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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.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

PATENT

HUAWEI AND HP RESOLVE PATENT DISPUTE WITH WI-FI CROSS-LICENSING AGREEMENT

Huawei and HP have entered into a multi-year global patent cross-licensing agreement covering Wi-Fi technologies, resolving patent disputes between the companies. Under the agreement, HP may use certain Huawei Wi-Fi patents in its PCs in return for licensing fees. The deal follows Huawei's 2025 lawsuit against HP concerning Wi-Fi 6 patents and reflects Huawei's broader strategy of monetising its extensive patent portfolio to generate returns on its significant R&D investments. Huawei has entered into more than 260 licensing agreements with major technology companies and generated over USD 630 million in patent licensing revenue in 2024.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3365229/huawei-hp-settle-disputes-multi-year-wi-fi-patent-cross-licensing-deal>



CHINA IMPOSES RECORD RMB 17 MILLION PENALTY FOR UNAUTHORISED PATENT AGENCY PRACTICE

The Anhui Provincial Administration for Market Regulation issued an administrative penalty ordering the Anhui branch of Beijing BoXTe Patent Agency (General Partnership) to pay a total of RMB 17.08 million (more than USD 2.5 million). The decision concerns the branch's unauthorised conduct of patent agency business without the required practice licence, including the use of another party's qualifications. The sanction is reportedly the largest penalty imposed in China for unauthorised patent agency practice to date.

<https://patentlawyermagazine.com/china-hits-unauthorized-patent-agency-practice-with-potentially-record-2-5-million-penalty/>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

PATENT

CLO VIRTUAL FASHION SETTLES US PATENT INFRINGEMENT DISPUTE WITH STYLE3D

CLO Virtual Fashion has reached a settlement with Zhejiang Lingdi Digital Technology Co., Ltd. ("Linctex"), the company behind Style3D, resolving a US patent infringement lawsuit filed in 2023. Linctex admitted that its Style3D Studio software infringes three of CLO's US patents and that the patents are valid and enforceable. The lawsuit had sought damages and injunctive relief, while the remaining terms of the settlement are confidential.

<https://themalaysianreserve.com/2026/08/25/clo-virtual-fashion-resolves-major-us-patent-infringement-case-secures-settlement-against-style3d/>



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TRADEMARK

DEMON HUNTER SUES NETFLIX OVER ALLEGED TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT BY “KPOP DEMON HUNTERS” TOUR

The metal band Demon Hunter has sued Netflix and concert promoter AEG Presents in a California federal court, alleging that the upcoming KPop Demon Hunters concert tour infringes its trademarks and is likely to cause consumer confusion. The band claims the tour and related merchandise could overshadow its established brand, citing an instance where a parent reportedly purchased tickets to its concert by mistake. Demon Hunter is seeking an order preventing the defendants from using “KPop Demon Hunters” in connection with music, merchandise and live concerts, as well as monetary damages.

<https://www.thestar.com.my/lifestyle/entertainment/2026/08/24/netflix-sued-by-band-demon-hunter-over-039kpop-demon-hunters039>



SUPERMAC’S WINS UK TRADEMARK DISPUTE AGAINST MCDONALD’S

Irish fast food chain Supermac’s has won a UK trademark dispute against McDonald’s, with the UK Intellectual Property Office (“UKIPO”) ruling that consumers would not associate Supermac’s name and logo with McDonald’s trademarks such as “Big Mac” and “McCafé”. The UKIPO found significant visual, aural and conceptual differences between the marks and concluded that there was no likelihood of consumer confusion or association. The decision contrasts with a recent EUIPO ruling, which found a likelihood of confusion between Supermac’s and McDonald’s “Big Mac” trademark and prevented Supermac’s from registering its name as an EU trademark. The dispute forms part of a long-running legal battle between the two fast food chains over the use of “Mac” and related branding.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/crl7ez18x9lo>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

TRADEMARK

OPERATION BLUEBIRD LAUNCHES TWITTER.NOW DESPITE X'S TRADEMARK CHALLENGE

Operation Bluebird has launched Twitter.now, a new social media platform, amid its ongoing legal dispute with X Corporation over the “Twitter” and “Tweet” trademarks. The startup claims that X abandoned its rights to the former Twitter branding following Elon Musk’s rebranding of Twitter as X. In April 2026, a US federal judge reportedly indicated that X may have abandoned certain intellectual property rights relating to “Tweet”, the Twitter bird logo and potentially the “Twitter” name, although no written order has been issued. Operation Bluebird has nevertheless proceeded with the launch, which currently has hundreds of users and features familiar functions such as replies and reposts, alongside an AI-powered fact-checking tool.

<https://www.arise.tv/startup-launches-twitter-now-amid-legal-battle-over-twitter-trademark/>



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

COPYRIGHT

MUSIC PUBLISHERS SUE ANTHROPIC OVER ALLEGED USE OF COPYRIGHTED SONGS IN AI TRAINING DATA

Sony Music Publishing and Warner Chappell have sued Anthropic and its senior executives in a California court, alleging that the company unlawfully copied and used tens of thousands of copyrighted musical compositions to train its Claude AI models. The publishers claim Anthropic obtained song lyrics through methods including scraping, downloading from pirate websites and accessing online datasets, and that Claude could subsequently reproduce copyrighted lyrics in response to users' prompts. They also allege that Anthropic removed identifying information from the works during processing, potentially depriving copyright owners of attribution. The publishers are seeking potentially billions of dollars in damages, while Anthropic denies the allegations and intends to defend the claims.

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2026/aug/31/aanthropic-sued-alleged-theft-songs-ai-train-claude>



SHEIN LOSES UK COPYRIGHT LAWSUIT AGAINST RIVAL TEMU OVER PHOTOS OF CLOTHING

Shein has lost a copyright infringement lawsuit against rival fast-fashion platform Temu in the UK concerning the use of photographs of Shein's clothing products. The court dismissed Shein's copyright claims and upheld Temu's counterclaim for damages arising from the removal of product listings following an injunction obtained by Shein. Shein had alleged that Temu used its product photographs on a large scale to promote copies of its clothing, while Temu denied the allegations and accused Shein of using litigation to restrict competition. The ruling forms part of wider legal disputes between the two companies, including separate proceedings in the US and a competition law claim by Temu against Shein.

<https://theedgemalaysia.com/node/814435>

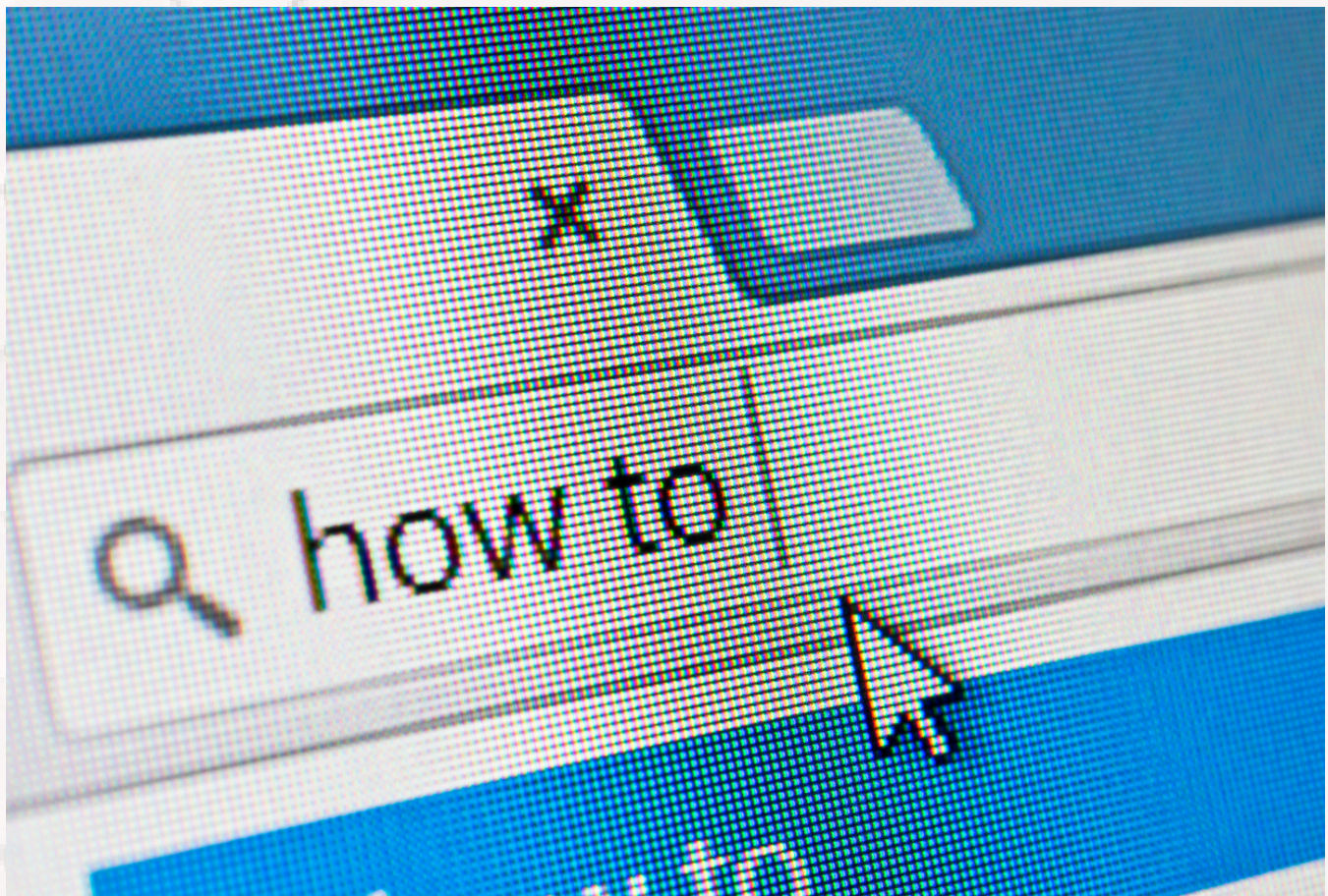
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COPYRIGHT

WIKIHOW SUES OPENAI OVER ALLEGED COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT IN AI TRAINING

WikiHow has sued OpenAI in a US federal court, alleging that OpenAI scraped more than 11,000 of its instructional articles without permission or compensation to train its AI models, including ChatGPT. WikiHow claims that the models reproduce its copyrighted material and generate competing how-to content, potentially reducing traffic and revenue and threatening its business. The company alleges infringement of at least 1,200 registered copyrights and is seeking damages and an order preventing further infringement. OpenAI maintains that its models are trained on publicly available data and that its use of such material is protected by fair use. The lawsuit adds to the growing number of copyright disputes concerning the use of protected content to train generative AI models.

<https://www.digitalmusicnews.com/2026/08/25/wikihow-sues-openai-copyright-infringement/>



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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