

KOUWA PATENT OFFICE

INTERNATIONAL PATENT & TRADE MARK
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March 30, 2015

Re: **New Post-Grant Opposition System Against Patents in Japan
as of April 1, 2015**

Japan is now starting a new post-grant opposition system against patents that will be published on or after April 1, 2015 to make patent rights stronger and more stable in Japan. In this new system, everyone with or without concern can file an opposition during the opposition period within six (6) months from the published date after April 1, 2015 of patent publications for the reasons of for example lack in novelty or inventiveness. Before or after a lapse of the opposition period, only a privy can file an invalidation appeal against targeted patent any time.

To try or address the opposition, visit the JPO's site: "Searching JAP" to retrieve abstract of targeted patents with related English keywords at:

<https://www19.j-platpat.inpit.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1SEARCH#result>

At your request, we will prepare and forward to you a full or brief English translation of the targeted patents or pending application, or will regularly make a running watch on legal status of the targets. Our estimated costs on filing the opposition are shown all by Japanese Yen as follows. Please feel free to contact us for inquiry on this case.

	Our fee	Official fee
Filing an opposition	50,000	18,900
Each additional claim	8,000	2,400
Studying prior art documents and finding valid opposition reasons	250,000	
Running watch of legal status for a pending JP application and forwarding 4 reports in a year	36,000	
Making a search of targeted prior arts	50,000 to 400,000	

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