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MAXIMIZING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY'S CONTRIBUTION
TO A COMPANY'S GROWTH AND VALUESM

TRANSLATING TECHNOLOGY INTO THE LANGUAGE OF BUSINESSSM

March 2008

Dear Clients and Friends and the many of you who are both:

Congratulations to those of you who made your views known on the upcoming patent reform legislation in the Senate. More and more groups have been complaining to Congress about the unfairness of the proposed legislation to inventors to the benefit of the large patent users. Most recently, the legislation is under review in Senator Leahy's office and isn't expected to be considered in the Senate until April. As soon as the contents of the revised legislation are known, I urge you to again make your views known. Look for updates on this legislation in future issues of this newsletter.

Section 14 of the Patent Reform Act of 2007 will protect the major banks from infringing on a patent owned by DataTreasury. It is alleged that the banks' check imaging methods infringe on DataTreasury's patent. DataTreasury claims that it is necessary to infringe on its patent when a bank follows the Federal "Check 21" electronic check processing procedure. Since every check is now cleared using Check 21, the royalties to DataTreasury can, according to the Congressional Budget Office, reach \$1 billion dollars, to be paid by the US Treasury. The US Patent and Trademark Office is reviewing the validity of the DataTreasury patent.

PIPS works directly with technology companies to identify their intellectual property, identify their actual and potential competition, and create a strategy to grow their company and increase its value. Please visit [PIPS' web site](#) for more information about PIPS, its services and experiences.

Your firm may qualify to receive one of a limited number of personalized, expert business IP strategy sessions from the PIPS team. If you feel that this will be of value to your company, contact PIPS at 224-406-4268 or at info@protectiveIPservices.com and describe why you should be selected to receive this preliminary audit.

We appreciate your feedback at suggestions@protectiveIPservices.com.

USPTO

[Patent awards dip in state, US](#)

Chicago Tribune - United States

By Todd Wallack | The Boston Globe January 2, 2008 The number of patents awarded to inventors in Illinois dipped slightly in fiscal year 2007, reflecting a

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[Reexamination Pendency Continues to Rise](#)

By Patently-O

Patent reexamination number one (RE1) issued in 1838. Since then, the PTO has issued just under 40000 reexamined patents. Since 1976, the office has issued about 350 per year in a rising trend. (Since 1999, the reexaminations have ...

Disclaimer: PIPS is not responsible for the content of the articles in this newsletter, nor for the results of any decisions based on them.

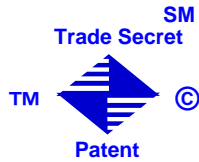
If you would like to be added to the PIPS mailing list, please send an e-mail to info@protectiveIPservices.com with "ADD" in the subject line. To be removed from the PIPS mailing list, please send an e-mail to info@protectiveIPservices.com with "REMOVE" in the subject line.

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[Google looks to patent technology that recognizes text in images](#)

Google has applied for a patent for methods and technology that can be used to find and extract text from images.

[IBM Tops 2007 Patent Winners List](#)

InformationWeek - Manhasset, NY, USA

For the 15th year, IBM has the most, though it and other companies received fewer patents last year than previously, as a backlog of applications pile up.

...

[IFI Patent Intelligence Announces 2007's Top US Patent Assignees](#)

PR Newswire (press release) - New York, NY, USA

14 /PRNewswire/ -- IFI Patent Intelligence, a Wolters Kluwer Health business, today announced its annual compilation of the world's top-ranked US patent ...

[DOMESTIC](#)

[Patent awards dip in state, US](#)

Chicago Tribune - United States

By Todd Wallack | The Boston Globe January 2, 2008 The number of patents awarded to inventors in Illinois dipped slightly in fiscal year 2007, reflecting a ...

...

[Copying a song you bought is "a nice way of saying 'steals just ...](#)

By The Trademark Blog

WaPo: Record Industry Goes After Personal Use: Whether customers may copy their CDs onto their computers -- an act at the very heart of the digital revolution -- has a murky legal foundation, the RIAA argues. The industry's own Web site ...

[Patent vs. copyright: Protecting your creations](#)

CNNMoney.com - USA

(FORTUNE Small Business) -- Dear FSB: Do I have to patent greeting cards? Dear Vanessa: A patent is for an invention. According to Brent Routman, ...

[Design Patents: No longer the Province of Individual Inventors](#)

Dennis Crouch's Patently-O

Thirty years ago, most design patent applications were filed by individual inventors. The graphs below show how that statistic has changed over the years.

2008 Election – Candidates on IP

[US Presidential Candidates Reveal Positions On Some IP Issues](#)

Intellectual Property Watch - Geneva, Switzerland

By Kaitlin Mara Intellectual property rights issues have been finding their way into the campaign platforms of candidates vying to become the next president ...

Congressional Patent Reform

[Bright Ideas | Slipstream Two Views of Innovation, Colliding in ...](#)

New York Times - United States

By JOHN MARKOFF AS the Senate prepares to tinker with the nation's patent laws this spring, it's worth recalling the law of unintended consequences. ...

[Patent Reform Predictions and More](#)

By Maryland Intellectual Property Law Blog

IPO Predicts Senate May Attempt to Pass Patent Reform Bill in February According to the Intellectual Property Owners Association website earlier this week, the "IPO believes Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT) will attempt to pass a revised ...

[United States: House Proposes Creation Of An IP Enforcement Czar ...](#)

Mondaq News Alerts (subscription) - London, UK

On December 5, 2007, leaders of the Judiciary Committee introduced the "Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2007" (PRO ...

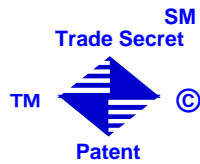
[NEWS: USPTO Does NOT Support Patent Reform Bill](#)

According to Robert Clarke the United States Patent Office does not support the current patent reform bill, primarily because of the damages provisions in the bill. According to Clarke, it is the position of the Patent Office that the ...

[Patent Expert Takes On Proposed Legislation in National Newspaper](#)

Christian Science Monitor

"Despite the fact that improvement in some fashion is needed, this sweeping reform, if made law, will undermine the core of the patent



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system in the United States," Poltorak wrote in the article. "It will mean weaker protection for small inventors, university researchers, and entrepreneurs across America."

[HP says patent reform bill "in the final stretch"](#)

Reuters - USA

Drug maker Eli Lilly & Co, seed and herbicide company Monsanto Co and smaller tech firms say the bill would weaken patents that are their corporate ...

[Patent Reform Writeup:](#)

Dennis Crouch's Patently-O

Professor Jay Thomas (Georgetown) is also tasked as the IP guy for the Congressional Research Service (CRS). In that capacity, Thomas has taken to explaining some of the pros and cons of the Patent Reform Acts of 2007. (HR 1908; S 1145). [[CRS REPORT ON PATENT REFORM](#)] According to Thomas: "The provisions of the proposed legislation would arguably work the most sweeping reforms to the U.S. patent system since the nineteenth century." Thomas does an excellent job of quickly discussing each proposed reform measure in language as neutral as he can muster.

[Patent Reform: Unsettling Rights](#)

Dennis Crouch's Patently-O

Unfortunately, the proposed patent reforms now being debated by the Senate do virtually nothing to address these serious problems and instead potentially cause harm to the current regime

[Are domain names real property? Thoughts from Domainfest 2008](#)

Web Host Industry Review - USA

On the other hand, Big IP has been firm in its assertion that domain names should be considered to be intellectual property only. ...

[United States: Second Life Raises Novel IP Issues](#)

Mondaq News Alerts (subscription) - London,UK

the adult entertainment industry is responsible for bringing many of the seminal cases that have shaped intellectual property law on the Internet, ...

[FTC Defends Ethernet From Patent Troll](#)

Slashdot - USA

I Don't Believe in Imaginary Property writes "The

FTC has put a stop to Negotiated Data Solutions, a patent troll that bought a patent on an important part ...

[FTC settles with company over Ethernet patent claims](#)

The previous owner of certain Ethernet patents said it wouldn't attempt to collect enormous license fees related to the widely used networking standard, and N-Data can't go back on that word just because they bought those patents, ...

[INTERNATIONAL](#)

['Overhaul India's patent processes'](#)

Livemint - Delhi, Delhi, India

"The process in intellectual property offices needs to become more accessible and reader-friendly and, therefore, the ultimate objective of all efforts to ...

[Arab states must tighten intellectual property laws](#)

GulfNews - Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Elewa, Staff Reporter Abu Dhabi: Arab countries need to focus more on the implementation of legal frameworks related to Intellectual Property (IP), ...

[More new rules from the PTO?](#)

WILMER CUTLER PICKERING HALE AND DORR LLP

New rules relating to how and when an IDS may be filed are likely to be published by the PTO within the next two to six weeks, and become effective shortly thereafter.

[Domain Name/Keyword Slamming on the Rise](#)

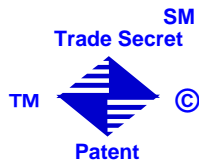
Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP

In recent months, unknown organizations in China have been sending emails to companies in the United States claiming that the company's intellectual property (IP) rights are in jeopardy if it does not register domain names and/or keywords that are similar to or incorporate the company's trademarks.

[Supply Chain Graphic of the Week – Protecting Intellectual ...](#)

Supply Chain Digest - Dayton, OH, USA

By SCDigest Editorial Staff With the growth in offshoring and outsourcing to China has come corresponding concern about Intellectual Property protection ...



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[UK Considers Relaxing Copyright Laws](#)

PC World - USA

The UK Intellectual Property Office, which handles patent and copyright issues, released proposals last week that would amend the Copyright, ...

[Global appetite for inventions fuels patent explosion](#)

Inquirer.net - Philippines

By Francis Curta BERLIN--The global appetite for inventions and their money-making spin-offs has sparked an explosion in patent applications, mainly in Asia ...

[Intellectual Property Fraud Grows Exponentially Affecting Even ...](#)

NEW YORK—(BUSINESS WIRE)—January 22, 2008—

Intellectual property ("IP") fraud has skyrocketed over the past ten years due.

[Cheaper Patents for Europe](#)

IndustryWeek - USA

23, 2008 -- The patent system in Europe comprises both a regime of national patent protection accessed via applications to patent offices of each individual ...

[Court gives hi-tech companies the power to patent software](#)

Financial Times - London, England, UK

By Megan Murphy, Law Courts Correspondent Hi-tech companies will be able to patent software programs after a key court decision that may move the UK closer ...

[IPR protection to be expanded](#)

China Internet Information Center | - China

The government will take further action this year to protect intellectual property rights (IPR), Vice-Premier Wu Yi said yesterday. ...

[OTHER](#)

[Protecting your Intellectual Property](#)

CXOToday.com - Mumbai, India

Software-and the Intellectual Property (IP) embedded in it-are intangible yet highly valuable company resources. In fact, IP is on its way to becoming the ...

[SparkIP Launches Monthly Intellectual Property Index](#)

Business Wire (press release) - San Francisco, CA, USA

ATLANTA--(BUSINESS WIRE)--SparkIP, an online intellectual property (IP) network for the scientific community, today announces the creation of the SparkIP ...

[Establish ownership of intellectual goods before creation](#)

London Free Press - Canada

By DAVID CANTON, FREELANCE WRITER The failure to document the ownership of intellectual property is one of the most common mistakes made by organizations. ...

[Patent licensors raising some ire](#)

Chicago Tribune - United States

Chicago lawyer Raymond Niro is used to being a target of criticism for his aggressive enforcement of patents. But one of his critics has gotten under his ...

[Ocean Tomo Announces Immediate Availability of Spring 2008 Live ...](#)

StreetInsider.com (subscription) - Birmingham, MI, USA

The events bring together hundreds of key decision-makers in the intellectual property and investment communities. Prior to the Live Auction, ...

[Patent Attorneys, Clients Banking on IP Brokerages](#)

Law.com

The increasingly hot market for intellectual property is creating a new kind of player -- IP lawyers who have fled their firms to start brokerages for patents.

[Protecting Your Intellectual Property with Patent Alternatives](#)

<http://www.industryweek.com/ReadArticle.aspx?ArticleID=15081>

How do you prevent competitors from obtaining patents that could block you from using your own innovative ideas in your products and services?

[IP Strategy - more than meets the eye](#)

<http://duncanbucknell.com/articles/162/IP-Strategy---more-than-meets-the-eye>

... my fundamental goal is to understand how companies can be successful by employing different strategies. I am particularly interested in intellectual property strategies, as well as other managerial approaches to protect and leverage a company's intellectual assets.