

Intellectual Property in Shenzhen 2024

(*The English version is for reference only.)

In 2024, Shenzhen adhered to the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, faithfully studied and implemented the guiding principles from the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the Second Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee, and the Third Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee. The city earnestly carried out General Secretary Xi Jinping's important instructions on intellectual property and the decisions and arrangements of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council. It also fully implemented the work requirements of the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) and Guangdong Intellectual Property Administration (GIPA). Shenzhen deepened the reform of "power delegation" in IP-related matters, fully unleashing the vitality of innovation and creativity and promoting the transformation and utilization of IP. The city will strive to enhance the effectiveness of IP

protection, optimize IP management and services, and work hard to usher in a new era for the IP cause. By doing so, it aims to provide strong support for the establishment of a globally influential industrial science and technology innovation center.

I. Development of a High-Standard Intellectual Property Powerhouse

The Shenzhen Municipal Committee of the CPC and the Shenzhen Municipal People's Government have attached great importance to IP work, and focused on optimizing the top-level design of IP work to accelerate the establishment of an efficient and integrated IP management system.

i Promoted IP Strategy and Planning

Shenzhen formulated a guiding document on building a strong IP city and was approved to launch two new patent pre-examination areas in high-end equipment manufacturing and jewelry processing. Initiatives such as "developing IP securitization as a signature brand" and "innovating overseas IP protection mechanisms" were included in the new batch of its comprehensive reform pilot measures, which were recommended for

national promotion by the National Development and Reform Commission.

ii Enhanced Comprehensive IP Powerhouse Construction

Shenzhen successfully accomplished the phased tasks of building a national model city for a strong IP powerhouse and a national hub for IP protection. The number of pilot and demonstration counties for robust IP construction has risen to five. The coverage of the National Pilot Program on Trade Secret Protection has been expanded from Nanshan District to the entire city. For the third consecutive year, Shenzhen has ranked first nationwide in assessments of rapid and coordinated IP protection as well as overseas dispute response guidance.

iii Supported the Development of National Strategic Platforms such as Hetao and Qianhai

The Shenzhen Administration for Market Regulation (Shenzhen Intellectual Property Administration), with nine other departments, jointly issued the *Opinions on Strengthening the IP Protection and Utilization in the Shenzhen Park of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Cooperation Zone*.

This initiative facilitated the official operation of the National Intellectual Property Operation (Shenzhen Hetao) Transformation Pilot Platform. The "Hong Kong Special Administrative Region IP Inquiry Point" in Qianhai was officially inaugurated.

II. Promotion of High-Quality IP Creation

In 2024, Shenzhen enhanced the core competitiveness of key industries. Several core indicators maintained a leading position nationwide, showcasing the "Shenzhen Speed" in high-quality IP creation.

i Continuously Promoted Key Indicators of IP to Lead the Country

Shenzhen granted 241,900 patents in China, ranking first in the nation for the seventh consecutive year. Shenzhen's PCT patent applications reached 16,300, maintaining the top position nationwide for 21 consecutive years. The city ranked first in China with 249,500 trademark registrations. Shenzhen's high-value invention patents per 10,000 people were 110, which was 7.9 times the national average (14). At the 25th China Patent Award Contest, Shenzhen was expected to receive 81 awards, including 9 gold awards—a record

high. Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou Cluster had been ranked second in the world for the fifth consecutive year according to the 2024 Global Innovation Index (GII) Science and Technology Clusters.

ii Cultivated High-Value Patents to Empower Industrial Upgrading

Shenzhen established 50 new municipal-level high-value patent cultivation and layout centers and supported the development of 20 Shenzhen-based IP leading enterprises. Shenzhen supported 100 innovation entities to obtain ISO 56005 Innovation and Intellectual Property Management Capability Grading Certificates, ranking first nationwide.

iii Deepened Core Technology Breakthroughs to Enhance Industrial Competitiveness

The total number of invention patents disclosed by Shenzhen's strategic emerging industry clusters and future industry clusters was 124,569 and 32,112, respectively, both ranking second in the country. Shenzhen held 271,100 valid invention patents in strategic emerging and future industries in China, accounting for 75.58% of the city's total.

III. Promotion of Efficient IP Utilization

In 2024, Shenzhen focused on the goal of patent industrialization, accelerated the release of IP utilization benefits, facilitated industrial transformation and upgrading, and fostered the development of new quality productive forces.

i Implemented the Special Action Plan for Patent Transformation and Utilization

Shenzhen issued the *Measures for Implementing the Special Action Plan for Patent Transformation and Utilization in Shenzhen*. A total of 21 universities and research institutions completed an inventory of 17,000 patents. In the city, there were 26,967 patent transfers, 25,612 patent acquisitions, 5,998 patent licenses granted, and 4,351 patent licenses received. All these figures ranked first in Guangdong Province.

ii Pioneered a Robust IP Financial Ecosystem

Shenzhen published a catalog of IP pledge financing products and insurance products and launched Guangdong's first cross-border IP pledge financing transaction. The city's IP pledge registration amounted to 50.421 billion yuan, benefiting 1,427 enterprises, with the registration amount ranking first in Guangdong

for the fifth consecutive year. A total of 99 IP securitization products were issued, with a total value of 21.906 billion yuan, continuing to lead the nation.

iii Explored New Models for Cross-Border IP Transactions

Shenzhen released the *Guidelines for Cross-Border Transfer and Licensing Transaction of Intellectual Property Rights*. The city organized patent transformation matching activities that connected 375 patent technologies from Hong Kong universities and research institutes with Shenzhen enterprises. The city completed its first acquisition of an overseas university patent.

IV. Enhancement of Efficient IP Protection

In 2024, Shenzhen steadily implemented the most stringent IP protection measures. The effectiveness of both judicial and administrative protection continued to improve. The project *Establishing a Multi-Layered Overseas Rights Protection System in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province to Safeguard Enterprises Going Global* was the only IP case selected as a typical experience in the national special inspection for

optimizing the business environment.

i Improved the Quality and Efficiency of IP Judicial Trials

Shenzhen advanced the reform of the "three-in-one" trial mechanism. Courts at intermediate and grassroots levels in the city handled 19,055 new IP cases and concluded 20,009 cases. Punitive damages were applied in 15 IP cases, with a cumulative compensation amount of 178 million yuan. 17 cases were recognized as typical cases by national and Guangdong provincial courts.

ii Deepened IP Prosecution Duty Performance

The Shenzhen Municipal People's Procuratorate, with three other departments, jointly issued the *Guidelines for Evidence Collection and Examination in Cases Involving the Connection Between Administrative Enforcement and Criminal Justice for Trade Secrets*. Shenzhen's procuratorial organs handled 259 cases of IP infringement crimes, with 451 persons awaiting arrest.

iii Strictly Combated IPR Infringement Crimes

The Public Security Bureau of Shenzhen Municipality, with two other departments, jointly issued the *Detailed Rules for Handling Criminal Cases Involving Trademarks*.

Shenzhen's public security organs, through *Anxin* and other special operations, handled 518 cases involving IP infringement and the production and sale of fake and inferior goods, and made major breakthroughs in cases, including a large-scale case of selling fake and inferior goods with Nike registered trademarks. These efforts received commendations from the Ministry of Public Security.

iv Strengthened Administrative Law Enforcement for IP Protection

Through "Sword Network 2024" and other special operations, a total of 1,803 IP cases were investigated and handled. Two typical cases involving infringement of the *Xiaomi* (trademark) and *Nanshan Litchi* (GI) were selected as typical cases by the CNIPA. For the third consecutive year, Shenzhen received an "Excellent" rating in the Guangdong Province Intellectual Property Protection Assessment.

v Strengthened Law Enforcement by the Customs for IP Protection

Through *Longteng* and other special operations, as well as joint operations on IP protection across customs in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao regions, 6,264 batches of

suspected infringing goods were seized, totaling approximately 28.835 million items, with a case value of 101 million yuan, leading nationwide in both the quantity and value of seized infringing goods.

vi Deepened IP Protection Involving Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan

The Futian District Court was designated to centrally adjudicate all first-instance IP cases involving foreign countries, Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan previously under the jurisdiction of grassroots courts citywide. In the Shenzhen Park of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Cooperation Zone, people's tribunals and circuit trial points were established. The municipal and district prosecutors' offices set up IP prosecution workstations and offices respectively within the Hetao area.

vii Innovated and Optimized the Guidance on Responding to Overseas Intellectual Property Disputes

The *Guidelines on Further Strengthening the Guidance on Responding to Overseas Intellectual Property Disputes* were issued. The city set up its first overseas IP protection workstation in Germany. The global expert

pool expanded to 236 experts, monitoring 689 overseas dispute cases involving 2,352 Shenzhen enterprises. These efforts saved enterprises over USD 8 million in litigation costs and mitigated market losses by over USD 35 million.

viii Jointly Developed a Rapid Collaborative IP Protection Mechanism

The Shenzhen Administration for Market Regulation (Shenzhen Intellectual Property Administration), with two other departments, jointly issued the *Notice on Developing a Collaborative Intellectual Property Protection Mechanism*. The Shenzhen Intermediate People's Court signed the *Memorandum of Cooperation on Establishing a Coordinated Trial Mechanism for Patent Administrative Validation and Civil Litigation* with the Shenzhen Administration for Market Regulation (Shenzhen Intellectual Property Administration), and signed the *Memorandum of Cooperation on Deepening Judicial and Administrative Enforcement Collaboration for Intellectual Property* with Shenzhen Customs District.

ix Established and Improved Diversified Mechanisms for Resolving IP Disputes

In collaboration with the Patent Reexamination and

Invalidation Department of the CNIPA, Shenzhen conducted its first joint trial of patent validation cases with infringement litigation and administrative adjudication. The Shenzhen IP Dispute Mediation Alliance was established. The city established a total of 13 people's mediation organizations and 37 commercial mediation organizations for IP disputes, mediating 5,904 IP dispute cases throughout the year.

x Promoted the Improvement of a Professional Technical Support System for IP

Shenzhen released China's first local standard, the *Protection and Management Specification for Trade Secrets in Research Institutions*. The China (Shenzhen) Intellectual Property Protection Center assisted in 285 administrative enforcement cases. Shenzhen Customs District pioneered the introduction of Technical Investigators to support patent right protection enforcement, a practice recognized by the General Administration of Customs.

V. Optimization of High-Level IP Services

In 2024, Shenzhen focused on the high-quality development of the service industry. The city took

multiple measures to expand the scale of public services, strengthen the supply of high-quality services, and enhance the effectiveness of public services.

i Accelerated the Cultivation and Development of the IP Service Industry

Shenzhen issued the *Measures for Promoting the High-Quality Development of the Intellectual Property Service Industry in Shenzhen*, and attracted 38 service institutions to establish operations, generating a total revenue of 3.914 billion yuan, with a growth rate of 20.6%. The city attracted and nurtured 598 patent agencies, and registered 3,334 trademark agencies, all ranking first in Guangdong Province.

ii Built an Efficient and Convenient Public Service System

The *Implementation Plan for Inclusive Intellectual Property Public Services in Shenzhen* was issued. Two institutions were approved to establish World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC).

iii Built a Smart Public Service Platform

The Shenzhen Intellectual Property Information Public Service Platform recorded over 1.04 million online

searches. 801 data IP registration certificates were issued and registered data entries exceeded 13.4 billion.

iv Improved IP Pre-Examination Services

Over 10,000 enterprises filed for patent pre-examination. 16,261 pre-examination cases were accepted. 17,225 patents were recommended for priority examination. The patent authorization cycle was significantly shortened with an error-free record for 115 consecutive months in agency proxy services.

v Enriched the Copyright Public Service Ecosystem

The Qianhai Copyright Public Service Platform served over 4,000 innovative and entrepreneurial entities. The initiative "Tencent Music Platform Promoting the Diversified Development of the Music Copyright Ecosystem" was recognized as a typical case in the first batch of Copyright Powerhouse Construction Projects.

vi Strengthened IP Institutions and Talent Development

Shenzhen University established the International Intellectual Property Academy. The National Intellectual Property Training (Guangdong) Base hosted 11 sessions of the Shenzhen University Advanced Seminar on Intellectual Property and Digital Rule of Law. The

Shenzhen Municipal Human Resources and Social Security Bureau launched senior professional title evaluations (vice-senior level).

VI. Deepening of High-Level IP Cooperation

In 2024, Shenzhen improved cross-regional and cross-departmental cooperation mechanisms, and deepened pragmatic international IP exchanges, continuously enhancing Shenzhen's international influence in IP work.

i Deepened Cross-Regional IP Collaboration

The "2024 CNIPA Patent Agency Work Meeting" was hosted in Shenzhen. The Shenzhen Chief Intellectual Property Officer (CIPO) Hetao Forum and IP Achievement Trading Fair was organized in Shenzhen. The International Headquarters of the National Technology Innovation Center for the GBA was officially inaugurated. The Shenzhen Municipal People's Procuratorate, together with procuratorates in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Xi'an, signed the *Framework Agreement on Establishing an Intellectual Property Procuratorial Collaborative Protection Alliance*.

ii Promoted International IP Exchanges

The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Daren Tang, made his first official visit to Shenzhen. The Shenzhen Administration for Market Regulation (Shenzhen Intellectual Property Administration) established working connections with prominent international IP organizations, institutions, and enterprises, such as the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI) and the European Patent Office (EPO).

VII. Cultivation of a High-Quality IP Culture

In 2024, Shenzhen focused on fostering a high-quality IP culture, building a comprehensive and high-level publicity and promotion matrix and telling compelling IP stories.

i Built a Series of IP Publicity Week Event Brands

The city launched a series of IP publicity events, such as the IP White Paper, the Top 10 IP Events, and also conducted circuit trials for IP cases involving digital economy.

ii Launched the Enterprise Trade Secret Protection Capability Enhancement Month

Shenzhen hosted the provincial Golden Inner Bay Trade Secret Protection Service Capability Enhancement Event and published typical cases of trade secret infringement. Through the "Five Ones" initiative for trade secret protection among key enterprises, Shenzhen guided 750 key enterprises to establish and improve internal trade secret management systems.

iii Built a Diversified IP Culture Communication System

The city launched a special column in the China Intellectual Property News and carried out IP volunteer service activities. The Shenzhen Municipal Education Bureau integrated IP education into daily primary and secondary school activities. The Shenzhen Court of International Arbitration (SCIA), in collaboration with Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, launched a series of high-quality IP courses.

In 2025, Shenzhen will firmly adhere to the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. It will fully implement the guiding principles set forth at the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the

Second Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee, and the Third Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee. Additionally, Shenzhen will conscientiously study and carry out General Secretary Xi Jinping's important instructions on intellectual property work. In accordance with the national and Guangdong provincial intellectual property plans, Shenzhen will take the following measures: Deepen reform and innovation within the IP sector; Strive to achieve the objectives of the "14th Five-Year Plan" with high quality; Formulate high-standard strategic plans for the "15th Five-Year Plan"; Expedite the establishment of an efficient and integrated IP management system; Moreover, Shenzhen will further promote high-quality IP creation, efficient utilization, high-standard protection, high-quality management and services, and a high-level international influence. These efforts aim to provide strong support for Shenzhen to build a more globally influential economic center and modern international metropolis.