



Circular on Further Promotion of Electronic Filing of Patent Applications

G. ZH. B. B. Z. [2011] No. 61

Intellectual property offices of all provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the Central Government, cities under separate state planning, Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, and sub-provincial cities:

In 2010, thanks to the joint efforts of intellectual property offices nationwide, the monthly rate of electronic filing (E-filing) of Chinese patent applications reached 52.4% at the end of the year. In order to further promote E-filing of patent applications and break a new ground in the first year of the 12th Five-year Plan period, this Circular is hereby given in respect of relevant matters:

I. Fully understand the importance of promoting E-filing of patent applications

E-filing of patent applications is an important indicator of the development of IP-related work. China has been including E-filing of patent applications into the "Promotion Plan for the Implementation of the National Intellectual Property Strategy" for two consecutive years. Promoting E-filing of patent applications is a necessary move to accelerate transformation of the economy development mode, improve capability for IP administrative services and boost China's international

status and reputation in the IP field. Local IP offices should further recognize the importance of promoting E-filing of patent applications and put it higher on the IP priority list.

II. Define objectives and identify priorities in promoting E-filing of patent applications

In order to maintain and expand the achievements in promoting E-filing of patent applications, the overall objectives are defined as follows: the monthly rate of E-filing of patent applications should be increased to 70% ~ 75% at the end of the year 2011, and further increased to 75% ~ 80% at the end of 2012.

To that end, local IP offices should further take advantage of and play their role as receiving offices, and enhance synergies in promoting E-filing of patent applications; continue to step up guidance for patent agencies and encourage them to raise their monthly E-filing rate to 90% or above at the end of 2011; pay extra attention to cities, industrial parks and enterprises rich in patent applications and significantly increase the E-filing rate of major patent applicants.

III. Intensify efforts to break down and implement tasks

Organization and leadership should be strength-

ened. Local IP offices should effectively strengthen organization and leadership, develop local objectives and policy measures in line with the overall objectives defined by SIPO and having regard to local conditions, and make such arrangements as circular forwarding, task breakdown and organized implementation in a timely manner.

Incentive mechanisms should be created. Local IP offices should combine E-filing promotion with local specific areas of work, such as pilot and model projects, identification of preponderant enterprises, accelerated examination, circuit hearing and agency capability enhancement, and grant preferential policies to outperformers in E-filing of patent applications. In addition, SIPO will actively support local IP offices and regard local E-filing rates as an important

index in performance assessment and ranking of the local receiving offices.

Collaboration should be enhanced. SIPO will further improve policy measures on E-filing of patent applications, step up efforts to build the patent application E-filing system, pay visits to relevant areas to direct and carry out E-filing publicity and training from time to time, and regularly release dynamic data on E-filing rates of all provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government as well as patent agencies. Any problems that emerge in the course of promoting E-filing of patent applications should be promptly reported to SIPO.

This Circular is hereby given.

May 31, 2011

Decision of the State Intellectual Property Office on Strengthening Patent Administrative Enforcement

G. ZH. F. G. Z. [2011] No. 74

The intellectual property offices of all provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the Central Government, cities under separate state planning, sub-provincial cities and Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps; all departments of the State Intellectual Property Office, all departments under the Patent Office of SIPO and all entities and social

groups directly under the State Intellectual Property Office, to carry into full effect the work arrangements of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council on strengthening the intellectual property law enforcement, accelerate the promotion of the construction of the patent administrative enforcement system, effectively establish and improve a long-term effect mech-