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Three senior IP attorneys joined Panawell & Partners, LLC

Ms. Helen Hua Jiang from China Patent Agent (H.K.) Ltd., Ms. Jinyan Cao from the State Intellectual Property Office joined Panawell & Partners, LLC in May, 2007, Ms. Danny Liu from the State Intellectual Property Office joined Panawell & Partners, LLC in June, 2007

Ms. Jiang received her B.S. in Electronic Engineering from Wuhan University of Topographical Science and Technology in 1982, and LL. M. from the Law School of Peking University in 2001. She started her IP career with CCPIT Patent & Trademark Law Office in 1985. She was one of the first-generation patent attorney in China. Ms. Jiang was qualified as attorney-at-law in 1998. She received further training in the IP law firms in



From 1985 to 2007, Ms. Jiang worked with CCPIT Patent and Trademark Law Office (1985-1995 and 2002-2004) and China Patent Agent (H.K.) Ltd. (1995-2001 and 2004-2007) respectively handling patent applications for foreign clients such as Westinghouse, Motorola, Alcatel, Honeywell International, Canon, SEL, Samsung and so on from different countries. She was respectively the former director of the Patent Application Department of the both firms.

Ms. Jiang's practices include electronic devices, computer and information engineering, telecommunications, optics and semiconductor technology. She has extensive and significant experience in patent re-examination and invalidation proceedings, advising on patent strategy and management as well as patent registrations and design protection in Hong Kong. She also has profound expertise in patent prosecution, litigation analysis, contracting, licensing and assignment, computer software registration, copyright protection and anti-unfair competition.

Ms. Jiang is a frequent speaker at various IP forums and conferences relating to Chinese and Hong Kong patent laws and practice. She published articles in a number of IP related magazines in mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Ms. Jiang is a member of China Group of the AIPPI, a council member of Hong Kong Sub-Chapter of the LES China, a member of the All-China Patent Agents Association (ACPAA), and a member of the IP Litigation Group and the Invention-Patent Group of the ACPAA.

Ms. Jiang joined Panawell & Partners, LLC in May 2007 and her working languages include Chinese and English.



Ms. Cao received her B.S. from Pharmaceutical College of Peking University in 1988 and her LL. M. from John Marshall Law School of the U.S. A. in 1999. During her study in John Marshall Law School, Ms. Cao worked with the Legal Department of DuPont for three months.

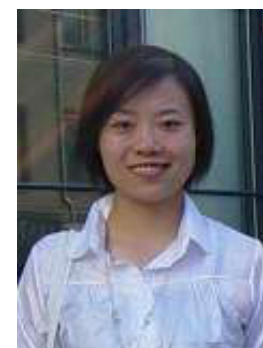
Ms. Cao started her IP career as a patent examiner of State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of China as early as in 1988. She was the former Director of Pharmaceutical Division under the Chemistry Examination Department of the SIPO. Since 2001, Ms. Cao had been the Deputy Director General of the IP Development Research Center under the SIPO, focusing on IP strategic research and analysis, providing opinions for legislations of IP laws and regulations. She published a number of articles in magazines with her profound study and practical suggestions bringing great influence in the IP field in China. She is a frequent speaker at various IP seminars, forums and training programs.

Since 1995, Ms. Cao had been the member of the State Commission of Experts for New Drugs Research and Development. She is a member of the Experts Committee of Shanghai IP Development Research Center, and the professor of Southwest University of Political Science & Law.

Ms. Cao received training in WIPO, Austrian Patent office, EPO, French INPI, Swedish Patent office and JPO. She was a chief member participating in the amendment to the Guidelines for Patent Examination in 2001. She has significant experience and expertise in patent search, drafting, prosecution and legal opinion for patent strategy and enforcement.

Ms. Cao joined Panawell & Partners, LLC in May 2007, and her working languages include Chinese and English.

Ms. Liu received her B.S. in 1998 from the Biochemistry Department of Nankai University in Tianjin, and her master degree from the Department of Pharmacology, Peking Union Medical College in 2002. She's been studying in the Law School of China University of Political Science & Law for her LL.M since 2005.



Ms. Liu joined the State Intellectual Property office (SIPO) in 2002 and started her career as a patent examiner since then. During her stay with the SIPO, she examined over 300 invention patent applications, completed dozens of search reports for utility model patents and worked one year with the Patent Re-examination Board (PRB) on a number of important re-examination and invalidation cases. In addition, she was one of the members in the group chosen by the SIPO for training the new examiners and providing legal and technical expert counseling relating to patent infringement. Ms. Liu has significant experience and expertise in patent search, drafting, prosecution and legal opinion provision for patent strategy and enforcement.

Ms. Liu received intellectual property training both in China and abroad. She was trained in a German IP firm BOEHMERT & BOEHMERT in 2004. She published a number of important articles in diverse intellectual property magazines and newspapers.

Ms. Liu joined Panawell & Partners, LLC in June 2007, and her working languages include Chinese and English.

Statistics of Patents Filed and Issued in China in 2006

Patent Applications filed in China by Domestic & Overseas Applicants in 2006

	Patent	Utility Model	Design	Total
Domestic	122318	159997	188027	470342
Overseas	88172	1369	13295	102836
Total	210490	161366	201322	573178

Patent Applications filed in China by Domestic & Overseas Applicants from 1985 to 2006

	Patent	Utility Model	Design	Total
Domestic	565147	1280558	882152	2727857
Overseas	524368	9309	72833	606510
Total	1089515	1289867	954985	3334367

Patents Issued in China to Domestic & Overseas Applicants in 2006

	Patent	Utility Model	Design	Total
Domestic	25077	106312	92471	223860
Overseas	32709	1343	10090	44142
Total	57786	107655	102561	268002

Patent Issued in China to Domestic & Overseas Applicants from 1985 to 2006

	Patent	Utility Model	Design	Total
Domestic	112442	831638	544667	1488747
Overseas	184061	6590	58106	248757
Total	296503	838228	602773	1737504

Patent Applications Filed in China by Top 10 Chinese Companies in 2006
(including patent, utility model and design)

Applicant	Total patent applications filed
1. Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. (CN)	5947
2. ZTE Corporation (CN)	2572
3. Hon Hai Precision Industry Company Ltd. (TW)	1982
4. Hongfujin Precision Industry (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. (CN)	1 543
5. Zhejiang University (CN)	1476
6. BYD Company Limited (CN)	1021
7. Inventec Corporation (TW)	998
8. Tsinghua University (CN)	909
9. Shanghai Jiaotong University (CN)	875
10. Shenzhen Oceanpower Industrial Co., Ltd (CN)	816

Patent Applications Filed in China by Top 10 Foreign Companies in 2006
(including patent, utility model and design)

Applicant	Total patent applications filed
1. Samsung Electronics (KR)	4355
2. Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. (JP)	3067
3. Koninklijke Philips Electronic N.V. (NL)	2503
4. Sony Corporation (JP)	1648
5. LG Electronics Inc. (KR)	1506
6. International Business Machines Corporation (US)	1435
7. Toshiba Corporation (JP)	1211
8. Seiko Epson Corporation (JP)	1144
9. Siemens AG (DE)	887
10. Hitachi, Ltd. (JP)	836

Patent Applications Filed in China from Top 10 Foreign Countries
(including patent, utility model and design)

Country	Total patent applications filed in 2006	Total patent applications filed from 1985 to 2006
1. Japan (JP)	37848	223545
2. U.S.A. (US)	23494	143748
3. Republic of Korea (KR)	10596	48971
4. Germany (DE)	8676	52354
5. The Netherlands (NL)	3721	21686
6. France (FR)	3614	23278
7. Switzerland (CH)	2370	16556
8. UK (GB)	1813	14303
9. Italy (IT)	1699	9541
10. Sweden (SE)	1492	9571

Patents Issued in China to Top 10 Foreign Countries
(including patent, utility model and design)

Country	Total number of patents granted in 2006 alone	Total number of patents granted from 1985 to 2006
1. Japan (JP)	19626	100194
2. U.S.A. (US)	7739	50944
3. Germany (DE)	3503	21393
4. Republic of Korea (KR)	3874	17591
5. France (FR)	1668	10259
6. The Netherlands (NL)	1329	7800
7. Switzerland (CH)	1135	7960
8. Italy (IT)	878	4299
9. UK (GB)	862	6021
10. Sweden (SE)	515	4571

※ Data from 2006 Annual Report issued by the State Intellectual Property Office of the PRC

Further Lower Threshold for Criminal Sanction against Copyright Piracy

The Supreme People's Court (SPC) and the Supreme People's Procuratorate (SPP) of the PRC published on April 5, 2007 a new Guidelines further lowering the threshold for criminal sanction against copyright piracy.

Under the said Guidelines, anyone is found making or distributing over 500 (1000 before) pirated copies may be subject to 6 months-3 years imprisonment or criminal detention and/or with criminal fine; and if the pirated copies found are over 2500 (5000 before), 3-7 years imprisonment with criminal fine (1-5 times of the illegal income) will be imposed on the offenders.

Action Plan 2007 on IPR Protection Published

The Chinese Government listed 276 measures in its Action Plan 2007 on IPR Protection published on April 2, 2007, among which amendments to Patent Law, Trademark Law, Copyright law, Regulations for Customs Protection for Intellectual Property, and promulgation of seven judicial guidelines are included. In addition, to improve the IPR enforcement, actions targeting pirated school text books, "Blue Sky" exhibitions and other 12 campaigns against piracy, counterfeiting and other IPR infringement are also included and will be carried out in 2007.

Court Fees Remarkably Reduced for Appealing against SIPO/TMO/TRAB Decisions in Court

The Rules for Court Fees approved in December 2006 by the State Council of the PRC came into force as of April 1, 2007.

Under the above Rules, IPR civil cases without specific money claim to be filed with the court, the court fees will be RMB500 to 1000. For appeals to be filed against the SIPO/TMO/TRAB decisions, the court fees will be RMB100 only, which is 10 times lower than that before.

Chinese Customs Intensifying Crackdown on Intellectual Property Offenders in 2006.

At a press conference for IPR Protection in April 2007, Mr. MENG Yang, the director of Policy & Legal Department of the General Administration of Customs of the PRC reiterated Chinese Customs' greater efforts in 2007 in intensifying crackdown on intellectual property offenders.

According to Customs' statistics, among the goods checked at the borders by the Customs nation-wide in 2006, 2475 batch with value RMB200,000,000 were found IPR infringement, among which 46 batches with value of RMB23,000,000 were for import and 2429 batches for export with value of RMB180,000,000.

Chinese Patent Law is under Further Amendment

The Patent Law of the PRC is under the third amendment, targeting better protection for patents and refraining patent abuse and the like. According to the draft submitted to the State Counsel for review prior to the subsequent readings by the NPC-the National Legislature, the following are the primary amendments to be made:

- * absolute novelty
- * approval required for first patent filing abroad for invention completed in China
- * plain-printing pattern, color and the combination not patentable for design
- * brief description necessary for design patent
- * offer for sale of design patent products prohibited
- * search report necessary for enforcing a design patent
- * similar designs for one product acceptable in one application
- * statutory damages up to RMB1,000,000
- * three-year default to work a patent subject to compulsory license
- * compulsory license for overseas need
- * two-year term for damages and no damages for three-year default
- * parallel import for patented products allowable
- * manufacture and use for obtaining license only not infringing
- * RMB100,000 administrative fine for patent infringement
- * Doctrine of good faith necessary for patent enforcement

China and Japan Working Together on Intellectual Property Protection

April 11, 2007 witnessed a joint Communiqué signed by China and Japan, in Tokyo, which spelled out the two countries' aspirations to set up a strategically reciprocal relation in the areas of energy sources, environmental protection, finance, info-communication and intellectual property protection in particular to achieve a closer cooperation between the two sides and a mutual development.

Both sides agree to strengthen dialogues and cooperation in intellectual property on a mutual respect and win-win basis to push forward the intellectual property practice, improve the level of protection and promote the smooth development of economic relation between the two countries.

Seminar on Sino-US Film Copyright Judicial Protection Held in Shanghai

A seminar on Sino-US film copyright judicial protection was held in Shanghai on April 19, 2007. The film copyright experts and intellectual property judges from both countries were invited by the sponsor—the Intellectual Property Department of the Supreme People's Court to address the situation of film piracy in Asia and countermeasures for prevention. During the seminar, discussions were also made on evidence collection in internet piracy and other topics relating to judicial protection for film copyright.

Eleven International Record Giants Won the Suit Against Yahoo China

On April 23, 2007, Beijing No.2 Intermediate People's Court decided in favor of 11 international record companies including Universal Music, Warner Music, EMI, SONY MUSIC, and awarded both injunction and damages of RMB210, 000 in the suit against Yahoo China for copyright infringement on neighboring rights. In addition, Yahoo China was ordered by the Court to delete search links to 229 songs copyrighted and owned by the plaintiffs.

The 11 plaintiffs jointly sued that since April 2006, the parent company of Yahoo China--Beijing Alibaba Information Technology Ltd. had been providing without authorization to the public through the website of Yahoo China free downloading of 223 Chinese and English songs from 47 music specials, which had infringed their rights of reproduction, internet dissemination and corresponding right of royalties due. The 11 plaintiffs claimed immediate and permanent injunction, public apology and damages of RMB5,500,000 by Alibaba.

Six American Film Companies Successfully Litigated against Copyright Infringement in China

On April 24, 2007, Beijing No.1 Intermediate People's Court affirmed the claims for injunction and damages against Beijing Yinghua Star Culture Exchange Center and its Lihua Zhisheng Audio & Video Shop by six American film companies including Warner Bros., Columbia Pictures Corp., Universal City Studios, Paramount, 20th Century Fox and the Walt Disney Company. The Court awarded damages of RMB195,000 to the winners.

The six film companies claimed in the suit that they were respectively the copyright owners of films Pre-Sunset, the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, Robots, etc, and according to the provisions of the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works as well as the Copyright Law of the PRC, no one can without authorization of the copyright owners reproduce and distribute copies of the copyrighted works. The six plaintiffs sued for injunction and damages of RMB2,500,000.

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