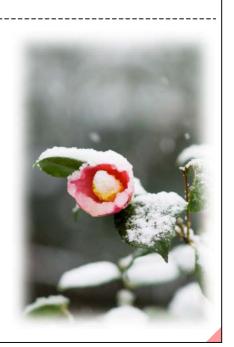


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Reduction of Patent Examination Time for Research and Development by Foreign Enterprises in Japan

外国企業の日本での研究開発、特許審査を短縮へ

The Japanese government is to reduce the patent examination period for technology developed in Japan by foreign enterprises. Usually, it takes almost two years from the date of submitting a request for examination to the JPO until the results of examination are communicated to the applicant. However, in future this length of time will be cut to two months. Along with other attractive measures such as a reduction in corporate tax, it is hoped that much faster patent examination will boost foreign enterprises' willingness to invest in Japan.

Usually, patent applications are examined in order based on the date examination was requested. However, if applications meet certain criteria they are eligible for accelerated examination. Until now those applications eligible were those for inventions that had also had applications filed abroad, or inventions for reducing CO2 emissions or conserving energy, etc. Now however, technologies invented by foreign enterprises through research and development based in Japan will also be eligible for accelerated examination.



日本政府は、外国企業が日本の拠点で研究開発した技術の特許審査期間を短縮する。通常は特許庁への審査請求 日から審査結果の通知を受けるまでに2年近くかかるが、この期間を約2カ月に短縮する。法人税軽減などの優遇策に 加え、特許審査も迅速にして、外国企業の日本への投資意欲を高めることが目的である。

特許審査は通常、審査請求された順に行われるのが原則であるが、一定の条件を満たせば、優先的に審査する。これまで早期審査の対象は、外国でも出願した技術、二酸化炭素削減や省エネ効果がある技術などであったが、外国企業が日本国内の拠点で発明した技術も早期審査の対象に加えられることになる。

Korean and Japanese Patent Offices Strengthen Cooperation in Examinations and Trials 韓国と日本の特許庁 特許審査や審判で協力強化

At a meeting of the directors of the Korean and Japanese Patent Offices, it was agreed that the two countries, which have similar industrial and patent systems, would continue with collaborative research into patent examinations and trials and strive to create an international patent system centered on Asia.

During the meeting, the patent offices of the two countries also decided to increase the number of technical fields made available for prior art searches regarding shared patent applications from two per year, as it has been since 2000, to four per year. In addition, collaborative research will take place into the results of the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) that has been running since 2007, the findings of which will be presented as next year's scheduled international meeting.

韓国と日本の特許庁長官が会合を行い、産業や特許制度が類似している両国の特許審査や審判の共同研究を進め、アジア中心の国際特許秩序の形成に努めることで合意した。

会合では、両国の特許庁が2000年から年間二つの技術分野を対象に実施している共通特許出願の先行技術調査 事業を四つに拡大することが決定された。また、2007年から施行している特許審査ハイウェイ(PPH)の成果を共同研究し、来年開催される国際会議で発表することが決定された。



Japan Patent Office Begins Development of Automated Translation System for Chinese Documents 日本特許庁、中国文献を自動翻訳するシステム開発に着手

Due to the sharp increase in Chinese patent application cases received by Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the JPO, development has begun on a system to automatically translate patent literature from Chinese to Japanese. In 2011 China had the highest number of patent application cases in the world, and in 2015 is expected to receive 750,000 applications - double the number Japan did in 2011. Therefore, the issue of handling Chinese patent literature in cases of companies' applications for new technology patents or patent examination is being raised amongst all the major powers, with the hope of finding

Among translation measures for Chinese documents, in December 2012 the EPO, together with the Chinese SIPO, began to offer a free service to automatically translate Chinese and English patent literature via the EPO's machine translation system. As a result, the EPO's global database of searchable patents grew by approximately 4 million Chinese patents.

a solution to increase the speed of handling said literature.

経済産業省・特許庁は中国の特許出願の急増を受け、中国語の特許文献を日本語などに自動翻訳する機械翻訳システム開発に着手する。中国の特許出願件数は2011年に世界首位となり、2015年には、日本の2011年実績比2倍強の75万件になる見込みである。そのため、企業の新技術の特許出願や特許庁の審査で、中国文献対策が主要国共通の課題になっており、早期の対応強化が求められていた。

中国特許文献の翻訳対策では、2012年12月に欧州特許庁(EPO)が中国の特許庁(中国国家知識産権局=SIPO) と共同で、中国語と英語の特許文献を相互に自動翻訳する無料サービスを、EPOの機械翻訳システムを通じて開始している。これにより、EPOは世界の特許文献を検索できるグローバル特許文献データベースに、中国特許文献約400万件追加できるとしている。



Panasonic Speeds Up Sale and Provision of Patents パナソニック 特許の売却・供与を加速

Panasonic is progressing with a scheme to actively sell and license its patents and other intellectual property to other companies. The Panasonic group holds approximately 140,000 patents, and earns around 15 billion yen a year through licensing of patents related to DVD standards, etc. Panasonic is looking to expand the range of patents it licenses, as well as making use of its utility models and designs and selling off patents it does not require.

パナソニックが、保有する特許などの知的財産権を、他社にライセンス供与または売却して積極的に活用する計画を 進めている。パナソニックは、グループ全体で約十四万件の特許を保有しており、DVDの規格関連特許の供与などで 年間百五十億円程度のライセンス収入を得ている。パナソニックは、ライセンス供与する特許の範囲の拡大を検討して おり、実用新案や意匠などの活用も進めるとともに、グループで不要となった特許などは売却も検討するという。



JPO Publishes Point-by-Point Explanation of Industrial Property Law (19th edition)

特許庁、工業所有権法逐条解説[第19版]を公表

On January 9, 2013, the Japan Patent Office published the 19th edition of its point-by-point explanation of the Industrial Property Law on its homepage. Parts of the law revised in 2011 have been added to the explanation. It can be found on the JPO homepage at the address below (Japanese only):

http://www.jpo.go.jp/shiryou/hourei/kakokai/cikujyoukaisetu.htm

特許庁は、2013年1月9日に、工業所有権法逐条解説[第19版]を特許庁ホームページに公表した。2011年改正事項 を追加したものである。同解説は下記から閲覧できる(日本語のみ)。

http://www.jpo.go.jp/shiryou/hourei/kakokai/cikujyoukaisetu.htm

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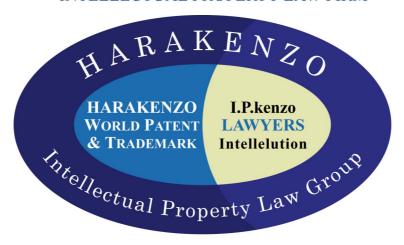
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HARAKENZO WORLD PATENT & TRADEMARK

JAPAN

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW FIRM



Please contact us if you have any comments or require any information.

Please acknowledge that the purpose of our column is to provide general information on the field of intellectual property, and that the description here does not represent our legal opinion on a specific theme.

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