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MAY 2025

IPR&D SPARK NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME TO THE MAY 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.

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LEGAL WATCH

Latest Federal Circuit Ruling on Section 101 Affirms Invalidation of Digital Image Correction Patents

Contributor: Subin Khullar

Apr' 25: The Federal Circuit affirmed the Northern District of California's invalidation of Longitude's patent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101, holding that the asserted claims were directed to an abstract idea—image quality enhancement based on a main object—without reciting a specific technical solution. Representative claim 32 of U.S. Patent No. 7,668,365 was found to use purely functional language, lacking any algorithmic or structural detail to implement the claimed image correction method. The court applied the two-step Alice/Mayo framework, concluding at Step One that the claims were abstract, and at Step Two that they lacked an inventive concept.

The court emphasized that the claims merely automated a process already performed by humans using conventional software, without disclosing how the automation improved image processing technology. Citing McRo, the court distinguished Longitude's claims for not being limited to specific rules or techniques. It also referenced Hawk Tech and Recentive Analytics, reinforcing that claims must articulate how a technological improvement is achieved. The court rejected Longitude's arguments regarding factual disputes under Berkheimer, finding no evidence of a technical innovation. Treating claim 32 as representative was deemed appropriate, as the remaining claims were substantively similar. The ruling underscores the necessity of technical specificity in software-related patent claims (Source).

LEGAL WATCH

05

Supreme Court Passes on Petition to Clarify On-Sale Bar Post-AIA

Contributor: Rani Holani

Apr' 25: The U.S. Supreme Court declined to review Celanese v. ITC, leaving intact the Federal Circuit's ruling that secret commercial use of a patented process can trigger the on-sale bar under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)(1). Celanese argued the America Invents Act (AIA) altered this interpretation, requiring public disclosure of the process itself. The Federal Circuit, relying on Helsinn, held that reenactment of the "on sale" language preserved its established meaning. Celanese contended this ignored statutory text and created inconsistent standards. Despite support from the National Association of Manufacturers, the Court denied certiorari, maintaining the current interpretation of the AIA's on-sale provision (Source).

Federal Circuit Reverses PTAB Win for Apple, Finding Board Erred in Its Applicant-Admitted Prior Art Analysis

Contributor: Christy Titus George

Apr 25: The Federal Circuit reversed the PTAB's ruling in Qualcomm v. Apple, holding that applicant admitted prior art (AAPA) cannot form the "basis" of an inter partes review (IPR) ground under 35 U.S.C. § 311(b). While AAPA may illustrate general knowledge, it is not a "patent or printed publication" as required by statute. The court rejected the PTAB's interpretation that combining AAPA with prior art patents circumvents this restriction. The CAFC emphasized that reliance on AAPA must not be conflated with forming a statutory ground and remanded with instructions that Ground 2 violated § 311(b) and thus could not support unpatentability (Source).

Fox Succeeds in Scrapping Machine Learning Claims at CAFC Under 101

Contributor: Subin Khullar

Apr' 25: The Federal Circuit held that claims applying generic machine learning techniques to new data environments are not patent eligible under 35 U.S.C. § 101. In Recentive Analytics v. Fox, the court affirmed dismissal, finding the asserted patents merely used known machine learning methods without disclosing any algorithmic improvement. The claims failed both steps of the Alice test, lacking inventive concept or technological advancement. The court emphasized that speeding up human tasks via conventional computing does not confer eligibility. While acknowledging machine learning's potential, the CAFC clarified that eligibility requires more than functional application in a novel context without technical specificity (Source).

06

INDUSTRY NEWS

USPTO Reshapes Patent Landscape: Faster Grants, Climate Program Cut, Design Fast-Track Suspended, and Fraud Task Force Launched

Contributor: Christy Titus George

Apr' 25: The USPTO has announced major procedural changes, transforming how applicants navigate the patent system. Effective May 13, 2025, the time between Issue Notification and Issue Date drops from three weeks to two, accelerating protection but narrowing the window for filing continuation applications. As of April 17, expedited design patent examinations are suspended due to widespread misuse. With average pendency at 15 months, applicants must now file early to maintain market speed. Also on April 17, the USPTO formally ended the Climate Mitigation Patent Program, citing the need to redirect resources and manage backlogs. Prioritized examination remains available for applicants seeking faster review. Further, a new Fraud Detection and Mitigation Working Group—launched April 16—targets false signatures and improper fee claims, with a new portal tracking enforcement. These combined shifts underscore the USPTO's commitment to speed, integrity, and workload management—pressuring applicants to adapt swiftly, file strategically, and ensure full procedural compliance (Source 1; Source 2).

07 INDUSTRY NEWS

World IP Day 2025 Celebrates Music's Creative Pulse and Global Impact

Contributor: Anuj Raj

Apr' 25: This year's World Intellectual Property Day, themed "Feel the Beat of IP," honors music's power and the IP systems that protect it. The EPO launched a nostalgic album-themed campaign exploring how patents and copyrights support musical creativity and tech—from audio codecs to immersive concert tools. WIPO highlighted global music trends: pop remains dominant, while reggaeton and K-pop gained ground. A youth video contest drew 28,700 voters across 60+ countries. Winners from the Philippines, India, and China showcased how music bridges communities, preserves heritage, and innovates through AI. The campaign celebrates the essential role of IP in empowering creators and shaping the future of sound (Source 1; Source 2).

South Korea Expands Patent Infringement Law to Target Exporters

Contributor: Vineet Sharma

Apr' 25: A key revision to South Korea's Patent Act—effective July 22, 2025—broadens the definition of patent infringement to include "exporting" patented products. This amendment allows patentees to directly challenge unauthorized exports as infringing acts, closing a major enforcement gap. Previously, such activities were not actionable under the Patent Act and required reliance on customs or trade laws. The updated Article 2 now covers exporting in both product and method patents, aligning patent enforcement with existing trademark and design protections. This shift empowers rights holders to seek injunctions and damages even when infringing acts occur solely through export. It also enhances deterrence by enabling enforcement before goods leave Korea—making it more cost-effective than pursuing global litigation. Courts already considered overseas sales in damage calculations; now, with statutory backing, patentees can pursue export-related damages more assertively. This alignment with global IP norms reflects Korea's effort to modernize and strengthen patent protections in an increasingly export-driven economy (Source).

Japan Registers First Trademark Under New Consent System

Contributor: Dinesh Sharma

Apr' 25: On April 7, 2025, Japan registered its first trademark under the new "Consent System," which allows similar or identical marks to coexist with written consent from the prior rights holder. Introduced in April 2024, this system enhances brand flexibility, particularly benefiting SMEs and startups. It enables collaborative use of trademarks that might otherwise face rejection due to similarity, provided confusion is unlikely. This marks a significant shift in Japan's trademark policy toward more practical, business-friendly IP solutions (Source).

R&D and Innovation

08

TECHNO-SPOTLIGHT

The Chemistry Trick Poised to Slash Steel's Carbon Footprint: Decarbonizing the steel industry

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

April' 25: Chemists are pioneering a clean, electrochemical method to make iron, a key step in decarbonizing the steel industry. Researchers at the University of Oregon are turning rust and saltwater into pure iron, with a side of chlorine – and without the massive carbon footprint of traditional methods. Their process, which uses saltwater and iron oxide instead of carbon-heavy blast furnaces, has been optimized to work with naturally sourced materials. By identifying low-cost, porous iron oxides that dramatically boost efficiency, the team is laying the groundwork for large-scale, eco-friendly steel production. And with help from engineers and manufacturers, they're pushing this green tech closer to the real world (Source).

Everyday Plastics Quietly Turn Into DNA-Damaging Nanoparticles

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

April' 25: The world is saturated with trillions of microscopic and nanoscopic plastic particles, some smaller than a virus, making them small enough to interfere with cellular function and even alter DNA. Only 2% of plastics are recycled, mostly because it's too expensive. But if you just throw plastic into the environment, it creates micro- and nanoplastics that look like they are going to cause health problems. Researchers have found these particles in nearly every environment they've studied, from Antarctic snow to human blood. The same unique structure that makes plastic so versatile also makes it susceptible to breaking down into harmful micro- and nanoscale particles (Source).

Engineers Unveil Cleaner, Cheaper Way to Desalinate Seawater

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

April' 25: Boron, a naturally occurring element in seawater, becomes a toxic contaminant in drinking water when it passes through standard salt-removal filters. Most reverse osmosis membranes don't remove very much boron, so desalination plants typically have to do some post treatment to get rid of the boron, which can be expensive. Scientists have developed a new technology that's scalable and can remove boron in an energy-efficient way compared to some of the conventional technologies (Source).

Researchers Warn: Chewing Gum Could Be Adding Thousands of Microplastics to Your Body

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

April' 25: UT Dallas researchers created a durable, self-repairing, and more recyclable 3D-printed foam using dynamic chemistry, opening new possibilities for sustainable manufacturing. This type of foam and process could be used for high-impact absorption items. 3D printing enables the creation of more complex structures, such as fine lattices, which can increase the physical flexibility and provide more versatility (Source).

Key M&A/Strategic Alliances

Contributor: Rachna Gupta

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

- Strategic Value Partners (SVP) and Blantyre Capital Acquire OQ (OXEA) Chemicals
- Godrej Industries' Chemicals Business has completed the acquisition of Savannah Surfactants Ltd's Food Additives Business
- Shell completes sale of interest in Singapore Energy and Chemicals Park

FDA Grants Fast-Track Status to Alibaba's Groundbreaking AI Cancer Technology

Contributor: Ashmita Bera

Apr' 25: Alibaba's Damo Academy has reached a key milestone with its AI-powered pancreatic cancer detection tool, Damo Panda, earning FDA Breakthrough Device status. Trained on thousands of CT scans, the tool outperformed traditional methods with a 34.1% increase in early-stage detection sensitivity. This recognition accelerates its path to U.S. clinical use and spotlights Alibaba's growing influence in healthcare tech. For investors, especially those in Global Opportunities Trust plc, this marks a strategic expansion beyond e-commerce (Source).

Roche's AI-Powered Cancer Diagnosis - A First in Computational Pathology

Contributor: Vishal Rawat

Apr' 25: Roche has secured FDA Breakthrough Device Designation for its VENTANA TROP2 (EPR20043) RxDx Device, the first computational pathology companion diagnostic to achieve this recognition. Combining AI-based image analysis with digital pathology, the device offers unprecedented precision in detecting TROP2 expression in NSCLC tissue. Developed with AstraZeneca's proprietary Quantitative Continuous Scoring platform, it enhances diagnostic accuracy over manual scoring. This designation could fast-track access to DATROWAY®—an advanced TROP2-targeted therapy—for patients most likely to benefit. The milestone highlights Roche's leadership in AI-driven diagnostics and its commitment to advancing personalised cancer care (Source).

Alzheimer's Research Breakthrough: Using Live Human Brain Tissue to Advance Toward a Cure

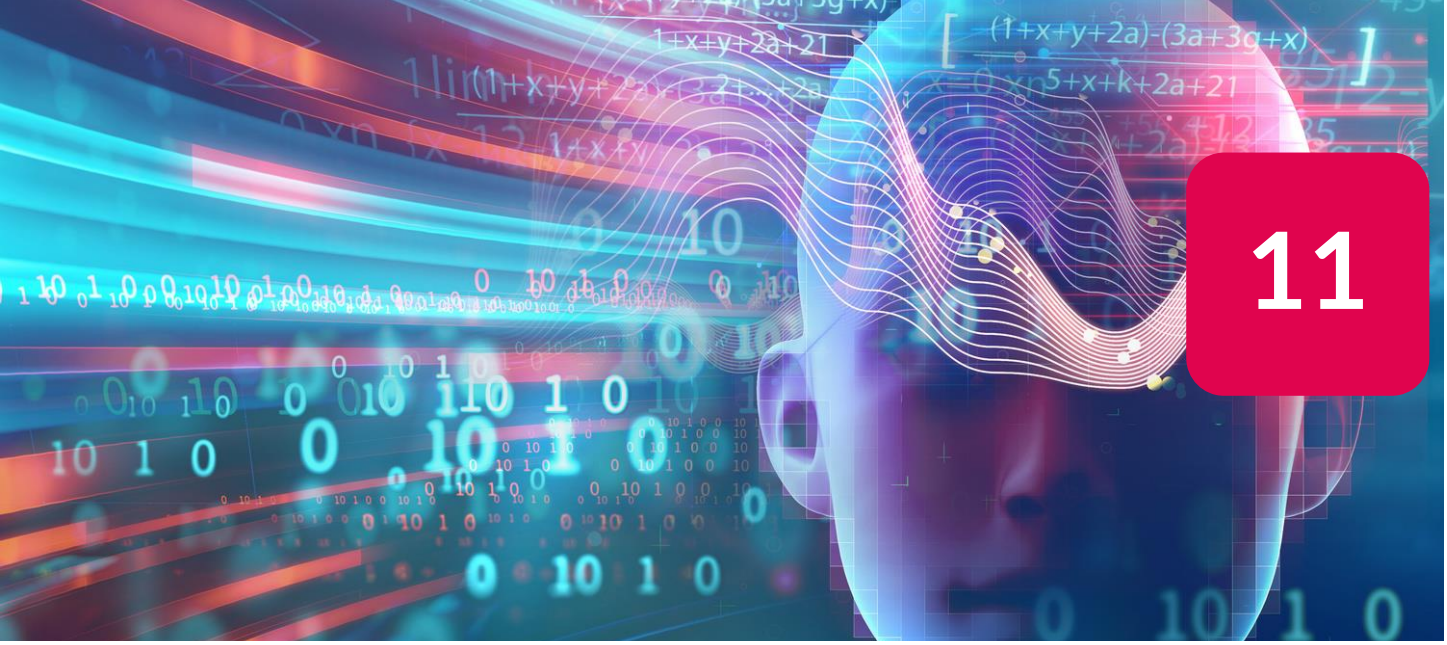
Contributor: Akanksha Aggrawal

Apr' 25: In a groundbreaking study, scientists at the University of Edinburgh have used living human brain tissue to replicate the early stages of Alzheimer's disease offering a powerful new tool in the search for a cure. Healthy brain samples, donated during routine surgeries, were exposed to toxic amyloid beta proteins from Alzheimer's patients. This allowed researchers to observe the disease's progression in real-time and revealed the brain's inability to repair even early damage. Experts believe this innovation could dramatically accelerate drug development (Source).

Repurposed Anti-Inflammatory Drug May Help Treat Alcohol Use Disorders

Contributor: Vatsal Garg

Apr' 25: A recent preclinical study by Scripps Research reveals that apremilast, an FDA approved anti-inflammatory drug, may effectively reduce both alcohol consumption and pain sensitivity in models of alcohol use disorder (AUD). Already approved for psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis, apremilast showed promise in reducing drinking and mechanical allodynia, a painful sensitivity often experienced during abstinence in genetically predisposed rats. The drug also enhanced GABAergic signaling in the brain's amygdala, which is key to regulating pain and addiction. While further human trials are needed, this study positions apremilast as a potential dual-acting therapy for treating both AUD and related chronic pain (Source).



Global Chip Showdown: Malaysia Tightens Rules, EU Demands Stronger Support

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

Apr' 25: Malaysia is tightening semiconductor rules under U.S. pressure to curb sensitive AI chip exports to China, signaling deeper regulatory scrutiny across the global supply chain. At the same time, European chipmakers like Infineon and NXP are urging stronger support through an upgraded EU Chips Act, warning that current efforts lack funding and urgency. As geopolitical tensions and tech rivalries escalate, these moves reflect a global pivot—where chipmaking success increasingly hinges on policy strength, compliance, and strategic government backing (Source).

Atos Pours AI into Wine Tech: Selartag® Inventory Time Cut by 90%

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

Apr' 25: Atos has integrated a generative AI feature into Selartag®, revolutionizing wine cellar management by cutting inventory time by 90%. Built in just six months using Amazon Bedrock, the Atos-powered solution allows users to snap a bottle photo and auto-fill detailed wine records in seconds. Data completeness soared to 88%, while duplicate errors dropped significantly. Winner of the AWS-Atos GenAI Challenge, this innovation showcases Atos' leading role in bringing AI-powered efficiency and precision to the global wine industry (Source).

MIT's "Periodic Table" of Machine Learning May Spark a New AI Revolution

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

Apr' 25: MIT researchers have unveiled a "periodic table" of machine learning, revealing hidden links among 20+ classical AI algorithms. Built on a unifying equation, the framework helps scientists fuse techniques to create better models—like a new image-classifier that outperformed state-of-the-art methods by 8%. The table even hints at undiscovered algorithms, offering a structured path for innovation. Dubbed I-Con, this tool could transform how researchers explore AI, shifting from trial-and-error to a more systematic, discovery-driven approach across the machine learning landscape (Source).

Kyndryl Launches AI Private Cloud to Fast-Track Enterprise AI with NVIDIA & Partners

Contributor: Mukesh Kumar

Apr' 25: Kyndryl has unveiled its AI Private Cloud services, empowering enterprises to design, deploy, and scale secure AI workloads across industries. Through Kyndryl Consult, customers receive tailored guidance—from high-ROI use case discovery to production deployment. Built in collaboration with NVIDIA and others, the offering combines AI consulting, containerized infrastructure, and MLOps/LLMOps tools. Whether in finance, healthcare, or manufacturing, Kyndryl's solution enhances security, performance, and compliance—bridging the gap between AI ambition and readiness for global enterprises (Source).

DSM-Firmenich Forms a Strategic Partnership with Inscripta

Contributor: Animesh Sahu

Apr' 25: DSM-Firmenich and Inscripta formed a strategic alliance to develop a novel well-ageing skincare ingredient. This partnership aimed to meet the rising demand for scientifically-backed skincare products tailored for the ageing population. Inscripta contributed its expertise in microbial strain engineering through its advanced GenoScaler platform, which employs proprietary whole genome engineering for robust industrial-scale bio-manufacturing. By leveraging their combined strengths, the two companies endeavored to develop an innovative ingredient that would enhance skin health and appearance, setting new benchmarks in the personal care industry. This collaboration underscored their commitment to innovation and addressing the evolving needs of consumers (Source).

Unilever has Acquired the Personal Care Brand 'Wild'

Contributor: Animesh Sahu

Apr' 2025: L'Oréal is advocating for improved store shelf accessibility to support Walmart's beauty acceleration strategy. CEO Nicolas Hieronimus highlighted concerns over anti-theft measures, which negatively impact impulse purchases and overall sales.

While Walmart remains a key partner for L'Oréal in North America, the company is working closely with the retailer to address these challenges and optimize the shopping experience. Hieronimus emphasized that restrictive security measures could hinder beauty sales, and L'Oréal is engaging in discussions to find solutions that balance security with accessibility (Source).

Danone to Eliminate Artificial Dyes from U.S. Products

Contributor: Animesh Sahu

29 Apr' 25: Danone is working to eliminate artificial dyes from its U.S. products, including Yo Crunch and Light & Fit brands, due to pressure from health regulators. CEO Shane Grant cited U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s "Make America Healthy Again" agenda and growing health awareness as reasons for the change. Currently, about 2% of Danone's products contain artificial dyes. The company is collaborating with suppliers to find the best way to remove these dyes, especially from products sold in U.S. schools (Source).

Glico Aims to Change How Consumers View Rice with its Debut Soft Candy

Contributor: Animesh Sahu

May 25: Ezaki Glico, a renowned Japanese confectionery company, introduced "Rice Soft Candy." This product was crafted using Glico's long-established soft-candy-making expertise, with rice, Japan's staple food, as the primary ingredient. The candy, developed in collaboration with EARTH MART, featured simple components such as rice syrup, rice flour, rice protein, and rice bran oil. This creation aimed to embody the joy and appreciation for nature, reflecting the deep cultural connection Japanese people have with rice. By highlighting rice's natural flavor, Glico sought to offer a unique and meaningful confectionery experience (Source).

FDA Fast-Tracks AI: Smarter Reviews, Sooner Therapies

Contributor: Ravi Vadavalasa

May 2025: In a landmark move, the FDA will fully deploy generative AI across all centers by June 30, 2025, following a successful pilot that slashed review tasks from days to minutes. Commissioner Dr. Martin Makary emphasized reducing administrative burden on scientists and accelerating therapy approvals. The unified, secure AI system will streamline processes, enhance productivity, and adapt to each center's needs. Led by new Chief AI Officer Jeremy Walsh, the rollout marks a pivotal step in modernizing regulatory science. Public updates on the initiative are expected this June (Source).

Plastic Peril: DEHP Exposure Linked To Heart Disease Surge in India

Contributor: Harjinder Singh

May 2025: A new Lancet eBioMedicine study links di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP)—a plastic softener found in everyday items—to over 356,000 heart disease deaths globally in 2018. India bore the highest burden, accounting for nearly one-third of these fatalities, driven by rapid plastic use and delayed regulation. DEHP exposure raises cardiovascular risks and may contribute to obesity, diabetes, and cancer. Researchers urge stronger global regulations and personal action to reduce plastic use. The economic toll is staggering, with DEHP-related deaths costing up to $3.7 trillion worldwide (Source 1; Source 2).

FDA Leads the Way: Human-Relevant Testing for A Safer, Faster Future

Contributor: Bhoomika Sharma

Apr' 2025: The FDA has announced a major shift in drug development by reducing reliance on animal testing, especially for monoclonal antibody therapies. Leveraging AI models, lab-grown human organoids, and real-world safety data, this approach enhances drug safety, speeds up development, and cuts R&D costs. It also promotes ethical, human-focused science. A pilot program and public workshop will support adoption, with global regulatory leadership at the forefront. This initiative promises quicker access to treatments, improved predictive accuracy, and reduced animal use in drug research (Source).

EU Revises Annex VI on UV Filters In Cosmetics

Contributor: Akshay Jawale

May 2025: The European Union has revised Annex VI of the Cosmetics Regulation, updating the list of approved ultraviolet (UV) filters used in cosmetic products. As of May 7, 2025, the EU has authorized 47 UV filters, each with clearly defined maximum concentration limits and specific conditions of use to ensure consumer safety.

This update underscores the EU's commitment to rigorously evaluating cosmetic ingredients, particularly those with potential systemic absorption or environmental impacts. Manufacturers are encouraged to review the revised list to ensure product compliance, especially in formulations marketed across European jurisdictions (Source).

Food As Medicine: FDA And NIH Unite to Fight Chronic Disease

Contributor: Ganesh B

May 2025: The FDA and NIH have launched the Nutrition Regulatory Science Program, a bold research initiative to combat the rising tide of diet-related chronic diseases. Backed by HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., the program will explore the health effects of ultra-processed foods, additives, and early-life nutrition. Drawing on both agencies' expertise, the goal is to generate gold-standard science to inform stronger, evidence-based food policies and improve public health outcomes. The collaboration emphasizes transparency, independence, and urgent action to protect America's long-term health (Source).

FDA Issues Warning Letters to Amazon and Drugmakers Over Safety Violations

Contributor: Basharat Ahmad Sofi

Apr' 2025: The FDA has sent warning letters to Amazon and drug manufacturers such as Cosco International, Dyno Manufacturing, BEO Pharmaceuticals, and Empower Pharmacy, highlighting serious violations. Amazon was cited for distributing unapproved external analgesic drugs for cosmetic procedures. Three OTC drugmakers were reprimanded for manufacturing process failures and a lack of proper testing. Empower Pharmacy faced scrutiny for producing drugs under unsanitary conditions. All parties were given 15 days to respond (Source 1; Source 2; Source 3; Source 4; Source 5).

Advancing Genotoxicity Risk Assessment with DNA Biomarkers

Contributor: Hansprabha Mudgal

Apr' 2025: A new guidance statement highlights the vital role of *in vivo* biomarkers of genotoxicity in human carcinogenic risk assessment. It focuses on DNA damage and mutations as key indicators, with techniques like micronuclei assays, Pig-a mutation testing, and DNA adductomics offering insight into chemical exposure and genetic impact. The use of human biomonitoring (HBM) is emphasized for its ability to assess exposure from all routes. With proper validation, these biomarkers may soon be integrated into strategic risk assessment frameworks across global health monitoring programs (Source).

FDA Approves Natural Alternatives to Synthetic Food Dyes

Contributor: Shahla Thasni C

May 2025: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved three new color additives derived from natural sources, aligning with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' initiative to phase out petroleum-based dyes. This move supports the broader goal of making America's food supply healthier. The approved additives include Galdieria extract blue, butterfly pea flower extract, and calcium phosphate, which can now be used in a variety of food products. This decision follows a commitment by more food manufacturers to eliminate synthetic dyes by the end of next year (Source).

BYD Launches New Residential Battery

Contributor: Nitesh Kumar

May 2025: At this year's Smart E trade fair, BYD Energy Storage introduced the Battery-Box HVB, a fourth-generation home battery system with Blade Battery technology. It offers higher energy density, modular design, and capacities ranging from 5.9 kWh to 89.07 kWh (Source).

China's CATL Claims to Beat BYD's EV Battery Record with Longer Range on a 5-Minute Charge

Contributor: Nitesh Kumar

Apr' 2025: China's CATL, the world's largest EV battery supplier, announced new products, including the second-generation Shenxing battery, which adds 520 km of range in five minutes. This surpasses BYD's recent claims and Western competitors' charging speeds. CATL also introduced sodium-ion batteries, reducing lithium reliance and performing in extreme temperatures. The company's shares rose 1%, and it plans a $5 billion Hong Kong IPO (Source).

Apple Has Won A Patent Describing Possible Future Macs & Magic Mouse/Keyboards That Use Projectors & Light Sensors to Recognize Gestures+

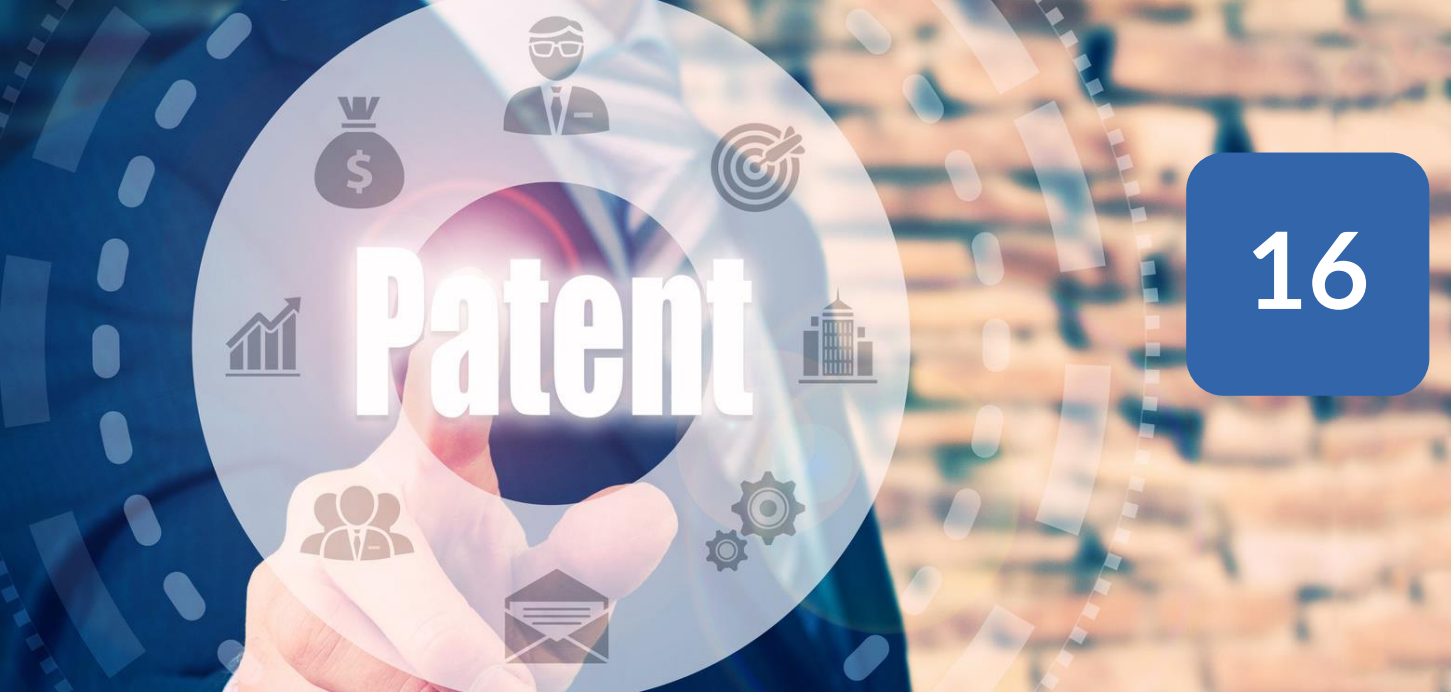
Contributor: Sachin Patel

May' 2025: Apple was granted a patent for integrating sensors into future MacBooks, iMacs, Magic Mouse, and Keyboards. These sensors enable hand and finger gestures to control content on displays, detect device movements, and provide haptic feedback, enhancing user interaction with the devices (Source).

Ram Secures U.S. Patent for Rampage Compact Pickup

Contributor: Sachin Patel

Apr' 2025: Ram secured a U.S. design patent for the Ram Rampage, a popular compact pickup in South America. While the patent doesn't confirm a U.S. launch, it protects the design for potential merchandising. The Rampage, built on a Jeep platform, could be a strategic addition to Ram's lineup, offering affordability and capability in the growing compact truck market (Source).



Analysing Whether Government Intervention Would Help or Hinder SEP/FRAND Disputes In India

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

Apr' 25: India has become a key venue for SEP/FRAND disputes due to its market size and strategic positioning. Over the past decade, India has seen significant SEP litigation, leading to important judgments that have shaped SEP jurisprudence. Challenges for Indian entities include informational imbalances and lack of resources. Government initiatives like the Make-in-India and Start-up India, along with the proposed Telecom Patent Fund and the role of C-DOT, aim to support local innovators. However, these initiatives face challenges such as high costs and bureaucratic delays. Effective implementation could lower technology access barriers and strengthen India's position in the global telecom industry (Source).

The Rise of FRAND Interim Licenses

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

Apr' 25: Standard Essential Patents (SEPs) are crucial for technology markets but pose licensing challenges. The UK courts have introduced FRAND interim licenses to prevent SEP holders from using injunction threats to force settlements. Key cases like Panasonic v. Xiaomi, Nokia v. Amazon, and Lenovo v. Ericsson highlight this approach. These licenses ensure implementers pay for technology use while final terms are decided. The recent global settlement between Ericsson and Lenovo underscores the role of arbitration in resolving SEP disputes. While the UK leads in interim licenses, other jurisdictions like Germany, the US, and China have different approaches, making international harmonization challenging (Source).

Lenovo And Ericsson Enter Into SEP Licensing Agreement Ending Global Litigation

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

Apr' 25: Lenovo and Ericsson have entered into a global patent cross-licensing agreement for their 4G and 5G standard essential patents (SEPs), resolving all pending global litigation. As part of the settlement, all ongoing lawsuits and administrative proceedings will be withdrawn. Financial impacts are expected from the second quarter of 2025. The remaining patent licensing dispute will be resolved through arbitration. The dispute began in the US in late 2023 and involved multiple countries, including the UK, Brazil, and Colombia. Ericsson, with over 60,000 patents, aims to grow its IPR revenues through new 5G agreements and expanding into other licensing areas (Source).

Lenovo And Wilus Agree Wi-fi License Deal

Contributor: Chandandeep Kaur

Apr' 25: Lenovo has licensed Wi-Fi standard essential patents (SEPs) from Wilus, marking a significant endorsement of Wilus's Wi-Fi portfolio by a major technology company. Wilus, which has contributed over 700 technical innovations to standards bodies, offers its Wi-Fi 6 SEPs on fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory (FRAND) terms both bilaterally and through the Sisvel Wi-Fi 6 patent pool. Dr. Jin Sam Kwak, founder and CEO of Wilus, praised the constructive negotiation process with Lenovo and highlighted the dedication of Wilus's engineers over the past 13 years. Wilus remains committed to providing access to its Wi-Fi innovations on FRAND terms to all implementers (Source).

Cover Photo: Stirring Up Sunshine and Stories

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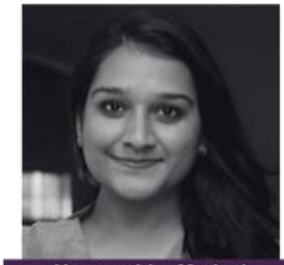

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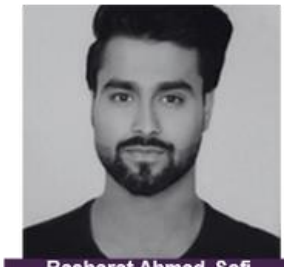

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