

Client Alert

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New patent e-certificate system will accelerate the issuing process

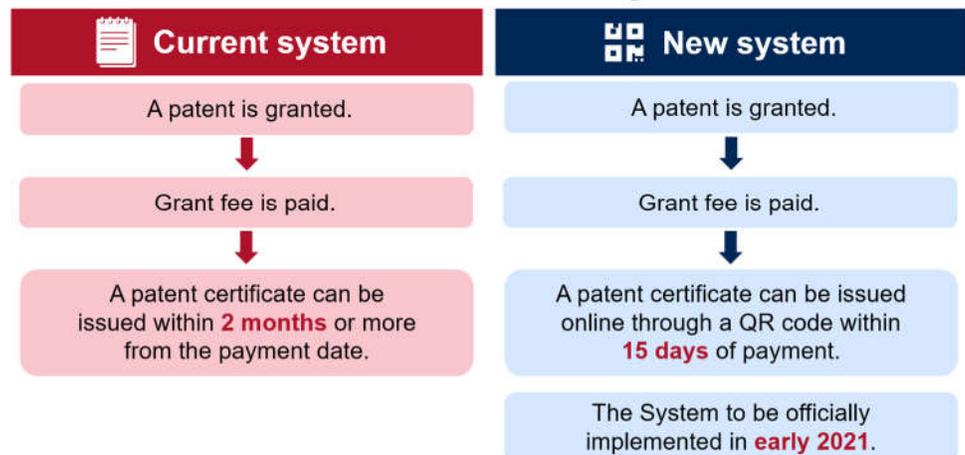
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On 6 November 2020, Baker McKenzie's partner, Mr. Tanakrit Tangburanakij, on behalf of the Intellectual Property Association of Thailand ("IPAT") met with Director General of the Department of Intellectual Property ("DIP"), Ministry of Commerce to discuss future cooperation between IPAT and DIP. During the meeting, the DIP shared their plan to implement a patent e-certificate system ("the System"). While an e-filing system became fully operational in 2018 as an alternative to the traditional paper filing for filing new applications, this new System will be a separate platform aimed at facilitating and shortening the period of time it takes to issue granted patent certificates. Currently, when a patent is granted, the DIP issues a notice to the applicant to pay the issuance fee, and it normally takes 2 months or more from the payment date for DIP to prepare and issue a patent certificate. However, under the new System, the DIP expects to be able to issue a single page document with brief details of the patent granted along with a QR code containing complete information of said patent within 15 days of payment, which the applicants or their agents can then use to download a certificate online.

Patent e-certificate system



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Ultimately, if the System proves efficient, the DIP plans not only to entirely replace the current paper certificate system for patents, but also expand the System to cover trademarks and design patents. According to the plan, DIP will tentatively issue a notification in mid-December this year to inform patent applicants and agents, and will officially implement the System in early 2021. Hopefully, we will see more of these positive developments as Thailand increasingly embraces digital technology.

We will monitor the progress of the System and keep you informed of developments.