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Table of Contents

Opinion
PAUL HARRIS

Employee Compensation for Inventions of Outstanding Benefit 63
For only the second time in five years, the High Court has considered what constitutes an employee invention of "outstanding benefit" under s.40 Patents Act 1977, and the level of compensation commensurate with it. This article explores the judicial thought process on a wide range of factors considered relevant to the issue, and why a reward of £24,000,000 for an investment of £250,000 is not outstanding.

Articles
EMMA STEEL

Original Sin: Reconciling Originality in Copyright with Music as an Evolutionary Art Form 66
This article considers the discord between the classification of music as an original work under copyright law and the premise that music, as an evolutionary art form, is rarely original. The author employs musicology alongside jurisprudence to highlight the scope for reform in copyright law, towards an originality assessment that more accurately reflects the cyclical, social collective-reality of musical composition.

DR DEMING LIU

The Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances and its Impact on the Future of Performers' Rights under English Law 81
The article debates on how the Beijing Treaty might reform the CDPA. It first discusses the definitions of performers and of audiovisual fixations. Next, it delves into the national treatment requirement and the lesser term principle. Then it addresses moral rights, including the national treatment requirement and exceptions to moral rights. Furthermore, it reviews economic rights, particularly the broadcasting and communication right. Lastly, it explores whether the recently extended term of performers' rights under the CDPA would be granted to performances embodied in an audiovisual fixation.

MANORANJAN

FTAs Knitting a Web of Higher Intellectual Property Standards Globally? 97
Intellectual property chapters having TRIPS-plus provisions seem to have now become an unavoidable feature of every free trade agreement being signed across the world. TRIPS-plus provisionssuch as data exclusivity, patent term extensions, patent linkage, prohibitions of parallel importation, highly restrictive conditions for issuing compulsory licences, and expanded subject-matter requirements are becoming part of the domestic laws of countries across the world through the path cleared by these FTAs. It seems that a bilateral forum of negotiation is now being preferred over a multilateral forum by many of the developed countries because of the greater bargaining power the former grants to them. TRIPS standards have been put into place after taking into consideration the needs of all the member countries of WTO. These bilateral forums are tending to create a system parallel to and higher than the intellectual property protection standards laid down by TRIPS owing to the absence of an MFN exception clause under TRIPS.

DR MARCELLA FAVALE

A Wii Too Stretched? The ECJ Extends to Game Consoles the Protection of DRM —on Tough Conditions 101
This article comments on the case *Nintendo v PC Box* (C-355/12). It questions the extension of the protection of TPMs implemented on gaming consoles, despite the fact that the difficult conditions imposed by the court in practice will disrupt the implementation of DRM.

Comments

CHRIS MORGAN

On the Digitisation of Knowledge: Copyright in the Light of *Technische Universität Darmstadt v Eugen Ulmer KG* 107

In *Technische Universität Darmstadt v Eugen Ulmer KG* (C-117/13),1 the ECJ ruled on the scope of art.5(3)(n) of Directive 2001/29 on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the information society, which provides scope for Member States to make provision for an exception to copyright infringement for public libraries, educational establishments, museums and archives to make copyright works available via terminals on their premises for research or private study. The ECJ held that such institutions have an "ancillary right" to digitise works in their collections, but allowing members of the public to print out and/or save copies of such works to a USB stick would go beyond the scope of art.5(3)(n)—albeit that these may be acts permitted by exceptions relating to photographic reproduction and private study, if implemented by Member States in national law, provided that right holders receive "fair compensation" and their legitimate interests are not "unreasonably prejudiced".

HILARY ATHERTON

Case Comment: *Karen Millen Fashions Ltd v Dunnes Stores and Dunnes Stores (Limerick) Ltd* (C-345/13) 111

In the seven-year battle between Karen Millen Ltd and Dunnes Stores, the Court of Justice (CJEU) answered questions referred to it by the Irish Supreme Court concerning how the individual character of a design which is claimed to be entitled to be protected as an unregistered Community design is to be assessed.

JOHN A. TESSENSOHN

Winning Strategies for Japan's New Post-Grant Opposition System 115

On March 11, 2014, the Cabinet the Government of Japan approved the Bill for the Law on the Partial Revision of the Patent Law and Other Laws. This Bill was passed into law on April 25, 2014 and was promulgated as Law No.36 on May 14, 2014. Except forthe provisionsrelating to trade marks and designs, most of the provisions of the new law will come into effect within one year from May 14, 2014.

SHAUN MCVICAR AND CHELSEA ROCHE

Proposed Amendments to Australian Copyright Act to Tackle Online Piracy Will Increase Obligations on ISPs 120

The Australian Government recently released a discussion paper outlining proposed amendments to the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) (the Act) to tackle online copyright infringement. This article summarises the Government's proposals, which include the requirement that internet service providers (ISPs) take "reasonable steps" to prevent copyright infringement, even where they are powerless to stop it. Public submissions on the proposals closed on September 1, 2014.

Book Reviews

122