

LEHMAN, LEE & XU

雷曼律师事务所



PRESS RELEASE

PATENTLY, CHINA ON THE MOVE

Shanghai, China – December 11, 2008 – The number of applications for new patents has risen rapidly in China, which is set to pull ahead of Japan - the current leader in new patents - by 2012, according to a report released Wednesday.

The nation is moving away from traditional agriculture and manufacturing industry, and concentrating more on innovation, especially in areas such as chemical engineering, the report by Thomson Reuters Scientific said.

Thomson Scientific analyzed the top five patenting authorities globally - Japan, the US, the European Patent Office, South Korea and China.

Based on the previous five years, Thomson Reuters predicted Japan's annual growth rate in new patents would fall from 2 percent to -2.7 percent, the US would stay at around 13 percent to 14 percent, but China would surge from 26.8 percent annual growth to 34 percent. (For more information, please visit: http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2008-12/11/content_7293117.htm)

Jack Liu, attorney from Lehman, Lee & Xu, Shanghai Office, commented that “It is expected that the Chinese patent applications will keep growing at a high rate in the coming five to ten years because of the better IP enforcement environment and China’s strengthening the important role of IP strategy in its developing policies. In fact, there are still more than 90% percent high tech and traditional manufacturing companies that have not applied any patent. So obviously China will surpass US and Japan on the patent application amounts in next three to five years. ”

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