

WSLETTER

PROPERTY, SPORTS & GAMING



NEW BILL AIMS TO EXTEND COPYRIGHT PROTECTION TO GOLF COURSES

EBRUARY 2024

VOL.30

TRADEMARK

CHANEL PREVAILS IN LEGAL BATTLE AGAINST WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND

Chanel emerges victorious in its lawsuit against luxury reseller What Goes Around Comes Around (WGACA). The jury unanimously voted in favour of Chanel on trademark infringement, false association, unfair competition claims, and false advertising. While Chanel celebrates the ruling, WGACA maintains its innocence, potentially signalling that the legal battle is far from over.

https://www.voguebusiness.com/story/companies/chanel-wins-case-against-what-goes-around-comes-around



CHICKEN SHOP OWNER LOSES TRADEMARK BATTLE AGAINST TESLA

Amanj Ali, owner of Colorado's Chicken in Bury, registered "Tesla Chicken & Pizza" as a trademark for his takeaway. In September 2022, Tesla commenced an invalidation action against the said mark, claiming that it would take advantage of their reputation. In November 2023, the IPO decided in favour of Tesla and ordered Amanj Ali to pay damages to Tesla.

https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-68173060

TRADEMARK

UKRAINE LAUNCHES "MADE IN UKRAINE" TRADEMARK TO BOOST DOMESTIC SALES

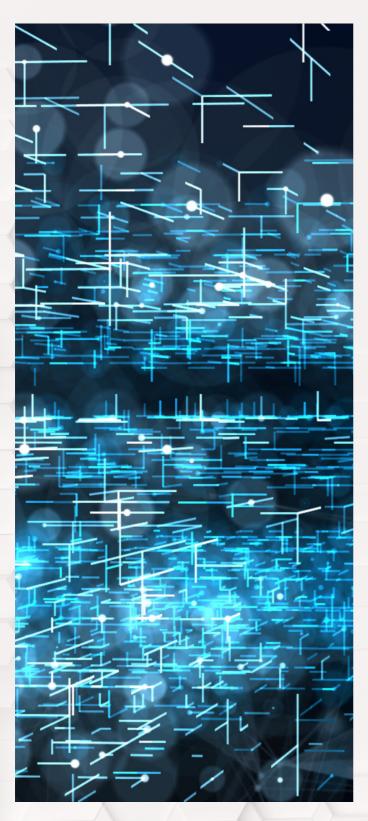
The Ukrainian government will apply for the registration of the "Made in Ukraine" trademark, aiming to promote domestic goods and strengthen the country's economy. The trademark, featuring the words "Made in Ukraine" alongside vertical stripes, will be available for use by, among others, Ukrainian businesses and organisations.

https://news.yahoo.com/government-promote-domestic-manufacturers-under-222600341.html



PATENT

FEBRUARY 2024



US **PATENT OFFICE** SETS GROUND RULES **FOR** AI-ASSISTED INVENTIONS

The US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has recently announced that for a patent to be granted, an individual must have made a "substantial contribution" to the creation of the invention, and only a human can be identified as an inventor on a patent. However, challenges remain in defining the extent of human involvement and the potential for misuse in patent filings.

https://edition.cnn.com/2024/02/14/tech/billionsin-ai-patents-get-new-regulations/index.html

NOKIA AND VIVO STRIKE **CROSS-LICENSE** AGREEMENT. ENDING PATENT DISPUTE

Nokia has entered a significant patent cross-license deal with Vivo, requiring royalty payments from Vivo. The agreement potentially ends all ongoing patent disputes between the two companies. This marks Nokia's sixth major licensing agreement in 13 months, reinforcing its position in the 5G ecosystem and sustaining its licensing business.

https://finance.yahoo.com/news/nokia-nok-inks-5gpatent-130700056.html

PATENT

BMW SECURES PATENT FOR ACTIVE AERODYNAMICS ON SUPERBIKES

BMW Motorrad is upping the ante in the superbike realm with plans for active aerodynamics on its M or S 1000 RR models. The patent suggests dynamic winglets that adjust to optimise downforce, enhancing stability, and cornering performance on the track. While primarily geared towards professional racing like WSBK, this technology suggests that there may be special production models approved for public roads in the future, potentially offering enthusiasts a taste of high-performance features.

 $\underline{https://www.msn.com/en-my/news/other/bmw-patents-active-aero-but-mere-mortals-aren-t-going-to-feel-it/ar-BB1ibqUN}$



COPYRIGHT

FEBRUARY 2024

FEDERAL APPEALS COURT REVERSES \$1 BILLION COPYRIGHT VERDICT AGAINST COX COMMUNICATIONS

In a significant turn of events, a federal appeals court in the US has overturned the staggering \$1 billion copyright verdict against Cox Communications. While the court affirmed Cox's liability for contributory copyright infringement, it dismissed claims of vicarious infringement, necessitating a reassessment of damages, and potentially leading to a new trial.

 $\frac{https://www.billboard.com/business/business-news/record-labels-1-billion-piracy-lawsuit-verdict-cox-overturned-1235610900/$



RODDY RICCH CLEARED OF COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT IN 'THE BOX' CASE

A judge ruled in favour of Roddy Ricch and Atlantic Records in a lawsuit filed by songwriter Greg Perry, who alleged that Ricch's hit song "The Box" plagiarised elements from Perry's 1975 track, "Come On Down." Judge Analisa Torres stated that the two songs were not substantially similar, citing significant differences in their aesthetic appeal, genre, tempo, and lyrical content. Despite claims of similarity, the court dismissed Perry's case, absolving Ricch of copyright infringement.

https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/roddy-ricch-defeats-copyright-lawsuit-181720596.html

COPYRIGHT

COPYRIGHT CLAIMS BY AUTHORS AGAINST OPENAL OVER CHATGPT'S USE OF THEIR WORKS PARTIALLY DISMISSED

A federal judge in California dismissed parts of a copyright lawsuit filed by authors, Sarah Silverman, Michael Chabon, and Ta-Nehisi Coates against OpenAl, regarding the alleged use of their books to train the ChatGPT language model. The US District Judge, Araceli Martinez-Olguin, rejected the authors' claims, stating that they failed to demonstrate substantial similarity between their works and ChatGPT's output. This decision aligns with previous rulings rejecting allegations that generative Al systems violate copyright rights, signalling ongoing legal complexities in the intersection of Al, and intellectual property law.

https://www.reuters.com/legal/litigation/openai-gets-partial-win-authors-us-copyright-lawsuit-2024-02-13/



SPORTS

NLRB RULING: DARTMOUTH COLLEGE BASKETBALL PLAYERS RECOGNISED AS EMPLOYEES

A recent National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) ruling in the US determined that members of Dartmouth College's basketball team are employees of the university, potentially reshaping the landscape of college athletics. If upheld, this decision could grant college athletes rights such as wages, workers' compensation, and the ability to unionise, affecting both profit-generating and non-profit athletics programs nationwide. With similar cases pending, including one against USC, the debate between student athletes and institutions is heating up, with potential implications for the future of collegiate sports.

https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/game-changer-the-nlrb-rules-that-3580913/



NEW BILL AIMS TO EXTEND COPYRIGHT PROTECTION TO GOLF COURSES

A new bill introduced in Congress, titled the "BIRDIE Act", seeks to amend federal copyright law to include golf courses within its protections. Sponsored by US Representatives, Brian Fitzpatrick and Jimmy Panetta, the bill targets the replication of golf courses and holes in digital formats, amid the rise of golf simulators and virtual recreations. If passed, the legislation would provide legal parity for golf course architects and safeguard their designs against unauthorised replication.

https://sports.yahoo.com/birdie-bill-expand-copyright-protections-105500636.html?
guccounter=1&guce referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbS8&guce referrer sig=AQAAALpdZTIXg1
g9BIJ7N3HKAv-7HvflPLfQkLK3nj8zxqUKsWh59z-

<u>8yYf0RfaweBcoQVAAutrv3WDYx0q5FHgR0qZvqOeQu u1ZDK1XjGPbyRO69xQNMqM0 ME13bVMUey8CB 1ypSOKmUu47aKqm8eSy hsackujOx-qv-4xcDSUVi</u>

SPORTS

WADA TAKES COMPLIANCE DISPUTES WITH NIGERIAN AND VENEZUELAN NADOS TO COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT

Following the World Anti-Doping Agency's endorsement of recommendations by its Compliance Review Committee, WADA has filed requests for arbitration against the National Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs) of Nigeria and Venezuela. Allegations of non-compliance stem from critical requirements unaddressed in their anti-doping programmes. The cases are now with the Court of Arbitration for Sport, with the consequences pending until CAS rulings.

 $\frac{https://www.wada-ama.org/en/news/wada-refers-compliance-cases-against-nigerian-and-venezuelan-nados-court-arbitration-sport$

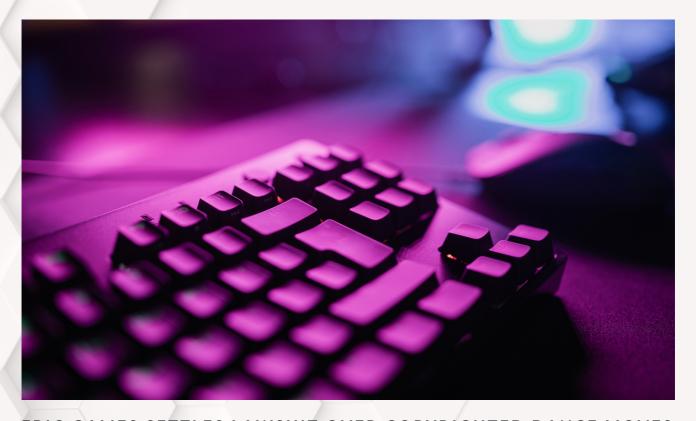


GAMING

SKILLZ PREVAILS IN \$42.9 MILLION PATENT INFRINGEMENT LAWSUIT AGAINST AVIAGAMES

A jury in San Jose, California, ruled in favour of mobile gaming company, Skillz, awarding them almost \$42.9 million in damages from rival AviaGames, after a week-long patent infringement trial. Skillz had accused AviaGames of wilfully infringing one of its patents, and following the decision, Skillz's general counsel praised the verdict as a positive step for fairness in the industry, while AviaGames' attorneys have not yet commented on the decision.

https://www.reuters.com/legal/litigation/mobile-gaming-company-skillz-wins-43-mln-patent-verdict-against-aviagames-2024-02-09/



EPIC GAMES SETTLES LAWSUIT OVER COPYRIGHTED DANCE MOVES IN FORTNITE

Epic Games, the company behind Fortnite, has reached a settlement with choreographer, Kyle Hanagami, who accused the gaming giant of stealing his dance moves. The resolution comes after a federal appeals court ruling allowed the case to proceed, marking a significant development in the ongoing debate over the use of viral dance routines in video games. Details of the settlement were not disclosed, but the agreement brings an end to the legal battle that had been scheduled for trial in May.

 $\frac{https://www.billboard.com/business/legal/fortnite-dance-choreographer-ends-epic-games-copyright-lawsuit-1235607331/$

Lee Hishammuddin Allen & Gledhill

PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS

Of Source Codes and Functions - Balancing Copyright Protection Against Monopolisation

'Willing to Wound but Afraid to Strike' - Threats in Trademark Infringement Proceedings

Competing Rights to Copyright in the Virtual Environment

Spilling the Beans in Litigation

The Price of Artificial Intelligence

State of Mind and the Plea of Innocence

False Sense of Security

Privileges of 'Well-Known' Trademarks

Celebrity's Name Taken in Vain

Navigating the E-Money Landscape

E-Commerce - Drive Towards Improved Postal Services

Clipping the Wings of Social Media Influencers

10 Key Ammendments to Patent Law

Copyright (Amendment) Act 2022

Goodwill Unshaken by Negative Publicity

Employers' Liability for Copyright Infringement

Court of Appeal Reaffirms Test for Breach of Confidence

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