



IP NEWSLETTER

25 June 2008 | Vol. 98

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• **337 Investigations in the U.S.**

• Notice of Investigation No. 337-TA-643

On June 20, 2008, notice was given that the U.S. International Trade Commission decided not to review an initial determination (“ID”) (Order No. 4) issued by the presiding administrative law judge (“ALJ”) in the case of In the Matter of CERTAIN CIGARETTES AND PACKAGING THEREOF (Investigation No. 337-TA-643) correcting the names of certain respondents in the notice of investigation. The Commission instituted this investigation on April 4, 2008, based on a complaint filed by Philip Morris USA Inc.

• **IP Strategy of Enterprises**

• SASAC requires Central SOEs to Strengthen IP Work

Recently, State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council (SASAC) issued Notice on Matters Regarding Implementing Central SOEs’ 3-year Goal on legal work (“Notice”). The Notice points out that to implement Central SOEs’ 3-year goal on legal work, the Central SOEs shall perfect enterprise’s regulations and systems, innovate legal management patterns and strengthen enterprise’s IP management and protection.

Moreover, the Notice indicates that Central SOEs shall further carry out the recording system on the most important legal disputes due to the uptrend of different cases.

• IP Cases

• “Shaxi Cool Tea”’s IP Protection in U.S.

Recently, China Time-honored Brand, “Shaxi Cool Tea” was registered as a trademark in U.S. and the company’s battle against counterfeit product resulted in a good outcome. An officer from the company said the trademark protection of “Shaxi Cool Tea” in the U.S. was costly but the benefit was great. Now the company will continue to further protect its IPR in foreign countries.

The trademark “Shaxi Cool Tea” has a history of 100-plus years. It has been included in the first list of State Intangible Cultural Heritage, and it is also one of the earliest China Time-honored Brands announced by Ministry of Commerce.

• Trade News

• Guide for Patent Agent Services Standards in Draft

Recently, All-China Patent Agents Association began to draft Guide for Patent Agent Services Standards (“Standards”) and the Standards drafting group held the start-up meeting. This meeting discussed important issues related to services standards and reached consensus.

• IP Cooperation

• Sino-Africa IP Conference Held

Recently, in response to China's Policy towards Africa issued by China's government in 2006, Sino-Africa Chiefs of IP office Conference was held in Beijing so that both parties can introduce and discuss its respective IPR matters.

This conference was jointly held by State Intellectual Property Office of PRC (SIPO), The African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). It is an achievement of the cooperation among the three organizations.