

LEGAL DEPARTMENT E-BULLETIN



Singapore releases draft cyber-security bill

Singapore has released the draft cyber-security bill for public consultation. The draft Bill mandates eleven listed infrastructure sectors who own important information to report security breaches and cyber-security vendors providing highly sensitive services to be licensed. These sectors are government, security and emergency, healthcare, telecommunications, banking and finance, energy, water, media, land transport, air transport and maritime

Apart from the listed sectors, it is likely that other sectors would also be included within the ambit of the bill.

Asia under – insured against cyber threats says market specialist Lloyd's

A study by insurance market specialist Lloyd's and risk modelling platform Cyence has found that Asia is under – insured and economically vulnerable to cyber-attacks despite the potential mammoth losses from such attacks.

The study has posited two hypothetical situations - a malicious hack that takes down a cloud service provider and the failure of an operating system operated by a large number of computers and businesses around the world.

Estimated losses for the cloud service disruption situation ranged from US\$ \$4.6 billion to US\$53 billion while in the large scale software disruption scenario, from US\$9.7 billion to US\$28.7 billion.

Trade secrets more popular than patents reveals study

A study by the European Union Intellectual Property Office has revealed that trade secrets were more popular than patents for large corporations in the EU. Out of the total number of firms surveyed, 52.3% of them use trade secrets while patents were used only by just 31.7%. For large corporations, the figures stood at 69.1% for trade secrets and 52.8% for patents and while for small and medium-sized enterprises, the figures stood at 51.2% for trade secrets and 30.4 % for patents.

The survey was based on data from an earlier report called the “Community Innovation Survey” which was released by the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights.

CITMA demands representation rights before EUIPO after Brexit

In the aftermath of Brexit, the Chartered Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys (CIMA) has demanded that all practitioners be allowed to represent their clients before the EU Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO).

Google adopts forum shopping tactics

After losing a court battle in Canada, Google has shifted its battle to the US. In June, the Canadian Supreme Court had dismissed Google's appeal challenging the interlocutory injunction awarded against it by a lower court.

A dispute arose between Equustek Solutions (Equustek), a British Columbia based technology company and Datalink. Equustek accused Datalink of relabelling one of its products and passing it off in the capacity of a distributor.

In 2012, Equustek requested Google to de – index Datalink's website which Google refused. Therefore Equustek brought the court proceedings which was finally decided by the Supreme Court. Google was enjoined from displaying any part of Datalink's websites on its worldwide search results. Subsequently on July 24, Google filed a claim against Equustek at the US District Court for the Northern District of California.

English Premier League granted order against ISPs

In an unprecedented court victory, the English Premier League has obtained a High Court order requiring UK internet service providers (ISPs) to block servers that host illegal streams of its football matches.

Though the final decision of the Court is awaited, the Premier League has stated that the decision was similar to the May ruling of the High Court where ISPs were ordered to block sites streaming its content until the end of the season.

Singapore seeks to amend its patent regime

Singapore's Ministry of Law and the Intellectual Property Office (IPOS) are seeking feedback on proposed changes to its patent regime to bring it in line with the Singapore Government's initiative of improving the quality of patents and making it more user friendly.

The E-Bulletin of the ABU Legal Dept. is a fortnightly initiative to bring news and other updates to members.

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