

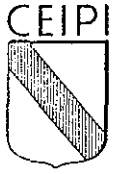
ASEAN REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON TEACHING AND TRAINING OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 6 - 8, 1995

PRESENTATION OF THE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY STUDIES (CEIPI), STRASBOURG.

by

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UNIVERSITÉ ROBERT SCHUMAN

ASEAN Regional Symposium

on Teaching and Training of Intellectual Property

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Kuala Lumpur
Hotel Hilton

Presentation of the Centre for International Industrial Property Studies (CEIPI), Strasbourg

Mr Dieter Stauder
Director of the International Section, CEIPI

Thursday 6th July 1995
12.00 - 12.30 p.m.

Introduction

Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to present to you the Centre for International Industrial Property Studies in Strasbourg, generally known as the CEIPI, in which I work as Director of the International Section.

Before doing so, I must explain that I am also an employee of the European Patent Office, integrated in the activities of its International Co-operation directorate in Munich. This department is part of the Legal and International Affairs department of the EPO, known as General-Directorate 5, of which the Vice-President, Mrs Remandas, is present here today and will be delivering a speech this afternoon.

It is therefore an honour for me to have the opportunity of giving this presentation on behalf both of the EPO and of the CEIPI.

The double function which I hold, as an employee of the EPO working at the same time for the CEIPI, is indicative of the co-operation that exists between these two organisations. Their long-standing collaboration was formalised in a legal agreement signed by the EPO and CEIPI in 1992, which established a joint training programme in the field of intellectual property, and in particular European patent law, now known as the "EURO-CEIPI" programme. The EPO thereby also agreed to provide the CEIPI with someone to direct the joint programme in Strasbourg.

This "EURO-CEIPI" programme is, however, only a part of the activities carried out by the CEIPI.

The CEIPI is, in fact, as its name indicates, a "Centre" for French as well as European industrial property studies. Nowadays, the use of the term "Industrial Property" in the title has, over the years, become too narrow a description of the CEIPI's field, as its teaching activitites have been extended to the field of copyright, which is increasingly developing "industrial" or "commercial" features.

Bearing in mind that the CEIPI has established itself as the very centre of teaching and training in industrial property in France, and also acquired an international reputation for its training in European industrial property, it is all the more astonishing that it operates on a budget that does not exceed 1 million US Dollars, with a very limited number of staff and fairly small premises. There are, in fact, only two other professors besides me, and no more than 10 administrative support staff, of which some even work part-time. The CEIPI's office in Strasbourg consist of 10 rooms located in the University Robert Schuman, which also provides the use of conference and seminar rooms when these are free, such as during the university holidays.

This might make you wonder how the CEIPI can possibly carry out its training activities at an international level.

The reason is, that the CEIPI has a large body of external teaching staff, known as tutors, who work for the CEIPI on an honorarium basis. These tutors are specialists from a variety of professional fields: there are patent attorneys from the free profession and industry, attorneys-at-law, experts from the national patent offices and from the EPO, as well as from other national and international organisations (such as WIPO !), representatives of professional organisations and industrial associations, and last but not least, professors from universities and research academies.

The tutors are the CEIPI's life-blood, so to speak. They are the people whose teaching and training skills establish the CEIPI's reputation.

They are "senior" highly-qualified specialists with many years' professional experience in their field, who are personally motivated to contribute to the training of their junior counterparts. Thus, they have a "pedagogic" impetus of their own.

At present, the CEIPI has around 200 such tutors based all over Europe, of which 130 belong to the International Section and the rest to the French Section.
The CEIPI ensures that this vital body of teaching staff is always up to the highest standards by supervising the established tutors and constantly looking to recruit new members.

This body of staff is therefore what enables such a small institute to have a European-wide importance in the field of teaching and training of intellectual property.

Presentation of the CEIPI

- CEIPI brochure - text in English **(annex 1)**

- Overhead transparencies

1) **CEIPI Training in Europe**
(map of Europe - annex 2)
28 courses with a total of ca. 280 students in 28 cities

2) **CEIPI Postgraduate training**
of future European Patent Attorneys (annex 3)

Details of the Basic Training course
and EQE Preparation seminar

Concluding remarks

The CEIPI tutorship and co-operation with the EPO

One of the most important tasks of both sections of CEIPI is the selection of tutors, as well as leading and looking after the body of teaching staff.

The French Section is able to foster a good team spirit and guarantee the supervision of the tutorship, owing to the fact that all its courses take place in Strasbourg and that most of its tutors are of French origin.

The situation of the International Section presents a challenge in this respect. Owing to the de-centralised nature of its courses (which run in 28 European cities), the tutors operate independently from one another and are naturally influenced by their own national and cultural traditions. The tutorials they hold are therefore characterised by their personal ideas and teaching methods. This reflects the diversity of national teaching and educational customs that exist in Europe, in particular between the Germanic, the Dutch, the English, the Scandinavian and the Latin mediterranean countries.

The de-centralised nature of the International Section's work therefore calls for careful supervision of the tutorship, in order to maintain the CEIPI's high standards across Europe. I avoid using the term "control" because this is too strong a concept for our particular situation. You can exert a certain amount of control over persons who are dependent on you and who accept that you have the right to do so. The CEIPI tutors, however, are not in this situation. Most of them have been practising their profession for many years and have reached a senior, and more or less independent, position in their firm or organisation, being highly knowledgeable and experienced in their field. It is in principle only possible to conduct a collegial relationship with these professionals if they are considered as partners of the CEIPI. Controlling their teaching and training activities is therefore a highly sensitive issue.

There are nevertheless several ways in which we can encourage the tutors to maintain common high standards and thereby establish the reputation of the CEIPI tutorship.

Every year, the International Section organises a 2-day Tutors' Meeting in Strasbourg, at which the tutors report on their courses and have an opportunity to exchange their ideas and experiences. The meeting is an important forum for the discussion of matters concerning training: the tutors propose amendments to the common Basic Training programme, such that the contents of the course are adapted to new developments in the field and to the practical needs of the students.

The International Section's monthly circular letters keep all the tutors informed of developments in European law, especially case law, and in European industrial property. The tutors receive important decisions, articles and information concerning new laws, as well as training material from the CEIPI office in Strasbourg.

Furthermore, the CEIPI now has electronic mailing facilities at its disposal, which are an indispensible means of holding the network of tutors together and ensuring ease of communication between the CEIPI office in Strasbourg and the individual tutors.

Owing to the double function of its director as an emplyee of the EPO, the International Section also has the advantage of having a secretariat at the EPO in Munich; the opportunity of participating in the wide range of activities of the EPO offers unique access to the latest information in the field of industrial property. Being present at the source of European patent law and practice gives us the priviledge of being able to provide the tutors, and thereby their students, with important first-hand information.

From the tutors' point of view, being included in such a practical system for the dissemination of information is very much appreciated, both at the pedagogical and professional level. This also avoids the danger that the teaching and training might become too academic.

The success of the co-operation between the EPO and the CEIPI is largely due to the dedication of all EPO colleagues involved in EURO-CEIPI training activities, reflecting the support given to the joint programme by the President of the EPO and the Vice President of DG 5.

Thank you for your attention.