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Intellectual property

Approach to intellectual property

In recent years, the Intellectual Property (IP) environment in the automotive industry has been undergoing significant change and diversification. Due to technological development having shifted to areas referred to as "CASE", the areas in which innovation is created have also changed. In accordance with that change, protection methods are not limited to traditional industrial IP rights, and the importance of managing a broader range of assets is increasing, encompassing software and data management as well as the black-boxing of know-how. In addition, due to changes in technological development, opportunities for the utilization (Sell/Buy, License, Enforcement, and so on) of IP between increasingly diverse industries will increase, and crossover between industries will become more active. For example, dealing with the standard essential patents that must be used when adopting technical standards in new areas, and new IP disputes with non-competing entities other than automakers are also on the rise.

In the counterfeit goods market, where IP is used illegally, the distribution and sales channels for counterfeit products are also changing from stores to e-commerce sites as the internationalization of supply chains continues to accelerate. In this way faced with a diverse innovation environment, an active IP utilization environment, and a changing market for counterfeit products, Nissan recognizes the following social opportunities and threats.

· In an environment in which global IP is properly respected and efficiently utilized, and the creation and utilization of innovation stimulated in a healthy manner, IP can contribute greatly to solving a variety of social and environmental problems.

· In contrast, overlooking the expansion of the counterfeit product market, which has become a breeding ground for illegal use of IP, threatens to obstruct the creation of an environment that promotes the creation and utilization of innovation in a healthy manner, as described above. Based on these changing environments, social opportunities and threats, Nissan aims to promote global innovation, and the coexistence and co-prosperity of individuals, society, and the earth, through appropriate utilization of IP. To achieve these aims, we are promoting the establishment of an IP ecosystem*1 through the creation, protection, and utilization of IP in a flexible and effective manner, while remaining aware of any changes in the IP environment, and through measures taken in accordance with the law, such as the appropriate exercise of rights and measures to combat counterfeit products. We are particularly focused on developing our IP management as well as the mutual use of our own and other companies' IP while promoting innovation not only within Nissan but throughout the market. We are also eager to contribute to the realization of a healthy IP ecosystem by leading revitalization of the IP market. We aim to prevent the distribution of potentially harmful counterfeit products by enforcing IP rights and applying the Unfair Competition Prevention Act, in cooperation with administrative agencies of multiple countries.

IP-related management

Under its global IP policy, Nissan is working to strengthen IP by raising awareness of its importance and the need for its effective management and operation on a companywide basis. To better evaluate the various IP-related issues To better evaluate the various IP-related issues from multiple angles and to rapidly deduce the appropriate direction to take, we have put in place an IP Specialist Support Committee, which comprises members from a variety of divisions, including the product planning, R&D, production, finance, legal, and IP divisions.

^{*1} The term IP ecosystem refers to the so-called ecology of IP, which also includes the concept of an IP cycle, i.e., a positive cycle of development to create, protect, and make strategic use of IP. Specifically, this indicates a system based on IP being created under the IP cycle, in which people have a positive impact on each other and on society to autonomously establish new ideas and values. (Source: Japan Patent Office: Mission, Vision, and Values (MVV): https://www.ipo.go.ip/e/introduction/tokkyo_mvy.html

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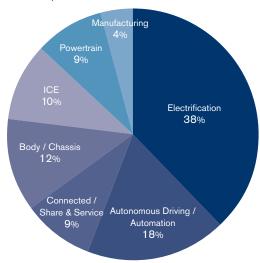
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Efforts relating to IP

Promotion of innovation, patent portfolio management

In addition to promoting sustainable innovation tailored to the market environment, Nissan maintains freedom in the design of its own products while optimizing its patent portfolio for external use. Since patents in the CASE areas account for 65% of patents— Electrification area (38%), Autonomous Driving/Automation area (18%), and Connected area (9%),—the current patent portfolio reflects the current business environment. Even so, the Company continues to work to strengthen its patent portfolio.

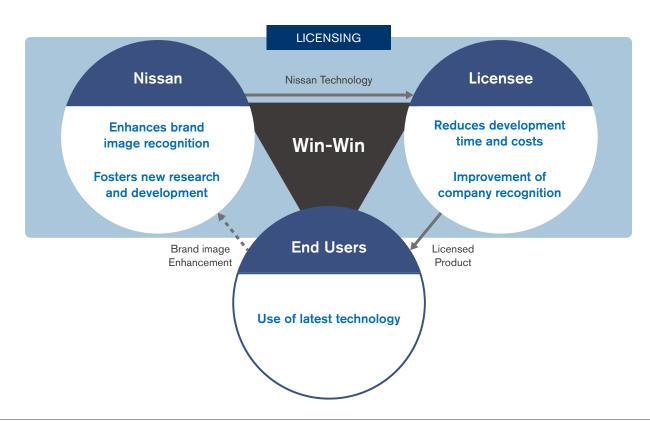
Patent portfolio



IP licenses

Nissan licenses its advanced technology and expertise, honed through years of automobile manufacturing, to companies across various industries, thereby supporting the creation of innovative products and services that contribute to the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions and the improvement of work environment.

We are committed to fostering win-win relationships with all stakeholders, including our licensees and end-users, as part of our dedication to contributing to a thriving society. Our active engagement in IP licensing is a testament to this commitment. *1



^{*1} Click here for more information on Nissan Technology Licenses: https://www.nissan-global.com/EN/LICENSE/

Power of employees

Employee human rights

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Measures against counterfeit products

Safety

Anti-counterfeiting initiatives

Approach to social issues

Nissan actively implements measures against counterfeit products across the entire supply chain through collaboration between its global headquarters and various regions. In recent years, counterfeit products have become increasingly prevalent worldwide through e-commerce (EC) platforms. In response to this situation, we exercise our IP rights and actively work to eliminate counterfeit products. Specifically, we monitor EC platforms and request that EC platforms remove infringing listings. We also request that law enforcement authorities take action against counterfeit products at customs and in the markets, and we provide them with training for this purpose. Furthermore, we implement legal measures, including civil litigation, against malicious sellers.

In addition to exercising IP rights, we are implementing additional initiatives. To prevent counterfeit products from being mistakenly purchased and installed in vehicles, we provide training for our dealers and conduct awareness activities aimed at both the repair and maintenance industry and our customers. Furthermore, in order to be able to implement effective measures, we engage in lobbying activities with the government and make requests to EC platforms.



Exercising IP rights

Responsible sourcing

Intellectual property

Nissan exercises its IP rights and actively works to eliminate counterfeit products.

In fiscal year 2024, a total of 34,676 infringing online listings were removed from EC platforms.

In the market, 314,532 counterfeit products were seized in 161 enforcement actions. At customs, 44,623 counterfeit products were seized in 74 cases during import and export. Furthermore, we filed twelve litigation cases against malicious sellers. *1

Type of IP rights enforcement	Number of cases	Quantity of items
Online listing takedown	34,676	-
Market raid	161	314,532
Customs seizure	74	44,623
Civil litigation	12	-

Social value of anti-counterfeiting

Learning and development

Nissan prevents the global distribution of counterfeit products and provides stakeholders with a fair and healthy marketplace.

Health and safety

This effort contributes to the realization of a safe and secure society where people do not mistakenly purchase counterfeit products. Additionally, by protecting the IP ecosystem from infringement by counterfeit products, we also contribute to the promotion of innovation.

Social Value of Anti-Counterfeiting for Counterfeit Nissan Parts		
Realization of a Safe and Secure Society	Protection of IP Ecosystem / Promotion of Innovation	
Prevent counterfeit Nissan parts from endangering people's safety due to inadequate quality.	Prevent counterfeit Nissan parts from damaging fair business relations with partners. 16 PAGE, RATHER AGE THE TREATMENT THE TRE	
<i>-</i> ₩ •		
Prevent counterfeit Nissan parts from causing a negative impact on the environment due to inadequate production.	Prevent counterfeit Nissan parts from hindering innovation and creative incentives.	
12 ESPONSIBLE DESCRIPTION AND PROJUCTION AND PROJUCTION	8 IECEN WORK AND PROJECTIVE NOVATION AND INFOSTRICTURE	