

2017/2018

Issue No.7

BPG Board

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSFLASH!

The BPG Newsflash will be issued occasionally (approximately 4 issues a year) and is edited by BPG Board members. Published in PDF form, the newsflash will be distributed by email to all members as well as being posted on the website for free download by the public.

Members' News

Welcome our new Members:

Brand Owners

APPLE Inc. represented by Mr. Chris Hilotin - Intellectual Property Enforcement - Middle East.



Service Providers

Shredex Document Destroying Services LLC represented by Mr. Anis El Solh -Managing Director and Ms. Rodica Cozmolici - Business Development Manager.

BPG Events'

BPG participated in Dubai Customs Workshops No.37, 38 and 40.

On the 25th April 2017, Dubai Customs arranged workshop No.37.

BPG participated in this workshop through its members' Beiersdorf Middle East, Johnson & Johnson, Hyundai Mobis Parts Middle East FZE and Unilever.

On the 20th July 2017, Dubai Customs arranged workshop No.38.

BPG participated in this workshop through its member Philip Morris.

On the 6th November 2017, Dubai Customs arranged workshop No.40.

BPG participated in this workshop through its member Unilever.

BPG & Ministry of Economy

On 26th April 2017,

During Ministry of Economy celebration of the World IP Day on the 26th April 2017, BPG participated in the exhibition held at the New York University, Abu Dhabi, through our member Xerox.

IP Day celebration by Dubai Customs in April,2017

On 26th April 2017

BPG participated and Awarded during the IP Day celebration by Dubai Customs, BPG members attended among which Board member Mr. Wael Adhami - Head of Brand Protection at Johnson & Johnson (Middle East) Inc. received the award on behalf of BPG chairman.



BPG Lecture at Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government. On 8th May 2017.

BPG Board member Mr. Omar Obeidat – Partner at Al Tamimi & Co. lectured UAE leaders re Intellectual Property Federal Law No.(7) for 2002 at the Knowledge Management Circle Leader at Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government .



BPG at Automechanika Dubai 2017 7 – 9th May 2017, Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre

Automechanika Dubai 2017 featured 1,955 exhibitors from 57 countries and welcomed more than 30,322 trade visitors from across 136 countries. The number of official country pavilions taking part this year was 25, which includes the world's largest Pavilion for the German automotive aftermarket industry.

BPG was also present, where our representatives introduced our vision and mission to other brands, supporting Automechanika Dubai's commitment to ensuring all exhibitors and visitors adhere to Intellectual Property Rights.

In order to give BPG Brand Owners a preview of products displayed at the exhibition, Automechanika Dubai organized an informal walk through the show prior to the opening day.



BPG held Suhoor Gathering on the 16th June 2017.

Monday, 16th June 2017 at The Palace Downtown Dubai tent Ewaan.

BPG held Suhoor gathering in Dubai to celebrate the spirit of Ramadan, BPG board welcomed BPG new members', guests and showed them their appreciation for their support.



International Trademark Association: Free Trade Zone Workshop in Dubai in September

September 28, 2017, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Balancing the economic benefit of free trade zones (FTZs) with their vulnerability to exploitation by counterfeiters remains an ongoing struggle, particularly for brand owners and IP professionals. This one-day workshop in Dubai provides a forum for brand owners, free trade zone authorities, government officials and other key stakeholders to explore concerns, share best practices, and discover ways to combat the ongoing threat of counterfeits in FTZs.

Workshop topics include:

- How to navigate the benefits and challenges of FTZs
- Best practices to identify counterfeiters and disrupt their fraudulent practices
- How brand owners, government officials, and intermediaries can work together to stop the flow of counterfeits through FTZs

BPG members participated in this events as speakers among which were Beiersdorf, Unilever, British American Tobacco, Al Tamimi and Rouse.

BPG attended and participated in the Global Trade Development Week 12th Edition hosted in Dubai in November

On 30th October to 1st November, 2017, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

BPG members participated in the Global Trade Development week 12th Edition, both Mr. Khaldoun Odeh, Associate Director, Global Security, Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD) and Mr. Malek Hannouf, Head of Anti-Counterfeiting Middle East & Africa, Louis Vuitton were speakers at one of the panels.



BPG attended and participated in the 7th Regional Intellectual Property Crime for the Middle East and North Africa.

On 6th – 7th November, 2017 at Armani Hotel, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

BPG delegation attended this conference among which, BPG Board members Mr. Cameron Walker and Mr. Malek Hannouf participated in this event as speakers at one of the panels “Delivering Operational Success against IP Crime – EIPA Study “. BPG was also represented at our stall in the foyer area .



BPG attended and participated in the 3rd Community Safety Conference.

On 12th December 2017 - Dubai Police Officers Club, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Under the patronage and attendance of Lt. General Dahi Khalfan Tamim, This event was organized by EIPA, Dubai Police and UL, under the title “Combating Counterfeiting through standardization and methodology “.

BPG participated in the 3rd panel where they discussed; Risks of counterfeiting in Gas detectors and sprinkles which was presented by: Mr. Cameron Walker – BPG Board member.

Other BPG members also attended this conference.



Events attended by BPG representatives

BPG attends EIPA's Training program titled "Legal and procedural protection of intellectual property and formulation of related contracts items"

On 2nd April, 2017– Dubai police officers club - Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

BPG delegate attended EIPA Training course on Legal and procedural protection of Intellectual property and formulation of related contracts items.



BPG & Dubai Economy – DDED

On 23rd May 2017, Dubai, UAE.

BPG attends an exclusive session on Value Added Tax (VAT) in the UAE/GCC organized by Dubai Economy – DDED in collaboration with PWC, this session covered the following topics:

- Update on latest developments
- Overview of VAT system and general principles
- Understanding the compliance requirements
- Focus on Industry specific issues
- Impact on business and VAT implementation considerations.

BPG members attended this event.



BPG attends EIPA Training session about Intellectual property and government supporting for innovation.

25th - 27th September 2017, Emirates Towers, Dubai, UAE.

BPG delegate attended the training session which gave a detailed definition about intellectual property, categories of IP and why countries are issuing national legislation and sign regional or international agreements on intellectual property.

BPG members Malek Hannouf representing LV and Hadi Khawand representing SABA & Co. participated in this training.

BPG attended workshop on National Arbitration of Intellectual Property Disputes.

On 13th – 14th November, 2017 – Dubai Police officers club, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

This event was organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and in cooperation with the Emirates Intellectual Property Association (EIPA). BPG delegates attended this conference,



BPG attended MoU signing ceremony between the Ministry of Economy & Dubai Design District.

On 16th November, 2017 - Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Dubai Design and Fashion Council (DDFC) and the Ministry of Economy have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the protection of intellectual property rights, and against intellectual rights violations, in a signing ceremony held in Dubai Design District.

Mohammad Al Shehi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Economy for Economic Affairs, and Amina Al Rustamani, Chairperson of Dubai Design and Fashion Council signed the agreement.

The ceremony was signed in the offices of DDFC, and attended by representatives from the Ministry of Economy and Guests. BPG board members Mr. Hadi Khawand and Mrs. Yara Khalifah attended this event.



BPG attends a workshop “Building respect for intellectual property rights for members of the judiciary”

21th - 22th November 2017, Sharjah, UAE.

This workshop was organized by Judicial Training Institute in cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Ministry of Economy of the United Arab Emirates, and (EIPA).

The workshop was held at the Judicial Training Institute, University City, Sharjah, with BPG delegates attending the workshop.

BPG attended Dubai Economy 2nd Session of Business Engagement (BCE) Forum.

On 19th December, 2017 - Ritz Carlton, DIFC Dubai, United Arab Emirates

The Business Community Engagement Forum is a strategic event to position Dubai Economy as a prime facilitator and enabler of businesses across all industries.

Dubai Economy collaborates with business groups and government regulators in addressing the multi-dimensional issues & challenges faced at the industry ecosystem level, and recommend local solutions. Their goal is to help businesses and industries address current challenges and enable them to be ‘future ready’.



BPG attended DCCC Quarterly meetings.

Dubai – UAE

BPG attended some of DCCC quarter meetings, where important topics were discussed such as: Excise Tax -01 Oct 2017, Federal Tax authority, Dubai Customs projects (Jawab & Online Token service), Dubai Trade statistics 2017 and so many others.



BPG meetings

BPG Board members meet with Director General OLAF (EU Anti-Fraud Commission) in July.

BPG Board members meet with Director General OLAF (EU Anti-Fraud Commission), July 2017– The regional OLAF Liaison officer invited the BPG board to meet with Director General Dr Kessler and their Director of Investigations Mr. Ernesto Bianchi during a fact finding visit to the UAE. The OLAF delegation met with HH Sheikh Saif and other senior UAE figures during their visit.

OLAF explained that the key objective of their mission was to encourage better co-operation between OLAF (EU) and the UAE. Their request to meet the BPG was deemed necessary by diplomatic sources, in order to independently establish the true level of engagement in protecting IP in the UAE. BPG gave an overall assessment, praising the efforts of EIPA, the police and various DED's. Once again, the issue of re-export and the perceived lack of co-operation by Customs authorities on IP enforcement was a reoccurring topic in our discussions.

OLAF are planning to undertake a global container profiling program on IP fraud and have already received the support of the Chinese, Hong Kong and Singaporean authorities (the latter after some reluctance). Their next goal was to involve Dubai Customs in this program. We wished them the very best of luck in their endeavours!

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