Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP)



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AGIP Unveils AGIP Connect: A New Era of Digital IP Management

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AGIP Unveils AGIP Connect: A New Era of Digital IP Management

AMMAN - Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP), a global leader in intellectual property services, announced the launch of AGIP Connect. This cutting-edge digital platform is designed to transform how clients manage their intellectual property portfolios by providing a centralized, transparent, and highly efficient experience. AGIP Connect is a secure, all-in-one portal tailored to meet the evolving needs of businesses, inventors, and legal professionals worldwide. The platform streamlines complex workflows, giving clients complete control over their IP assets from anywhere in the world.

Key features of AGIP Connect include:

Real-Time Application Tracking: Clients can track the status of all applications and registrations managed by AGIP, including those related to trademarks, patents, industrial designs, copyrights, and other intellectual property matters.

Centralized Document Hub: The platform offers instant access to portfolio data, official certificates, and real-time updates.

Integrated IP Cost Calculator: This interactive tool allows users to generate immediate, indicative cost estimates. By adjusting parameters such as the number of applications, target countries, and specific services, clients can budget for IP protection with greater clarity. AGIP Connect marks a major milestone in our digital transformation. In today's fast-paced market, clients need instant access to their data and dependable insights to protect innovation globally. The launch underscores AGIP's commitment to providing best-in-class IP services through advanced technology. AGIP Connect is now live and available to all AGIP clients.

For more information about AGIP Connect, or to request a platform demonstration, please contact us at **agip@agip.com**

AGIP UAE Attends OutSystems Innovator Day Dubai 2026

DUBAI – AGIP UAE joined industry leaders and technology pioneers at OutSystems Innovator Day Dubai 2026, held at the Museum of the Future. The event brought together experts to explore the latest trends in artificial intelligence, digital transformation, and cutting-edge technology solutions, with a specific focus on practical applications in intellectual property management.

AGIP UAE's participation underscored its commitment to leveraging innovative platforms and tools to streamline patent and industrial design processes. AGIP was represented by Mr. Amjad Al-Husseini, Executive Director, and Mr. Ahmad Al-Jaser, Manager of Patents and Industrial Designs, who both engaged with peers and technology providers to discuss how digital solutions can enhance IP workflows, accelerate time-to-market for inventions, and improve data accuracy across portfolios.

This engagement reflects AGIP UAE's broader initiative to adopt forward-looking technologies that improve service delivery, protect intellectual property more effectively, and support clients navigating a dynamic global IP landscape.





UAE Announces Fee Exemptions for Industrial Property

DUBAI – The UAE has introduced targeted fee exemptions for industrial property services to support eligible innovators and lower barriers to intellectual property protection. Effective September 14, 2026, Cabinet Resolution No. 136 of 2026 provides full fee waivers across 29 industrial property services, including patents, utility certificates, industrial designs, and integrated circuit layout designs, for student inventors and People of Determination.

Highlighted by the Ministry of Economy and Tourism, the initiative aims to empower young researchers, students, and persons with disabilities to bring their ideas to market with fewer financial obstacles. By easing the cost of IP protection, the government aims to foster innovation across education, technology, and manufacturing sectors.



Qatar: QDR Announces Updated Policies and Transition to New Registry System

DOHA – The QDR domain registry has announced the publication of its updated QDR Policies, released on October 21, 2026. The changes establish a new Registry system and set a definitive transition plan for all domain name registrations and related operations.

Effective October 22, 2026, all domain name registrations and related activities are processed exclusively under the updated QDR Policies through the new Registry system. The Qatar Domain Name Registry confirmed that the previous policies no longer apply as of this date, marking a clear shift in how registrars and clients manage registrations.

A key update is the introduction of a five-day Add Grace Period. During this window, registrars receive extra time to complete eligibility verification, with an immediate full refund provided upon deletion. Additionally, the new Registry system features an auto-renew function for existing domains. However, any modifications to a domain, such as DNS changes or other updates, now require eligibility verification to be completed before they can be processed. If a registrant fails to meet the applicable eligibility requirements, the registrar must delete the domain. The deleted domain will then enter a 30-day Redemption Period.

The eligibility requirements for .qa and .قطر are as follows:

- Commercial entities: The applicant must provide either a valid trade license or Commercial Registration (CR) issued in the State of Qatar, or hold a valid trademark registration issued in Qatar that matches the domain name.
- Individuals: The applicant must provide either a valid Qatar ID (QID) or a valid residence permit.

For more information or inquiries, please contact AGIP Qatar office at qatar@agip.com

Locarno Classification to be Implemented for Industrial Designs in Bahrain

MANAMA - The Directorate of Foreign Trade & Industrial Property, part of Bahrain's Ministry of Industry and Commerce, announced that Bahrain will implement the Locarno International Classification for Industrial Designs. The new system takes effect on October 29, 2026, the date the Agreement enters into force for Bahrain.

The move marks a key step in modernizing Bahrain's industrial property protections and aligning procedures with international standards. By adopting the Locarno Classification, Bahrain will categorize industrial design applications according to globally recognized classes and subclasses. This change aims to bring greater consistency to classification, improve searchability, and streamline the examination and registration of industrial designs.

Under the implementation, the international classification will apply to industrial design applications filed on or after October 29, 2026. All filings will be processed through the Industrial Property Online Services Portal, ensuring a smooth transition for applicants and IP agents. The Directorate notes that the new system will enhance transparency and harmonize Bahrain's IP processes with many international partners and trading blocs.



China Updates Trademark Law to Embrace Digital Era and Strengthen Use-Based Protections

BEIJING - The Chinese government has announced amendments to its Trademark Law, set to take effect January 1, 2027. The revised framework aims to modernize the trademark system for digital assets and streamline administrative procedures, signaling a significant shift toward genuine use and market goodwill.

The amendments introduce several key updates:

- Dynamic trademarks: The revised law expressly lists "dynamic marks" among registrable signs, alongside sound and other traditional elements (Art. 14). The statute does not separately list "multimedia" marks.
- National symbol restrictions: Signs resembling national symbols, government insignia, central or state bodies, and iconic government buildings are strictly barred from registration or commercial use.
- Intent-to-use requirement: Applications that are not for the purpose of use and that clearly exceed normal production/business needs shall not be registered (Art. 19) (both conditions; "and," not "or"), targeting abusive stockpiling.
- Well-known mark expansion: On dissimilar goods/services, protection against reproduction, imitation or translation of a well-known mark no longer requires China registration (Art. 21(2)); unregistered well-known marks remain protected on identical/similar goods (Art. 21(1)). Relief remains case-by-case and still requires public misleading and likely harm to the holder.
- Digital commerce alignment: "Use" of a trademark expressly includes use via the Internet and other information networks (Art. 2)-a definitional clarification, not a standalone e-commerce statute.

Businesses operating in or entering the Chinese market will need to maintain robust, verifiable evidence of commercial use, both online and offline, to align with this new "use-based" enforcement strategy.

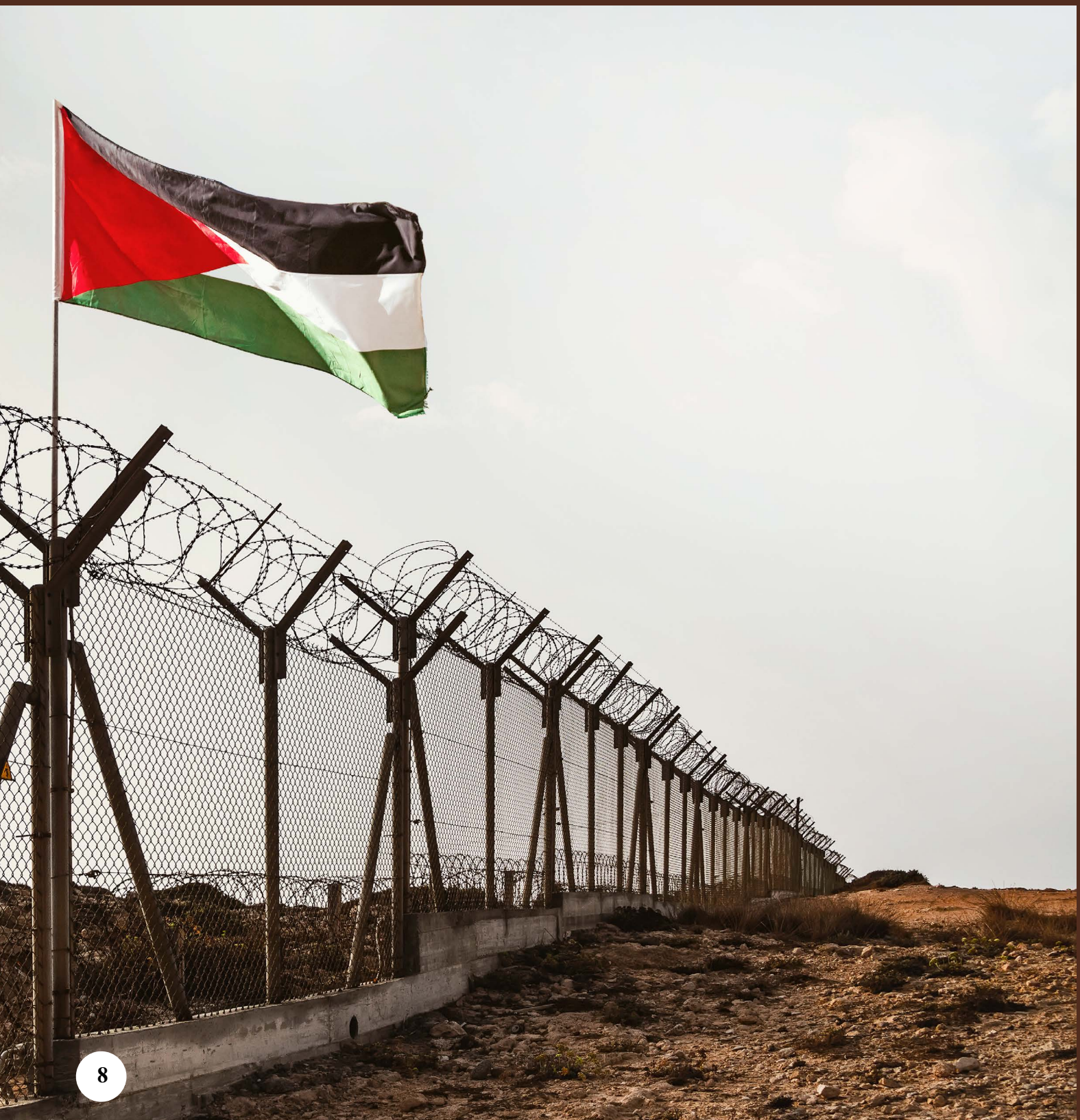
For more information or inquiries, please contact us at china@agip.com

Gaza Trademarks Office Extends No-Fine Trademark Renewals

GAZA - The Trademark Office of Gaza has extended the grace period for late trademark renewals. Under Administrative Decision No. 154/2026, the deadline to renew trademarks without incurring late penalties runs through November 18, 2026.

By waiving late fees, the Office aims to ease administrative challenges while preserving the integrity of the trademark registry.

For more information or inquiries, please contact us at palestine@agip.com



Suriname Introduces Service Mark

PARAMARIBO – Suriname has officially enacted amendments to its trademark law allowing service marks in Nice classes 35 through 45 to be registered in the country for the first time. Until now, intellectual property protection in Suriname was strictly limited to trademarks for physical goods. The new option allows brand owners to extend existing registrations or pending applications to cover services, broadening protection and aligning Suriname with international IP standards.

Under the new policy, owners of existing service marks and those with pending service mark applications may extend protection to the relevant service classes while preserving their original filing or registration date. This one-time extension period is available until July 8, 2027, offering a window for brand owners to secure comprehensive protection for both goods and services. Proof of use for the applicable services will be required as part of the extension process.

