

# W&B IP Newsletter



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## The Latest from Watson & Band

### Watson & Band's IP Services Team Again Honored among "2023 China's Outstanding IP Services Teams"

On January 27, 2024, the "14th China Intellectual Property New Year Forum and 2024 China Intellectual Property Managers' Annual Conference" was grandly hosted in Beijing. On that evening, this year's award ceremony announced the final result of the "2023 China's Outstanding IP Services Teams", among other awards. With nearly three decades' of professional services and excellent performance, Watson & Band's IP Services Team won the honorary trophy of "China's Outstanding IP Services Team" for the eighth time.



It is said that the selection of "2023 China Outstanding IP Services Teams" starts from the business scope and professional expertise of the IP services teams, and adopts the combination of special index rating and comprehensive interview report to fully evaluate the comprehensive strength of the participating teams. It aims to select the gold teams that can continuously and stably provide clients with high-quality and efficient professional services under the new economic situation, and promote the continuous improvement of the overall level and ability of China's IP services industry through the exemplary role of the "outstanding team".

### Several Practice Areas and Practitioners of Watson & Band Selected into 2024 Chambers Greater China Region Guide

On January 18, 2024, the Chambers Greater China Region Guide, an authoritative international legal rating guide, released its latest rankings for 2024. With its professional service quality and good reputation in the industry, Watson & Band is once again top-ranked in the three areas of "Intellectual Property: Litigation", "Intellectual Property: Non-litigation" and "Corporate/Commercial: Shanghai". For the sixth consecutive year, Mr. Zhu Xiaosu, Senior Partner of Watson & Band, is again named to the Individual list in the "Corporate/Commercial: Shanghai" category, steadily climbing to Band 2, and also to the individual list in the "Insolvency/Restructuring" category, ranking in Band 3. Mr. Tang Guohua, a senior patent attorney of Watson & Band, is also again included in the individual list in the field of "Intellectual Property: Non-litigation", and recommended as "up and coming".



The Chambers Greater China Region Guide, a successor to the Asia-Pacific Guide, provides corporate legal departments, business and legal teams, individuals and other clients seeking legal support with unparalleled market analysis and insights regarding leading law firms and lawyers.

## The Latest from Watson & Band

### Watson & Band Awarded Several Honors including "Excellent Trademark Agency" and "Excellent Trademark Agent" in Shanghai

On January 10, 2024, the Trademark Agency Professional Committee of Shanghai Trademark and Brand Association held a meeting at which the award-winning agencies and individuals of "Shanghai Excellent Trademark Agency" and "Excellent Trademark Agent" in 2022 were commended, as well as the agencies and individuals nominated for these two honors.

With its professional ability and outstanding performance in the field of trademark agency, Shanghai Watson & Band Intellectual Property Agent Co., Ltd. once again won the title of "Shanghai Excellent Trademark Agency", and the company's agents Chen Chenzi and Huan Qing were awarded the honorary certificates of "Shanghai Excellent Trademark Agent" and "Shanghai Excellent Trademark Agent (Nomination)" respectively.

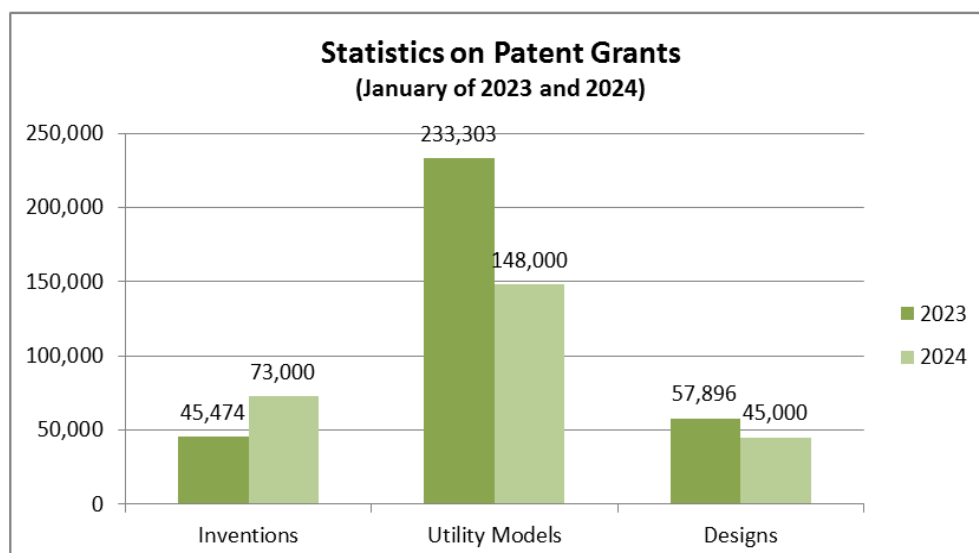


## Patent

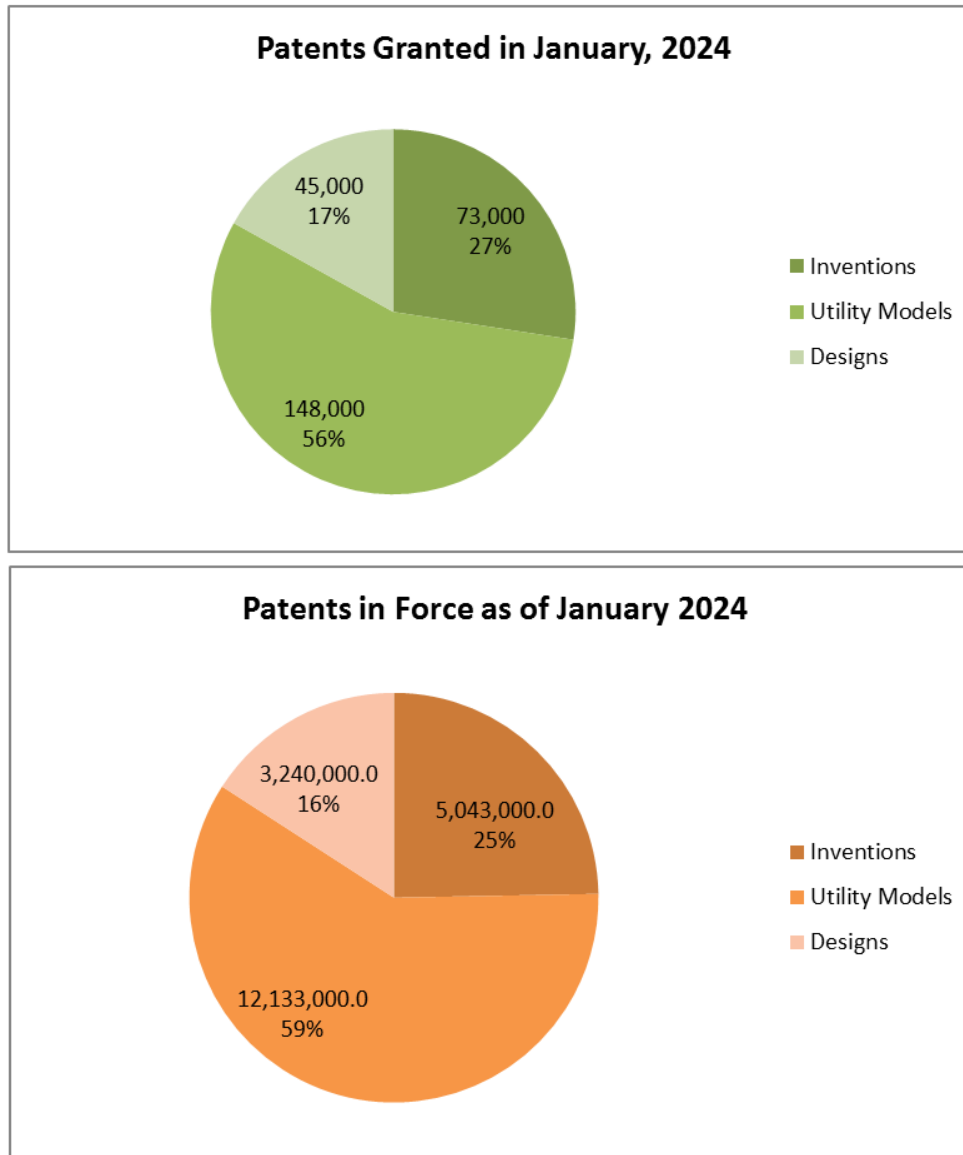
### CNIPA publishes Statistics on Patents (January 2024)

Recently, the CNIPA released the main statistical data of intellectual property rights in January 2024. Compared with January 2023, the number of invention patents granted during the month increased at the annual growth rate of 60.53%, while the numbers of utility models and designs dropped by 30.56% and 22.27% respectively.

Patent Grants	Inventions	Utility Models	Designs
January 2024	73,000	148,000	45,000
January 2023	45,474	233,303	57,896
Increase	27,526	-85,303	-12,896
Growth Rate	60.53%	-36.56%	-22.27%
Patents in Force	5,043,000	1,213,300	3,240,000



## Patent



During the captioned period, CNIPA accepted a total of 5,100 PCT applications, of which 4,700 were filed by domestic applicants.

Also during the captioned period, Chinese applicants filed a total of 154 international applications for design patents, and 167 published international applications for design patents designated China.

(Source: China National Intellectual Property Administration)

## Trademark

### CNIPA publishes Statistics on Trademarks (January 2024)

During the captioned period, 587,000 trademark applications were filed in China, and 380,000 trademarks were registered. As of the end of January 2024, registered trademarks in force reached 46,439,000.

Also during the captioned period, the CNIPA received 588 Madrid international trademark registration applications filed by Chinese applicants.

(Source: China National Intellectual Property Administration)

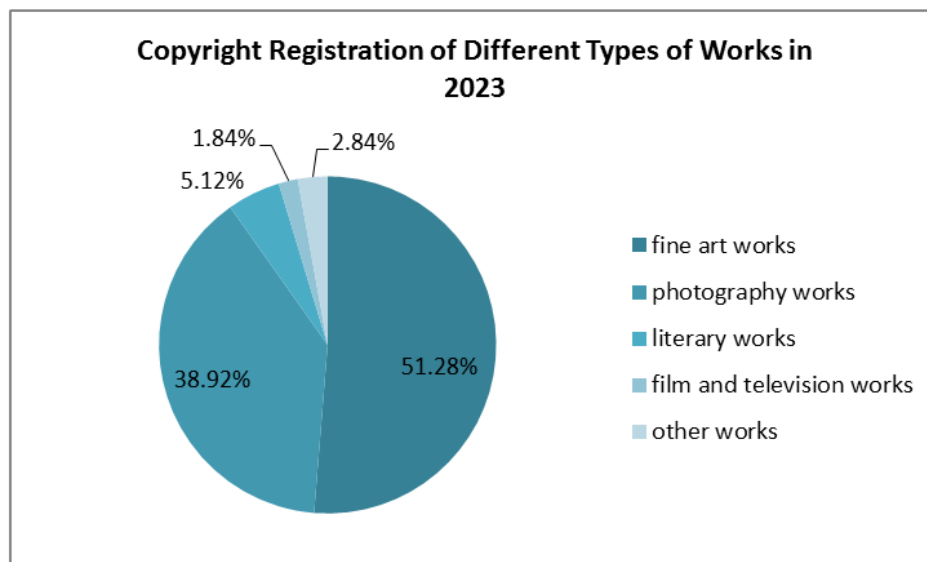
## Copyright

### National Copyright Administration: Overall Copyright Registrations in China Increased by 40.46% in 2023

Recently, China's National Copyright Administration issued a report on the national copyright registration in 2023, wherein the data shows that the total number of copyright registrations in 2023 reached 8,923,901 at the annual growth rate of 40.46%. Among these, 6,428,277 were registered as copyrights of works, reaching an annual growth rate of 42.30%; 2,495,213 were registered as copyrights of computer software, reaching at annual growth rate of 35.95%.

	Number	Annual Growth Rate
Overall copyright registration	8,923,901	40.46%
Copyrights of works registered	6,428,277	42.30%
Copyrights of computer software registered	2,495,213	35.95%

In terms of the types of works, the largest number of registrations relates to fine art works, accounting for 51.28% of the total registrations. The second largest relates photography works, accounting for 38.92%, followed by literary works (5.12%) and film and television works (1.84%). The aggregation of the said four types of works accounted for 97.17% of the total registrations.



In addition, in terms of copyright pledge registration, 411 copyright pledge registrations were completed nationwide in 2023, reaching an annual increase of 17.43%.

(Source: [www.iprchn.com](http://www.iprchn.com))

## Other IP Rights

### CNIPA publishes Statistics on Geographical Indications and Layout Designs of Integrated Circuits (January 2024)

	Geographical Indication Products approved	Geographical Indication Trademarks approved to be registered as collective trademarks or certification trademarks	Market Participants approved to use the special mark for Geographical Indications
January 2024	/	22	265
As of the end of January 2024	2,508	7,299	26,663

In addition, during the captioned period, 911 applications for registration of layout designs of integrated circuits were filed in China, and 902 registration certificates were issued.

(Source: China National Intellectual Property Administration)