

NEWSLETTER

Yoshikawa International Patent Office – Japan

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YOSHIKAWA INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE

Since 1988

- Patent
- Trademark
- Utility Model
- Design
- Translation



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Greetings from Yoshikawa International Patent Office.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for your continued support. We wish to share with our esteemed associates, some recent developments in the field of Japan Intellectual Property Law.

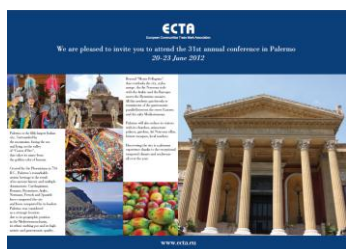
As always we kindly invite you to explore our [website](#) to know more about our firm. Yoshikawa International Patent Office will continue providing [competitive prices](#) and [high quality services](#).

With a [new liaison office](#) in San Francisco, our firm keeps [growing its international presence](#) attending major global events: INTA, ECTA and AIPPI and sending representatives to Europe and the United States.

Thank you very much and we look forward to hearing from you soon!



134th INTA Annual Meeting
Washington DC - May 5-9, 2012



ECTA 31st Annual Conference
Palermo (Italy) May 20-23, 2011

Please let us know if you wish to arrange a meeting

Expiration of Payment Extension for Examination Request in Japan (March 31, 2012). JPO News Japan.

December 28, 2011

On December 28, 2011 the Japan Patent Office announced that the 1 year payment extension for request for examination will conclude on March 31, 2012 and will be replaced by a reduction of the registration fees, annuities, and international filing fees (effective on April 1, 2012).

The Japan Patent Office has applied a special treatment for paying the Examination Request since April 2009 considering the Economic Crisis. Fees for examination were lowered, and due to revisions in the Patent Law in 2011 the scope of applicants eligible for remissions was further expanded.

From April 1, 2012 the official fee for the examination is due at examination request, therefore please give us your instructions before March 31, 2012 in case you would like your applications to be applied the payment extension.

[Link](#)

YOSHIKAWA INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE has received recognition by the prestigious legal directory: The LEGAL 500 Asia Pacific - 2012 Edition.

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2012 edition, recognizes YOSHIKAWA International Patent Office for its solid international reputation based on high technical excellence and superior intellectual property services in Japan. Recommendations and praise are based on independent research carried out each year by LEGAL500.

11,048

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Japan Patent Office

IP NEWS

Changes corresponding to International Classification (Volume 10th). JPO News Japan. December, 2011.

(1) Changes to classification according to revision of International Classes.

- a. The Class of “vending machines” has been changed from Class 9 to Class 7.
- b. After revision, “diper” which used to be classified in Classes 5, 16 and 25 will be handled as goods in Class 5 regardless of its purpose and material.
- c. The generally used term “health foods” adopted in Classes 29 and 30 will be displayed as “supplements” goods and handled as goods in Class 5.

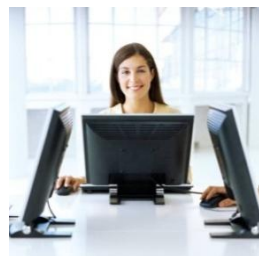
(2) Definition of similarity between goods and services has been changed to that coinciding with current state of economy and market trends. Since previous similar groups had inconveniences and difficulties due to structural differences in similar groups.

(3) Other changes include additions, deletions and changes to goods and services according to the changes in International Class, corrections to Kanji designated for everyday use, or the like.

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Reduction of the Annuity Fee for Design registrations in Japan. JPO News Japan. January, 2012.

Under the revised law, the design registration fee from the 11th to 20th years has been reduced from the current fee of 33,800 yen per year to a revised fee of 16,900 yen per year (being the same fee as for the 4th to 10th years):

	Before March 31 st 2012	After April 1 st 2012
11 th to 20 th Annuity	33,800 JPY	16,900 JPY

[Link](#)

Catalogue of Differing Practices Released. JPO News Japan. February 16, 2012.

The Catalogue of Differing Practices (CDP) is a tool aimed at identifying the differences in patent examination practice in the IP5 Offices.

It is also a first step towards a reference guide which allows the reader to quickly understand the practice in the other offices without requiring a detailed knowledge of the underlying legislative systems.

[Click here to download the Catalogue of Differing Practices.](#)

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