



This month it falls to me to have the honour of introducing IP Connect. For those that don't know me I'm Pippa Hall, the IPO's Chief Economist and have taken over as the Acting Director of Innovation after Rosa's departure to pastures new.

There was a definite sense of back to school feeling during September with everyone refreshed after their summer breaks and keen to crack on with the challenges ahead. There was also a slight disbelief that summer was already over.

For the IPO it marks the halfway point in the financial year. It is a time to sense check where we are with our corporate plan, to ensure that as an office that we continue to deliver a world class and accessible IP system that supports innovation and growth and one that is tough on IP crime.

It is a perfect opportunity for us to look back at our achievements in this respect. Our recently published Innovation and Growth Report highlights all we have achieved in the last 12 months. It shows the importance that business now places on IP as it moves from the fringes to the mainstream of any business strategy.

The IP Crime Report also highlights the success in IP enforcement over the past year and demonstrates the importance of effective partnership in the fight against IP theft.

October is also the time when parliament springs back into life after the summer recess and party conference season and when new laws come into effect. For IP this is good news as we have simplified some of the patents rules around application and for designers; as of 1st October, it is cheaper to register and maintain your designs.



Contents

IPO publishes Innovation and Growth report

UK intangible asset investment hits £133bn

IP Crime report 2015/16 published

IP crime conference celebrates a decade of success

IPO appoints new Brazil-based IP attaché

IP and India – UK India Tech Summit

Vietnam trade mark experts attend trade mark training programme at the IPO

Trade marks update

Designs update

Changes to Patents Rules

Global TechMining Conference

IP Events

Corporate news

IPO publishes Innovation and Growth report

The IPO supports innovation and growth. It does so by delivering a clear, accessible and widely understood IP system, encouraging investment in innovation and ensuring that the results of that investment are used and adequately protected.

To reflect this work, we have published our annual report outlining our contribution to innovation and growth. This retrospective look at the IPO's activity for 2015/16 highlights our activity around our four outward-facing strategic goals which shape our strategy and corporate plan.

These are:

- to create IP frameworks that promote growth and access to information; grant high quality IP rights;
- educate young people and consumers about IP;
- help businesses recognise the value of their IP;
- and ensure that rights can be enforced.

Writing in her foreword, Minister of State for Intellectual Property and Energy, Baroness Neville-Rolfe said: "The United Kingdom's approach to IP and the innovation it encourages are widely respected. Over the last year I have been supported by the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) in discussions on the Digital Single Market and on missions to Southeast Asia, the United States and China.

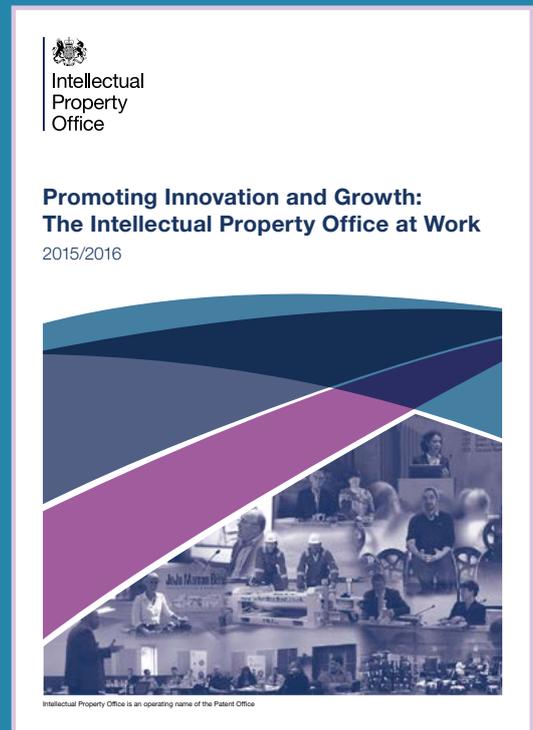
"I have been struck by the fact that those in the know recognise IP's importance, successfully using it to add value to their businesses, giving them greater chances of surviving and flourishing.

"The Government certainly recognises the importance of IP, expressed through our manifesto commitments to make the UK the best place to patent, innovate and grow a business and to protect IP online by working with internet service providers."



The United Kingdom's approach to IP and the innovation it encourages are widely respected."

Baroness Neville-Rolfe



View the report at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/552791/innovation-and-growth-report-sept-15-16.pdf

Economics, Research and Evidence

UK intangible asset investment hits £133bn

UK companies are increasingly spending more on know-how and ideas. More than half are protected by IP rights.

Research commissioned by the UK Intellectual Property Office shows that intangible asset investment continues to outstrip traditional “bricks and mortar” investment.

In 2014 intangible investment, which includes spending on R&D, software, and design, hit £133 billion – 9% higher than traditional “tangible” investment such as property, machinery and IT.

Since the turn of the century intangible investment by organisations has increased by £45 billion – highlighting the UK’s important role in the global “knowledge economy”. Investment in tangible assets also rose by nearly 38% between 2011 and 2014 – from £87.9 billion to £121 billion.

The research also highlights the importance of manufacturing and financial services to the UK’s innovation economy. These two industries alone account for just 20% of total hours worked but are responsible for 58% of intangible investment. In 2014 more than half of intangible investments (53%) were protected by Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) – a 3% increase from 2011.

Of these assets:

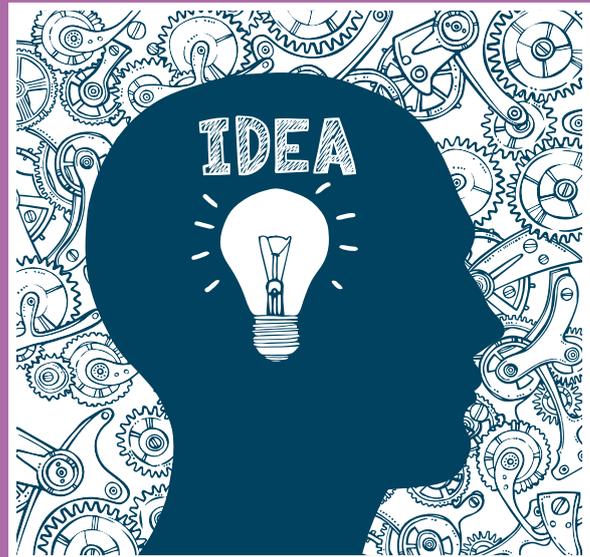
- 25% were protected by copyright
- 1% were protected by trade marks
- 11% were protected by design rights
- 6% were protected by patents

Innovation is a major element of the government’s plan to help UK companies drive future economic growth up and down the country, and IP rights play an increasingly important role in delivering this.

Baroness Neville-Rolfe, Minister of State for Energy and Intellectual Property, said: “The UK has an impressive track record when it comes to innovation and creativity. Investment in intangible assets like research and patents helps businesses grow – which is why the UK has a strong system in place to protect their IP rights, and encourage further investment.

“Our intellectual property regime has helped create an environment in which innovators and creators can prosper knowing full well that their hard work will be rewarded and rigorously protected.”

Click here to read the report: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-intangible-investment-and-growth>



“

Since the turn of the century intangible investment by organisations has increased by £45 billion – highlighting the UK’s important role in the global “knowledge economy”.

Enforcement

IP Crime report 2015/16 Published

The IP crime report for 2015 to 2016 has been published. It highlights current and emerging threats surrounding counterfeiting and piracy, including those conducted via the internet.

It also contains statistical data and enforcement activities from UK law enforcement agencies such as trading standards, police and HM Revenue and Customs along with industry bodies.

Baroness Neville-Rolfe, Minister of State for Energy and Intellectual Property said: "From fake clothing and the sale of dangerous counterfeit electrical goods to online piracy, Intellectual Property crime exploits consumers and damages legitimate businesses across the country.

"Most people do not realise that the revenue generated by IP crime supports a wide range of serious illegal activity, from money laundering and drug dealing to the funding of organised crime.

"The Government, working with partners in law enforcement and the business community, is fighting back. The IP Crime Report, launched today, shows that our partnership approach is beginning to make a big difference.

"I am especially pleased that the UK Intellectual Property Office's Intelligence Hub helps police forces and Trading Standards across the country to target criminal operations with precision."

View the report at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/annual-ip-crime-report-2015-to-2016>

IP CRIME REPORT 2015/16

IP CRIME GROUP

- Operation Salang**
Barras in Glasgow's East End
 - Over £30 million pounds worth of fake goods having been seized (items included fake eBooks, clothing, footwear, electrical goods, tobacco products and watches).
 - Stalls selling fake goods removed and the area regenerated.
- Operation Handcraft**
Strangeways, Manchester
 - 100 strong multi-agency team seized counterfeit goods that filled two forty foot shipping containers.
 - 10 arrests.
 - 49,000 fake tablets recovered.
 - Approx £2 million counterfeit goods seized.
- Operation in Northern Ireland**
 - Joint investigation with FACT and the Police Service of Northern Ireland.
 - A man was sentenced to four years imprisonment after admitting running a website which facilitated illegal access to films on the internet.
 - Individual made almost £300,000 through advertising revenue and put the film industry at risk of losing £120 million.
- Operation in Enfield**
 - Trading Standards prosecuted two fraudsters selling large quantities of counterfeit goods.
 - Goods seized included Chanel, Rolex, Calvin Klein & Vivienne Westwood.
 - Each sentenced to over four years imprisonment.
- Operation Sureshot**
Wrexham
 - Wrexham Trading Standards prosecuted a fraudster making and selling counterfeit goods.
 - 18 month prison sentence and confiscation order for over £130,000 was made.
- Operation in South Gloucestershire and Plymouth**
 - eBay worked with Trading Standards to dismantle a gang that sold £140,000 of counterfeit One Direction clothing through their eBay account.
 - The suspects were handed suspended sentences and community service for their criminal actions.

IP CRIME REPORT HIGHLIGHTS 2015/16

Intellectual Property Office | **IP CRIME GROUP**

- Global annual cost of counterfeiting to the automobile industry: **£75 Billion**
- 148 Trading Standards authorities completed the annual IP Crime Survey
- UK IPO attaches provided support to over 6,587 businesses operating in overseas markets.
- The multi-agency Operation (Inspire) has taken down and removed 8100 Facebook listings and closed 55 full profiles.
- 50,000 downloaded and torrent links concerning the games industry.
- Since the formation of the Public IP Crime Unit (IPICU) in 2013 they have seized 677 fake goods.
- £33.8 million** worth of IP crime investigated.
- 58% of all counterfeit car parts are bought online.
- 400** Real Deal: Over 400 markets have signed up to the Real Deal Initiative.
- Since 2011 the BPI have requested search engines remove 200 million URLs.

Intellectual Property Office is an operating name of the Patent Office

Enforcement



Tenth international IP crime conference celebrates a decade of success

Key international players from the world of IP enforcement recently gathered in London, to bring together Government, law enforcement and industry to showcase work to tackle counterfeit trade.

Hosted by INTERPOL, the City of London Police and other partners, more than 600 international delegates including senior government, law enforcement and industry figures attended the two-day conference (19 – 20 September 2016).

Under the theme 'Celebrating a decade of success', the event attracted global representatives from the food manufacturing industry, luxury fashion brands and internet retailers. Discussion topics included goods trafficking, 3D printing, and the issue of counterfeit foods and pharmaceuticals. The proceedings were opened with a discussion from The White House's IP enforcement coordinator, Daniel Marti.

Speaking at the event, Baroness Neville-Rolfe, Minister of State for Energy and Intellectual Property said: "The hard work of PIPCU is paying off and should be applauded. From taking down thousands of websites selling counterfeit goods to arresting opportunistic IP thieves, PIPCU is helping support legitimate rights holders and consumers alike.

"There is still work to do, and I am confident that the partnership between the Government, police forces, and the business community will help to dismantle criminal IP networks and save business and consumers millions of pounds."

Police Commissioner Ian Dyson QPM said: "Our fight against intellectual property crime is crucial in supporting

the growth of the UK economy, to ensure that overseas businesses have the confidence to invest in our industries.

"The global response to Intellectual Property Crime has come a long way in the last ten years, as has the global partnership work to disrupt criminality. The key to this is through the cyber disruption we coordinate with our industry partners, with the support of the Intellectual Property Office, INTERPOL, EUROPOL and overseas enforcement colleagues."

INTERPOL Executive Director of Police Services, Tim Morris, said: "Since the creation of INTERPOL's Intellectual Property crime unit in 2003, its activities undertaken worldwide with partners had led to seizures valued at more than £378 million, and the training of thousands of law enforcement officers.

"One challenge that has remained over the years is that the demand for counterfeit or pirated goods remains widespread, due in part to consumer perception that IP crime is a 'victimless' crime, when the opposite is true, as testified sadly by the many victims of counterfeit cough mixtures, alcohol or electrical goods."

“

The hard work of PIPCU is paying off and should be applauded.”

Baroness Neville-Rolfe

International

IPO appoints new Brazil-based IP attaché

The IPO is pleased to announce the appointment of **Angelica Garcia**, our new **Brazil-based IP attaché**, who took up the post in late **September**. Angelica is a lawyer with a **LL.M in Intellectual Property & International Trade** from **Queen Mary-University of London**.

Before starting her role as the UK's IP attaché, in Brazil, Angelica worked for the UK Trade & Investment as Innovation and Technology manager. She has worked at some of the most renowned IP offices in Brazil and has also worked at Deloitte in Munich, advising foreign companies that wanted to enter the Brazilian market.



IP and India – UK India Tech Summit

IP is playing a significant part in the upcoming India UK Tech Summit in Delhi from 7-9 November. It was announced during Prime Minister Modi's official visit to the UK last year and will provide a forum for business-to-business engagement and a trade expo for future technologies from the UK and India.

The Tech Summit is the largest bilateral event this year and incorporates many of Modi's key policies including *Make in India*, with emphasis on many IP intensive industries. Five concurrent Summits are taking place over the three days – IP, Technology, Higher Education, Innovation and Entrepreneurship – jointly organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Government of India's Department of Science and Technology. HMG are supporting the Summit under the *GREAT for Collaboration* campaign.

The IPO are attending the Summit in Delhi and a range of other IP events in other states, including Mumbai and Hyderabad, covering enforcement, awareness of designs and in market IP projects supported by the IPO.

For more information on the summit check the Tech Summit website <http://ciitechknow.com/india/>

General enquiries about IP protection in India can be forwarded to India@ipo.gov.uk



The UK and India are an unbeatable combination, for enormously successful partnerships.”

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India



International

Trade mark experts from National Office of Intellectual Property of Vietnam (NOIP) train on examination & legislative frameworks

Trade mark experts from National Office of Intellectual Property of Vietnam (NOIP) train on examination and legislative frameworks

Following their attendance at an ASEAN trade mark training programme at the IPO in 2015, NOIP requested further training with us on trade mark examination.

Ten trade mark specialists from NOIP recently visited the IPO's Newport site, to receive two weeks of

training in relation to trade mark examination practice, legislative frameworks and administrative procedures.

This programme fulfils our commitment to provide trade mark training, as defined in the MOU and associated work plan that the IPO signed with NOIP last year at the WIPO General Assembly.

This MOU was signed as a result of Baroness Neville-Rolfe's trip to Vietnam in August 2015, which in turn followed on from the

PM's trip earlier that year which outlined the value of increased engagement with Vietnam.

The programme will be funded by the FCO Prosperity Fund as part of our programme of work in the ASEAN region for the 2016/17 financial year. One of the goals of the Prosperity Fund is to help overseas countries improve their IP systems in a way that encourages domestic growth and thus improves opportunities for UK companies to trade there.

This training is designed to improve the quality of examination of trade marks in Vietnam, and highlight why the UK system is efficient and effective. This has several benefits including stronger protection and increased harmonisation, thus making it easier and simpler for UK companies to register and protect their marks. It will also ensure the Vietnamese trade mark system is more robust and fair for users, both foreign and domestic.



Need to know

Trade Marks

Filing international trade mark applications by email

Customers are now able to file international trade mark applications with the IPO by email. Following feedback from customers, the IPO launched an email trial to file international trade mark applications, with the help of some UK attorneys.

We are pleased to confirm the trial has been a success. It will be now made available to all users from 26 September 2016. This is an interim measure, whilst work is ongoing, to introduce an e-filing system for international trade mark applications. International trade mark applications can now be emailed to the IPO using the following email address: Internationaltrademarks@ipo.gov.uk

Customers are encouraged to use the IPO version of the MM2 (Application to register an International trade mark). An updated version of the MM2 is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/application-to-register-an-international-trade-mark> To note that the MM17/MM18 will be accepted if filed with the MM2 and that no other forms or correspondence should be emailed to this address.

Common Commencement Date update

The Registered Design (Fees) Rules 2016 – entry into force 1st October

Good news for designers – as of 1 October 2016, it is cheaper to register and maintain your designs with new, cheaper fees from the IPO.

The government has consulted with the design community on how to improve the system to meet the needs of designers more effectively – now and in the future.

Reduced fees are the latest in a series of improvements to the registered designs service, these include online application and simpler and cheaper ways to appeal decisions.

The IPO has also implemented a new IT system to make the process more efficient. It is only right that the savings are passed on to customers.

During the registered design fees consultation earlier this year, stakeholders were supportive of the changes proposed. SMEs and individual designers were particularly in favour of the reductions.

As a result, the Registered Design (Fees) Rules 2016 (SI 2016/889) sets out the new fees and structure.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2016/889/contents/made>

Example of savings to be made for designs registration

For a single online application, the fee is reduced by £10 to £50.

For multiple applications, the savings are bigger. An application containing 2-10 designs will cost £70, with each extra block of up to 10 costing an additional £20.

Under the old fees, an application containing 40 designs would cost £1620. Under the new fees, it will cost £130.

These changes make it more affordable for businesses and individual designers to protect as many of their designs as they wish through registration. In particular, those who produce collections.

Renewals will also be cheaper.

Example of savings to be made for renewing and maintaining designs

- renewing for the 6th-10th years will cost £70, down from £130 and
- the savings increase over the 25 years available – renewing for the 20th-25th years will cost £140, down from £450.

These changes reduce the cost of renewing your registration where the design is still important to you.

Guidance for business can be found here. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-registered-design-fees>

Need to know

Changes to Patents Rules on 1 October 2016 and 6 April 2017

Various changes to Patents Rules also came into effect on 1 October 2016 in relation to patent applications and patents. These include:

- Introduction of notifications of intention to grant.
- Simplifying the time period for requesting reinstatement.
- Allowing extensions to the period for providing an address for service.
- Relaxing the requirements for formal drawings.
- Clarifying requirements concerning changes of names and addresses.

Two further changes will come into effect on 6 April 2017:

- Omnibus claims generally no longer allowable
- Address used to receive renewal reminders

For further details please refer to the guidance on forthcoming amendments to the Patents Rules. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-patents-rules-on-1-october-2016-and-6-april-2017>

Vacancy: President, Boards of Appeal: EPO

DEADLINE: 14th October 2016

The European Patent Office in Munich is seeking a President of the Boards of Appeal.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/european-patent-office-vacancy-president-of-the-boards-of-appeal>

Applicants interested in the vacancy advertised on the EPO website for President of the Boards of Appeal will note the requirement for a reference showing the support of one of the delegations of the Administrative Council and/or the President of the EPO.

UK interested applicants are invited to contact [Liz Coleman](#) at the Intellectual Property Office for further details.



Out and about

Global TechMining Conference

The IPO (Rich Corken and Chris Harrison) participated in the Global TechMining Conference on September 13, 2016 at the Universitat Politècnica de València.

Tech Mining, a special form of “Big Data” analytics, aims to generate competitive technical intelligence using bibliometric and text-mining software as well as other analytical and visualization applications for analyses of science, technology and innovation information resources.

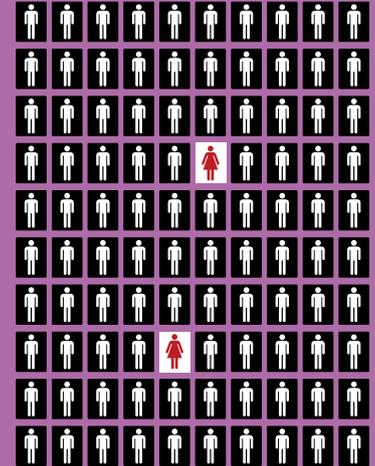
The goal of the conference was to engage cross-disciplinary networks of analysts, software specialists, researchers, policymakers, and managers to advance the use of textual information in multiple science, technology, and business development fields.

Chris presented recent IPO research on the gender of inventors which inferred the gender of inventors on all patents worldwide. For several decades within the 20th Century women represented less than 2% of inventors on published patent applications worldwide but this has steadily risen to over 10% in recent years. Although absolute numbers remain relatively low, the last 20 years has seen a 100% increase in the proportion of female inventors.

Rich participated on an expert panel looking at the future of text mining in the technology research community. Whilst there is a need for more specialist text mining



For several decades within the 20th Century women represented less than 2% of inventors on published patent applications worldwide.”



experts, Rich suggested that knowing what and why you are looking for something is equally, if not more important. This is reinforced by the recent Government wide recruitment of data science specialists who can help analytical teams fill this gap.

The more general approach to using transparent, big data analytics, as is being carried out more widely across Government, was seen to be a good approach to take and the IPO was applauded for carrying out inventor gender research on worldwide data and also making the data available to researchers to do their own analyses.

Subscribe to IP Connect



[Click here](#)



[Follow us on Twitter](#)

IP Events

[Click here for a list of forthcoming IP events](#) which may be of interest to you or your clients/members.