

SHUSAKU YAMAMOTO is delighted to present its sixteenth issue of *I.P. JAPAN®*. We begin with a thoughtful Message from Founder-Owner, Shusaku Yamamoto, Esq. Next, we provide some strategic patent counsel for life science clients regarding grace period, data requirements & experimental use. We also discuss a 2005 Supreme Court decision which confirmed a patentee's right to a preliminary injunction even after the patentee had exclusively licensed it to a third party. We outline the landmark amendments to Japan's Trademark Law, that will allow the registration of *regional collective marks* for famous agricultural products, folk crafts & fine arts. We recap amendments to Japan's Unfair Competition Prevention Law, effective from November 1, 2005 and conclude with a brief update on a January 2006 landmark I.P. High Court decision on permissible repair/recycle under Japan's patent law. As always, we hope that the topics discussed in the current issue of *I.P. JAPAN®* will be of interest to all our valued clients and associates.

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

Strategic Healthcare Patent Counsel

- ★★ *Japan's Grace Period Provision*
- ★★ *Japan's Stringent Data Requirements*

Landmark Supreme Court Decision

- ★★ *Patentee can obtain preliminary injunction even though patent was exclusively licensed to third party*

Legal Protection for Famous Regional Collective Marks

- ★★ *Enhanced Protection for Famous Geographical Marks of agricultural Products, Folk Arts, Crafts & Services*

New Unfair Competition Protection

- ★★ *Stiffer Penalties from Nov 1, 2005*

Landmark I.P. High Court Decision

- ★★ *Scope of Permissible Repair Narrowed - Pro-Patentee Result*

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I.P. JAPAN® is only intended to highlight general issues and not a substitute for legal advice. Should you have any specific questions on Japanese IP matters, please get in touch with us at:

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