

UPDATES FROM IPOS

MARCH 2025

Dear readers,

Here are some updates on interesting developments relating to IP & tech dispute resolution in Singapore.

Mediation funding initiative

WIPO-ASEAN Mediation Programme (AMP+)

ASEAN enterprises and individuals with IP or technology disputes, or with outstanding terms to be agreed in IP or technology deals under negotiation, can benefit from funding for mediation to reach win-win outcomes.


The WIPO-ASEAN Mediation Programme (AMP+) is an initiative between the WIPO Singapore Office and ASEAN. The WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center will provide mediation services under AMP+. Each mediation case involving at least one ASEAN party may be funded up to SGD 3000.

The Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) adds its support where parties appoint a Singapore-based mediator. Parties will receive up to a maximum of an additional SGD 2000 (making total funding at a maximum of SGD 5000).

AMP+ is available from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025. ASEAN parties with IP/technology disputes or negotiations are welcome to apply for WIPO mediation and AMP+ funding. More information is available [here](#).

IPOS decision

[Essity Hygiene and Health Aktiebolag v Tianrong Co Ltd](#) [2025] SGIPOS 1

The Opponent is a hygiene and health company whose products include incontinence diapers under the brand “TENA”. The Applicant is in the business of baby care products including baby diapers; and applied to register  in Classes 3 and 5 in Singapore.

The IP Adjudicator found that the competing marks were not similar overall. The ground of opposition based on confusing similarity therefore failed. The Opponent also could not establish goodwill, misrepresentation and damage; its ground of opposition under passing off likewise failed. Further, the IP Adjudicator did not find the Opponent’s earlier mark well known to any sector of the public in Singapore. Thus, the Opponent failed on the “well known mark” ground. Finally, the Opponent also



failed in its ground of bad faith because the application to register **TENEI** was found not to be dishonest nor to fall short of the stands of acceptable commercial behaviour observed by reasonable and experienced business people.

Breach of confidence case

[ATT Systems \(S'pore\) Pte Ltd and another v Centricore \(S\) Pte Ltd and others](#) [2025] SGHC 13

The Singapore High Court discussed *I-Admin (Singapore) Pte Ltd v Hong Ying Ting and others* [2020] 1 SLR 1130, applying and clarifying the concepts of “wrongful gain” and “wrongful loss” in this case.

Article on AI authorship

Readers may be interested in Associate Professor Saw Cheng Lim’s article, **The Case for AI Authorship in Copyright Law**. This article has been accepted for publication in [Law, Innovation and Technology](#) and will appear in the Spring 2026 issue (Volume 18, Issue 1) of the journal. In the meantime, it is accessible [here](#).

Interview

The World Intellectual Property Review (WIPR), an international online and print publication, published an [interview](#) entitled **Singapore invites warring AI and tech companies to arbitrate**. IPOS Chairman Stanley Lai, as well as the former Director of the US Patent Office David Kappos, were among the four interviewees. The interview is behind a paywall and can be accessed by a trial subscription.

Appointment to Singapore International Commercial Court

International Judge Anthony James Besanko has been appointed to the Singapore International Commercial Court. He was appointed Queen’s Counsel in 1994, and later became a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia in 2006, serving until 2024. His areas of expertise include commercial law and intellectual property law. For more information, please see the [formal announcement](#).

Featured event

SCOPE IPR (EU-ASEAN Sustainable Connectivity Package – Intellectual Property Rights) invites you to join the **IP Mediation Webinar** and hear from ASEAN IP Offices and EUIPO on mediation experiences and best practices. From Singapore, lawyer and mediator Jonathan Choo will speak on the panel.

Those interested in attending this complimentary webinar can sign up at the registration link below.

Registration Link: [SCOPE IPR - Registration to IP Mediation Webinar](#)

Event: IP Mediation Webinar

Location: Zoom Videoconference

Date: 24 March 2025

Time: 16:00 – 18:00 (Singapore time), 15:00 – 17:00 (Bangkok time), 09:00 – 11:00 CET (UTC+1).



If you know of anyone who would like to be added to this mailing list (which deals primarily with IP/IT dispute resolution in Singapore), please drop us a note at ipos_hmd@ipos.gov.sg. IPOS also separately maintains another mailing list for circulars, legislative amendments and other related matters which you can join by contacting news@ipos.gov.sg. For any comments or feedback (or to draw our attention to any interesting news we might have missed), please email gabriel_ong@ipos.gov.sg. Archived copies of our previous updates are available at the following [link](#).

