

# VIVIEN CHAN & Co.

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## NEWS ALERT

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### IP UPDATE



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## Notice of Change of Business Seals and Formality Requirements for Patent and Trademark Applications in China

On 14 February 2019, China National Intellectual Property Administration (the "CNIPA") made an announcement as follows:

- (1) Patent Reexamination Board (the "PRB") will be merged into Patent Office after 1 April 2019; and
- (2) China Trademark Office of State Administration for Industry and Commerce (the "CTMO"), Trademark Review and Adjudication Board (the "TRAB") and Corporation Center for Trademark Examination (the "CCTE") will be integrated into China Trademark Office of China National Intellectual Property Administration (the "CTMO") after 1 April 2019.

After restructuring, the examination of patents and trademarks matters will be carried out in the name of CNIPA. The names of the original PRB, TRAB and CCTE will no longer be used.

On the other hand, the business seals of the previous PRB, CTMO, TRAB and CCTE shall cease to be used and the new business seal of CNIPA shall be put into use after 1 April 2019.

Following the restructuring of CTMO and TRAB, some of the formality requirements will be changed after 1 April 2019. That said, according to the updated formality document published on 1 March of 2019, the document which needs the execution of the applicant does not change for the time being.

We will keep you updated on the above.

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