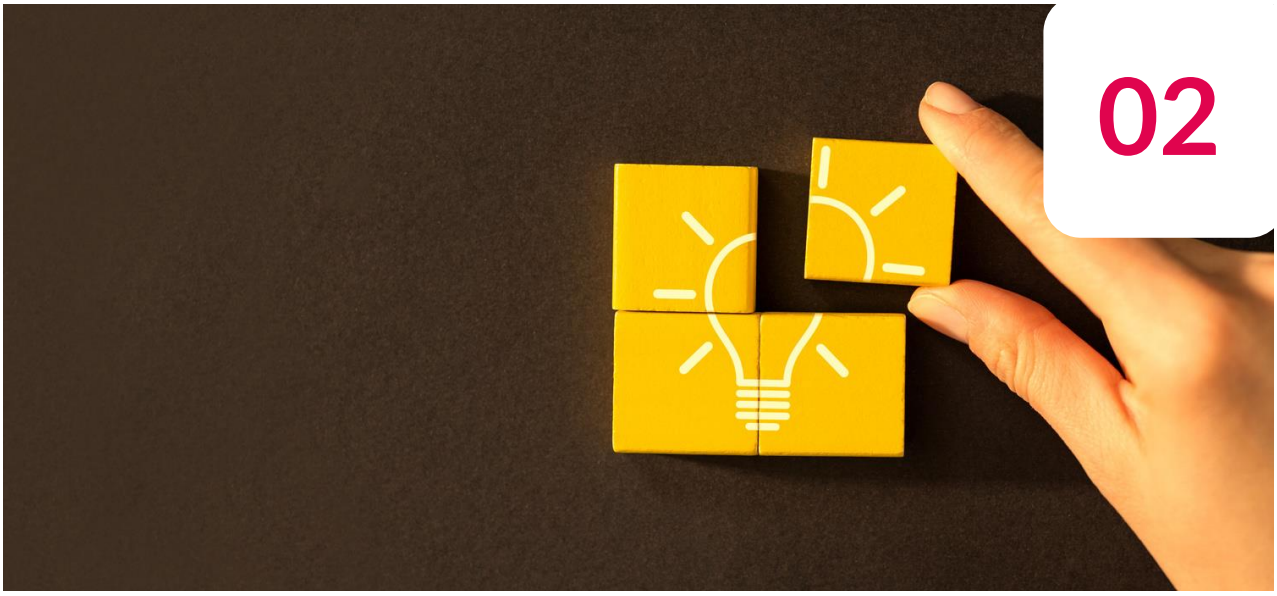
Evalueserve IP and R&D

JUNE 2025

IPR&D SPARK NEWSLETTER

We can't wait to spark your imagination and fuel your journey as an IP expert!



02

WELCOME TO THE JUNE EDITION OF IPR&D SPARK!

IPR&D Spark Newsletter aims to spark your creativity, ignite your curiosity, and keep you informed on industry trends, legal updates, and insightful analyses. Dive in and explore the fascinating world of IP and R&D with us! This newsletter isn't just about staying informed; it's about fostering a community of passionate minds.

Share your ideas at: Iprdsparknewsletter@evalueserve.com and let's navigate the ever-evolving landscape of IP and R&D together.

What's New & WHAT'S NEXT

New Whitepaper: Drive Product Sustainability via LCA and EcoDesign

Click here to download

- A clear breakdown of EU directives like the Ecodesign Regulation and PEF
- The role of LCA in product design, sustainability reporting, and circularity
- Actionable steps for aligning design and development with regulatory and stakeholder expectations

Get insights on:

- Global UV filter regulations
- Endocrine disruption risks
- Beauty's global impact
- Innovation strategies for safer, high-performance sunscreens

Click here to know more

CONTENTS

04

LEGAL WATCH

Patent Office Introduces New Discretionary Denial Process for Challenges to Issued Patents

Contributor: Subin Khullar

May' 25: The America Invents Act (AIA) of 2011 introduced inter partes review (IPR) as a faster, more cost-effective alternative to traditional patent litigation, allowing third parties to challenge the validity of issued patents before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB). This system was designed to address concerns about weak patents stifling innovation and quickly became a central feature of patent enforcement strategy. Although initially criticized by patent holders who viewed the PTAB as overly aggressive, IPRs gained traction as courts began pausing litigation to allow PTAB reviews. Over time, legal strategies evolved to address the PTAB's discretionary authority to deny petitions based on factors like litigation timing or previously reviewed prior art.

In March 2025, the USPTO implemented a major procedural shift, separating discretionary denial from merit review in a bifurcated process. A designated panel now evaluates discretionary denial grounds—such as policy concerns and litigation overlap—before a separate panel considers the petition's merits. This change removes discretionary denial from standard IPR briefings and places greater emphasis on early strategic positioning. Petitioners must now file early and include stipulations to avoid duplicative efforts, while patent owners gain a stronger opportunity to defeat petitions before merit review. The new system introduces strict deadlines, separate 14,000-word briefs, and oversight by the PTO Director, making alignment with agency policy goals essential. As formal rulemaking is anticipated, success in this evolving landscape requires counsel skilled in both PTAB procedures and broader institutional priorities, marking a significant shift in how patent challenges are approached (Source).

Plastic, Fantastic and Potentially Litigious: AI Barbie Goes from Dollhouse to Courtroom

Contributor: Rani Holani

May' 25: The "AI Barbie" trend has taken social media by storm, with users generating Barbie-inspired avatars using AI tools. These creations feature the iconic pink aesthetic, glamorous outfits, and playful captions like "this Barbie is a Privacy Lawyer." While fun and creative, the trend raises serious legal concerns. Mattel, Inc. owns extensive intellectual property rights over Barbie's name, likeness, logo, and design elements. AI-generated content that mimics Barbie could infringe on these rights, especially if used commercially. Influencers must also comply with FTC guidelines, disclosing any compensation, affiliate links, or misleading content that implies endorsement by Mattel. Without proper licensing, using Barbie-like imagery for profit may result in trademark infringement or false endorsement claims. As generative AI merges with pop culture, the AI Barbie phenomenon highlights the growing need for legal awareness around copyright, data use, and brand protection, urging creators to navigate these issues responsibly and transparently (Source).

The Federal Circuit's Take on Prosecution Laches Swallows Whole the Presumption of Validity

Contributor: Subin Khullar

May' 25: The U.S. patent system is under pressure from the persistent myth of low patent quality, despite evidence showing high examiner accuracy and a tendency to reject invalid claims. This narrative has led to policies favoring large tech companies, making it harder for innovators to secure and defend patents. A key issue is the Federal Circuit's use of "prosecution laches," which presumes patents are unenforceable if prosecution exceeds six years, even when delays are caused by the USPTO. This contradicts Supreme Court rulings, including American Bell Tel. Co. and SCA Hygiene, which affirm that applicants cannot be penalized for delays beyond their control. Congress also addressed timeliness in the 1952 Patent Act, requiring applicants to respond within six months to avoid abandonment. The Federal Circuit's stance disregards both legislative intent and judicial precedent, threatening patent rights and innovation (Source).

Judge Stark Dissent Calls Majority's Claim Construction Too Narrow in Tile-Leveling System Appeal

Contributor: Christy Titus George

May' 25: In *Acufloor v. EvenTile*, the Federal Circuit vacated a non-infringement judgment and remanded the case due to disputed claim construction of the term "edge." The majority broadened the definition to include some surface area inward from the tile's edge, rejecting the district court's narrow interpretation. Judge Stark dissented, arguing that Acufloor's prosecution statements were too vague to override the specification, which didn't require mortar to reach the tile's very edge. He believed the broader construction raised enablement concerns best addressed by the district court. The panel also unanimously vacated the judgment over a separate misinterpretation of "majority of an area," clarifying it referred to tile-to-mortar-to-subfloor contact, not the base. The case was remanded for further proceedings (Source).

INDUSTRY NEWS

USPTO Shakes Up Patent Challenges with New IPR Discretionary Denial Rules

Contributor: Christy Titus George

May' 25: The USPTO has unveiled a major procedural shift for inter partes review (IPR) under the America Invents Act, introducing a bifurcated process for evaluating discretionary denials. Effective March 26, 2025, a new framework separates threshold denial decisions from the merits of a petition. A special panel, including the PTO Director, first reviews if a petition warrants consideration based on policy, timing, and resource efficiency—before a different panel addresses its technical validity. This revamp expands the bases for denial to include economic and procedural factors. Since discretionary denials are not appealable, the change raises the strategic stakes for petitioners, who must now justify policy alignment before arguing the merits. Each side gets a 14,000-word brief focused solely on the discretionary phase. The new system emphasizes early filing—especially before litigation milestones—and encourages the use of policy-based arguments. For patent owners, it provides a more powerful opportunity to block weak petitions early. The USPTO has signaled this "interim" guidance may become permanent, marking a critical inflection point in post-grant patent litigation (Source).

07 INDUSTRY NEWS

India's Patent Office Seeks Feedback on New CRI Guidelines

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

May' 25: In May 2025, the Indian Patent Office conducted stakeholder meetings in Mumbai and New Delhi to gather feedback on its draft guidelines for Computer-Related Inventions (CRIs). Originally issued on March 25, the draft seeks to clarify the treatment of CRI applications—especially those involving AI, blockchain, quantum computing, and IoT—under Section 3(k) of the Patents Act. The discussions focused on addressing challenges in software-hardware integration and aligning patent examination practices with rapid technological advances. Insights from these sessions are expected to help finalize a consistent and future-ready examination framework (Source).

EPO Study Underscores Crucial Role of Standards in Patent Landscape

Contributor: Vineet Sharma

May' 25: The European Patent Office (EPO) has published a comprehensive study titled Standards and the European Patent System, showcasing the deepening relationship between patents and technology standards. Using its vast prior art databases—featuring over 5.5 million documents from Standards Development Organizations (SDOs)—the EPO analyzed how these materials are increasingly cited in European patent applications, particularly those involving Standard Essential Patents (SEPs). In rapidly evolving sectors like wireless communication and media compression, nearly 70% of EPO search reports now reference SDO documents. This marks a notable rise in the relevance and accessibility of technical standards in the patenting process, driven by two decades of close EPO-SDO collaboration. The study also highlights the growing influence of the Unified Patent Court (UPC), which has emerged as a key forum for SEP litigation. Within just 19 months, the UPC has handled 23 SEP-related cases—over one-third of such cases in Europe—reducing legal fragmentation and providing greater clarity for both patent holders and technology implementers (Source).

Germany and EPO Deepen Ties with Korea on AI and Patent Innovation

Contributor: Dinesh Sharma

May' 25: The German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA) and the European Patent Office (EPO) recently hosted Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) Commissioner Kim Wan Ki in Munich to strengthen patent cooperation. Discussions focused on AI in patent procedures, examination guidelines, and growing Korean filings in battery and digital technologies. The EPO highlighted a significant rise in Korean uptake of the Unitary Patent, while DPMA reported a surge in Korean patent applications for key tech areas. Both offices agreed to resume examiner exchanges and signed a memorandum of understanding to deepen collaboration (Source 1; Source 2).

R&D and Innovation

08

TECHNO-SPOTLIGHT

Turning Waste into Energy: New Enzyme Revolutionizes Biofuel Production

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

May' 25: CelOCE, a natural metalloenzyme developed by Brazil's CNPEM, is ready for industrial use and promises to revolutionize biofuel production. Cellulose, the most abundant renewable polymer, has posed a major challenge in converting plant matter into fuel. CelOCE boosts cellulose breakdown via a newly discovered binding and oxidative cleavage mechanism. This breakthrough enhances efficiency and could significantly advance the large-scale production of second-generation ethanol, a clean, renewable fuel made from agricultural residues such as sugarcane bagasse and corn straw (Source).

Everyday Plastics Quietly Turn Into DNA-Damaging Nanoparticles

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

May' 25: Scientists have developed a safer, high-efficiency all-organic solar cell with 8.7% power conversion—more than twice that of previous models. They tackled two key challenges: the lack of suitable transparent, conductive organic electrodes and the difficulty of layering without damaging underlying films. The team solved the first issue by using the conductive polymer PEDOT:PSS for a new transparent electrode. For the second, they introduced a lamination technique with a carbon nanotube electrode, enabling multi-layer assembly without compromising layer integrity (Source).

Breakthrough Tech Turning CO_2-Rich Gas into Chemical Gold

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

May' 25: Scientists have developed a super-dry reforming process that efficiently converts CO_2-rich methane into syngas with high conversion rates and nearly 100% selectivity. This method uses a CO_2 to CH_4 ratio of two or more and combines solid oxide electrolysis cells (SOECs) with Rh-$CeCO_{2-x}$ catalysts. The process enables high-temperature tandem electro-thermocatalysis, allowing direct and efficient reforming of CO_2-rich natural gas into valuable syngas (Source).

Scientists Finally Confirm "Crazy" Vitamin B1 Theory From 1958

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

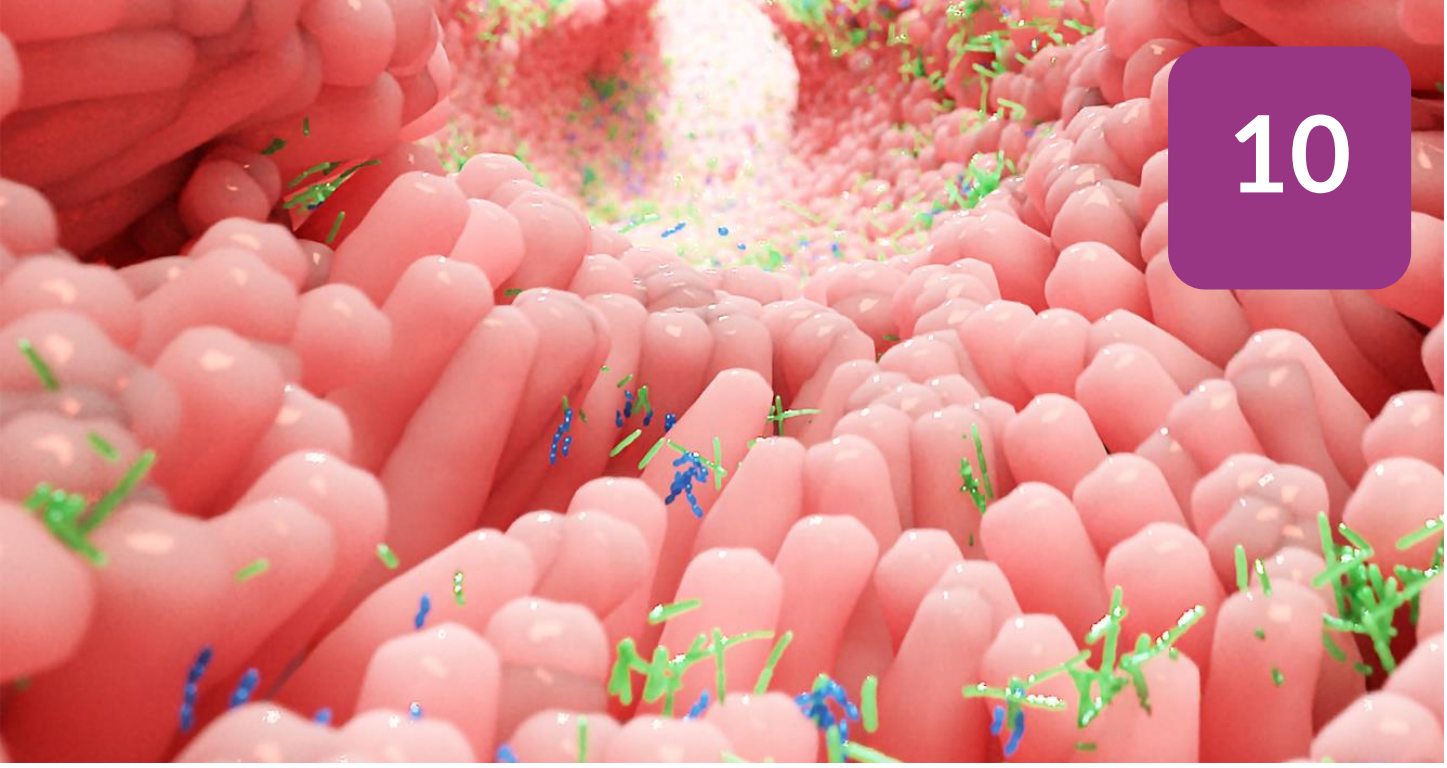
May' 25: Chemists have, for the first time, stabilized a highly reactive carbene molecule in water, confirming a long-standing theory related to vitamin B1. This breakthrough allows the carbene to be isolated, sealed, and stored for months without degradation. The achievement not only validates decades of scientific speculation but also opens a greener, more sustainable pathway for chemical manufacturing (Source).

Key M&A/Strategic Alliances

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

May' 25 (Source 1; Source 2; Source 3):

- Novopor, a (CDMO) in performance chemicals and material science, has acquired US-based Pressure Chemical Company (PCC)
- IMCD has signed an agreement to acquire 100% of the shares in Tecom Ingredients.
- BASF and DOMO Chemicals have signed an agreement giving BASF the right to take over DOMO Chemicals' 49% share of the Alsachimie joint venture, in which BASF currently holds 51%.



Gut Microbiome - Natural Alternative to Diabetes

Contributor: Manash Barkataki

May' 25: Scientists at Jiangnan University discovered that the gut microbe *Bacteroides vulgatus* may serve as a natural alternative to diabetes and weight loss drugs like Ozempic. The study found that increasing this microbe in diabetic mice boosted GLP-1 hormone levels, which regulate blood sugar and reduce cravings. GLP-1 also promotes fullness, mimicking Ozempic's effects. This finding suggests potential for natural, microbe-based therapies to manage diabetes and obesity without medication (Source).

Breakthrough Custom CRISPR Therapy Offers Hope for Rare Genetic Disorders

Contributor: Vatsal Garg

May' 25: A groundbreaking achievement by scientists at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania successfully applied a custom in vivo CRISPR gene-editing therapy to treat an infant with CPS1 deficiency, a fatal urea cycle disorder. By using lipid nanoparticles to deliver the gene-editing components directly to the liver, the therapy corrected the child's unique genetic mutation. Post-treatment, the infant showed significant clinical improvement, including reduced medication dependency, the ability to eat a regular diet, and normal developmental progress. This milestone showcases the transformative potential of tailored CRISPR-based therapies in rare genetic disease management (Source).

Revolutionizing Life Sciences: How Axtria & Genloop are Unlocking the Future of Agentic AI

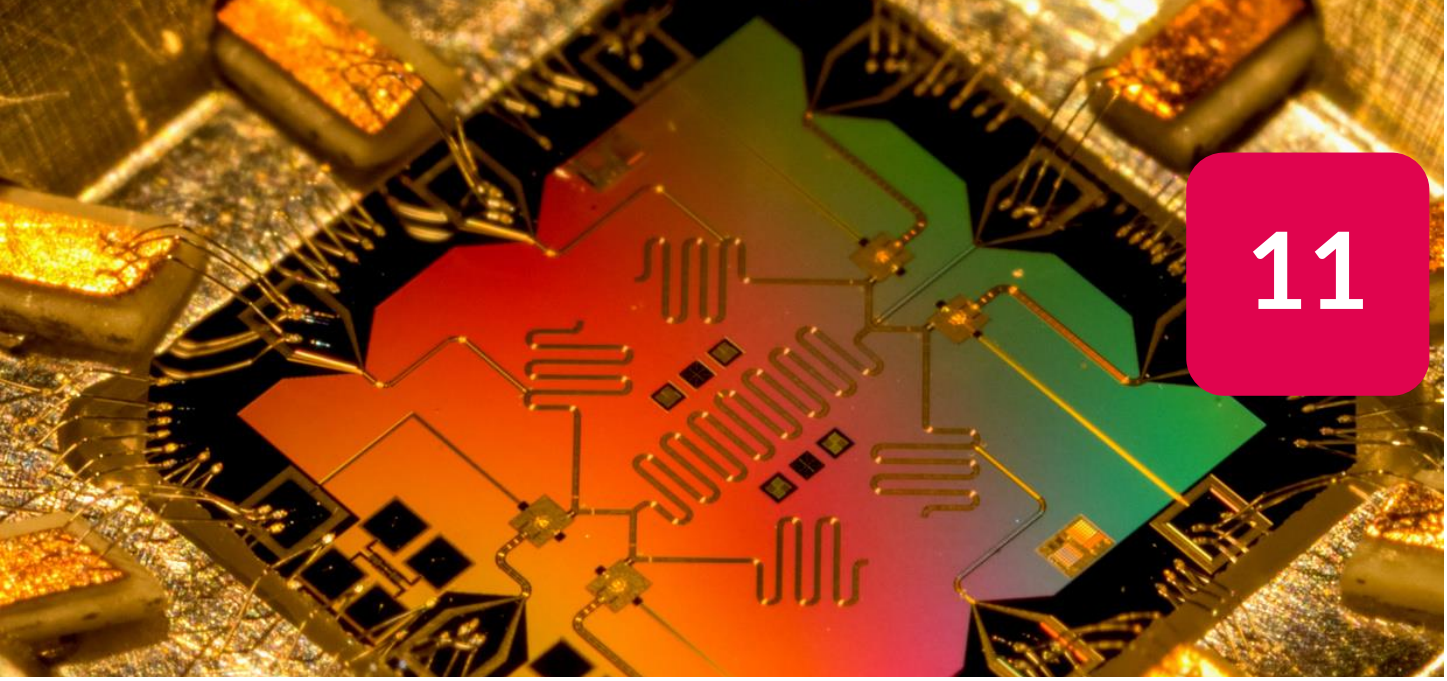
Contributor: Jigyasa Verma

May' 25: Axtria has partnered with Genloop to launch domain-specific LLMs for agentic AI in life sciences. Integrated with Axtria's InsightsMAx.ai, the solution addresses regulatory and operational complexities, offering secure, privately hosted models with enhanced contextual understanding, precision, and adaptability. This collaboration delivers scalable, compliant, and cost-effective AI solutions tailored for the unique challenges of the life sciences sector (Source).

FDA Approves At-Home HPV Test, Easing Cervical Cancer Screening for Women

Contributor: Vatsal Garg

May' 25: The FDA has approved Teal Health's at-home cervical cancer screening test; a major advance aimed at increasing participation in early detection. The self-collection device—tampon-like and user-friendly—allows women aged 25–65 to screen for high-risk HPV, the main cause of cervical cancer, with 98% accuracy. Traditional Pap smears, often painful or traumatic for many due to past abuse, physical discomfort, or cultural barriers, have deterred screening. This at-home option addresses these challenges by offering privacy, comfort, and accessibility. While not a replacement for pelvic exams, positive results require clinical follow-up. Launching in California in June 2025, Teal Health plans national expansion with insurer partnerships to enhance reach and affordability (Source).



Cisco Unveils Quantum Networking Chip, Eyes Future of Entangled Computing

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

May' 25: Cisco has entered the quantum race with a prototype chip designed to link quantum computers using photon entanglement—a fundamental building block for a global quantum network. Revealed on May 6, the chip aims to connect smaller quantum systems into larger, more powerful setups. Beyond quantum computing, Cisco sees immediate uses in syncing global trading systems and scientific research. Developed with UC Santa Barbara, the chip marks Cisco's leap into a field already occupied by Google, Amazon, and Nvidia. A new quantum lab in Santa Monica will lead this effort (Source).

Big Banks Strike Deal to Move to Solana Blockchain

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

May' 25: In a bold shift toward public blockchain infrastructure, major financial institutions—including HSBC, Euroclear, and Bank of America—are teaming up with R3 and the Solana Foundation to bring trillions in tokenised assets to the Solana blockchain. The partnership will allow R3's enterprise customers to utilize Solana's faster, more scalable public ledger, while Solana makes a strategic investment and gains a seat on R3's board. With $10B already tokenised on R3's networks, this move highlights a generational transformation in capital markets—where speed, cost-efficiency, and decentralisation are no longer optional. Curious how Solana could challenge Ethereum's dominance? (Source).

Quantum Computers May Crack RSA Encryption with Fewer Qubits than Expected

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

May' 25: A groundbreaking study from Google Quantum AI reveals that RSA encryption—long considered secure against current technology—could be broken by a quantum computer using as few as one million qubits, far fewer than the 20 million previously estimated. Led by Craig Gidney, the team introduced algorithmic and error-correction breakthroughs that significantly reduce quantum resource demands. The work, published on arXiv, signals an urgent need for next-gen encryption methods as quantum capabilities accelerate. Intrigued by how close we may be to a post-RSA world? (Source).

Xiaomi Hit by New U.S. Export Curbs on Chip Design Tools

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

May' 25: Xiaomi is among the first major casualties of newly imposed U.S. export restrictions targeting advanced chip design software. These curbs are expected to significantly hinder Chinese tech firms' ability to design next-gen semiconductors, especially as they push into AI-powered devices. The move reflects Washington's broader strategy to choke off China's access to cutting-edge chipmaking capabilities. As Xiaomi ventures deeper into high-performance computing and in-house chip development, the ban could stall its ambitions and widen the tech gap between U.S. and Chinese firms (Source).

Ketchup Maker Kraft Heinz Investing $3 Billion Upgrading US Manufacturing

Contributor: Simmi Kapoor

May' 25: Kraft Heinz will spend $3 billion on its US manufacturing facilities, the largest investment in the company's plants in decades. Carlos Abrams-Rivera, Kraft Heinz CEO, highlighted that this move is part of a broader strategy to "redefine food manufacturing" and prepare for future growth through U.S.-based production improvements. Strategic goals for this investment includes introducing advanced automation and digital technologies to improve operational efficiency, implementation of energy-saving equipment and reduce environmental footprint across facilities, and enhancing speed and flexibility of operations to meet evolving consumer demands and reduce reliance on international supply chains (Source)

PepsiCo Completes Acquisition of Poppi, Accelerating Strategic Portfolio Transformation

Contributor: Simmi Kapoor

May' 25: PepsiCo finalized its acquisition of Poppi, a rapidly growing prebiotic soda brand, for a total of $1.95 billion. Poppi, known for its low-calorie sodas infused with prebiotics, fruit juice, and apple cider vinegar, has gained significant popularity, especially among Gen Z and millennial consumers. This acquisition aligns with PepsiCo's strategy to diversify its beverage portfolio and cater to the growing consumer demand for healthier, functional drinks. By integrating Poppi, PepsiCo aims to enhance its offerings in the functional beverage segment and reinforce its commitment to providing positive choices for consumers (Source).

AG1 Debuts "Next-Gen" Supplement Blend Exclusively in North America

Contributor: Akshyansh Kumar

May' 25: US-based AG1 has launched its most significant product upgrade in 15 years with the introduction of AG1 Next Gen, an enhanced all-in-one supplement powder. Available exclusively in North America, the new formula includes improved probiotics and added essential vitamins and minerals. Backed by four randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trials, AG1 claims the blend effectively supports gut health and helps close common nutrient gaps. The company has also committed over $20 million to ongoing research and development, reinforcing its dedication to science-driven innovation in daily nutrition (Source).

Danone's Oikos Yogurt Brand Enters Protein Shake Market

Contributor: Akshyansh Kumar

May' 25: Danone has unveiled a new protein shake under its Oikos yogurt brand, aiming to tap into the rapidly expanding $7 billion protein shake market. The launch comes as competitors like Fairlife and Chobani gain traction, particularly among consumers and individuals using weight-loss medications such as Wegovy. Shane Grant, Danone's global deputy CEO, shared in a recent interview that the move is part of the company's strategy to strengthen its presence in the high-protein beverage segment (Source).

FDA Unveils Elsa: AI to Boost Efficiency and Innovation

Contributor: Sakshi Kumari

June 2025: The FDA has launched Elsa, a secure, agency-wide AI tool designed to enhance efficiency across departments—from clinical reviews to inspections. Built within GovCloud, Elsa ensures data security and does not train on regulated industry data. The tool can summarize documents, accelerate evaluations, and support safety assessments. Rolled out ahead of schedule, Elsa marks a major step in the FDA's AI journey, with future plans for expanded capabilities to further streamline operations and uphold the agency's mission to serve the American public (Source).

Sunscreen Under Scrutiny: SCCS Evaluates BP-2 & BP-5, Widely Used UV Filters

Contributor: Akshay Jawale

Apr' 2025: The SCCS has reviewed the safety of two common UV filters: Benzophenone-2 (BP-2) and Benzophenone-5 (BP-5). BP-2 is not considered safe at concentrations up to 5% due to potential endocrine-disrupting effects. BP-5 is deemed safe up to 2.5% in rinse-off products. Further investigation is advised to ensure consumer safety (Source).

ICH Sets New Rules for Pregnancy and Drug Safety

Contributor: Basharat Ahmad Sofi

May' 2025: The International Council for Harmonisation (ICH) released draft guidelines to enhance drug development for pregnant populations and update pharmaceutical quality data in the Common Technical Document (CTD). The E21 guideline provides a global framework for safely including pregnant and breastfeeding individuals in clinical trials. The updated M4Q(R2) guideline modernizes quality data submissions, leveraging digital tech. Additionally, a new M7 addendum targets risk assessment of nitrosamine impurities in drugs, improving safety standards (Source 1; Source 2; Source 3).

CDSCO Unveils National Standards for Drug Waste Disposal

Contributor: Jiju Narayanan A

May' 2025: CDSCO released a detailed guidance (WI/01/DCC-P-25) for the safe disposal of expired and unused medicines. Aimed at protecting health and the environment, it outlines approved methods like encapsulation, inertization, engineered landfilling, and high-temperature incineration. Prohibited practices include open burning and low-temp incineration. Roles are defined for retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers, and hospitals, with strict timelines and handling protocols. The document supports take-back programs and highlights a "flush list" for certain high-risk drugs, aligning with global standards to ensure responsible pharmaceutical waste management (Source).

New IUCLID Release Broadens Regulatory Reach

Contributor: Harjinder Singh

May 2025: ECHA (European Chemicals Agency) has released an updated version of IUCLID (International Uniform Chemical Information Database), now supporting notifications under the EU's Drinking Water Directive and REACH microplastics reporting. Enhancements include a clearer table of contents and new quality rules for biocide submissions. The release also features interface upgrades and improved support for local installations. IUCLID's cloud version ensures seamless migration for subscribed companies. (Source).

New Method Boosts Safety of Metal-Based Nanomedicines

Contributor: Shahla C

May' 2025: Chiba University researchers have developed a method combining AF4 and ICP-MS to improve safety assessment of metal-based nanomedicines. It separates and quantifies ions, nanoparticles, and aggregates—key for identifying toxicity risks. Successfully tested on Resovist®, the method confirmed minimal ionic content and high stability. This advancement addresses regulatory gaps and supports safer use of nanomedicines in cancer care. It also applies to evaluating metal nanoparticles in food, cosmetics, and the environment, promoting broader public health protection (Source 1; Source 2).

FDA Proposes Faster Path for Drug Color Updates

Contributor: Latika Sharma

May' 2025: The FDA has proposed reclassifying color additive changes in drugs from major to moderate, allowing CBE-30 submissions instead of Prior Approval Supplements. This applies to NDAs, ANDAs, OTCs, and compounded drugs within set limits. Color removal is considered minor. Public comments are open until July 29 (Source).

FSA Flags Jolly Rancher Sweets as Health Risk

Contributor: Ankit Negi

June 2025: The UK Food Standards Agency has flagged several Jolly Rancher products for containing mineral oil hydrocarbons (MOAH and MOSH), which may pose cancer and DNA damage risks with regular consumption. Though immediate risk is low, consumers should avoid and discard the affected sweets. Businesses must stop sales, and authorities are ensuring market withdrawal (Source).

FDA Launches Landmark Nutrient Review for Infant Formula

Contributor: Megha Walia

May' 2025: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and FDA have launched Operation Stork Speed, a major review of infant formula nutrients—the first since 1998. The FDA is seeking public input on updated nutrient standards, improving safety, labeling, and contaminant testing. Comments are open for 120 days, with an expert panel set to convene in June to guide the initiative (Source).

Xiaomi Registers Patent for Solid-state Battery

Contributor: Nitesh Kumar

Jun' 2025: Xiaomi is developing solid-state batteries for electric cars, enabling a range of over 1,200 km and fast-charging of 800 km in 10 minutes. The patent features a layered electrode structure improving ion conductivity and energy density. The design supports a cell-to-body (CTB) structure, enhancing space utilization and weight distribution, and is compatible with existing lithium battery production lines (Source).

Revolutionary New Battery Lasts Longer, Charges More Efficiently, And Even Heals Itself

Contributor: Nitesh Kumar

Jun' 2025: Scientists have developed lithium battery materials that shrink when heated and restore themselves through smart charging, doubling battery life and enhancing safety. This new approach, based on oxygen-redox (OR) chemistry, leverages controlled atomic disorder to improve performance. The materials exhibit negative thermal expansion and can nearly fully recover voltage, promising longer-lasting and more efficient batteries (Source).

PBS Group Launches Its Most Powerful Jet Engine for Drones and Cruise Missiles

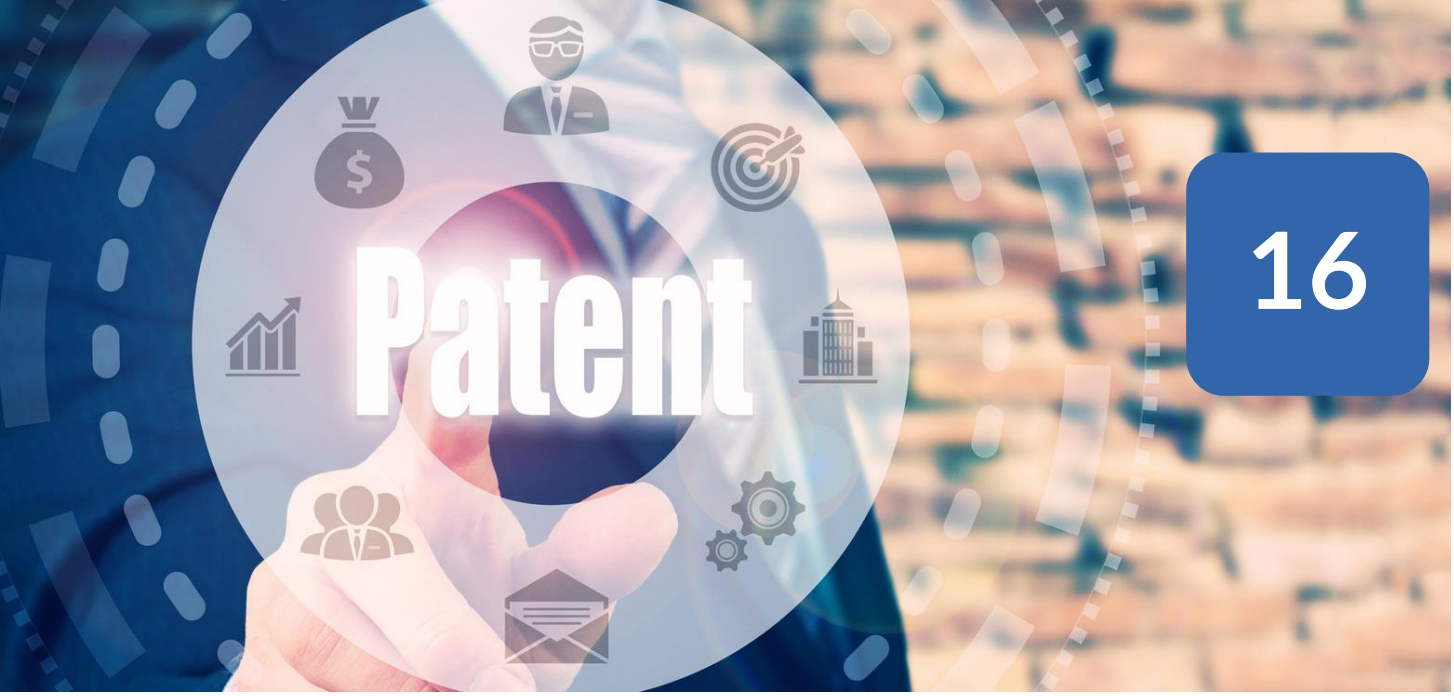
Contributor: Sachin Patel

Jun' 2025: Czech aerospace manufacturer PBS Group unveiled its most powerful engine, the PBS TJ200, at the 55th International Paris Air Show. Developed in Velká Bíteš, the TJ200 delivers continuous thrust of 2,280 newtons and up to 2,700 newtons for 30 seconds. Designed for drones and marine applications, it features advanced FADEC control, low fuel consumption, and seawater resistance (Source).

One Small Change Solves the Two-stroke Engine's Biggest Problems

Contributor: Sachin Patel

Jun' 2025: Alpha-Otto's RevForce engine redesigns the two-stroke engine by adding a rotary valve, eliminating traditional drawbacks like inefficiency and short lifespan. This innovation allows for better lubrication, reduced emissions, and increased engine longevity. The electronically controlled system can adjust on the fly, enabling the engine to run on various fuels. The 200-horsepower prototype aims for fixed power generation and future transportation applications (Source).



Why Europe Must Keep the SEP Licensing Regulation to Protect Automotive Innovation and Competitiveness

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

May' 25: European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) supports European Parliament's call for SEPs licensing regulation and urges European institutions to oppose the European Commission's proposed withdrawal of the regulation. Introduced in April 2023 and endorsed by Parliament in early 2024, the SEP regulation aims to ensure fair access to patented wireless technologies for Europe's automotive industry, fostering innovation and reducing costs. ACEA emphasizes the importance of this regulation for the future of connected and automated vehicles in Europe and warns that withdrawing it would disadvantage EU automakers against global competitors (Source).

CADE Investigates Ericsson for Antitrust Violations

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

May' 25: CADE heard Motorola and Lenovo's appeal against Ericsson for abusing its dominant position in licensing SEPs for 5G networks. Ericsson allegedly refused to license essential patents independently in Brazil, demanding a global licensing agreement under unfair conditions. Despite the parties signing a global licensing agreement, CADE recommended an administrative enquiry due to potential antitrust violations. Evidence of price discrimination and abusive trading conditions are noticed, emphasizing importance of SEPs in standardized markets like 5G. Further analysis to establish guidelines on antitrust issues was supported. The case highlights the need for in-depth investigation into possible anticompetitive practices (Source).

Acacia Research Sues HPE in Its Wi-Fi 6 Campaign, Having Recently Acquired a Portfolio of "Wi-Fi 7 Standard Essential Patents" from the Same Source

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

May' 25: Atlas Global Technologies LLC has filed a lawsuit against HP Enterprise (HPE) in Eastern District of Texas over Wi-Fi 6-compliant devices, using former NEWRACOM patents. In another case against Vantiva, a claim construction order has been issued, rejecting indefiniteness challenges and leaving six terms with plain and ordinary meanings. Additionally, an appeal to the Federal Circuit is being briefed regarding a nearly $37.5M verdict from the Eastern District of Texas against Lianzhou Technologies and TP-Link Corporation (Source).

Apple Owes More Than $700M in Standard-Essential Patent Royalties and Interest to Licensing Firm Optis: England & Wales Court of Appeal

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

May' 25: The England & Wales Court of Appeal (EWCA) has ruled in favor of Optis, awarding them $502 million plus over $200 million in interest, marking the largest patent damages award in UK history. This decision overturns the previous $60 million awarded by the High Court of Justice in 2023. The ruling emphasizes comparable and addresses Apple's hold-out power, setting a FRAND rate of $0.15 per unit. Apple may petition the UK Supreme Court, but settlement seems advisable. The decision also allows Optis to pursue U.S. litigation against Apple, potentially netting around a billion dollars in total. This ruling, along with recent U.S. contempt ruling in Epic Games v. Apple, represents significant legal setbacks for Apple (Source).

Cover Photo: Thoughtfully Covered, Thoroughly Delivered

Evalueserve is a global professional services provider offering research, analytics and consulting services across a wide range of industries and business functions.

We leverage our service design approach to understand your business requirements and to create a customized solution that meets your strategic objectives.

We support our clients in achieving maximum impact by integrating data analytics and research-driven insights into our delivery, innovation and automation solutions.

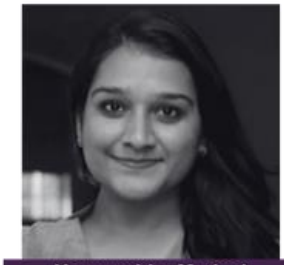
Contact Us

iprd.evalueserve.com

OUR SPARK TEAM

18

Christy T George
Founding Editor



Hansprabha Mudgal
Co-Editor

Akshyansh Kumar
Section Editor
(Consumer Goods)

Chandandeep Kaur
Section Editor
(Standard Essential Patents)

Harjinder Singh
Section Editor
(Chemical Safety & Regulatory Affairs)

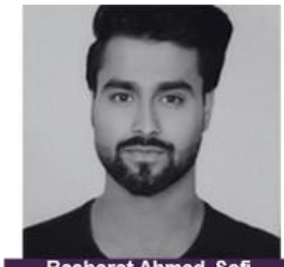
Mukesh Kumar
Section Editor
(Hi-Tech)

Nitesh Kumar
Section Editor
(Automobile, e-mobility & Mechanical)

Rachna Gupta
Section Editor
(Chemicals & Materials)

Subin Khullar
Section Editor
(Legal Watch & Industry News)

Vatsal Garg
Section Editor
(Life Sciences)



Basharat Ahmad Sofi
Section Researcher
(Chemical Safety & Regulatory Affairs)

Sachin Patel
Section Researcher
(Automobile, e-mobility & Mechanical)

Simmi Kapoor
Section Researcher
(Consumer Goods)

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUR RECENT EDITIONS?

May' 2025

April' 2025

March' 2025

February' 2025

January' 2025