

## **Important Activities and Works**

### **Eight Departments Including SIPO Co-holds the Review and Commendation Conference on 2010 World Expo IPR Protection Special Campaigns**

The Review and Commendation Conference on 2010 World Expo IPR Protection Special Campaigns was held on December 23, 2010 jointly by SIPO, Ministry of Public Security, General Administration of Customs, State Administration for Industry and Commerce, National Copyright Administration, Supreme People's Procuratorate, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade and State Council Information Office. The meeting included a review of the results of the special campaigns, commendation to selected individuals and organizations for their outstanding performance and sharing of good practices in IPR protection during the Expo. The World Expo IPR protection work turned out to be a great success, providing valuable experience for national IPR protection activities. The next step is to maintain sound and solid national IPR protection, further enhance the sense of responsibility and mission for IPR protection, endeavor to improve IPR enforcement, integrate resources, strengthen collaboration and make efforts to solve prominent problems.

### **China Ranks the Fourth Place in the Number of International Patent Applications in 2010**

According to the latest data published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), China filed 12,337 international patent applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in 2010, representing an increase of 56.2% from 2009, the highest growth rate among major countries in the world. China's global ranking rose from the fifth place in 2009 to the fourth place, with business entities being China's main international patent applicants. In addition, SIPO received the world's fourth largest number of international patent applications under PCT in 2010, suggesting that SIPO has been widely recognized for its patent examination capability and possesses an increasingly strong influence in the international community.



## **SIPO Holds a Press Conference on the Special Law Enforcement Campaign against IPR Infringements and Production and Sales of Counterfeit and Inferior Commodities**

SIPO held a press conference on the special law enforcement campaign against IPR infringements and production and sales of counterfeit and inferior commodities on January 12, 2011. The meeting provided a briefing on the nationwide campaign, revisions of the *Measures for Administrative Patent Enforcement* as well as patent applications and grants in 2010. Quick and strong actions were taken across the country among IP offices during the special campaign which has been ongoing for nearly 3 months, an in-depth and fruitful one. During the campaign, 406 patent infringement disputes were received, 233 cases of patent counterfeiting investigated, 7,044 law enforcement officers involved, 2,568 business places inspected, 732,073 products examined, three cases transferred to the public security authority, 17 referral cases received from other agencies, 181 inter-agency enforcement collaborations carried out and 478 cross-regional enforcement collaborations completed.

## **English IP Channel of Chinadaily. com. cn Launched**

The English IP channel of Chinadaily. com. cn was launched on January 18, 2011. With an intention to “let the world hear China’s voices on IP issues”, the English IP channel of China Daily is divided into 13 modules, including news, significant activities, case studies, feature report, character and columns. Wonderful in layout and rich in content, the website will play a more important role in disseminating IP information and create a favorable media atmosphere for accelerating transformation of the economic development mode and building an innovative nation.

## **SIPO Carries out Supervision over the Special Law Enforcement Campaign against IPR Infringements and Production and Sales of Counterfeit and inferior commodities**

Starting from February 21, 2011, SIPO carries out supervision over the special law enforcement campaign against IPR infringements and production and sales of counterfeit and inferior commodities. This move mainly

includes inspecting, supervising and directing local law enforcement and case handling activities in the campaign, publicity activities regarding the campaign; foundation of law enforcement, recent campaigns and day-to-day law enforcement; law enforcement plans, arrangements and recommendations for the next step and operation of the IPR Protection Assistance Center. The move also includes a look into law enforcement activities in the campaign, in particular about repeated, group and malicious patent infringements, foreign-related infringements and fight against counterfeit patents; preventing, mediating and handling relevant disputes and supervising key cases in exhibition-related IPR enforcement; and major problems and difficulties encountered in law enforcement and countermeasures.

### ***The Outline of the 12th Five-year Plan for the National Economic and Social Development Highlights Intellectual Property***

*The Outline of the 12th Five-Year Plan for the National Economic and Social Development* (the “Outline”) includes “the number of invention patents owned by every 10,000 people” in the “main economic and social development indicators in the 12th Five-year Plan period”, stating that the number of invention patents owned by every 10,000 people should be increased from 1.7 in 2010 to 3.3 in 2015. It is the first time to incorporate patent indicators in China’s Five-year Plan for national economic and social development, which has far-reaching effects on implementing the national IP strategy and promoting the transformation of economic development mode. The Outline also requires strengthening policies supporting technological innovation, implementing the IP strategy, improving the IP legal system, enhancing creation, utilization, protection and management of IPRs and intensifying IPR enforcement.

### **China’s Public Satisfaction Index on Patent Examination Quality Rises to 81.1**

SIPO held a meeting to review the patent examination quality on April 12, 2011. Currently China’s patent examination quality remains stable in general. The public satisfaction index on patent examination quality rose to 81.1, representing an increase of 1.7 from 2009 and rising into the range of “customer satisfaction”. The quality of substantive examination of invention patents improves steadily, with fewer problems seen in substantive examination regarding grant decisions, rejection decisions and office actions of examination opinions. The quality of PCT international search and international preliminary examination remain stable. Re-examination and invalida-



tion cases maintain a good level of correctness. During the 11th Five-year Plan period, China made continuous improvement in its ability to examine the three kinds of patent applications ranked among the world's top few by patent application examination and possessed an internationally leading position in examination pendency. For the next step, SIPO will improve internal quality management using objective assessment, strengthen research of the regularity and generality of quality problems, solve and prevent examination quality problems more effectively and achieve continuous improvement in patent examination quality.

## **White Paper on China's IPR Protection in 2010 Published**

China's Intellectual Property Protection in 2010 (English and Chinese versions) was published on April 21, 2011. The white paper was compiled jointly by SIPO, the Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Culture, General Administration of Customs, State Administration for Industry and Commerce, National Copyright Administration, Ministry of Forestry, Legislative Affairs Office of State Council, Supreme People's Court and Supreme People's Procuratorate. The book reviewed China's IPR protection in 2010 from the perspectives of legislation, prosecution and registration, law enforcement, mechanism and capacity building, IPR protection in Shanghai World Expo and Guangzhou Asian Games, publicity, education and training as well as international cooperation. With full and accurate data, the book fully manifests China's achievements and progress in IPR protection and helps all sectors at home and abroad to gain a full picture of China's latest developments in IPR protection.

## **China's Patent Search and Service System Launched**

China's Patent Search and Service System officially went online on April 26, 2011. The system, a product of nearly two years' effort of SIPO, provides the most complete and richest patent information resources in China at present. It covers patent documents from 90 countries and regions, providing convenient services to broad-based audience. The system combines smart and specialized features, integrates patent search, patent analysis and other services and provides the public with such services as patent document search and patent information analysis, aimed at meeting user needs at all levels, promoting effective use and broad dissemination of patent information resources and providing stronger supports for China's technological advancement and economic development.

## **China's Software Piracy Rate Down to 12% in 2010**

The result of the “2010 China Software Piracy Rate Survey” suggests that, among all computer software installed, piracy rate dropped to 12% in 2010 from 14% in 2009, representing a decrease of 14 percentage points from 2005. The highest piracy rate went to office software, followed by development language and tool software and platform, information security and webpage design software. Map information and industry applications showed lower piracy rates. The decline in software piracy rate in 2010 is mainly attributable to continuous strong promotion of genuine software, rapid development of cheaper local software, strengthened publicity efforts of software makers, spreading of free software and diversified channels of software sales.

## **The *Outline of the National IP Strategy* Marks its Third Anniversary of Implementation with Significant Achievements**

At the third anniversary of the implementation of the *Outline of the National IP Strategy*, the IP strategy implementation system basically takes shape, the strategy is implemented at all fronts, 16 agencies developed the guidelines or work plans for IP strategy implementation, and 25 provinces (municipalities or regions), Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps and over 120 prefectural cities developed local IP strategies or implementation guidelines. In addition, implementation efforts have been intensified, evidenced by the launch of over 400 effective measures in 2009 and 2010. Market participants have been greatly inspired to innovate and feed rapid growth of IP applications. In 2010, both patent applications and trademark registrations exceeded 1 million, the number of China's international patent applications under PCT broke the mark of 10,000 for the first time, rising to the fourth place in the world, and both accumulative and valid registered trademarks top the world; 82,000 computer software copyrights were registered and 1,259 new plant variety applications were received. New breakthroughs have been made in indigenous IPRs in key technology fields. New progress has been achieved in IPR protection, sweeping crackdown programs were launched against IPR infringements and manufacture and sale of counterfeit and inferior commodities and effort was made to establish a long-term mechanism for IPR protection. The public atmosphere of IPR respect and protection is taking shape gradually. China's public awareness of IP has exceeded 90%.



## **An Exhibition Kicks off to Showcase Achievements of the Nationwide Special Campaign against IPR Infringements and Production and Sales of Counterfeit and Inferior Products**

An exhibition ([www. ipraction. cn](http://www.ipraction.cn)) kicked off on July 11, 2011 in Beijing to showcase achievements of the nationwide special campaign against IPR infringements and production and sales of counterfeit and inferior products. Chinese premier Wen Jiabao wrote the prologue for the exhibition. Chinese vice Premier Wang Qishan attended the kick-off ceremony as the group leader of the campaign and announced the launch of the exhibition. The exhibition fully manifests determination of the party and the government to strengthen IPR protection and build an innovative country and showcases achievements of local areas and agencies in handling major cases, conducting regulation in “key contents, key fields, key areas and key products” and explores the setup of a long-term mechanism for IPR protection. The exhibition comprises five modules, namely “Special Campaigns”, “IPR Protection”, “Combating Counterfeits”, “Promote Genuine Software” and “Challenges”. Each module provides an information service window, including law and regulation search, IPR protection and knowledge on the identification of counterfeit or inferior products. The Exhibition also provides interaction forums, such as leaving comments by the general public and guideline for complaint filing. SIPO also launched an “exhibition of SIPO achievements in the campaign against IPR infringement and production and sales of counterfeit and inferior commodities” on its web portal ([www. sipo. gov. cn](http://www.sipo.gov.cn)). The SIPO exhibition consists of six modules: “Strong Deployment & Full Implementation”, “Intensive Enforcement & Crackdown”, “12330 Hotline”, “Patent Protection & Innovation Development”, “Media & Publicity” and “International Exchange & Enhanced Confidence”, providing a full picture of SIPO campaigns and outputs.

## **20th China Invention Exhibition Held**

The 20th China Invention Exhibition was opened in Weihai on August 19, 2011. The exhibition was co-hosted by China Association of Inventions, Science and Technology Department of Shandong Province and Weihai Municipal People's Government under the theme of “Technological Innovation, Improved People's Livelihood and Coordinated Development”, mainly intended to showcase new inventions, technologies and products emerging in recent years across the nation and marry innovation forums to excellent projects. Present at the exhibition were 42 delegations from civil and military sectors across the Mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan and 1, 585 projects, encompassing industry, agriculture, electronics, environment protection, transportation and light industry.

## **Workshop on IPR Protection for Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Enterprises Held**

The workshop on IPR protection for Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan enterprises was held in Qingdao on August 31, 2011. Attendees to the meeting included representatives from SIPO, the Ministry of Public Security, General Administration of Customs, State Administration for Industry and Commerce, National Copyright Administration, Supreme People's Court, Supreme People's Procuratorate, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade and All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce. At the meeting, officials provided updates on overall IPR protection across the country in 2010 and the special campaign against IPR infringement and production and sales of counterfeit and inferior commodities. Representatives from Huawei, Haier and other enterprises introduced corporate IP work and problems in IPR protection. Representatives also provided comments and suggestions on the formulation and improvement of IP laws and regulations, IPR enforcement and judicial protection and government's IP support policy for enterprises. This meeting promoted communication between government and businesses, helped government launch strategic measures that better meet actual needs of enterprises and facilitated implementation of China's IP strategy and IPR protection work in the business community.

## **SIPO Signs IP Cooperation Agreement with the Intellectual Property Office of Kyrgyz Republic**

SIPO signed an IP cooperation agreement with the Intellectual Property Office of Kyrgyz Republic in Dalian on September 14, 2011. Under the agreement, China and Kyrgyz Republic will implement and develop cooperation in IPR protection on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. Areas of cooperation include discussion on IPR protection and utilization, legislation information, publications, exchange of experience and personnel in IPR protection, training of professionals and cooperation under WIPO and WTO frameworks.

## **The Results of Major Events and Most Influential People in National IPR Protection Published**

The results of "Major Events and Most Influential People in National IPR Protection 2010" co-hosted by



SIPO, the State Administration for Industry and Commerce and National Copyright Administration were unveiled in Beijing on September 19, 2011. 20 events including the “State Council’s Campaign against IPR Infringement and Production and Sales of Counterfeit and Inferior Commodities” and “Chinese Writers’ Copyright Claims against Google” were elected China’s major IPR protection events (cases) in 2010. 10 people including Wang Ziqiang, head of the Laws and Regulations Department of National Copyright Administration, were elected China’s most influential persons in IPR protection in 2010.

## **SIPO’s Special Campaign against IPR Infringements Delivered Remarkable Results**

Since the State Council deployed the campaign against IPR infringements and production and sales of counterfeit and inferior commodities, IP offices across the country have staged law enforcement inspections and intensive crackdowns in a well-organized and well-focused manner in accordance with the requirements of the State Council. As of May 2011, over 162,000 law enforcement officers were mobilized, 2,116 patent cases were handled, 580 inter-agency enforcement collaborations were carried out and 941 cross-regional enforcement collaborations completed. In the past 9 months, IP offices nationwide carried out intensive inspections and crackdowns on key areas, fields and stages in the form of law enforcement inspection, follow-up inspection and self-examination of manufacturers and large retailers, focused on combating repeated, group and malicious patent infringement and counterfeiting. With the quickness and convenience of administrative patent enforcement fully utilized, a number of repeated, group and malicious patent infringement and counterfeiting cases were investigated and handled under the cross-regional, inter-agency collaboration mechanism. These efforts have significantly strengthened IPR protection, provided a strong deterrent to relevant offenses, protected innovation outputs, shored up evidence of general consumers, innovators and IPR owners, further improved China’s international image in IPR protection and fostered an IP legal environment with better fairness and orderliness for accelerating transformation of China’s economic development mode.

## **Chinese Patent Documents Included into PCT Minimum Documentation**

Amendments to *Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Rules* were approved at the PCT Union Conference of the Series of Meetings of the 49th Assembly of Member States of WIPO held on September 30, 2011. China’s proposal



on including Chinese patent documents into the PCT minimum documentation was adopted unanimously, effective on July 1, 2012. By the end of August 2011, China boasted a total of 6.65 million documents on invention, utility model and industrial design patents, which grow by 100,000 annually. Chinese patent documents are becoming increasingly influential as China's technological strengths and innovation capability improve continuously. Inclusion of Chinese documents into the PCT minimum documentation will help patent examiners search a more complete set of existing technical documents, increase the efficiency and quality of PCT search and help Chinese patent documents go global and deliver more contributions to the world's technological innovation and IP development.

## **12th Five-year Plan for National Intellectual Property Development Released**

The *12th Five-year Plan for National Intellectual Property Development* was released on October 9, 2011. The plan was developed jointly by SIPO, the National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce, State Administration for Industry and Commerce, General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, National Copyright Administration and State Forestry Administration. Based on a review of IP achievements in the 11th Five-year Plan period, the plan analyzes challenges and opportunities facing IP work in the future and provides the roadmap and overall deployments for IP work in the 12th Five-year Plan period. The plan will further enhance China's capability of indigenous innovation, sharpen its core competitiveness, accelerate transformation of economic development mode, provide strong supports for fulfilling the strategic objectives of national IP development and significantly boost China's international influence in the IP field. SIPO and other agencies will further develop feasible supporting measures and policies to facilitate the implementation of the plan and ensure all tasks in the plan are accomplished to schedule. For patent work to be better done, SIPO also issued the *12th Five-year Plan for Patent* at the same time.

## **SIPO Jiangsu Patent Examination Cooperation Center Opened**

SIPO and the people's government of Jiangsu Province co-held a signing ceremony for the agreement on joint establishment of the SIPO Jiangsu Patent Examination Cooperation Center on October 12, 2011. SIPO Commissioner Tian Lipu and Jiangsu governor Li Xueyong addressed the ceremony and unveiled the Jiangsu center. The two sides signed the *Cooperation Framework Agreement between SIPO and the People's Government of Jiangsu Government on Joint Establishment of SIPO Jiangsu Patent Examination Cooperation Center*.



## **WIPO Regional Symposium on National IP Strategies Held**

The WIPO Regional Symposium on National IP Strategies co-hosted by WIPO and SIPO was held in Beijing on November 9, 2011. WIPO Director-General Francis Gurry attended and addressed the opening ceremony. At the meeting, IP experts from home and abroad discussed the role of national IP strategies in fulfilling national development goals and shared national achievements and good practices in developing and implementing national IP strategies. Also present at the symposium were heads of IP offices and other senior officials of 17 Asian-Pacific developing nations, including India, Philippines and Thailand, representatives from relevant Chinese authorities and heads of China's local IP offices.

## ***Promotional Plan for National Patent Development Strategy in 2012 Issued***

SIPO issued the *Promotional Plan for National Patent Development Strategy* on November 9, 2011. It is SIPO's first annual promotional plan since the *National Patent Development Strategy (2011-2020)* was published. Under the principles of "Overall Planning, Integrated Resources, Classified Implementation and Well-focused Promotion", the Plan provides detailed arrangements for the implementation of the national IP strategy in 2012, comprises 10 programs ("Patent Quality Enhancement", "Patent Utilization Promotion", "Administrative Patent Enforcement Promotion", "Patent-driven Business Transformation and Upgrading", "Patent-driven Industrial Restructuring", "Patent-driven Key Area Development", "Patent-backed 'Go Global' Strategy Implementation", "Patent Examination-backed National Major Policies", "Comprehensive Patent Service Capability Enhancement", "Top Patent Talent Development") and 34 measures and identifies responsible departments to ensure their implementation. The plan also sets forth over 10 major measures, mainly including patent quality enhancement policy, patent utilization system exploration, recognition of products with a patented technology advantage, IP assessment mechanism for major economic activities, setup of the national IP strategy promotion and service center and overseas patent protection assistance.

## **Mainland China and Hong Kong Enter into the First Agreement on IP Cooperation**

SIPO and Hong Kong Intellectual Property Department signed the first cooperation agreement in Hong Kong on November 16, 2011. The purpose of the agreement is to continue to strengthen Mainland China–Hong Kong cooperation in the IP field, boost communication between the two regions and jointly promote innovation and economic growth through emphasizing on IP. The fields of cooperation covered by the agreement include the exchange of information on laws, publicity, education and automated services; provision of staff training by SIPO at the request of Hong Kong Intellectual Property Department; exchange of information and publications between the two regions; promotion of the IP trade concept and trend to facilitate transformation and upgrading of businesses; and co-hosting of exhibitions, workshops, technology exchange and meetings.

## **The Fourth Cross–Strait Patent Forum Held**

The Fourth Cross–Strait Patent Forum was held in Fuzhou City, Fujian Province on November 24, 2011. At the forum, representatives on both sides discussed the latest developments of patent systems across the Strait, patent re-examination, invalidation and lawsuits, administrative patent litigation regulations and practices, experience in patent management and utilization, strategies and practices in response to international patent lawsuits, indigenous innovation of enterprises and experience in protection of interests.

## **The Fifth SIPO–EPO Commissioners Meeting Held**

The 5th Commissioner Meeting between SIPO and the European Patent Office (EPO) kicked off in Chongqing on November 30, 2011, where chiefs of the two offices signed the *Minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> SIPO–EPO Commissioner Meeting* and the *SIPO–EPO Bilateral Cooperation Plan 2012*. The two sides also reviewed cooperation between the two offices in 2011 and exchanged opinions on future cooperation, including examination practices, patent classification, data exchange, machine translation, automation, talent development and global IP affairs.



## **SIPO–JPO, SIPO–USPTO Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Launched**

The Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program between SIPO and Japan Patent Office (IPO) and between SIPO and United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) were launched on November 1 and December 1, 2011 respectively. Under the pilot program, an applicant may file a PPH request with SIPO in accordance with the PPH request procedure of SIPO, or file a PPH request with JPO or USPTO in accordance with the PPH request procedure of JPO or USPTO. The pilot program will last for one year. More information about PPH is provided in the PPH module of the SIPO website. The PPH pilot program will play a positive role in providing support for Chinese enterprises and other market participants to secure patents overseas as soon as possible.

## **UK–China IP Symposium Held**

The UK–China IP Symposium was held in London, UK jointly by SIPO, the United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office, UK Trade & Investment and China–Britain Business Council on December 8, 2011. Commissioner of SIPO Tian Lipu attended and addressed the symposium. Tian Lipu pointed out that the United Kingdom and the People's Republic of China both have centuries–old histories in knowledge innovation and have both made momentous contributions to the evolution of human civilizations. Currently UK ranks among the top few of the world's major economies by patent applications and grants in China, remaining on a path of growth. In the future, Chinese government and judicial authorities will continue cooperation with other countries, maintain communication with business entities and render quality, efficient services to innovators and IP owners. At the meeting, the two sides also held straight–out, open and pragmatic discussions on the important value of IP for trade, innovation and economy, IPR protection in China and the UK, improvement and promotion of technology transfer and IPR enforcement modes in the two nations. Present at the symposium were over 100 representatives from the Supreme People's Court, the Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Commerce, National Copyright Administration and State Administration for Industry and Commerce of China, relevant agencies of the UK and business communities of the two countries.

## **11th Policy Dialogue among SIPO, JPO and KIPO Held**

The 11th Policy Dialogue among SIPO, Japan Patent Office (JPO) and Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) were held in Gyeongju, South Korea. A Chinese delegation led by SIPO Commissioner Tian Lipu attended the meeting. Commissioners of SIPO, IPO and KIPO reviewed progress of the trilateral cooperation in 2011 and reached consensus on various aspects of future cooperation at the meeting. The roadmap for trilateral cooperation among the three sides was reviewed and approved. The three commissioners signed the *Joint Statement of SIPO, IPO and KIPO on Strengthening Cooperation in the Intellectual Property Field* and the minutes of meeting.

## **2011 National IPR Protection Symposium for Foreign-funded Enterprises Held**

SIPO held the 2011 national IPR protection symposium for foreign-funded enterprises on December 19, 2011 in combination with the Legislative Affairs Commission of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Commerce, General Administration of Customs, State Administration for Industry and Commerce, National Copyright Administration, Supreme People's Court, Supreme People's Procuratorate and China Council for the Promotion of International Trade in Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province to solicit comments and suggestions of foreign-funded enterprises on China's IPR protection. At the meeting, representatives of enterprises expressed their full recognition of the efforts and achievements made by the Chinese government in IPR protection, and also provided comments and suggestions on China's IPR protection, including IP legislation improvement, strengthened alignment between administrative enforcement and criminal or judicial protection, establishment of a sound collaboration mechanism for IP crime crackdown and effective crackdown on online IPR infringements. The meeting is the fifth symposium with foreign-funded enterprises held after China's national IP strategy was released for implementation. More than 160 representatives from the World Top 500 foreign-funded enterprises and over 10 Chinese enterprises attended the meeting.

## **National IPR Enforcement Meeting Held**

The national IPR enforcement meeting and the 5th China IPR enforcement forum was held in Changsha, Hu-



nan Province on December 20–21, 2011. The meeting reviewed IP enforcement in 2011 and put forward enforcement arrangements for 2012, including effectively boosting the emphasis on administrative patent enforcement, continuously stepping up implementation of the Decision on Strengthening Administrative Patent Enforcement, vigorously strengthening innovation in systems and mechanisms, persistently intensifying law enforcement and case handling, effectively promoting collaboration in law enforcement and vigorously stepping up effort to build the law enforcement team and conditions. The signing ceremony for inter–province (district or municipal) collaboration in administrative patent enforcement was also held during the meeting.

### **Public Satisfaction Index on Patent Examination Quality Rises to 81**

According to the survey on public satisfaction with patent examination quality conducted by SIPO, the annual public satisfaction index reached 81.5 in 2011, higher than the result in 2010 (81.1) and remaining in the range of satisfaction. SIPO conducted one–to–one in–depth investigation of 22 key applicants from home and abroad, including Huawei, Tsing Hua University, General Motors and Sony Corporation. Most respondents were satisfied with the overall quality of examination, saying that the SIPO examination procedures are smooth, examination period shortened and examination quality improved quickly in recent years. The investigation results also show that domestic and foreign applicants provided comments and suggestions on the assessment of common knowledge and common sense in patent examination, dismissal rate increase and claims supports. In response to selected public opinions collected in 2011, quality improvement measures have been included in the SIPO work plan for patent examination in 2012.