

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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PATENT

BIONTECH SUES MODERNA FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT OVER MNEXSPIKE COVID-19 VACCINE PATENTS

BioNTech has filed a patent infringement lawsuit in the Delaware federal court against Moderna, alleging that Moderna's 2025 Covid-19 vaccine, mNEXSPIKE, unlawfully uses BioNTech's patented mRNA technology. The complaint claims that BioNTech's innovations allow vaccines to be administered at lower doses while maintaining effectiveness. This dispute follows Moderna's 2022 lawsuit against BioNTech and Pfizer over Comirnaty, forming part of broader litigation within the lucrative Covid vaccine sector. Moderna plans to defend itself vigorously, while BioNTech emphasizes protecting its mRNA platform innovations. The financial stakes are significant, with mNEXSPIKE expected to account for roughly 55% of Moderna's Covid vaccine revenue in the 2025 – 2026 season.

<https://www.pharmexec.com/view/biontech-files-suit-against-moderna-patent-infringement>



REGENXBIO WINS APPEAL AGAINST SAREPTA OVER AAV GENE THERAPY PATENT

An appellate court has overturned a lower court ruling and sided with REGENXBIO in its patent dispute with Sarepta Therapeutics concerning a core adeno-associated virus ("AAV") technology used in Duchenne muscular dystrophy therapy. The lower court had invalidated REGENXBIO's patent in 2024, arguing its components were naturally occurring. The appeals court ruled that the patented technology creates a molecule that could not naturally form on its own and returned the case for reconsideration. REGENXBIO and the University of Pennsylvania, which owns the patent, allege that Sarepta used the protected platform for its Elevidys therapy. The ruling comes amid regulatory and clinical setbacks for both companies.

<https://www.biospace.com/policy/regenxbio-secures-legal-win-in-gene-therapy-patent-battle-vs-sarepta>

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PATENT

ACER AND ASUS SUSPEND PC SALES IN GERMANY OVER NOKIA HEVC PATENT RULING

Acer and Asus have temporarily halted sales of desktop and laptop PCs in Germany after a German court granted Nokia an injunction over alleged infringement of three patents relating to the High-Efficiency Video Coding (“HEVC”) standard. The ruling prevents the companies from selling, importing or offering affected devices in Germany, but does not affect German retailers, who are allowed to continue selling available stock. HEVC is considered a standard-essential patent (“SEP”) widely used in operating systems, streaming, and video applications, making it virtually a requirement for computer manufacturers. HEVC must be licensed on Fair, Reasonable, and Non-Discriminatory (“FRAND”) terms due to its SEP status. While Hisense purchased a licence from Nokia in January, Acer and Asus are still contesting the allegations in court, as Germany adopts a stricter interpretation of the FRAND terms.

<https://www.tomshardware.com/laptops/acer-and-asus-halt-pc-and-laptop-sales-in-germany-amid-h-264-codec-patent-dispute-nokia-wins-patent-ruling-forcing-tech-giants-to-license-hevc-codec>



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TRADEMARK

CATHAY HOME WITHDRAWS “SWIFT HOME” TRADEMARK APPLICATION AFTER TAYLOR SWIFT APPEALS

Cathay Home has withdrawn its application to trademark “Swift Home” for a bedding line after an appeal by pop star Taylor Swift to the US Patent and Trademark Office. Swift’s team argued that the branding, particularly the cursive styling of the word “Swift”, closely resembled her trademarked designs and could mislead consumers into believing she had endorsed the products. Cathay Home stated that the mark was not essential to its business and described the withdrawal as a practical commercial decision. Swift, who owns extensive federal trademarks covering her name and related branding across various goods, including bedding, has filed more than 300 trademark applications worldwide to protect her intellectual property.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/crm8710913wo>



SAMYANG FOODS MOVES TO TRADEMARK “BULDAK” IN KOREA AMID RISING GLOBAL COUNTERFEITS

Samyang Foods plans to file a trademark application with the Korean Intellectual Property Office to secure rights to the English brand name “Buldak” in Korea by the end of February. The move comes as counterfeit and copycat versions of its globally popular spicy ramyeon proliferate across China, Southeast Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and the United States. The Korean term “Buldak” (meaning “fire chicken”) remains unregistered domestically after a 2008 court ruling deemed it a common noun widely used in the food industry. Samyang Foods says that it is actively pursuing stronger intellectual property protection to safeguard the brand’s value amid its growing global popularity.

<https://www.koreaherald.com/article/10678426>

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TRADEMARK

OUTKAST REACHES SETTLEMENT WITH EDM DUO OVER 'ATLIENS' NAME

Outkast has reached a settlement to end their trademark lawsuit against an Atlanta-based EDM duo calling itself ATLIens. Attorneys for Big Boi and Andre 3000 told the court they had agreed on a general settlement framework and expect to resolve the case within 90 days, though the terms were not disclosed. The hip hop duo sued in 2023, arguing that they coined the term "ATLIens" for their 1996 album and that the EDM group's use and trademark registration caused consumer confusion. The electronic act had denied wrongdoing, and proceedings were largely paused as both sides worked toward a resolution.

<https://www.billboard.com/pro/outkast-settles-trademark-lawsuit-atliens-name-edm-duo/>



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COPYRIGHT

MALAYSIA'S AI GOVERNANCE BILL TO COVER FULL AI LIFECYCLE, INCLUDING DATA CENTRES

Malaysia's proposed Artificial Intelligence Governance Bill will address copyright and intellectual property concerns by regulating both the use of copyrighted materials to train AI systems and the content generated by those systems, Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim told Parliament. He said the law would introduce a comprehensive framework covering the full lifecycle of AI from model development and training to deployment, monitoring and risk management. Anwar added that the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia will strengthen monitoring efforts, and that accountability, ethics and risk management would be built into the new regulatory approach.

<https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2026/02/24/malaysias-ai-governance-bill-still-taking-shape-anwar-says-law-to-cover-full-lifecycle-including-data-centres/210222>



RM1.06MIL 'I-BREATH' PROJECT SHELVED AFTER COPYRIGHT REGISTERED UNDER INDIVIDUAL INSTEAD OF GOVERNMENT

A RM 1.06 million Covid-19 screening device developed by Universiti Teknologi Malaysia ("UTM") was shelved after copyright ownership issues prevented its commercialisation, according to the Auditor-General's Report 1/2026. Although the agreement stated that intellectual property should belong to the government, checks with the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia ("MyIPO") found that while two patents were filed under UTM, the copyright for the device's algorithm was registered under the project leader's name. As no transfer or amendment was filed, the government's interests were not safeguarded, halting commercial plans. The report also noted that 19 of the 20 prototypes were missing and that a police report was lodged, while the patent applications remain under examination.

<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2026/02/24/i-breath-stalled-over-rights#:~:text=The%20AG's%20Report%201%2F2026%20said,allocations%20to%20the%20National%20Institutes>

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SOUTH KOREA'S MAJOR NETWORKS SUE OPENAI OVER ALLEGED COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

South Korea's three major broadcasters, KBS, MBC, and SBS have filed a lawsuit against OpenAI, alleging that ChatGPT was trained on their news content without authorization. The Korea Broadcasters Association stated that the suit seeks an injunction to halt copyright infringement and compensation for damages, emphasizing that the broadcasters' content represents core intellectual property. The association criticized OpenAI for refusing negotiations despite global licensing practices and framed the case as both a creator rights and data sovereignty issue. This follows a similar 2025 lawsuit against Naver over the use of content for AI training, though KBS later partnered with Naver on AI projects.

<https://www.koreaherald.com/article/10680650>



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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