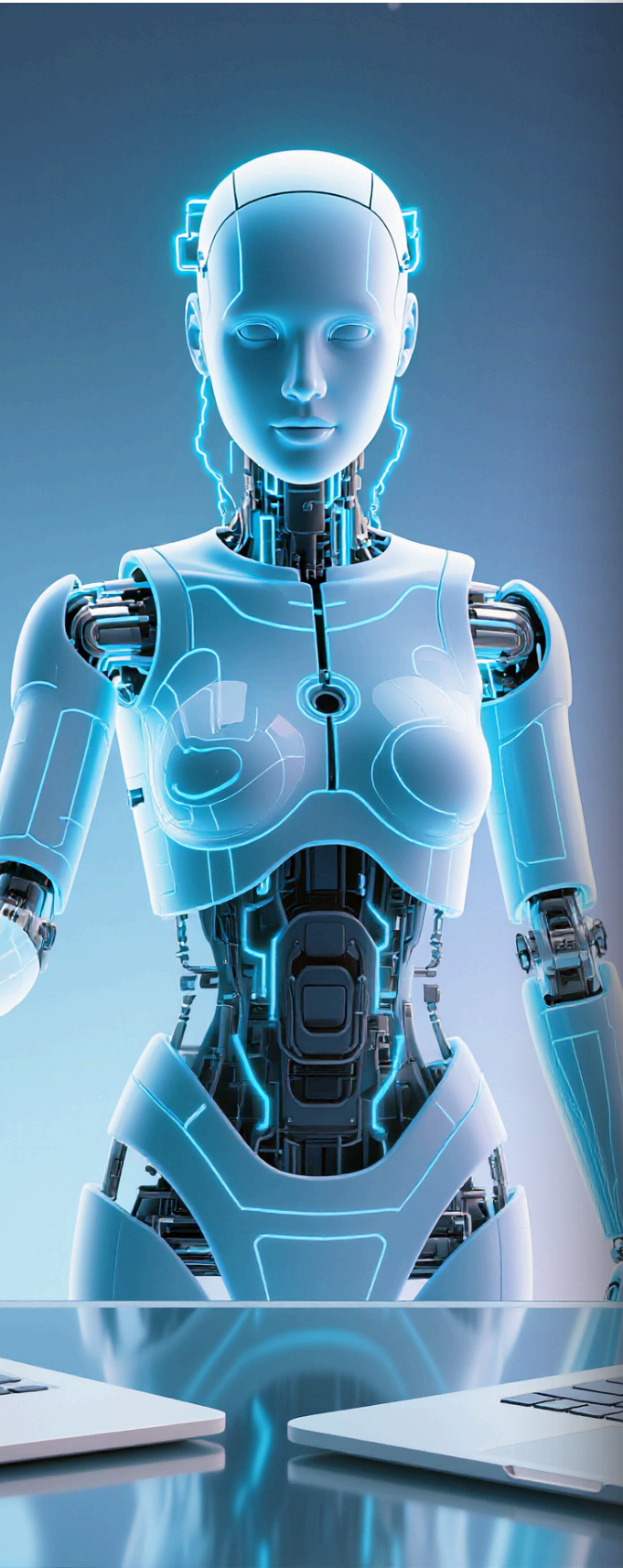


#IPTuesday

AI and IP: Navigating Authorship & Ownership in Generative Content in Nigeria



The global proliferation of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming creative and industrial sectors in Nigeria. This has brought the foundational principles of Intellectual Property (IP), particularly copyright and patent laws under scrutiny, as they were originally drafted for human creators.

Under the current legal framework in Nigeria, including the Copyright Act, 2022, the question of whether an AI can be recognized as an "author" or "inventor" is highly contentious. While the law grants rights to those who make the arrangements for the creation of works, the focus remains on a human or corporate entity. This means that ownership of AI-assisted output often hinges on the degree of human intellectual effort and contribution involved.

Furthermore, Nigerian businesses utilizing AI must pay close attention to the source and licensing of training data, as the use of copyrighted material without authorization could lead to infringement actions under the new, stricter penalties of the 2022 Act.

Strategic Insight for Your Business

To effectively manage these emerging complexities, Nigerian businesses should immediately develop and implement clear internal IP policies concerning the use of Generative AI tools. Establishing explicit contractual agreements that confirm the ownership of AI-assisted outputs and conducting due diligence on the provenance of AI models are fundamental steps to mitigating legal exposure and securing your innovative assets.

Disclaimer: The information shared in this post is to provide general guidance on the subject matter and does not constitute legal advice. For guidance tailored to your organisation's specific circumstances, contact info@goldsmithsllp.com