



Clone Cartridges Sold in Russia May Violate OEM Patents

Two original printer manufacturers (OEMs), have advised *Recycling Times Magazine* that a report on the market in Russia, published last month, is potentially misleading.

Our story from our Russian correspondent mentioned the sale of “clones” are permitted in Russia because the OEMs do not hold cartridge patents there. “Clones” are cartridges which are newly made, look and work exactly the same as the OEM product, but are typically poorer in quality and certainly infringe the patents of the OEMs.

Hewlett Packard and Lexmark separately contacted *Recycling Times* to say they do hold patents in Russia on many of their cartridges, and “clones” are potentially infringing those patents. *Recycling Times* is waiting to hear from other OEMs on their position as it relates to the Russian market.

Matthew Barkley, HP’s IP & Brand Protection Program Manager for Printers & Supplies told *Recycling Times*, “HP has a number of patents granted in Russia that cover many of our most popular products, patents of the same nature and caliber as what HP has been granted and has enforced in other countries.”

Andrew Gardner, Worldwide Brand Protection Manager for Lexmark International

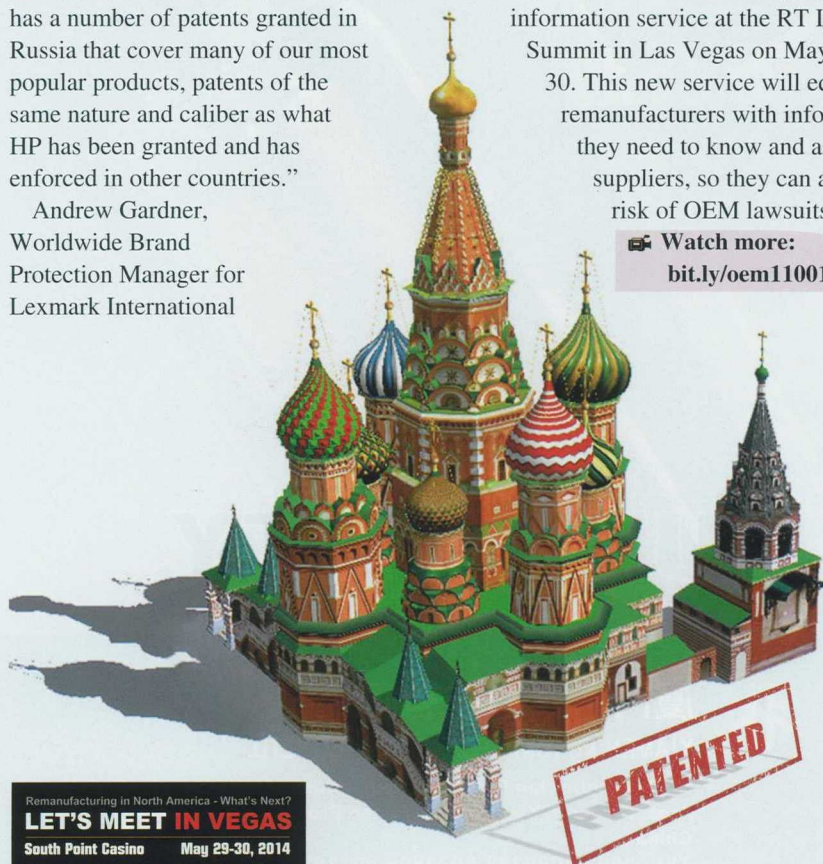
told *Recycling Times*, “Lexmark does have issued patents and patents pending for toner cartridges in Russia. It would be greatly appreciated if you can help clear up any misunderstanding.”

Barkley went on to say that the statements in the Russian report reflects a patent environment that is rapidly changing. In years past, OEMs may not have sought patent protection in markets like Russia. OEMs began to recognize the importance of growth markets such as Russia, and patent grants to OEMs have rapidly increased. However, as Barkley pointed out, when it comes to patents, “what is true yesterday may not be true today—patents get granted, and thus things change.”

The manufacturers of components for cartridges, and those involved in remanufacturing, manufacturing and the distribution of printer consumables are all at risk of infringing patents, unless they keep up to date with the latest patents.

Recycling Times is launching a patent information service at the RT Imaging Summit in Las Vegas on May 29 and 30. This new service will equip remanufacturers with information they need to know and ask of their suppliers, so they can avoid the risk of OEM lawsuits.

Watch more:
bit.ly/oem11001



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 South Point Casino May 29-30, 2014
 PatentSmart Service Launched

CET Toner Cartridge



For use in
CANON

iR1730/1730i/1730iF

iR1740/1740i/1740iF

iR1750/1750i/1750iF

iR ADVANCE 400/500

GPR-39/48 · NPG-55 ·

C-EXV37/43 Toner Cartridge



For use in
MINOLTA

Bizhub C452/552/652

TN-413K/613K

TN-613 (C M Y)

Toner Cartridge

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