



"Alan Knowles"

12/10/2011 10:27

To patent_review@citb.gov.hk

cc

bcc

Subject Feedback to review- Software patents

Urgent Return receipt Sign Encrypt

I have reviewed lightly your paper on Patent reform in Hong Kong, as a permanent resident, I would encourage you to consider the following when drafting any future reforms.

My particular concern is that of software patents, which are wreaking havoc in the United States and are in danger of being permitted in Europe.

All current research indicates that software should not be patentable, and only leads to a lack of innovation and legal "Patent Wars" as is currently happening with Google/Apple/Oracle/Samsung and many others, along with Patent Trolling.

The allowance of software patents does not benefit software developers or entrepreneurs, rather the only gain is the legal profession, and patent trolls who profit from poor legislation.

For more in-depth analysis of why software should not be patentable please read here.

<http://www.groklaw.net/article.php?story=20110908075658894>

In respect of this Request for Comments, please consider that allowing any kind of automatic registration of patents from other jurisdictions is a very dangerous situation. It is critical that it is made clear that anyone seeking a patent on a non-patentable subject, like software patents should face serious penalties as the damage done to society and business by this can not be overstated enough.

Thank you, and please help to keep Hong Kong Software Patent free.

Regards
Alan Knowles