

SHIMOKAJI & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Intellectual Property Lawyers
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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 —

Seminars in Taiwan to Address US Patent Issues

During the month of December, the firm's managing partner Michael Shimokaji will be conducting a series of seminars in Taiwan. These seminars will address US patent litigation and prosecution strategies, including problems that face Taiwan enterprises and how to avoid those problems. Mr. Shimokaji will also provide an update on recent Federal Circuit decisions that impact Taiwan enterprises.

More information can be obtained at info@shimokaji.com

Newly Proposed USPTO Patent Application Filing System

The USPTO is expected to issue in the next month or two proposed rules for a three-track patent application filing system. The system may be implemented in October 2011.

The stated purpose is to enable applicants to have greater control over the timing of when their applications are examined.

Track I would enable patent applications to be reviewed in 12 months. This would be limited to non-foreign priority applications. Currently, the average time for examination is about 35 months

. Though not yet established, there is some expectation that the filing fee may be around USD\$4,000.

Track II will process applications as usual.

Track III will enable applicants to request a delay of examination for up to 30 months for non-continuing applications.

For applications based on foreign-priority applications, examination would be delayed until the USPTO receives the foreign search report, and the applicant has responded to the foreign, first office action.

The text of the guidelines can be found at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-13244.pdf>