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01. Changes to the trademarks and patents legislation

**IN 2023, PARLIAMENT
PASSED THE
INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY LAWS
AMENDMENT**

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Changes in the Regulations and some remaining changes from the Act take effect from 17 May 2024. In 2023, Parliament passed the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Regulator Performance) Act 2023 (see Recent Legislative Reforms). Since then, the Governor-General has made the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Regulator Performance) Regulations 2024. These Regulations make minor changes to the Trade Marks and Patents Regulations to help implement the changes made by the Regulator Performance Act. These amendments aim to refine Australia's intellectual property (IP) rights system, streamlining use of the system... [Read more](#)

02. EPO and EUIPO renew their co-operation for 2024-2025

**THE EUROPEAN IP
SYSTEM, IMPROVE
ACCESSIBILITY FOR
USERS, PROMOTE A
MODERN IP CULTURE
IN EUROPE**

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The new work plan between the European Patent Office (EPO) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) reaffirms the two organisations' commitment to enhance the effectiveness of the European IP system, improve accessibility for users, promote a modern IP culture in Europe, and achieve stronger protection for European businesses abroad.

EPO President António Campinos has formally approved the EPO-EUIPO work plan 2024-2025, following its endorsement by EUIPO Executive Director João Negrão. The plan confirms the organisations' commitment to build on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2019 and previous work... [Read more](#)

03. TIPO Introduces New AI "Search by Image" Function

**THE NEWLY
LAUNCHED AI
"SEARCH BY IMAGE"
FEATURE ALLOWS
USERS TO OBTAIN AI-
PRE-FILTERED
APPROXIMATE**

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TIPO released a new AI "Search by Image" feature on March 25, which allows the public to upload trademark images and quickly verify whether identical or similar trademarks have already been registered or applied for. The newly launched AI "Search by Image" feature allows users to obtain AI-pre-filtered approximate trademarks without entering any other information. This enables quick comparison with previous cases, reducing the risk of confusingly similar to other trademarks and increasing the chances of successful trademark registration. The feature is still in the beta testing phase, and supplements the current image search system. The public is advised that before the official version is launched, search results should still be based on the current "Graphical Similarity Search" with filters of "Graphic path,".... [Read more](#)

04. Examination Guidelines for Trademarks

**TRADEMARK
EXAMINATION
GUIDELINES, WHICH
ARE CLASSIFIED AS
GENERAL GUIDELINES
FOR TRADEMARK**

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The basic concepts (including interpretation and operation) of the application of the Trademark Act in the performance of practical duties in trademark examination are summarized in the Trademark Examination Guidelines, which are classified as general guidelines for trademark examination and are broadly used in order to deepen trademark applicants' and their representatives' understanding of the practical duties performed at the JPO. To adapt to the Trademark Act amended in 2023, we revised the Examination Guidelines for Trademarks. The main revisions are the following:
1). Introduction of a consent system (Article 4 (4), Article 8). 2). Relaxation of registration requirements for trademarks that include the name of another person (Article 4 (1), viii).... [Read more](#)

05. TIPO Updates URLs for Certain Website Services Starting April 8, 2024

**TO ENHANCE
INFORMATION
SECURITY AND
PROVIDE MORE
RELIABLE PUBLIC
SERVICES, TIPO HAS
UPDATED THE LINKS**

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To enhance information security and provide more reliable public services, TIPO has updated the links for the following systems as of April 8, 2024. Old links will no longer be available beginning May 1, 2024. For the following services, please access the provided links below:

TIPO's Patent Specific Terminology Bilingual Glossary Search: <https://tiponet.tipo.gov.tw/IPOTechTerm/login.jsp>

Goods & Services Bilingual Glossary Search: <https://tiponet.tipo.gov.tw/IPOTMGoods/login.jsp> TIPO's Library Search System: <https://tiponet.tipo.gov.tw/opac895/login.aspx>

Link to Download Open Data from DATA.GOV.TW: https://data.gov.tw/datasets/search?p=1&size=10&s=score_desc&cgl-3=453.... [Read more](#)

06. Revision History of the Examination Handbook for Patent and Utility Model

**COMMENCEMENT OF
OPERATION OF THE
SYSTEM FOR NON-
DISCLOSURE OF
PATENT**

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Revision of the Examination Handbook for Patent and Utility Model in Japan in accordance with "commencement of operation of the System for Non-disclosure of Patent Applications" (May 1) ... [Read more](#)

07. US-JP Collaborative Search Pilot Program continues (20 May 2024)

**SIMPLIFIED
THE PETITION
PROCESS AND THE
BURDEN ON
APPLICANTS HAS BEEN
REDUCED**

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The US-JP Collaborative Search Pilot Program (US-JP CSP) is a joint effort between the USPTO and the JPO in which examiners in both Japan and the United States respectively conduct a prior art search for cross-filed patent applications to share search results along with their opinions and provide the initial examination results from respective Offices to the applicants in an expeditious and concurrent manner. The first phase of the US-JP CSP started in August 2015. In November 2022, a single petition form was introduced to simplify the petition process and the burden on applicants has been reduced. The currently implemented program continues until October 31, 2024... [Read more](#)

08. EPO Vice-President for the Patent Granting Process speaks on “Two IPs in a Pod” and meets UK Minister for AI and IP

**THE "TWO IPS IN A
POD" PODCAST,
RECORDED IN
LONDON AND
RELEASED BY CIPA**

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Steve Rowan, Vice-President for the Patent Granting Process at the European Patent Office (EPO), has spoken on the latest edition of the "Two IPs in a Pod" podcast, recorded in London and released by the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA). The podcast covers various topics, including the uptake of the Unitary Patent, the commitment of the EPO to diversity and inclusion, the advantages of digitalization, and our recently launched Quality Action Plan for 2024. During the conversation with the hosts, CIPA Chief Executive Lee Davies and Honorary Secretary Gwilym Roberts, Steve Rowan highlighted:.... [Read more](#)

09. USPTO publishes Request for Comments regarding the impact of AI on certain patentability determinations

**AI HAVE THE
POTENTIAL TO
PROVIDE
TREMENDOUS
SOCIETAL AND
ECONOMIC BENEFITS**

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The increasing power and deployment of artificial intelligence (AI) have the potential to provide tremendous societal and economic benefits and foster a new wave of innovation and creativity while also posing novel challenges and opportunities for intellectual property (IP) policy. Our AI and Emerging Technologies Partnership team has spent the past few years engaging with the innovation community and AI experts on issues at the intersection of AI and IP policy, including inventorship of AI-assisted inventions, subject matter eligibility, and other patentability considerations.

As part of our agency's work to shape AI policy, we are now publishing a Request for Comments (RFC) seeking... [Read more](#)

10. WIPO Member States Adopt Historic New Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge

**THIS IS THE FIRST
WIPO TREATY TO
INCLUDE PROVISIONS
SPECIFICALLY FOR
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
AS WELL AS LOCAL
COMMUNITIES**

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WIPO member states today approved a groundbreaking new Treaty related to intellectual property (IP), genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, marking a historic breakthrough that capped decades of negotiations. The President of the Diplomatic Conference, Ambassador Guilherme de Aguiar Patriota, who is also Brazil's Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization, brought down the gavel to mark consensus approval of the new WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge PDF, WIPO TREATY ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, GENETIC RESOURCES..... [Read more](#)

11. JPO holds the Five Industrial Design Offices (ID5) Mid-Term Meeting and ID5 Hague Workshop

**THE ID5 INCLUDES
JAPAN, THE UNITED
STATES, EUROPE,
CHINA, AND KOREA.**

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The Japan Patent Office (JPO) held the Five Industrial Design Offices (ID5) Mid-Term Meeting on April 24 as the host office for this year's meetings. The ID5 includes Japan, the United States, Europe, China, and Korea. Participants discussed the way forward regarding the ten cooperative ID5 projects, and the two new project proposals. The JPO proposed a new cooperation project titled "Challenges for design system posed by new technologies", aiming to share its ideas with respect to new technologies such as AI and metaverses. The ID5 Hague Workshop, an initiative jointly proposed by the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), was subsequently held on April 25 to 26. At the ID5 Hague Workshop, the ID5 Offices discussed the commonalities and differences..... [Read more](#)

12. THE RULES FOR DRAFTING AND SUBMITTING DESIGN APPLICATIONS ENTERED INTO FORCE

**THIS ORDER WAS
REGISTERED WITH THE
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
OF UKRAINE ON
16 APRIL 2024 UNDER
NO. 547/41892**

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On 1 May 2024, the Order of the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine, "On Approval of the Rules for Drafting and Submitting Industrial Design Applications and Conducting an Examination of Industrial Design Applications and International Registration of Industrial Designs," entered into force. This order was registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on 16 April 2024 under No. 547/4189. The Order defines:

- rules for applying for an industrial design,
- list of documents to be provided,
- examination procedure rules... [Read more](#)

13. Designs from the EU national and regional IP offices included in DesignView Image Search

**THIS EXPANDED
FEATURE WILL
IMPROVE USER
EXPERIENCE WHILE
ENHANCING
EFFICIENCY AND
REDUCING COSTS**

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DesignView's Image Search has expanded to include designs from all European Union national and regional intellectual property (IP) offices, making it easier than ever to find visually similar designs. Designs from EU IP offices were added to the Image Search tool on 6 May 2024, allowing users to use images to search for similar designs among more than four million EU designs. This expanded feature will improve user experience while enhancing efficiency and reducing costs for the participating IP offices. Holding nearly 22 million designs from the European Union and beyond, DesignView stands as the world's largest free online design database. The Image Search feature was first introduced in June 2023 featuring EUIPO's Registered Community Designs (RCDs).... [Read more](#)

14. The Latest Version of the Copyrights Inside the Library Has Been Released on TIPO's Official Website for Public Reference

**PUBLICATION HAS
BECOME
RECOMMENDED
READING FOR LIBRARY
MANAGERS & STAFF
AND READERS ALIKE**

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The Copyrights Inside the Library explains copyright issues related to library operations and usage in a simple and easy-to-understand manner, with Q&A sections addressing common copyright problems encountered in library practices. The publication has become recommended reading for library managers and staff and readers alike. In response to the digitalization needs of libraries, Article 48 of the Copyright Act was amended on June 15, 2022, allowing the National Library to digitize its collection to prevent loss or damage of works, thereby ensuring the complete preservation... [Read more](#)

15. Proposed changes to terminal disclaimer practice to promote innovation and competition

**UNDER U.S. LAW, AN
INVENTOR, PATENT
OWNER OR JOINT
RESEARCHERS MAY
OBTAIN MORE THAN
ONE PATENT WITH**

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The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to add a new requirement for terminal disclaimers filed to obviate (overcome) nonstatutory double patenting. Under U.S. law, an inventor, patent owner or joint researchers may obtain more than one patent with claims that vary in only minor (patentably indistinct) ways from each other. The USPTO will reject such claims under "obviousness-type double patenting" (also known as "nonstatutory double patenting") and will allow claims to issue only as long as the practice of obtaining similar claims across patents isn't used to extend the patent exclusivity term or allow multiple parties to harass an alleged infringer. Both conditions aim to strike a balance between incentivizing innovation in the first instance while providing more certainty.... [Read more](#)