



31 May 2013

The Director of Intellectual Property
Intellectual Property Department
HKSAR Government
25th Floor, Wu Chung House
213 Queen's Road East
Wanchai
Hong Kong

By Mail & Email

Dear Sirs,

Re: Views of GS1 Hong Kong on Regulation of Patent Agency Services

Thank you for your letter dated 20 Mar 2013 inviting our views on the establishment of regulatory regime on patent agency services based on the Report submitted by the Advisory Committee on Review of the Patent System in HK.

We are pleased to note that the Advisory Committee adopts (in part) our proposals submitted to IPD in Dec 2011 on substantive examination of Short-Term Patents designed to prevent abuse of the system, and the Hong Kong Patents Registry may explore a more involved role in working with the outsourced examination authority(ies) to meet the possible demands. As we are concerned about Short-Term Patents, we certainly want an early implementation. With the advice of Mr Charles Man of Joseph S.C. Chan & Co, please find below our views on the regulation of patent agency services, which is supported by:

1. Legislative Councillor (IT), Hon. Sin Chung Kai
2. Legislative Councillor (IT), Mr Charles Mok
3. Former Legislative Councillor (IT), Hon. Samson Tam
4. Retail Technology Industry Association (RTIA)
5. Communications Association of Hong Kong (CAHK)
6. Million Tech Development Ltd
7. Data-Pro Technology Ltd

GS1 Hong Kong 香港貨品編碼協會

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Hong Kong

8. Megasoft Ltd
9. Epcode Systems Ltd
10. ID-TECH (Hong Kong) Ltd
11. Hong Kong Communications Co Ltd

Views of GS1 Hong Kong on Regulation of Patent Agency Services

1. We fully support the early and full implementation of all recommendations made by the Advisory Committee as soon as the system of substantive examination is set up in HK through outsourcing to other patent office(s);
2. There should be no delay in the establishment of such outsourcing arrangement to other patent office(s) for the substantive examination of Short-Term Patents;
3. Such outsourcing arrangement can be done ahead of the introduction of an "original grant" patent system with substantive examination (which examination will also be outsourced to other patent office(s) per recommendation of the Advisory Committee).

We hope that the Government can duly consider our views. Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on [redacted]

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Lin'.

Anna Lin, JP
Chief Executive

GS1 Hong Kong 香港貿易總協會

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