

Sirs,

A couple of years ago I suggested changes in existing Patent related laws. The feedback given to me was that my first proposal was not possible because the rest of the world uses the same guidelines. However since this reply I have had the chance to contact many Inventors clubs around the world and It would appear that they agree with me and are trying individually to put pressure into making changes in their patent laws in their own countries.

My Suggestions were:

1. A provisional patent application should be extended from 1 year to 3 years before full Patent is applied for. A year is not long enough for an inventor to try and get someone interested in his or her invention. Each year the applicant can extend the application for a further year to a maximum of 3 years when either they let it drop or submit a full application. A charge for extending application could be made yearly. The countries I have contacted have all agreed that this is very good idea. It would at least add protection to a good idea and also give extra time for a manufacturer to consider the invention. At present they tend to sit on a suggestion for several months before rejecting it thus wasting valuable time for an inventor to get some one interested. This extended time would help evaluate the potential of all new UK inventions.

2. Legal Aid should be extended to inventors who have had their Patent infringed. The case could be evaluated possible now by the new system with UK patent office and then recommended to the Law Society for assistance with Legal Aid to be given. Most inventors cannot afford the cost of such a legal battle and the infringers know this. If this is in place it would deter possible infringers doing just that and anyway if case is proven then the costs could be recovered.

3. For a good UK invention approved by DTI for example a Patent Loan scheme interest free could be implemented by UK government as this would eventually help the economy of the country by increasing exports and protect what otherwise would be lost to UK. I can give you many examples of instances that have already happened that would not have happened if such a scheme had been implemented.

Regards
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