

MEMORANDUM
BETWEEN
THE INTERCHANGE ASSOCIATION
AND
THE ASSOCIATION OF EAST ASIAN RELATIONS
FOR THE MUTUAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF
PATENT PROSECUTION

THE INTERCHANGE ASSOCIATION AND THE ASSOCIATION OF
EAST ASIAN RELATIONS (hereinafter referred to as “both Sides”)

Having regard to paragraphs 3(1) and 3(7) of the Arrangement between the Interchange Association and the Association of East Asian Relations for the Establishment of the Respective Overseas Offices of 26 December 1972;

Reaffirming the need for patent protection as a key element for fostering technological innovation and accelerating economic development;

Noting the increasing necessity to adequately cope with the ever-growing number of internationally filed patent applications resulting from a significant demand for patent protection in the context of globalization of the world economy;

Acknowledging the importance of ensuring high quality, expeditious and inexpensive patent protection for applicants filing their applications each other;

Recognizing the benefits for patent applicants and industry of avoiding unnecessary duplication of work, reducing workloads, and streamlining the patent procedures in relevant authorities of both Sides; and

Desiring to further enhance their significant role in cooperative efforts to be made worldwide in the field of patents;

will cooperate with each other in order to obtain necessary consent from the relevant authorities of both Sides with regard to the matters as follows:

1. "Patent Prosecution Highway" (PPH) pilot programme will be commenced. The basic concept of the PPH programme is that where the relevant authority of the first filing (RAFF) has determined that one or more claims of a patent application is/are allowable, the applicant will be entitled to the benefit of an accelerated examination before the relevant authority of the second filing (RASf) for the corresponding, subsequent application, provided that certain conditions are met, including the sufficient correspondence of claims between the two applications and that work results of the RAFF are made available to the RASf.
2. The pilot programme will be begun on May 1, 2012.
3. The documents on the implementation of the pilot programme will be finalized before the start of the programme.
4. This memorandum and the documents on the implementation of the pilot programme will be reviewed regularly and can be modified upon either Side's request and by mutual consent.
5. This memorandum has been made in the English language. In witness whereof, the representative of the Interchange Association and the representative of the Association of East Asian Relations, signed this memorandum in Taipei, on April 11, 2012.

FOR THE INTERCHANGE
ASSOCIATION:



FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF EAST
ASIAN RELATIONS:

