



Intellectual  
Property  
Office



British  
High Commission  
Singapore

# ASEAN IP NEWSLETTER

-- by IPO Attaché Network in Singapore --



## Roundup for October 2020

### Headlines in this newsletter:

- Myanmar – New trade mark registration system from 1 October 2020
- Thailand – New site-blocking procedure
- Indonesia – Expansion of compulsory licensing guidelines
- Vietnam – New enforcement decree; Dealings with counterfeit goods
- Singapore – Public consultation on copyright (excluded works) order; Expansion of patent fast track programme to include trade marks and registered design applications
- Regional – Recognition of design registration; E-filings and hearings in courts
- IPO UK Highlights – IPO work on promoting innovation & growth; Views wanted on AI & IP policy; Annual IP crime & enforcement report; Counterfeit goods research

## IP Developments in Southeast Asia (Jun-Sep)

### **Myanmar: New Trade Mark Registration System from 1 Oct 2020**

The Ministry of Commerce of Myanmar has announced that the soft opening period for re-filing trade marks under the new trade mark law in Myanmar will start from 1 October 2020. Visit the IP Department of Myanmar: <https://www.ipd.gov.mm/> Read the article [here](#).

### **Thailand: New Site-Blocking Procedure**

Thailand's Department of Intellectual Property, the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society and the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission have unveiled a new website blocking provisions for piracy sites which violate section 20 (3) of the Computer Crimes Act (CCA). Read the article [here](#).

### **Indonesia: Adjusts Compulsory Licensing Guidelines in Preparation for Eventual COVID-19 Vaccine**

While the Indonesian government already has the power to exercise compulsory licensing through existing patent laws, a new regulation, thought to be a preemptive response to the development of a vaccine for COVID-19, has expanded the scope of the government's ability to use patents in the public interest. Read the article [here](#).

### **Vietnam: New Enforcement Decree**

A new Decree 198 updates enforcement rules based on new commercial practices, especially online. The decree involves clarifying unclear provisions and adding consistency with subsequent legislation enacted after 2013. Read the article [here](#).

### **Vietnam: Government to strictly deal with violations in commercial activities & trading in counterfeit goods as a new decree issued**

On 26 August 2020, the Decree 98/2020/ND-CP (New Decree) covering penalties for administrative violations in commercial activities, the production of and trading in counterfeit goods, banned goods and the protection of consumers rights was issued. Read the article [here](#).

### **Singapore: Public Consultation on the Copyright (Excluded Works) Order**

The Ministry of Law and the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore are seeking views on the situations where users should be permitted to circumvent technological protection measures for legitimate uses of copyright works under the Copyright (Excluded Works) Order (EWO) and whether the current exceptions under the EWO 2017 should still be retained. Read the proposal [here](#).

### **Singapore: Expansion of Patent Fast Track Programme to include Trade Marks & Registered Design Applications**

On 4 May 2020, the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore launched a two-year pilot programme to accelerate the grant of patents in Singapore under the SG Patent Fast Track Programme (PFTP). As of 1 September 2020, the PFTP has been expanded to include the acceleration of trademark and registered design applications to support innovators in building their IP portfolio and renamed the SG IP Fast Track. Read the article [here](#).

### **Singapore & Cambodia: Recognition of Design Registration**

To provide greater support to designers seeking protection in Singapore and Cambodia, the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore and the Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation in Cambodia have developed a set of guidelines on the recognition and acceleration of design registrations in Singapore and Cambodia. Read in detail [here](#).

## **Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam & Indonesia: E-filings & Hearings in Courts**

Courts around the world have been moving to e-filing and, more recently, with the COVID-19 pandemic to e-hearings. Courts in South East Asia have also been slowly adopting e-filing and in some cases virtual hearings. The Philippines and Thailand have developed or are developing good systems handling cases online. Vietnam and Indonesia have introduced limited systems for exchange of documents before hearings. Read the article [here](#).

## **IPO UK Highlights (Jun-Sep)**

### **Promoting Innovation & Growth: The IPO at work 2019-20**

This annual report details how the work of the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) has supported innovation and economic growth during 2019-2020. Read the report [here](#).

### **AI & IP policy: Views wanted**

As we launch our call for views on artificial intelligence and intellectual property, IPO CEO Tim Moss talks about what the IPO have been doing in the AI policy space. Read the post [here](#).

### **Sniffing out IP crime: The multi-billion pound dog**

Counterfeit tobacco costs the UK economy billions each year. Thankfully, Stuart Phillips and his top dogs Scamp and Koko have a nose for detecting the illicit product and are closing in on the criminals who sell and distribute it. Read the post [here](#).

### **Annual IP Crime & Enforcement Report: 2019 to 2020**

Highlighting current and emerging counterfeiting and piracy threats in the UK and overseas, including Trading Standards successful IP cases. Read the report [here](#).

### **IPO Counterfeit Goods Research**

A large scale consumer survey looking at buying counterfeit goods. Read the report [here](#).

### **Improving skills for better enforcement of IP Crime**

IP crime has infiltrated almost every community across the UK and can have dangerous consequences. Read how the IPO are helping train police officers to recognise what IP crime is and what enforcement action can be taken against the IP criminals involved. Read the post [here](#).

### **Vegan brands: Putting down roots in the grocery aisle**

As the demand for vegan products continues to rise, we look at the innovation behind the plant-based alternatives that have people everywhere going green. Read the post [here](#).

### **Creative writing: A new chapter**

I love reading. It allows our imaginations to run wild and provides a sense of escapism from everyday life, which is so important in these uncertain times. Read the post [here](#).

### **IT apprenticeships at the IPO**

Want to know what an apprenticeship at the IPO is like? Two IT apprentices share their experiences as well as providing details on our latest apprenticeship vacancies. Read the post [here](#).

## World Oceans Day 2020: How underwater IP can save our seas

On World Oceans Day, we look at how ARC Marine are saving our seas with their patented Reef Cubes, providing an environmentally friendly habitat for sea life. Read the post [here](#).

## World Environment Day – Sustainability begins at home

On World Environment Day, we explore some of the IPO initiatives set-up to help the environment from composting to cycling, and what's next on our green journey. Read the post [here](#).

## Past & Upcoming Events

### Forward Look

- **[6 Oct]** UK-ASEAN IP Enforcement Webinar Part 2 – Ecommerce
- **[Nov]** UK-Philippines Judges Colloquium
- **[Nov]** UK-ASEAN IP & Innovation Webinar Series - Managing & Monetising Innovations

### Past Events

- **[Sep]** UK-ASEAN IP Enforcement Webinar Part 1 – Digital Piracy
- **[Aug]** IP Week @ SG Keynote IP Leaders Panel "Accelerating Innovation, Recovery & Growth in the Covid-19 Era"
- **[Aug]** UK-US Breaking Barriers 2020 Innovation Track "Facing a different kind of global challenge: How to innovation & grow?" Watch the replay [here](#).
- **[Aug]** UK-US Breaking Barriers 2020 Innovation Track "Triumph & Tragedies: Real stories & lessons learned about IP enforcement in the time of Covid-19" Watch the replay [here](#).
- **[Jun]** UKABC Export Series "Protecting Your IP in SE Asia"

## About Us

The IPO SE Asia Network in Singapore is part of IPO's wider global attaché network. We are based at the British High Commission in Singapore and cover intellectual property (IP) in Southeast Asia. We focus on providing IP support to British businesses as well as engaging ASEAN governments and international partners on IP. You may find out more about the IP attaché network at [here](#).

To receive this newsletter directly or to unsubscribe, please contact [Christabel Koh](#).