



POLICY DIALOGUE

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Policy Dialogue on Emerging Issues in the Field of Trademarks

Organized by
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
and
the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS)

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LIST OF SPEAKERS
prepared by the Secretariat

ROBYN FOSTER

Robyn Foster joined IP Australia in May 2008 as the General Manager of Trade Marks and Designs. This position is responsible for ensuring that Australians benefit from the effective use of intellectual property (IP) by granting trade mark and designs rights. It is also responsible for conducting opposition hearings and issues decisions on disputes relating to the registration or refusal of trade mark and design rights, providing input to policy and legislative development and assisting in the provision of advice to government.

Before joining IP Australia, Robyn held various positions over four and a half years in the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. The most recent being the General Manager, Business Development in the AusIndustry Division – responsible for the development and implementation of Industry Programs.

Robyn has worked in both the Private and Public Sector in a number of different areas. She has spent a number of years in senior management positions in the Department of Health and Ageing, Therapeutic Goods Administration, Department of Finance and Administration and the CSIRO.

She has worked in a number of Corporate Service and Governance areas, was a senior manager responsible for developing and implementing the accrual budgeting reforms across government and played a key role in the roll out of broadband initiatives to rural and remote communities.

MARCUS HÖPPERGER

Marcus Höpperger is Acting Director of the Trademark and Design Law Division, Brands and Designs Sector, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Since taking up his duties with the World Intellectual Property Organization in 1992, he worked in various positions in international industrial property law (including patents, trademarks, geographical indications and industrial designs, as well as the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs, the Lisbon Agreement Concerning the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration, and the international classifications for trademarks and industrial designs).

Currently, he is Secretary to the WIPO Standing Committee on the Law of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications (SCT). In this function, he was in charge of preparing and holding the WIPO 2006 Diplomatic Conference, which adopted the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks.

He is a frequent speaker on topics relating to international trademark, industrial design and geographical indication law, and is the author of several publications on those subjects.

STANLEY LAI

Dr Stanley Lai, SC is Head of Intellectual Property & Technology. Stanley is a specialist in all forms of Intellectual Property litigation and enforcement. He also maintains a commercial litigation practice, and regularly advises and represents clients on information technology disputes.

Stanley advises a large number of local and foreign clients on branding strategy, and general IP portfolio management and domain name protection. His practice has also extended to advising bio-medical and pharmaceutical companies on issues of regulatory/ethical compliance, clinical trials, product recall and product liability. *The Asia Pacific Legal 500 (2009/2010)* notes that Stanley delivers 'sound, clear advice'. He is also noted as a leading intellectual property lawyer by *Best Lawyers International 2008: Singapore* and is recommended by *PLC Which Lawyer? (2007 to 2009)* for his intellectual property expertise. *Chambers Asia (2010)* has reported that "Dr Lai is respected as both a litigator and an academic".

Stanley is an Adjunct Associate Professor of the National University of Singapore, and teaches in the Faculty of Law and Faculty of Engineering. He also sits on the panel of adjudicators for the resolution of ".sg" domain name disputes under the Singapore Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy. In 2009, he was appointed to be an independent director of Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd (SGX-listed), in addition to his current director's appointment in ST Aerospace Ltd. Stanley is a member of the Board of Governors of the

Intellectual Property Academy of Singapore. He also serves on the Professional Affairs Committee of the Singapore Academy of Law.

Stanley has written and published extensively on the subject of intellectual property and information technology law, as well as written articles for a number of journals and legal publications. He has delivered many conference papers. He authored a book entitled *The Copyright Protection of Computer Software in the United Kingdom* (Hart Publishing, 2000). His loose-leaf work, the 'Intellectual Property' Volume of *Singapore Precedents & Forms* (LexisNexis, 2005) was published in February 2005. He also contributes to the Singapore section of the *Encyclopedia of International Commercial Litigation* (Kluwer Law International, 2009) and published an article entitled "Securitize your IP Rights in Asia - Trends and Future Expectations" in *Managing Intellectual Property* (Euromoney Legal Media Group, 2009).

Stanley graduated from the University of Leicester with an LLB (Hons) degree in 1992. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1993. He obtained an LLM from the University of Cambridge in 1994 and was called to the Singapore Bar in 1995. Stanley then commenced his PhD research at the University of Cambridge in the field of technology law and computer software copyright and completed his doctorate within three years. He is the first Singapore-born lawyer to have been conferred a Ph.D in Law from the University of Cambridge

LEE LI CHOON

Ms Lee Li Choon holds a Masters of Laws from the National University of Singapore. She is presently Director/Legal Counsel of the Hearings and Mediation Division in the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS). In this position, she is in charge of all hearings matters or IP disputes that come before IPOS. She helps to ensure that all dispute resolution mechanisms, processes and procedures in IPOS are efficient and effective and that IPOS' decisions are of high quality. She has personally handled many trade mark opposition, invalidation and revocation cases as well as some patent revocation cases.

OWEN MALONE

Owen Malone has more than 30 years experience in working in intellectual property in both industry and government and is currently the Intellectual Property Director of the Foster's Group with responsibility for the company's intellectual property portfolio globally.

Owen was a member of the Australian Government's Advisory Council on Intellectual Property (ACIP) from 1996-2002 and the Chairman of ACIP from 1998-2002. He is currently a member of the Advisory Board for the Graduate Program in Intellectual Property Law at the University of Melbourne, Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia (IPRIA) and a member of the Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation's Legislative Review Committee.

He has assisted both the Australian Government and WIPO with intellectual property training programs, and has delivered some 50 presentations in Australia and overseas over the past ten years.

In April 2003, Owen was awarded the Centenary Medal by the Australia Government for outstanding service to the advancement of Australian intellectual property.

JENNIFER NESS

Jennie Ness is the Regional Intellectual Property Attaché for Southeast Asia, based in the Commercial Section at the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand. Ms. Ness joined the Commercial Service through a new initiative between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Foreign Commercial Service. Ms. Ness's responsibilities include:

- Working with U.S. industry to aid them in protecting and enforcing their intellectual property rights in the global market;
- Providing legal and technical assistance to Southeast Asia's governments to assist them in improving the intellectual property legal and enforcement environment in the region;
- Promoting greater understanding of the importance of intellectual property protection by speaking and writing about intellectual property issues; and
- Negotiating various intellectual property issues on behalf of the Commerce Department and the U.S. government.

Prior to joining the US Embassy in Bangkok, Ms. Ness had served as an Attorney-Advisor in the Office of Legislative and International Affairs of the International Affairs of the USPTO from 2001 to 2006. Ms. Ness had previously handled intellectual property and electronic commerce issues as an associate in the Media and Information Technologies Group at the Washington, D.C. law firm of Dow, Lohnes & Albertson. She also focused on intellectual property issues while clerking for the New York and Brussels offices of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton and for the Paris law firm of Bernard-Hertz-Béjot. Before studying law, Ms. Ness worked in film and television development and production in Los Angeles, California and taught high school English and Social Studies.

Ms. Ness received her law degree, *cum laude*, from the Georgetown University Law Center. At Georgetown, she served as Managing Editor of *Law and Policy in International Business*, as a Legal Research and Writing Fellow, and as a Head Tutor. Ms. Ness holds a Masters' degree in Teaching and a Bachelors' degree, *cum laude*, from Brown University. She is licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia and Maryland.

ERNESTO RUBIO

Ernesto Rubio, a national of Uruguay, is a Senior Director Advisor in the area of Brands and Designs of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). A *juris doctor* graduate from the *Universidad de la República* in Montevideo, he has worked for WIPO since 1983.

From 2003 to 2009 Mr. Rubio supervised the WIPO Sector of Trademarks, Industrial Designs and Geographical Indications. He was responsible for the administration of the International Registration Systems for trademarks (Madrid Agreement and Protocol), industrial designs (Hague Agreement) and appellations of origin (Lisbon Agreement), as well as for the administration of the International Classifications for trademarks (Nice and Vienna Classifications) and designs (Locarno Classification). He was also responsible for providing support to WIPO Member States concerning the development of international law in the areas of trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications, as well as for servicing the work of the relevant Standing Committee (SCT).

In 2006, Mr. Rubio was the Secretary of the WIPO Diplomatic Conference that concluded with the adoption of the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks.

From 1991 to 2002, Mr. Rubio was the Director of the WIPO Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, and prior to that he worked as a Senior Program officer in that Bureau.

Before joining WIPO, Mr. Rubio worked for the Government of Uruguay and was engaged in private practice as an attorney at law, in Montevideo.

TAN MEI-LIN

Ms. Tan Mei Lin, Senior Deputy Director, Registry of Trade Marks / Legal Counsel, Intellectual Property Office of Singapore.

Mei Lin is Senior Deputy Director of the Registry of Trade Marks and Legal Counsel of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS). She is involved in policy formulation and legislative changes to the Trade Marks Act and Rules. From the years 2002 to 2009, she was also the Head of the Trade Marks Registry's Training Unit.

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