



ALLIANCE

FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

17 October 2013

IP industries look to 2020

The Alliance for Intellectual Property today launched an exercise to hear from creators and businesses, on how IP can be better promoted and protected to make the UK the best place to invest in an IP rich company by 2020.

With European elections in 2014 and a General Election in 2015, the Alliance believes now is the time for IP businesses to make their voice heard and will be taking its findings to all the major parties in the run-up to these elections.

This survey was launched at the Alliance's third annual conference which heard from Rt Hon Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, Michel Barnier, the European Commissioner responsible for the Internal Market and Services. Other contributors at the event included Mike Weatherley MP, the Prime Minister's IP adviser, Lord Clement-Jones and Arlene McCarthy MEP.

Both Vince Cable and Michel Barnier said they understood how vital IP was to the economies of the UK and Europe. Vince Cable said it was the bedrock of the economy whilst Michel Barnier highlighted a recent report that had found that 40% of Europe's GDP was reliant on IP.

Commenting on the conference and the launch of its listening exercise, Susie Winter, Director General of the Alliance for Intellectual Property said:

"The UK produces world-beating content, is home to sought-after global brands and some of the world's best designers. Today's conference was a great opportunity to hear the views of a group of politicians whose decisions have a significant impact on our businesses. We all now need to think to the future about what it is that we need from them over the next few years so that, by 2020, the UK is the best place to start, build and base an IP-rich business.

"This is not intended to be a re-run of past reviews into the intellectual property framework. Rather it is designed to look at what the next Government should, or indeed should not, do to ensure the UK's IP-rich businesses flourish."

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

Details of today's conference can be found at:

<http://www.allianceforip.co.uk/downloads/pdf/IPConferenceAgenda.pdf>

ABOUT THE ALLIANCE

Established in 1998, the Alliance for Intellectual Property is a UK-based coalition of 24 trade associations concerned with ensuring that intellectual property rights are valued in the UK and that a legislative regime exists which enables the value and contribution of these rights to be fully realised. Our members include representatives of the audiovisual, music, games and business software, and sports industries, branded manufactured goods, publishers, retailers and designers.

We work closely with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, the Intellectual Property Office, trading standards and the police to raise awareness of the value of intellectual property and the harm caused to communities, consumers and legitimate businesses by IP theft. We, and many of our members, are also participants in the IP Crime Group, which facilitates cross departmental dialogue and joint working amongst the relevant enforcement bodies and organisations.

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