



Yvonne Tang
Director, Intellectual Property

LL.B. (Hons), National University of Singapore

Admitted to the Singapore Bar (1999)

Solicitor, England and Wales (2004)

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ABOUT YVONNE

Yvonne actively practices in all aspects of Intellectual Property (IP) work. She has more than 20 years of experience in IP matters, having devoted her entire legal career to the IP field, and her clients include multinational and local companies alike.

On contentious IP matters, Yvonne's key areas include trade marks and copyright infringement, and passing off. She is regularly involved in trade mark opposition proceedings, and has handled criminal raids of counterfeit goods as well as domain name recovery claims under the Singapore Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (SDRP).

Yvonne's legal experience extends to trade mark and patent registration, searches and strategic advisory work, as well as corporate IP matters, such as the drafting and review of licensing and franchise agreements relating to IP assets.

She has contributed to a number of articles on IP, including Atkin's Court Forms – Singapore, Copyright, Lexis Nexis.

Yvonne is co-Editor of the Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA) e-newsletter Group, and a member of the Executive Committee of the APAA, Singapore Group, and the Institute of Singapore Trade Mark Agents. She is also a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators, and a Certified Patent Valuation Analyst.

EXPERIENCE

Yvonne has handled various matters in court. Here is a sampling of her high profile matters:

- **Combe international Ltd v Dr August Wolff GmbH & Co. KG Arzneimittel [2022] SGHC 78** – Successfully acted for Dr. August Wolff GmbH & Co. KG Arzneimittel in the High Court in defending an appeal by Combe international Ltd. As part of a long-running and multi-jurisdictional dispute between parties involving several trade

marks, Dr Wolff overcame Combe's opposition, at the Trade Marks Registry and the High Court, to achieve registration of its



"Vagisan" trade mark.

- **Digi International Inc. v Teraoka Seiko Co., Ltd [2021] SGHC 165** – In a trade mark dispute between parties spanning multiple jurisdictions and concerning the Internet of Things (IoT), Yvonne successfully acted for Teraoka Seiko, at the Trade Marks Registry and also subsequently in the High Court when an appeal was brought by Digi, in opposing Digi's application for a similar trade mark, in respect of similar goods and services.
- **adidas International Marketing BV v Lutong Enterprise Corp, HC/TA15/2018 (unreported)** – Successfully represented adidas in an appeal to the High Court, against the opposition decision of the Trade Marks Registry. In this publicised case, not only was adidas successful in blocking the other party's application of a trade mark that was similar to the adidas " " mark, the High Court recognised that the adidas mark was a well-known trade mark in Singapore.
- **The Scotch Whisky Association vs Isetan Mitsukoshi Ltd [2019] SGHC 200** – Represented Isetan in the Trade Marks Registry and High Court, in defending trade mark opposition proceedings brought based on geographical indication rights claimed over "Tartan".
- **Hai Tong Co (Pte) Ltd v Ventree Singapore Pte Ltd and another appeal [2013] SGCA 260** – Successfully assisted in representing Hai Tong in the High Court and Court of Appeal in a trade mark infringement / passing-off action against Ventree Singapore Pte Ltd and SKY (sued as a firm), to stop them from infringing Hai

Tong's "Rose Lady" mark by using the mark "Lady Rose" for the same products.

- **Virtual Map (Singapore) Pte Ltd v Singapore Land Authority and Anr [2009] SGCA 2** – Successfully assisted in representing Singapore Land Authority in the High Court and Court of Appeal. In this highly publicised case, Yvonne assisted in defending SLA in Virtual Map's appeal against judgments that its online maps infringed SLA's copyright. This matter was one of Asia IP's Landmarks of the Year: The Cases and Decisions Making Headlines in 2008.

- **Future Enterprises Pte Ltd v McDonald's Corporation [2007] SGCA 18** – Successfully assisted in defending McDonald's in an appeal to the Court of Appeal. Future applied to register the "MacCoffee" mark but McDonald's had an earlier registration for "McCAFE".

- **Lifestyle 1.99 Pte Ltd v S\$1.99 Pte Ltd [2000] 2 SLR 766** – Assisted in representing S\$1.99 Pte Ltd in the High Court and Court of Appeal in its passing-off claim involving the use of a trading name.

Other notable matters include:

- **Stora Enso Oyj v PT Purinusa Ekapersada and PT Pabrik Kertas Tjiwi Kimia Tbk Ltd [2016] SGIPOS 12** – Successfully acted for the Applicants in defending an opposition brought by Stora Enso Oyj to its application for the trade mark "enza" for paper related products, on the basis of similarity with the Opponents' "Storaenso" marks.

- **Tsung-Tse Hsieh v Redsun Singapore Pte. Ltd. [2015] SGIPOS 1** - Successfully acted for Redsun in invalidating the Applicant's registration, on the basis that its use is liable to be prevented by the law of passing-off.

- **Kenzo v Tsujimoto Kenzo [2013] SGIPOS 2** – Successfully acted for Tsujimoto Kenzo, the founder of the Japanese listed company, Capcom Co., Ltd, in defending an opposition brought by Kenzo to his application for the trade mark "KENZO ESTATE" in relation to wines from his Napa Valley winery.

- **Nutricia International B.V. v Societe Des Products Nestle S.A [2009] SGIPOS 6** – Successfully represented Nutricia in the Trade Marks Registry in opposing Nestle's registration of a trade mark "PROTECT", on the basis that it was not sufficiently distinctive in relation to dietetic foodstuffs, food substances and the like.

- **Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd v Funexpress.com.sg Pte Ltd (SDRP-2002-0004(F))** – Successfully represented Samsung in a domain name recovery action under the SDRP, to recover the domain name samsungmobile.com.sg.

- **PSS 1629/99: PP v Ong Choon Kin** – Successfully commenced and prosecuted a private criminal summons action for trade mark offences involving counterfeit motorcycle accessories.

ACCOLADES

Chambers Asia-Pacific
Intellectual Property:
Domestic: Litigation 2024 –
Band 3 for 3 consecutive years



"Yvonne Tang is skilful and a capable director."

"I always have interesting legal IP discussions with Yvonne."

"Yvonne is very responsive to our legal questions and reverts with good and timely advice."

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific
Intellectual Property 2024 –
Recommended Lawyer for 7
consecutive years



"Yvonne Tang is very helpful and responsive."

Sources say that Yvonne "possess strong legal knowledge in patent law, and offer advice from a commercially pragmatic perspective."

"Yvonne Tang is very helpful and quick to answer any queries we might have."

"Yvonne Tang is a big name in trade mark opposition proceedings."

"Yvonne is commended for her knowledge of patent law"

Managing IP

Voted as IP Star 2023 – Trade mark Star for 5 consecutive years

Identified as Top 250 Women in IP for 3 consecutive years (2020 to 2022)



World Trade Mark Review 1000

Enforcement and Litigation 2024 – Gold band for 2 consecutive years; Silver band (2020 to 2022); Recommended Lawyer (2018 and 2019)

Prosecution and Strategy 2024 – Gold band for 2 consecutive years; Silver band (2020 to 2022)

Transactions 2024 – Recommended Lawyer for 5 consecutive years

“Yvonne is someone I have absolute trust in – she gives practical and sensible, yet creative advice that is alive to the nuances of my institutional needs.”

Yvonne Tang is commended as an “all-rounder” and “invaluable asset” in the squad. *“Her advice is always comprehensive, in tune with business goals and objectives and delivered with lightning responsiveness.”*

“The much-respected Yvonne Tang is an online virtuoso who specialises in recovery claims under the Singapore Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy.”

“Yvonne Tang is always in high demand among the fashion and luxury crowd. She performs with alacrity on a mix of registration, brand management, civil and criminal infringement and opposition matters.”

IAM Patent 1000

Prosecution 2023 – Highly Recommended Lawyer for 2 consecutive years; Silver band (2020 to 2021); Recommended Lawyer in 2019

Transactions 2023 – Recommended Lawyer for 4 consecutive years

“All-rounder Yvonne Tang skillfully takes on patent prosecution and licensing matters.”

“Drawing on her 20-odd years of experience dealing with challenging patent briefs, Yvonne is a boon for those seeking advice on Singaporean IP law.”

“Yvonne possesses excellent attention to detail and a consistent approach which helps streamline cost-effective patent prosecution.”

“A certified patent valuation analyst, Yvonne regularly serves up discerning IP strategy guidance to her dedicated roster of clients”

“On the non-contentious front, Yvonne Tang tends to the global IP portfolios of foreign and local multinationals. As certified IP valuation analyst, [she is] also the best lawyer to consult about IP commercialisation”

World Trademark Review Global Leaders: Private Practice (2023 Edition)

Identified as one of Singapore’s foremost trademark experts

IAM Global Leaders (2023 Edition)

Identified as one of Singapore’s foremost patent experts

Asia IP Experts 2023

Identified as a leading IP lawyer in Singapore for 3 consecutive years

ALB Asia’s Top 15 Female Lawyers

Identified by Asian Legal Business (ALB) as one of the top 15 female lawyers in Asia in 2023



Who’s Who Legal

Global Guide: IP - Trademarks 2023 – Recommended Lawyer for 2 consecutive years

National Guide: Southeast Asia - Trademarks 2023 – Recommended Lawyer

Women in Business Law Expert Guide

World’s leading female lawyers in 2021 – Listed lawyer for 2 consecutive years

asialaw Leading Lawyers

Intellectual Property 2023/2024 – Notable Practitioner

Intellectual Property 2018 – Recommended individual

“Yvonne Tang’s “legal knowledge and meticulous approach” (is) prized by clients.”

Singapore Business Review

Singapore’s 40 most influential lawyers aged 40 and under in 2015 – Listed lawyer

APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

- Assessor, Panel of Assessors for COVID-19 Temporary Relief, Ministry of Law
- Fellow, Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SI Arb)
- Hon. Secretary, Executive Committee, Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA), Singapore Group
- Member, Executive Committee, Institute of Singapore Trade Mark Agents (ISTMA)
- Member, Law Society of Singapore
- Member, Singapore Academy of Law
- Member, Law Society of England and Wales
- Member, International Trademark Association (INTA)