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NEWSLETTER

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We specialize in the litigation and registration of patent, trademark, and copyright matters. The clients we serve range from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies, government entities, and universities. Though located in the US, our expertise and representation has an emphasis in Asia.

— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

Taiwan Patent Attorneys Association Conference

On December 10, the firm's managing partner Michael Shimokaji will address the Taiwan Patent Attorneys Association at their annual conference in Taipei. Mr. Shimokaji's presentation will focus on the "2010 USPTO Guidelines for Obviousness." These Guidelines significantly impact Taiwan enterprises and Taiwan patent practitioners.

More information can be obtained at info@shimokaji.com



The Ever Increasing Role of China in the World's Innovation

Thomson Reuters recently reported that China has become the third-largest patent office in the world in terms of annual invention applications - only behind the US and Japan. They predict that China will dominate the patent landscape in the near future.

According to the report, patent inventions in China have been growing at a faster rate than the US, Japan, Europe, or Korea. While Japan's total volume is highest, it is declining. At the same time, the US volume is narrowing Japan's lead.

China's increase in patent volume is attributable to two factors. One, foreign applicants are filing more patents in China. Two, China has ramped up domestic inventions. In contrast, Japan has a predominance of domestic filings. The US has an even distribution between domestic and foreign applicants.

In recent years, according to the report, domestic applications in China have exceeded foreign applications by as much as 40%.

The report predicts that China is expected to surpass Japan's patent volume in 2011 and surpass the US's patent volume in 2012.

These statistics are consistent with China's plan to become an "innovation-oriented" society by the year 2020.