



Hong Kong | Shenzhen | Macau

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Patent certificates issued by SIPO will no longer include a patent booklet after 24 April 2018.

SIPO to Continue Digital Advancement

The Chinese Patent Office (SIPO) recently issued an official notice regarding the patent certificate and patent booklet.

Under current practice, a patent booklet is printed and sealed with the patent certificate. However, the same patent booklet can also be conveniently accessed and obtained online. As a result of the ever-increasing availability and accessibility of information online and on SIPO's public database, SIPO is of the view that there is no longer a need to print hard copies of the patent booklet.

Accordingly, for patents issued after 24 April 2018, patent certificates issued by SIPO will no longer include a patent booklet; however, information such as the patent number and patentee address will be included on the patent certificate. Patentees and members of the public may obtain the corresponding patent booklets online from the SIPO publication announcement system (website: <http://epub.sipo.gov.cn>) after the patent issue date.

For patents issued during the transition period, i.e., 2 March 2018 – 24 April 2018, patent certificates will include the title page of the patent booklet.

It is pertinent to note that this move towards becoming paperless will not disadvantage patentees in any way, and both the old and new versions of the patent certificates will have the same legal status.

Meanwhile, we take this opportunity to wish you all a happy, healthy and fruitful Year of the Dog. Happy Chinese New Year!

Stay tuned for more important updates on IP law in China.

Please contact us with any questions: eip@eipgroup.asia.

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