



CNIPA: Press Conference Held on February 22, 2023

On February 22, 2023, the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) held a regular press conference to introduce its work arrangements for serving market entities and innovation entities. At the conference, the following topics are mainly discussed:

1. Enhance IP protection by law

This year, the CNIPA will complete the amendment of the *Implementing Regulations of the China Patent Law*, promote a new round of amendment of the *Trademark Law* and its *implementing regulations*, proceed with legislation about geographic indications, establish a mechanism for data intellectual property protection, and launch data intellectual property protection in some pilot areas.

2. Continue to improve quality and efficiency of IP examination

The examination period for invention patent applications will be shortened to 16 months this year. Of all the closed applications, up to 93% shall be concluded correctly. Highlights of this year's work are **obvious inventiveness examination for utility models**, **obvious difference examination for designs** and **the examination of international applications**. In general, the period for trademark registrations remains within 7 months. *Measures for Quality Control and Supervision of Trademark Examination* will be published and implemented. Passing rate in random inspection of trademark examination shall be up to 97%. Abnormal patent applications remain targets to be fought with, malicious trademark registrations will be cracked down in a further move, and emphasis is to be put on trademark hoarding behavior.

3. Participate in global IP governance in a further depth

A series of activities including the 50th anniversary of China's cooperation with WIPO will be held. China will also participate actively in perfecting the international rules and regulations about patent, trademark, industrial design, geographic indications, etc. *The EU-China Agreement on Geographical Indications* will be fully implemented in China, and a second batch of 350 products with Chinese and European geographical indications will enjoy mutual recognition and protection.

National Patent Navigation Comprehensive Service Platform

Officially Launched

On February 15, 2023, the National Patent Navigation Comprehensive Service Platform was officially launched for operation at a meeting held in Beijing.

According to reports, the National Patent Navigation Comprehensive Service Platform was approved and supported by CNIPA and established by Patent Protection Association of China. As a digital infrastructure in support of efficient operation and standardization of the Chinese patent navigation mechanism, the National Patent Navigation Comprehensive Service Platform will function to **integrate data for patent navigation, provide a platform for supply-demand communication and IP protection fruits share in the IP industry.**

National Work Plan for Administrative Protection of IP Rights 2023

Striking a Severe Blow on Abnormal Patent Applications and Malicious Trademark Registrations

According to the *work plan*, the CNIPA will continuously regulate the patent application behavior, establish a linked mechanism for fast action, complete a system for precise management of the list of applicants, perfect a mechanism for initiative verification and report, and put more efforts in credit supervision and management of entities and persons of abnormal patent applications along with restraint by policies. Illegal behaviors such as using others' identity information to apply for patents will be severely governed. Any crime suspected in work will be reported and transferred to a judicial organ immediately. Any clues about abnormal patent applications and malicious trademark registrations allocated by a higher authority or transferred from other departments of the same organization or another local authority shall be addressed timely.



Responsibilities of the Re-organized CNIPA and Market Supervision and Management Administration

An important task of the present round of institutional reform of the state council is to perfect the IP management mechanism and adjust the state intellectual property administration from a state office under the State Administration for Market Regulation as an organization under direct control of the State Council. This change is merely related to the internal management system of the administrative organ without changing the function of the CNIPA. IP administration work other than copyright administration and trademark and patent enforcement is still within the responsibilities of CNIPA.

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