



## Government Ministers and industry leaders debate intellectual property at summit in Brussels

The European patent system, the fight against counterfeiting and the future of TRIPS are key focuses for 150 speakers, and 700 delegates

- Global counterfeit market tops 700 billion dollars (545 billion euros), twice more than illicit drugs;
- Trade secrets: 1 billion dollars in IP theft by an AMD, ex-Intel employee charged last month;
- French court orders eBay to pay 38.6 million euros of damages to LVMH, ...
- Place : Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Place Rogier 3/Karel Rogierplein 3, Brussels, Belgium.
- Agenda : Thursday and Friday, 4 & 5 December, 2008.

**Brussels, 2 December 2008** – Christine Lagarde, French Economics Minister, Robert Verrue, Director General for Taxation and Francis Gurry, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization are among keynote speakers at the third pan-European Intellectual Property Summit taking place on 4 & 5 December in Brussels.

Organised every two years by Premier Cercle™, in association with The Wall Street Journal Europe and Managing IP magazine, this leading European congress features more than 40 plenary and workshop sessions with speeches delivered by 150 high-level experts in front of 700 delegates.

The congress, at the Sheraton Hotel, will notably focus on the community patent, the increasing fight against counterfeiting, and the future of the TRIPS agreement under the current round of DOHA negotiations.

High-level government officials will lead a debate on the community patent and the single integrated court. Margot Fröhlinger, Director of the Knowledge-Based Economy, will give a keynote speech. Companies such as Ericsson (Germany), Air Liquide (France) and Imerys (USA) will also present their points of view.

The fight against counterfeiting enters a new phase by 1st of January 2009 with the next Customs Action Plan by the European Commission. In addition, important initiatives are launched by the World Customs Organization (WCO) to support industry in its struggles to maintain margins in the face of highly organised gangs of counterfeiters.

Kunio Mikuriya, the newly elected head of the WCO United Nations agency, will outline his plans on 5 December, together with Marc-Antoine Jamet, who advised the European Counterfeiting Observatory. A workshop will feature a debate between eBay, Nike and Husqvarna. Others will explore IP enforcement issues in China, India, and Thailand.

Among key workshops on various topics, DG Competition of the European Commission will be confronted to industry players on two important files: the Pharmaceutical Enquiry into manufacturers of originator drugs versus generic medicines, as well as a FRAND (fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory pricing) debate featuring speakers from Qualcomm, Nokia, and Sisvel.

Other multinational companies participating at the IP Summit include Intel, Microsoft, Pfizer, BAE Systems, Unilever, IBM, Symantec, Robert Bosch, Philips, Astrazeneca, Daimler, InBev, ABB, Research in Motion, Shell and Lafarge. The IP Summit programme is available on [www.ipsummit.info](http://www.ipsummit.info)

If you would like any additional information and/or an accreditation to attend the IP Summit 2008, please contact:

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