

AGIP *Bulletin*

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AGIP the Agent of First Two Granted Patents in Qatar



DOHA – As a pioneering IP firm helps national and international companies and inventors to secure their Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) is proud to announce that

it has been the local agent of the first two granted patents in Qatar.

The granted patents are Volkmann & Rossbach GMBH & Co. KG which has been published at the official gazette No. 1/2015, and AKER PROCESS System AS Which has been published at the official gazette No. 2/2015.

Despite the fact that Qatar does not have existing Patents' Implementing Regulations, AGIP has worked closely with Qatari Patent Office in issuing these patents' certificates.

AGIP Egypt Deputy Manager & Patent Manager Joined Summer School on Intellectual Property 2015 – University of Bonn



BONN – As Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) is keen to support its employees through continuous training and teaching, it supported its Patent manager at AGIP Egypt office, Mr. Mohammad Adel, to attend the advanced training diploma on IP at the University of Bonn, Germany from July 20th to July 31st, 2015.

The course introduced students to the main areas of Intellectual Property and examined important Intellectual Property issues. The students are now able to discuss Intellectual Property issues with professionals from Intellectual Property organizations, innovative companies, research facilities, law offices, and the University of Bonn.

Moreover, the program aimed to provide graduate students with insight into the field of Intellectual Property and an appreciation of the significant role of Intellectual Property in furthering the economic and technological development, and particularly in promoting innovation.

On the other hand, Mr. Adel has been selected among other participants to write his feedback about the course to be published on the official website of University of Bonn. To view Mr. Adel feedback, please visit the link: <https://www.uni-bonn.de/forschung/euroconsult/arbeitsbereiche/projekte/Participants-feedback>

Mr. Adel expressed his gratitude for this experience, saying: “I am really grateful for this opportunity I have been given to participate in such a program which enriched my IP knowledge. I am proud to work at AGIP which helped me a lot in improving my skills and professional career.”

New Verification System for Trademarks in Egypt



CAIRO – The Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade in Egypt launched a new system to enforce the protection of trademarks and limit the infringement acts that are increasing rapidly in Egypt.

By using an Android application or sending an SMS, the consumer will be able to verify instantly if a certain product is original or not. The verification message will include the product’s name and the expiry date as well.

Through the new system, trademark owners will have the right to have a “sticker” put on all the products that are sold in the Egyptian market and registered at the Egyptian Trademarks Office.

At present, companies can voluntarily register as part of this new verification system which may soon become mandatory.

Tunisia Approves Law Related to European Patent Validation Agreement



TUNIS – The Tunisian Parliament approved the law related to the agreement signed in Munich on July 3, 2014 between EPO President and Tunisian Minister for Industry related the validation of European patents for Tunisia.

The agreement aims to simplify the patent protection in Tunisia for European patent applicants and owners. Under the terms of the agreement, European patent applicants and owners will be able to validate the legal effects of their European

patents and applications in Tunisia, even though Tunisia is not an EPO member state.

Validated European patent applications and patents will have the same legal effect as Tunisian national applications and patents or national phase of PCT applications, and will be subject only to Tunisian patent legislations.

Moreover, the agreement will facilitate the procedures as such validation will not require further examination in the country.

It is worth mentioning that Tunisia is working on the implementing regulations of this law to be adopted.

Restriction of Brands / Turkey

By: Meliha Oazat/ AGIP Turkey Office



TAPDK/Tobacco and Alcohol Market Regulatory Authority (“Tobacco Board”) took a decision in 2012 regarding the trademarks that will be used for “alcoholic beverages”. The decision was based on Paragraph 9 of Article 6 of the Law No. 4250 of “Spirits and Alcoholic Beverages Monopoly Act”. The said Article is as follows:

No brand, identification and distinguishing element of alcoholic beverages may be used on non-alcoholic beverages and other products; vice versa, no brand, identification and distinguishing mark of non-alcoholic beverages and other products may be used on alcoholic beverages. This Article cannot be applied to exported products.

The main purpose of the Article seems to prevent the possible association between known, well-known marks and “alcoholic drinks”. However, the implementation of the decision has been causing negative consequences so far.

The Tobacco Board requests the “alcoholic beverages” brand owners to use their marks on “alcoholic beverages” only and not for any other goods/services. In the same manner, the brand owners, whose marks are registered by any other parties on “alcoholic

beverages”, are requested to stop using or altering their marks. The demand contradicts with trademark owners’ rights acquired by Trademark Protection.

Moreover considering the time, effort and investment spent on creation and advertisement of a mark, the Tobacco Board’s demands are not practical or justifiable.

Despite the declaration that the decision was taken for the purpose of consistency with European Union’s regulations, the fact and results led to conflict between different laws and regulations as well as damage on acquired trademark rights of concerned parties.

The fact is that the Trademark Decree allows for the registration of identical/confusingly similar marks in different classes, and even in the same class for different sub-classes. Moreover, if trademark

“X” is registered for “alcoholic beverages”, any third party has the right to register “X” on the remaining goods/services, i.e. trademark “X” may be registered for “clothing”, “land vehicles”, “cosmetics” in the name of different owners.

The possible assignment between the parties suggested by the Board is not grounded as well, hence it would not be applicable for a trademark owner to approach all the parties who registered identical/confusingly similar marks requesting assignment and afford such assignments.

In brief, the decision taken by Tobacco Board is conflicting with Trademark Decree and the related Regulation.

The current situation indicates that by facing many inapplicable cases, either the Tobacco Board will withdraw the decision, or many will suffer from the sanctions of the decision.

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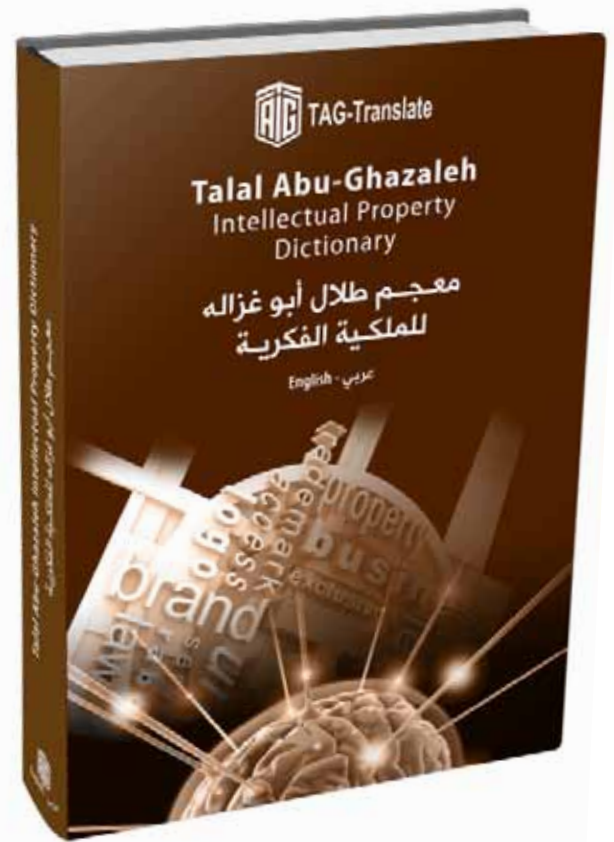
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Mrs. Iman Salameh

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization Releases the Second Edition of “Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property Dictionary”



Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org) recently issued “Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property Dictionary”, which is deemed the fifth dictionary to be released among a series of scientific, professional and specialized publications. This Dictionary is characterized by the variety of aspects it covers, which you wouldn’t find combined in any of the traditional dictionaries, it also contains the main terminologies that involve Intellectual Property reaching up to ten thousand words.

HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh stated that this updated second edition of the Dictionary is in alignment with the latest developments in the Intellectual Property field.

This Dictionary mirrors the efforts exerted by experts from different fields at TAG-Org mainly in translation, law, technical design and publications.

It was mainly issued to boost knowledge about Intellectual Property, including; the terminologies used by judges, lawyers, professors and law students, it also meets the needs of businessmen, companies and those working in the field of IP and in other economy –related sectors. This dictionary constitutes a main addition in the series of scientific and professional dictionaries.

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