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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, SPORTS & GAMING



WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY TAKES LEGAL ACTION AGAINST NBA OVER AMAZON DEAL

JULY 2024 VOL.35





The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2024 Ranked Practice Intellectual Property



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TRADEMARK

RALPH LAUREN TARGETS TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT IN INDONESIA: UNVEILING UNAUTHORISED USE OF ITS BRAND NAME

Ralph Lauren Corporation has addressed recent trademark infringement issues in Indonesia, specifically involving PT Manggala Putra Perkasa, which operates under the name "Polo Ralph Lauren Indonesia." Ralph Lauren clarified that it has no affiliation with this entity and has not authorised any "Polo Ralph Lauren" or "Ralph Lauren" branded stores in Indonesia. The company is taking measures to protect its trademarks and ensure that only authentic Ralph Lauren products are sold through authorised channels, emphasising its commitment to safeguarding its intellectual property rights globally.

https://www.bernama.com/en/business/news.php?id=2318702



US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE FILES TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT LAWSUIT AGAINST PRIME ENERGY DRINKS

The US Olympic and Paralympic Committee has initiated a lawsuit against Prime, the energy drink brand founded by Logan Paul and KSI, accusing it of trademark infringement. The committee claims Prime used Olympic phrases and symbols on a special edition of its drink, featuring Kevin Durant, without authorisation. This alleged misuse, including internet campaigns and promotions, is said to mislead consumers into believing there is an official endorsement. Despite receiving a cease and desist letter, Prime reportedly continued its promotional activities, prompting the legal action filed in Colorado. The lawsuit underscores concerns about unauthorised brand associations and potential consumer deception.

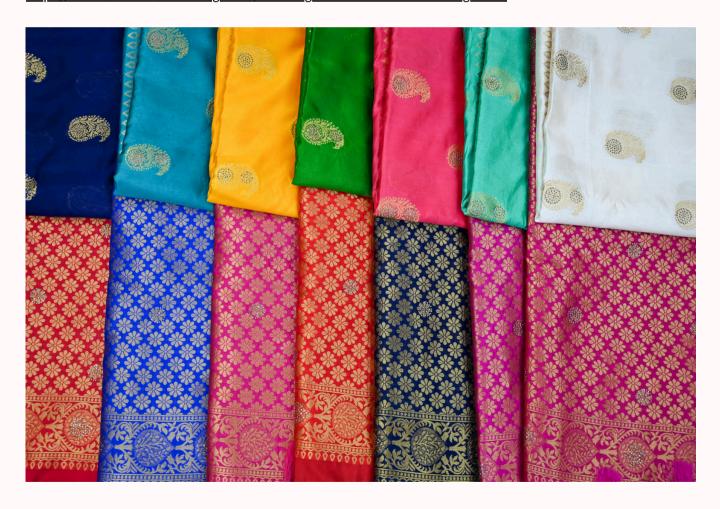
https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4ng785gjv0o

TRADEMARK

SINGAPORE COURT OF APPEAL CLEARS NALLI PRIVATE LTD OF TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT

The Singapore Court of Appeal has overturned a previous High Court ruling, absolving Nalli Private Ltd (NPL) of trademark infringement charges. The dispute, which has spanned three decades, involves two factions of the Nalli family, each operating under the "Nalli" name in Singapore's Little India. The Court of Appeal found that NPL did not breach the Deeds of Settlement agreed upon in 1997, nor did it infringe upon trademark rights. Justice Aedit Abdullah encouraged both parties to seek a compromise to minimise business disruptions, suggesting that their longstanding disagreements were minor in the grand scheme. The ruling emphasises the distinct visual and conceptual differences between the trademarks of NPL and Nalli Chinnasami Chetty Pte Ltd (NCCPL), dismissing claims of consumer confusion and malicious falsehood.

https://www.tamilmurasu.com.sg/tabla/incoming/no-nalli-trademark-infringement



TRADEMARK

MULTIPLY FILES LAWSUIT AGAINST X (FORMERLY TWITTER) FOR ALLEGED TRADEMARK VIOLATION

Multiply, a public relations firm based in Virginia, has initiated legal proceedings against Elon Musk's social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter, for alleged trademark infringement. The lawsuit, filed in a California federal court, contends that X's use of the "X" mark infringes upon Multiply's registered trademark, the "X Mark," which was secured in January 2020 for services including advertising and business management. Multiply argues that X's branding has led to significant consumer confusion and harmed its business operations, particularly in competitive marketing spaces. The firm claims that X's actions have undermined its brand's prestige and ability to compete effectively. The lawsuit demands that X cease using the "X" trademark and seeks unspecified monetary damages. This case highlights the intricate challenges businesses face in protecting their intellectual property amidst evolving market dynamics.

https://www.campaignasia.com/article/pr-firm-multiply-sues-elon-musks-x-for-violating-trademark-rights/497346



XRP HEALTHCARE ACHIEVES TRADEMARK REGISTRATION IN UAE, EXPANDING GLOBAL BRAND PRESENCE

XRP Healthcare, a blockchain-based pharmaceutical and healthcare platform, has secured its third trademark registration in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), following successful registrations in the UK and Uganda. This strategic move aligns with the company's broader global expansion and compliance efforts. The UAE registration positions XRP Healthcare to generate additional revenue through licensing opportunities across various sectors, including hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, and health centers. Founder Kain Roomes highlighted the UAE's progressive stance on blockchain and crypto regulations as a key factor in their choice. This milestone reinforces XRP Healthcare's commitment to safeguarding its brand and leveraging blockchain technology to enhance healthcare services globally.

TRADEMARK

STARBUCKS FILES LAWSUIT AGAINST STARBUDS FOR TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT

Starbucks has filed a lawsuit against the mobile marijuana retailer "Starbuds Flowers," alleging trademark infringement. The lawsuit, brought in the US District Court for the Southern District of New York, asserts that Starbuds' logo is "confusingly similar and nearly identical" to Starbucks' iconic green siren emblem. The complaint targets Brandpat, Starbuds' operator, citing copyright and trademark infringement as well as trademark dilution under both state and federal laws. Starbucks claims that Starbuds' use of a double-ringed green circle and a siren image mimics its own branding, potentially misleading consumers. Despite issuing a cease and desist letter and a takedown notice, Starbucks received no response, prompting the legal action. This case underscores the importance of trademark protection, and the proactive measures companies must take to safeguard their brand identities

https://www.retail-insight-network.com/news/starbucks-starbuds-trademark-infringement/?cf-view

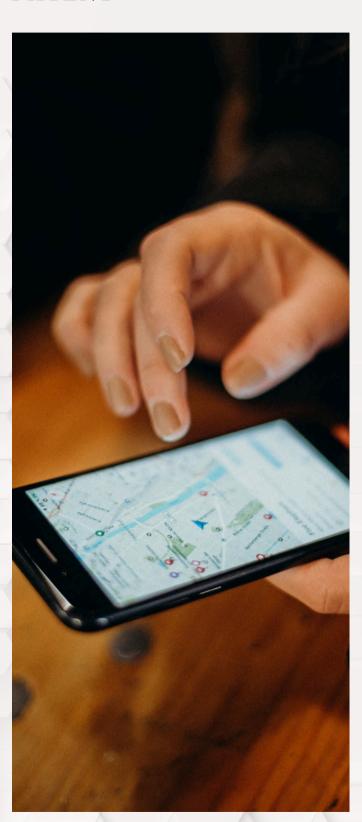


HUAWEI SELLS AITO ELECTRIC VEHICLE TRADEMARK TO PARTNER FOR \$350 MILLION

Huawei Technologies has sold the trademark of its electric vehicle brand, Aito, to its Chinese carmaking partner Seres for \$350 million. This transaction, expected to be completed by the end of 2024, includes the transfer of patents and marks Huawei's strategic shift from manufacturing to supplying systems and expertise within the EV industry. While Huawei will no longer own the Aito brand, it will continue to support Seres in building and selling Aito vehicles, reinforcing its role as a major player in smart-vehicle systems and components. This move is part of Huawei's broader strategy to distance itself from direct auto manufacturing and focus on being a supplier and platform operator amidst intense competition in China's EV market.

 $\underline{https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3269013/huawei-technologies-sells-aito-electric-vehicle-trademark-partner-us 350-million$

PATENT



GOOGLE MAPS HAS FILED A
PATENT ENABLING MULTIPLE
VEHICLES TO NAVIGATE TO A
SHARED DESTINATION
SIMULTANEOUSLY

Google is set to transform group travel with a new feature for Google Maps, as outlined in a recent patent application. This innovation aims to streamline navigation for users traveling in multiple cars to a shared destination. By integrating users' calendar schedules and messages, the system will coordinate journeys, send multi-car navigation invitations, and provide synchronised directions to ensure everyone arrives together within a similar timeframe.

https://www.livemint.com/technology/technews/google-maps-new-patent-reveals-multi-carnavigation-for-group-travel-what-it-means-11719927822324.html

FTC LAUNCHES INVESTIGATION INTO TEVA, INTENSIFYING PATENT DISPUTE WITH THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

The Federal Trade Commission is investigating Teva Pharmaceuticals over its refusal to remove about twenty patents related to its asthma and COPD inhalers. The investigation centers on claims that Teva has made minor modifications to its products to extend patent protections and prevent generic competition, despite significantly lower prices for the same products abroad.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2024/07/0 1/teva-patent-pharma-generic-inhaler/

PATENT

PATENT GRANTED FOR AN INNOVATIVE WINE CONTAINER

In May 2024, Champagne Henri Giraud was awarded a European patent (EP4212448) for an innovative container designed to improve wine storage. This container features a cylindrical wooden frame with heat-treated staves, and ceramic top and bottom closures. The ceramic closures ensure that the wine's flavour and aroma derive exclusively from the wood, enhancing the wine's quality while also being more durable and easier to clean compared to wooden closures.

 $\underline{\text{https://packagingeurope.com/patent-news-enhancing-wine-flavour-and-aroma-through-container-}} \\ \underline{\text{design/11576.article}}$

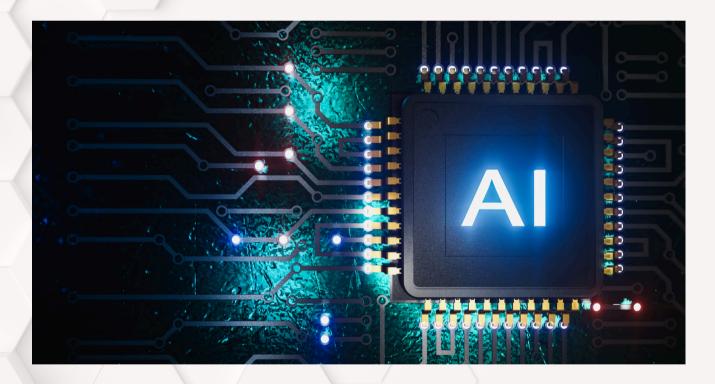


COPYRIGHT

THE CENTER FOR INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING (CIR) HAS FILED A LAWSUIT AGAINST OPENAL AND MICROSOFT, ALLEGING COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

The Center for Investigative Reporting (CIR) has launched a lawsuit against OpenAI and Microsoft, accusing them of copyright infringement for using CIR's journalistic content to train AI models without permission. CIR claims that this unauthorised use undermines their relationships with readers and impacts their revenue.

https://etedge-insights.com/technology/artificial-intelligence/news-non-profit-goes-to-court-against-openai-microsoft-for-copyright-infringement/



JUDGE DISMISSES MOST COPYRIGHT CLAIMS IN GITHUB COPILOT CASE

A judge has dismissed most claims in a copyright lawsuit filed by developers against GitHub, Microsoft, and OpenAl. The ruling, released last week, leaves only two claims: one for open-source license violations and another for breach of contract. The court primarily dismissed allegations that GitHub Copilot violated the DMCA by suggesting code without proper attribution, finding the claims unconvincing and the code not sufficiently similar to the developers' work.

https://www.developer-tech.com/news/judge-dismisses-majority-github-copilot-copyright-claims/

SPORTS & GAMING

CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT FILED FOLLOWING CHAOS AT COPA AMERICA FINAL AT HARD ROCK STADIUM

Following the chaotic Copa America final at Hard Rock Stadium, several lawsuits have been filed against the venue and soccer organisations CONMEBOL and CONCACAF. Fans, including those who paid significant sums for tickets, were denied entry due to security breaches and crowd control failures, leading to multiple lawsuits seeking damages. Both CONMEBOL and Hard Rock Stadium have issued conflicting statements regarding responsibility and security measures.

https://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/more-lawsuits-filed-after-chaos-at-copa-america-final-at-hard-rock-stadium/3366580/



NIKE HOPES FOR A PARIS OLYMPICS VICTORY FOLLOWING A ROUGH QUARTER AND CLASS-ACTION LAWSUIT

Nike is facing a challenging period with a recent poor financial quarter and a class-action lawsuit over alleged false advertising. The company is pinning its hopes on a successful performance during the Paris Olympics to boost its image and financial standing. Nike aims to leverage the high-profile event to recover from its current difficulties.

https://www.forbes.com/sites/pamdanziger/2024/07/01/after-a-down-quarter-and-class-action-lawsuit-nike-prays-for-a-paris-olympics-win/

SPORTS & GAMING

WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY TAKES LEGAL ACTION AGAINST NBA OVER AMAZON DEAL

Warner Bros. Discovery is suing the NBA, alleging breach of contract after the league rejected its bid to match Amazon's \$1.8 billion offer for NBA distribution rights. The lawsuit, filed in New York, argues that Warner Bros. Discovery's proposal meets contractual matching rights. The NBA contends that Warner Bros. Discovery's offer, which includes broadcasting on both cable and streaming, does not align with Amazon's exclusive streaming deal.

https://www.forbes.com/sites/antoniopequenoiv/2024/07/26/warner-bros-discovery-sues-nba-over-amazon-deal/



NEW YORK TIMES SUES OVER SIMILARITY BETWEEN WORDLE AND WORLDLE GAMES

Wordle, acquired by The New York Times (NYT) in 2022, is suing Kory McDonald, creator of a similar game called Worldle, which involves guessing locations from street views. The NYT argues that the similarity in names and appearance creates confusion for subscribers. McDonald counters that the games are fundamentally different, with Wordle focusing on words and Worldle on locations. The US Patent and Trademark Office notes that "Trademarks don't have to be identical to be confusingly similar".

https://ca.news.yahoo.com/wordle-vs-worldle-york-times-084136757.html?
guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAK6uPc9wyfaH6hs42JPlV82MzEK8zpflRSNNme8ahjhvKpe5uTCGpPdhA4NBl0sTZrOSBplKXlo9Ey1ElHU1LldL7J8Twj4aCmWdoeoudelpHNafFoEouKjKmiDxvhID-JNQMv7VeiDoZQdnD4dCXR70YGhJeSLD15V8IaA-CEdY

SPORTS & GAMING

EPIC GAMES STORE GETS IOS APPROVAL FOLLOWING APPLE DISPUTE

Apple has approved Epic Games Store's submission for iOS after initially rejecting it twice, marking a key moment in their long-standing conflict over app store policies. The approval allows Epic to distribute its software on iOS devices through Apple's notary service, ensuring app safety and integrity. Despite this, Apple has requested changes to the user interface in future versions, which Epic disputes. This development aligns with the European Union's Digital Markets Act, which promotes alternative app stores on Apple devices.

https://www.techopedia.com/news/epic-games-store-approved-for-ios-after-apple-dispute



TILTING POINT SETTLES \$500K LAWSUIT FOR VIOLATING COPPA AND CCPA

Tilting Point Media LLC settled with California and Los Angeles authorities for \$500,000 over privacy violations involving their app "SpongeBob: Krusty Cook-Off". The company was found to have breached the federal Children's Online Privacy Protection Act and the California Consumer Privacy Act by improperly collecting and sharing children's data without parental consent. The settlement includes requirements for Tilting Point to adopt new compliance measures and conduct annual assessments of their data practices.

https://appdevelopermagazine.com/tilting-point-lawsuit-settles-for-500k-after-violating-coppa-and-ccpa/

PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS

Of Source Codes and Functions - Balancing Copyright Protection Against Monopolisation

'Willing to Wound but Afraid to Strike' - Threats in Trademark Infringement Proceedings

Competing Rights to Copyright in the Virtual Environment

Spilling the Beans in Litigation

The Price of Artificial Intelligence

State of Mind and the Plea of Innocence

False Sense of Security

Privileges of 'Well-Known' Trademarks

Celebrity's Name Taken in Vain

Navigating the E-Money Landscape

E-Commerce - Drive Towards Improved Postal Services

Clipping the Wings of Social Media Influencers

10 Key Amendments to Patent Law

Copyright (Amendment) Act 2022

Goodwill Unshaken by Negative Publicity

Employers' Liability for Copyright Infringement

Court of Appeal Reaffirms Test for Breach of Confidence

Trademark Mischief-Makers

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2022 Publications: Vol. 7 - Vol. 17
For the complete archive, please click <u>here</u>

2023 Publications: Vol. 18 - Vol. 28
For the complete archive, please click here

2024 Publications: Vol. 29 - Present:

- Intellectual Property, Sports & Gaming Newsletter Vol. 29
- Intellectual Property, Sports & Gaming Newsletter Vol. 30
- Intellectual Property, Sports & Gaming Newsletter Vol. 31
- Intellectual Property, Sports & Gaming Newsletter Vol. 32
- $\bullet \quad \text{Intellectual Property, Sports \& Gaming Newsletter Vol. 33} \\$
- Intellectual Property, Sports & Gaming Newsletter Vol. 34





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