

# Intellectual Property in Shenzhen

## 2025

(\*The English version is for reference only.)

In 2025, guided by *Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era*, Shenzhen fully implemented the guiding principles of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and its subsequent plenary sessions. This city faithfully implemented General Secretary Xi Jinping's important discourses on intellectual property (IP), the decisions and arrangements of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council, and the work plans of the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), CPC Guangdong Provincial Committee, the People's Government of Guangdong Province. Shenzhen made remarkable progress in building itself into a national model city with strong IP capabilities and a leading hub for IP protection. By promoting high-quality development across the entire IP value chain, the city empowered sci-tech innovation, industrial upgrading, and reform and opening-up. As a result, the city successfully fulfilled all targets set forth in the IP component of the 14th Five-Year Plan, and strengthened the core support for building itself into a benchmark city for IP and a pioneer of high-quality development.

### **I Advancing the Development of a Strong IP City and Embarking on a New Journey of IP Growth**

Guided by top-level planning, supported by institutional mechanisms, driven by pilot initiatives and demonstrations, and underpinned by platform development, Shenzhen comprehensively deepened reform of its integrated IP governance

system, thereby opening a new stage in building a strong IP city with high quality.

### **i Strengthening Overall Coordination and Improving the Integrated IP Governance System**

The joint conference mechanism was upgraded and optimized and the number of participating member entities increased to 40. With the approval of the municipal government, *Several Measures of Shenzhen on Empowering High-Quality Industrial Development through IP* was issued. Three-tier collaborative governance mechanism at the provincial, municipal, and district levels was reinforced. Five Shenzhen cases were selected among the first batch of outstanding reform practice cases for IP protection in key cities (regions) by the CNIPA, the highest number among all cities nationwide.

### **ii Strengthening Demonstration Leadership and Advancing National Pilot Innovation Programs**

Shenzhen was selected as one of the first pilot cities nationwide for optimizing the business environment in the IP sector and for developing a comprehensive IP finance ecosystem. The city issued the *Implementation Plan of Shenzhen for Conducting the Pilot Program to Optimize the Business Environment in the IP Sector* and the *Key Task List for the Comprehensive Pilot Program on the IP Finance Ecosystem*. Two Shenzhen cases were selected as the fourth batch of outstanding examples in building China into a strong IP country.

### **iii Strengthening Platform Development and Empowering the Operation of National Strategic Platforms**

The International Intellectual Property Academy, jointly established by the CNIPA and Peking University, was launched in Shenzhen. The city's first

national-level IP Rapid Enforcement & Protection Center passed acceptance. The Intellectual Property Operation Center for the Intelligent Connected Vehicle Industry of the Shenzhen Automotive Research Institute of Beijing Institute of Technology was recognized as a national-level industrial IP operation center.

## **II Accelerating Higher-Quality IP Creation and Advancing High-Level Sci-Tech Self-Reliance**

Shenzhen aligned closely with the development of the "20+8" industrial clusters and the full chain of sci-tech innovation. The city promoted simultaneous growth in both the scale and quality of IP creation, while optimizing its overall structure. These efforts injected strong momentum into the building of a modern industrial system.

### **i Maintaining National Leadership in Core Indicators and Achieving Growth in Both Scale and Quality of Creation**

In 2025, Shenzhen granted 214,539 patents, ranking first nationwide for eight consecutive years. PCT international patent applications reached 19,660, ranking first nationwide for 22 consecutive years. Trademark registrations totaled 211,098, ranking first nationwide for three consecutive years. The number of high-value invention patents per 10,000 persons reached 119.70, approximately 7.48 times the national average of 16. The average annual growth rate of value added in patent-intensive industries exceeded 8%, accounting for more than 32% of GDP. The "Shenzhen–Hong Kong–Guangzhou" innovation cluster rose to first place globally for the first time.

### **ii Delivering Strong Results in High-Value Patent Cultivation and**

## **Supporting Industrial Innovation**

50 high-value patent cultivation & deployment centers were recognized. The city's valid high-value invention patents reached 215,300, representing year-on-year growth of 8.86%. High-value invention patents per 10,000 persons reached 119.70, up 8.82% year on year. The number of enterprises holding high-value invention patents increased by 2,028 compared with the end of 2024. Enterprise-owned high-value invention patents totaled 200,700, up 8.74% from the end of 2024.

### **iii Focusing on Breakthroughs in Core Technologies and Sustaining Innovation in Key Fields**

The total number of invention patents disclosed by Shenzhen's strategic emerging industry clusters was 108,700, an increase of 5.54% year-on-year. The total number of invention patents disclosed by Shenzhen's future industry clusters was 14,600, an increase of 23.96% year-on-year.

## **III Accelerating the Release of IP Utilization Benefits and Promoting High-Quality Development of New Quality Productive Forces**

The city accelerated the efficient transformation of IP from "innovation" into "industrial value", and supported the deep integration and high-quality development of the real economy and new quality productive forces.

### **i Launching Special Commercialization Operations and Opening Channels for Bringing Achievements to Market**

Shenzhen promoted the completion of the inventory reviews of 24,700 existing patents. A cumulative total of 3,618 patent-intensive products were filed, involving 905 enterprises. Shenzhen recorded 58,500 patent assignments and

acquisition transactions, as well as 21,700 patent licensing and licensed-use transactions, both ranking first in Guangdong Province.

## **ii Innovating the IP Finance Ecosystem and Stimulating Financial Empowerment**

The city launched the "Pengzhi Loan" series of IP pledge financing products, promoted the establishment of the nation's first overseas IP insurance consortium, and implemented Guangdong Province's first batch of data IP service trusts. The amount of IP pledge financing reached RMB 59.229 billion, with the registration amount ranking first in Guangdong for six consecutive years. A total of 121 IP securitization products were issued, with a total value of RMB 25.736 billion, continuing to lead the nation.

## **iii Expanding Cross-Border IP Transactions and Connecting with Global Resource Markets**

Shenzhen supported the National IP Operation (Shenzhen Hetao) International Transformation Pilot Platform in establishing cooperation mechanisms with internationally renowned universities and research institutes. Cumulatively, the platform facilitated transaction intentions for more than 200 high-value patents, with total deal value exceeding RMB 18 million. Shenzhen's initiative "Innovative Mechanisms, Precise Matching to Promote Cross-Border Patent Transformation" was selected as one of the top 10 outstanding national cases for service agencies promoting patent industrialization. The practice of "Innovative Comprehensive Cross-Border Financing Model for IP Securitization" was selected as one of the second batch of national exemplary cases for IP pledge financing.

## **IV Continuously Strengthening the Effectiveness of IP Protection**

## **and Fostering a Better Innovation Environment**

Shenzhen followed the protection principles of being "strict, extensive, swift, and coordinated", and built a full-chain protection system featuring collaboration among judicial authorities, administrative agencies, customs authorities, and broad social participation. Shenzhen achieved a national "four consecutive championships" in both the annual assessment of coordinated IP protection and the evaluation of guidance services for handling overseas disputes.

### **i Intensifying Administrative Enforcement and Enhancing Administrative Protection Efficiency**

Shenzhen issued the *Implementation Plan for Administrative Intellectual Property Protection in Shenzhen*. Together with relevant authorities, the city also jointly issued the *Implementation Plan for Strengthening Intellectual Property Administrative Adjudication in the New Era*. 2,127 IP cases were investigated and handled. The city successfully resolved the city's first administrative adjudication case involving a standard-essential patent dispute.

### **ii Improving Judicial Quality and Efficiency and Reinforcing the Judicial Protection Line**

The city focused on building a high-quality adjudication system. Courts at both levels across Shenzhen newly accepted more than 29,000 IP cases and concluded more than 26,000 cases. 6 cases were recognized as typical cases by national and Guangdong provincial courts.

### **iii Strengthening Comprehensive Procuratorial Functions and Improving the Procuratorial Protection System**

The Shenzhen People's Procuratorate advanced the integration of procuratorial

functions in the IP field. Shenzhen's procuratorial organs handled 296 cases of IP infringement crimes, with 719 persons awaiting arrest.

#### **iv Cracking Down on Illegal and Criminal Activities and Creating a Strong Deterrent Effect**

The Shenzhen Municipal Public Security Bureau carried out a series of special operations, including the "Lanjian" (Blue Sword). Public security authorities across Shenzhen accepted 593 cases involving IP infringement and counterfeit or substandard goods, placed 1,321 individuals under criminal detention, and arrested 422 individuals.

#### **v Reinforcing the Customs Protection Line and Strictly Guarding Against Cross-Border Infringement**

Throughout the year, Shenzhen Customs seized 4,726 batches of suspected infringing goods and items, totaling 9,221,000 items with a case value of RMB 79.715 million. The case "Shenzhen Customs Introduced Technical Investigators to Handle a Patent Infringement Case Involving Photovoltaic Equipment" was selected as one of the Top Ten Exemplary National Customs IP Protection Cases.

#### **vi Deepening Protection in Foreign-Related and Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan Matters and Promoting Cross-Regional Collaborative Innovation**

Shenzhen was approved to launch fast-track patent pre-examination services for innovation entities in Hong Kong. The Futian District People's Court explored a new pathway of entrusting lawyers from the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to directly serve legal documents on parties in Hong Kong.

#### **vii Strengthening Guidance for Overseas Dispute Response and Supporting Enterprises in Going Global**

During the year, more than 820 foreign-related disputes involving Shenzhen enterprises were monitored. Nearly 700 enterprises received one-on-one guidance, reducing market losses by more than USD 150 million. The case "Diversified Resolution of Overseas Infringement Disputes" was selected as a national exemplary case for overseas IP dispute response and guidance.

### **viii Building a Coordinated Protection Mechanism and Pooling Multi-Party Protection Strength**

The Shenzhen Administration for Market Regulation, Public Security Bureau of Shenzhen Municipality, and Shenzhen Customs established and improved a cross-regional and cross-departmental enforcement coordination mechanism featuring resource sharing and complementary advantages. The Qianhai "one-stop" IP coordinated protection platform was launched, introducing innovative linkage mechanisms such as the "dual reporting system", "one case with three parallel reviews", and the sharing of key case information.

### **ix Innovating Diversified Resolution Mechanisms and Efficiently Resolving Disputes**

The city established a total of 13 people's mediation organizations and 58 commercial mediation organizations for IP disputes, mediating more than 6,700 IP dispute cases throughout the year.

### **x Improving the Technical Support System and Strengthening Professional Protection Capacity**

Shenzhen issued the nation's first group standards on trade secret protection in the fields of artificial intelligence and embodied intelligent robotics. Shenzhen revised the *Measures for the Administration of Technical Investigators in IP Administrative Enforcement*. The city's team of technical investigators in

administrative enforcement expanded to 50 members, providing professional support for more than 7,000 administrative cases of various types.

## **V Effectively Promoting the Upgrading of IP Services and Strengthening Quality, Efficiency, and Capacity**

The city advanced service supply from "basic coverage" to "high-quality and precise delivery". Through a professional, internationalized, and convenient service system, Shenzhen continued leading the high-quality development of the service sector.

### **i Accelerating High-Quality Development of the Service Industry and Enriching Premium Service Supply**

The first two representative offices in China of foreign patent agencies were established in Qianhai. Five Shenzhen service institutions were included in the intended service directory of patent agencies supporting Belt and Road cooperation. Across the city, 2,930 trademark agencies were cultivated and filed, along with 545 patent agencies (including branch offices) and 2,450 patent agents, all ranking first in Guangdong Province.

### **ii Improving the Public Service System and Consolidating the Public Service Foundation**

The city introduced municipal-level measures for managing public service outlets. Cumulatively, Shenzhen cultivated 5 national-level, 3 provincial-level, and 21 municipal-level IP public service outlets. Multiple market participants were encouraged to establish a total of 179 IP protection workstations.

### **iii Building Smart Service Platforms and Enhancing Information Service Capabilities**

Shenzhen strengthened public IP information services and ensured the efficient

operation of the Shenzhen Intellectual Property Public Information Service Platform. During the year, more than 1,650,000 online searches and analytical requests were completed. Shenzhen also established and improved a standard-essential patent database.

#### **iv Optimizing Patent Pre-Examination Services and Supporting Innovation Entities**

In 2025, the number of entities registered for pre-examination services exceeded 12,000. More than 17,000 patent pre-examination cases were completed. Agency services maintained "zero errors" for 127 consecutive months.

#### **VI Continuously Deepening IP Exchange and Cooperation and Serving High-Level Opening-up**

The city continued deepening cross-regional coordination, expanding the breadth of international exchanges, and promoting the alignment of IP rules, resource sharing, and mutual learning of best practices. Through these efforts, Shenzhen supported a higher level of opening-up and internationalized innovation-driven development.

##### **i Strengthening Cross-Regional Linkages and Deepening Regional Cooperation Effectiveness**

Shenzhen hosted a series of major events, including the 2025 Intellectual Property Symposium among the Mainland, the Hong Kong SAR, and the Macao SAR, the 2025 Conference on Guidance for Overseas IP Dispute Response, the Shenzhen stop of the 2025 National "Intellectual Property Services Across China" campaign, and the 2025 centralized trademark outreach program.

## **ii Expanding International Exchanges and Elevating the Level of International Cooperation**

Shenzhen carried out mutual visits and exchanges with the International Trademark Association (INTA), the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore, and the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property of Peru, among others. Together with the WIPO Office in China, Shenzhen co-hosted a seminar and exchange event on artificial intelligence and copyright protection in the digital economy era.

## **VII Deeply Advancing Foundational IP Initiatives and Consolidating the Basis for IP Development**

Shenzhen focused on the long-term development of its IP sector and worked to build a strong foundational system featuring all-round public communication and education, full dimensional talent development, and comprehensive rights protection.

### **i Building Publicity Brands and Fostering a Strong Cultural Atmosphere**

Shenzhen successfully organized high-quality themed outreach activities such as the "April 26 IP Publicity Week". Annual publications and releases included the White Paper on Intellectual Property, the Top Ten Annual Events, and exemplary cases.

### **ii Improving the Publicity Framework and Enhancing Public Awareness of Protection**

Shenzhen established and improved a citywide "major publicity" framework for IP. The Shenzhen Municipal Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference hosted a policy discussion forum themed "Safeguarding Technology Going Global and Building a High Ground for

Intellectual Property Protection". The Shenzhen Administration for Market Regulation, together with the Party School of the CPC Shenzhen Municipal Committee, jointly organized special lectures under the "Zhixing Academy" and "Market Regulation Lecture Hall" series on IP issues in artificial intelligence.

### **iii Focusing on Enterprise Needs and Strengthening Trade Secret Protection**

Shenzhen carried out a series of activities for the Third Service Month for Enhancing Enterprise Trade Secret Protection Capabilities, organizing 46 training sessions that reached more than 1,000 enterprises.

### **iv Strengthening Talent Development and Consolidating the Talent Support System**

A national training series on improving the capabilities of foreign-related IP lawyers was held in Shenzhen. The WIPO–China (Sun Yat-sen University) Intellectual Property Summer School was launched in Shenzhen for the first time.

The year 2026 marks the 105th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China and the opening year of the 15th Five-Year Plan period. Shenzhen will continue to uphold *Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era* as its guiding principle, and will fully implement the guiding principles of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and its subsequent plenary sessions. By staying aligned with the national strategy for building China into a strong IP country, Shenzhen will keep focused on the overall objective of becoming a global IP high ground and benchmark city. Guided by the formulation of the IP component of the 15th Five-Year Plan, the city will continue advancing all

initiatives to develop a national demonstration city with strong IP capabilities and a leading IP protection hub. Shenzhen will strive to secure a strong start for the Special Economic Zone's IP development during the 15th Five-Year Plan period. This effort aims to provide stronger IP support for Shenzhen to build a pilot demonstration zone of socialism with Chinese characteristics and a model city for a modern socialist country.