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ASSIGNMENT 2

Questions:

Briefly discuss the following intellectual property protection methods.

1. Patent
2. Copyright
3. Trademark
4. Trade secret

Answers:

1. **Patent:** In Engineering, Patents are for inventions to grant a property right to the inventor, like the inventor's idea (inventions). Generally, There are three types of Patents: (1) Utility, This covers Function; (2) Design, This covers Ornamental Design; (3) Plant, This is for a new variety of Plant. How I see it is that Patents are similar to Copyrights but for Engineers and Scientist (Industrial Property).

2. **Copyright:** Copyright is a form of Intellectual property law which protects original works of authorship including Literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic works, such as poetry, novels, movies, songs, computer software, and architecture. Copyright does not protect facts, ideas, systems, or methods of operation, although it may protect the way these things are expressed.

3. **Trademark**: A Trademark is a type of Intellectual property consisting of a recognizable sign, design, or expression which identifies products or services of a particular source from those of others, although trademarks used to identify services are usually called **Service marks**.

A Trademark protects a good or service offered by a company from infringement or damage of reputation by another company. With a Trademark, you have legal recourse to sue another company that uses your likeness to further their own business ventures. This includes both registered and Unregistered trademarks. Basically, a trademark is a word, phrase, symbol, design, or combination that helps consumers identify a particular product.

4. **Trade Secret**: A trade secret is any practice or process of a company that is generally not known outside of the company. Information considered a trade secret gives the company an economic advantage over its competitors and is often a product of internal research and development. Information that can be kept as a trade secret includes formulas, devices, compilations, programs, devices, methods, techniques, or processes. Some examples of trade secrets include customer lists and manufacturing processes. The Economic value of the information can be actual or potential.