

FEBRUARY 2025

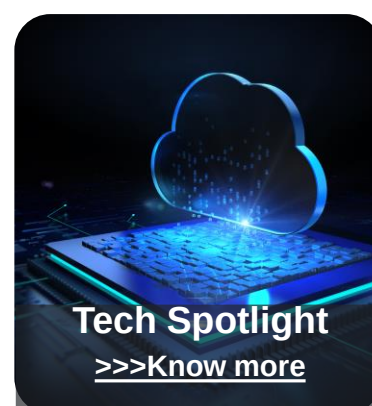
IPR&D SPARK NEWSLETTER

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LEGAL WATCH

CAFC Affirms Amazon Win Due to Patent Owner Failure to Provide Fair Notice of Accused Products

Contributor: Subin Khullar

Jan' 2025: The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit affirmed the Northern District of California's dismissal of Xiaohua Huang's patent infringement claims against Amazon.com, Inc. and other defendants in *Huang vs. Amazon.com, Inc.* Huang, representing himself, sought damages for the smartphone industry's use of semiconductor technologies, specifically focusing on U.S. Patent No. RE45259 related to EEPROM chips. The Federal Circuit agreed that Huang failed to provide fair notice by not specifying which products infringed the patent claims and supported the district court's decision to deny leave to amend due to repeated failures to address these deficiencies.

Huang initially sued Meta Platforms in Florida and later added Walmart, Best Buy, and Amazon in a first amended complaint (FAC). After the case was transferred to California, Huang filed a second amended complaint (SAC) naming Amazon as the sole defendant. The SAC was dismissed for not specifying the infringing products and for making broad, unsupported claims. Huang's attempt to file a third amended complaint (TAC) was also denied due to similar issues.

The Federal Circuit found that Huang's use of inclusive language like "including but not limited to" and his assumption that all products with EEPROM chips infringed the patent were insufficient. The court noted that Huang's repeated failures to cure these deficiencies justified the district court's denial of leave to amend. Huang's argument that his TAC should be considered a FAC was also rejected. The Federal Circuit upheld the district court's dismissal and denial of leave to amend, concluding that Huang's allegations were too broad and vague to proceed ([Source](#)).

LEGAL WATCH

Medtronic to Settle Dispute for Michelson's Spinal Product Patents

Contributor: Rani Holani

Jan' 25: Medtronic has agreed to pay \$1.3 billion to settle a long-standing patent dispute with orthopedic surgeon Dr. Gary Karlin Michelson. This settlement allows Medtronic access to Michelson's spinal product patents, valued at \$800 million, and includes \$550 million to resolve all legal claims between the parties. The agreement grants Medtronic ownership of inventions related to spinal diagnosis and treatment for 15 years, pending regulatory review. The transaction is expected to close in the coming months ([Source](#)).

Meril Success at EPO Against Edwards Lifesciences in Heart-valve Battle

Contributor: Rani Holani

Jan' 25: Meril has achieved a significant victory against Edwards Lifesciences in their ongoing heart-valve patent dispute. The European Patent Office (EPO) revoked one of Edwards' key patents, which is expected to halt parallel infringement proceedings in Munich. This decision follows years of litigation over heart-valve technology, including claims related to Meril's Myval and Octacor products. The ruling strengthens Meril's position as it continues to innovate in the transcatheter heart valve market ([Source](#)).

An Enablement Defense is Disabled by the Federal Circuit

Contributor: Subin Khullar

Jan' 25: In *Novartis Pharms. Corp. vs. Torrent Pharma Inc.*, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit upheld a decision preventing the marketing of a generic version of ENTRESTO, a heart disease drug patented by Novartis. The patent claims a combination of valsartan and sacubitril. Novartis argued that "combination" should include both bonded complexes and non-bonded components, which was crucial for proving infringement. The Federal Circuit addressed an enablement defense, requiring the patent to enable the full scope of its claims. The court held that the patent did not need to enable bonded complexes of valsartan and sacubitril, as these were not explicitly claimed. This decision was controversial, as it seemed to extend Novartis's monopoly without providing an enabling disclosure, contrary to Supreme Court precedent ([Source](#)).



INDUSTRY NEWS

EU Challenges China at WTO Over Patent Royalties

Contributor: Christy T. George

Jan' 25: The European Union has filed a complaint with the World Trade Organization (WTO) against China, accusing it of unfairly setting global royalty rates for EU standard essential patents (SEPs) without patent owners' consent. The European Commission claims Chinese courts are pressuring telecom giants like Nokia and Ericsson to lower their licensing fees, giving Chinese manufacturers an unfair advantage.

The EU argues this violates WTO's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). The Commission has raised the issue multiple times with China, but no resolution was reached. WTO disputes begin with a 60-day consultation period; if unresolved, the EU can request a panel ruling. The process, including appeals, could stretch over years.

China's Ministry of Commerce expressed regret over the complaint, insisting it follows WTO rules and remains open to discussions. This case adds to ongoing trade tensions, especially as the WTO prepares a ruling on a related EU-China patent dispute ([Source 1](#); [Source 2](#)).

INDUSTRY NEWS

FDA Issued Draft Guidance for Developers of Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Medical Devices

Contributor: Rani Holani

Jan' 25: The FDA issued draft guidance for AI-enabled medical devices, focusing on design, development, and post-market monitoring. It emphasizes transparency and bias management. Public comments are invited until April 7, 2025, with a webinar on February 18, 2025. The guidance aims to ensure safety and effectiveness while fostering innovation in AI technology ([Source](#)).

USPTO and PCT Fee Increases Set for 2025—Key Changes and Strategic Insights

Contributor: Christy T. George

Jan' 25: The USPTO's fee increases, effective 19th January 2025, have introduced significant cost hikes for applicants. Excess claim fees have doubled to \$200 per claim over 20, while second and subsequent RCE fees surged by 43%, from \$2,000 to \$2,860. New continuation application fees—\$2,700 after six years and \$4,000 after nine—are now in place. Additionally, large IDS submissions (over 50, 100, or 200 references) now incur tiered fees, adding to the financial burden for applicants. Meanwhile, PCT fees saw only minor adjustments as of January 1, 2025. The search fee slightly dropped from £1,570 in 2024 to £1,548, and the international fee decreased slightly from £1,197 to £1,189. E-filing reductions were also adjusted marginally. With higher USPTO fees now in effect, applicants should consider streamlining claims, filing continuations earlier, and adjusting prosecution strategies. Companies may need to rethink long-term patent portfolio management to mitigate rising costs while maintaining strong IP protection ([Source 1](#); [Source 2](#)).

UK IPO Revamps Patent Search While EPO Launches Advanced Analytics Tool

Contributor: Atul Kumar Pal

Jan' 25: The UK Intellectual Property Office has launched One IPO Search, replacing Ipsum to simplify patent searches with keyword-based queries and visual data analysis. Designed for ease of use, it aims to help businesses and startups navigate patent landscapes. Future updates will bring AI-powered search, saved searches, and APIs for bulk data access.

Meanwhile, the European Patent Office (EPO) has introduced the Technology Intelligence Platform (TIP), offering advanced patent data analysis. TIP integrates Jupyter Labs and Python libraries, allowing users to extract insights from PATSTAT and EP full-text databases. The browser-based tool provides powerful visualizations for tracking innovation trends, assisting researchers, businesses, and policymakers. Both initiatives modernize access to patent data, empowering innovators with deeper insights and easier navigation of the patent system ([Source 1](#); [Source 2](#)).

TECHNO-SPOTLIGHT

Bio-Engineered "Super Glue" Sets New Strength Record - Could Transform \$50 Billion Industry

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

Jan' 25: CSU researchers created a biodegradable adhesive from the naturally occurring polymer P3HB (poly(3-hydroxybutyrate)) that outperforms petroleum-based options. Strong, reusable, and eco-friendly, it decomposes in diverse environments. Adhesives play a critical role in industries such as automotive manufacturing, packaging, electronics, solar energy, and construction, forming the backbone of a \$50 billion market. However, they also contribute significantly to the growing problem of plastic waste. The research team employed a combination of experimental methods, simulations, and process modeling to design this eco-friendly polymer as a viable replacement for traditional adhesives. The team is working on scalable production for broad industrial application ([Source](#)).

Key M&A/Strategic Alliances

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

Jan' 25 ([Source 1](#); [Source 2](#); [Source 3](#); [Source 4](#)):

- The Japanese chemical industry, Taiyo Holdings Co. is reportedly exploring a potential merger with its larger counterpart, DIC Corp.
- UPM Raflatac continues its collaboration with WWF Poland on circular economy and privately protected areas.
- UPM Raflatac has announced a new partnership with Highlands to boost the sales of UPM Raflatac Office Products in the United Kingdom.

Shell Energy North America (US), L.P. (SENA), a subsidiary of Shell plc (Shell), has completed the 100% equity stake acquisition of RISEC Holdings, LLC (RISEC), which owns a 609-megawatt (MW) two-unit combined-cycle gas turbine power plant in Rhode Island, USA.

Unlocking Earth's Secret Factory for Cleaner, Greener Fertilizer

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

Jan' 25: Discover a new, eco-friendly method of synthesizing ammonia using Earth's natural geological processes, potentially transforming fertilizer production and reducing the chemical industry's carbon footprint. A recent proof-of-concept study, demonstrated that ammonia can be generated by combining nitrogen-infused water with iron-rich rocks – without requiring any external energy or releasing CO₂ ([Source](#)).

Revolutionary Material for Lightweight, Tough Protection

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

Jan' 25: Northwestern University researchers have achieved a groundbreaking development in materials science with the creation of a two-dimensional, mechanically interlocked polymer that mirrors the robust, flexible properties of chainmail. This novel material, boasting the highest density of mechanical bonds ever recorded, promises revolutionary applications in lightweight body armor and other high-demand fields ([Source](#)).

Sustainable, Hydrophobic Paper to Revolutionize Packaging and Replace Plastic

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

Jan' 25: Innovating with cellulose and peptides, researchers developed a sustainable paper that rivals petroleum products in strength and water resistance, targeting packaging and biomedical sectors. Researchers showed how it is possible to greatly improve the properties of cellulose nanofibers without chemically modifying them, instead adding small proteins known as peptides. This supramolecular approach involved adding small sequences of peptides, which bind onto the nanofibers and so improve their mechanical performance and water-resistance ([Source](#)).

New Standards in Speed and Resolution for Discoveries in Life Science, Pharma and Disease Research

Contributor: Rani Holani

Jan' 25: Bruker Corporation has launched the LUMOS™ II ILIM, a quantum cascade laser (QCL) based infrared imaging microscope. This advanced tool enables pharma and life science researchers to capture ultrafast IR images of biological samples with enhanced spatial resolution. Featuring a patented coherence reduction method, it offers artifact-free imaging and rapid chemical complexity determination in biological tissues ([Source](#)).

Discrimination Against EU MedTech Firms in China

Contributor: Rani Holani

Jan' 25: The European Commission has found evidence of China unfairly restricting EU medical device producers from its government contracts. This marks the first investigation under the International Procurement Instrument (IPI), effective since August 2022. Trade Commissioner emphasized the need for reciprocal openness in trade, stating that EU firms deserve fair access to foreign government contracts. The EU seeks constructive dialogue with China but may restrict Chinese bidders from EU contracts if no solution is reached ([Source](#)).

Launch of European Shortages Monitoring Platform

Contributor: Rani Holani

Jan' 25: The European Medicines Agency (EMA) announced the full functionality of the European Shortages Monitoring Platform (ESMP) on January 29, 2025.

ESMP allows marketing authorization holders and national competent authorities to report on medicine supply, demand, and availability, especially during crises. Mandatory use begins February 2, 2025. The platform aims to enhance drug shortage monitoring and management in the EU/EEA, with training available via EMA's website ([Source](#)).

Launch of Biotech and Biomanufacturing Hub to Support Innovative Companies

Contributor: Rani Holani

Jan' 25: The Commission has launched a Biotech and Biomanufacturing Hub to support start-ups and SMEs in bringing innovative products to the EU market.

The Hub provides information on EU funding, research infrastructures, scaling resources, intellectual property protection, and regulatory processes. Hosted on the Your Europe portal, it aims to enhance competitiveness and growth in the biotech sector, supporting the EU's green and digital transitions ([Source](#)).

Coupled Semiconductor Lasers Generate Novel Optical Patterns, Enabling New Spectroscopy Techniques

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

Jan' 25: Researchers from Harvard, Politecnico di Torino, and TU Wien have shown that coupling semiconductor ring lasers creates unique optical patterns unattainable with single lasers. By strongly coupling racetrack quantum cascade lasers (QCLs), they observed hybridized frequency combs emitting both dark and bright pulses—an unprecedented phenomenon in free-running semiconductor lasers. This enhances nonlinear optical interactions, with potential applications in spectroscopy, optical communications, and photonic computing. Future research will explore multi-resonator systems for greater control of coherent light ([Source](#)).

Google Unveils a Quantum Chip That Confirms the Existence of Parallel Universes

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

Jan' 25: Google's quantum chip, "Willow," with 105 qubits, has achieved an unprecedented milestone, solving in five minutes a problem that would take the fastest supercomputer ten quadrillion years. This breakthrough highlights the immense power of quantum computing, surpassing classical limitations. Beyond computation, Willow's results could provide evidence for the multiverse theory, which suggests the existence of infinite parallel universes formed by space-time bifurcations. If confirmed, this would transform our understanding of physics and reality. Google's achievement demonstrates quantum computing's potential to redefine science, cryptography, and complex problem-solving, pushing the boundaries of technology and theoretical physics ([Source](#)).

Team Wildfire's 'Hurricane on Wheels' Uses Advanced Technology to Fight Wildfires

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

Jan' 25: Team Wildfire's "Hurricane on Wheels" uses jet engines with retardant injectors to combat wildfires, generating 400-mph winds to reverse flames, cool via mist, and apply suppressants. Founder Steve Wolf leverages special effects and firefighting expertise to enhance efficiency, with mist achieving 10x more suppression than hoses. Originally a prototype for a larger system, its compact design allows access to tight spaces. Team Wildfire plans demonstrations across California, aiming to revolutionize wildfire containment ([Source](#)).

OpenAI to Release New Artificial Intelligence Model for Free

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

Jan' 25: OpenAI's release of o3-mini for free reflects the growing competition in AI, particularly from China's DeepSeek R1. DeepSeek's AI model, developed at a fraction of OpenAI's cost, has shaken investor confidence, causing a \$1 trillion drop in Nasdaq. In response, OpenAI is accelerating its product releases, making reasoning capabilities available to free users for the first time. This strategic move aims to counter DeepSeek's rapid market penetration while improving AI accessibility. OpenAI claims o3-mini offers faster responses at lower costs while maintaining strong performance in math, coding, and science. Despite this free offering, OpenAI retains a tiered subscription model, ensuring revenue from premium users. The AI race is shifting towards affordable, high-performance models ([Source](#)).

Slice Makes a Comeback in a New Revamped Avatar

Contributor: Saumya Jaithlia

Jan' 25: Suja Life, the parent company of Suja Organic and Vive Organic, acquired Slice soda brand in May 2024 from PepsiCo and has now relaunched the Slice soda brand with a new look and formulation.

The revamped Slice now features low-calorie, gut health-focused ingredients. Each soda can contain 5 grams or less of sugar, no high-fructose corn syrup, and is naturally sweetened with fruit juice, organic stevia, and organic cane sugar.

The soda also includes a blend of prebiotics, probiotics, and postbiotics. Core flavors like orange, lemon lime, classic cola, and grapefruit spritz are available at select retailers, with plans to expand distribution and introduce exclusive flavors throughout 2025 ([Source](#)).

GLP-1 Drugs Help People Spend 6% Less on Groceries

Contributor: Apoorv Naya

Jan' 25: Research from Cornell University and Numerator reveals that the growing use of GLP-1 drugs like Ozempic and Wegovy is significantly altering consumer appetites, impacting sales of calorie-dense, processed foods. With rising obesity concerns and social media influence driving awareness, snacking has been hit the hardest, as spending on chips, baked goods, and cookies has declined by 6.7–11.1%. On average, households reduced their annual food purchases by \$416. As these appetite-suppressing drugs continue to reshape food consumption habits, CPG companies are expected to adjust their product offerings and marketing strategies based on further data insights ([Source](#)).

L'Oréal Groupe Announces Long-term Exclusive Beauty Partnership with Jacquemus

Contributor: Saumya Jaithlia

Feb' 25: L'Oréal Groupe has entered a long-term, exclusive beauty partnership with the Parisian lifestyle brand Jacquemus, backed by a minority investment to support its independent growth.

Jacquemus, founded in 2009 by Simon Porte Jacquemus, is known for drawing inspiration from his upbringing in the South of France and various artistic influences. The brand has gained attention for its unique fashion shows in locations such as lavender and wheat fields, as well as the Château de Versailles canal, Fondation Maeght, and Casa Malaparte. Jacquemus has expanded into retail to create a physical brand experience and will now venture into the beauty space with L'Oréal Luxe. L'Oréal Luxe President, Cyril Chapuy said that Jacquemus will perfectly complement L'Oréal Luxe's portfolio and reinforce their worldwide leadership ([Source](#)).

Henkel's Unique IoT Laundry Concept Might Reach Stores in Two to Three Years

Contributor: Apoorv Naya

Jan' 25: At CES 2025 Las Vegas, Henkel introduced an innovative laundry care prototype designed to improve efficiency and sustainability. The system features three colorful detergent pods inserted into a washing machine's top panel, dispensing cleaning agents, structuring polymers, and fragrances separately at precise wash cycle stages for better performance.

According to Frank Meyer, Henkel's CTO for Consumer Brands, this approach reduces chemical use by 20%, extends garment life, and lowers water and energy consumption. Integrated with IoT-powered hardware, the system enables data-driven automation for optimized laundry care, marking a major step toward sustainable, high-performance fabric care ([Source](#)).



FDA Removes Coconut from its Allergen List

Contributor: Ganesh B

Feb' 2025: For nearly two decades, the FDA considered coconut as an allergen for labeling purposes. However, the FDA recently released two final guidance documents on food allergens, stating that there is not enough evidence to classify coconut as a major food allergen. This change is viewed as a victory for the coconut industry, as it alleviates challenges for trading partners, brands, and co-manufacturers ([Source](#)).

Your Brain is Full of Microplastics: Are They Harming You?

Contributor: Shanju Vigasini J P

Feb' 2025: Plastics have infiltrated every recess of the planet, including the most sensitive organs. Microplastic levels were about 50% higher in brain samples from 2024 than in 2016 samples. Brain samples contained 30 times more microplastics than other samples. The researchers found that the plastics were gobbled up by immune cells and ended up piling up and blocking small blood vessels in the brain ([Source](#)).

FDA Sets New Lead Limits in Baby Foods to Ensure Safer Nutrition for Infants

Contributor: Tanzil Khan

Jan' 2025: The FDA's guidance sets lead action levels in baby foods at 10 ppb for most items and 20 ppb for root vegetables and dry cereals. Part of the Closer to Zero initiative, it aims to reduce toxic elements in foods. Parents should provide a varied, nutrient-dense diet for children ([Source](#)).

Protecting Public Health: OEHHA Expands Proposition 65 List

Contributor: Akshay Jawale

Jan' 2025: The OEHHA has added two chemicals to California's Proposition 65 list, effective January 3, 2025. Bisphenol S was included due to its harmful effects on male reproductive health, while vinyl acetate was listed for its cancer risk. Additionally, OEHHA has published a report outlining the evidence supporting vinyl acetate's classification as a carcinogen ([Source 1](#); [Source 2](#)).

UK Opens Door to Personalized Cancer-Fighting Revolution: MHRA Unveils Groundbreaking mRNA Guidelines

Contributor: Basharat Ahmad Sofi

Feb' 2025: The UK's Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has released draft guidance for developing personalized mRNA cancer immunotherapies, building on the success of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. The guidance focuses on treatments using lipid nanoparticle delivery systems, where mRNA is used to train a patient's cells to fight their specific cancer. Notably, the MHRA envisions a single marketing authorization that could cover multiple patients despite each treatment being individualized. The agency aims to create flexible regulatory pathways while maintaining strict safety standards ([Source](#)).



FDA Targets Indian API Supplier for Data Integrity Breaches - Slaps Import Alert

Contributor: Basharat Ahmad Sofi

Jan' 2025: The US FDA has issued a warning to Global Calcium, an Indian API manufacturer, for falsifying production records and failing to maintain proper facility conditions. During a summer inspection, the FDA found that the company misrepresented its production records and deleted critical electronic files. Additionally, the facility was found to be in disrepair, with liquid pooling and dripping onto clean equipment. As a result, the FDA placed the company's products on Import Alert and demanded immediate corrective actions ([Source](#)).

Long-Term Cannabis Use Linked to Disrupted Brain Functions

Contributor: Shahla Thasni C

Jan' 2025: As cannabis legalization expands, a study of 1,003 adults found heavy lifetime use reduces brain activation in areas crucial for decision-making and cognitive functions, such as the dlPFC and anterior insula. Recent use showed temporary cognitive declines, underscoring the need for public awareness and policy interventions on the cognitive risks of heavy cannabis use ([Source](#)).

EMA Proposes New Guideline on Model-Informed Drug Development

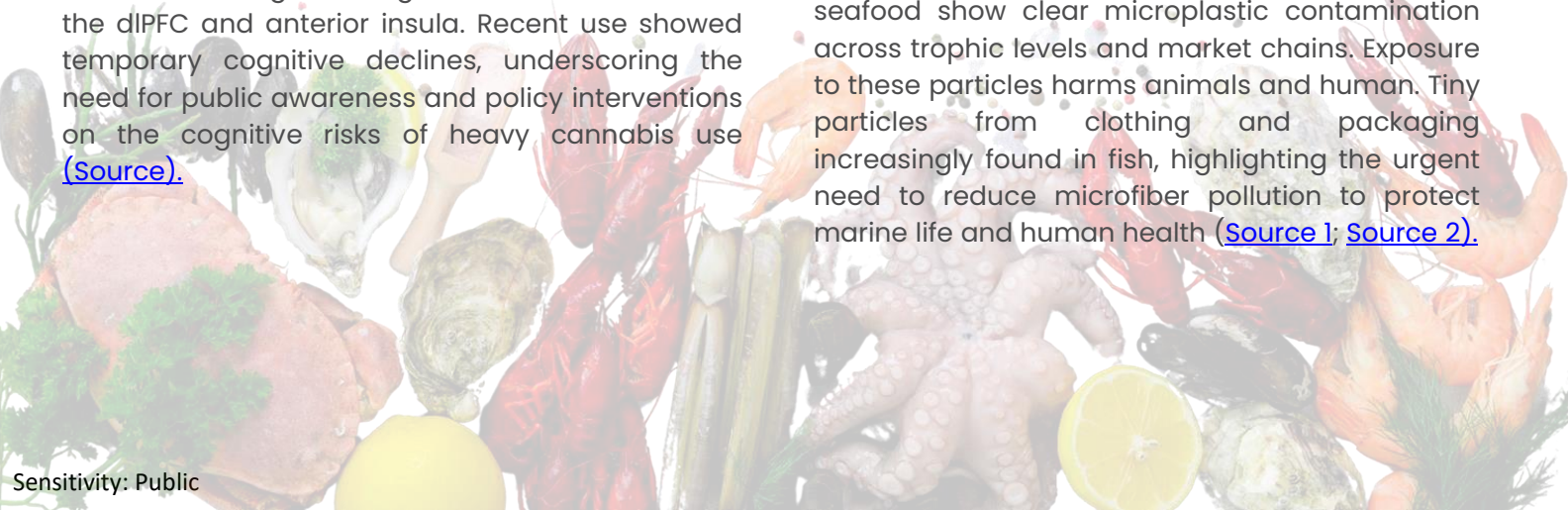
Contributor: Latika Sharma

Feb' 2025: The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has released a draft guideline on model-informed drug development (MIDD) for public consultation. This initiative aims to standardize the use of modeling and simulation in drug development, enhancing the efficiency and success rate of bringing new therapies to market. The guideline outlines best practices for integrating MIDD approaches throughout the drug development lifecycle, from preclinical studies to post-marketing surveillance. Stakeholders are invited to submit their feedback by the end of April 2025, contributing to the refinement of this important regulatory framework ([Source](#)).

Microplastic Contamination in Seafood Intended for Human Consumption

Contributor: Pooja Meher

Jan' 2025: Anthropogenic particles in Pacific seafood show clear microplastic contamination across trophic levels and market chains. Exposure to these particles harms animals and human. Tiny particles from clothing and packaging increasingly found in fish, highlighting the urgent need to reduce microfiber pollution to protect marine life and human health ([Source 1](#); [Source 2](#)).



BMW Made a 'Superbrain' Computer to Power this Prototype

Contributor: Sachin Patel

Feb' 2025: The Vision Driving Experience is BMW's test rig for the "Heart of Joy" central computer, designed for Neue Klasse models. This high-performance electric prototype integrates controls for drivetrain, braking, energy recuperation, charging, and steering, processing information 10 times faster than previous systems. It aims to enhance driving precision and stability, though some argue it may reduce driving enjoyment. The system also boosts efficiency, with regenerative braking increasing efficiency by up to 25%. The prototype tests the limits of the Neue Klasse platform but won't enter production ([Source](#)).

Hyundai Starts Solid-state Battery Production in March

Contributor: Sachin Patel

Feb' 2025: Hyundai's solid-state battery pilot plant, named Dream, will be officially unveiled in Uiwang, Korea, in March. The company aims to present an electric prototype using this new battery by the end of 2025. Hyundai's Dream battery promises advancements in range, charging speed, safety, and energy density. The company has invested €9 billion over 10 years to lead in electric car batteries, including various technologies. Mass commercialization is expected around 2030, with ongoing partnerships to develop similar technologies ([Source](#)).

Foxconn Wants to Work with Nissan, Not Acquire It

Contributor: Sachin Patel

Feb' 2025: Nissan is seeking a new partner after reports of the Honda-Nissan merger's potential collapse. Foxconn, interested in expanding its electric vehicle business, may collaborate with Nissan but isn't looking to acquire it. Foxconn's chairman expressed openness to cooperation, focusing on design and manufacturing services. The Honda-Nissan deal faltered over disagreements on staff cuts and equal treatment. Nissan faces challenges, including a 70% profit forecast cut, job reductions, and declining sales of its best-selling Rogue model, despite increases in Versa and Sentra sales ([Source](#)).

Volkswagen and Audi Are Sticking with Gas Engines: Report

Contributor: Sachin Patel

Feb' 2025: Volkswagen and Audi plan to extend the life cycle of their combustion engine cars in Europe due to declining EV sales. VW's electric car sales fell by 2.7% in 2024, while Audi's dropped by 7.8%. Both brands are considering investing in facelifts for current ICE models, delaying their EV goals. VW may keep the Golf Mk8 on sale until mid-next decade, with an all-electric Mk9 by decade's end. Decisions on further ICE investments are expected in March, potentially impacting other VW Group brands ([Source](#)).

European Commission Drops EU SEP Regulation

Contributor: Christy T George

Feb' 25: The European Commission (EC) has officially dropped the proposed regulation on standard-essential patents (SEPs) due to a lack of foreseeable agreement. This decision leaves SEP infringement decisions to the Unified Patent Court and national courts without EUIPO expert opinions on FRAND terms. The move aligns with the EC's efforts to combat overregulation and follows the departure of the bill's primary sponsor, Thierry Breton. The EC's credibility is bolstered by its €200 billion AI infrastructure investment and a balanced SEP enforcement initiative ([Source](#)).

Nokia Reaches 7000 Patent Families Declared as Essential to 5G

Contributor: Christy T George

Jan' 25: Nokia has achieved a milestone of 7,000 patent families declared essential to 5G, with more to follow. These patents cover key technologies for 5G networks, including radio protocol design, security, and interface technologies. Nokia's extensive R&D investment of over €150 billion since 2000 has resulted in an industry-leading portfolio of over 20,000 patent families. Over 250 companies have licensed Nokia's patented technologies, which are crucial for various industries such as mobile devices, connected vehicles, and IoT. Nokia contributes its inventions to open standards, allowing companies to license these technologies on fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory terms, promoting innovation and new product development ([Source](#)).

Europe's Patent Package Requires Urgent Change

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

Jan' 25: The European Commission's 2023 patent regulation package aims to enhance commercial exploitation of EU patents but faces delays due to concerns over the EU IP Office's (EUIPO) role in administering supplementary protection certificates and SEPs. Despite European Parliament approval, the Council has stalled the proposals, questioning the EUIPO's lack of patent expertise and the potential strain on resources. Member states prefer the European Patent Office (EPO) for its existing expertise. Addressing these concerns is crucial to avoid stifling European innovation and ensuring effective patent protection and commercialization ([Source](#)).

Panasonic, SPT, and Xiaomi Executed Patent License Agreement for Cellular Communication Standards

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

Jan' 25: Panasonic Holdings Corporation, Sun Patent Trust (SPT), and Xiaomi have executed a licensing agreement on cellular standard essential patents, resolving all global intellectual property disputes. Andrew Y. Yen of Panasonic highlighted the collaborative effort and future IP collaboration opportunities. Ran Xu of Xiaomi emphasized the cooperative spirit and recognition of Xiaomi's patents. Joseph Casino of SPT expressed satisfaction with securing their first Chinese licensee. The agreement underscores contributions to standardized technologies and aims to enhance consumer lives and global society through innovative products and services ([Source](#)).



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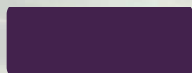


Sachin Patel
Section Researcher
(Automobile, e-mobility &
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