



CNIPA: Electronic Patent Certificates Will be Fully Implemented Since February 7, 2023

Starting from February 7, 2023(inclusive), the CNIPA will **fully implement electronic patent certificates**. Where a patent is applied for and granted in an electronic form, an electronic patent certificate can be downloaded through the patent service system <http://cponline.cnipa.gov.cn>; where a patent is applied for and granted in a paper form, an electronic patent certificate can be downloaded as instructed by the *Notice to Download Electronic Patent Certificate* issued to the patentee.

CNIPA: Examination as to Non-obviousness Will be Officially Introduced Into Utility Model Examination From 2023

On January 6, 2023, the meeting of directors of the China National Intellectual Property Administration was held in Beijing to conclude IP administration work in 2022. In the year of 2022, a total of 7,980,000 invention patents were granted and a total of 6,177,000 trademarks were registered.

At the meeting, highlights of IP administration in the year of 2023 were announced, including optimizing the examination procedure, improving the granted patent quality, increasing the examination efficiency, completing adaptive amendments to the *Guidelines for Patent Examination*, furnishing the policy and standard of examination of patent applications in new fields and new industries such as big data, artificial intelligence and genetic technology, and **officially introducing non-obviousness examination into utility model examination**.



From January 1, 2023, Trademark Agencies Will Re-undergo Recordation Formalities

Since December 1, 2022, the *Regulations on Trademark Agency Supervision and Administration* were officially implemented. In order to ensure that the trademark agencies and practitioners act according to law, the CNIPA requests trademark agencies recorded before November 30, 2022 to **re-undergo recordation formalities** in an aim to enhance supervision of the trademark agencies and practitioners and achieve a standardized industrial environment.

Trademark agencies requested to re-undergo recordation formalities shall submit a recordation application from January 1, 2023 to February 28, 2023. The CNIPA will complete examination of the recordation before March 31, 2023. For those meeting laws and regulations, the CNIPA will grant recordation in time and notify the office concerned to announce the recordation to the public.

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