

FAMI Continues Active Responses to Intellectual Property Right Issue, Including Malaysia IPR Symposium

Approaches to IPR Issues

The Federation of Asian Motorcycle Industries (FAMI), in addressing the spread of motorcycle intellectual property right (IPR) issues to the countries of Asia, has followed last year's establishment of its IPR Task Force with the promotion of joint public relations activities (based on a poster campaign) in all member countries, the holding of a symposium on the theme of IPR and studies and implementation of other concrete policy measures.

Second Meeting of IPR Task Force

The second meeting of the FAMI Intellectual Property Right Task Force was convened this May 26 on Penang Island, Malaysia, with discussions held on the promotion of the shared design IPR poster campaign, the convening of IPR symposiums and other efforts in the member countries.



IPR Task Force holds its second meeting

The national delegates to the IPR Task Force also participated in the "Intellectual Property Right Symposium in Malaysia," which was held in Penang the day before the task force met.

The symposium was used to unveil the IPR posters for Malaysia, appealing for the launch of the campaign. Representatives from the other countries praised the posters for their high quality and impact, and voiced their desire to design posters for use in their own countries at the earliest possible point in time.

The delegates also gave high marks to the management, content, significance and other aspects of symposium, and declared plans to hold similar gatherings in their own countries. As a result, the group confirmed plans to hold the next symposium in the Philippines, followed by similar events in Thailand and Indonesia in that order.

The symposium also proved instrumental in further raising the awareness of the national delegates of the importance of intellectual property rights. This generated high hopes for independent and energetic activities in each FAMI country targeting resolution to IPR issues, placing the primary focus on the problem of counterfeit products.

First FAMI IP Seminar Big Success

This symposium was sponsored by MASAAM, the Malaysian motorcycle industry association, and comprised the first intellectual property symposium ever held by FAMI.

The event opened with a welcome address from MASAAM President Dato' Syed Mohamad Aidid, who noted his hopes that the symposium would boost consumer awareness and provide an excellent opportunity for educating the public on the issues surrounding intellectual property.

This was followed by talks from representatives of Malaysian government agencies (Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs = MDTCA and the Malaysian Patent Office = MyIPO) and legal circles, while speaking for the Japan side were delegates from the Japanese Embassy in Malaysia and the Patent Office under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

The speeches covered a broad range of perspectives, including the importance of intellectual property to the knowledge economy, the ties these properties have with national development, the specific systems in force and how they operate and various other areas.

One of the speakers was from a motorcycle manufacturer that is also a JAMA member, who used the theme "Intellectual Property Activities in Japan's Motorcycle Industry" to profile the motorcycle IP situation in Japan.



Welcome Address by Dato' Syed Mohamad Aidid. MASAAM President



Malaysia IPR posters unveiled at the symposium



The symposium hall

The final part of the program was a question-format panel discussion. This session drew queries about harmonization in the IP field in Asia, statements about the growing importance of intellectual property and other comments providing glimpses into the rising concern and awareness for IPR in this part of the world.

On display the entrance of the symposium hall were panels that illustrated cases of actual counterfeiting encountered by JAMA member firms, a feature that attracted keen attention from all those taking part in the event.

About 120 people attended the symposium in all, underscoring the strong interest and concern in intellectual property rights that exists within the Asian motorcycle industry today.



The question-format panel discussion