

SLOVENIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (SIPO)

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN 1998

I. Evolution of patent activities:

National patent applications	330 in 1997
	325 in 1998
PCT applications in national phase	174 in 1997
	90 in 1998
European patents extended to SI	95 in 1997
	293 in 1998

There was a strong decrease of PCT applications entering directly into national phase and strong increase of European patents extended to Slovenia.

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

We publish documents on granted patents (A), patents of addition (A1), short term patents (A2), patents transferred from former Yugoslavia (A8), patents with amended claims (B) and translation of claims of European patents extended to Slovenia (T1).

In Official Bulletin (BIL - Bilten za Industrijsko Lastnino) we publish announcements of issuing patent documents (bibliographic data and abstracts) and published European patent applications with designation to Slovenia (bibliographic data).

Patent documents are stored in paper form and on CD-ROM (Espace-SI), which is now running under Mimosa software and contains bibliographic data, English abstracts and images of all published patents.

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

Abstracts of all national applications are translated into English language and used for Espace-SI CD-ROM production and for on-line database, offered by SIPO

Patent documents are classified according to IPC version 6

SIPO is not yet using the indexing scheme (we will use it from year 2000 onwards)

SIPO maintains on-line database containing bibliographic data and abstracts of all published patents in Slovene and English language. Up to now there were no actions toward full-text processing.

IV. Search files establishment and upkeep:

Search files consist of patent documents on electronic media exclusively (CD-ROM series). We are updating them through the exchange with other Offices.

V. Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized search systems:

Searches are carried out on bibliographic databases in SIPO online information service as well as on external databases, in connection to the CD-ROM collection.

SIPO automation system includes administrative procedures and maintaining of rights. It is based on Alpha server operating under VMS, and uses Word Perfect text processing package.

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

SIPO online information service includes bibliographic databases on SI-patent register, EP published applications designating SI, PCT published applications designating SI, and other. Patent register database is updated daily, and includes also legal status information. This service is offered to public in our library free of charge and externally under special agreement.

SIPO also offers SDI-selective dissemination of information service on ESPACE INPADOC database, provides documents from CD-ROM collection, opinions on novelty and patentability from foreign Offices issued on the basis of special agreements, access to foreign databases, and other.

On SIPO Web Site there are basic information on filing applications, application forms and the list of Slovene patent agents.

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

Under bilateral agreements we exchange CD-ROMs with several patent Offices.

Priority documents can be exchanged only in paper form in this moment.

Applications can be filed in paper form only.

VIII. Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries:

In 1998 SIPO organized, together with WIPO, an advanced seminar on PCT for patent agents and the representatives of the Slovene industry, and a seminar “Drafting of Patent Applications”. It also received 5 trainees from the Office for Standardization, Metrology and Patents from Bosnia and Herzegovina, and held several presentations on patent protection for domestic applicants, inventors and industry outside the Office premises.

In 1998 SIPO participated in the IENA Innovations Fair in Nuremberg, and in Slovenia in the International Trade Fair in Celje, with Austrian, German and European Patent Offices as co-exhibitors.