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Abu-Ghazaleh Opens in Nigeria its 86th Office



ABUJA – As part of its continuous global expansion strategy, Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP), a member of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org), has extended its network of offices with the launch of its new office in Nigeria, from where it will act as contact point for its clients protecting their Intellectual Property Rights (IRPs) in western Africa.

AGIP Nigeria office will complement and support our existing offices by offering a broad range of IP related services, including trademarks, patents, industrial designs, copyrights and domain names registration, counseling, prosecution, licensing and litigation.

HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, chairman of TAG-Org said: “With a strong network of offices in more than 86 locations worldwide, we are really excited to add another office to our network already functional around the world, and we are looking forward to strengthening our relations with officials and businessmen in Nigeria.”

AGIP Nigeria office will be led by highly experienced IP professionals who can meet the IP portfolio management needs for all clients on both domestic and international levels, and assist them in the protection of their Intellectual Property Rights.

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Abu Dhabi Customs Honors Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property



ABU DHABI - In recognition of its considerable role in safeguarding Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), Abu Dhabi Customs honored Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) on November 10,

2016 at Abu Dhabi Customs Administration.

AGIP was recognized for being the first Intellectual Property firm in registering and recording trademarks with Abu Dhabi Customs.

During the meeting held at Abu Dhabi Customs, representatives of the two parties discussed the joint cooperation in the field of trademarks protection, highlighting the development of activities and ways of IP protection to create a rich environment for investments,

and to activate IP protection services to protect trademark owners against the entry of any counterfeit products similar to their trademarks.

In this regard, Mr. Amjad Al-Husseini, executive director of AGIP UAE office, said: "AGIP is proud to be recognized by Abu Dhabi Customs under the guidance of our Chairman HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh. AGIP works in close coordination with Arab governments and multilateral organizations on introducing an efficient IP system in the region."

Increase in Trademarks Official Fees in Kurdistan



ERBIL – The Trademarks Office in Erbil announced that the official fees for transactions pertaining to trademarks,

including filing, registration, opposition, and all legal procedures have been increased in Kurdistan, as from November 27, 2016.

In light of this increase, AGIP will amend its schedule of charges related to trademarks services offered in Kurdistan, and its newly modified fees will be posted at AGIP website: www.agip.com

For more information, please contact AGIP Erbil office at the following address:

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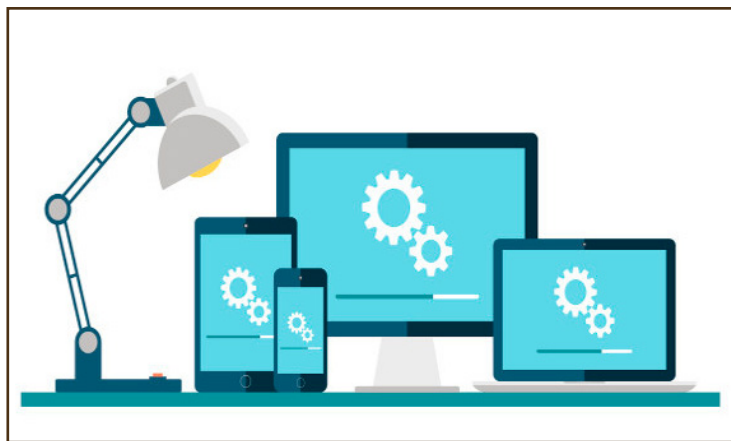
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WIPO Develops Cutting-Edge Translation Tool for Patent Documents



GENEVA - The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) announced in a press release that it has developed a ground-breaking new “artificial intelligence”-based translation tool for patent documents, handing innovators around the world the highest-quality service yet available for accessing information on new technologies.

WIPO Translate now incorporates cutting-edge neural machine translation technology to render highly technical patent documents into a second language in a style and syntax that more closely mirrors common usage, out-performing other translation tools built on previous technologies. WIPO has initially “trained” the new technology to translate Chinese, Japanese and Korean patent documents into English. Patent applications in those languages accounted for some 55% of worldwide filings in 2014. Users can already try out the Chinese-English translation facility on the public beta test platform.

“One of the aims of the patent system is to make technology available. Language is a barrier to the universal achievement of that aim. This breakthrough for WIPO Translate means that a vast, and ever-increasing, trove of patent documents will soon be more easily accessible to innovators who search these records for inspiration or technical know-how,” said WIPO Director General Francis Gurry. “As part of a

global trend, patent applications are increasingly being filed in East Asian languages, particularly in Chinese, and WIPO Translate helps ensure that state-of-the-art knowledge created in these languages is shared as widely and rapidly as possible.”

Highly accurate

The high level of accuracy of the Chinese-English translation is the result of the training of the neural machine translation tool, which compared 60 million sentences from Chinese patent documents provided to WIPO’s PATENTSCOPE database by the State Intellectual Property Office of the People’s Republic of China with their translations as filed at the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

WIPO plans to extend the neural machine translation service to French-language patent applications, with other languages to follow. The PATENTSCOPE database integrates with other translation engines freely available on the internet and continues to use existing statistical-based translation technology for languages where it performs well. WIPO has shared its translation software with other international organizations, including the United Nations conference management service, Food and Agriculture Organization, International Telecommunication Union, International Maritime Organization, World Trade Organization, and The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. “At the United Nations, we are following with great interest the new developments on neural machine translation at WIPO, our partners in this innovative area,” said Cecilia Elizalde, Director of the UN Documentation Division. “Our translation system is integrated with the statistical version of WIPO Translate and translators find it very useful. We look forward to upgrading it to the neural version in the next months.”

Emerging technology

Neural machine translation is an emerging technology. It is based on huge neural network models that “learn” from previously translated sentences. The specificity of neural machine translation (compared to previous “phrase based” statistical methods) is that it produces more natural word order, with particular improvements seen in so-called distant language pairs, like Japanese-English or Chinese-English.

In a recent test, WIPO Translate’s neural-based machine translation service substantially outperformed both the previous statistical-based model on distant language pairs, as well as other non-WIPO translation services. Since this WIPO tool is trained and focused uniquely on patent documents, instead of a more-disparate array of texts, it gives higher-quality renderings.

Global Patent Applications Rose to 2.9 Million in 2015 on Strong Growth from China; Demand Also Increased for Other IRPs

GENEVA - Innovators in China powered global patent applications to a new record in 2015, filing more than a million applications for the first time ever within a single year amid rising worldwide demand for intellectual property rights that undergird economic activity, a press release by WIPO.

In total, innovators around the world lodged some 2.9 million patent applications in 2015, representing a 7.8% increase over 2014 and the sixth straight year of rising demand for patent protection, according to WIPO’s annual World Intellectual Property Indicators (WIPI) report. Trademark applications jumped by 15.3% to about 6 million in 2015, as worldwide industrial design applications grew by 2.3% to 872,800.

While Chinese innovators filed the most patent applications (1,010,406) in 2015, followed by those from the United States of America (526,296)

and Japan (454,285), they are comparatively home-focused: Innovators based in China filed 42,154 applications for patents outside their own borders, while U.S.-based innovators were the most outward-looking, with 237,961 patent applications filed abroad.

Patents

In total, innovators filed some 2.9 million patent applications worldwide in 2015, up 7.8% from 2014, higher than the 4.5% growth rate in 2014. Resident filings, where innovators filed for protection in their home economy, accounted for around two-thirds of the 2015 total.

China’s patent office received 1,101,864 filings in 2015, making it the first office to receive more than a million applications in a single year – including both filings from residents in China as well as from overseas innovators seeking patent protection inside China. This totaled almost as

many applications as the next three offices combined: the U.S. (589,410), Japan (318,721) and the Republic of Korea (213,694).

Together with the European Patent Office (EPO; 160,028), the top five offices accounted for a combined share of 82.5% of global filings. Among the top five offices, China (+18.7%) had the fastest growth, followed by the EPO (+4.8%), the U.S. (+1.8%) and the Republic of Korea (+1.6%). In contrast, Japan’s patent office saw a 2.2% decrease. This continues a downward trend that started in 2005 and mainly reflects decline in resident filings.

U.S. applicants filed the most applications abroad (237,961), marking a 6% increase, followed by those from Japan, which decreased 2.3 % to 195,446, and Germany, which saw a 3.6% drop to 101,892.

Though innovators based in

China filed comparatively fewer overseas applications (42,154), that figure has risen steadily over the past two decades and now nearly equals the total of France (46,581).

Computer technology (7.9% of the total) saw the highest percentage of published patent applications worldwide, followed by electrical machinery (7.3%) and digital communication (4.9%).

Around 1.24 million patents were granted worldwide in 2015, up 5.2% on 2014 and the fastest growth rate since 2012. This was due mainly to an increase of grants in China, which issued 359,316 patents in 2015 to surpass the U.S. (298,407) as the largest patent issuing office.

An estimated 10.6 million patents were in force around the globe in 2015. About a quarter of these were in the US (24.9% of the total), followed by 18.3% in Japan and 13.9% in China.

Trademarks

An estimated 6 million trademark applications covering 8.4 million classes were filed globally in 2015. Largely

driven by China, applications increased by 15.3%, which represents the highest growth since 2000. Around 78% of global filing activity can be attributed to resident applicants that filed for protection in their own country.

China – with a class count of 2.83 million – saw by far the highest trademark filing activity in 2015. It was followed by the U.S. (517,297), the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO; 366,383), Japan (345,070) and India (289,843). Among the top 20 offices, Japan (+43%), Italy (+32.6%), China (+27.4%), India (+21.9%) and the Republic of Korea (+13.9%) reported double-digit growth in 2015.

Around 4.4 million trademark registrations covering 6.2 million classes were recorded worldwide in 2015. This was a 26.6% increase on 2014 and the fastest growth in over 15 years.

Industrial Designs

Global industrial design applications filed in 2015 grew by 2.3%, rebounding from a sharp decrease recorded in 2014 when there was a large

drop-off in filings in China. Designers across the world filed 872,800 applications containing 1.1 million designs. Growth was mainly due to increases in applications filed in China, the Republic of Korea and the U.S.

China's office received applications containing 569,059 designs, accounting for half of the world total. It was followed by the EUIPO (98,162), and the offices of the Republic of Korea (72,458), Germany (56,499) and Turkey (45,852). Among them, the Republic of Korea (+5.9%) and China (+0.8%) saw growth, while Germany (-7.5%), Turkey (-6%) and the EUIPO (-0.1%) saw lower filing activity in 2015 than in 2014.

Designs related to furnishings accounted for 9.4% of all filings, followed by those related to clothing (8.3%) and to packages and containers (7%).

The total number of industrial designs registered worldwide increased by 21.3% in 2015, mainly due to strong growth in registrations in China.

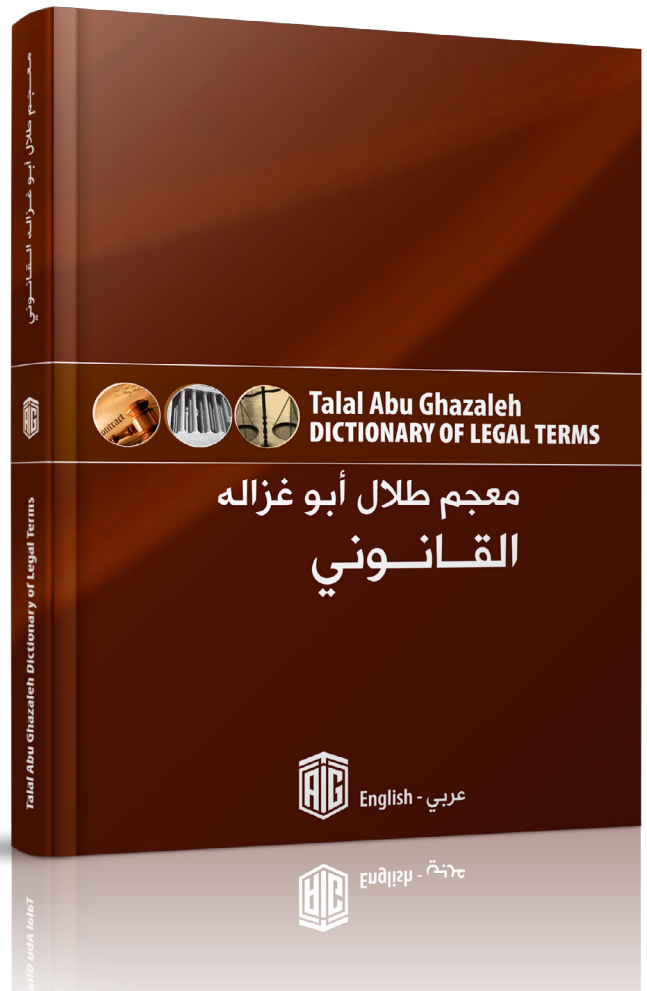
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Mrs. Iman Salameh



TAG-Org Releases Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Dictionary of Legal Terms

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org) announced the launch of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Dictionary of Legal Terms, the sixth dictionary in a series of professional and specialized publications.

The Dictionary is considered a rich lexicon for the use of judges, lawyers, professors and college students and an insightful resource for researchers and students.

This publication serves business people and companies and keeps abreast of contemporary world legal terminology in the fields of corruption, money laundering and monopoly in addition to legal strategies for companies and world trade, merging and acquisition.

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