

NEWS LETTER

Issue 1, 2026

IP Guide

517 New Classification Numbers Added, 206 Deleted in IPC (2026.01 Edition) Starting from January 1, 2026!

Recently, the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) issued a notice on the activation of the International Patent Classification (IPC) (2026.01 Edition). It mentioned that to ensure the accuracy and effectiveness of the International Patent Classification (IPC) numbers of Chinese patent documents, starting from January 1, 2026, CNIPA will activate IPC (2026.01 Edition) to classify and publish Chinese patent documents.

Compared with IPC (2025.01 Edition), the new version of IPC has revised a total of 1,615 classification numbers, including 517 new classification numbers and 206 deleted classification numbers.

To facilitate the study and use of the new IPC version, CNIPA has translated relevant materials of IPC (2026.01 Edition), including the IPC Classification Table, classification definitions and the comparison table between the new and old versions, which can be obtained through the official website of CNIPA (<https://www.cnipa.gov.cn/col/col3161/index.html>).

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