

# Hong Kong strength

David Buxbaum, a veteran lawyer with Anderson & Anderson LLP in Guangzhou, says China still needs to do a lot to improve its legal system in spite of significant progress made in the past three decades.

“Respect for intellectual property in China 30 years ago was probably not nearly as strong as it is today because today you have many Chinese firms and corporations that are registering their trademarks, patents and their own designs,” says Buxbaum who is the first American lawyer invited to China to represent American business interests in 1972.

“Secondly, there is a lot of education about the value of intellectual property. So obviously, there is now much higher awareness of the importance of intellectual property.”

Nevertheless, Buxbaum says China still has a long way to go to build up a healthy IP culture and system.

“There is no question that the Chinese government has spent a lot of efforts to enforce intellectual property laws but the fact of the matter is that piracy is still rampant,” says Buxbaum who is also Chairman of