The JPO’s proposal “iPAC” was agreed at the APEC-IPEG Meeting

The Japan Patent Office (JPO) proposed “iPAC Initiative (intellectual Property Academy Collaborative Initiative)” for collaboration among IP Academies in the APEC region. According to the JPO’s announcement on March 8, 2010, the JPO’s proposal was agreed by the participating economies (nations and regions) at the 30th APEC Intellectual Property Rights Experts’ Group meeting (APEC-IPEG meeting) held in Hiroshima, Japan, on March 5-6, 2010.

The JPO will continue to make efforts to improve the infrastructure of IP systems in the APEC region by means of the implementation of the JPO’s proposal including the design and establishment of an APEC website as a platform for sharing of information among IP Academies.
特許庁は2010年3月8日、広島市で同年3月5日、6日に開催されたAPEC第30回知的財産権専門家会合で、同庁が提案したAPEC域内における知的財産権分野の人材育成機関の協働に関する提案「iPACイニシアチブ（intellectual Property Academy Collaborative Initiative：知財人材育成機関間協働構想）」が、参加国・地域の合意を得たと発表した。

今後、特許庁は、知財分野における人材育成機関間の情報共有のためのウェブサイト構築など、同提案の具体化を進め、APEC域内の知的財産権制度のインフラ整備を推進していくとしている。

Reported on March 8, 2010 - The registered trademark “Chaku-Melo” (2 rights), which had been put on online public auction by the Bureau of Taxation, Tokyo Metropolitan Government, was found to be sold for JPY 25.5 million. Winning bidder was Visual Arts, a game development company.

The lowest bid price for one of the 2 rights was JPY 1.57 Million, while that for the other of the 2 rights was 0.43 Million. Visual Arts won the bid for the one of the 2 rights for JPY 9.5 Million and the other of the 2 rights for JPY 16.001 Million. The successful bids were far higher than expected by Tokyo Metropolitan Government and industry participants.

東京都主税局の出品でインターネット公売にかけられていた、2件の「着メロ」商標権が、2010年3月8日、ゲーム開発会社ビジュアルアーツによって総額2550万円で落札されたことが明らかになった。

落札に必要な最低価格は、1件目が157万円、2件目が43万円であったが、ビジュアルアーツは、1件目を950万円、2件目を1600.1万円と、東京都や業界関係者の予想をかなり上回る金額で落札した。
The U.S. Court of Appeal Has Again Denied Microsoft’s Appeal against the Word Patent Infringement Ruling.

米控訴裁、Word特許侵害判決に関するMSの再審理請求を棄却

The U.S. Court of Appeal for the Federal Circuit (CAFC) again ruled against Microsoft on March 10, 2010. Microsoft had filed the petition against the CAFC’s judgment of December 2009 that Microsoft Word infringed on the patent owned by Canada-based firm i4i.

In March 2007, i4i filed the lawsuit against Microsoft, claiming that the custom XML editor contained in Microsoft Word infringed on the i4i’s patent. In August 2009, judging that there was in fact a patent infringement, the U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Texas ordered the injunction and damage payment.

Microsoft responded to this by filing a petition with CAFC. However, CAFC upheld the initial ruling in December 2009. On January 8, 2010, Microsoft filed an appeal again with CAFC.

The clause by clause explanation of the Industrial Property Law clarifies the intents and purposes of individual articles concerning the Patent Law, Utility Model Law, Design Law, Trademark Law, Law of Special Provisions to Procedures regarding Industrial Property Rights as well as the Japanese Law regarding International Applications (etc.) under the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

The 18th edition of the clause by clause explanation of the Industrial Property Law (in Japanese) can be browsed at:

http://www.jpo.go.jp/shiryou/hourei/kakokai/cikujiyoukaisetu.htm
Please contact us if you have any comments or require any information.

Please acknowledge that the purpose of our column is to provide general information on the field of intellectual property, and that the description here does not represent our legal opinion on a specific theme.