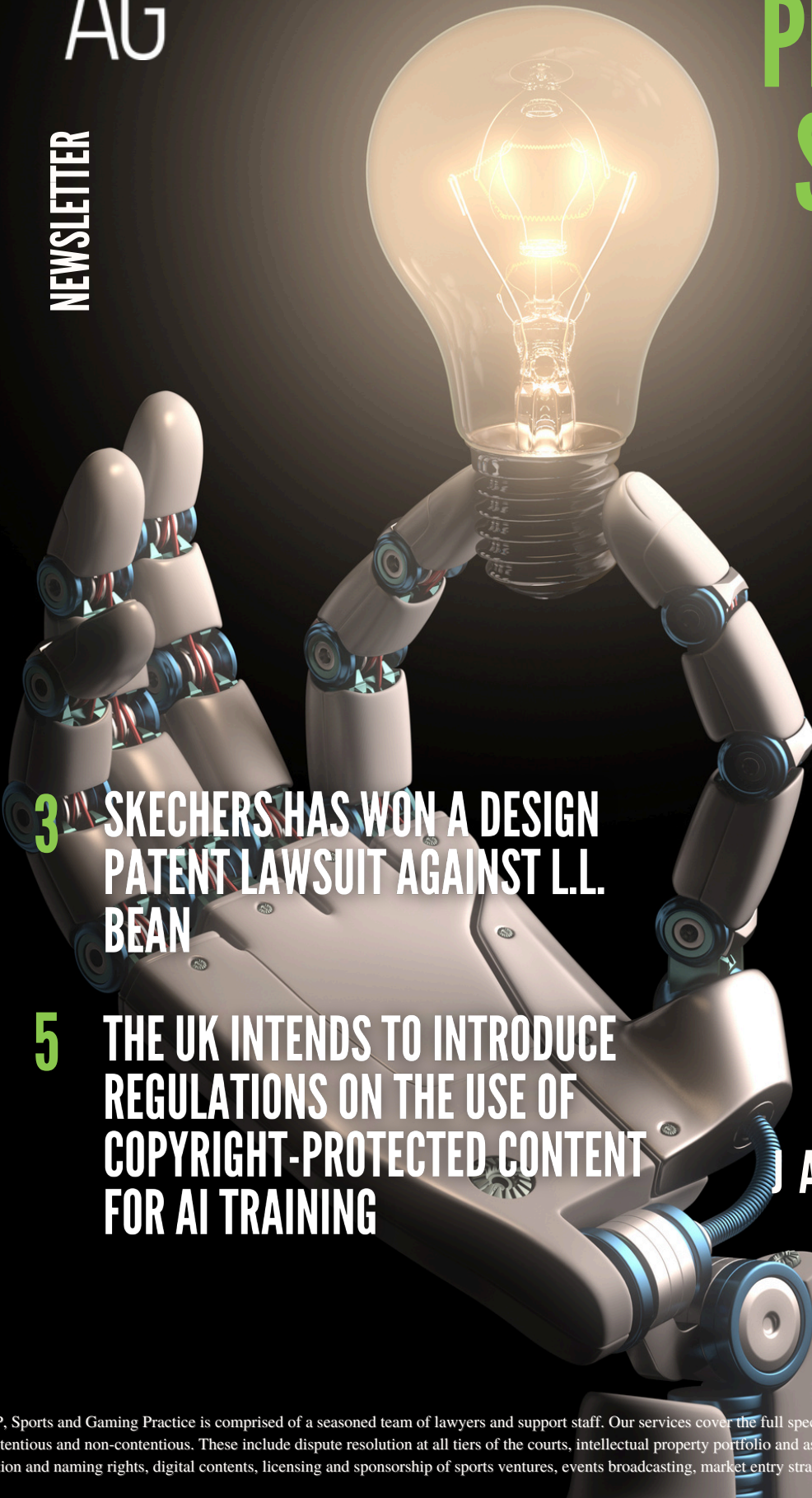


INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, SPORTS & GAMING



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The IP, Sports and Gaming Practice is comprised of a seasoned team of lawyers and support staff. Our services cover the full spectrum of intellectual property, sports and gaming laws, both contentious and non-contentious. These include dispute resolution at all tiers of the courts, intellectual property portfolio and asset management, anti-counterfeiting programmes, brand protection and naming rights, digital contents, licensing and sponsorship of sports ventures, events broadcasting, market entry strategies, and regulatory requirements for the gaming industry.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

TRADEMARK

UTAH NHL TEAM FACES TRADEMARK HURDLES FOR PERMANENT NAME

The Utah NHL team is struggling to secure trademarks for its six finalist names: Yeti/Yetis, Blizzard, Outlaws, Mammoth, Venom, and HC. The US Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) refused all applications, citing a likelihood of confusion with existing trademarks or geographic descriptiveness. The team has three months to address these concerns. Outlaws and Mammoth face minor clerical issues, while Yeti and Blizzard face stronger objections. Despite these setbacks, Utah remains confident in securing a name before the 2025-26 NHL season. Similar challenges occurred with the Vegas Golden Knights, who resolved issues through a coexistence agreement.

<https://www.nytimes.com/athletic/6086798/2025/01/24/utah-nhl-team-name-trademarks/>



EU BANS “TURKAEGEAN” SLOGAN FOLLOWING GREECE’S APPEAL

The EU’s Intellectual Property Office (“EUIPO”) has canceled Turkey’s “*Turkaegean*” trademark, initially registered in 2021 for tourism promotion, following Greece’s appeal. Greece opposed the slogan, arguing it implied geopolitical claims over the Aegean Sea, a long-standing point of contention between the two nations. Turkey has two months to appeal and four months to submit written arguments. Meanwhile, the US Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) has requested further clarifications from Turkey regarding the term, with a final decision expected in 2–3 years.

<https://www.politico.eu/article/eu-bans-turkaegean-slogan-following-greeces-appeal/>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

TRADEMARK

THATCHERS SUCCESSFUL AS COURT OF APPEAL FINDS ALDI COPYCAT PRODUCTS AMOUNT TO TRADE MARK INFRINGEMENT IN THE UK

On 20 January 2025, the UK Court of Appeal ruled in favor of Thatchers Cider, overturning a lower court decision and finding Aldi liable for trademark infringement under Section 10(3) of the Trade Marks Act 1994. The court determined that Aldi's Taurus Cloudy Lemon Cider took unfair advantage of Thatchers' packaging trademark, deliberately mimicking its design to boost sales. This decision strengthens protections against copycat products in the UK. Brand owners may now find it easier to challenge lookalike packaging, reinforcing the importance of registered trademarks in defending against unfair competition and brand dilution.

<https://natlawreview.com/article/when-life-gives-you-lemonsthatchers-successful-court-appeal-finds-aldi-copycat>



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

PATENT

SKECHERS HAS WON A DESIGN PATENT LAWSUIT AGAINST L.L. BEAN

A patent infringement lawsuit filed in the US Court by Skechers against L.L. Bean in July 2024 has concluded. Skechers successfully won the case against L.L. Bean. The lawsuit concerns L.L. Bean copying Skechers' patented heel cup design with its "Freeport" shoe line. As part of the settlement, L.L. Bean agreed to stop manufacturing, importing, and selling the infringing footwear. While the terms of the settlement, including potential damages, were not disclosed, Skechers succeeded in halting the sale of the allegedly infringing shoes.

<https://apparelresources.com/business-news/retail/sketchers-wins-design-patent-case-l-l-bean/>



PERMANENT INJUNCTION GRANTED BY THE US DISTRICT COURT IN FAVOUR OF 10X GENOMICS IN ITS PATENT INFRINGEMENT LAWSUIT AGAINST BRUKER CORPORATION'S GEOMX PRODUCTS

10x Genomics, a leader in single cell and spatial biology has secured a permanent injunction from the US District Court against Bruker Corporation's GeoMx products, which Bruker acquired from NanoString Technologies. The injunction which will take effect in January 2025 prohibits Bruker from making, using, selling, or offering its GeoMx Digital Spatial Profiler and related products in the US. However, the injunction does not prohibit researchers who installed GeoMx instruments before 18 November 2023 to continue using GeoMx instruments for their ongoing research. The Court aimed to strike a balance between patent protection and minimise the disruption to the public. The Court also upheld a \$31 million damages awarded from a November 2023 jury verdict, with supplemental damages and interest to be added.

<https://themalaysianreserve.com/2024/12/24/u-s-district-court-awards-10x-genomics-permanent-injunction-in-patent-infringement-lawsuit-against-bruker-corporations-geomx-products/>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

PATENT

SAMSUNG FILES A PATENT FOR ITS SMART GLASSES WITH AI HARDWARE AND SPEAKER PROTECTED FROM MAGNETIC INTERFERENCE

Samsung recently filed a patent at the US Patent and Trademark Office for a head-mounted wearable device which is used to implement augmented reality (“AR”) and virtual reality (“VR”) experiences for the user. It may use a portion of the user’s field of view (“FoV”) to display information on a real-world object in the form of an image or text. The patent revealed that Samsung may be working on new wearable smart glasses capable of playing multimedia through a built-in speaker. The device is expected to feature a display for image output and a speaker protected from magnetic interference by a conductive plate and surrounding coil. The patent also indicates that the smart glasses would include dedicated modules for managing audio, battery, display, and other elements of the smart glasses.

<https://www.gadgets360.com/wearables/news/samsung-smart-glasses-patent-ai-hardware-speaker-features-7335743/amp>



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

COPYRIGHT

THE UK INTENDS TO INTRODUCE REGULATIONS ON THE USE OF COPYRIGHT-PROTECTED CONTENT FOR AI TRAINING

The UK Government has initiated a consultation on new proposals to regulate the legal use of copyright-protected content for AI training. These measures aim to resolve uncertainty in the creative industries and AI sectors while promoting innovation and granting protection for the rights holders. The consultation outlines a strategy to address challenges in the current copyright framework, which makes it difficult for creators to control or profit from their work while creating legal risks for AI developers. The proposals aim to enhance transparency by requiring AI developers to reveal information and data used in their AI model. It also allows wider access of high-quality data for AI developers for the growth of the AI sector. The UK Government also called for input from the stakeholders across the AI sector to help co-design a framework that provides clarity, builds trust, and supports sustained growth.

<https://www.techerati.com/news-hub/uk-moves-to-regulate-use-of-copyright-protected-content-in-ai-training/>



THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL COURT HAS RULED THAT ALDI IS LIABLE FOR A 'FLAGRANT' COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT INVOLVING THE PACKAGING OF A COMPETITOR'S BRAND

Aldi, a supermarket giant was found guilty of copyright infringement for using a competitor brand's packaging design as a "benchmark" for its own children's snack food packaging. The packaging in question featured a smiling cartoon owl above images of the food. In October, the owner of the competitor's brand, Baby Bellies sent a letter to Aldi accusing of Aldi's copyright infringement. Subsequently, this has led to them suing Aldi in relation of 11 product designs. Federal Court has found Aldi liable for copyright infringement and described Aldi's conduct as "flagrant".

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2024/dec/19/aldi-copyright-breach-baby-bellies-designs-australia-court-ntwnfb>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

COPYRIGHT

INTERIM ORDER GRANTED BY THE DELHI HIGH COURT IN FAVOUR OF RKSV TO RESTRAIN ENTITIES FROM INFRINGING 'UPSTOX' TRADEMARKS AND COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS

'UPSTOX' is an online trading application owned by RKSV Securities India Pvt. Ltd. ("RKSV"), an Indian brokerage firm offering stock trading services. RKSV filed a suit alleging the infringement of its registered 'UPSTOX' trademarks, word marks, and copyrighted materials, as well as acts of passing off by unknown defendants. It has been receiving multiple complaints about fraudulent entities using domain names, WhatsApp groups, Facebook groups, and Telegram groups to impersonate RKSV, deceive clients by misusing RKSV's intellectual property. The Delhi High Court after taking into account all evidence, has stated in its order that RKSV "has demonstrated a prima facie case for grant of injunction and in case no ex-parte ad-interim injunction is granted, the plaintiff will suffer an irreparable loss. Further, the balance of convenience also lies in favour of the plaintiff and against the defendants". The Court further directed the domain name registrars to suspend all profiles, groups and channels associated with the unknown defendants.

<https://www.thelawadvice.com/news/delhi-hc-issues-interim-order-restraining-entities-from-infringing-upstox-trademarks-and-copyrighted-materials>



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

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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

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Goodwill Unshaken by Negative Publicity

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Court of Appeal Reaffirms Test for Breach of Confidence

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