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STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

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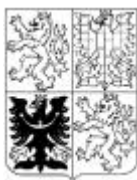
ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES*

submitted by the

CZECH REPUBLIC

An annual series of reports on the industrial design information activities
of members of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies

*
– The expression “industrial design” covers designs and models.
– Information related to design patent activities reported by industrial property offices issuing design patents is included in this series of documents.



**INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICE
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

Prague, May , 2000
33/351/00

Mr. Klaus-Peter Wittig
Deputy Director
Inter-Office Information Services
World Intellectual Property
Organization (WIPO)
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Re: *Task No. 24 of the SCIT Work Program:*
Annual Technical Reports on Industrial Design Information Activities in 1999

Dear Mr. Wittig,

In reply to your letter C.SCIT 2487 from March 16, 2000 we are sending you in the enclosure the Annual Technical Report on Industrial Design Information Activities of the Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic in 1999.

Sincerely yours,

Svetlana Kopecká
Director
International & EU Department

Annual Technical Report on Industrial Design Information Activities in 1999

Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic

I. Evolution of registration activities:

The number of applications filed in 1999 was 763, what represents a decrease 5% in comparison with 1998 when 803 applications were filed. The Industrial Property Office carries out the examination of industrial design applications.

In 1999, 963 industrial designs were registered.

The productivity of industrial design applications procedure increased, the procedure was shortened on 6 months.

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of industrial design documents and of secondary sources of industrial design information, i.e., official gazettes

No changes in the examination procedure. The substantive examination of industrial design applications is carried out.

Industrial design information is accessible in the reading room and in the Official Gazette.

Official Gazette of the Industrial Property Office (Vestník ÚPV) is issued monthly in 300 copies, in two parts. Part A contains inventions, utility models, industrial designs and topographies of semiconductor products. Part B contains trademarks and appellations of origin.

The Official Bulletin of the Industrial Property Office is issued also on CD-ROM. It is produced by an external firm in law number of copies for the circle of concrete interested peoples. The Bulletin on CD-ROM is issued monthly - as its paper original, but it is issued in the cumulative manner. Each new disk contains all data from the number 1/1996 together with data accession of last month.

There are no changes in the contents of the chapter Industrial Designs.

As from No. 1/2000, the Official Gazette is available on the Web site of the Industrial Property Office as an electronic book in the PDF format.

Since 1986 industrial design data elements are recorded in the computer database. The database does not contain image information. It is used, besides other, to make actual listing of the industrial design register. This register contains legal status of industrial designs valid on 31.12.1992 (as from 1.1.1993 former Czechoslovakia divided into the Czech Republic and Slovak Republic) or registered in the register after this date.

III. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of industrial design information according to the classification systems applied:

The Czech Republic started to apply the Locarno Classification (6th edition) at 1.1.1995. Before this date the national classification was used, more detailed than the Locarno Classification. The 7th edition of the Locarno Classification is used since 1.1.1999. The new files are created according to each new edition; the files are not reclassified.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep

There are no changes concerning search file organization.

On the basis of international exchange the Office receives industrial design gazettes from following countries (international organizations): Germany, Austria, USA, Slovakia, Poland, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Spain, China, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Estonia, Yugoslavia, France, Switzerland.

The Office buys the International Designs Bulletin issued by the WIPO on CD-ROM.

Gazettes are at disposal for the public and Office examiners in the reading room.

V. Activities in the field of computerized search systems for industrial designs:

There are no changes in this field.

In 1998 scanning of the retrospective representation of registered industrial designs from 1995 and older was started. At the end 1999, industrial designs registered in 1989 were scanned.

VI. Administration of industrial design services available to the public (relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, registering designs, assisting clients with search procedures, obtaining official publications and registry extracts):

There are no changes in the field of information center and library services. The register section supplies legal status information.

The public can order the searches made by the Office experts as the paid service.

There are about 280 subscribers of the Official Gazette.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of industrial design documentation and information:

The countries, from which we receive the Gazette see chapter IV.

The Gazette of the Czech IPO is sent to these countries to the offices and other institutions and to interested parties in 32 countries.

VIII. Matters concerning education and training including technical assistance to developing countries:

The Industrial Property Training Institute carries out the educational, promotional and editorial activity of the Office. The industrial design matter forms part of the two years study and some short-term courses.

The Czech IPO issues the magazine Industrial Property.

The trainees received in the Czech Office in the scope of the WIPO program for developing countries are acquainted with the industrial design matter.

IX. Other relevant matters

There are no further relevant matters to report.