

W&B IP Newsletter



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Copyrights

NCAC: The Latest Report on Copyright Registration throughout China in 2018

In 2018, great attention was paid to copyright registration by local copyright bureaus and copyright registries throughout China. These entities endeavored to improve the quality of their services and to promote transformation of the copyright system. As a result, new breakthroughs have been achieved in the national copyright registration system, reflected in tremendous improvement in creativity and innovation in all types of software and works, as well as continuous growth in the number of registrations. On March 5, the National Copyright Administration of the People's Republic of China (NCAC) released the following report on national copyright registrations in 2018:

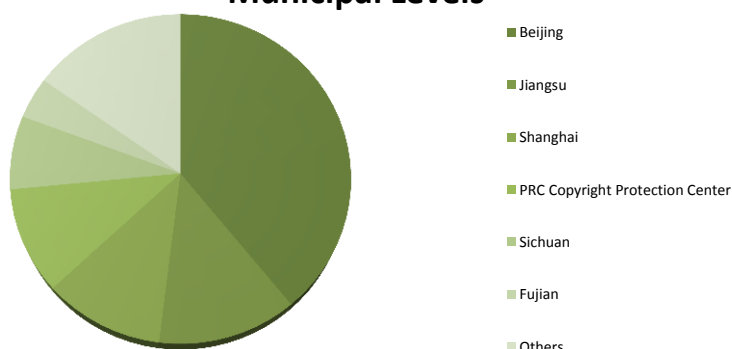
I. Overview



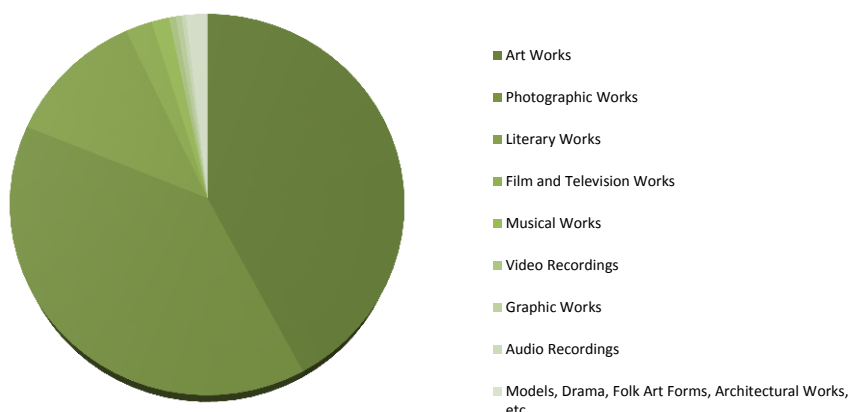
II. Registration of Works

According to registration statistics from the copyright offices for provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities as well as the PRC Copyright Protection Center, the number of works registered in China increased by 349,986 (17.48%) from 2,001,966 in 2017 to 2,351,952 in 2018.

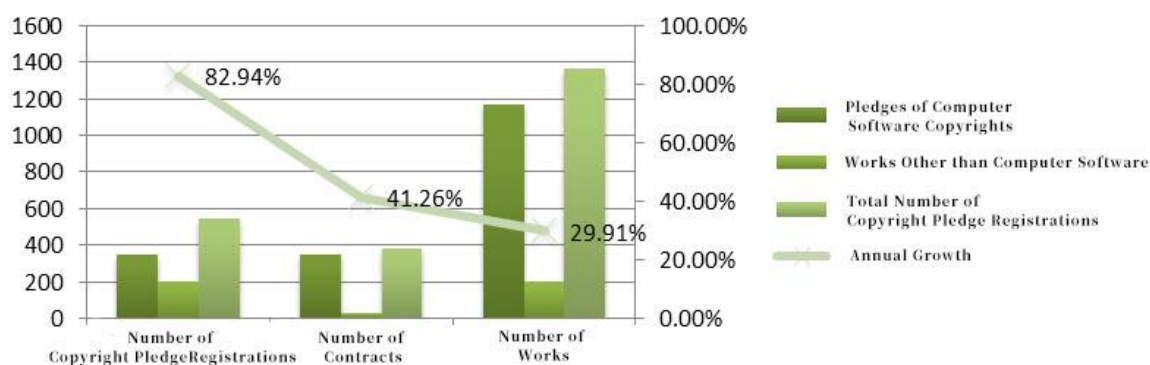
Proportion of Registrations at Provincial and Municipal Levels



Proportions of Registrations by Type of Work



III. Registration of Copyright Pledges



Source: National Copyright Administration of the People's Republic of China (NCAC)

Patents

The 4th Amendment to the Patent Law Expected to be completed in 2019

In a press conference at the Second Session of the 13th National People's Congress on March 11, 2019, PRC National Intellectual Property Administration Director Shen Changyu confirmed that the fourth revision of the *PRC Patent Law* was underway. The draft amendments to the *Patent Law* were approved at the executive meeting of the State Council in December, 2018, and they have undergone initial deliberation by the NPC. One of the highlights of the revision, which will hopefully be completed in 2019, is the effort to strengthen IP protection by beefing up sanctions against infringement in order to magnify the costs of IP infringement.

Source: Economic Information Daily

Trademarks

CNIPA Seeks Public Commentary on the *Measures for the Protection of Products Bearing Foreign Geographical Indicators (Revised Draft for Comments)*

The *Measures for the Protection of Products Bearing Foreign Geographical Indicators (Revised Draft for Comments)*, designed to protect products bearing foreign geographical indicators, have been released for public commentary.

Concerned entities and individuals from all walks of life may present substantive comments on these amendments and revisions before March 29, 2019, by e-mailing pgi@sipo.gov.cn (please indicate "*Measures for the Protection of Products Bearing Foreign Geographical Indicators*" in the title)

Source: PRC National Intellectual Property Administration

Intellectual Property

Shanghai Higher Court Holds IP Judicial Protection Promotion Conference

Recently the 2019 Intellectual Property Judicial Protection Promotion Conference and the Shanghai Intellectual Property Trial Work Conference was convened at the Shanghai High People's Court.

In recent years, Shanghai has vigorously pursued the establishment of an IP protection system featuring effective cohesion between judicial and administrative authorities. Shanghai has been actively promoting the People's Mediation system by embarking on pilot litigation and mediation projects in the four districts (including the Pudong New District) that have established grass-roots IP courts, and by establishing People's Mediation Committees for IP disputes in all 14 districts of the city.

In 2018, People's Mediation Committees from all districts in Shanghai accepted a total of 2,157 IP disputes, among which 1,497 were successfully resolved. The conference was attended by some of the delegates to the People's Congress and by members of the Shanghai Political Consultative Conference, as well as by representatives of concerned government bureaus, prosecutors, universities, bar association, etc. (Shanghai)

Source: PRC National Intellectual Property Administration

Latest Release: Beijing Intellectual Property Statistics

Statistics that were recently released by the 2019 Beijing Intellectual Property Work Conference show that by the end of 2018, the number of invention patents held by people in Beijing reached 1.112 percent, the most in the country and nearly 10 times the national average. The number of valid registered trademarks in the city reached 1.5 million for an increase of 31.4% over the previous year.

Seven invention patents from the city won first prize in the 20th China Patent Awards, accounting for 23.3% of all winners and ranking first in the country. A total of 52,513 first-instance cases were accepted by Beijing city courts, representing a 47.2% increase over the previous year. 49,666 of these cases were resolved, representing an annual increase of 55.9%. A total of 4,481 IP cases were investigated and handled by the Beijing IP bureaus, 11% more than in 2017.

Source: China Intellectual Property News

2018 Annual Report on the Transformation of Scientific and Technological Achievements in China Released

The *2018 Annual Report on the Transformation of Scientific and Technological Achievements in China (Universities and Scientific Research Institutes)*, hereinafter referred to as the *Report*, was released on February 28th by the China Association for the Management of Scientific and Technological Achievements, the National Center for Science and Technology Evaluation and the China Science and Technology Information Research Institute. The *Report* shows a significant increase in the amount of cash and equity incentives granted to scientific researchers in China. This figure hit RMB 4.7 billion in 2017, 24% more than in 2016, and it reflects the granting of incentives designed to encourage the transformation of scientific and technological achievements that generate prosperity.

The *Report* illustrates a rapid growth in 2017 in the value and number of contracts involving scientific and technological achievement that were entered into by 2,766 R&D institutions and universities in the form of assignment, licensing or non-monetary contributions. The total value of these contracts was RMB 1.21 billion, representing a 66% increase over the previous year.

Source: Science and Technology Daily