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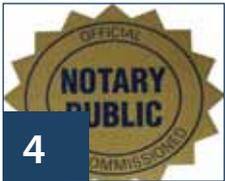
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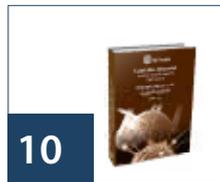
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Chinese News App in Copyright Storm

BEIJING - A Chinese smartphone app that publishes news articles from a range of sources is being investigated for alleged copyright infringement.

The app, 'Today's Headlines', has been the subject of "numerous complaints" from China's traditional media outlets, China's copyright watchdog has claimed.

Launched in 2012, the app aggregates news from major newspapers and arranges the articles according to readers' interests.

Yu Cike, director of the National Copyright Administration (NCA)'s copyright management division, did not name the organisations that complained, but told the People's Daily newspaper that there was concern over the "republishing" of articles.

He added that the NCA is conducting an investigation into the complaints and will deal with the situation according to the law.

'Today's Headlines' has more than 90 million registered users and is owned by Beijing-based Beijing Byte Dance Telecommunications.

The latest dispute is not the first time the app has run into trouble. Earlier this month, The Beijing News, ran an editorial accusing it of stealing content.

Byte Dance's co-founder Zhang Yining denied the allegations and said it had struck content sharing deals with many news organisations and asked other media outlets to make similar agreements.

The investigation comes at the beginning of a joint campaign by the government into online copyright infringement.

The campaign, as World Intellectual Property Review's sister publication TBO reported last week, began this month and will focus on tackling deceptive advertising online and shutting down websites that host illegal videos and music.

The initiative, which lasts from June to November, was launched jointly by the NCA alongside the State Internet Information Office, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and the Ministry of Public Security.

Source: World Intellectual Property Review



Issuance of New Law Regulating Notary Public Profession in Syria

DAMASCUS - Authorities have issued law No. 15 on regulating the work of the Notary Public profession as per the bill approved by the Syrian People's Assembly.

The law specifies the definition of Notary General and the various departments, terms, records, documents, procedures, and fees related to this profession, as well as specifying the conditions for becoming a Notary Public and assigning the Justice Minister to appoint them, with judges and attorneys supervising their work.

As per this law, the tasks of Notaries Public are defined as writing and documenting contracts and legal papers such as wills, preserving documents they process, filing and documenting and safekeeping documents when asked to do so, providing notarized copies of documents, serving legal notices, and testifying to notarization of documents and their dates.

The law also empowers Syrian consuls or those carrying out their tasks abroad as Notaries General outside the country. It also stipulates for making digital copies of documents to refer to in case records or documents are lost.

Source: Sana News Agency



India's Lack of Intellectual Property Protection Hurts US Companies – NCPA Reveals

DALLAS - India's lack of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) enforcement strains the pharmaceutical trade relationship between India and the United States, explains Research Associate Clinton Ritchey in a new study from the National Center for Policy Analysis (NCPA).

Over the past two years, the Indian government has engaged in a series of policy, regulatory and legal decisions that undermine internationally recognized IPRs. US pharmaceutical companies have had issues keeping their patents protected in India. For example:

- India issued a compulsory license for the cancer drug Nexavar. The license waived Nexavar's patent protection and allowed a domestic Indian pharmaceutical company to create a generic version and sell it at nearly one-thirtieth the cost.
- The Indian Patent Office rejected a patent application for an upgraded version of Gleevec, a leukemia cancer drug, stating it was not a significant improvement to the older version. Gleevec's latest version has been approved in more than 40 countries.
- Indian generic drug companies opposed granting a patent for Sutent, a late-stage kidney cancer drug developed by Pfizer, claiming there was no originality in its invention. Sutent's patent has been approved in over 90 countries.

Without the certainty of patent rights, drug companies have little incentive to research and develop new drugs because the financial reward is limited. Patents ensure that companies will earn back the money they invest in the development of new drugs.

Source: The Gilmer Mirror.



Skechers Kicks Fila with IP Lawsuit

CALIFORNIA - US shoemaker, Skechers, has sued sportswear company Fila for allegedly infringing two design patents and trade dress protecting a popular product.

The claims centre on the similarity between the Skechers Go Walk and the Amazen Memory Moc products, both blue shoes with white stitching and a hole in the back.

A Fila spokesman said: "Fila believes the claim is without merit and we intend to defend it vigorously."

Skechers shoe, of which millions of pairs have been sold, has significantly contributed to the success of the Skechers Go series, the company claimed.

It said it wrote to Fila to request that the sports company stop infringing the design patents and trade dress protecting the Skechers Go Walk shoe.

A month later Fila agreed to stop making the Amazen Memory Moc and subsequently said it had redesigned the model according to the complaint.

"Despite such notice, defendant Fila continues to wilfully, wantonly and deliberately engage in acts

of patent infringement, trade dress infringement, dilution, and unfair competition with its Amazen Memory Moc shoe," the company added.

The complaint compares a sketch of the patented shoe with Fila's product, and includes multiple pictures of both companies' products to demonstrate the alleged infringement.

Among the apparently infringing characteristics of the Amazen Memory Moc shoe is an "exact copy of the iconic portal hole in the back of the shoe", according to Skechers.

The shoemaker claimed that the Amazen Memory Moc so closely resembles its patented invention that an "ordinary observer" would be deceived into buying it. It added that Fila's use of its trade dress is likely to deceive consumers and cause confusion.

Skechers claimed the infringements are wilful and it wants a permanent injunction and damages, as well as profits made from the allegedly infringing shoes. If a judgment goes in Skechers' favor, the company added, it wants any infringing goods destroyed within ten days.

Source: World Intellectual Property Review

Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property Wins International Tender to Develop Trademarks and Patents Systems in Afghanistan

KABUL- Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) and Talal Abu-Ghazaleh and Co. Consulting won an International tender to develop the regulations and laws of trademarks and patents, and the work procedures in the Patents and Trademarks Office in Afghanistan. The tender includes development of electronic systems to register patents and trademarks.

AGIP was selected by Harakat, a non-for-profit independent Afghani organization aims to improve business environment in Afghanistan, from among many International bidders due to its outstanding technical offer, and its knowledge of the work environment in Afghanistan through Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization offices in the capital city of Afghanistan, Kabul.

The tender includes the following:

- Assessment of trademark and patent laws.
- Preparation of procedural guides to register trademarks and other procedural guides to register patents.

- Development of mechanism to enforce the patent and trademark laws.
- Train the staff at the patent and trademark office in Afghanistan on the amended laws and regulations, and train the technicians to use the electronic systems. This will be done through an advanced electronic registration system.

HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh expressed his pleasure for expanding TAG-Org's services and businesses to Afghanistan stressing the keenness of TAG-Org to contribute to the international efforts to develop the professional services in these countries, especially in the Intellectual Property field.

It is worth mentioning that AGIP, spreading in 80 countries in the world contributed to the development and drafting of Intellectual Property laws and regulations for several countries.

Source: AG-IP-News Agency



Crackdown to Target Channels Broadcasting Programs without License

By Mohammad Ghazal

AMMAN - The National Library Department (NLD) conducted a campaign to crack down on satellite channels that broadcast dramas and programs without obtaining the required approval from copyright holders, its director said.

The NLD team has already prepared a list of satellite channels broadcasting from Jordan and will check on all of them to verify whether they are abiding by the Jordanian Copyright Law, NLD Director General Mohammad Abbadi told The Jordan Times.

“In Ramadan, the number of satellite channels broadcasting dramas and all kinds of programs without the proper license increases. This is a violation of copyrights and violators will be fined and referred to court,” Abbadi said.

Noting that the campaign will cover all satellite channels in the country, he added that the NLD will continue its inspection campaigns on sales of pirated items.

A report issued last month indicated that software piracy in Jordan dropped by 1 per cent in 2013, and the Kingdom was among five Arab states with the lowest illegal use of unlicensed software.

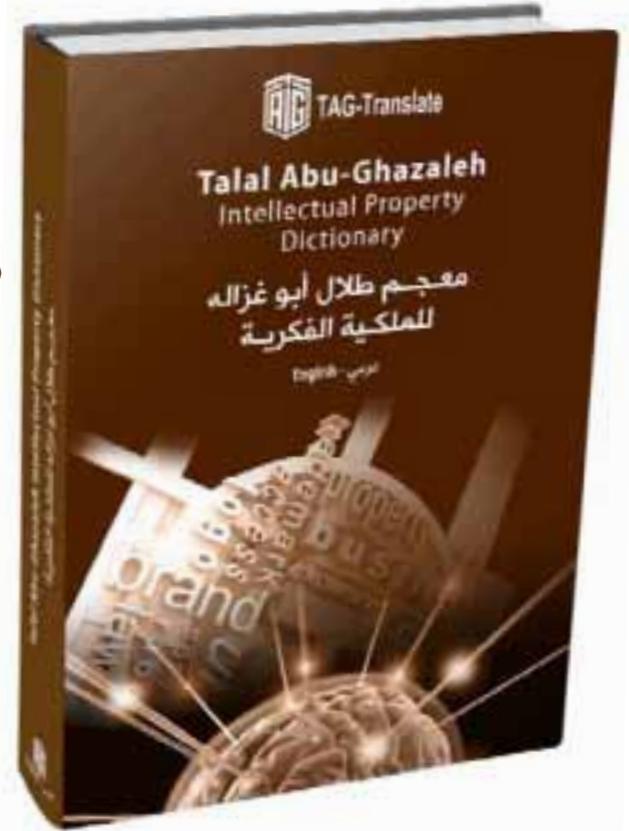
The Business Software Alliance study showed that the commercial value of unlicensed software in Jordan amounted to \$35 million in 2013 compared to \$31 million in 2011.

The Jordanian Copyright Law stipulates that it is a crime to download software, music or movies that are protected under the legislation. Offenders face a prison sentence of between three months and three years and a fine ranging from JD1,000 to JD6,000.

The NLD has referred more than 4,000 cases of intellectual property rights violations to court since 2000.

Source: Jordan Times

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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