

AGIP Turkey

Participates in **Anfas Food Product Fair 2011**

British Carmaker

LAND ROVER

Sues

Chinese Trademark

Agency over Brand Dispute

DreamWorks

Hit with Another

"Kung Fu Panda" Suit

1



AGIP Turkey Participates in Anfas Food Product Fair 2011

British Carmaker Land Rover Sues Chinese Trademark Agency over Brand Dispute



2

3



DreamWorks Hit with Another «Kung Fu Panda» Suit

Syria: New Company Law Brings Improvements to Business Sector and Opens Door for Privatization



4

5



Jordan: Students to Be Familiarized with Cyber Crimes, Means to Protect Themselves

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ANTALYA- Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property Turkey Office (AGIP Turkey) took part in the 18th International Trade Exhibition for Food & Beverage which opened its doors on February 16, 2011 in Antalya where new technologies, practices and products were introduced with the participation of around 500 local and foreign firms.

The fair is considered one of the largest commercial activities of the Turkish food sector with the contributions it makes to the sectors of accommodation, restaurant and tourism.

AGIP Turkey Executive Director Ms. Ozlem Ozgur Arslan and Ms. Gizem Atasu, Marketing Representative of AGIP Turkey took part in the event which welcomed more than 45.000 visitors from Turkey and abroad.

Commenting on the event, Ms. Arslan said "Attending the 18th International Trade Exhibition in Antalya has provided a significant opportunity to the companies in food and beverage sector to exchange information and exhibit their new products. We, as Trademark and Patent experts will always continue our full support to our clients with our presence while they are expanding to new markets and widen purchase channels worldwide."

The fair was organized under the cooperation of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Under secretariat of Foreign Trade, Association of the Mediterranean Touristic Hotels, Association of Professional Hotel Administrators, Turkey Federation of Cooks, Small and Medium Scaled Industry Development Organization.

The leading Food & Beverage producers of Turkey exhibited their new products to possible customers from many European and Middle Eastern countries such as Lebanon, Italy, Russia, UAE, Qatar, Bulgaria, Israel, Germany, Jordan, Australia, Ghana, England, Egypt, Kuwait, Azerbaijan, Saudi Arabia as well as Turkey.

A team of 40 people from the Kirkuk and Erbil Chambers of Commerce of Iraq and two teams of 15 people from Syria – Damascus were welcomed at Anfas Food Product 2011 Fair.



British Carmaker Land Rover Sues Chinese Trademark Agency over Brand Dispute

BEIJING- British luxury car maker Land Rover is suing a top Chinese trademark watchdog over a trademark dispute with Chinese auto manufacturer Geely, according to a court statement.

As per the statement, the lawsuit against the Trademark Appeal Board under the State Administration for Industry and Commerce has been accepted by the Beijing Municipal No. 1 Intermediate People's Court.

The British carmaker said it has used two Chinese characters "Lu Hu" in China for its "Land Rover" brand since early 1990s, but in 1999 Geely registered the "Lu Hu" trademark knowing that Land Rover was using it, according to the statement.

Land Rover had appealed to the Trademark Appeal Board, asking the agency to revoke the "Lu Hu" trademark registered by Geely, but the board rejected the appeal. The statement did not specify when the appeal took place.

Land Rover is bringing the Trademark Appeal Board to court and has asked judges to order the board to review its earlier decision. A trial date is yet to be decided.

Geely, based in the eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou, is the country's leading private-run carmaker. It attracted worldwide attention last year by taking over Swedish automaker Volvo.

Xinhua

DreamWorks Hit with Another «Kung Fu Panda» Suit

BEIJING- DreamWorks Animation might need to brush up on its martial arts skills to fight the litigation surrounding its “Kung Fu Panda” franchise.

The studio is being sued again, this time by a man who claims to have created the inspiration behind its animated hit, which grossed \$632 million worldwide.

Represented by two high-caliber IP firms in Fish & Richardson and Duane Morris, an artist named Jayme Gordon on February 16 filed a colorfully illustrated 28-page complaint in US District Court in Massachusetts, alleging that DreamWorks and distributor Paramount copied the film from Gordon’s copyrighted works, collectively titled “Kung Fu Panda Power.”

Gordon claims that the defendants took more than just the title of his work, they also featured animated characters that bore a striking similarity to the characters he drew in his own illustrations, which he says were registered with the US Copyright Office in 2000.

The lawsuit comes as DreamWorks is battling another writer, Terence Dunn, who also claims to have pitched the story of a “spiritual kung-fu fighting panda bear” to studio executives during a series of phone conversations in November 2001. Recently, Dunn won a small victory by getting his lawsuit to the discovery phase, where Dunn will attempt to gather internal

DreamWorks Animation documents about box office sales, DVD and merchandise revenue to help support the claims that the studio made millions from his ideas.

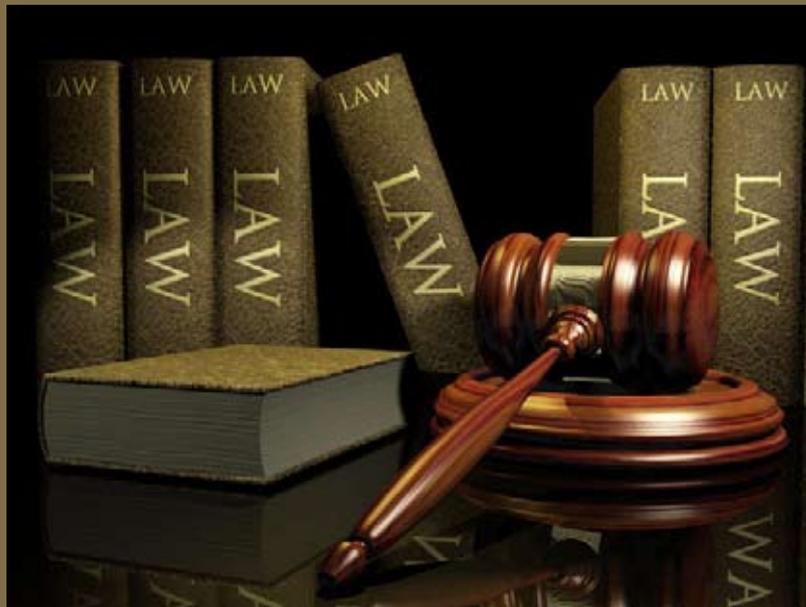
As for Gordon’s lawsuit, Gordon submitted multiple packages to The Walt Disney Co in the late 1980s or early 1990s, according to the complaint. The packages contain original illustrations and stories, including components of the Kung Fu Panda Power work. Gordon then visited “Pleasure Island,” a section of the Disney World resort in Orlando, Florida, where he met then-Disney Chairman Michael Eisner and President Frank Wells. Gordon says he was invited to send his works to Disney, which he did. The complaint contains a photo of Gordon and Eisner together at a meeting.

At the time of the meeting, DreamWorks Chief Jeffrey Katzenberg worked for Disney under Eisner. Katzenberg left Disney in 1994 and launched DreamWorks. Gordon says that in the late 1990s, he sent his illustrations to DreamWorks, where they were rejected with an acknowledgement of receipt.

Asserting copyright infringement, Gordon demands unspecified profits, statutory damages, and an acknowledgment of authorship on both “Kung Fu Panda” and its forthcoming sequel, scheduled for release in May.

DreamWorks declined to comment on the suit.





Syria:

New Company Law Brings Improvements to Business Sector and Opens Door for Privatization

DAMASCUS - Syria has approved a new law regulating the establishment and operations of companies, less than three years after a similar bill was passed.

The new text, Law 29/2011, was enacted on February 14 and replaces Company Law No. 3 of 2008. When the previous text was passed in 2008, it replaced a 59-year old bill, the Commerce Law of 1949.

The new text brings a number of additions and improvements to the rules regulating the establishment of companies in Syria.

Among other improvements, the law enables the establishment of one-person limited liabilities, the transformation of state-owned entities into companies, the establishment of holding firms as limited liabilities and the establishment of non-public shareholding companies.

Under the previous law, shareholding companies could either be limited liabilities or publicly traded joint-stock companies. An estimated 360 companies that were registered as private joint-stock companies under the Commerce Law of 1949 were to be forcibly switched to limited liability or public JSC form because the previous law did not take them into account. The Law now allows for both Public and Private Joint Stock Companies (JSCs).

This possibility will ease the way for family firms that wanted to switch to a shareholding form under Law 61, which provides tax exemptions and facilities for that purpose. Several family firms could not do that switch because they would have been forced to go public.

Private JSCs will need a minimum number of five shareholders, while the minimum threshold for Public JSCs is 25. The founding shareholders of a Public JSC are now also allowed

to own up to 75 percent of the shares of the company they are founding (and at least 10 percent) from a maximum of 55 percent previously.

The minimum face value of shares to be sold by JSCs has been lowered to SYP 100 from SYP 500 in a bid to encourage investment by a larger part of the population, according to a statement by the Minister of Economy.

The new bill also allows the establishment of one-person limited liabilities. Companies established under this form will need to mention this under their name.

LLCs will need to have a minimum capital of SYP 1 million, as it is currently the case, while partnerships will need a minimum capital of SYP 300,000. In order to ease the establishment of LLCs, investors will be able to apply to set-up their company through the regional offices of the Syrian Investment Agency, the Industrial Cities located across the country or the Domestic Trade Directorate of the Governorates.

Also, holding companies can now take the form of a legal liability, while previously they needed to be JSCs.

Another important feature included in the law is the option given to state-owned entities to switch to a Public JSC form. Currently state-owned institutions operate under specific regulations. However, from they decide to switch to a shareholding form, after they get the approval of the Prime Ministry, they will have to abide by the Company Law.

Although the law clearly says that state-owned companies can go public it does not say whether that could go as far as offering a majority of the shares for trade, or in other words privatizing them.

Jordan: Students to Be Familiarized with Cyber Crimes, Means to Protect Themselves

By Mohammad Ghazal
The Jordan Times

AMMAN - Local and foreign experts will soon start touring the country's schools to educate students on how to protect themselves from cyber crimes.

"Teenagers in Jordan, who represent the majority of Internet users in the country, are the most vulnerable to e-crimes because they are not familiar with such crimes and are unaware of the means to protect themselves," Jamal Karaki, head of the founding committee of the National Center for the Security and Assurance of Information and Communication Systems, said on February 22.

Under the campaign, to be launched in April, schoolchildren will be familiarized with cyber crimes such as identity theft, phishing, Trojans and viruses, he told The Jordan Times over the phone.

"No one is immune to cyber crimes, especially young people, who increasingly use social networking sites and the web, and they do not have full knowledge of the breaches and crimes they might face," added Karaki, who is also the Dean of the Prince Hussein Ben Abdullah II Faculty for Information Technology at the Hashemite University.

There are 1.278 million Facebook users in the Kingdom, representing 0.20 per cent of the global number of users, according to www.checkfacebook.com.

About 17.6 per cent of Facebook users are aged between 14 and 17, while 42.8 per cent are aged between 18 and 24,

according to the website.

"One of our goals also is to protect schoolchildren from sexual exploitation over the Internet; although this is not a major issue in Jordan, it needs to be covered," Karaki said.

The campaign will initially cover public schools and extend to cover other schools at a later stage, he added.

The Information Systems Crime Law, popularly known as the Cyber Crimes Law, was endorsed last year.

The legislation stipulates that "whoever intentionally uses an information system or the Internet to prepare, save, process, display, print, publish or promote pornography or activities related thereto in order to influence or direct or incite a person under 18 years old or who is mentally disabled to be exploited to perversion or committing a crime, shall be penalized by imprisonment for not less than six months and with a fine of no less than JD500 and not exceeding JD5,000".

The law also stipulates that "whoever intentionally uses an information system or the Internet to exploit a person under 18 years old or who is mentally disabled in prostitution, pornography or trafficking shall be penalized by temporary penal servitude and with a fine not less than JD2,000 and not exceeding JD10,000".

Launched by His Majesty King Abdullah earlier this month, the national centre will provide training and conduct research on e-crimes and means to combat them.



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