

ANTI-COUNTERFEIT AGENCY NEWSLETTER

Second Edition



educate, enforce, eliminate



August 2016

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ACA Leads Kenyans in Commemoration of World Anti-counterfeit Day

Getting Real About Fakes' – The Marketers Symposium 28th June, 2016

The Anti-Counterfeit Agency (ACA) in collaboration with Chartered Institute of Marketing - Kenya led the country in celebrating the annual World Anti-Counterfeit Day (WACD) as it urged participants to be more vigilant as they too are critical stakeholders in fighting counterfeits.

The WACD activities were expected to increase awareness on counterfeiting among stakeholders including consumers, who have in

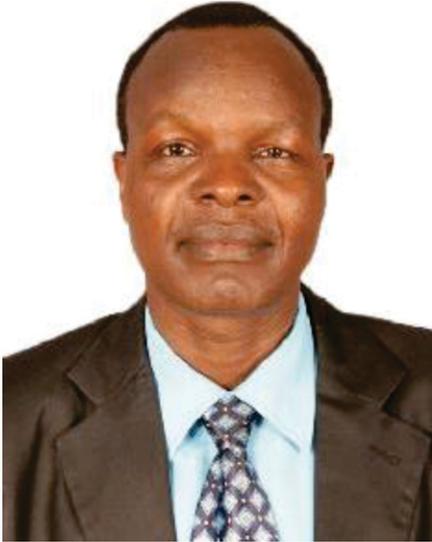
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Forwarding Editorial

Welcome to the Anti-Counterfeit Agency's second newsletter!



The feedback from the last edition, published in January 2016, showed that this newsletter, which is inspired by the need for regular updates to our stakeholders, has the potential to be a valuable source of information and discussion. However, its success depends on your involvement and everyone is encouraged to send contributions so that it fully reflects the Agency's broad-based network.

As promised, each edition will set out to highlight particular issues of interest. In this edition, towards our public awareness endeavor, the cover story is about the World Anti-Counterfeit day (WACD) celebrations marked in June every year. This year we partnered with the local chapter of the Chartered Institute of Marketing in organizing a marketers symposium dubbed 'getting real about fakes'. This was the climax of the WACD activities that included destruction of assorted counterfeit goods worth Ksh 58 M. We are also taking a closer look at the ongoing County sensitization series on counterfeit issues and protection of intellectual property. Read on for more about our indefatigable teams' visits to the North Rift, Western Kenya and the northern frontier all the way to Moyale, our border town with Ethiopia.

Of importance to the Agency is the growing inter-agency collaboration in the fight against counterfeits and illicit trade. Many of the success stories here on enforcement activities across the country are a culmination of this collaboration. This collaboration is now being pursued with the county governments by establishing a network of links between all players. This brings on board all the regulatory agencies, manufacturing companies, IP professionals, the consumers and the Counties. We want to break down the isolated silos of operation towards strategic collaboration in the protection of intellectual property.

Thank you for being an important part of our journey in 2016 and we look forward to bringing you all the latest intellectual property related news in the country. We hope this newsletter will develop to fulfill its role as an important facilitator of information between the Agency and our stakeholders in the war against counterfeits.

Enjoy your reading!

Dr. John Akoten PhD.



Acting Chief Executive Officer

Vision

A Counterfeit-Free Kenya.

Mission

Prohibit Counterfeiting through Promotion and Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights.

Policy News

Towards a Counterfeit free Kenya

The importance of intellectual property (IP) protection in Kenya is a critical factor in attracting foreign direct investment and mobilizing domestic investment, which in turn, is indispensable to achieving sustainable economic growth and development. As Kenya seeks to innovate and develop globally recognized value-added products and recruit investment in knowledge-based industries, it must build effective institutions and regimes that adequately protect and enforce IP rights – for both its own citizens and of those that invest in the country.

Currently, Kenya is experiencing moderate economic growth and has the potential to become the next frontier of emerging market for trade and investment. It is proven that lack of effective IP protection and enforcement can hinder growth of trade and investment in a country. The scourges of piracy and counterfeiting are major impediments to increased trade and investment, and therefore can affect economic growth in Kenya. Additionally, counterfeit consumer goods, including pharmaceuticals, are often of substandard quality and pose an unacceptable risk to the health and safety of the Kenyan consumers.

Estimates indicate that the trade in counterfeit goods accounts for about 2.5 per cent of world trade. Globally, statistics from the Business Action to Stop Counterfeiting and Piracy (BASCAP) indicates that trade in counterfeit and pirated products have increased by over 80 per cent in a five-year period. IP theft poses a risk to all industry sectors; those most commonly affected by IP theft are manufacturing, consumer goods, technology, software, and biotechnology, including pharmaceuticals. According to KAM, 2012 businesses lose up to 40% of their market share to counterfeiting that also leads to 12% loss of jobs in the country.

Kenya Strengthens its IP Legislative Regime

'Miscellaneous amendments of the Anti-Counterfeit Act, 2008' at a glance

Through public participation and stakeholders' consultations, the Agency amended the Anti-Counterfeit Act 2008 through the Statute Law Miscellaneous Amendments Act 2014. The Act effectively amended four sections of the [Anti-Counterfeit Act](#), namely sections 2, 6, 16 and 34; the latter highly commended as it will have an impact on the timeliness of IP infringement case handling.

This important amendment is by insertion of Section 34 A that empowers the ACA Executive Director with arbitration powers. It reads in part;

"The Executive Director may, where satisfied that any person has committed an offence under this Act in respect of which a fine is provided for or in respect of which anything is liable to forfeiture, order such person to pay a sum of money, not exceeding the amount of the fine to which the person would have been liable if he or she had been prosecuted and convicted for the offence, as he may deem fit, and the Executive Director may order anything liable to forfeiture in connection with the offence to be forfeited"

The amendment is of great interest to our stakeholders especially the IPR owners who opined that criminal adjudication of IP matters were unnecessary taking too long. Now upon agreement of both parties (the complainant and accused) the Executive director has jury powers to order the payment of a fine or forfeiture for crimes committed under this Act. This will reduce time and resources taken to arbitrate on protracted court battles that were experienced before. Criminal cases under the Act can now be arbitrated efficiently and expeditiously, and ACA is putting in place mechanisms to ensure fairness and justice in the application of the powers in this section.

Secondly, Section 6(1) aligns the Anti-Counterfeit Act with best practices in corporate management as also stipulated in the Code of Governance for Government Owned Entities popularly known as 'Mwongozo', issued by Public Service Commission and State Corporations Advisory Committee, January 2015. ACA has taken wide steps towards adherence to this.

World Anti-Counterfeit Day Celebrations Continued

many instances been duped to buying fakes. During the one day conference at the Hilton Hotel on the 28th June 2016, the conference attendees were sensitized on the Kenyan IP Enforcement and Legal framework, legal compliances, feedback from our stakeholders, changing global practices, efforts by the Government & manufacturers, Policies & Incentives towards fighting counterfeits so as to benefit all the stake holders in the war against counterfeits.

This year's partnership with marketers was based on the Agency's belief that marketers are an important cog between manufacturers and consumers and hence a key stakeholder in the fight against counterfeits. We looped-in Marketers in this war as they have a strong opinion on matters affecting branding (shapes and colors) hence authentication of marks, all key aspects in trademark protection and enforcement.

“Whenever consumers buy fake items, they put their lives and those of their families at risk as these goods do not undergo any control checks. Counterfeiting has an impact on the economy as it pushes legit enterprises out of business, counterfeiters are not creators of sustainable jobs, they do not pay taxes and they kill innovation,” said Mrs Agnes Karingu, the Acting Deputy Director Research & Awareness at ACA. Speaking at the event on behalf of the Acting Executive Director Dr John Akoten, she added that by celebrating WACD locally, the agency is bringing the attention of all stakeholders to the importance of intellectual property rights on economic development.

During the official opening of the WACD event in Nairobi he added that collaboration among the different stakeholders would help reduce the number of counterfeits in the market and with the aim of eliminating the trade, an all have a role to play regardless of economic status, or nature of employment. “Although counterfeiting poses significant threats to our economy, there are many steps

that manufacturers, consumers, and governmental entities can take to make counterfeiting more difficult, more risky, and less profitable,” said the Agency. “The greatest step is having these entities cooperate especially in raising awareness, through information sharing with ACA and during IP infringement cases processing. By doing so, then it is quite possible that counterfeiting will reduce locally and at the global level. Ultimately, this will make consumers safer, eliminate disincentives to innovation and growth and spur our economy towards attaining vision 2030,” added Agnes from ACA.

The one day forum brought together marketers from the various sectors in country ranging from electrical and electronics, construction materials, foods and beverages, beauty, home and body care industries, and agrochemicals' among others. We acknowledge our partners CIM, our facilitators and panellists from both public and private sector and who included Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, NCAJ, Kenya Industrial Property Institute, Competition Authority, Kenya Association of Manufacturers, (KAM) and their member IPR owners among other stakeholders.



The Acting Deputy Director Research and Awareness Agnes Karingu with the Chairman of Chartered Institute of Marketing Kenya CIM (K) Chairman Mr. James Ngomeli address the media at the side-lines of the World Anti-Counterfeit Day conference at the Hilton Hotel

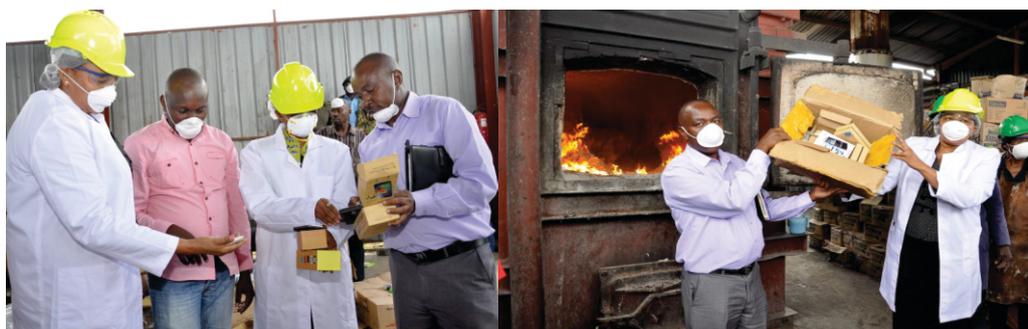
Unpacking World Anti-Counterfeit Day:

The WACD is an initiative of the Global Anti-Counterfeiting Network Group (GACG) that started eighteen years ago. This year the main event held in Paris on 8th June was themed 'Fakes in the sports industries' to coincide with the EURO 2016 football. Events globally had themes under the broad heading of 'Anti-Counterfeiting and the campaign against the trade in fakes.' In line with this Kenya chose to convince the marketers and the consumers at large to accept that counterfeiting is a real menace hence the theme "Getting Real about Fakes".

Kenya's ACA is a member of the GACG alongside the only other two African countries South Africa and Nigeria. Through the membership, ACA benefits from information sharing thus keeping abreast with global news e.g. on counterfeiting trends as well as benchmarking with other members. Every year in marking the WACD in the month of June, awards are given to exemplary performers on anti-counterfeiting initiatives. ACA endeavours to be on this roll in the near future and is doing all necessary to achieve it.

Counterfeit Goods Worth Ksh 58 M Goes up in Flames as a Prelude to World Anti-counterfeit Day

The Anti-Counterfeit Agency (ACA) destroyed goods worth Sh58 million as it pushed its fight against counterfeiting a notch higher with a plan to increase the number of its sting operations and consumer awareness campaigns. This came a day before the Agency marked this year's World Anti-Counterfeit day as a build up to the memorable event. The goods were determined counterfeits by the Courts and ordered for destruction as per the law. The items, destroyed at EPZ in Athi River, comprised fast moving consumer goods, and included mobile phones, electrical goods, clothing, cosmetics and apparel and stationery, which were replicas of popular local and international brands.



Left The Anti-Counterfeit Agency Acting Deputy Director Agnes Karingu(left) and Patricia King'ori(second right), Head of Marketing & Communications at Samsung Electronics East Africa, joined by officials from the Anti-Illicit Trade Agency examine counterfeit smart phones just before they are destroyed at EPZ Athi River.

At the destruction witnessed by several IP Owners stakeholders ACA Ag. Deputy Director Agnes Karingu said the exercise demonstrated the government's commitment to protecting businesses from losses experienced due to intellectual property theft. "We understand the impact that counterfeiting has on the economy; from loss of tax revenues and jobs to reduction in the amount of investments from both local and international businesses as well as exposing Kenyans to dangers," she said. She added that the agency has increased surveillance through collaboration with different law enforcement agencies as well as officials from ministries, departments and agencies, and the private sector in a bid to fight counterfeiting. This is in addition to regional offices at Mombasa, Kisumu, Eldoret and Garissa.

Among the companies that ACA has partnered with in fighting counterfeiting in the country are mobile phones providers who have been at the forefront in creating public awareness on how to distinguish between



Representatives of IPR owners inspect counterfeit goods that include shoes, music instruments and mobile phones among others as they await their destruction at EPZ

counterfeits from the genuine devices.

According to Patricia King'ori, Head of Marketing and Communications at Samsung Electronics East Africa, IPR Owners should work closely with ACA as key stakeholders to ensure that counterfeit products are mopped out of the market. "In addition to accompanying the agency on its inspection tours, IPR owners should also train the ACA officials in identifying counterfeits. The counterfeiters are always trying to have their products similar to the genuine one, and we therefore have to ensure that the officers on the ground are abreast with the latest



Representatives of IPR owners inspect counterfeit goods that include shoes, music instruments and mobile phones among others as they await their destruction at EPZ

Awareness & Training

Anti-counterfeiting 'change Agents' at the Counties

ACA Endeavors on Partnerships with County Governments in the Spirit of Devolution

Kenya adopted a new Constitution in August 2010, which ushered in a number of significant changes to Kenya's legislative framework. One such change was the introduction of devolution of the previous unitary central government to a government structure comprised of national and county governments. The constitution requires both the national government and affiliated Agencies to liaise with the county governments on matters of national concern for the purpose of exchanging information, coordinating policies, and enhancing capacities.

In respect to this new dispensation and governance changes, The Anti-counterfeit Agency endeavors to work with the county governments and law enforcement officers at the county level in the enforcement of intellectual property rights. This strategy is take advantage of the officers at the County who are in daily contacts with businesses and citizens located in their jurisdictions. The county based officers can be the “first responders” to IPR holders since they are bound to get intelligence reports from their interactions. Such interactions can lead to investigative leads in the form of information on locations and identities of persons distributing or manufacturing counterfeit and pirated items. If convinced these would be valuable CHANGE AGENTS to inculcate the message on the value of genuine Vs Counterfeits.

It is in this spirit that the Awareness initiatives

were driven to the county governments to raise educate participants on intellectual property rights, issues of counterfeiting and the legislations involved.

ACA Reaches out to Noreb & western Kenya Counties

The Awareness and Enforcement officers set out to the county series education roundtables with the topic of collaboration to fight counterfeiting at the county level. A series of seven (7) county sensitization forums were conducted the inaugural being in Kisumu County. This was followed by 'a sprint of activities' in Kitale Trans-Nzoia County and Kapenguria in West Pokot County, in February this year. Later 'a marathon of awareness activities' followed in the rest of NOREB (North Rift Economic Bloc) tackling four counties in three days i.e. Uasin Gishu County at Eldoret, Nandi County at Kapsabet, Baringo County at Kabarnet and Elgeyo Marakwet County in Iten in April 2016.

The forums were designed in thematic sessions that were facilitated by eminent resource persons in different areas of Intellectual Property (IP). Over a thousand (1000) delegates participated in the interactive forums that saw participants get exclusive insights into intellectual property protection. Participants were given the opportunity to share their views informed by their experiences in the course of their work. The information provided by the feedback from the forums informs our policy and increase the IP capacity building in all counties across the country. The County sensitization forums also offer the Agency an opportunity to communicate its position as the lead government agency tasked with Anti-Counterfeiting initiatives. The forums offer an opportunity for the Agency to foster dialogue with other governments agency's on policy issues and have become an efficient way of clearing misconstrued mandate overlaps and miscommunication. The agency believes that those sensitized are potential change agents for the consumers with regards to purchase of counterfeits especially where price is the determining factor

Objectives of County Sensitization Forums

- To sensitize the County officers and National Government Officers working at the County as well as the private sector to better understand issues relating to intellectual property rights and the enforcement of the Anti-Counterfeit Act 2008 in Kenya.
- To enlighten county executives and legislators on the effects of counterfeits aimed at a culmination of Legislature of pro-IP laws at the county level for protection of intellectual property.
- To increase the level of collaboration with county Governments in the war against counterfeits



From right, Mr. Peter Okwanyo the County Commissioner and Mr. Peter Ndungu the Coordinating County Police Commander (in Uniform) & Deputy Speaker, Hon. Fredrick Kitilit at the Baringo County Sensitization forum in Kabarnet Town



Left: The Ag Executive Director of ACA Dr John Akoten addresses the media as the County commissioner Mr. Elongata looks on.



County Minister for Communications, Information & Technology Hon. Michael Odour Onyango at the Kisumu County forum held at Kisumu Hotel on 20th January, 2016.



Part of the participants at the event held of 7th April at Kabarnet. More than 25 MCAs attended the forum.

ACA in Kapenguria, West Pokot

Some forums such as Kapenguria had a unique level of participation with the highly respected Council of Elders attending in big numbers. These are respected opinion leaders in the Counties and the level thus the National and County Governments work very closely with them. Both national and county governments were represented at the forum as well as the private sector and other local leadership. The audience received the information positively and with a lot of enthusiasm; they identified well with issues of counterfeiting, sharing experiences and information on

common counterfeit products in their County and proposing ways of working together towards a counterfeit free County. The participants mentioned the most counterfeited products were alcoholic beverages, seed and fertilizers; the meeting was informed by the residents who were concerned about the amount of counterfeit products that have penetrated through the porous borders.



Left: West Pokot County Commissioner, Mr. Wilson Wanyanga and Pokot Paramount Chief Council of Elders & ACA's Agnes Karingu; Right: A section of Participants at the forum at the held on 15th February 2016 at Kapenguria Bible College

Moyale and Marsabit Enforcement Forum

This was part of the Agency's public outreach mandate towards capacity building and strengthening the effectiveness of intellectual property rights enforcement at our borders. Over 150 people from Marsabit County based in Marsabit and Moyale town participated in the two-day working tour. The forums organized in conjunction with the Marsabit County government was one its kind in our effort to liaise with county governments. The forum addressed issues of IPR enforcement and promotion of anti-counterfeiting efforts in Moyale town that borders Ethiopia in an effort to curb influx of counterfeits through the border points.. During the forum, participants were enlightened on the importance of IP law, practice and enforcement in the country as well as the impacts of counterfeits to our economy, manufacturers and the health and safety dangers to the society; and the need for all to take a personal responsibility regarding combat of counterfeiting

Enforcement Round-up

Goods Seized In-transit: Stationery, Electronics, Sugar & Electrical Cables

Our officers based in Mombasa led by Chief Inspector, Ibrahim Bulle together with Customs officials stopped trans-shipment of fake stationery and electronics in a transit container destined to one of our neighboring countries. The container packed with counterfeit stationery, was seized and detained at Makupa transit shed. The officers also seized another trans-shipment container destined to Zanzibar with fake electronics, the containers were intercepted and transferred through INTERPOL and finally seized in one of the neighbors' territories. We work with Customs, regional governments, police, Interpol and port official to ensure we curb all counterfeit products in transit and stop the release of any in-transit containers from the port of Mombasa so that they cannot continue on to their final destination. This collaboration ensures and prevents counterfeit goods entering the borders of our trading partner countries. ACA officers have also been at the forefront of the harmonization of regional IP Laws and continue to press for changes in policy to curb trade in counterfeit goods.

The Anti-Counterfeit Act 2008 prohibits trade in counterfeit goods in the country and attracts heavy fines and jail terms to convicts. Counterfeit goods on transit and transshipment contravenes section 32 (f) of the Anti-Counterfeit Act 2008 that prohibits counterfeit goods on transit / transshipment whether destined for Kenya or to the neighboring countries. Traders are therefore encouraged to shun counterfeit business and instead engage in lawful business practices.

Sugar and Counterfeit Electrical Items Seizure worth Ksh 70 Million Seized at Auto-Port in Mombasa

The day is 25th February 2016, ACA Inspectors together with Custom officials and other law enforcement partners seized four (4) containers suspected to have counterfeit goods. The goods are detained at the port of Mombasa, Makupa transit shed and others at the Auto-port CFS. No arrests have been made as the suspects are still at large. Two (2) containers were found to contain branded brown sugar

shipped from Dubai among 16 containers recently detected by the officials of customs authority at Mombasa port; while the other two (2) containers were found to contain counterfeit electrical and hawkers goods shipped from China. These were detained at Auto-port CFS. These seizures are part of the Agencies' ongoing enforcement operations targeting the illegal importation, supply and sale of Counterfeit products. The conspirators used false paperwork, hence raising suspicions. Most of the counterfeit merchandise is shipped in containers fraudulently associated with legitimate goods and importers and declared wrongly to disguise detection by the officers manning the port. Trade in counterfeit goods poses unfortunate health and safety risks to consumers since more often than not; they are of inferior quality compared to genuine goods. The government losses a large chunk of tax revenues as a result of tax evasion since the goods are incorrectly declared at the port of entry.

Counterfeit Electric Cables Seized in Mombasa

The Agency has impounded containers in a Mombasa Freight station containing over 2,000 electrical cables purportedly destined for the South Sudan market. The February raid at the port of Mombasa is yet another case of transshipment of counterfeits into the country. The Agency has put contraband electrical cable importers on a notice warning of stringent penalties. In a visit to one of the local electrical cables manufacturers' plants in Nairobi; ACA's Ag Executive Director, Dr. John Akoten said inter-agency efforts have been reinforced to fight counterfeits so as to create a favorable business environment for legitimate businesses to thrive. He warned that illegal electrical cables are classified as high-risk goods and importation of sub-standard cables posed great harm to everyone.

ACA Inspectors seize KSH 15 Million worth of Counterfeit 'Ball Bearings'

ACA enforcement team in March, 2016 busted a fake ball bearings racket operating at Kirinyaga road Nairobi. They seized Ksh 15 Million worth fake ball bearings which were being sold under the brand name of the Swedish firm SKF. The team arrested the owner and released him on bond awaiting an authentication

report from the Swedish firm. According to our investigations, the accused usually purchased cheap quality ball bearings and then repackaged them as SKF bearings. They were caught red handed with forged seals and other imprints that would disguise their wares as genuine products.

Brand protection team from SKF Sweden and their Kenyan representatives, which supplied bearings to industries, auto majors and re-sellers, had lodged a complaint with the Agency, alleging that counterfeits of their products were being sold widely in the country, the hot spot being the Kirinyaga road-based

businessman. The company in-house investigation was triggered by complaints regarding their products from customers. Upon examining the bearings, they found them to be counterfeits. According to Ms. Tina Åström, Director Group Brand Protection at SKF who led the team, the counterfeit bearings posed great safety risk. If one buys a counterfeit bearing in a manufacturing enterprise, production is normally either stopped or reduced causing enormous losses.” She quipped adding that ‘their unpredictable characteristics of counterfeits mean that they have the potential to fail quickly, even catastrophically. The results could include expensive damage to capital equipment or serious injury to plant personnel”.

A Unique Mode of Counterfeiting: Case of Utility Model - Advertisers Beware!!



Advertisers beware!! Understand the concept of utility model well for your own good.

The Agency is advising advertising companies to watch against infringement when buying spaces for their customers, citing numerous complaints received over the practice. This directive comes as the agency started a crackdown on such advertisers in Nairobi's Central Business District to get rid of adverts protected by Al-Mumin Advertising Company.

First of its kind by the Agency, our officers seized pole mounted adverts along Wabera and Mama Ngina Streets by BIBA, a stationery and boutique accessory outlet. Advertising companies who require more information on the possible infringement of utility models on outdoor adverts should contact the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) for authentication and to ACA on infringement.

According to Al-Mumin representative Mr. Fred

Otswongo, in the case of BIBA, who claim to have the right to advertise using the utility model 51 by paying for advertising space to the city county, risk paying the said lawful owner of the model Al Mumin Halal up to Sh50 million in civil suit. This is said to cater for the technical expertise that came up with the model, business lost due to the model being infringed upon since 2014 when BIBA was served with a warning. In the warning notice, dated May 23, 2014; Al Mumin Halal through their lawyer insisted that their client is the lawfully and dully registered owner of the utility model invention disclosed in application KE/U/2012/000254 being an invention titled Pole Advertising Structure. This involves an advertiser mounting an advert on the side of the pole, on the already existing street lights.

What is Utility Model?

According to Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) a Utility model refers to any form, configuration or disposition of element of some appliance, utensil, tool, electrical and electronic circuitry, instrument, handicraft mechanism or other object or any part of the same allowing a better or different functioning, use, or manufacture of the subject matter or that gives some utility, advantage, environmental benefit, saving or technical effect not available in Kenya before and includes micro-organisms or other self-replicable material, products of genetic resources, herbal as well as nutritional formulations which give new effects.

An invention qualifies for a utility model certificate if it is new and industrially applicable. Its certificate expires at the end of the tenth year after the date of the grant of the utility model, and is not renewable.

News Feature:

Agency Now Focuses on Nairobi's Counterfeit Hotspots

The knock-off capital of Nairobi County and the country at large is Luthuli Avenue and Eastleigh areas of Nairobi, our investigations reveals. The trade in counterfeit phones continues to flourish there despite a series of high-profile raids which have seen fake phones worth millions seized by the agency. The Agency has to seek additional manpower to tackle 'widespread criminality' in these two areas. The latest in a series of raids in the area saw our officers and Investigative companies representing brand owners seize goods worth millions of shillings. In the three months of February, March and April our officers together with officers from the Anti-Illicit Trade Agency Ltd, the local brand protection representatives for a variety of mobile phone companies confiscated counterfeit phones and accessories worth Ksh. 150 million during raids of 12 shops.



Officers from Anti-Illicit Trade Company take stock of fake phones seized in one of the shops in Luthuli street Nairobi



A team of ACA Inspectors and IPR owners on an inspection mission at a shop in Luthuli Street, in Nairobi displaying counterfeit goods.

In December 2015 and January 2016, Ksh. 12m of fake designer shoes were intercepted in Eastleigh. The demand for fake designer goods remain high “It is indicative of the entrenched criminal culture of the area that trade in counterfeit goods has continued despite regular enforcement action and high-volume seizures,” said Chief Inspector Casper Olouch who is in charge of operations of Nairobi Region. He added “these areas occupy a focal point in the market for counterfeit goods. In addition to the significant retail trade occurring directly from premises in the area, there is also information suggesting their operations get supply of counterfeit goods from Somalia. We are ready to tackle these regions through our continued partnership between government departments, industry, and law enforcement”. The production, distribution and sale of counterfeit goods has always had close links to serious organized crime a fact often not considered by the everyday bargain-hunting or cash-strapped consumer.

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