News

24.02.2020 | Law and policy, Event, Training
«CAS IP Law»: Course begins in autumn

The Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) is launching the certification course CAS IP Law this autumn. The course was developed in cooperation with the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI). The goal of the cooperation is to foster knowledge about intellectual property. The IPI supported the ZHAW in the conception of the course and is also providing several experts as...

11.02.2020 | Law and policy, Copyright
Switzerland ratifies two international treaties on copyright

On 11th February 2020, Switzerland ratified two agreements of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The Beijing Treaty improves protection for actors at international level by enabling them to make a case against any unauthorised use of their performances. Actors already have this level of protection at national level. The Marrakesh Treaty improves access to copyright-protected...

15.01.2020 | Media release, Law and policy
Greater efficiency in the fight against counterfeiting

Whether it is counterfeit watches or handbags, it should soon be easier for the Federal Customs Administration (FCA) to destroy fake products in small consignments. A new procedure aims to reduce the administrative effort by giving the authorities more leeway for their checks. These checks are essential – the importation of small consignments from Asia into Switzerland increased sixfold between...

18.12.2019 | IPI, Law and policy
The motion “Towards a modern Swiss patent” has been approved – the IPI is preparing a preliminary draft of the revision of the Patents
Act

The National Council, as second chamber, has approved the motion “Towards a modern Swiss patent” from Councillor of States Thomas Hefti. The motion, which was approved on 12 December 2019, has three objectives: a full patent examination for Swiss patent applications, the introduction of a utility model, and an extended opposition procedure. The IPI, as the competent federal authority, will...

18.09.2019 | Law and policy, IP news, Conference
Conference on the Future of IP

From 11 to 13 September, IP experts from around the world gathered in Zurich for the European Policy for Intellectual Property (EPIP) Conference. The topic: the future of IP. Over the course of three days at ETH Zurich, attendees took part in lectures, panel discussions and workshops on IP rights. Well-attended IPI panel As one of the conference sponsors, the IPI organised a panel entitled...

02.09.2019 | Media release, Law and policy, Indications of source
Better international protection for Swiss quality products

The agreement between Georgia and Switzerland on the protection of geographical indications and use of the indication of source “Switzerland” comes into force on 1 September 2019. It protects well-known Swiss indications and contributes to maintaining the long-term reputation of Swiss quality products. Key points at a glance: The agreement lists protected designations. This means that, in...

22.05.2019 | Media release, Indications of source, Law and policy
Geographical indications - Swiss producers should benefit from a simple international protection system

Bündnerfleisch, Formaggio d'alpe ticinese or the designation “Swiss” for watches - geographical indications offer an important competitive edge in the global market. This is why it should in future be possible for Swiss producers to obtain protection for such indications in all member states of the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement via a simple, cost-effective application procedure. The Federal...

30.04.2019 | Media release, Law and policy, Law enforcement
The measures introduced to combat “Swissness” misuse yield results
Successful measures in the fight against misuse of “Swissness” and fewer offences in Switzerland. The Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI) reports a positive result for the year 2018. The key points at a glance: In 2018, the IPI did not have to initiate any criminal proceedings in Switzerland. In the 78 interventions led by the IPI, all of the companies involved were...

Successful interregional collaboration in the field of patents and health

Switzerland introduced two proposals concerning the field of patents and health, together with Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Canada, to the WIPO Standing Committee on the Law of Patents (SCP). Both proposals were taken up in the committee's Work Program on 6 December, resulting in a successful interregional collaboration between countries with...

Granting of supplementary protection certificates

Change of practice from the “infringement test” to “Medeva”