



# ROBUST IP (Weak or strong IP for Latin America)

Mr. Luis-Alfonso Durán Spanish and European Patent Attorney



## IP SERVES WHAT PURPOSE?

- IP serves the purpose of protecting:

- Innovation
- Creativity
- Distinctive signs

Increasingly important key drivers in the current globalised economy



## NEW SCENARIO

- WTO has opened markets
- Internet has made world communication more accessible to everyone
- Manufacture of goods has moved to cheaper places



- More competition from everywhere

# THE IMPORTANCE OF INNOVATION

 In more competitive markets innovation becomes a key strategic issue

Innovation requires

- long-term investment
- more educated people
- IP protection to obtain return

### WORLD INNOVATIVE IMBALANCE

PCT International Applications										
Top 15 Countries of Origin										
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2007	2007			
					Estimate	Percent	Growth			
<b>United States of America</b>	41'030	43'350	46'803	50'941	52'280	33.5%	2.6%			
Japan	17'414	20'264	24'869	27'033	27'731	17.8%	2.6%			
Germany	14'662	15'214	15'984	16'732	18'134	11.6%	8.4%			
Republic of Korea	2'949	3'558	4'688	5'944	7'061	4.5%	18.8%			
France	5'171	5'184	5'748	6'242	6'370	4.1%	2.1%			
United Kingdom	5'206	5'027	5'084	5'090	5'553	3.6%	9.1%			
China	1'295	1'706	2'503	3'951	5'456	3.5%	38.1%			
Netherlands	4'479	4'284	4'500	4'529	4'186	2.7%	-7.6%			
Switzerland	2'861	2'898	3'290	3'577	3'674	2.4%	2.7%			
Sweden	2'612	2'851	2'883	3'316	3'533	2.3%	6.5%			
Italy	2'163	2'189	2'349	2'716	2'927	1.9%	7.8%			
Canada	2'271	2'104	2'318	2'566	2'707	1.7%	5.5%			
Australia	1'680	1'837	1'996	2'001	2'054	1.3%	2.6%			
Finland	1'557	1'672	1'893	1'845	1'952	1.3%	5.8%			
Israel	1'129	1'227	1'454	1'589	1'683	1.1%	5.9%			
All others	8'715	9'245	10'326	11'084	10'800	6.9%	-2.6%			
Total	115'194	122'610	136'688	149'156	156'100		4.7%			

- Only 10 countries

US
JP
DE
KR
FR
UK
CN
NL
CH
SE

Represent 86% of all PCT files



Top 20 PCT Applicants in 2007								
2007 Ranking	Position Changed	Applicant's Name	Country of Origin	PCT application published in 2007	Increased over 2006			
1	1	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.	JP	2100	-244			
2	-1	KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.	NL	2041	-454			
3	0	SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT	DE	1644	164			
4	9	HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES CO., LTD.	CN	1365	790			
5	0	ROBERT BOSCH GMBH	DE	1146	184			
6	2	TOYOTA JIDOSHA KABUSHIKI KAISHA	JP	997	293			
7	5	QUALCOMM INCORPORATED	US	974	366			
8	38	MICROSOFT CORPORATION	US	845	603			
9	1	MOTOROLA, INC.	US	824	187			
10	-6	NOKIA CORPORATION	FI	822	-214			
11	-4	BASF AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT	DE	810	94			
12	-6	3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY	US	769	42			
13	3	LG ELECTRONICS INC.	KR	719	152			
14	1	FUJITSU LIMITED	JP	708	137			
15	6	SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA	JP	702	206			
16	12	NEC CORPORATION	JP	626	253			
17	-8	INTEL CORPORATION	US	623	-67			
18	4	PIONEER CORPORATION	JP	611	117			
19	10	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION	US	606	241			
20	0	SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS. CO. LTD.	KR	598	93			

15 of the top 20 applicants originate from only 3 countries

6 US 6 JP 3 DE



#### WHAT HAPPENS IN LATIN AMERICA

#### PCT FILINGS

2007

BRAZIL 384

COLOMBIA 31

COSTA RICA 2

CUBA 20

DOM. REP. 2

GUATEMALA 2

HONDURAS -

MEXICO 103

8 countries represent less than all P&G

(575) number 22 in

the list.





# WHY SHOULD LATIN AMERICA HAVE A ROBUST IP?

- To protect rights of foreigners?
- To restrict the competitive freedom of local companies?
- To increase local production costs with licence fees?
- Because TRIPS imposes minimum standards of protection?
- By imposition of bilateral Free Trade Agreements that enable them to sell agricultural products to developed countries?



# THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT STRATEGIC REASONS

- In a competitive global economy only the frontrunners will prevail
- To be competitive, enterprises must be innovative

- A strong IP policy
- Stimulates innovation
- Attracts foreign investment
- Foreign investment promotes local industry
- Facilitates access and transfer of technology
- Foreign investment and innovative local industry promotes and stimulates better education
- Better educated people are more innovative



# **EXAMPLES**

- JAPAN
- KOREA
- TAIWAN
- CHINA
- INDIA

FAST GROWING ECONOMIES
WHICH MOVED FROM
MANUFACTURING WITH FOREIGN
TECHNOLOGY TO CREATE THEIR
OWN TECHNOLOGY



### ROBUST (STRONG) IP SYSTEM MEANS

- ORGANISED AND CAPABLE PATENT & TM
  OFFICES WHICH ONLY GRANT VALID IP RIGHTS
- ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS THAT ENSURE FAIR RIGHTS OF DEFENCE TO IP OWNERS AND DEFENDANTS
- A BALANCED SYSTEM WHERE IP APPLICANTS AND THIRD PARTIES SHARE BENEFITS
- A SYSTEM THAT PREVENTS ABUSE FROM EITHER SIDE



# **CONCLUSION**

A ROBUST (STRONG) IP WILL BENEFIT LATIN

AMERICA PROVIDED THAT IT IS DESIGNED IN

COMBINATION AS PART OF A LONG-TERM

STRATEGIC PLAN TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMIC

COMPETITIVENESS OF LOCAL INDUSTRY.

