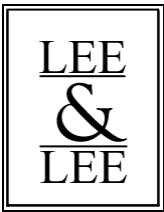


SINGAPORE PATENTS LAW UPDATE



Advocates & Solicitors
Trade Mark & Patent Agents
SINGAPORE

50 Raffles Place, #06-00 Singapore Land Tower, Singapore 048623
Tel: +65 62200666 Fax: 65 63241638 E-mail: ipdept@leenlee.com.sg



SINGAPORE PATENTS LAW UPDATE

IPOS to accept international applications in Chinese as receiving Office under the PCT with effect from 1 January 2017

The Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) has announced that it will be accepting, as the receiving Office under the Patents Cooperation Treaty (PCT), international applications filed in the Chinese language from 1 January 2017.

Such an option aims to provide convenience to Singapore nationals and residents in filing PCT international applications, in line with Singapore's continuous efforts to be a global IP hub and business-friendly IP regime. It further extends IPOS' search and examination services as a competent International Search Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examination Authority (IPEA) such that international applications filed in Chinese are now included. The option also facilitates the deferment of translation costs for applicants, who have already filed or will be filing their patent applications in Chinese, until the national phase entry stage, providing them with more time for their decisions and perhaps also potential savings in costs.

With effect from 1 January 2017, therefore, PCT international applications and Request Forms (PCT/RO/101) can be filed, in the Chinese language, with IPOS in its capacity as receiving Office.

For international applications filed in the Chinese language, the final search and examination reports issued by the ISA and IPEA will be in Chinese although applicants may opt to receive the reports in English by informing IPOS.

Our patents legislation is presently being amended to bring into force the above changes by 1 January 2017.

Further Information

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Intellectual Property Department, Lee & Lee. The contact persons are Mr Tan Tee Jim, S.C. at DID: +65 65574615 / email: tanteejim@leenlee.com.sg; and Ms Boo Yee Swan at DID: +65 65574869 / email: booyeeswan@leenlee.com.sg. You can also reach us by fax at 65 63241638.

Disclaimer: The copyright in this document is owned by Lee & Lee. No part of this document may be reproduced without our prior written permission. The provision of the information herein does not constitute our giving legal advice and should not form the basis of any decision as to a particular course of action. It is only intended to provide you with an indication of some of the potential legal issues which you should be aware of. You are strongly advised to seek specific, detailed legal advice in respect of the individual requirements and circumstances applicable to you. Lee & Lee will not have any liability to you if you use any information herein without first obtaining appropriate legal advice as to its suitability for your particular requirements. Please note also that the information herein is based on the laws of Singapore. The position in other jurisdictions may differ.