



Spring is in the air. As we shake off the long nights of winter following the launch of our 2014 /15 corporate plan, IPO people are busy and buzzing. And there's a distinctly international feel to much of what we're doing at the moment with lots going on to influence what goes on outside the UK, especially in some of the world's trickiest markets.

The international focus is certain to colour much of our activity over the next few weeks too, not least as we engage in final preparations for the first ever [International IP Enforcement Summit](#) that we're hosting in London with our partners OHIM. It may be unusual for Her Majesty's civil servants to show too much excitement, but I must confess to an increase in my pulse rate whenever the Summit's mentioned (which is pretty often).

As ever, IP Connect aims to keep you in touch with all that's going on around here— whether at home or internationally – giving you the headlines with links to more detailed documents. If you have ideas about how we might improve the format or the content or would like to give more general feedback, do get in touch by [clicking here](#).

Rosa Wilkinson,
Director of Innovation and Strategic Communications

PM and IP Minister highlight importance of IP to UK at IPAN World Intellectual Property Day Celebration



Emphasising the significance of intellectual property (IP) to the UK, the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP, sent a message to guests attending the IP Awareness Network's (IPAN) fourth annual celebration for World Intellectual Property Day: "The inventive spirit is hard-wired into us. Finding easier and better ways of living lives and doing business is at the heart of everything we do – and at the very heart of our economic success.

"That is why it matters that UK businesses, inventors and creators benefit from a world class environment for creating and using IP." he said.

Photo: David Willis of Parliamentary Photography for IPAN



Speaking at the event, IP Minister Lord Younger said: "I want to ensure that the UK's intellectual property environment keeps pace with modern technologies and modern business practices. This is at the heart of our economic policy. IPAN has an important role to play in constructive comment about where we need to take action as we work together to ensure that the UK remains the best place in the world for IP rich firms to do business."

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World IP Day is observed on April 26 each year with events and activities worldwide. The aim is to increase awareness and understanding of intellectual property globally.

UK finalist for European Inventor Award 2014



Fifteen pioneering inventors and/or teams, including one from the UK, have been named as finalists for the **European Inventor Award 2014**. The

prize, regarded as Europe's "Oscars of Technology and Innovation", will be presented by the European Patent Office (EPO) at a gala ceremony in Berlin on 17 June, to be attended by IP Minister Lord Younger.

Scientists, engineers and inventors, whose inventions have made a major contribution towards social, technological and economic progress, will be honoured across five categories.

The UK's Professor Christofer Toumazou is one of three finalists in the Research category. His invention concerning "laboratory technique for the quick analysis of DNA molecules" was developed with Imperial College London and DNA Electronics Ltd. (patent no. EP2129792). Thanks to his work, DNA can now be analysed quickly, even outside of a laboratory.

IP Minister Lord Younger said: "Professor Toumazou's nomination for the European Inventor Award goes to show just how we are a nation of innovators and entrepreneurs. His patents in the field of personalised medical diagnostics, in particular the DNA test on a USB stick, could be a real game-changer in years to come.

"Our businesses and inventors, like Christopher Toumazou, who bring a creative and innovative approach to their work are thriving at the moment. The next challenge for them is to turn their great ideas on paper into marketable products and services for the UK and international markets.

"He should be congratulated for his work to date and I wish him the best of luck in the final stage of the Awards process."

The rapid DNA test he invented is based on a microchip that detects genetic disorders on-the-spot. It can identify every form of genetic deviation in the genome in just a matter of minutes. This makes it possible to detect a predisposition for hereditary diseases as well as to determine whether a patient is capable of breaking down specific drugs. The chip can be mounted on a USB stick, so that results can be quickly viewed on a computer.

Once again the awarding of the Popular Prize, which will be decided by an online vote, promises to be particularly exciting. A total of 300 inventors and inventor teams were put forward for this year's Award, fifteen of whom were selected as finalists by the international jury. This year's inventions cover the fields of biotechnology, construction, environment, mechanics, medical technology and pharmaceuticals, telecommunications and traffic safety

International

UK-China IP Symposium in Beijing will help boost innovation and growth

The UK Government has **announced** the second UK-China Intellectual Property Symposium will take place on 1 September, the latest in a series of high level international events to promote and protect intellectual property across borders to foster growth.

Hosted by the UK Intellectual Property Office (IPO) and the Chinese State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) the Symposium will be held in Beijing. Prime Minister David Cameron and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang agreed to hold this Summit during their meeting in December 2013.

IP Minister Lord Younger said: "An effective IP system is increasingly important for helping promote and deliver innovation and growth. The Symposium is an important opportunity for UK and Chinese businesses to take a real leap forward in how they work with the IP systems in both countries. This will help open up further the business relationship with China, a key trading partner in the UK's economic growth."

The UK-China IP Symposium will provide an opportunity for businesses from both countries to engage directly with government officials to make it easier for them to navigate the Chinese and UK IP systems. It aims to improve knowledge of UK and Chinese businesses of our respective intellectual property systems; and create a public dialogue on the emerging challenges and changing landscape of intellectual property.

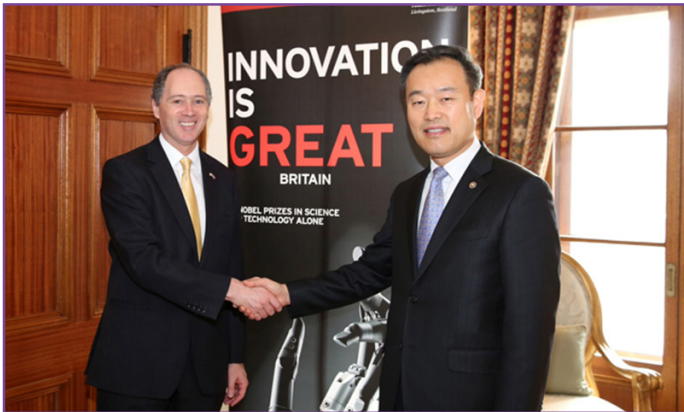
UK-Korea Collaborative Research Intellectual Property Toolkit Launched



A new IP toolkit designed to help UK and Korean universities and industry manage

their IP in collaborative research projects was recently launched at an event co-hosted by Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and the British Embassy in Korea. Attendees included: Scott

Wightman, the British Ambassador to Korea; Barbara Woodward, Director General: Economic & Consular; Commissioner Kim Young-min of KIPO; and a range of Korean universities, public research institutes and corporations.



HMA Scott Wightman, British Ambassador to Korea and Kim Young-min, KIPO Commissioner. (photo: KIPO)

As previously reported in IP Connect (March), the IPO and KIPO have been working with Korean and British experts and academics to create the IP toolkit. This toolkit allows non experts to negotiate IP agreements on the handling of IP prior to starting a collaborative research project - without needing to spend additional resources on IP advisers. This should stimulate further joint UK-Korea research.

There are three models and three detailed guidelines relating to the subject of the joint research and holder of intellectual property rights.

Once implemented, the guidelines should prevent conflict between R&D subjects among both nations, to stimulate joint research between the UK and Korea, and to help global cooperation.

IPO hosts visitor from St Kitts and Nevis



In April, the IPO hosted a two-day visit for a rising academic from St Kitts and Nevis in the Caribbean. Ms Jihan Williams, a Chevening Scholar (UK Government's global scholarship scheme) is one of

their strongest candidates and is currently studying an LLM in Intellectual Property at Queen Mary University, London.



Studies aside, Jihan is a lawyer at the Attorney General's Chambers in Basseterre. Previously, IP functions in St Kitts and Nevis were handled by the High Court Registry, but in 2011 their IP function was made

a standalone department, albeit with only three staff. The purpose of her visit was to see how an efficient, established IP office operates and to gain insight into our best practice. The UK also provides technical assistance to developing countries under the TRIPS Agreement (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights).

Jihan met with staff from our International Policy, Innovation, Enforcement, Copyright and Trade Marks directorates as well as with external stakeholders. The key message to Jihan was that awareness is key; if people respect IP they will carry the message further afield.

IPO helps raise IP awareness in India



IPO has supported the Federation of Indian Chambers

of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) to produce a Copyright Enforcement Toolkit to raise IP awareness amongst police and customs officers in India. The Toolkit was prepared by Indian industry and enforcement officials. It was launched at an IP enforcers' Roundtable on 29 April.

The Copyright Enforcement Toolkit was used in training sessions for customs officials in India at FICCI Customs Training Programs in Mumbai on 27 February and in Delhi on 30 April. Following positive feedback the toolkit will be used in future training sessions delivered by FICCI.

Roundtable on IP and the film industry in China

As UK-China film industry cooperation increases, British films will have increasing access to revenue streams in the Chinese market. A film co-production treaty between the UK and China was signed last month by Culture Minister Ed Vaizey and Vice Minister Tong Gang of the State Administration of Radio, Film & Television (SARFT).



To support UK-China film cooperation, IP attaché Tom Duke supported a recent visit by the British Film Institute to China during the Beijing International Film Festival. An IP information session

with British and Chinese participants focused on the structure of the Chinese film industry and related parts of the Chinese IP system.

A number of market entry models are available for British films in China. These include the international film quota system or co-production with Chinese entities. Legal experts at the forum advised filmmakers to spend time getting contracts right at early stages; to register related IP wherever possible; and to take protective measures when sharing ideas with potential partners.

Online infringement risks remain in China, though frequent law enforcement campaigns can help reduce the problem. Content producers should familiarise themselves with online IP enforcement channels ahead of release and focus efforts on maximising income at key parts of the revenue cycle (for example, the initial box office release period).

Webinar series on implementation of the revised Chinese Trade mark Law

The China Britain Business Council (CBBC) and the IPO recently organised two webinars on the implementation of the revised Chinese Trademark Law. The revised law came into force on May 1. The first webinar was aimed at a general business audience, and the second contained more technical detail designed in-house IP counsel and professional trade mark attorneys.

Topics covered at the webinars included practical advice for UK companies experiencing pre-emptive trade mark registrations. New provisions in the revised law appear to strengthen measures that can be taken against bad-faith applicants – for example strengthening protection for prior rights and introducing a requirement for applications to be made in good faith. Exactly how these provisions will be implemented remains to be seen.

Presentation files and recordings of the sessions – both featuring IP attaché Tom Duke – can be viewed on the CBBC website [here](#).

Enforcement

International IP Enforcement Summit update



International IP Enforcement Summit London 2014

Harmonisation in the Internal Market (OHIM), is fast approaching. In six weeks time the Summit will have IP crime on the international agenda.

The International IP Enforcement Summit, hosted by the IPO and our partners at the European Commission and the Office for

The International IP Enforcement Summit will be taking place in London on 11-12 June 2014. This Summit will bring together delegates from across the world to discuss the importance of enforcement of intellectual property with other representatives, to build partnerships and share international best practice.

The Summit will also highlight the wealth of creativity and innovation in the UK, and the progressive forward thinking strategies adopted by British business to deal with IP infringement. It also provides the IPO with a unique opportunity to showcase the UK's enforcement activities and our role in them.

Organisations involved in the summit come from key sectors as broad as the creative industries, consumables, luxury goods, sport, software, platform providers and search engines, as well as Ministers, and enforcement officials. The latest programme for this summit, including the speakers can be found [here](#).

For up to date information follow us on Twitter at #IPSummit14 including events in the lead up to and as they happen during the summit.

IPO addresses Interpol Conference in Hanoi

In April, International Law enforcement officers gathered in Hanoi, Viet Nam at an Interpol conference to discuss ongoing efforts to tackle illicit goods, counterfeiting and to coordinate activity in South East Asia.



Photo: Interpol

The IPO's South East Asia Attaché, Christabel Koh and the head of the IPO's Intelligence Hub, Huw Watkins, attended the conference and met enforcement officials from across the whole region. Presenting to the conference, Huw outlined that by working with key partners, supply chains in IPR infringing goods can be attacked.

He highlighted the engagement and partnership with the National Crime Agency, UK Border Force, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, Trading Standards and UK Police (including the [City of London PIPCU](#)). His presentation covered the value of co-ordinated



Photo: Interpol

engagement in the UK and beyond and highlighted the need to share intelligence in order to develop trust and understanding between partners.

The region covered by our South East Asia Attaché covers a number of nations of some significance to the international trade in IP infringing goods. Engaging with these countries is complex,

as different laws, cultures and enforcement priorities need to be considered.

Commenting on the conference, Huw Watkins said: “We welcome this opportunity to work with Interpol and build on existing successes, such as OPSON III. We want to develop our work in a challenging region in support of our attaché and the rights holders affected. The discussions we had and potential for co-operation are very positive for UK businesses.”

PIPCU suspends more than 2,500 websites selling fake designer goods



The Police Intellectual Property Crime Unit (PIPCU) has marked World IP Day by announcing

it has suspended more than 2,500 websites selling counterfeit goods since the unit launched in September 2013.

These sites were disrupted as part of the City of London Police unit's Operation Ashiko, working in collaboration with a number of well known brands, brand protection organisations and website registries across the globe including Nominet.

The suspended websites purported to sell well known designer goods including UGG boots, GHD hair straighteners, Abercrombie, Hollister and Jack Wills clothing, Gucci products and Thomas Sabo jewellery. However, online shoppers were left short changed as the items they received were in fact poor quality and sometimes dangerous counterfeit goods or in some cases the items were never even delivered.

These websites are estimated to be generating tens of millions of pounds for organised criminal gangs.

PIPCU Head, DCI Andy Fyfe, said “The fact PIPCU can announce on World IP Day that in the eight months since launching we have suspended more

than 2,500 infringing websites is further evidence of the expertise of our officers and the level of their commitment to clamp down on IP crime.

“Behind many of these websites lies an organised crime gang funnelling off the money spent by unsuspecting customers on what they think are quality products.

“Consumers also need to be aware that by accessing websites like this they are running the risk of their personal details being compromised and being used for other fraudulent scams, as well as the exposing their computer to malicious malware.”

PIPCU assists Trading Standards in software swoop



Detectives from the Police Intellectual Property Crime Unit (PIPCU) recently supported Hounslow

Trading Standards on a warrant as part of an ongoing investigation into cybercrime. The [operation](#), which was launched following a referral from the Federation Against Software Theft (FAST) after concerns of the sale of pirated software, saw officers from PIPCU and Hounslow Trading Standards raid the premises in West London on Tues 15 April, in search of evidence of pirated software.

Officers found and seized a range of illicit material at the address, including computers. FAST initially received a report from a whistleblower on the sale of illegal copies of popular Microsoft and Adobe business application software, the price of the genuine items running into several hundred pounds.

Detective Inspector, Rob Stirling, said: “PIPCU was launched in September 2013 to protect UK industries that produce legitimate, high quality, physical goods and online and digital content. In its relatively short history, the Unit has been instrumental in the fight against software theft and has dismantled several suspected criminal gangs believed to be dealing counterfeit and illegal software.”

Copyright

New regulations for collecting societies will offer greater clarity for people using copyrighted works in their business

Pubs, bars and shops requiring a licence to play music or schools that photocopy copyright material will find their legal rights easier to understand as [changes to the law](#) came into force on 6 April 2014. Last year UK collecting societies collected a total of £1bn in licence fees for their members.

The new rules require collecting societies to put in place self-regulatory codes of practice that comply with minimum standards set by the Government. These include having formal complaints procedures and an independent ombudsman in the sector. Government can use the new rules to close any gaps in self-regulation.

IP Minister, Lord Younger, said “Any efforts that support self-regulation should be welcomed and I am pleased to see the progress that collecting societies have made in agreeing minimum standards and setting their own Codes of Practice. The additional backstop power that has come into force is there to make sure those standards are met and to give businesses the certainty and clarity they need.”

The Government has published [legal guidance](#) on the new regulations for collecting societies and licensees.

Patents

Tegernsee User Consultation Report set to be published



The fifth Tegernsee Heads meeting, attended by delegations from the UK, Japan, USA, Denmark, France, Germany and the EPO, took place on 8 April 2014, in Trieste, Italy.

The Tegernsee Group refers to those patent offices represented at a meeting in Tegernsee, Germany, in July 2011. They continue to study the feasibility and implications of harmonisation for key offices and users of the patent system.

In Trieste, the Group discussed and approved the Final Consolidated Report on the Tegernsee User Consultation. The report includes an analysis of individual office reports, including commonalities and differences in user views. The adoption of this Report marks the end of an intensive cycle of fact-finding and user consultations that focused on four key issues of substantive patent law harmonisation: (1) the Grace period (2) 18-month publication; (3) Treatment of conflicting applications and (4) Prior user rights.

The report is due to be published shortly and will be forwarded to John Alty as the Chair of the Group B+, for presentation to that forum.

Customer Visit Programme

IPO host Small IP Firms and Sole Practitioners at London event

The IPO's refreshed 2013 Customer Visit Programme [visited](#) more than 20 Patent Attorney Firms and In-House Departments. While valuable, these visits tended to focus on bigger firms.

In April, to gain insight into the smaller, or more boutique, IP firms and those of sole practitioners, the IPO held a successful meeting with representatives of 15 small IP Firms and Sole Practitioners in the BIS Conference Centre, London.

The afternoon included sessions on Electronic Services and updates on the IP bill and current PPH arrangements. More importantly, the IPO was able to hold workshop sessions on Trade Marks and Patents. The feedback received will be of great assistance in how the IPO maintains levels of customer satisfaction and develops our future offerings. Issues covered ranged from accelerated patent services through to online Trade Mark services.

The final session was a session hosted by Chief Executive, John Alty, which provided some very useful and in some cases frank exchange of ideas and views on business support services we offer and the relationships we have with our customers.

Events

Below is a list of forthcoming IP events which may be of interest to you or your clients/members. <http://www.ipo.gov.uk/events>

7 May 2014	09:00 - 12:30	Get it right first time	Leicester
8 May 2014	10:00 - 12:00 or 14:00 - 16:00	Companies House Accountancy Seminar	Manchester New
14 May 2014	07:30 - 10:00	Increasing the value of your business	Birmingham
14 May 2014	08:00 - 11:30	Free workshops for SMEs about Government support for R&D and Innovation	Sheffield
13 to 14 May 2014		Buy Yorkshire conference	Leeds
29 to 30 May 2014		Intellectual Property Mediation Conference	Spain
3 June 2014	09:00 - 12:30	Get it right first time	Norwich
4 June 2014	08:00 - 11:30	Free workshops for SMEs about government support for R&D and Innovation	Portsmouth
4 June 2014	17:00 - 19:00	Companies House Accountancy Seminar	Cardiff New
12 June 2014	09:00 - 16:00	Thames Valley Expo	Windsor



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