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## **Editorial**

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Enabled by information technology, business practices in the new economy are marked by collaboration among companies from various countries. As a result, production technologies are unavoidably diffused internationally and intellectual property management becomes an important issue for companies to safeguard their economic values and maintain a competitive edge. Also, product proliferation and hence, shortened product life cycle have resulted in a time-based competition. The value of an intellectual property can disappear totally if not protected in time.

In this special edition, five papers were selected to address the following issues:

- 1 How to evaluate intellectual property asset value. (Paper No. 1) Intellectual property is an intangible asset and companies need to know how to assess its value scientifically.
- 2 How to enhance organisation structure to facilitate the creation of intellectual property. (Paper No. 2) The infrastructure of a company should be able to facilitate the creation of intellectual property.
- 3 How to manage intellectual property in the new economy featured with inter-company collaboration (global supply chain). (Paper No. 3) Companies need to safeguard the economic values of their intellectual properties while collaborating with their strategic partners in the global supply chain.
- 4 What strategies there are for patent filing in the global economy. (Paper No. 4) In the global economy, countries have various policies on the enforcement of patent infringement and intellectual property protection.
- 5 How to trade intellectual property in the web-based new economy (e-commerce). (Paper No. 5) Information technology enables the global economy to be more efficient and intellectual property management has developed new business models under e-commerce.