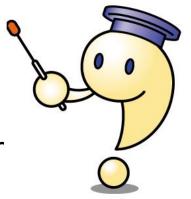


Update of Japanese Design Law

Enlargement of the Scope of Protection in 2020 and Examples of Subsequent Registered Designs

Tomoya Kurokawa

Japan Patent Attorneys Association International Activities Center



"Design" ~Protectable Subject Matter~

Old law (Before April 1, 2020)

"Design" means the shape, patterns or colors, or any combination thereof, of an article (including a part of an article) that creates an aesthetic impression through the eye.

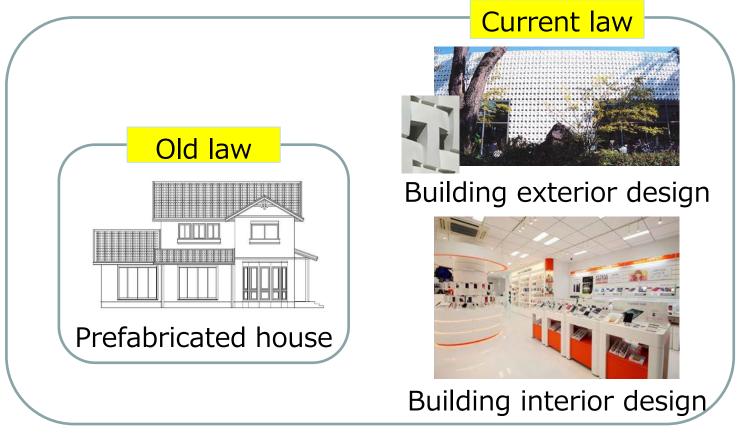


Current law (On or After April 1, 2020)

"Design" means the shape, patterns or colors, or any combination thereof, of an article (including a part of an article), or of a building (including a part of a building), or a graphic image (including a part of a graphic image) that creates an aesthetic impression through the eye.



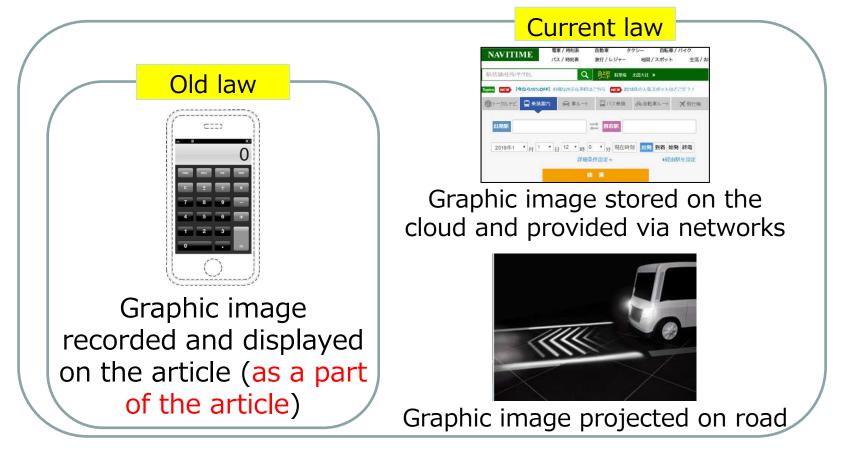
Protection for Building Exterior and Interior



^{*} The pictures above are cited from the JPO website.



Protection for Graphic Image



^{*} The pictures above are cited from the JPO website.



Protection for Graphic Image ~Limitation of Protection~

A protectable "graphic image" is limited to one which:

- (i) is provided for use in the operation of the device, or
- (ii) is displayed as a result of the device performing its function.

E.g. (i) Graphic image for an icon to launch specific software



E.g. (ii) Graphic image displaying medical measurement results



A graphic image from a movie or game cannot be protected under Design Law



* The pictures above are cited from the JPO website.



Actual Examples of Registered Design ~ Building Exterior ~

Reg. No. 1700416 Exhibition hall





Reg. No. 1695120 Complex housing

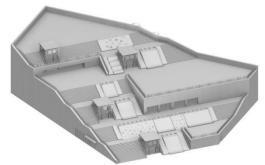






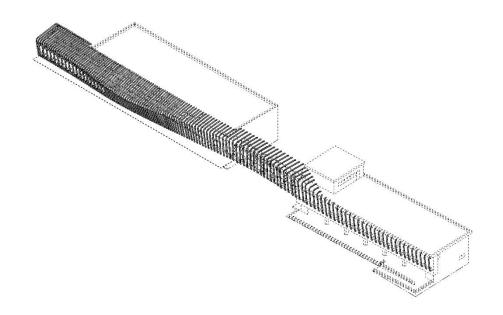
Actual Examples of Registered Design ~ Building Exterior ~

Reg. No. 1671773 Commercial building





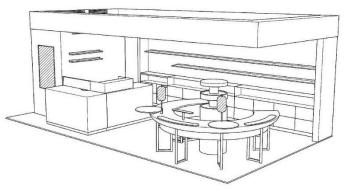
Reg. No. 1671774 Station building





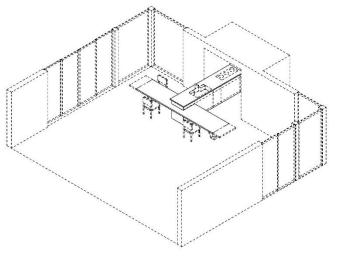
Actual Examples of Registered Design ~ Building Interior ~

Reg. No. 1701737 Interior of store floor





Reg. No. 1689363 Interior of residential dining kitchen

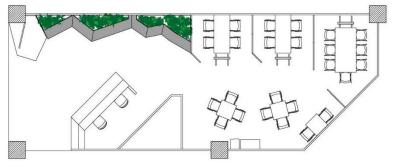






Actual Examples of Registered Design ~ Building Interior ~

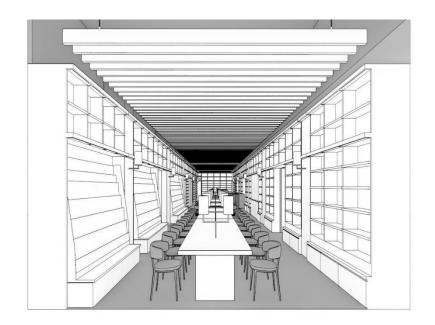
Reg. No. 1695797
Interior of office reception/visitor corner







Reg. No. 1671152 Interior of bookstore





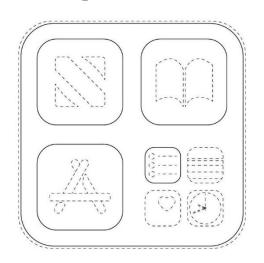
Reg. No. 1701010 Image for icon



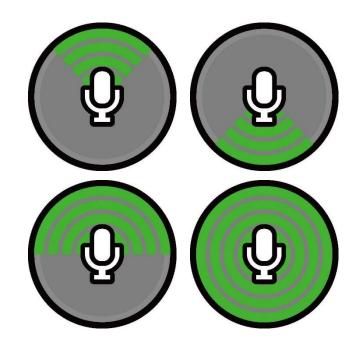
Reg. No. 1681248 Image for icon



Reg. No. 1691894 Image for menu



Reg. No. 1691802
Image for displaying sound collection direction and sound collection range



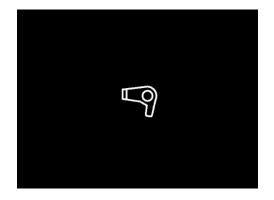


Reg. No. 1753111 Image for icon



Reg. No. 1752846
GUI for transition icon

Reg. No. 1749514
Image for displaying information







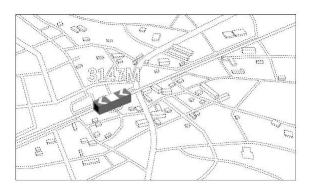
Reg. No. 1742729 Image for icon



Reg. No. 1736046 Image for icon



Reg. No. 1749160
Image for displaying information





Reg. No. 1717504
Image for displaying information

Reg. No. 1693992 Image for monitoring a turbine

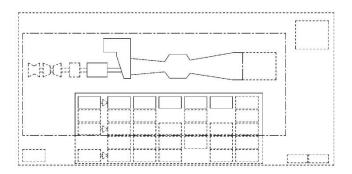


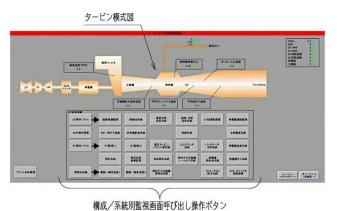




Reg. No. 1701763
Image for selecting information



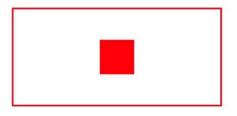


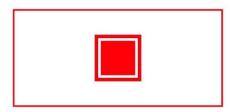


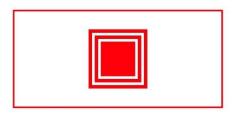


Reg. No. 1709558

Image for disaster prevention support system



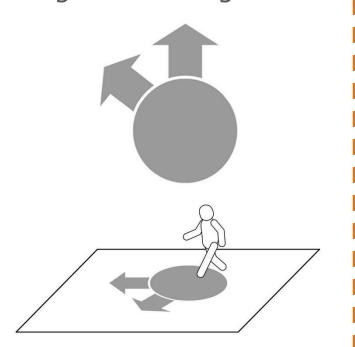




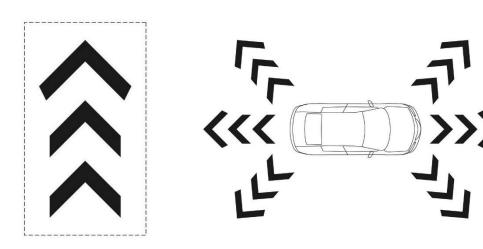




Reg. No. 1697089 Image for route guidance



Reg. No. 1676765
Image for displaying direction of travel





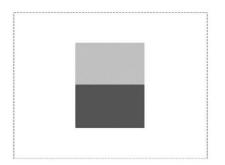
Reg. No. 1736166
Image for displaying information of a forklift





Reg. No. 1735638

Wall projection image for displaying information of a forklift









Thank you for your kind attention!



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