

## Patent News of Japan

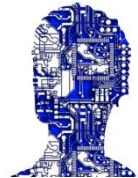
October, 2016

### 1. METI and JPO holds investigative session to reinforce the protection of AI.

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) with Japan Patent Office announced that they will hold an investigative session to review IP system and prepare for “the fourth industrial revolution” to utilize IoT: technology to combine things and the Internet, and artificial intelligence (AI). They will consider protection of big data and AI as trade secret. They will also discuss those who press for payment to companies by abusing patent and trademark right.

Starting the discussion from October with experts from prioritized field such as auto-mobile, robot, healthcare and biotechnology, the report will be issued at the end of March 2017. They will also conduct the investigation of business dealing reality in parallel. If IoT technology will become popular, big data obtained from sensors and cameras will be increased and AI will process them. Data and AI will not be able to be patented. Therefore METI will reinforce protecting them as “trade secret” based on the Act Against Unfair Competition.

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### 2. Ajinomoto obtained final decision in their favor in the Lysine patent infringement lawsuit in the Netherland.

On September 29th, Ajinomoto Co., Inc. (Ajinomoto) announced that the judgment in the patent infringement lawsuit regarding feed-use lysine at the Court of Appeal of the Hague in the Netherland against Global Bio-chem Technology Group Company Ltd. (GBT) was in favor of Ajinomoto with its subsidiary AJINOMOTO EUROLYSINE S.A.S., and now is final. At the District of Court of the Hague, Ajinomoto’s patent (EP1 664 318) was once judged invalid. However, on April 26, 2016, the Court of Appeal of the Hague overturned the first trial, found that the patent should be valid and GBT infringed the patent. GBT did not file an appeal against this judgement and Ajinomoto have finally won the lawsuit.

Until the year 2025, when the patent will be expired, GBT will have been prohibited to offer the sale, sale, use and import of lysine product in the Netherland. The patent has been registered in 20 coun-tries including 10 European countries in addition to the Netherland.

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### 3. JPDS Delegation tour to Beijing, China

JPDS conducted a delegation tour to China in September and participated in Patent Information Annual Conference China 2016, visited governmental organizations, patent and law firm as well as local companies.

This tour was started from 2010, the year that PIAC was first held in Beijing. This year, more than 4,000 people with 30 exhibitors attended PIAC. During the term, JPDS visited the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO), Patent Examination Cooperation Center of SIPO and Intellectual Property Publishing House (IPPH) etc. and discussed the latest IP matters including IP policy, patent information and change of patent law

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### *JPDS* at Patent Information Fair & Conference 2016

From November 9th to 11th, the Patent Information Fair and Conference (PIFC) 2016 will be held in Tokyo. PIFC is the only and biggest IP event in Japan. Every year, many IP vendors of database, search service and software solutions in Japan exhibit booths to introduce their products and services. JPDS will have two booths separately: the main booth (booth No.2) exhibits the Internet search system “JP-NET” and “New CSS”, patent management software for companies “PATAS”, analysis tool “Pat-Mining JP” etc, while the second booth (booth No. 68) exhibits patent management software for patent and law firms “PATDATA”, IP search service, IP seminars and consulting service. For more information of PIFC: <http://www.pifc.jp/2016/eng/>

If you have any questions and enquiries, please contact [international-dept@jpds.co.jp](mailto:international-dept@jpds.co.jp)

