

Institut der beim Europäischen Patentamt zugelassenen Vertreter Institute of Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office Institut des mandataires agréés près l'Office européen des brevets

# Why is it important to have patents in China?

Tony Tangena President *epi* 



# Agenda

- Challenges for companies
  - Intellectual Economy
- Why is CN important for the EU and vice versa?
- Strategic choices
  - New IP landscape to exploit IP
  - Considerations for strategic choices
    - General
    - Internal
    - CN
- Value based IP management
- Summary



## **Challenges for companies**

#### Changes in industry:

- First industrial revolution: mechanization through water and wind
- Second industrial revolution: mass production with electricity
- Third industrial revolution: digital revolution

But now

• Fourth industrial revolution: connected world: internet of things



## **Fourth Industrial Revolution**

- Machines, work pieces and systems are all connected along the entire value chain. They can control each other autonomously.
- Complexity of production and supplier networks will grow enormously. Factories will be interconnected to large manufacturing systems across geographical regions.





### **Fourth Industrial Revolution**

 Integration of supply chain and producers means innovations need to be shared → Need to define who owns what

Thus: Intellectual Property will become even more important

Cooperation is all over world → necessary to think carefully about IP portfolio

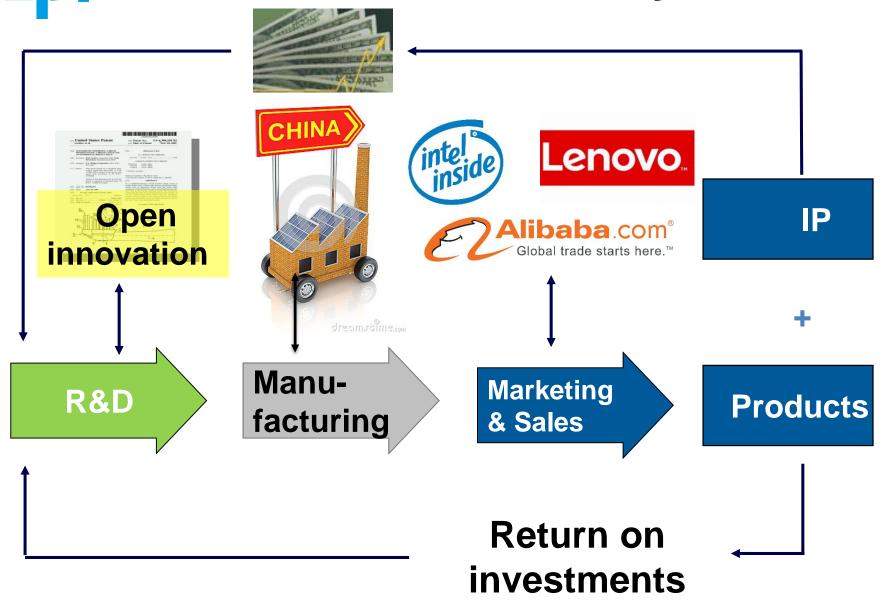




## **Changing playing field**

- Originally more vertically organized companies
  - Own labs, mass production / miniaturization
- More competition, lower margins: US, JP, KR, CN
- Now more horizontally organized companies:
  - specialists
  - outsourcing (to low wage countries)
- Competitive edge of companies shifts from production-based to knowledge-based, i.e. IPbased

## **Intellectual Economy**





# Why is China important for the EU and vice versa?

#### For the EU:

- CN is EU's 2nd trading partner behind the United States
- CN is EU's biggest source of imports: machinery and equipment, footwear and clothing, furniture and lamps, and toys
- CN has become one of EU's fastest growing export markets
- China is rapidly catching up in high technology industries as well as in science activities

#### For CN:

- EU is China's biggest trading partner
- EU has also become China's biggest source of imports: machinery and equipment, motor vehicles, aircraft, and chemicals.

#### China and Europe now trade well over €1 billion a day.



### **Different flavors of IP**

- Different IP value creation models lead to different flavors of IP:
- Exploitation different
- Focus IP different: internal vs. external
- Different types IP: designs, Trade Marks, patents





## **New IP landscape**

**Proprietary** "Exclusive IP"

Buy, Sell or License IP "Paid IP"

Open Source/ Patent Commons **RF** Standards "Free IP"

Collaborative "Share IP"

- User Interface Technology/Menus
- Trade Marks, designs
- Display enhancement MacBook Air
- Medicines
- Dolby
- Windows
- TOMTOM
- Linux
- Automotive standards
- Android
- Enabling Technologies
- Production equipment
- Test facilities





quietly brilliant







#### Considerations for strategic IP choices: general

- What value are you going to create with IPR in that country/region?
- Every country costs money
  - IP Office: filing, prosecution, maintenance
  - IP Agent
- Look at balance value versus costs created in country
- Look ahead 5-10 years from now



# Considerations for strategic IP choices: internal

- Your ambition
- Look at total IP portfolio, consider not just patents, but all forms of IPR
- Strength / broadness of patents (use search / preliminary opinion)
- Flexibility needed, i.e. possibility to keep options open and adapt countries/regions, depends on choice of procedure (PCT or National). The later the choice for CN the more certainty there is about exploitation.
- Speed of grant Patent: PPH

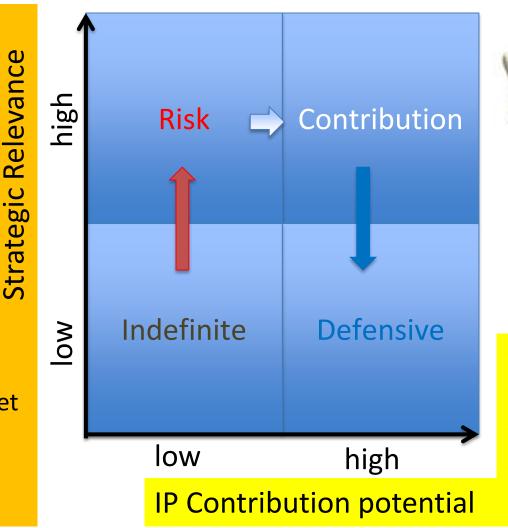


#### Considerations for strategic IP choices: China

- Markets for products
  - Size market / Growth market
  - China is the EU's 2nd trading partner (US #1): large market; annual growth ~5%
- Competitor presence (for licensing or defense/counterattack):
  - EU is China's biggest trading partner, i.e. many CN firms export to EU
  - EU has also become China's biggest source of imports, i.e. EU firms are exposed in CN to competitors and need protection
- Production countries
  - China and Europe now trade well over €1 billion a day.
- Import / export facilities concentrated in major ports
  - border detentions
- Working litigation system



# Value based IP management





- Skills within firm
- Resources firm
- Funding projects
- Innovation potential

After: Peter Bittner, VIPM, epi seminar

- Technology attractiveness
- Potential market
- Competitive intensity
- Standards

# Value based IP management

- Pro-active building of an IP portfolio
  - Do not wait for R&D
  - Guide R&D: Risk / Contribution areas?
  - Select based on value to be created
- Involve Business, R&D and IP people:
  - Transform risk into contribution areas
  - Weed out the indefinite stuff
  - Exploit the defensive area

Strategic relevance	Risk	Contribution
	Indefinite	Defensive
IP contribution potentia		on potential

#### Role CN:

- Chinese Science and Innovation System is rapidly catching up in high technology industries as well as in science activities
- #students and graduates in technology is enormous
- Use Espacenet to get feeling what is going on in CN to identify risks and potential partners



## Summary

- We live in an Intellectual Economy where the competitive edge of firms is based on know-how, i.e. IP
- IP is a **tool to create most value** for your business through **using different flavors of IP**
- IP management should be based on what you expect to be valuable in 5-10 years from now
- CN is important since it is the major trade partner of EU and vice versa and it continues to grow
- To be successful in business on a world wide scale it is essential to build a presence in CN
- CN has many graduates in technology and rapidly builds world class science and innovation centers so stay alert on CN developments through espacenet



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### Thank you

### for your attention!