

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

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The IP Practice is comprised of a seasoned team of lawyers and support staff. Our services span the full breadth of IP law, encompassing both contentious and non-contentious matters, in the areas of patents and utility innovations, trademarks, passing off, copyright, franchising, industrial design, trade secrets and breach of confidence. We also advise on portfolio and asset management, brand protection strategies, anti-counterfeiting initiatives, naming rights, licensing and sponsorship of music and sports ventures.

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TRADEMARK

OPENAI TEMPORARILY BARRED FROM USING NAME "CAMEO" FOLLOWING TRADEMARK LAWSUIT

A U.S. federal judge has temporarily barred OpenAI from using the term "cameo" or similar names in its Sora video app for one month. Judge Eumi K. Lee issued the restraining order after Cameo, a platform selling personalized celebrity videos, sued OpenAI in October over Sora's "Cameo" feature, which inserted user-generated characters into videos. OpenAI disputes the claim that anyone can exclusively own the word "cameo" and intends to defend its position. Cameo's CEO welcomed the ruling, saying it protects consumers from confusion. The order expires on December 22, with a hearing on a permanent injunction scheduled for December 19.

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/11/24/openai-temporarily-blocked-from-using-cameo-after-trademark-lawsuit.html>



COSTLY WIN AHEAD AS L'ORÉAL DISPUTE HEADS TO HEARING

L'Oréal has dropped parts of its trademark challenge against Leicester salon owner Rebecca Dowdeswell, who has sought to re-register her brand "nkd" after missing a renewal window in 2019. The cosmetics giant had argued nkd could be confused with its "Naked" range, but has now withdrawn objections relating to waxing, hair removal services and some related goods. Dowdeswell says she feels vindicated but frustrated, having spent over £30,000 and closed a salon due to the stress. Her attorney called the move a "Pyrrhic victory," noting remaining disputes over future products. An IPO decision is expected six to nine months after the hearing.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cr7m097d9vro>

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COPYRIGHT

MUSIC GIANTS STRIKE DEALS WITH AI FIRMS AMID RISING COPYRIGHT CONCERNS

Warner Music Group has settled its copyright lawsuit with Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) music startup Udio and will jointly launch a licensed AI-powered song-creation platform in 2026. Universal Music Group reached a similar settlement last month. The deals come as AI-generated tracks surge, prompting platforms like Deezer to label AI music. Udio’s rival Suno, valued at \$ 2.45 billion, faces ongoing disputes with major labels. Both Udio and Suno maintain their training practices fall under United States (“US”) fair use. Surveys show 97% of listeners cannot distinguish AI-generated music, raising fears over AI’s impact on music creation, monetisation, and artistic authenticity.

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/business/warner-music-group-udio-settle-copyright-case-plan-new-ai-song-creation-platform-5477996>



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GETTY IMAGES FACES SETBACK IN UK LAWSUIT AGAINST STABILITY AI

Getty Images (“**Getty**”) largely failed in its London lawsuit against Stability AI, dropping major copyright claims mid-trial due to insufficient evidence about where Stable Diffusion was trained. The judge found only limited trademark infringement, ruling that user-generated Stable Diffusion outputs containing Getty watermarks breached Getty’s marks. However, the court dismissed secondary copyright infringement, stating the model does not store or reproduce copyrighted works, highlighting gaps in UK law. Both parties welcomed aspects of the ruling, but Getty and legal experts warned it leaves unresolved whether training AI on copyrighted materials constitutes infringement, urging clearer government policy and stronger transparency rules.

<https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/boards-policy-regulation/getty-images-largely-loses-landmark-uk-lawsuit-over-ai-image-generator-2025-11-04/>



OPENAI FIGHTS COURT ORDER TO HAND OVER 20 MILLION CHAT LOGS IN COPYRIGHT CASE

OpenAI asked a New York federal judge to overturn an order requiring it to hand over 20 million anonymised ChatGPT logs in a copyright lawsuit by The New York Times and other news outlets. OpenAI argued the order threatens user privacy, noting most chats are irrelevant to the claims. The New York Times says the logs are needed to verify whether ChatGPT reproduced its copyrighted articles and to counter OpenAI’s claims of manipulation. The court previously said privacy would be protected through de-identification. OpenAI maintains the order would expose sensitive conversations, while The New York Times insists no users are at risk.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/media-telecom/openai-fights-order-turn-over-millions-chatgpt-conversations-2025-11-12/>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

PATENT

APPLE ORDERED TO PAY \$634 MILLION TO MASIMO IN ONGOING PATENT BATTLE

A California federal jury has ordered Apple to pay Masimo \$ 634 million for infringing a patent related to blood-oxygen monitoring technology used in the Apple Watch's workout and heart-rate notification features. Apple said it will appeal, arguing the patent, which expired in 2022, relates to outdated medical-monitoring tech and noting most of Masimo's past patent claims were invalidated. Masimo called the verdict a major victory in its long-running dispute accusing Apple of hiring away its employees and stealing pulse-oximetry innovations. The dispute led a US trade tribunal to block imports of Apple's Series 9 and Ultra 2 smartwatches in 2023 after finding that Apple's technology infringed Masimo's patents.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/us-jury-says-apple-must-pay-masimo-634-million-smartwatch-patent-case-2025-11-15/>



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PATENT

WHIRLPOOL SEEKS US IMPORT BAN ON RIVAL MICROWAVES OVER PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Whirlpool has filed a complaint with the US International Trade Commission seeking to block imports of over-the-range microwaves from Samsung, LG, Midea and Haier, alleging they copied its patented “low-profile microwave-hood combination” technology. Whirlpool claims it pioneered technology for the microwaves, which both cook and provide ventilation. Whirlpool also filed parallel federal lawsuits in Texas and New Jersey seeking damages. While the accused companies have not yet commented, Whirlpool stated it will aggressively defend its innovations and that it was the exclusive US provider of LP-MHCs before the alleged infringement.

<https://www.reuters.com/legal/litigation/whirlpool-sues-block-samsung-lg-microwave-imports-patent-dispute-2025-11-18/>



US SUPREME COURT REJECTS APPEAL ON EXPIRED PATENT CHALLENGE, SIDING WITH APPLE, GOOGLE AND LG ELECTRONICS

The US Supreme Court declined to hear Gesture Technology Partners’ (“**Gesture**”) appeal seeking to prevent review of its expired patent, leaving intact rulings that invalidated the patent and favoured Apple, Google and LG Electronics. Gesture had sued the companies in 2021 for allegedly infringing its motion-sensing camera patent before it expired in 2020. The Patent Trial and Appeal Board later cancelled most of the patent, and the Federal Circuit ruled the entire patent invalid. Gesture argued expired patents cannot be reviewed by the board, but tech companies and the United States Patent and Trademark Office countered that public-rights principles still apply.

<https://www.reuters.com/legal/government/us-supreme-court-wont-hear-patent-appeal-against-apple-google-lg-2025-11-17/>

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

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Copyright (Amendment) Act 2022

Goodwill Unshaken by Negative Publicity

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