



Licensing Executives Society – Arab Countries

Advancing the Business of Intellectual Property Globally

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LES-AC Organizes ToT Training Course in March



AMMAN - The Licensing Executives Society- Arab Countries (LES-AC) will hold the “Training of Trainers (ToT)” course certified by the Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM) in cooperation with the Arab International Society for Management Technology (AIMICT) March 30 April 6, 2019.

Over seven days, the course will focus on several key themes, most importantly: providing participants with practical training using the best practices and most effective and efficient technologies in training needs assessment, design training, presentation, assessment and development.

AGIP and Republican Scientific Research Institute of Intellectual Property in Russia Sign Cooperation Agreement



AMMAN - Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) and the Republican Scientific Research Institute of Intellectual Property (RSRIIP) in Russia signed, on February 13, 2019, an Agreement on Strategic Innovation Cooperation in which both parties will cooperate in the field of Intellectual Property.

The Agreement was signed by Mr. Luay Abu-Ghazaleh, AGIP CEO and Managing Partner, and Mr. Vladimir Lopatin, Director of RSRIIP. Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh welcomed Mr. Lopatin by stressing the importance of Intellectual Property and its role in fostering innovation, and emphasizing AGIP's willingness to provide its support and assistance to the Republican Scientific Research Institute of Intellectual Property.

The Agreement is intended to build up a framework of cooperation for the exchange of experience and good practices in the field of Intellectual Property, as well as to formulate methods and mechanisms to protect Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs).

Under the terms of the Agreement, both parties will work together on the establishment and development of innovation infrastructure. By signing this Agreement, both parties undertake to transfer expertise related to the training of innovative personnel in the fields of law and Intellectual Property management.

“We are very pleased with this new channel of cooperation which will ultimately serve in fostering

an Intellectual Property environment, where creativity and innovation can flourish. This agreement manifests both parties' unwavering commitment to strengthening and improving Intellectual Property protection,” said Mr. Abu-Ghazaleh.

Mr. Lopatin valued the cooperation with AGIP, stressing that this agreement will open new cooperation opportunities and protection in the field of Intellectual Property development; which will reflect on economic growth.

AGIP, which falls under the umbrella of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org), is a true global IP service provider. It provides a broad range of IP services from registration and prosecution to maintenance, licensing and counseling services related to all IP rights in all countries of the world.

RSRIIP is a center of scientific and methodological support on Intellectual Property issues for state bodies, state clients and performers of state contracts, public and commercial organizations in the Russian Federation and abroad.

Abu-Ghazaleh a Guest of Honor at Emirates Higher Education Summit at American University in Dubai



DUBAI - The American University in Dubai (AUD) hosted HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, founder and chairman of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org), as a guest of honor at the Emirates for Higher Education Summit.

The meeting, held at the AUD premises, focussed on the education sector in the United Arab Emirates

and the latest global advancements in relation to higher education institutions.

The Summit also aimed at marketing the UAE as a destination for higher education, particularly with the attendance of more than 50 education agents from different countries including China, India, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Ghana and Kenya in addition to the active participation from the Arab countries and the Gulf States in particular.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh addressed attendees saying he is not concerned about higher education in the UAE saying, “I say it confidently and loudly that I am not worried at all about the future of this important sector,” extending his gratitude to His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, and Ruler of the Emirate of Dubai for his optimistic outlook and various initiatives that strive to secure a better future through education.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh started his speech by citing examples of role models who succeeded and excelled in innovation without attending school. Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh quoted Albert Einstein who said ‘School failed me, and I failed school’, and also referred to Jack Ma, co-founder and chairman of Alibaba Group, one of the world’s largest e-commerce businesses who once told his son: “You don’t need to be in the top three in your class, being in the middle is fine, so long as your grades aren’t too bad. Only this kind of person has enough free time to learn other skills.”

He further noted that the current world education system needs radical development to adapt in a world of rapid change stressing the fact that teachers in the new era should become mentors for students and motivate them to search and invest in knowledge and information.

He affirmed that that is why he established the Talal Abu-Ghazaleh University College

for Innovation in which classrooms are business incubators and teachers are mentors, supporters and instructors. “There is no room for exams and traditional education in this College which aims at graduating inventors not job seekers.”

Moreover, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh mentioned his newly published book entitled “The Brave Knowledge World” which introduces his lifelong vision and philosophy relating to the Knowledge Revolution and its impact on the future of humanity.

He went on to explain that “The timing of the Summit is very important; many countries have a deficiency in their education systems while the world is entering the third decade of 21st Century. Additionally, the quality of education in the Arab world has been deteriorating, according to Davos Quality in Education Index which measures this vital sector in 140 countries around the world.”

This deterioration, according to Abu-Ghazaleh, is attributed to the lack of appropriate education infrastructure and deficiency of the curriculum in terms of global advances in various sciences and technology.

Meanwhile Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh pointed out that there are many concerns regarding the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in our world.

“The Labor market, various industries and even educational systems around the world are watching the development in the AI field closely and they are a bit terrified. Could machines using Artificial Intelligence make doctors obsolete? It is not a question of maybe, but when!”

Accordingly, Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization established a specialized department that offers consulting services regarding various issues related to AI.

At the closing session of the Summit, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh awarded Certificates of Attendance to all participants and received an honorary shield.

It is noteworthy to mention that Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh is one of the most prominent business leaders in the world who has his own vision in economic and social development. He is the founder of the largest global organization of professional service firms in various fields including Intellectual Property, Auditing, Consulting, Legal Services, Training, Information Technology and Capacity Building, in addition to a University College specialized in innovation.

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization operates through more than 100 offices and 150 representative offices around the world. TAG-Org aims to provide the Arab and foreign countries and corporations with professional services. It is considered the only international multilingual leading company in the region with a wide range of qualified and experienced professionals and quality services.

Global Artificial Intelligence Patent Survey

Introduction

Research and development conducted worldwide is currently driving the “Fourth Industrial Revolution” (“4IR”), which encompasses three major fields: (1) physical technologies, (2) biological technologies, and (3) digital technologies.

Corresponding to the rise of 4IR digital technologies, the number of international artificial intelligence (“AI”) based patent filings has expanded rapidly over the last few years, mostly concentrated in the United States and Asia. According to a 2016 study, approximately 75% of all AI-related patent publications in the world come from three jurisdictions: China, Japan, and the United States. Although the majority of AI-related patents are filed in these countries, Europe is also seeing substantial increases in such patent filings.

This article explores AI-related patenting trends in various international jurisdictions and provides information on recent developments, common patentability issues, and tips for navigating similar trends in United States patent prosecution.

China

China has overtaken the United States in the number of annual AI-related patent applications. Recent studies revealed that China accounts for around 37% of published AI-related patent applications and about 22% of granted AI-related patents in the world. Two main factors appear to be driving these numbers. First, China was the only jurisdiction where the universities filed more AI-related patent applications than its corporations. Second, the amount of investment in Chinese AI-based companies is high and expectations for returns are even higher. Investors gave \$4.5 billion to more than 200 Chinese AI-based companies between 2012 and 2017, and the country’s goal is to foster a \$1 trillion AI industry by 2030.

Similar to the United States, subject matter eligibility requirements can be a barrier to prosecuting AI-related patent applications in the Chinese Patent Office. When drafting Chinese patent applications, practitioners suggest incorporating as many details about the invention as possible in the disclosure.

Japan

The Japanese Patent Office (JPO) appears to be a patent-friendly forum for obtaining protection for AI-related innovations, which could prove advantageous for patent owners. Recent allowance rates for business-related inventions (including AI inventions) were around

70%, which is significantly higher than corresponding rates for business method patents in the USPTO (12.7%) and the European Patent Office (EPO). Such a high allowance rate in Japan may be due, at least in part, to the publication of JPO case studies that provide clear guidelines for examining AI-based inventions.

Furthermore, in 2016, the JPO hosted a seminar providing insight for drafting and

prosecuting patent applications related to AI technology. During the seminar, it was suggested that the higher allowance rate may be due to the consideration of both technical and non-technical subject matter during examination.

Europe

AI-related patent applications in Europe grew at a 54% annualized rate from 2014 to 2017. The European Patent Office (EPO) has expressed a dedication to developing examination practices which are friendlier to computer implemented inventions, including AI-related subject matter. For example, the EPO adopted a new approach to interdisciplinary software patent applications which can now be examined by a team of three examiners with diverse technical backgrounds. Additionally, the EPO aims to speed up examination according to a 12-18 month timeline from filing to either allowance or final rejection.

Furthermore, in May 2018, the EPO held a conference entitled “Patenting Artificial Intelligence” centering on the challenges and opportunities of patenting AI-related innovations. Experts emphasized that AI-related applications in the EP should address technical considerations of the internal functioning of a computer, such as speed and/or computational load.

United States

Patent applicants seeking to protect AI-related innovations in the United States face many of the same issues as those described in other jurisdictions, including potential ineligibility of subject matter relating to abstract ideas and mental processes. Claiming AI-related innovations can be difficult because, by some interpretations, AI is a computer-implemented mental process. A common best practice for overcoming this issue in the US is to claim relatively narrowly, to keep the solution and the problem rooted in the specific technology, and to avoid focusing on a particular algorithm or abstract method.

The Northern District of California confirmed this approach by invalidating claims directed to automatically generating an “ensemble” of machine learning models under § 101 stating that it was directed towards “mathematical processes that not only could be performed by humans but also go to the general abstract concept of predictive analytics rather than any specific application.”

Conclusion

As AI-based innovations become an ever-increasing presence in our daily lives, it appears inevitable that an expanding number of patent applications will be filed to protect such inventions. Certain international jurisdictions have been amenable to clarification and adjustment of their patent laws and examination procedures with respect to AI, while others have remained relatively unchanged. It is promising to see both the Japanese and European patent offices clarifying expectations and streamline examination procedures in these emerging technical areas. As US practitioners, it can only be hoped that the USPTO will establish similar initiatives to expedite and clarify AI-based patent prosecution as the 4IR marches forward.

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