

European Intellectual Property Review

2015 Volume 37 Issue 9
ISSN: 0142-0461



Table of Contents

Opinions

PROF. DR WINFRIED TILMANN

Possible Impact of the Unitary Patent Regulation and the Unified Patent Court Agreement on Poland 545

After the rejection of both Spanish actions C-146/13 and C-147/13 by the ECJ on May 5, 2015, the focus is now on Italy (for joining the Enhanced Cooperation on the EPUE) and on Poland (for ratifying the UPCA). A Deloitte Opinion had turned Poland from an ardent supporter to someone sitting on the fence. However, that Opinion is far from convincing, and will be discussed in this piece. Moreover, according to A.G. Bot's Opinion in the Spanish cases, Poland is obliged under Union law to ratify the UPCA, since that is a pre-condition for the EPUE Regulation entering into force in Poland.

Articles

RICHARD H. STERN

What are Reasonable and Non-discriminatory Terms for licensing a Standard-essential Patent? 549

The Federal Circuit's recent *Ericsson* decision, and the IEEE's new, expanded policy of prescribing added specificity for the patent licensing assurances it requires before agreeing to embody patented technology into an IEEE standard, provide different ways to address the plague of litigation over what terms and conditions are reasonable and non-discriminatory in the licensing of patents essential to implementing a standard. The Federal Circuit's after-the-fact patch-up of contract failure in the *Ericsson* case and the IEEE's pre-contract clarification efforts in its new policy have their limitations, however, and difficult problems still remain.

EDWARD BRAGIEL

"Torque off Clarkson": With the Top Gear Team All Geared Up to Go, an Examination of What Rights Exist in Formats for Television Shows—Part 1: Copyright Protection 558

This article analyses the extent of protection for TV formats under English copyright law. Part 2, which will be published in the next issue of E.I.P.R., will examine what legal protection formats might enjoy under the law of tort.

NICHOLAS FOX, BAS BERGHUIS, INA VOM FELD AND LAURA ORLANDO

Accounting for Differences: Damages and Profits in European Patent Infringement 566

Although the IPR Enforcement Directive has gone some way towards harmonising practice, the various courts across Europe have different approaches to the assessment of damages for patent infringement. This article reviews the different approaches in Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, and England and Wales, and questions how a future Unified Patent Court might address these differences.

VICKI WAYE

Guarding Online Terroir: Are gTLDs a Threat? 575

Applications to allocate .wine and .vin as gTLDs have created a furore among winemakers and winemaking nations. Their concerns derive from the relatively weak protection afforded to wine appellations in the online context. This article examines the law governing online terroir and how the battle to protect it is unlikely to be easily won.

PIERRE VÉRON

Extent of the Long-Arm Jurisdiction Conferred upon the Unified Patent Court by Art.71(b)(3) of the Brussels I Regulation as Amended by Regulation 542/2014 of May 15, 2014: Turkish Delight and a bit of Swiss Chocolate for the Unified Patent Court 588

Regulation 542/2014 of May 15, 2014 amending Regulation 1215/2012 as regards the rules to be applied with respect to the Unified Patent Court and the Benelux Court of Justice is not only a piece of mechanics technically needed for the entry into force of the Unified Patent Court Agreement signed on February 19, 2013. It also creates rules giving jurisdiction to the new court vis-à-vis defendants domiciled outside the EU for acts of infringement committed within the EU. Finally it creates in the Brussels I Regulation an entirely new long-arm jurisdiction that deserves attention.

Comments

SEBASTIAN MOORE AND GRACE
PEAD

Novartis feels the “Squeeze”: Broad Claim Construction Leads to Invalidity of Patent for Exelon Alzheimer’s Patch: *Novartis AG v Focus Pharmaceuticals Ltd* 597

Arnold J in the Patents Court has found that Novartis’ patent covering its Exelon rivastigmine transdermal patch to treat Alzheimer’s disease is invalid. To establish infringement by the generic defendants (Focus, Actavis, and Teva), Novartis proposed a broad claim construction, covering any patch which delivered the same starting dose as a defined reference patch. While the court accepted the broad construction, this led to the conclusion that the patent was invalid because it included added matter over the application as filed and because it was obvious over a prior US patent. In other European jurisdictions, courts hearing disputes over the equivalent Novartis patents have made divergent findings, particularly with respect to infringement by generics.

CHENG TAN

***Skysoft Computersysteme GmbH v OHIM*. 599**

The EU General Court has upheld the decision of OHIM’s Fourth Board of Appeal, *Skysoft Computersysteme GmbH v OHIM* (T-262/13) EU:T:2014:884, on an opposition brought by BskyB against the registration of the mark SKYSOFT. The Board found that there was a likelihood of confusion between the marks SKYSOFT and SKY in relation to maintenance services for data processing equipment, and data processing equipment and computers.

THOMAS DYSART

Author-Protective Rules and Alternative Licences: A Review of the Dutch Copyright Contract Act 601

On February 12, 2015, the Dutch House of Representatives adopted the Copyright Contract Act. The law, which at the time of writing is pending approval by the Dutch Senate, introduces a number of author-protective rules on copyright contracts into the Dutch Copyright Act.

SVETLANA YAKOVLEVA

Russia’s New Anti-Piracy Law: A Critical Analysis 608

This article analyses Russia’s new anti-piracy law aimed at improving online enforcement of copyright and related rights. The article places the new developments in the context of the prior intellectual property rights enforcement regime and Russia’s international and constitutional obligations to secure the right to freedom of expression. The author discusses and critically assesses the most important changes introduced by the new law, and draws conclusions about their correlation with freedom of expression, overall effectiveness and the impact on right holders, internet users and the internet industry.

Book Reviews

614