# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



# Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting Office of Policy and International Affairs Update

Shira Perlmutter

Chief Policy Officer and Director for International Affairs February 7, 2019



# **Topics To Be Discussed**

China Update

ID5 Industrial Design Forum

 USPTO's Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AI)



# China updates

- Patent law amendments
  - National People's Congress (NPC) issued new patent law amendments for public comment
- Memorandum of Cooperation issued by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) with 38 agencies
  - Ties certain acts related to patent applications and infringement to China's social credit system
- Judicial developments
  - Establishment of national IP Appellate Court
- Section 301 investigation and WTO case update



# New patent law amendments

- Issued by the National People's Congress this month for public comment; comments due on February 3, 2019
- Most significant changes from the previous December 2015 draft
  - New provision for patent term restoration due to marketing approval delays
  - Does not provide provision to pave the way for a patent linkage regime
  - Does not provide protection for partial designs
  - Further expansion of administrative patent enforcement
  - New provision to deal with online enforcement of patent infringing products
  - Enhanced statutory damages for patent infringement



# Memorandum of Cooperation issued by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)

- MOC issued by the NDRC on December 4, 2017, signed by 38 government agencies in joint effort to strengthen punishment of IP infringement
- Outlines six types of "dishonest conduct" and 38 disciplinary measures
  - Dishonest conduct includes repeated patent infringement, abnormal patent applications and providing false documents, and refusing to execute administrative decisions according to the law
  - Disciplinary measures include restricting the company's access to financial tools, government resources, and access to social benefits and travel

# Judicial developments

- New National Appellate IP Court established within the Supreme People's Court (SPC) in Beijing
  - Designated a pilot for now
  - Nationwide jurisdiction over appeals of patent and other complex technical IP cases
  - Jurisdiction: appeals of first-instance court decisions regarding invention or utility model patent, new plant varieties, integrated circuits layout designs, technical secrets computer software and anti-monopoly cases; appeals of administrative cases from the specialized IP courts
  - No jurisdiction over trademark, commercial secrets and non-software copyright cases,
     or IP related criminal cases (unless these cases also include anti-monopoly claims)
  - SPC's existing IP tribunal still remains cases from new appellate IP court can be retried there



# Growing need for industrial design forum

- Continued growth in industrial design applications across the world
- Greater access to international industrial design protection through the Hague Agreement
- Need for greater convergence and consistency in policies and practices from jurisdiction to jurisdiction

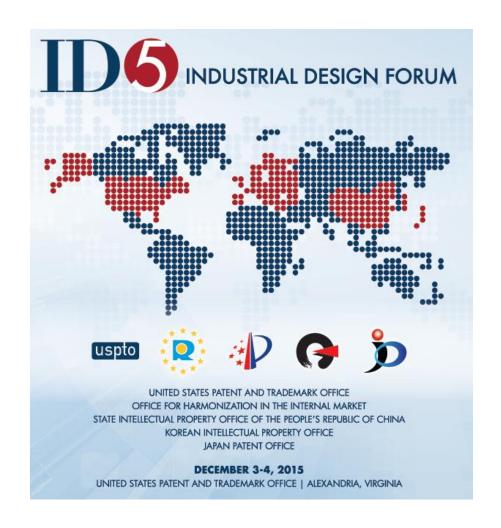


#### Launch of ID5

# 2015 ID5 was launched at the USPTO

EUIPO
JPO
KIPO
SIPO
USPTO
WIPO (observer)

ID5 website: www.id-five.org



#### **USPTO** strategic objective for ID5

- A key mechanism for implementing global best practices benefiting U.S. innovative design applicants by effectively and efficiently protecting their designs across the globe
  - Ensuring effective industrial design protection exists for designs in all technologies
  - Furthering consistency in design registration/examination policies and practices
  - Enhancing global efforts to identify the needs of the design community through stakeholder outreach and information sharing

#### 2018 – Achievements & results

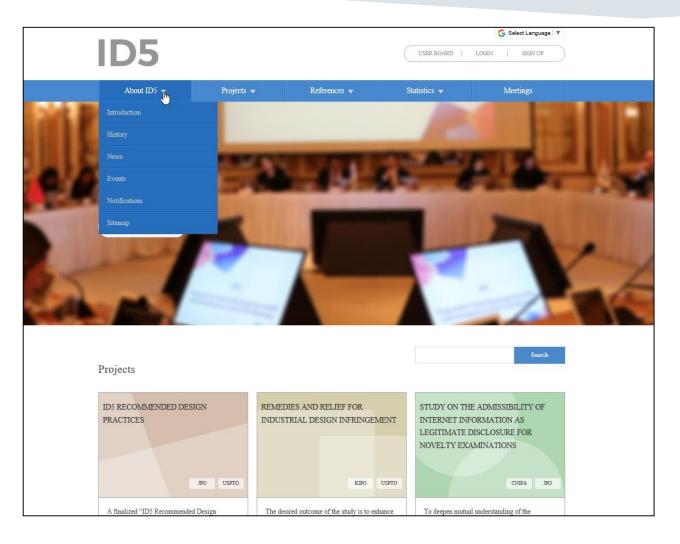
- Electronic Priority Document Exchange (WIPO DAS)
- First of its kind comparative studies for users
  - Eligibility
  - Grace period\*
  - Partial design\*
  - New Technological/Emerging Designs (GUI, icons, etc.)\*
- Improvements to global design system
  - Japan Grace period shift to 12 months
  - China Enhanced consideration of partial design



#### 2019 – What's Next at ID5?

- All five offices complete implementation of WIPO DAS\*
- ID5 Joint Recommendation on Design Formality Practices (DLT)\*
- Additional project highlights:
  - Analysis of underlying economic factors effect on design filings
  - 3-D printing and design
  - Admissibility of internet information as novelty defeating disclosures
  - Comparative study on design remedies (begins 2020)\*



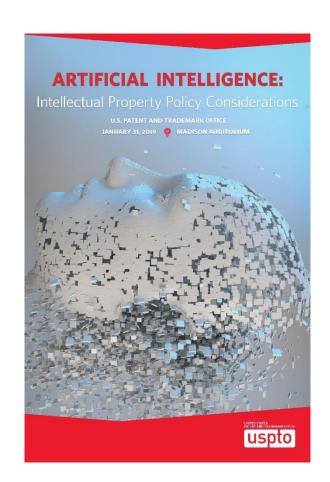


ID5 website: www.id-five.org



#### **USPTO AI Conference**

- Six panels covered AI policy issues relating to patents, trade secrets, copyright, trademark, IP enforcement, and international perspectives
- Patent panel explored the following for Al inventions:
  - Desired scope of eligibility
  - Adequacy of written description/enablement
  - Inventorship
  - Assessment of the level of ordinary skill in the art
- Panels included speakers from corporations, governments, law firms, and academia



#### **USPTO AI Conference**

14 entities showcased exhibitions of their respective AI technologies during the conference

Booz | Allen | Hamilton®



























### **Questions and Comments**

David R. Gerk
Patent Attorney
Office of Policy and International Affairs
(OPIA)
(571) 272-9300
David.Gerk@USPTO.GOV



