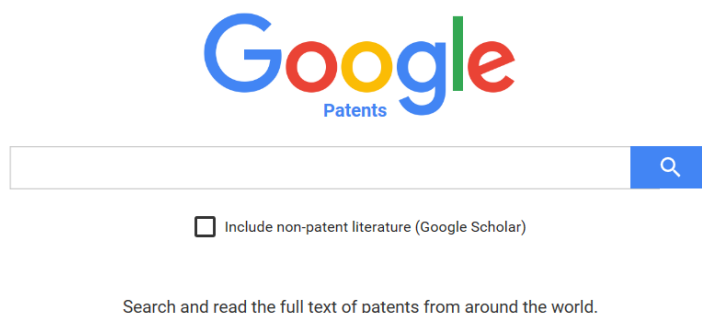


Patent News of Japan

September, 2016

1. Google patents adds Japan and several countries in its coverage.

Google patents has now expanded its coverage to 17 countries/organizations in total. Started in 2006 with US patents, it covered European patents, PCT patents, German patents, Canadian patents and Chinese patents. This time, Japan, South Korea, UK, Spain France, Belgium, Russia, the Netherland, Finland, Denmark and Luxemburg were added. For some countries, full-text data are available as well as bibliographic data. Not only patent documents, but non-patent literatures (Google Scholar) are also searchable.



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2. Kao corporation grants the Procter & Gamble Company a license

under form type hair color (hair dyes) patents.

Kao announced a license agreement of several patents for form type hair color with P&G. They have been discussing Kao's form type hair color product "Nice'n Easy" and US patent 8,153,108 with its related foreign patents for three years. By establishing a royalty-bearing license agreement, they resolve financial sharing for past and future activities. Also, P&G agreed to withdraw its opposition to Kao's related EP patents. For more detail, see Kao's press release http://www.kao.com/jp/en/corp_news/2016/20160825_002.html

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3. Fujifilm lost the suit against DHC for Fujifilm's astaxanthin patent

Tokyo District Court on August 30th, judged Fujifilm's patent should be invalid for the case that Fujifilm filed a request to stop manufacturing and selling DHC's products claiming they infringed Fujifilm's patent. Fujifilm acquired a Japanese patent (grant number 5,046,756) of compound technology of "astaxanthin" component. "Astalift" series containing its component are one of their main products. After the release of the products, DHC has also started selling the products using the same component. It was pointed out at the Court that the information of cosmetic product using the component was disclosed on the Internet and therefore it was easily invented by the person skilled in the art. Fujifilm made a comment that they would appeal a judgment.

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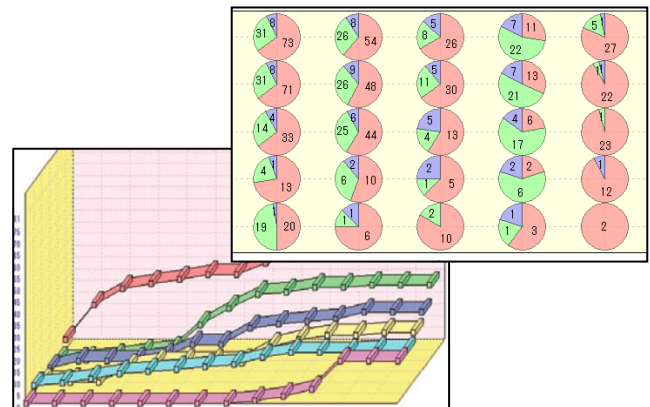


JPDS Product and Service Introduction: Patent Activity Report

Report Contents: Focusing on the patent activity of Japanese top companies, it can be seen the trend of the business field in Japan.

- Statistics of applications in the specific business field
- Patent portfolio
- Key-word ranking
- Patent citation analysis

Example: 1) Quake-resistant engineering
2) Fuel cell technology
3) Service robot



If you have any questions and enquiries, please contact international-dept@jpds.co.jp

