

NEWSLETTER

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CNIPA Held Press Conference on July 18

Concluding China IP Work in the First Half of 2023

On July 18, 2023, the CNIPA held a press conference on intellectual property work in the first half of 2023. At the conference, various aspects of intellectual property work in the first half of this year have been introduced, including the following contents:

Patent Data

Comparison of Granted Patents Data in Jan Jun.					
Type of Patent	2022	2023	Changes		
Invention	393,000	433,000	+4,000	+10.08%	
Utility	1,473,000	1,104,000	-369,000	-25.05%	
Design	383,000	344,000	-39,000	-10.18%	

As compared to the same period of 2022:

The granted invention patents increased by 40,000 (a year-on-year increase of 10.18%);

The granted utility model patents decreased by 369,000 (a year-on-year decrease of 25.05%);

The granted design patents decreased by 39,000 (a year-on-year decrease of 10.18%).

In the first half of 2023, a total of 35,000 PCT applications were received, 33,000 patent reexamination cases and 4,433 invalidation cases were concluded. In this period, 957 international design applications were filed through Hague System by Chinese applicants.

By the end of June, China saw an amount of valid invention patents up to 4,568,000, a year-on-year increase of 16.9%.

Trademark Data

Comparison of Accumulated Trademark Registrations in Jan Jun.					
2022	2023	Changes			
3,674,000	2,018,000	1,656,000	-45.07%		

As compared to the same period of 2022:

The trademark registrations decreased by 1,656,000, a year on year decrease of 45.07%. In the first half, a total of 87,000 trademark oppositions were examined, and a total of 182,000 trademark evaluation cases were completed. A total of 3.024 trademark registrations were filed by domestic applicants through Madrid system.

Data Features

1. Domestic patents and trademarks increase steadily

By the end of June 2023, China owned 3,683,000 valid invention patents, a year-on-year increase of 20.4%, among them 559,000 patents were kept valid over 10 years, accounting for 15.2%, up by 1.6 percentage points as compared to the same period of last year. In the trademark sector, China owned 42,177,000 valid registered trademarks, a year-on-year increase of 9.4%, presenting a steady increase trend.

2. The number of innovative enterprises with patents increases fast

By the end of June 2023, up to 385,000 enterprises in China own valid invention patents, with an increase of 60,000 as compared to the same period of last year. All these enterprises own 2,605,000 valid invention patents, accounting for more than 70% of the total domestic valid invention patents, up by 1.8 percentage points as compared to the same period of last year. Among them, 1,804,000 valid invention patents were owned by high-tech, specialized and sophisticated "little giant" enterprises, a year-on-year increase of 23.3%, 2.9 percentage points higher than the domestic average growth rate.

3. Patents in the field of digital technologies continue to go up

According to the statistics of 35 technical fields classified by the WIPO, by the end of June 2023, the top-three technical fields in growth rate of valid invention patents are **computer technology management method, computer technology and basic communication program**, which saw increases of 56.6%, 38.2% and 26.0%, respectively, all being far higher than the domestic average growth rate of 20.4%.

4. Chinese applicants act vigorously in applying for oversea intellectual properties

In the first half of this year, 33,000 PCT applications filed by domestic applicants were received, a year-on-year increase of 7.1%, and in the meanwhile, a total of 3,024 trademark registrations were filed by domestic applicants through Madrid system, a year-on-year increase of 12.0%. Since China joined Hague Agreement in May 2022, more than 150 international design applications were filed by Chinese applicants per month, ranking among the top of the world.

5. China sees steady growth in IP import and export

From January to May this year, the import value of China's intellectual property royalties was RMB 120.8 billion, and the export value was RMB 36.98 billion. Both import and export volumes increased, and the intellectual property trade showed strong resilience.



WIPO CHINA: Hague Yearly Review 2023

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has released the latest edition of the Hague Yearly Review providing comprehensive facts and figures on, and analysis of, the use of the Hague System in 2022.

Demand for design protection saw double-digit growth, with China's 2022 accession to WIPO's international design registration system fueling a surge in international design applications. In 2022, WIPO received 7,973 international applications for design protection under the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. This represents an 18.8% increase on the previous year. Furthermore, applications contained a record number of designs, reaching 25,030 and marking an 11.2% growth. The overall increase was primarily driven by a significant growth in designs originating from China, Germany, Italy and Switzerland.

The accession of China and Jamaica in 2022 has increased the number of Hague members to 77. Applicants can now obtain design protection within the territories of 94 countries.

In 2022, Germany remained the leading user of the international design system, with an 11.6% increase on the year to 4,909 designs. China – a new member –secured second place by seeking protection for 2,558 designs. Italy recorded an impressive growth of 18%, overtaking the US to rank third with 2,414 designs, while the US saw a decline of 8.9% down to 2,412 designs. Switzerland followed in fifth place with 2,178 designs.

Procter & Gamble, a US-based company, became top applicant in 2022, with 687 designs in published applications, displacing Samsung Electronics of the Republic of Korea. China's XIAOMI MOBILE SOFTWARE ranked No. 9 with 251 designs.

The EU remains the most designated Hague member in international applications, with 5,370 designations containing 17,396 design. The EU has held top position since 2010. After the EU, the UK had the second most designations with 15,281 designs, followed by Switzerland with 8,890, the US with 7,292, and Türkiye with 4,608. Since May 2022, it has been possible to designate China, which received 1,491 designations in international applications containing 3,372 designs, placing it among the top 10 most designated member states.

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