

WIPO



SCIT/ATR/PI/1999/KR

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1999

ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES*

submitted by the

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

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

*
– The term “patent” covers utility models and SPCs.
– Information related to design patent activities reported by industrial property offices issuing design patents is included in the series of documents SCIT/ATR/ID.

Annual Technical Report on Patent and Utility Model Information Activities in 1999

I. Evolution of registration activities

A. Changes experienced in terms of application filings and grants with respect to the previous year

(1) Patent

Year Classification	1998	1999	Ratio of Variation
Filing	75,188	80,639	107.2%
Registration	52,900	62,647	118.4%

(2) Utility Model

Year Classification	1998	1999	Ratio of Variation
Filing	28,896	30,650	106%
Registration	25,717	32,916	128%

B. Trends or areas experienced rapid changes with respect to the previous year

None

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, distribution and use of primary and secondary sources of patent information:

A. The Issue of Official Gazettes on CD-ROM

(1) KIPO has published the following two types of Official Gazettes on CD-ROM since May 1998 and has distributed them inside and outside the country.

- Registered Examined Patents and Utility Models Gazettes

- Published Unexamined Patents and Utility Models Gazettes

(2) Index CD-ROMs

For a more effective search of information for Patent and Utility Models in each CD-ROM, KIPO has published Index CD-ROMs at the end of each year, since May 1998. From 2000, KIPO is planning to publish them twice a year.

(3) '99 Issue results

Classification Rights	The number of Items	The number of Published Times	Remarks
1. Registered Examined Gazettes - Patent - Utility Model	108,537 76,448 32,089	40 40 -	Patent and Utility Model are contained in the same CD-ROM
2. Published Unexamined Gazettes - Patent - Utility Model	130,,903 88,687 42,216	58 58 -	Patent and Utility Model are contained in the same CD-ROM
Total	239,440		

B. Korean Patent Abstract on CD-ROM

(1) Publication in 1999

- Contents: Abstracts 11,200 cases (only domestic applicants)
(Patent Publication number 97-266~00-130944)
- Amounts: 300 copies (using MIMOSA)

(2) Distribution

- Domestic: 35 places, 125 copies
(National Assembly Library, Korean Patent Attorney Association etc)
- Abroad: 43 places, 75 copies (Germany, England etc)

(3) Distribution Period: every January

III. Matters concerning abstracting, classifying, reclassifying and indexing of technical information contained in patent documents:

A. Classification and reclassification activities;

KIPO is using IPC(International Patent Classification) as an official classification system. After the examiner dealing with classification makes a pre-classification, each examiner confirms classification into sub-group and re-classification is not conducted.

B. Coordinate Indexing

KIPO does not have its own classification indexing.

C. Hybrid System Indexing

KIPO mark Hybrid System Indexing on its patent-related official documents.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

A. File building;

In 1999, KIPO developed a New Patent · Utility Model Search System, which allows a full text search on patent documents by using Internet-based technology. Based on this system, KIPO constructed a Database which contains information from National Published Patent Gazettes, Registered Patent Gazettes, JPO's Search Master and PAJ, EPO's FPD and IFD, USPTO's Patent Descriptions, etc.

B. Updating;

These search files are updated periodically.

C. Storage, including mass storage media;

Texts (including SGML) used for search are stored on Disk and image data are stored on Optical Disk or CD. From 2000, all data will be stored on Disk for faster information retrieval.

D. Documentation from other offices maintained and/or considered part of the available search file;

Foreign data which are available through KIPO's Search System are as follows.

Type	Title of Data
Bibliographies	Search Master(JP/1975~), FPD(EPO/1974~), IFD(EPO/1974~)
Abstracts	Japanese Patents(JP/1975~1996), FPD(EPO/1974~)

Full Texts	Japanese Utility Models(JP/1975~), USPTO(USPTO/1975~), Espace-A(EPO/1978~), Espace-B(EPO/1990~), Espace-world(EPO/1978)
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V. Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized search systems:

A. In-house systems (online/offline);

KIPO's examiners can search data online by using the New Patent · Utility Model Search System. Data which are not accessible through the System can be searched by CDs kept in the Reading Room.

B. External databases;

CA and IEEE's Search Systems have already been incorporated into KIPO's Search System.

C. Administrative management systems;

KIPO completed the KIPOnet system, an online electronic filing and administration system, in December 1998. The KIPOnet system provides totally automated IPR administration processes for acceptance, examination, registration, publication of official gazettes, trial and so on.

D. Equipment used;

- Main Computers: HP T-series 2 set, HP K-series 3 set
- DBMS: Oracle
- Search Engine: Verity
- Web Server: Oracle Web Server

E. Existing online thesauri;

None

VI. Administration of the industrial property office library and services available to the public:

A. Collection of Industrial Property Information Resources in 1999

(1) Patent specifications ;

22 countries and 4 international organizations (AT, AU, BG, CA, CH, CN, DE, FR, GB, HU, ID, JP, LT, LV, PH, PL, RO, RU, TH, TR, US,

AP, EP, OA, WO) on a mutual exchange basis

(2) Abstracts and Index;

3 countries and 2 international organizations (GE, JP, TW, EP, WO) on a mutual exchange and Derwent WPI by purchasing and JP Index by purchasing

B. Preservation of Non-patent literature

KIPO preserves 22,577 volumes (among them 16,947 related to science and technology and 5,630 related to others), 426 titles of periodicals, and 42 journals from research institutes which may be useful to examiners and trial examiners as reference material.

C. Administration of the industrial property office library and services available to the public

(1) Establishment of Local Patent Information Support Centers

On 1 February 2000, KIPO reorganized 15 Local Patent Information Libraries into Local Patent Information Support Centers to publicize the IPR system and propagate IPR information on a national scale. The center provides overall Patent Information Services, e.g. guide, consultation, and publicity about IPR rights to the public.

(2) KIPRIS Search Free of Charge

On 1 January 2000, KIPO began to provide the Korean IPR Information Search Service (KIPRIS, <http://www.kipris.or.kr>) free of charge to the public. The public can be instructed how to use KIPRIS at KIPO's IP Library and Local Patent Information Support Center.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information:

A. On the basis of mutual exchange, KIPO provides official gazettes for other countries as follows.

Type of document	Country	Type of Material
Bibliographic data of registered examined Patents and utility models	2 countries EP, GB	FD

Korean Patent Abstracts	40 countries and 3 international organization AT, AU, BD, CA, CH, CN, CO, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GE, GR, HU, IN, IR, JP, KE, KG, LK, MX, MY, NL, NZ, PA, PE, PL, RO, RU, SE, SG, TH, TR, US, TW, VE, VN, ZA, AP, EP, WO	CO-ROM
Official Gazettes	- Published Unexamined Specification CN, DE, JP, RU, SG, US - Registered Examined Specification CN, DE, JP, RU, SG, TR, US, EP	CD-ROM

B. On the basis of mutual exchange, KIPO is given the following documents from other countries.

Type of document	Country	Type of Material
Patent Specification And Official Gazettes	22 countries and 4 international organization AT, AU, BG, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, FR, GB, HU, ID, JP, LT, LV, PH, PL, RO, RU, TH, TR, US, AP, EP, OA, WO	CD-ROM or Paper-form (ID, TH)
Patent Abstracts	4 countries and 2 international organization EG, GE, JP, TW, EP, WO	CD-ROM or Paper-form

Annual Reports	33 countries and 3 international organization AT, AU, BG, BY, CA, CN, CZ, DE, ES, FR, GB, GE, GR, HU, IL, JP, KE, KZ, LC, MK, MX, NL, NO, NZ, PH, PL, RO, SE, SI, TR, US, AP, EP, WO	Paper-form
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VIII. Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries:

A. Training Courses for National Participants.

List of Courses	Classes	Participants (Persons)
Total (24 courses)	54	3,839

Courses for Government Sector	- Course for newly appointed examiners	1	69
	- Supplementary course for examiners	1	60
	- Course for trial examiners	5	380
	- Basic course on Industrial Property Rights	1	69
	- Basic course on Industrial Property Rights & its practices for other department officials	1	60
	- Course on IPR litigation	2	96
	- Course on PCT report writing	5	380
	- Course on IPR for middle management officials	1	62
	- Course for working-level officials in IPRs	2	240
	- Course on Japanese Speaking	1	105
	- Course for school principals and supervisors	4	509
	- Course for teachers in charge of invention club	4	568
	Sub-total (12 courses)	26	2,370
Courses for Private Sector	- Introductory course on IPRs	5	410
	- Course for executive managers	1	19
	- Course for collective training of corporation employees	2	107
	- Course for professors in natural science and engineering	2	100
	- Course for university/college students	2	146

- Course for patent attorneys-in apprenticeship	1	78
- Advanced course on patent & utility model systems	6	225
- Advanced course on trademark & industrial design systems	2	99
- Course on foreign IPR systems	1	44
- Course for electronic patent application exercise	4	126
- Course on Biotechnology	1	43
- Course on computer related patents	1	72
Sub-total (12 courses)	28	1,469

A. Training Courses for Foreign Participants

Courses	Duration	Number of Participating countries	Number of Participants	Funding
Total		33	100	
- Training course on industrial property system	14 days (May.27- June 9, 1999)	10	18	Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
- WIPO Asian Regional Seminar on The Promotion of the Use of Intellectual Property System By the Private Sector	3 days (Nov. 1- Nov. 3, 1999)	23	82	WIPO(60%) and Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO)(40%)

C. International Cooperation and Perspectives

IIPTI(International Intellectual Property Training Institute) has been

undertaking every effort for consolidating cooperative activities with domestic and international training and research institutes, patent offices or professional societies like Max Planck Institute in Germany, the Franklin Pierce Law Center of the United States and the International Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property(ATRIP).

In addition, while IIPTI is vigorously seeking ways to serve as a center for consolidating a network for information exchange on education and training programs on IPRs, it is also planning to offer medium and long-term specialized training courses catering to the demand of post-graduates not only from Korea and but also from the Asia-Pacific region.

IX. Other relevant matters

A. Amendment of Quick Registration System for Utility Models (Effective as of July 1, 1999)

Reflecting the recent accelerated pace of technological innovations, the need for earlier protection of utility models is becoming higher than ever before. In addition, utility models or small inventions now have a tendency to be commercialized within a very short time after the filing, and the life cycle of such products as incorporated utility models has been getting shorter and shorter. With this in mind, KIPO adopted the "Quick Registration System (QRS)" for utility models. Under the QRS, utility models are registered promptly after formality and basic requirements examination without substantive examination, possibly about 3 months after the filing.

B. Reduction of an average period of examination for Patent and Utility Models

From 28.1 months in 1998 to 23.6 months in 1999