Advancing the Business of Intellectual Property

Licensing Executives Society Japan (LES Japan) is one of the member societies of Licensing Executives Society International (LESI), which is an international organization made up of 33 national/regional societies and has more than 10,000 members. The members consist primarily of people, such as corporate executives, leaders, those who do the actual work, and specialists in the legal field, such as lawyers and patent attorneys, who are involved in the licensing of intellectual properties, including technologies, patents, know-how, trademarks, software, digital contents, and technology transfers and technical cooperation; in addition to experts, such as people from academia and government service who have knowledge in these fields. It is a unique organization found nowhere else, where people having different careers can come under the same roof to interact and network.

Training and Educational Activities

- Case study seminars are held once a month, ten times a year, in Tokyo and Osaka, with lecturers being invited to conduct workshops on such specialized themes as intellectual properties, law, and business. In addition, informal gatherings are held after the seminars to give the participants and the lecturers an opportunity to deepen their friendship.
- In order to disseminate awareness and knowledge regarding licensing, four courses including basic level courses (Basic Licensing Course and Basic International Licensing Course), an intermediate level course (Practical Licensing Course), and an advanced level course (Negotiation Course), are offered at venues in Tokyo and Osaka to not only members of the society but also non-members.

Publications

- **LES JAPAN NEWS** (issued in Japanese, distributed four times a year)
  The journal contains reports of member’s activities, meetings and seminars, monograph and international issues in any licensing and protecting Intellectual Property and introduction of essay and new members.
- **Winds from Japan** (issued in English, distributed three times a year)
  The newsletter is for overseas LES members and other licensing specialists concerning activities of LES Japan and developments in IP and licensing.
- **Ies Nouvelles** (issued in English, distributed four times a year)
  The journal is designed to further the knowledge of the international societies members and others in improving their skills, techniques and knowledge in licensing and protecting Intellectual Property.

Working Group Activities

The following working groups have been established in the Kanto region and Kansai region. Each group decides independently what theme to study and holds seminars periodically.

- **Antimonopoly Act**
- **USA-related issues**
- **USA-related issues (Kansai)**
- **Studies of Asia-related issues**
- **Studies of judicial precedents (Kanto)**
- **Studies of judicial precedents (Kansai)**
- **Trade secrets**
- **Corporate law, intellectual property management**
- **Healthcare**
- **ICT business**
- **Collaboration between industry, government and academia**
- **Branding**
- **Student business plan contest**
- **IP Finance**
- **YMC (Young Member Congress)**
- **Group Seminars (Kanto)**
Annual Meetings, International Meetings
A summer symposium is held every year, where entrepreneurs as well as leaders and researchers from various industries, including those not related to intellectual properties, are invited to give special lectures on a wide range of themes to members, and the members can cultivate mutual friendship. Furthermore, the members are able to participate in international meetings, such as the LES International Conference and the APRC (Asia Pacific Regional Conference).

Membership Procedures
Application to become a member of this society can be made by accessing the LES Japan website (http://www.lesj.org) and clicking on the link for how to become a LES Japan member. Any person who supports the objectives of this society and wishes to actively participate may apply for membership. All of the members of this society are individuals. Any corporation that wishes to join the society is required to designate a specific individual as the member of the society. However, in case of such circumstances as a job transfer or retirement of the individual, another person will be allowed to take the place of the individual without having to pay the enrollment fee. Furthermore, there is a secondary membership system in which two or more persons who belong to the same organization can become members. In this type of membership, the enrollment fee for the second person and onward is waived and a discount given for the annual fee.

Enrollment fee and Annual membership fee
Enrollment fee: ¥20,000
Annual membership fee: ¥45,000
If a member joins in the middle of a fiscal year, the amount of the membership fee shall be reduced in accordance with the month of joining.

Fee exemptions/reductions
For the following members, the annual membership fee shall be reduced to ¥20,000.

- Secondary members
A member who belong to the same organization as an existing member of the society.

- Academia members
A member who is engaged exclusively in research or education at a university or other educational institution.

- Continuous member
A member who has been a regular member of five years or more, is over 55 years old, and has received approval from the Board to continue being a member as an individual after retiring from an organization to which the member belonged.

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