

DID YOU KNOW?



The Korean flag is called Taegeukgi. It symbolizes the principles of the yin and yang. The center circle, taeguk, is divided into two equal parts: the red top, which represents the proactive cosmic forces of the yang and the blue bottom, which represents the responsive cosmic forces of the yin. Continuous movement, balance, and harmony characterize the sphere of infinity. The circle is surrounded by a trigram in all four corners, symbolizing one of the four universal elements: heaven (☰), earth (☷), fire (☲) and water (☵). The white base of the flag symbolizes light and the purity of the Korean people.

G20's HOT TOPIC:

Green Technology



Green growth will be a "Hot Issue" discussed during the G20 held in Seoul next month. With the recent economic crisis caused by the U.S. subprime mortgage meltdown, many government official and global leaders are finding new directions for economic growth, green growth.

Many major countries already jumped on the bandwagon for green technology and green growth, which is believed to be the ultimate determining economic factor for the future. However due to different perspectives, there has been slow progress in reaching a global consensus; hence, Korea is taking the initiative to bring the topic to the table during the G20 Seoul Summit.

According to Young Soo-gil, the Chairman of the Presidential Committee on Green Growth, "The agenda for the summit will be crowded with other issues of pressing priorities to allow much discussion on green growth. The Korean G20 Summit Preparatory Committee is aiming for mainstream advancement on the agenda for the summit, and so 'development' will be a prominent theme."

Green technology has also been supported by the Korean Intellectual Property Office since October 2009, with procedures that have been implemented for expedited service. The expedited examination process is targeted toward green technologies that have received financial support and those that have been certified to minimize environmental pollutants or are environment-related green technologies and support green growth. To file, the applicant should request a patent information search for the leading technology through the Korea Institute of Patent Information, and use the requested information to apply at the Patent Office.

Under general examination, the time from filing of the application to acquiring the rights takes an average of 18 months; when an accelerated examination is requested, the period is about three (3) months. However, with the expedited examination, the period is reduced to one (1) month and is currently the fastest worldwide.

Additionally, if the patent application is rejected after the expedited examination, the applicant can utilize the expedited trial system, and within 4 months after the request for trial, the applicant can receive the trial decision.

With the expedited examination and prompt trial system, green technology patents may quickly be obtained, and the applicant may efficiently commercialize the invention. Furthermore, after the expedited examination, the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) may be used to secure foreign patents early on and have a lead in the world's fierce green market.

**For more information, please feel free to contact us at patent@yschang.com

F.Y.I.

Trademark
Renewal
Procedure

revision to the
Korean Trademark Act
effective July 28, 2010

Renewal	Prior to July 28, 2010	On or After July 28, 2010
Step	(1) Renewal Application; and (2) Renewal Registration	Filing of Renewal Registration
Term	Ten (10) years	Five (5) or Ten (10) years (by Registrant's choice)
Official fees (USD)	(1) Application: \$51 per class; and (2) Registration: \$237 for the first class and \$233 for all others	(1) Five years: \$180 per class, or (2) Ten years: \$286 per class
Attorney Fees (USD)	(1) Application: \$240; and (2) Registration: \$190	\$200 to \$300 according to the number of marks
Time Frame For Renewal	5 to 6 months	5 to 10 days