full-text and abstract data, as well as 8 types of patent data of the intellectual property offices of Japan, South Korea, the United States and Europe—for the period of the recent 30 days thereafter.

The 7th Cross-Strait Patent Forum Held

On October 14 to 15, 2014, the 7th Cross-Straits Patent Forum, organized by All-China Patent Attorneys Association (ACPAA) and Taiwan Federation of Industries, was held in Taipei. Over 200 representatives from the competent patent authorities, patent sector and patent agency sector from both sides of Taiwan Straits attended the forum, and held in-depth communication and discussions on such topics as intellectual property development dynamics and trends at both sides of Taiwan Straits, design patent application practices, patent examination cooperation, sharing of cases on patent judicial remedies, the development and trend of practices of patent infringement remedies, win-win cooperation strategy for patent agents, and had good results.

Patent enforcement and rights defense in the field of e-business saw phased achievements

Since the SIPO initiated the special campaign of patent enforcement and rights defense in the field of e-business in early May 2014, local intellectual property offices took active measures to innovate in their work mechanism for patent enforcement and rights defense according to the requirements of the work plan and in combination of the local reality, intensified efforts of law enforcement in the field of e-business, and has seen phased achievements now. As of the end of October 2014, local intellectual property offices in Zhejiang, Beijing and

Jiangsu have handled over 2,700 cases of patent infringement and counterfeiting in the field of e-business; built an effective cooperation mechanism for handling cases of patent infringement and counterfeiting with e-business service enterprises like Alibaba (China), JD.com, Dangdang.com and Sunny.com, forcefully cracked down upon behaviors of patent infringement and counterfeiting in the field of e-business, and effectively protected the legal rights and interests of patent right owners.