

This news mail distributed in Japanese and English from time to time provides updates on the development of law in Taiwan with focus on intellectual property rights law. For more information about the status of intellectual property right protection and practice in Taiwan, please visit our website www.tiplo.com.tw

Topics in this issue

- 01 Silicon photonics patent dispute escalates as MSSCORPS sues Enli Technology for infringement, seeking TWD2 hundred million in damages**
- 02 Elan Microelectronics secures interim victory in patent infringement lawsuit against FocalTech**
- 03 Analysis of trademark filing trends across industries with Taiwan IPO and WIPI 2025 statistics over the past five years**



E260326X1

E260325X1

01 Silicon photonics patent dispute escalates as MSSCORPS sues Enli Technology for infringement, seeking TWD2 hundred million in damages

MSSCORPS Co., Ltd. (“MSSCORPS”) released the material information that Enli Technology Co., Ltd. (“Enli”) allegedly used the equipment and technical solution relating to MSSCORPS’s patent titled “Device for Detecting Optical Loss”. In order to prevent continued infringement upon its invention patent, MSSCORPS filed a lawsuit in the Intellectual Property and Commercial Court (“IPC Court”) on March 25, 2026, claiming that Enli infringed upon its invention patent no. I870008B, titled “Device for Detecting Optical Loss” and seeking a court order requiring Enli to cease and prevent all acts of patent infringement, as well as damages in an amount of TWD200 million.

In response to MSSCORPS’ lawsuit alleging infringement upon its invention patent no. I870008B, Enli stated that it regretted the conduct of the industry peer that chose to disseminate information through the press before the completion of judicial proceedings and thus hindered industry innovation. The company further strongly condemned what it described as an inappropriate act of competition.

Enli also pointed out that there is a generational gap in inspection technologies between the two companies. The patent asserted by MSSCORPS adopts a conventional solution using “metallographic microscope” for optical loss measurement, while Enli’s technology is based on the next-generation and more advanced “hyperspectral imaging sensor module” as its core technology that is able to be highly integrated into client-side systems (such as, probe stations and electrical testing equipment) to directly perform optical inspection of silicon photonics. Optical loss detection is simply one of the applications within Enli’s multifunctional silicon photonics chip inspection module. Enli further emphasized that the attempt to allege infringement against a next-generation hyperspectral imaging sensor module based on an outdated metallographic microscope patent is technically untenable. (Released 2026.03.26)

/CCS

E260318Y1

02 Elan Microelectronics secures interim victory in patent infringement lawsuit against FocalTech

Elan Microelectronics filed a patent infringement lawsuit against FocalTech Systems Co., Ltd. (“FocalTech”) in the Taiwan Intellectual Property and Commercial Court (“IPC Court”) on March 20, 2024, alleging that the touchpad controller manufactured by FocalTech infringed upon its Taiwan invention patent no. I662460 and thus seeking damages arising from the alleged infringement.

The IPC Court issued an interlocutory judgment on March 18, 2026, sustaining the alleged infringement and the validity of Elan Microelectronics’ invention patent. According to this interlocutory judgment, the “FT3437” chip manufactured by FocalTech and the touchpad module incorporating the said chip constituted infringement upon claim 1 and claim 6 of Elan Microelectronics’ invention patent no. I662460, titled “Method of Changing Identified Type of Touch Object”. (Released 2026.03.18)

/CCS

E260401Y2

03 Analysis of trademark filing trends across industries with Taiwan IPO and WIPI 2025 statistics over the past five years

The World Intellectual Property Organizations (WIPO) released the World Intellectual Property Indicators 2025, the WIPI 2025, on November 12, 2025 to make public the statistics on global trademark activity in 2024, including the global trademark filings and total class counts, number of registrations and total class counts, average pendency times for first office action and final decision, statistics of final decisions, distribution of the top ten industry classes, application class count per unit of GDP and application class count per million population of each country throughout 2024. Taiwan IPO released the “Analysis of Trends in Trademark Applications Filed by the Industry from 2020 through 2024” to present a brief analysis and comparison between Taiwan’s data of filings in 2024 and the WIPO 2025 as summarized below.

1. The worldwide trademark filing activity reached around 11.7 million applications in 2024, which represents an increase of around 29,000 filings from the previous year and only a marginal growth of 0.3%. Following the declines in two consecutive years by 15.7% and 14.5% in 2022 and 2023, the rebound in 2024 reflected a return of the global trademark activity to the positive growth territory, even though the pace of recovery was limited. In spite of the recent fluctuations, the trademark filings in 2024 outnumbered the pre-COVID level recorded in 2019 by 2%. In a long-term perspective, the upward trend remains pronounced as the trademark applications in 2024 were approximately three times the level recorded in 2010 largely as a result of the multiple years of two-digit growths over the past 15 years. In terms of class counts, there was a slight downturn in global filing activity by 0.1% in 2024, totaling around 15.23 million classes, which reflects an increase in the number of applications but a decrease in the classes of goods or services designated per application. Moreover, the top five sources of global trademark filings in 2024 were China, the U.S., Russia, India, and Brazil, which accounted for 61.5% of the class counts of total global applications. Among them, Brazil experienced the strongest year-on-year rise by 10.4% in application class counts, surpassing India at 7.4% and also Russia at 2.9%. On the contrary, China and the U.S. saw their respective drops in the class counts of trademark filings by 1.5%. In addition, among the global top 20 filing countries, Taiwan filed more than 112,000 applications, ranking 19th globally and maintaining the same position as in the previous year. As to class counts of registered trademarks, Taiwan’s registrations were filed for more than 90,000 classes, staying at the 18th place.

2. Observations suggest that the number of trademark applications with Taiwan IPO and class counts fell by 1.28% and 1.92%, respectively. In the past five years, growth was recorded only in 2021 when applications and class counts rose by 1.89% and 2.98%, respectively. Despite of the declines in both indicators, the rate of decline moderated significantly compared with 2023, when applications and class counts slipped by 3.4% and 6.68%, respectively.

3. The top four industry sectors of the non-resident filings in Taiwan were “Research and technology”, “Health”, “Agriculture”, “Clothing and accessories”, while those of the non-resident WIPO trademark filings were “Research and technology”, “Health”, “Clothing and accessories”, and “Leisure and education”. Compared with the global average, the non-resident applications filed for the sector of “Health” at the Taiwan IPO accounted for 16.9% of the total non-resident applications, strikingly outstripping those reported in the WIPO statistics at 14.1%, which reveals that non-resident applicants place importance on their brand development in that sector in Taiwan.

Looking back at the period from 2019 to 2021, global economic and trade activities were profoundly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially service sectors, including tourism and aviation. At the same time, the demand for pandemic-related supplies, medical products, and goods associated with the stay-at-home economy largely increased, which prompted businesses to accelerate product and service innovation and drove global trademark filing activity to record highs. In 2022 when the pandemic heavily intensified to its peak, rising inflation, monetary tightening through rate hike cycle, and escalating geopolitical risks emerged in succession. As a result, the momentum of global trade growth weakened and trademark filing volumes obviously declined. Following the WHO’s announcement on May 5, 2023

that COVID-19 no longer constituted a "Public Health Emergency of International Concern", global trademark filing activity gradually recovered to reach approximately 11.7 million applications covering 15.23 million classes in 2024. These figures reveal that businesses' demand for brand development and market expansion remains stable.

In 2024, there had been around 90,000 trademark applications filed with Taiwan IPO, covering more than 112,000 classes, placing Taiwan 19th globally. In addition, Taiwan ranked 18th globally in the number of class counts of registered trademarks, unchanged from the previous year. Also, the class counts of trademark applications filed by foreign applicants grew from 27.6% to 29.3%, which demonstrates foreign applicants' confidence in Taiwan's market environment and institutional framework. It also reflects Taiwan's strong democratic governance and rule of law, well-established and complete infrastructure and logistics networks that facilitate businesses' manufacturing operations and international transportation. Moreover, Taiwan's open and transparent economic environment and mature IP protection mechanism, the government's active promotion of foreign investment and free trade and investment agreements execution have further enhanced Taiwan's international appeal and are expected to support continued positive growth in trademark activity. (Released 2026.04.01)
/CCS



TIPLo Attorneys-at-Law/
Taiwan International Patent & Law Office
台灣國際專利法律事務所

7th Floor, We Sheng Building
No.125 Nanking East Rd., Sec.2
Taipei 10409, TAIWAN
Tel: 886-2-2507-2811 • Fax: 886-2-2508-3711
E-mail: tiplo@tiplo.com.tw
Website: www.tiplo.com.tw

Tokyo Liaison Office
No.506 Lions Mansion,
13-11, Shinjuku 2-Chome,
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0022, JAPAN

