

IP Scene

BEIJING
Innovators awarded in competition

The Beijing Invention and Innovation Competition awarded 21 people for their outstanding performance in innovation in mid-July. The winners, from various walks of life, included a researcher making breakthroughs in core aerospace technologies, a university professor focusing on research into soil recovery and an engineer engaged in resolving difficulties in new energy-generated power provision for the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region. The annual competition has seen growing influence across the city, its organizers said.

IPRCHN.COM

Desire to read more books on the up

According to an e-reading survey recently released by Amazon in Beijing, some 45 percent of respondents worldwide considered reading more books as one of their annual growth goals. In China, the proportion was 55 percent. About 68 percent of the Chinese surveyed said holidays are their best reading time and 55 percent of the Chinese respondents chose reading as their favorite activity on holiday.

IPRCHN.COM

SHANGHAI
Expo facilitates IP express processing

An intellectual property official from Shanghai announced in late July that patent filings for exhibits during the upcoming China International Import Export will be given priority in processing. Exhibitors can file a priority application on the spot at the expo. In addition, local enforcement officials will provide a green channel to handle IP disputes related to products on display, according to a plan for IP protection for the expo.

IPR.GOV.CN

JIANGSU
Circuit trial case heard in Nanjing

The Intellectual Property Court of the Supreme People's Court opened its first circuit trial at the SPC's Third Circuit Court in Nanjing, capital of Jiangsu province in late July. The trial involved cases regarding disputes over a water pump invention patent between appellant Wang Yeci and five defendants including a water pump manufacturer based in Xuzhou, Jiangsu. The trial, which was broadcast online, was attended by more than 80 people including press and local judges, as well as students and teachers from Nanjing University and other higher education institutions. The verdict, pending further investigation, will be announced at a later date.

XINHUA NEWS AGENCY

HUBEI
Patent-based loans popular in Wuhan

Government data show that financial institutions in Wuhan, capital of Hubei province, granted 98 patent-collateralized loans worth 712 million yuan (\$103.47 million) in 2018. It marks the fifth straight year that such loans have surpassed 700 million yuan. The deals, more than 80 percent of which involved Wuhan Rural Commercial Bank, benefited nearly 50 companies.

CHINA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY NEWS

GUANGDONG
Private companies prosper in Shenzhen

Private businesses accounted for 97.66 percent of all types of commercial organizations in Shenzhen by the end of May, according to a report on private economy recently released by the city's committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. The report found that some 73 percent of inventions and 91 percent of nationwide well-known trademarks in the city come from private companies. They account for more than 80 percent of national high-tech companies and innovation entities in the city, the report said.

CHINA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY NEWS

More R&D called for as China climbs ranking

Investment needed to ensure country remains globally competitive

By LIANG KAIYAN
liangkaiyan@chinadaily.com.cn

Intellectual property experts and officials have called for more investment in research and development across broader areas to maintain China's increasing competitiveness in global innovation.

The move comes after the release of the Global Innovation Index 2019 by the World Intellectual Property Organization, Cornell University and other organizations last week.

China has moved to 14th position, beating its goal of being in the GII top 15 by 2020, according to the report.

"China's improvement this year is largely due to its relative performance and less so to new GII data or methods," said Sacha Wunsch-Vincent, head of the Economics and Statistics Division of WIPO.

The GII 2019 provides detailed metrics about performance in terms of innovation of 129 countries and economies around the world. Its 80 indicators explore a vision of innovation, including political environment, education, infrastructure and business sophistication.

According to the report, China has made an impressive improvement in the innovation output sub-index this year, reaching fifth position worldwide, up five places from 2018.

China remains top among middle-income economies in terms of quality of innovation for the seventh consecutive year. The country ranks third in the quality of universities and its score for the quality of scientific publications stands

above the high-income group's average.

The report said China stands out for producing innovation output that is equivalent to Germany, the United Kingdom, Finland, Israel and the United States, but at considerably lower levels of input.

For example, the country ranks low in some areas involving institutions and infrastructure construction.

Though its environmental construction and energy efficiency are weak items in the ranking, they are still the most promising areas in promoting China's innovation, said Chen Dongmin, chair professor of the Academy for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies at Peking University.

China continues to increase efforts in making policies and promoting the use of renewable energy, Chen said.

"The two factors refer to sustainable development, and they will make great contributions to China's ranking in the index in the future," he said.

Zhang Xu, deputy director of the department of strategy and planning at the Ministry of Science and Technology, said innovation requires the effort of the whole society.

The output and input index also indicates structural problems, he said. "We will continue to increase the investment in basic R&D and infrastructure construction," Zhang said.

Xuan Zhaohui, head of the institute of scientific statistics and analysis at the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development, said the report has shown China's increasing innovation capability.

"Innovation is more than technology — it is also in connection with economic and social developments," he said.

"For a long time, we only focused on the role of innovation

"Innovation is more than technology — it is also in connection with economic and social developments."

Xuan Zhaohui, head of the institute of scientific statistics and analysis at the Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development

in economic growth but ignored its contribution to social development and human health," Xuan said.

"This year's topic is of great value to pay more attention to the innovation in the economy, society and production," he added.

Themed "Creating Healthy Lives — the Future of Medical Innovation," the GII 2019 also analyzed the medical innovation landscape of the next decade, looking at how technological and non-technological medical innovation will transform the delivery of healthcare worldwide.

As an internet company, Tencent has put efforts into studying the role of the internet in the real economy over the past decades, said Wu Pengyang, deputy director of the industrial research center of Tencent Research Institute.

"Combining healthcare with technology is part and parcel of Chinese markets," Wu said.

However, the demographic dividend is waning in the 40 years of reform and opening-up, he said.

To this end, the application of artificial intelligence and big data is conducive to promoting treatment efficiency, mobilizing sound medical resources and reducing the time and cost of medical R&D, he added.



Primary students practice skating on the outskirts of Beijing in February. Growing popularity of ice and snow sports is spurring a boom in related industries. ZHANG CHENLIN / XINHUA

Olympics spurs domestic growth in ice and snow equipment production

By YUAN SHENGGAO

China plans to develop homemade ice and snow equipment as the winter sports market, driven by the upcoming Winter Olympics, booms.

By 2022, sales revenue generated by the ice and snow equipment industry is expected to surpass 20 billion yuan (\$2.9 billion) with an average annual growth of 20 percent, according to a three-year plan starting from 2019, released by multiple central government departments.

However, the number of domestic brands with high-quality and global influence is quite limited. The country aims to improve circumstances by helping related companies and building more industrial parks.

Ice and snow equipment includes those used in ice rinks and ski resorts, such as snowmakers, snowmobiles, cableways and electric conveyor belts, as well as those for individual usage, including ski suits, helmets and protective gear. Most renowned brands are from developed countries like France, Switzerland, Italy, the United States, Finland and Japan.

According to the official website of Thaiwoo Ski Resort and Alpine Park in Hebei province, the ski equipment it provides is from a company in Austria. Its veneer is from a renowned Slovenian brand and its chairlift is from France.

While domestic ski wear brands such as Tread, Bosideng and Running River have established a repu-

tation in the market, their sales are far less than their overseas competitors.

The plan called on local governments to promote research on design, production and application of ice and snow equipment, by optimizing their business environment, supporting financial services and encouraging mergers and acquisition to improve competitiveness of the whole industry.

Northern provinces, such as Hebei, Jilin and Heilongjiang, whose climate is suitable for winter sports, have taken efforts to develop industrial parks and clusters involving ice and snow equipment manufacturing.

Financial institutes and industrial investment institutions will also enjoy preferential policies in purchase, tax and technological innovation when backing ice and snow equipment companies.

In September 2018, the General Administration of Sport of China released another plan to increase the Chinese winter sports population to 300 million by 2022, when the 2022 Winter Olympics is scheduled to open in Beijing and Zhangjiakou, Hebei province.

Lin Xianpeng, a professor with Beijing Sport University, told Economic Daily, that when demand for services and consumption related to skiing grows, the ice and snow equipment market will boom as more companies invest in the segment.

Leveraging innovation to help take out the trash

By YUAN SHENGGAO

In the past months, one of the most talked about topics in China has been garbage sorting, especially in the wake of the release of strict regulations for domestic waste management in Shanghai in early July.

Data from the Ministry of Ecology and Environment show 202 large and medium-sized cities across China collectively produced about 202 million metric tons of household waste in 2017, including 56.58 million tons from the top 10 cities alone. Roughly 215 million tons of household waste was cleaned up nationwide in the year, China Intellectual Property News reported.

Experts said patented technologies are helping to address the Gordian knot of handling China's mounting garbage.

Li Ke, a director at Iptalent Consulting, told the Beijing-based newspaper that the number of patent applications in the field of waste sorting in China has steadily increased since 2011, before which, related patent applications numbered less than 1,000 a year. The annual filing number reached nearly 4,000 in 2018, 3.8 times that of 2011.

Of the filings, solid waste treatment is the most popular area for innovators. From 2000 to 2018, the accumulative number of patent applications in the sector surpassed 11,900. The other sectors of household waste collection and cleanup, as well as processing, are also active in innovation, with each area seeing thousands of accumulative applications filed during the 2000-18 period, according to Li's research.

The bottleneck in garbage collection and treatment lies in effective classification, Li told China Intellectual Property News. If researchers can make breakthroughs in technology, achieving in-depth classification and high automation, efficiency and accuracy, it will reshape the entire industry, Li said.

The realization of the goal needs artificial intelligence and other technologies in support, yet judging

from the current technological progress, there is still a long way to go before achieving substantial breakthroughs, Li noted. The innovative development of waste sorting processing technology is the main focus for the future.

To date, the central government has designated 46 pilot cities for household garbage sorting, including Beijing and Shanghai.

With the support of government policies, emerging technologies involving waste-sorting equipment, systems and processes have provided strong support for waste sorting and promoted progress in recent years.

Chinese companies in the industry have been committed to research and development for years. In innovation rankings for 2018 for businesses in the sector, released by a research center affiliate with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, waste processing and recycling company Gem ranked top.

Xu Kaihua, the board chairman of the Shenzhen-headquartered company, told China Intellectual Property News that his company recycles abandoned electronics using innovative approaches. By the end of January, GEM had a total of 906 invention patents granted at home and abroad. The company's international patent filings have been applied with authorities in destinations including Europe, the United States, Japan and South Korea. The applications have involved more than 50 core technologies of the company.

Shao Linlin, an analyst at Hibor, an investment data and market research portal, said that waste sorting has spurred growth in related service market segments.

With an increasing number of waste-sorting services, policy incentives will bring about greater market demand, Shao said, adding that the market value relating to waste-sorting services nationwide is forecast to exceed 61 billion yuan (\$8.86 billion) in 2020.

Guan Peiven contributed to this story.



10TH CHINA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Hangzhou International Expo Center · Zhejiang · Sept 2 - 3, 2019

Splendid Evolution of CIPAC

Grand Gathering of IP Industry in China: Covering All-inclusive Topics - Patent, Trademark, Industrial Design & Geographical Indication

- 15+ Breakout Sessions & 8000 m² Exhibition Areas
- Top IP Influencers & Diversified Stakeholders
- Focusing on Various Topics & Building an International Platform for Sharing

IP Overseas Protection

IP Monetization

AI 2.0 & IP

Trademark & Brand Value

Commercialized Operation of GI

IP Financing

IP Law Reformation

IP Administrative Adjudication

www.piac-china.com



知识产权出版社 有限责任公司
Intellectual Property Publishing House Co., Ltd.



piac@cnipr.com