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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

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AUGUST 2016

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Welcome to the latest Asia Pacific Edition of the Intellectual Property and Technology News, our biannual publication designed to report on worldwide developments in intellectual property and technology law, offering perspective, analysis and visionary ideas.

This month we have turned our focus to patents. Protecting valuable inventions in a highly competitive global environment has become increasingly challenging for multinational businesses. With the significant rise in patent litigation and with damages exceeding the billion-dollar mark in the US, the risks and opportunities facing companies are higher than ever.

Our patents articles look at the Myriad case (page 4); the patentability of computer implemented inventions in Australia (page 6); mechanical products and manufacturing processes (page 8) and the Unified Patent Court post Brexit (page 10).

If you are heading to the AIPPI world congress in Milan in September, make sure you look out for the DLA Piper team.

In broader intellectual property and technology news, Singapore's first data protection enforcement decisions have been handed down; it is the end of the road for Dallas Buyers Club in Australia; wearables at work remains a hot topic; while the European Union trademark reform has garnered significant attention in recent months.

Don't forget to register for our Asia-Pacific trademark guidebook, email APACTMGuide@dlapiper.com.

Kind regards

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Yan assists multinational companies with patent prosecution and patent litigation, as well as other general IP work. He designs patent enforcement and litigation strategies for them with respect to their patent disputes in China.

Yan represents clients to enforce their patent rights in China or to defend them in patent infringement assertions based on PRC patents across a broad range of technology sectors.

He also advises domestic clients on international patent filing and prosecution strategies as well as patent litigation proceedings in foreign jurisdictions. As well as this, Yan advises on, manages, coordinates and attends to trademark enforcements as well as domain name disputes in China and has managed worldwide trademark applications. Yan also advises on cross border technology transfer and licensing in various technology fields.

Can you tell us about any exciting key projects that the team in China are currently working on?

We are defending a multinational computer technology corporation in a patent infringement lawsuit initiated by a Chinese company. The patent in dispute has survived a six year battle with its competitor and its validity was finally confirmed by the Supreme Court in 2015 over the invalidation grounds brought up by said competitor; the patentee is now asserting the patent against all the major server manufacturers. Apart from the possible publicity this case may attract, it also involves quite a few interesting legal issues especially given the long history of the previous validity dispute.

What excites you about the patents environment?

There are many things about working in the patents space that I enjoy. Key points include:

Domestic Chinese companies have built a huge patent portfolio over the past few years. It is just a matter of time when they will start enforcing these patents – we've seen some (including the Oracle case) and expect to see more.

China is revising its patent law and likely will introduce the concept of treble damages. Should this be confirmed, we expect to see a flush of patent enforcement activities.

The steadily increasing volume of patent lawsuits in China and the set-up of 3 Intellectual Property Courts appear to have given international companies more confidence in the Chinese patent system; we see a trend that more foreign companies now consider litigating in China.

Outside of work, can you tell us a bit more about your interests?

I enjoy jogging! I find it is a good way of knowing a new place.

AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE RESOLVES A MYRIAD OF UNCERTAINTIES

By Nicholas Tyacke, Partner (Sydney), Eliza Mallon, Senior Associate (Melbourne) and Louis Italiano, Solicitor (Melbourne)

High Court decision

In *D'Arcy v Myriad Genetics Inc* [2015] HCA 35 (*D'Arcy v Myriad*), the High Court of Australia unanimously held that the impugned claims of Myriad's patent-in-suit to isolated nucleic acids coding for mutations or polymorphisms of the BRCA1 gene, do not meet the requirements of a 'manner of manufacture' within the meaning of the *Patents Act 1990* (Cth) (Act) and are therefore not a patentable invention in Australia. Claims to methods of diagnosing a predisposition to breast and ovarian cancer as well as claims to probes, cloning and expression vectors and host cells, were not in issue.

The majority held that, properly characterised in accordance with ***substance rather than form***, the essential element of the invention as claimed was the 'genetic information' of the nucleotide sequences which coded for mutated or polymorphic BRCA1 polypeptides, rather than to classes of chemical compounds. Based on this construction, their Honours held that the claims in issue were not within the established boundaries of the concept of a 'manner of manufacture'.

The majority further held that where such a new class of claim involves a significant new application or extension of the concept of 'manner of manufacture', the following factors may be relevant to determining whether that concept should be extended by judicial decision to include that class of claim:

- whether the invention as claimed is for a product made or a process producing an outcome as a result of human action.
- whether the claimed invention has economic utility.
- whether patentability would be consistent with the purposes of the Act.
- whether according patentability to the claimed invention would enhance or detract from coherence of the law relating to inherent patentability.
- factors relevant to Australia's place in the international community.
- whether according patentability would involve law-making of a kind which should be done by the legislature.

The majority held that the above wider considerations militated against characterising the claimed invention as a 'manner of manufacture' within the meaning of the Act. The claimed invention was therefore deemed not to be a patentable invention in Australia.[1]

Australian Patent Office response

Following the High Court's decision in *D'Arcy v Myriad*, and after a period of public consultation, in December 2015, the Australian Patent Office published revised examination practice guidelines taking into account the High Court's decision (Guidelines).[2] In January 2016, IP Australia's Manual of Practice and Procedure (Manual) was amended to incorporate the substance of the Guidelines.[3]

The Guidelines and Manual provide that, in accordance with the High Court's reasoning in *D'Arcy v Myriad*, in considering whether a claimed invention is patentable, examiners should consider the following questions:

- what is the substance of the claim?
- has the substance of the claim been "made" or changed by man?
- does the invention have economic utility?
- does the invention as claimed represent a new class of claim?

The Guidelines and Manual indicate that the Australian Patent Office considers that a claim to an isolated nucleic acid that replicates genetic information deriving from a naturally occurring organism will be excluded from patentability, even if it is a sequence that does not code for a polypeptide (i.e. a 'non-coding' sequence), or is synthetically produced. Importantly, however, the Guidelines and Manual do not extend to exclude from patentability claims to methods of treatment, any other isolated biological materials (e.g. proteins), or non-naturally occurring nucleic acid sequences.

The Guidelines and amendments to the Manual provide prospective patentees with certainty in respect of how the Australian Patent Office will assess the patentability of inventions relating to biological materials in light of the High Court's decision in *D'Arcy v Myriad*. As they provide for a relatively confined interpretation of the High Court's decision, the Guidelines and Manual are likely to increase confidence in Australia as a jurisdiction which clearly recognises and reasonably affords patentability to inventive contributions in the life sciences sector.

[1] *For a further discussion of this case, including the lower court judgments, and a comparison of the Australian position to that under Unites States' law, please see our earlier articles.*

[2] *Examination Practice following the High Court decision in D'Arcy v Myriad Genetics* (Published 15 December 2015).

[3] *Patent Manual of Practice & Procedure*, 2.9.1 Principles for Examination; 2.9.2.6 Nucleic Acids and Genetic Information (Modified Date: 11 January 2016).

PATENTABILITY OF COMPUTER IMPLEMENTED INVENTIONS IN AUSTRALIA

By Robynne Sanders, Partner (Melbourne) and Rob McMaster, Senior Associate (Melbourne)

Australia now has two appeal court decisions on the patentability of computer implemented inventions. This has started to bring much-needed clarity to an issue surrounded by uncertainty for several years.

The legal principles have now been made reasonably clear and align largely with principles applicable in the United States (as set out in *Alice Corporation*).

In short, computer implemented methods **can be patented**. However, in order to be patentable, they must do more than simply implement a mere scheme or method on a computer, using its well-known and understood functions and capabilities.

The relevant principles

The relevant principles were consistently identified in both discussed in *Research Affiliates LLC v Commissioner of Patents* and in *Commissioner of Patents v RPL Central*. The High Court on 5 May 2016 declined to hear an appeal on the decision in *RPL Central,* stating that the decision was "plainly correct".

The principles and considerations that the Court identified are as follows:

- the claimed invention must be looked at in substance, not form
- a scheme or business method is not excluded from patentability, but it must be more than that in order to be patentable
- it is not patentable to merely put a business method into a computer where the computer is used only for its well-known and understood functions. In order to be patentable there must be an invention in the way in which the computer carries out the scheme or method. This requires some ingenuity in the way the computer is used
- the fact that a method could not be carried out without a computer is not enough to confer patentability
- it is necessary to ascertain whether the contribution to the claimed invention is technical in nature
- one consideration is whether the invention:
  - solves a technical problem within the computer or outside the computer; or
  - results in an improvement of the functioning of the computer
- does the method merely require generic computer implementation?
- is a computer merely the "intermediary", configured to carry out the method, but adding nothing to the substance of the idea?

The difficulty that now arises is not identifying the correct legal principles, but rather in how to characterise a claimed invention in order to properly apply the principles. The recent decisions in *RPL Central* and *Research Affiliates* give some guidance on how these principles are to be applied.

Research Affiliates

In *Research Affiliates,* the Court considered a claimed invention for a computer-implemented method of generating an index for weighting an investment portfolio.

The claimed invention

The method used measures other than share price weighting or market capitalisation weighting to generate the index. The steps involved were:

- accessing data relating to assets
- processing the data to identify assets for inclusion in the index (based on measures other than share price or market capitalisation)
- accessing a weighting function to weight the assets
- applying the weighting function to assign a weighting to each asset (based on measures other than share price or market capitalisation) to generate an index

The method had been found not to be patentable by the Patent Office and, in an appeal from the Patent Office, by a single judge of the Federal Court.

The invention "in substance"

In considering the invention, the Full Federal Court considered that the invention set out in the specification was directed to the index itself. The subject matter of the invention was, in substance, the scheme, or the idea, for the creation of the index. Although the claimed method could be implemented in a computer, **the ingenuity of the inventors was directed to the idea**, which is not patentable.

In coming to this conclusion, the Court also noted there was no suggestion in the specification or the claims that any part of the inventive step resided in the computer implementation. Rather, it was apparent that the scheme is merely implemented in a computer, and a standard computer at that. No part of the method involved an improvement in computer technology.

As a result, the Full Federal Court found that the method was not patentable.

RPL Central

RPL Central was a considerably more difficult case. While the method in *Research Affiliates* was held not to be patentable at every stage, RPL Central produced differing results before different courts.

The claimed invention

The invention in RPL Central was a method of assessing a user's competence and eligibility against a set of assessment criteria. Broadly, the steps of the method were:

- using a computer to retrieve assessment criteria for a recognised qualification using the Internet
- the computer processes the criteria to generate corresponding questions relating to the competency of the individual
- those questions are presented to an individual
- the individual answers the questions and, if he or she chooses to do so, uploads documentation from his or her computer

The Patent Office initially found that the invention was not patentable. On appeal to a single judge of the Federal Court, the invention was found to be patentable. The case was then appealed to the Full Federal Court.

As was noted by the Court, this was not a straightforward case. It was not a case where a computer simply processed information entered by a user by using an algorithm. Nor was it merely retrieving information from the Internet in response to a user's request.

A key aspect of the invention considered was the generation of questions from the assessment criteria, including asking a user for relevant attachments. However this was seen as merely an act of programming to allow a series of predetermined words to be added to the existing information to turn a statement into a question.

The invention "in substance"

The invention was, in substance, seen to be a method of taking information regarding assessment criteria, reframing this information as a question, presenting the questions to user and receiving an answer. There was not seen to be any ingenuity in any operation of the computer. The steps required to implement his method on a computer were well within the normal use of a computer. The only ingenuity was in the steps of the method itself. The claimed invention was therefore not patentable.

So what is patentable?

While these two decisions provide some clearer guidance on how to determine whether a computer implemented method is patentable, there has still been no recent decision proving what is patentable.

Historically, the following have been found patentable in Australia:

- computer processing apparatus for assembling text in Chinese language characters (1994)
- the production of an improved curve image by computer (1991)
- writing information to a smart card as part of a customer loyalty program (2001)

These cases are, in the context of computer technology, quite old. One of the factors to be considered is whether a computer is used only for its well-known and understood functions. The "well known and understood functions" of a computer have evolved significantly since these decisions. Therefore, these are of limited use as examples of the types of computer-implemented methods that would be patentable today.

In RPL Central, the Court distinguished the method claimed from the situation where a computer was evaluating information to provide an answer, or functioning in the nature of an adviser or an artificial intelligence. In light of these comments, it is clear that software or computer implemented methods remain patentable in Australia. However, the patentee will have to invest more in the preparation of their patent application to show that the invention meets the new, more stringent standard for patentability.

What is patentable?

- Methods where a computer evaluates information and provides an answer
- Computers functioning in the nature of advisors
- Computers as artificial intelligence

MECHANICAL PRODUCTS AND MANUFACTURING PROCESSES

THE PATENT NEW FRONTIER

By Robynne Sanders, Partner (Melbourne)

Patent protection has long been an essential part of business for pharmaceutical and IT companies. This has led to a significant history of high profile patent litigation as patents are used to protect market exclusivity. Companies involved in mechanical products and manufacturing have been slower to take up the business protection provided by patents, but mechanical cases now constitute more that 50% of all patent litigation, showing that it is now a key part of the strategy for protecting market share for these industries.

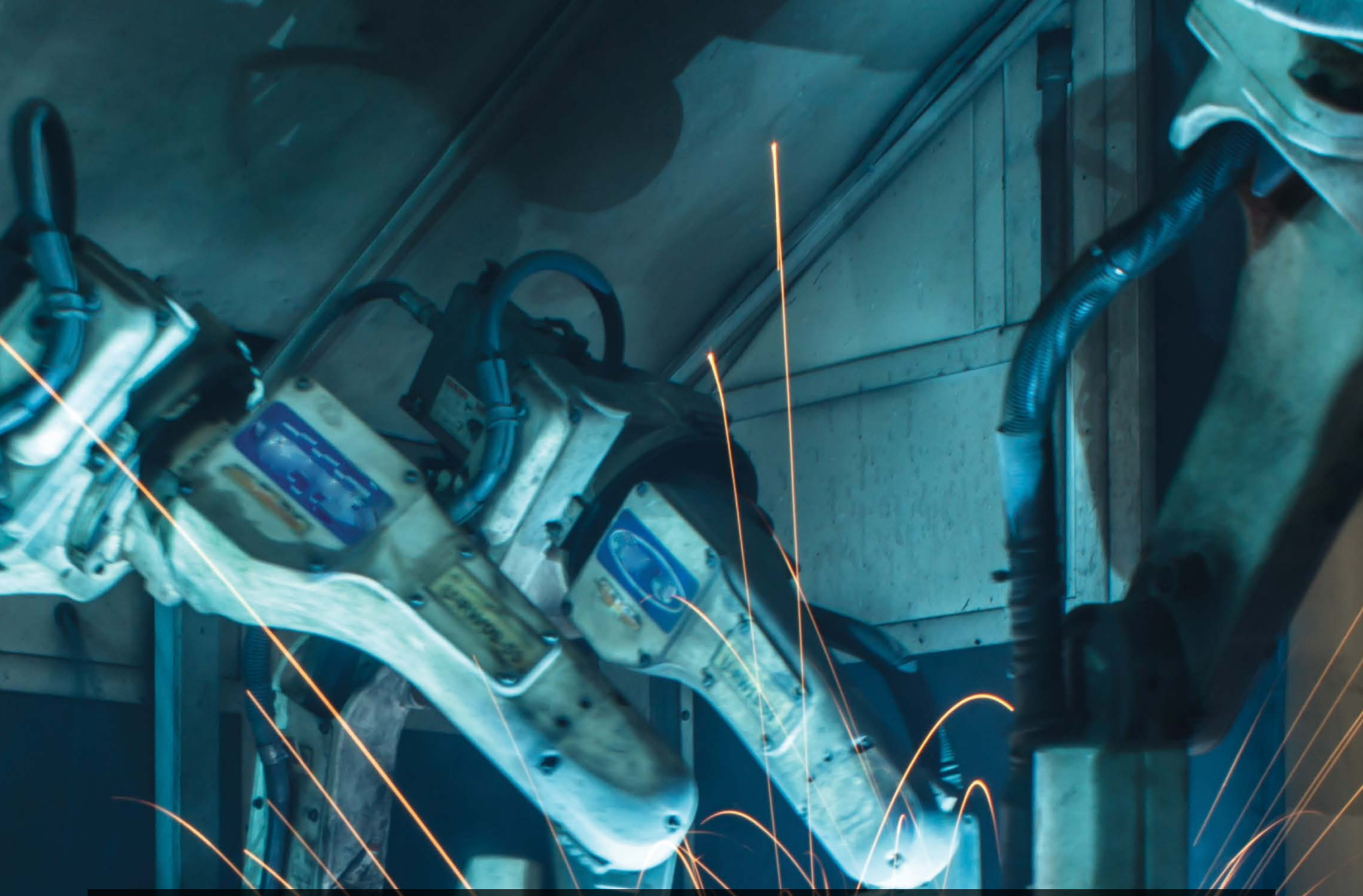
In Australia, industries such as mining, automotive and medical devices are world leading with substantial innovation in product design and processes. In China manufacturing is a significant part of the overall economy. For companies in these industries patent protection is now part of the product development lifecycle, to protect the investment in research and development and secure market exclusivity for the resulting products.

Mechanical inventions and manufacturing processes however present a unique challenge for patents, as the products and systems involve a complex interrelationship of parts and methods. Rarely is a new invention directed to a single component, and even when it is, it will impact on other components and methods. When applying for patent protection it is common to cover all aspects of the invention in a single application, and divide off claims to different parts of the invention at a later date once commercial success is known. Often the commercially successful aspect of the invention is unexpected and not known until several years after sales commence (once its effect on the operation and longevity of the product is clear).

However, as these industries have only recently seen the full benefit of robust patent protection many companies are yet to employ the rigorous approach to patents that the pharmaceutical companies have employed for decades. It is thus not uncommon for commercially valuable product improvements to be inadequately disclosed in the patent application as filed, forcing patent attorneys to try and retrofit claims to the commercially valuable embodiments to pending patents directed to other aspects of the invention.

This lack of full disclosure often does not come to light until litigation, when a competitor challenges the validity of the patent on the grounds of insufficiency/fair basis. In the past five years there has been a growing body of cases where patents have been successfully challenged on such grounds.

For those companies involved in the design of mechanical products and manufacturing processes it is clear that patents must be part of their business strategy or they risk being left behind. The unique nature of mechanical inventions however means that care must be taken to ensure that all aspects of an invention are sufficiently disclosed. If not, companies may find that claims to the commercially valuable aspects of the invention cannot be sustained.



CASE STUDY

Ronneby Road Pty Ltd v ESCO Corporation*

This recent case is a good example of the problems that can be experienced by patents for mechanical products, and the growing body of cases in this area. Ronneby Road opposed the grant of a patent to ESCO Corporation directed to ground engaging tools, a component used on heavy digging equipment in the mining industry.

The patent in suit is one of a family directed to a new ground engaging tool that was developed by ESCO which involved the creation of a new geometry of components and a new locking mechanism. The patent families were directed predominantly to the geometry with limited disclosure of the lock mechanism. The lock mechanism was subsequently found to be one of the key commercial features of the product and the claims of the patent in suit were directed exclusively to the lock mechanism.

The case, which is an appeal to the Federal Court from an unsuccessful opposition before the Patent Office, centred on allegations by Ronneby Road that the patent lacked novelty and utility. The lack of utility case is based on an allegation that the claims failed to achieve the stated advantages of the invention, which could only be achieved by the geometry aspects of the invention and not the lock mechanism.

The court held that a number of the claims were invalid on the ground of lack of novelty and all claims were invalid for lack of utility.

This case is an example of how patent protection can be compromised where insufficient attention is given to feature of the invention during the filing process which is subsequently found to be commercially important. This case is currently on appeal to the Full Federal Court, as ESCO tries to salvage some protection for their lock mechanism.

* Federal Court Proceedings No VID 83 of 2015. Ronneby Road was represented by DLA Piper.

IS THE UNIFIED PATENT COURT (UPC) BREXIT-PROOF?

By Paul Reeskamp, Partner (Amsterdam)

The UK's vote to leave the EU in a so-called Brexit referendum has triggered the question of whether the Unified Patent Court (UPC) project is dead or not. The short answer is: it is too early to take a stance. The longer answer shows why.

Political will

First, the success of the UPC project depends on the political will to pursue it. Many other topics will be high on the political agenda, so the UPC may not be at the top of the pile. On the other hand, the wasted investment in the UPC should it not be realised creates an incentive to go on with the project after all.

Different legal views

Secondly, there are different legal views as to whether the UPC is 'Brexit-proof'. Some refer to the UPC Agreement (UPCA) which states in Article 84 that only Member States can ratify the UPCA. They say that as long as the UK is a Member State it can ratify. After the UK triggers Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, it will take at least two years, and likely some additional months, before a Brexit will be reality. And since the UPCA does not hold a provision covering an exit, Brexit will not automatically kick the UK out of the UPC. At least – still according to this view – provided that the UK is able to and would acknowledge the supremacy of EU law (Article 267 TFEU).

There are others who doubt that the UK can participate in the UPC after a Brexit. They point to the Opinion 01/09 of the CJEU essentially saying that only courts of EU Member States can have jurisdiction in a UPC system, and to the fact that, in order to meet Opinion 01/09, Article 84 UPCA has been redrafted explicitly to stipulate that only Member States can ratify. The UK could perhaps ratify the UPCA and then withdraw, but there would need to be cogent reasons for it to do so.

Another legal complication

Thirdly, there is a possible legal complication, in that according to Article 89 UPCA, the UPCA will enter into force only after it has been ratified by the three Member States in which the highest number of European patents had effect in the year preceding the signature of the UPCA. Since next to Germany and France, the UK is among those three Member States, the UPCA cannot enter into force without ratification by the UK. This might be different if one disregards the UK retroactively. In that case, the third Member State is Italy. Another solution suggested to solve this problem is to amend Article 89 UPCA (although that will need time).

Still appealing for industry?

Last but not least, a decisive factor in going forward with the UPC project is whether the potential users of the system – industry – still want to adopt it without the UK. Is it sufficiently attractive if one of the key jurisdictions does not participate? Might the Brexit uncertainties be too much next to the existing uncertainties including the opt-out regime, the language of the proceedings, the quality of the judges and the availability of preliminary injunctions?

It could be more alive

It is too early to make any meaningful statements on what will happen with the UPC in a post-Brexit era. The international patent litigation group of DLA Piper, however, will continue monitoring the situation and keep you posted. Although the UPC is not dead, it could be more alive.

IPT INSIGHTS

Singapore's first data protection enforcement decisions

Singapore's Personal Data Protection Commission (PDPC) has just published its first enforcement decisions regarding the data protection obligations set out in the Personal Data Protection Act 2012 (PDPA) since they came into force in July 2014. While decisions have previously been published in relation to the "do not call' register rules in the PDPA, these nine decisions – together with new advisory guidelines on enforcement – represent the first clear indications of how in practice the PDPC expects organisations to comply with the PDPA when collecting, using and disclosing personal data, and provide an indication of how the PDPC will approach future investigations and enforcement action.

Click here to read more.

End of the road for Dallas Buyers Club in Australia and lessons for rights holders

The copyright owners of the Dallas Buyer's Club have given up on their campaign to go after individual infringers in Australia, an outcome that will leave pirates all over the country heaving a sigh of relief, for now.

The enforcement campaign's lack of success highlights the economic difficulties in implementing this strategy, and the prohibition against "speculative invoicing" in Australia.

To read more on the result of this case click here.

Wearables at work: data privacy and employment law implications

With estimates that by 2018, more than 13 million activity trackers will be used for wellness programmes, employers are increasingly looking at leveraging wearable technology to monitor employees' activities so that they can drive positive change via improved productivity as well as employee well-being.

In considering whether and how to use wearable technologies with their employees, organisations must have regard to the requirements of the applicable data privacy rules and employment laws dealing with employees' rights and consent, as well as potentially broader concepts of right to a private life in some jurisdictions.

Organisations should also consider whether using wearable technology to monitor their employees' performance, health and well-being may also give rise to other legal risks or issues under workplace health and safety laws.

To read the full article please click **here** or listen to the Boardroom Radio interview on the same topic.

Australian Federal Budget puts up to $630 million on the table

The Australian Federal budget has allocated AU$230 million to implement the new Australian Cyber Security Strategy, released on 21 April 2016. A further AU$300-400 million was outlined in the recent Defence White Paper to enhance cyber capability in the Department of Defence.

The combined AU$630 million spend shows a government alive to the risk of cyber attack, improving Australia's cyber resilience, and hoping to grasp the opportunity to lead innovation in the field.

The AU$230 million to implement the strategy is allocated to five action themes:

- AU$38.8 million for the 'national cyber partnership'
- AU$136.1 million for 'improving cyber defences'
- AU$6.7 million for 'global responsibility and influence'
- AU$38 million for 'growth and innovation'
- AU$10 million to build a 'cyber smart nation'.

IP Australia releases 2016 IP report

IP Australia, the body governing IP in Australia, has released its 2016 Intellectual Property Report.

The report aims to promote awareness of IP rights and discuss the latest IP statistics.

The report shows that in 2015:

- patent applications grew by 10 per cent with 28,605 standard patent applications
- a record number of trade mark applications were received (73,188), a growth of 14 per cent
- design applications were the highest for any single year on record (7,024)
- applications for plant breeder's rights hit a five-year peak, with 359 applications received.

These statistics show the continued importance of intellectual property for businesses across the board, with 21 per cent of Australian businesses reported having protection for their IP.

IP Australia has also led three initiatives this year: the Patent Analytics Hub, Source IP and the open data project, IPGOD. In particular these initiatives have sought to facilitate collaboration between business and the research sector, in line with government priorities.

To read the report click here.

European Union trademark reform

On 23 March 2016, the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) (formerly OHIM) introduced a series of changes to the Community Trademark system, now called European Union Trademarks or EUTMs. Highlights include:

- a new one-fee-per-class-system for trademark applications and renewals (making applications more expensive, but renewals will be less costly)
- where a trade mark specification is drafted by reference to a Nice class heading or general terms, only those goods and services covered by the literal meaning of the class heading or general term will be protected, rather than all goods or services in that class
- trade marks need not be represented graphically, provided they can be represented in a manner that allows the subject matter of protection to be clearly ascertained (which should allow for easier registration of non-traditional signs, such as holograms).

For further details of the changes, including in relation to the seizure of counterfeit goods which are in transit through the EU please visit our **website**.

Changes afoot in China cyber and data laws

Significant developments have been announced by the Chinese Government in recent weeks in relation to cyber security, data handling and online activities. Organisations doing business in the People's Republic of China are advised to start reviewing their current practices in anticipation of these changes. **Click here** for more information.

WHAT'S ON

Technology and Sourcing Webinar Series: Incentivising Collaboration in a Multi Supplier Environment

Incentivising collaboration in a multi-supplier environment is crucial to the successful delivery of end-to-end integrated services. During this session, our lawyers will discuss the increasing fragmentation of service delivery across a wide supplier base, the mechanisms used to incentivise collaboration, lessons learned from recent projects and how businesses can best manage risk.

This webinar will be most relevant to those involved in managing or procuring a multi-supplier procurement or ecosystem, and is an area of expertise for our Australian government practice.

Email events.australia@dlapiper.com for more information.

In A Flash – cyber security training

DLA Piper has released a new film, In A Flash – A lesson in cyber security, which covers issues and challenges facing a fictional organisation as a result of a cyber-security breach and the repercussions of failing to be prepared. The issues raised include cyber governance, cyber-risk management and incident response. Watch the trailer for the film here.

If you are interested in rolling this training out to your team, contact Jessica Scott.

Intellectual property webinar series

Throughout 2016 DLA Piper will be hosting an intellectual property webinar series focusing on the following topics. If you are interested in joining these webinars contact events.australia@dlapiper.com.

- intellectual property issues in China
- confidential information and trade secrets: global insights, global protection
- grey market: parallel importation and anti-counterfeiting
- content protection and digital piracy
- advertising and marketing

Save the date

Cyber risk symposium: Securing your success

Melbourne: 24th August | Sydney: 25th August | Brisbane 26th August

Aon, DLA Piper and Symantec are delighted to welcome you to our cyber risk symposium. Big data breaches hit the headlines daily, and cyber-security has become a global pandemic. The World Economic Forum states that around 90% of companies worldwide are insufficiently prepared to protect themselves against cyber risk.

In Australia, the release of the Federal Government's cyber security strategy, shows a government more alive to the risk of cyber attack and improving Australia's cyber resilience, leading innovation in this field.

Featuring international guest speakers from Aon, DLA Piper and Symantec, the symposium will cover the latest trends and threats in cyber security, as well as how these measures impact on the Australian market and beyond.

For further information contact Jessica Scott.

Pre-order your copy of the inaugural edition of DLA Piper's Asia-Pacific Trademark Guide

We will soon be releasing the DLA Piper Asia Pacific Trademark Guide, a comprehensive review of trademark laws and key tips covering these 18 countries: Australia, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

Covering the complete brand life cycle, this user-friendly guide provides practical insight into key aspects of trademark law and practice in Asia-Pacific, including:

- trademark filing and prosecution
- oppositions
- revocation, invalidation and cancellation
- trademark enforcement
- trademark exploitation
- unregistered trademark rights
- domain and company name disputes

To pre-order your copy of the inaugural edition of DLA Piper's Asia-Pacific Trademark Guide, email APACTMGuide@dlapiper.com.

Are you an in-house lawyer? Join WIN today!

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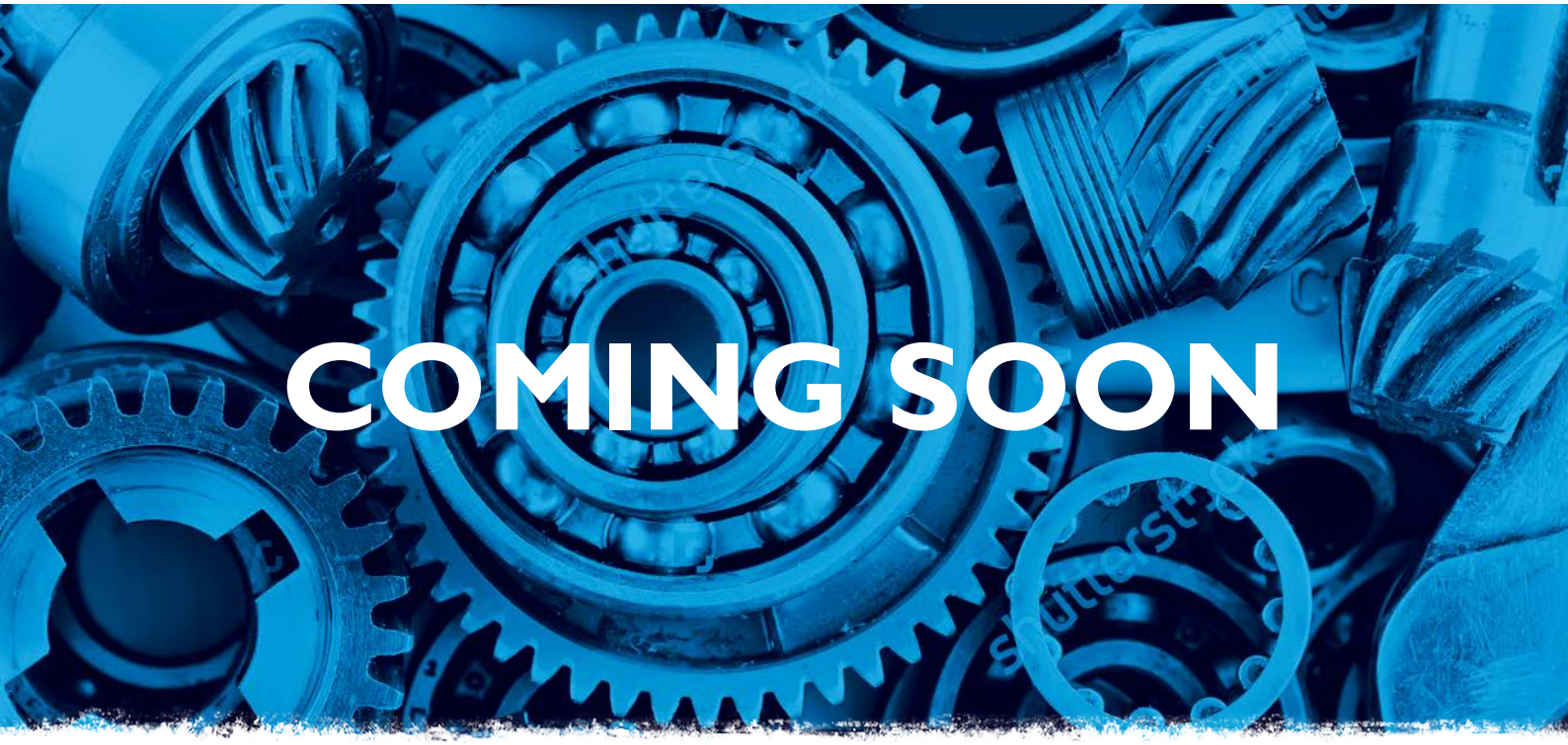

PATENT LAWS AROUND THE WORLD

Global Patent Laws is designed to provide you with an overview of the key patent laws and dispute resolution procedures that are relevant to businesses operating in the countries featured. For example, what acts infringe a patent, the availability of and approach to granting preliminary injunctions, the ability to obtain evidence, the approach to assessing validity and the typical time to trial. For companies operating in multiple countries, managing the risk of, and successfully bringing or defending, patent proceedings can often depend on strategic exploitation of the differences in approach between jurisdictions. Accordingly our guide also allows you to compare the laws and procedures of one country with that in other countries.