



A-CAPP AND IPR CENTERS FORM NEW PARTNERSHIP

MSU IS IPR CENTER'S FIRST ACADEMIC PARTNER

EAST LANSING, MI — [The Center for Anti-Counterfeiting and Product Protection](#), or A-CAPP Center, at MSU is now officially a new and the first academic partner with the [National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center](#), or IPR Center.

As part of Homeland Security Investigations, the IPR Center signs agreement with the A-CAPP Center to focus on the important issues of intellectual property, brand protection and anti-counterfeiting strategies, which are becoming of increasing importance in our global economy. The IPR Center and the A-CAPP Center have a long history of partnership and the IPR Center has been a liaison to the A-CAPP Center Industry Advisory Board since June of 2015.

“One of our first joint projects is the development of quarterly awareness reports that provide valuable insight on counterfeiting issues to stakeholders and the public,” said Jeff Rojek, the director of the A-CAPP Center. “The additional benefit of these projects is we can integrate the A-CAPP internship students into them, which provides valuable experience to our students that represent the future workforce for our law enforcement and industry partners addressing counterfeiting.”

The agreement focuses on vital areas of intellectual property, brand protection and anti-counterfeiting strategies. The agreement will also facilitate knowledge transfer between the center and university to share mutually beneficial information, research and technology that will advance intellectual property enforcement.

“I’m excited to formalize our longstanding relationship with MSU making them the center’s first academic partner and look forward to forging new pathways to educate consumers, stabilize the U.S. economy, protect small business owners and potentially recruit future federal government leaders,” said Steve Francis, the IPR Center director and MSU School of Criminal Justice alum.

Francis, Rojek and MSU College of Social Sciences Dean, Mary Finn, will meet at the MSU College of Law this week for a signing event where they will discuss the importance and relevance of signing the agreement.

MORE



Center for Anti-Counterfeiting
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About the A-CAPP Center at Michigan State University: *The A-CAPP Center is an independent, interdisciplinary evidence-based hub whose activities focus on research, education and outreach designed to assist in protecting brands and products of all industries worldwide. The A-CAPP Center falls under the College of Social Science. Learn more at a-capp.msu.edu.*

About the IPR Center: *IPR Center brings together public and private partners, in a task force setting utilizing a three-pronged approach (interdiction, investigation, and community outreach), to coordinate a whole-of-government and industry response to combat intellectual property theft, and enforce U.S. international trade laws. Learn more at iprcenter.gov.*

Interviews available upon request. Please contact Jocelyn Tucker at tucker90@msu.edu.

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