

Intellectual Property advocacy in the fields of:

- IP Infrastructure
- IP Valuation
- M & A
- IP Policy
- Technology Transfer
- Innovation Research
- Patent Law
- Licensing
- Data Management
- Copyright
- Collaborations
- Balance for Rights & Obligations

JAN 2021

For Private Circulation Only

We wish you a Covid-19 free

HAPPY

new year
2021

May the New Year bless you all with good health, wealth & happiness

Editorial

Childhood memories never fade. In the mid-nineties, whenever we visited any house to meet elders and pay respect to them, we carried special quality dried tobacco leaves (Pukayila in Malayalam) as gift. In every house there used to be two metal vessels. One was a metal box with separate shelves for Betel (pan) leaves, Arecanut (supari), Chunna (calcium hydroxide) and Tobacco leaves. One of our elderly relation with a large store in the heart of the city ran a family business through generations selling the longest and the best tobacco leaves. Coupled with health (cancer?) issues and legal ban on cultivation, trade and use of tobacco, all that has now become history.

What is making news now, is the nation-wide raids on tobacco and its by-product use and their “illegal” suppliers and sources. Of late, researchers across continents have come up with positive findings of therapeutic benefits (analgesic and pain relief especially in terminally ill patients) with least side-effects and toxicity. Generally, the safety-efficacy ratios and patterns and have advocated release of these drugs, isolated or derived therefrom, from the list of banned and narcotic substances. Many member states in USA have already legalised the use beneficial drugs and medicines originating from otherwise labelled as “illegal” drugs. It is heartening to note that India has voted in favour of legalising the legitimate medicinal use of drugs and medicines emanating or derived from Tobacco and Indian Hemp etc. This is very welcome initiative. It is well-known that the proverbial “prohibition” has promoted “illicit” business and trade on “illegally” created alcoholic drinks often leading to tragic consequences. The ban on tobacco and similar products have only helped to sensationalise the criminality in these petty transactions and uses. It is high-time that the Government of India reviews its policy and excludes some of these beneficial medicines and products thereof from the purview of narcotic control. The Narcotic Control Bureau can beneficially engage themselves in more serious investigations rather than chasing petty dealers and users, leaving the allegedly ‘illicit’ to be converted to legally ‘licit’ medicinal uses.



Intellectual Property advocacy in the fields of:

- IP Infrastructure
- IP Valuation
- M & A
- IP Policy
- Technology Transfer
- Innovation Research
- Patent Law
- Licensing
- Data Management
- Copyright
- Collaborations
- Balance for Rights & Obligations

JAN 2021

For Private Circulation Only

New Intellectual Property Facilitates The Precise Control And Modulation Of Cannabinoid Production

U.S. Patent No. 10,787,674 B2 and entitled "Trichome specific promoters for the manipulation of cannabinoids and other compounds in glandular trichomes," enables 22nd Century to develop and deliver new hemp/cannabis plants that are designed to produce cannabinoids more efficiently. The Company can potentially increase the yield of plants, stabilize the level of cannabinoids that are produced, and create custom cannabinoid profiles optimized for specific therapeutic uses.

Cannabinoids, such as CBD, CBC, and CBG, are valuable compounds that hold great promise for the development of new medicines and other therapeutic applications. Cannabis sativa is the only plant species that produces significant amounts of these compounds including more than one hundred different cannabinoids in varying quantities. In nature, cannabis plants restrict production of these potentially toxic compounds to the trichomes which are tiny hair-like stems and globes that grow on the surface of the plant. To successfully manipulate cannabinoids, the Company's new technology activates molecular promoters, "on/off switches," specifically and only in the plant's trichomes where the majority of cannabinoids are produced. These regulatory sequences dynamically enhance or restrict gene expression levels, controlling the expression of genetic information that leads to the production of cannabinoids.

Source: <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2020/12/17/2147171/0/en/22nd-Century-Group-Achieves-Breakthrough-Hemp-Cannabis-GMO-Technology-Granted-New-Patent-for-Controlling-Genes-Responsible-for-Production-of-CBD-THC-and-Other-Valuable-Cannabinoids.html>

QuickGun LifeScience is developing a patent pending formulation of Cannabidiol (CBD) and Cepharranthine (CEP) as an alternative to fast track Covid-19 vaccine program

Provisional patent has been filed for a formulation of cannabidiol (CBD) and Cepharranthine (CEP) for synergistic action against COVID. CBD prevents the virus from attaching to cells by blocking ACE2 receptors and CEP binds to glycoprotein and prevents the virus from replicating. Cytokine storm is the major reason for mortality in COVID patients and both CBD and CEP have superior anti-inflammatory properties to reduce cytokine cascade. CBD-THC acts on both endocannabinoid system as well as bradykinin (excess of which may cause fluid buildup). This is being considered as adjuvant therapy to treat COVID and reduce cytokine response. Being a plant-derived molecule, the product can be fast-tracked to market and THC can be removed from the equation thus negating the psychoactive concerns.

Source: https://www.business-standard.com/content/press-releases-ani/quickgun-lifescience-is-developing-a-patent-pending-formulation-as-an-alternative-to-fast-track-covid-19-vaccine-program-120121100549_1.html



Intellectual Property advocacy in the fields of:

- IP Infrastructure
- IP Valuation
- M & A
- IP Policy
- Technology Transfer
- Innovation Research
- Patent Law
- Licensing
- Data Management
- Copyright
- Collaborations
- Balance for Rights & Obligations

JAN 2021

For Private Circulation Only

Thailand: Filing Trademark Applications Covering Cannabis Goods And Services In Thailand

Cannabis-related products and processes are now eligible for patent protection in Thailand, with some restrictions. A cannabis plant, including its parts and crude extract, are considered mere products of nature and thus not patentable. Another important restriction applies to an invention that is contrary to the public order, morality, hygiene or wellbeing.

On a related note, cannabis/marijuana is an ingredient in a number of Thai traditional medicine recipes. These recipes may be considered prior arts and could be cited to examine the novelty and inventive step of a cannabis-related patent application. Other existing regulations, including the laws on herbal products, plant variety protection, and access/benefit-sharing control for biological resources, may as well apply to the commercialization of these IPs.

Source: <https://www.mondaq.com/trademark/1017486/filing-trademark-applications-covering-cannabis-goods-and-services-in-thailand>

UN removes cannabis off dangerous drugs list, India too votes in favour of reclassification

The United Nations convention voted to loosen controls over cannabis following the World Health Organization's recommendation of making research into its medical use easier. India on December 3 voted along with the majority at a United Nations convention to remove cannabis and cannabis resin from the list of most dangerous substances.

In 2019, the WHO had recommendation that "cannabis and cannabis resin should be scheduled at a level of control that will prevent harm caused by cannabis use and at the same time will not act as a barrier to access and to research and development of cannabis-related preparation for medical use."

Source: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/world/un-removes-cannabis-off-dangerous-drugs-list-india-too-votes-in-favour-of-reclassification-6192391.html>

A Storm of Research Activity into Cannabis and Coronavirus A Closer Look at Expanding Research of Cannabinoids and Terpenes in COVID-19

A review on a handful of recent articles related to COVID-19 and cannabis as well as an interview with a top medical cannabis expert—Dr. Prakash Nagarkatti.

Source: <https://www.cannabissciencetech.com/view/a-storm-of-research-activity-into-cannabis-and-coronavirus-a-closer-look-at-expanding-research-of-cannabinoids-and-terpenes-in-covid-19>



Intellectual Property advocacy in the fields of:

- IP Infrastructure
- IP Valuation
- M & A
- IP Policy
- Technology Transfer
- Innovation Research
- Patent Law
- Licensing
- Data Management
- Copyright
- Collaborations
- Balance for Rights & Obligations

JAN 2021

For Private Circulation Only

Ericsson Files Lawsuit Against Samsung Over Patent Licensing Issues

Ericsson said it had filed a lawsuit with the district court for the Eastern District of Texas, accusing Samsung of "violating contractual commitments to negotiate in good faith and to license patents on Fair, Reasonable and Non-Discriminatory (FRAND) terms and conditions."

Source: <https://gadgets.ndtv.com/telecom/news/samsung-ericsson-us-patent-licence-lawsuit-shares-fall-2337788>

Cusat researchers bag US patent in a rare success story

"The patent was received for the invention of a novel method to convert software design directly to executable bytecode without having to write a computer programme," he added. According to Samuel, this is the first time in its history that Cusat has received an American Patent. "It is also the first time that an educational institution in Kerala got a US Patent in the software field," added Philip.

Source: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/kochi/2020/dec/07/cusat-researchers-bag-us-patent-in-a-rare-success-story-2232714.html>

Bentley Motors loses 20-year long trademark dispute with family-run clothing store in Manchester

A small family-run clothing business in Manchester has won an unlikely legal victory against the luxury car maker, Bentley Motors. Bentley Motors will not be able to use its own name on its clothing range, effectively ending the clothing arm of their business. As well as paying damages to Bentley Clothing, Bentley Motors will also have to either hand over or destroy all remaining clothing it has in stock or is yet to be sold.

Source: <https://www.capital-law.co.uk/news/2019/12/19/bentley-motors-loses-20-year-long-trademark-dispute-with-family-run-clothing-store-in-manchester/>

Britannia moves court against ITC, alleges trademark infringement

Two cases have been filed in the Delhi High Court by Britannia Industries Ltd, against ITC Ltd for alleged trademark infringement. According to a report in The Economic Times, Britannia alleged that two biscuits launched by ITC recently (Veda Digestive and Sunfeast 5-Seed Digestive) were "deceptively similar" to the packaging used by it for Nutri Choice Digestive and Nutri Choice Hi-Fibre.

Source: <https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/britannia-moves-court-against-itc-alleges-trademark-infringement-139852>

