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PTO RULES ON CONTINUATIONS AND CLAIMS DEFEATED AT SUMMARY JUDGMENT

On April 1, 2008, District Court Judge Cacheris found that the new PTO "continuation and claims" rules are not merely procedural as the PTO contends, but rather substantive rules which "change existing law and alter the right of applicants".

In an anxiously awaited decision, a federal judge in the Eastern District of Virginia has granted summary judgment against the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (PTO) and has permanently enjoined the PTO from implementing the new "continuation and claims" rules published August 21, 2007.

The new rules limit the number of continuing applications and Requests for Continued Examination an applicant may file as a matter of right. They also limit the number of claims an applicant may present and require extensive additional substantive responsibilities for applicants who exceed the limit. The rules were slated to become effective on November 1, 2007, but were put on hold as a result of a preliminary injunction granted in a consolidated lawsuit brought by GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and Triantafyllos Tafas. GSK and Tafas argued that the rules are an unlawful agency action and exceed the PTO's rule-making authority because they effect substantive changes to the patent laws. On April 1, 2008, district court Judge Cacheris found that the rules are not merely procedural as the PTO contends, but rather substantive rules which "change existing law and alter the rights of applicants." Specifically the Court held:

"Because the USPTO's rulemaking authority under 35 U.S.C. § 2(b)(2) does not extend to substantive rules, and because the Final rules are void as 'otherwise not in accordance with law' and 'in excess of statutory jurisdiction [and] authority.' 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)."

While most patent applicants will be pleased that the implementation of the rules has been prevented, the Court's decision is, unfortunately, unlikely to be the last we hear of the issue. The PTO may appeal the ruling to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. In addition, pending Patent Reform Legislation (e.g., S.1145, H.R.1908) may provide the PTO with the necessary substantive rule-making authority and/or implement sweeping changes directly through legislation.

It is also worth noting that the George Washington University School of Business has partnered with the PTO for its 2008 International Business Case competition, in which 18 teams of MBA Students from around the world will present proposed solutions to the problems of patent pendency and backlog at the PTO. It remains to be seen whether any changes ultimately resulting from these avenues will be more or less palatable than the rules rendered void in Judge Cacheris' decision.

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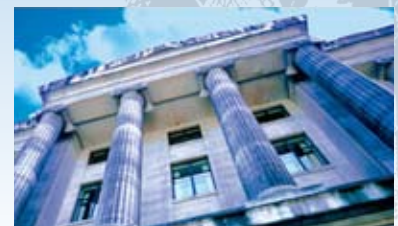
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President's Diary

I have just returned from the UKIPO celebration of World Intellectual Property Day. The meeting was addressed by Baroness Delyth Morgan of Drefelin, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Intellectual Property and Quality. Strictly, the celebration was a day early because the 38th Anniversary of the date on which the Convention establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization came into force fell on a Saturday and, despite the importance of the subject, UKIPO felt attendance might be somewhat reduced at the weekend!

Baroness Delyth Morgan who, from 1996 to 2004 was the Chief Executive of 'Breakthrough Breast Cancer', succeeded **Lord Triesman** as Minister for IP following his appointment as the first independent Chairman of the Football Association. **Baroness Morgan** spoke about the paradox that though IP is threaded through much of the day-to-day business of living in Britain in the 21st century, and is central to the business models of many of our companies, it continues too often to be seen as the preserve of technical specialists. She would like to see it understood by, and its protection more easily available to, the general public. She also talked about "fairness". There were several aspects to this. IP Rights are powerful monopolies conferred by the State and there must be a balance between the extent of the monopoly enjoyed by rights-holders, and the interests of consumers in choice. But actually, she was thinking more that a system which affects all, but is in important senses inaccessible to many, cannot be said to be fully fair. She felt that in the UK we get quite a lot of things right in this respect: the Gowers review of IP published in December 2006 found that the framework is 'broadly fit for purpose'. She was concerned that large numbers of businesses are ignorant of the options the IP framework provides for turning their IP into value.

She said that there was strong evidence that most UK businesses do not assign responsibility for managing their IP, and many are unaware of the basic requirements of trade marks, patents, and so on. This is why the Innovation Nation initiative contains commitments to equip every Government adviser to business in Business Links and UK Trade and Investment to give advice on IP management.

Another "unfairness" is to creators. IP crime is not victimless. Estimates are that a 10% reduction in software piracy would create 30,000 jobs and save the UK economy £11 Billion. In recognition of this, Government had developed a National IP Crime strategy and made changes to IP laws, giving greater powers to Trading Standards Officers, backed with £8 Million of funding.

(Separately, I learned from **John Lovelock**, Chief Executive of The Federation Against Software Theft that this, and the associated enter and search rights of the TSO's, really have made a difference in protecting small software developers).

The surprising reality is that a systematic understanding of how IP is used in the economy is not yet available. Although there is a good deal of economic literature on IP, it does not answer the important questions about how and why firms do and do not use IP. The UKIPO is establishing a research programme to develop the economic evidence base on intellectual property and innovation to underpin IP policy. Also, **Joly Dixon** has recently been appointed to head the new Strategic Advisory Board on IP. SABIP's role will be to provide direction to a substantial programme of research, for which it will have an annual budget of £500,000.

Some progress has been made towards reducing the costs of European patents in that the London Agreement comes into force on 1st May 2008. Government is also giving priority to supporting efforts to increase the efficiency of the European Patent Office, and also to improve governance and performance at the World Intellectual Property Organization.

So, what should LES be doing to assist in these areas? Well, we do participate in the Policy Interests Group of the UKIPO and have had some success in getting matters addressed. If any member of LES B&I has identified policy issues that they feel are being ignored, then please raise them with me and I will see that they are taken up.

More practically, we can make IP education more easily available to firms. Earlier this week (21-23 April) we ran the Fundamentals of Intellectual Asset Management course at Cranfield. This was a great success; sold out and with participants offering unsolicited compliments on the quality of the course and our speakers. I congratulate **Ian Hartwell**, the Chair of our Education Committee on this outstanding achievement and the speakers on the quality of the course they delivered. The speakers were **Chris Bartlett**, **Stephen Powell**, **Ian Hartwell**, **Anne Lane** and **Christi Mitchell** plus **Mark Wilson** and **Dominique Kleyn**, who had completely re-written the third of the course that they taught. As an experiment, this course was run at a deep discount from commercially available courses, and with membership of LES B&I for 2008 thrown in. I don't think we can do any more to remove cost as a bar to learning. We all know the power of the network to which membership of LES B&I gives access and hope that the new members recruited during the course will see it too.

Martin Sandford
President LES B&I

LICENSING UPDATE

CONSTRUCTION OF COPYRIGHT LICENCES: THE DALEK SURVIVAL GUIDE CASE

In 2002 BBC Worldwide (BBCW) published a book called *The Dalek Survival Guide*, to take advantage of the renewed interest in all things Dr Who. BBCW were sued by JHP on the grounds that the book infringed the copyright in similar books published in the 1960s. These earlier books had been written by Mr Terry Nation (who has since died), who was the original creator of the Daleks and writer of the very first Dr Who series. Mr Nation's estate had consented to the publication of the 2002 book.



As a preliminary step JHP needed to establish its title to the relevant copyrights, however. The court looked at the construction of an agreement entered into with Mr Nation back in 1964. This Agreement granted the "sole

exclusive right to publish [the work] in book form in English language throughout the world", in return for a royalty. All of which strongly suggests a licence. However the agreement also said that in the event of default, "all rights granted in [the agreement] shall revert to the proprietors".

JHP argued that the reference to rights 'reverting back' suggested an assignment of the copyrights, rather than a mere licence. It was important for JHP to argue this, because if JHP could show it was the owner of the copyrights, then Mr Nation's estate would have no ongoing rights and the fact they had consented to the 2002 book would be immaterial.

There have in fact been a number of similar copyright cases over the years, containing inconsistencies between licence wording (such as "grant") and assignment wording (such as "rights reverting"), with decisions going both ways on the facts. In this case, the High Court concluded that, on the facts, the agreement was in fact an exclusive licence to JHP rather than an assignment.

The Court went on to find that there was no infringement because Mr Nation's estate had consented to the publication of the 2002 book, and in any case the 2002 book did not constitute substantial copying of the 1960s books. But this case does illustrate the potential danger of using words more commonly associated with assignments in a licence agreement. (Case: JHP Limited v BBC Worldwide Limited [2008] EWHC 757 (Ch))

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Extolling the benefits of LES in New Zealand

Christi Mitchell, (former President of LES B&I), Highbury Ltd and Highbury Pacific Ltd New Zealand has just spent the last week at New Zealand's premier Biotechnology Conference called NZ Bio. This is the second year that Christi attended - it show cases the premier biotechnology companies in New Zealand - this is an energetic community dedicated to worldwide collaborations.

NZ Bio is a vibrant and quickly growing organisation that produced an excellent three day event in the NZBIO conference to showcase all of the exciting Biotechnology that is taking place in New Zealand.

This year we spoke at the main morning session about IP Due diligence and great done deals, we also discussed at length how LES can help

companies communicate across borders. The local chapter of LES is LESANZ and the current President is Simon Rowell who is based in Auckland in New Zealand.

Christi Mitchell

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GOING SOLO – life as a Sole Practitioner.

The legal profession is in a state of transition. The past ten years have witnessed a transformation in the size and profile of City firms from national partnerships to large international companies employing thousands of people. At the same time - at the opposite end of the spectrum - there has been significant growth in the establishment of new specialist practices (especially in the IP field) often, but not always, founded by former partners of the newly formed giants. How can this apparent contradiction be explained and what is the prognosis for the next ten years?

In part the driver for change has been the commercial pressure exerted by global businesses who expect their advisers to be equally far reaching and partly a desire by the founders of niche practices to have greater control over their working environment, the type and style of service they provide, the policies they adopt and how they market the practice (leaving behind the politics and bureaucracy of the larger firms might also be a consideration!).

Certainly, speaking for myself, I felt a tremendous sense of freedom when I resigned my equity partnership at a national law firm to establish my own specialist IP practice. Whereas previously I felt torn between the demands of my family and loyalty towards my fellow partners, as a sole practitioner I am free to undertake the work in which I have expertise, at a rate I have agreed with clients, for the chargeable hours target that I set for myself. Working from home gives me complete control over the hours I work (to the extent that one ever has complete control and subject, of course, to client demands), low overheads and, as I have the shortest possible commute, no lost time getting to and from work.

As a mother with a young daughter I find the ability to work flexibly invaluable. Working late into the night to provide a client with the document it needs the next day is a small sacrifice to pay for what might be a shorter working day the next day or the opportunity to watch a school production without feeling guilty at leaving the office mid-afternoon.

For clients, the attraction of instructing a sole practitioner or small practice is the certainty that the person you meet when you decide to instruct the firm is the person that will actually do the work – there is no risk that the work will be passed around from one trainee/assistant to another as all too often can happen in larger firms. Clients also find me easier to contact as I don't need to spend hours in internal meetings. With charge-out rates at many city practices increasing at an alarming rate instructing a sole practitioner or small practice can provide much better value. For client's keen to demonstrate diversity in their choice of outside advisers sole practitioners can not only fulfil their demands but can also offer flexible working arrangements tailored to their specific needs rather than the needs of their advisers! For example, clients based in the US appreciate the fact that they can call me at any time during their working day and not just 9 am to 5 pm GMT.

After 18 months as a sole practitioner I can honestly say that I really enjoy running my own business and whilst the workflow is something of a roller coaster at present – I would have no hesitation in recommending it to other professionals who find that the traditional law firm does not offer them the flexibility they desire. That said, establishing and running your own firm is not for the faint hearted! Having taken the plunge initially I was shocked to discover quite how volatile the PI insurance market is and confess



that I was unprepared for a sudden leap in premiums just 9 months after I had started. Managing the accounts has been another challenge – one certainly learns to appreciate the importance of regular billing and clients that pay promptly when there is no safety net of other partners to keep you afloat!

Reading articles, such as the one in the FT recently, which refer to managing partners at city firms acknowledging their lack of women partners and their desire to improve the situation, I find myself wondering how they can entice women to stay in partnership when the traditional demands of a commercial practice with long hours and evening commitments are so at variance with those of caring for a family. Many women with young children would prefer to work fewer hours in the office than expected of a full time worker but few commercial firms are willing to countenance it, especially at partner level, with the result that many women are forced to leave the profession or look to smaller or provincial firms, which may be more open to part time working but who perhaps don't offer the same work type and if they do, don't offer the same quality of work as their city counterparts.

My prognosis for the future? In a recent article in the Law Society Gazette, Professor Stephen Mayson, head of the Legal Policy Institute commented on the current over supply of qualified lawyers and the need for numbers to be reduced in the lead up to the implementation of the Legal Services Act 2007 which opens up the supply of legal services to non-lawyers. With more than 9,000 firms of solicitors in England & Wales it is likely that we will see further consolidation. With increased regulation and competition for work, it is likely that it will be the smaller firms that will need to join forces perhaps with accountants or patent/trade mark agents to provide a more unified service for clients. Personally, I would be happy to join forces with other like-minded lawyers who appreciate the advantages of flexible working and are willing to experiment with a different business model rather than the traditional legal partnership.

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Across the European Community ...

Case Law

Germany not obliged to proceed against use of name, "parmesan" – it is up to the right holder to act in order to enforce a Protected Denomination of Origin outside its country of origin.

In its latest decision in the Parmigiano Reggiano-parmesan case, the European Court of Justice has ruled that the community laws on Protected Denominations of Origin (PDO) do not require Germany to proceed of its own initiative against the use on German territory of the term "parmesan", although such use infringes the protection afforded by Community law to the PDO "Parmigiano Reggiano".

Following complaints filed by several economic operators, the European Commission had requested the Federal Republic of Germany (Germany) to take action to prevent the marketing on German territory of products designated as "parmesan" which do not comply with the specification for the "Parmigiano Reggiano" cheese, registered as a PDO under European Regulation No 2081/92 (the Regulation).

The Commission had pointed out in particular that the marketing on German territory of cheeses marked "parmesan" and not complying with the above specification had continued notwithstanding the obligation to protect PDOs and translations thereof against any abuse imposed by the Regulation on all European Union Member States.

When Germany refused to take the measures requested, the Commission had brought an action before the European Court of Justice (ECJ) for failure to comply with obligations imposed by the Regulation. In its decision in case C-132/05 of 26 February 2008, the ECJ set forth first of all that:

- "PDOs enjoy protection under the Regulation not only in the exact form in which they are registered ("Parmigiano Reggiano"), but also in the form of translations ("parmesan");
- "In any case, use of the name "parmesan" constitutes an evocation of the "Parmigiano Reggiano" PDO, and therefore infringes the protection afforded to that PDO by Article 13(1)(b) of the Regulation."

The ECJ then considered the Commission's central argument, grounded on the European Union Member States' obligation to ensure that the Regulation is complied with.

The ECJ found that **Germany had sufficiently proved that the legislative provisions it has adopted, in particular the Law against unfair competition and the Law on trademarks and other distinctive signs, enables action to be taken against the unlawful use of PDO.**

According to the ECJ, the obligation imposed by Article 10(4) of the Regulation to take the steps necessary to ensure that the Regulation is complied with lies with the Member State from which the PDO comes, and therefore not, in the case at issue, with Germany, which by formally refusing to proceed against the use on its territory of the name "parmesan" on the labelling of products which do not comply with the requirements of the specification for the PDO "Parmigiano Reggiano", had not failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 13(1)(b) of the Regulation.

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Legislation Update

Extension of copyright proposed for performing artists.

The Internal Market Commissioner sees no reason why music performers should not enjoy the same copyright protection as composers, which extends to the composer's life and 70 years beyond.

The term of protection of sound recordings in the European Union should be extended to 95 years from the current 50, according to the Internal Market Commissioner, Charlie McCreevy. On 14 February 2008, Mr McCreevy

announced that a proposal to extend copyrights for performing artists could be ready for adoption by the Commission by summer 2008.

Under current provisions, copyrights for music composer's life and 70 years beyond, while performers enjoy 50 years' copyright protection.

Session musicians would be among the main beneficiaries of the proposed copyright term extension.

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Community Trademark update

National Searches optional as from 10 March

As from 10 March, national searches for Community trademark applications have become optional and require the payment of a specific fee.

The fee for a Community trademark application no longer includes national search reports as from 10 March 2008. For applications filed from that date, national search reports are carried out only upon the applicants request, and cost the applicant a specific search fee of 192 euro. The fee covers national searches in 16 national offices providing the services (Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Lithuania,

Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom), out of the 27 countries (or 25 jurisdictions) of the European Union. Community search reports continue to be carried out whether or not the applicant requests national search reports.

The Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market has announced that for applications filed before 10 March 2008, Community and national searches will be carried out in all cases without the obligation to pay a specific search fee.

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Meeting News

Change of Format for LES B&I February Meeting Judged a Success

In past years LES Great Britain and Ireland has held a February lunch at the Savoy Hotel with a notable post lunch speaker. This year the decision was made to depart from the usual format and instead to convene a half day meeting followed by an evening reception at the Society of Chemical Industry in Belgrave Square. The theme for the meeting was "Product Lifecycle Management" and the working session, which commenced in the early afternoon, was chaired (or perhaps compered) very ably by Duncan Curley.

Shilpa Patell, a management consultant with Trinum, led off the meeting with the interesting story of the way in which Roche turned its R&D Management model on its head. Roche had developed an overly bureaucratic and risk averse culture in its R&D operations worldwide. In an increasingly competitive marketplace with an ever more sophisticated consumer base and with drugs coming "off patent" all the time the culture at Roche was considerably hampering Roche's drug development line. By implementing an integrated approach to R&D across five core disease streams, Shilpa described how Roche was able to develop a much more entrepreneurial and productive R&D culture.

Next up was Dr Swapu Bannajee from Pope Woolhead & Associates on "Pharmaco Vigilance: Regulatory Impacts on Product Lifecycle in the Pharmaceutical Industry". Dr Bannajee gave us a very insightful look into some of the current regulatory and commercial challenges faced by the pharmaceutical industry and the way in which the industry could handle risk management. He is strongly of the view that risk/benefit analysis studies in drug lifecycles should be undertaken at an earlier stage and from a more global perspective than is commonly the case. This would allow companies to review and readjust their strategies at an earlier stage and would in Dr Bannajee's view encourage more out-licensing and assist in the regulatory filing process.

Jonathan DeVile, a patent attorney with D Young & Co then spoke on patent pools in the IT industry. He gave an informative overview of the background to patent pools in the IT industry, with a particular emphasis on the development of patent pools in the telecommunications field where the need for interoperability has necessitated the development of technology standards. One of the interesting statistics he provided was that amongst 3G technologies there are now more than 120 "essential" IP owners for over 8,000 patents. He noted that there is no real equivalent to patent pools in the life sciences area as this area is not dictated by interoperability issues in the same way.

Following the afternoon tea break, Colin Hunsley, Director of Commercialisation at Clearview IP and a former BTG executive talked about his experiences in resolving IP issues. He underlined the importance of commercial people taking a significant role in the process and gave some insightful advice for executives preparing and managing IP litigation. Somewhat surprisingly, he spoke positively of his experiences with lawyers working on a contingency fee basis because, in his experience, this arrangement better aligned the interest of the lawyer and

the client. However he emphasised the absolute necessity of ensuring that the engagement agreement enabled the client to retain full discretion in making all litigation and settlement decisions. Otherwise the parties' interests might diverge significantly, which could and has in some cases resulted in settlement discussions being de-railed.

Finally Tibor Papp, the head of consultancy at Pharma Ventures, spoke on issues arising from patent expiry in the pharmaceutical industry. As an increasing number of drugs come "off patent" and there is more and more generic competition, pharmaceutical companies have to develop new strategies to manage their products post expiry and to develop new ways of generating revenue, for example by in-licensing earlier in the product cycle. In general this means that pharma companies are going to have to look to compete on price by reducing costs, or investing in their own generic products, creating a brand, or investing in clinical development so as to be able to sell the best, safest or most credible product. Creating new product combinations, uses or formulations and creating new product channels and means of promotion are all strategies which can be employed. "Patent fencing" is another tactic and data exclusivity barriers are also used as a means of preventing generics from entering the market.

A very insightful and informative afternoon session closed just in time for early evening drinks in the Garden Room, where Ian Fletcher, CEO UK of the UK Intellectual Property Office addressed us as guest speaker for the evening. After speaking very frankly at our AGM last year, Ian agreed to return to give an overview of progress and some insight into the key challenges that the UKIPO faces and the agenda during his term of office. With a background in economics, it is perhaps not surprising to learn that Ian intends to lead a review of the overall economic impact of intellectual property policy on industrial development in the UK. This will of course have to be firmly anchored in the context of Community based intellectual property and competition policy, in particular in view of the gathering momentum of the Community Patent lobby. Ian gave an entertaining overview on the progress of the intergovernmental talks concerning the Community Patent. Although quite upbeat on the subject, I suspect that resolving some of the outstanding difficulties such as the old chestnut of agreed languages, is more than likely to require all of his undoubted skills of diplomacy and a great deal of knocking together of heads across Europe!

Overall it was a well attended and enjoyable half day meeting, with a good balance of speakers, topics and networking opportunities. In short, a successful change of format from the traditional LES Britain & Ireland February luncheon at the Savoy and definitely a formula worth repeating in the future.

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FIGHTING FOR FASHION

In the last issue, Peter Bolger of Mason, Hayes & Curran reported on the Irish High Court decision in Karen Millen's Community unregistered design right action against Dunnes Stores. Since then, further design disputes in the fashion industry have been hitting the headlines in the UK. This article considers some of these disputes and explains why the fashion industry is increasingly seeking to rely on Community design rights to stamp out copycat designs.

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Handbags at dawn

Earlier this year, the company behind luxury accessories brand Jimmy Choo brought an action against Touchstone Limited. Jimmy Choo alleged that Touchstone had infringed its Community Registered Design for its "Ramona" handbag. Touchstone claimed any infringement of Jimmy Choo's design was innocent and as such, they should not have to pay damages to Jimmy Choo. There are two separate design right regimes in the UK. As well as Community registered and unregistered designs (such as those relied on by Karen Millen in the earlier case) there is a separate design regime governed by UK national law. Where such a UK design right (registered or unregistered) has been copied innocently, the infringer does not have to pay damages to the designer, although other remedies are available. In contrast there is no such "innocence defence" available under the European regime. Touchstone argued that this was unfair. However, this cut no ice with the High Court who awarded damages in Jimmy Choo's favour.

Kicked into touch

More recently a settlement between Gina, a luxury shoe designer and Moda in Pelle, a high street brand, hit the headlines. Moda in Pelle were accused by Gina of copying a number of their designs. Gina's view was that the scale of the copying was such that they had to take decisive action to protect their IPR and the Gina brand. Moda in Pelle stated publicly that any similarities were entirely innocent and unintentional. However, they settled with Gina on reported terms of £100,000 damages plus £150,000 legal costs.

Advantages of Community design regime

It seems that fashion designers are increasingly relying on Community registered and unregistered design rights when seeking to uphold their design rights. There are a number of reasons for this. Firstly, as the Jimmy Choo case highlights, there is no defence of 'innocent infringement' in respect of registered or unregistered Community designs,

which potentially makes it easier for designers to obtain damages from infringers. In addition, although unregistered Community design right protection lasts for only three years (as opposed to a maximum of 15 years' protection for UK unregistered designs), this shorter period of protection is unlikely to cause significant problems for the fashion industry. As soon as a designer showcases their new collection they automatically gain protection over those designs for the next three years. Given the fleeting nature of fashion and what is fashionable the period of three years tends to be more than sufficient to protect designs which are unlikely to be copied for years to come. Indeed, any copycat designs are likely to be problematic only during the life cycle of that style.

The future for fashion?

It seems that designers are now well aware of their design rights and are not afraid to use them. By way of example, as well as the recent cases highlighted, in recent years Jimmy Choo have also settled disputes with Warehouse, Marks & Spencers and New Look, amongst others. Monsoon have also settled legal action against Primark.

The increasing consumer interest in designer items worn by celebrities, and the nature of fashion, means that there will always be a demand from consumers for affordable high street clothes influenced by the catwalks. However, given the increasing trend for fashion designers to threaten legal action in such situations, high street stores will have to be more careful than ever to ensure they do not cross the line.

Susan Snedden and Sarah Dods

IP & Technology Department,
Maclay Murray & Spens LLP

Change of date for LES Scotland Branch Meeting

URGENT - Thanks to the football(!!!), we are postponing our LES event on Copyright from 1st May to 11th June.

We've only ever had to postpone one previous LES (Scottish Branch) evening seminar - and that too was thanks to a European game! We do our best to miss football fixtures but this one wasn't to be expected..... or so I've been led to believe by the committee members who are considerably more football savvy than I - which wouldn't be hard!

But your feedback and interest shows that the topic is certainly one of great interest and we are very grateful to our speakers who have agreed to rearrange for another night - so the new date for your diaries is Weds 11th June. All other information is the same!

Caroline Sincok

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14 May 2008

LES London Region

UCL Business plc
97 Tottenham Court Road
London W1T 4TP
"Understanding IP Auctions –
Processes, Benefits and Challenges"
17:30 for 18:00
Email: les@glasconf.demon.co.uk

3-5 June 2008

TechConnect Summit

Connecting Innovators, Investors
and Corporations Hynes Convention
Centre Boston, Massachusetts, USA
At the Summit, presenters of early-
stage companies meet with large
corporations, investors or bankers
to match-up funding or partnering
opportunities while large corporations
and government agencies present
their current and future technology
needs.
See: www.nanotech@nsti.org

9 June 2008

BIA BioFinance & BioInnovate Europe

Royal College of Physicians
London(Discount for LES Members)
See: www.biofinanceeurope.org
Email: lwren@bioindustry.org

**11 June 2008 NB change of date
LES Scotland Branch**

"How is © coping with the digital
age?"Pinsent Masons LLP
123 St Vincent St., Glasgow
18:00-20:30
Email: les@glasconf.demon.co.uk

11 June 2008

TIPLO

Gray's Inn
"Pharmaceutical Regulations"
Email: tjpl@renatesiebrasse.co.uk

25-26 June 2008

IP Business Congress- CIPO Summit

Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky,
Amsterdam
Exploring the role of the Chief
Intellectual Property Officer (CIPO)
followed by live European IP Auction.
(Supported by LES amongst others).
See: www.ipbusinesscongress.com

**2 July 2008 *Date for the Diary*
LES B&I Annual Conference
and AGM**

Wellcome Collection Conference
Centre, Euston
Road, London NW1
2BE. Prestigious
Plenary speakers:
Richard Seabrook, Head of Business
Development at The Wellcome
Trust and Tom Hockaday, Managing
Director of Isis Innovation along with
a wealth of workshops to tempt you
from "virtual reality", to healthcare's
"exclusive distribution agreements",
to patent abuse and current issues
surrounding brands.
Email: les@glasconf.demon.co.uk

28-30 September 2008

LES Pan- European Conference

Amsterdam, The Netherlands
See: www.2008.les-benelux.org

Welcome!

Council has been pleased to welcome the following new members to the Society:
Mr David Armstrong, RFIP Ltd.;
Mrs Julia Boyle, Telefonica O2 Europe plc.; **Dr Frank Craig**, Scottish Institute of Enterprise; **Mr Kyle Fairchild**, Fairchild Innovation Consulting; **Dr Adam Hajjar**, Swiss Precision Diagnostics Development Company Ltd.; **Dr Keith Hallinan**, Unilever plc.; **Mr David Harvey**, Rolls Royce plc.; **Mrs Ruth Hewiness**, BP; **Mr Tom Higgison**, Edinburgh & Innovation Ltd.;
Miss Samantha King, Speechly Bircham; **Mrs Lyndsey Lynch**, Ministry of Defence; **Ms Sarah O'Neill**, Fannin Ltd.;
Mr Daniel Pavin, Taylor Wessing LLP;
Dr Steven Renwick, Pharmaventures Ltd.;
Mr Denis Schubauer, Linklaters LLP;
Ms Serena Tierney,

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Please also remember to change your contact details in the Membership Directory on the LESI website. As a service to our members the editor will print any change of company and location in newsxchange™. Please contact **Mary Elson**, elson.mary@btinternet.com

Membership

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A membership application form may also be found on the LES B&I website: www.les-bi.org

