

Newsletter



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➤ **Growth of Patent Filing around the World 5 years in a row**

According to the 2015 World Intellectual Property Report published by WIPO on December 14, 2015, there had been about 2.7 million patents filed around the world, up 4.5% from 2013 with the 5th consecutive growth recorded. China was on the top of the filing amount, followed by US and Japan, and surpassed these two countries' total. As of 2014, there are totally around 10.2 million registered patents around the world, most of them are from US at 24.7% of the total, followed by Japan and then China at 11.7%.

IT and computer technology is the strongest sector among patent filing with a share of 7.8%, next comes electrical machinery, measurement and digital communication; meanwhile digital communication and IT are the fastest growing sectors in this area over the past 20 years.

➤ **China General Administration of Customs (“GACC”): Suspension of IP Recordation Fee**

Following the Notice of the Ministry of Finance and the National Development and Reform Commission on Issues concerning the Cancellation and Suspension of Certain Administrative Charges (No. 102 [2015], Ministry of Finance), GACC issued their No.51[2015] announcement to suspend the collection of IP recordation fee as follow:

- I. For intellectual property protection recordation applications filed with the General Administration of Customs (“GAC”) on or after November 1, 2015, the GACC will temporarily not collect recordation fees.
- II. Those who have already made pre-payment to their Customs recordation account, with such payment having not to been used for recordation before November 1, 2015, can apply for refund from GACC.

➤ **SIPO: Nearly 4,000 Patent Infringement Cases in E-Commerce recorded for the first 11 months in 2015**

According to State Intellectual Property Office (“SIPO”), there are nearly 4,000 recorded patent infringement cases in E-Commerce field across the country during Jan – Nov 2015; and there are 2,800 E-Commerce patent infringement cases handled in 2014. It reflects the strengthened enforcement effort devoted by China government to improve

IP protection in Internet industry.

➤ **China-Denmark and China-Portuguese Patent Prosecution Highway (PHH)
Trial Testing extended**

According to State Intellectual Property Office (“SIPO”), China-Denmark and China-Portuguese will extend PHH trial tests for another 3 years commencing January 1, 2016.

SIPO initiated PHH trial tests with Danish Patent and Trademark Office (“DKPTO”) and Portuguese Institute of Industrial Property (“INPI”) on January 1, 2013 and January 1, 2014 respectively, both of which would have stopped on December 31, 2015 without the extension. The extension will last till December 31, 2018 with all procedures and requirements remain unchanged.

➤ **WIPO report: China driving growth in global patent filings rise**

In 2014, China received 928,000 invention patent applications, ranking the top in the world, accounting for 34% of the total applications in the world. At the same time, the annual average growth rate of China’s invention application stood at 12.5%, ranking the second position as the global patent filings rose in 2014 for fifth straight year. China also ranked the third position in the world in its PCT filings, according to the 2015 edition of the World Intellectual Property Indicators released by WIPO.

In the past five years, China saw a rapid growth in its IP community, reflected by its innovative companies and the whole society, according to WIPO report. (Source: China Intellectual Property News)