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**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT**

**1999**

**ON TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES**

submitted by

**HUNGARY**

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

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT OF THE HUNGARIAN PATENT OFFICE  
ON ITS TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITY  
IN 1999**

**I. EVOLUTION OF REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES**

In 1999, 6082 national trademark applications were received, representing an increase of about 12 % over the 5437 applications of the previous year. The increase in the trademark application activity is due first of all to the domestic applicants who filed 22.3 % more applications than in 1998. The number of applications filed by foreign applicants in the national way slightly decreased (4.4 %) compared with the previous year. The animating effect of the extension of the range of trademark proprietors following from the new Trademark Law of 1997 on the one hand, and the diverting effect of broader possibilities of international trademark registration on the other hand are, then, well perceptible.

Altogether 5661 trademark cases were completed, of which 3819 led to registration, 353 to refusal and the procedure was terminated in 1489 cases because the application was withdrawn or considered withdrawn. The number of procedures relating to registered trademarks (changes, renewals) amounted to 4403, in particular the number of renewals increased, by about 20 % compared with the previous year.

The national trademark register was completely revised; at the end of 1999 the number of valid national registrations was 34 562.

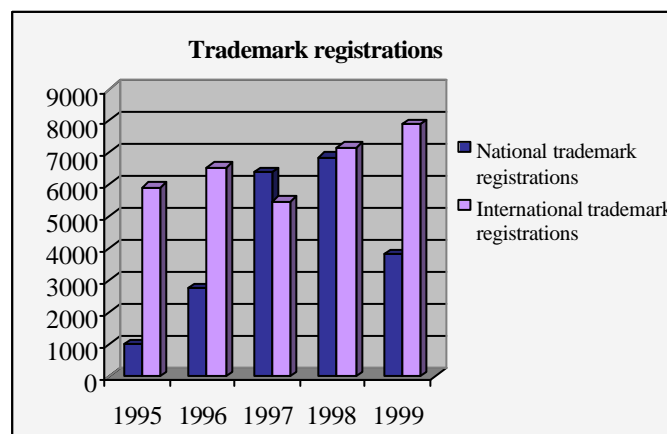
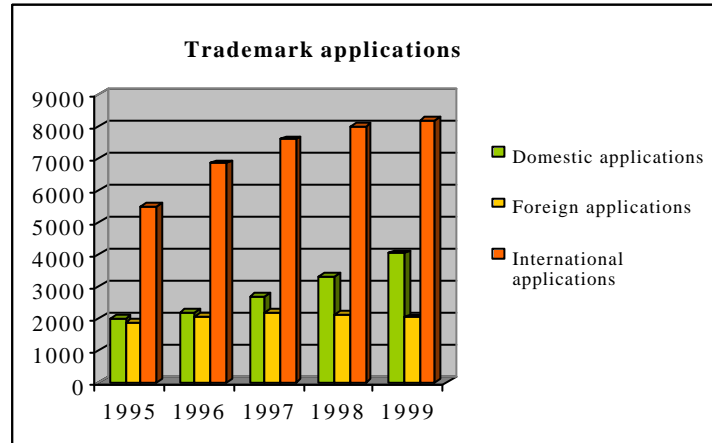
In 1999, 8197 new international trademark applications designating Hungary were received under the Madrid Agreement (7995 in 1998).

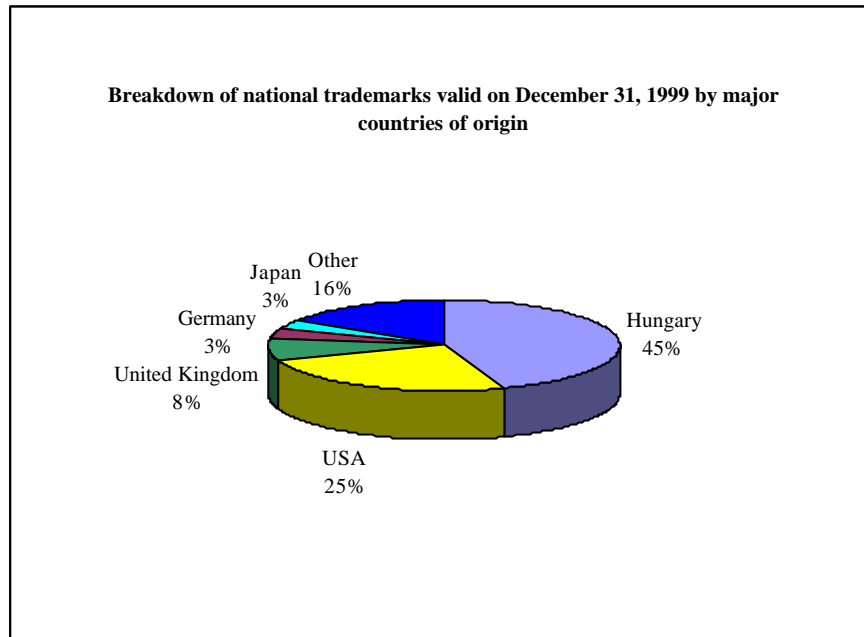
The substantive examination of all trademark applications affecting Hungary was completed within one year as prescribed in the international procedure. During the year under review provisional refusal was issued in 1100 cases. Final decision was made in 1610 objected cases, either by ordering registration or issuing final refusal.

The number of international applications filed by Hungarian applicants under the Madrid Agreement increased from 132 in 1998 to 154 in 1999. In the year under review 218 cases were transmitted to the International Bureau of WIPO. The entry into force of the Protocol relating to the Madrid Agreement also contributed to the growth in the number of international applications. The number of international trademarks valid in Hungary was 139 488.

### Trademark applications and registrations between 1995 and 1999

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
<i>National trademark applications</i>	3884	4270	4904	5437	6082
<b>Domestic applications</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2194</b>	<b>2711</b>	<b>3303</b>	<b>4040</b>
<b>Foreign applications</b>	<b>1882</b>	<b>2076</b>	<b>2193</b>	<b>2134</b>	<b>2042</b>
National trademark registrations	997	2771	6386	6851	3819
<i>International trademark applications</i>	5526	6857	7600	7995	8197
International trademark registrations	5914	6539	5481	7172	7910
Valid international trademarks	119949	123454	129219	133802	139488





The number of applications and final decisions reflects a continuous tendency of solid growth, 5-6 %, which results from the vividness of market economy.

The number of requests for international trademark applications forwarded to the International Bureau of WIPO was 218, in 1998 this number was 105. Activity in this field has doubled since 1998.

Since the entry into force of Law No. XI of 1997, 16 applications for the registration of geographical indications were received. In 1999, 6 applications were filed, all of them relates to agricultural products or foodstuffs. In 10 cases the Hungarian Patent Office sent the product specification to the Hungarian Council for the Protection of Appellations of Origin for examination. The Council started its work and made already decisions on the requirements of the product specification. Verified product specifications prepared in conformity with the decisions have not yet been sent to the Hungarian Patent Office.

## **II. MATTERS CONCERNING THE GENERATION, REPRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF SECONDARY SOURCES OF TRADEMARK INFORMATION, I.E., TRADEMARK GAZETTES**

In 1999, for the first time, *Annual Name and Subject Index 1998*, the previous unabridged 103<sup>rd</sup> volume of the Gazette of Patents and Trademarks was also published on optical disc. The publication contains:

- the complete 1998 material of the monthly Gazette

- the articles of the bimonthly Industrial Property Review, a supplement to the Gazette and
- all the patent specifications published in printed form in 1998.

With this a new search option opened, which enables the user to search every publication in all columns of the five titles of protection at the same time, among others **trademarks**, either by the application number, the publication number, the registration number, or by the inventor, the applicant or the owner – i.e. by all the so-called name-type-data. Information on the 1998 industrial property statistical data is also accessible through this publication.

The electronic publication can be viewed with all the customary web-browsers, while the patent specifications can be accessed and printed with the help of the widespread Acrobat Reader. The CD version was made in 1700 copies, subscribers for the Gazette received it free of charge; 1000 copies were annexed to the printed form of the bilingual 1998 Annual Report.

The revision of the trademark column of the Patent and Trademark Gazette is being carried out continuously. The content of the Gazette was increased by the communication of geographical indications (6 new applications in 1999).

### **III. MATTERS CONCERNING CLASSIFYING, RECLASSIFYING AND INDEXING OF TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

The Hungarian Patent Office continues to apply the Nice Classification - the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks. In the Patent and Trademark Gazette under the title “Communication of trademark applications data” the Nice class numbers of claimed products and services are published, and in the column of registered trademarks the full list of claimed products and services (in Hungarian) in Nice Class order is given with each published trademark. For checking of classification symbols the examiners can use ROMARIN as electronic means of help.

The Hungarian/French/English language version of the Nice Classification 7 is used by both the applicants and the Office.

The applicants are not obliged to use the terms of the Nice Classification, but during the examination procedure the examiner and the applicant co-operate in each case in transforming the terms used within the frames of the Nice Classification.

The Hungarian Patent Office applies the International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks - the Vienna Classification - for searching purposes in the framework of the ROMARIN database.

In 1999 the fourth edition of Vienna Classification was translated into Hungarian language and published in printed form. At the same time the Vienna Classification has been introduced in the national procedure (office classification of the national valid trademarks and trademark applications). The trademark department has classified

all the national figurative trademarks (~15,000 marks) during autumn/winter. The data processing of this huge work is to be finished in 2000 parallel with the validation of the national trademark database. All the bibliographic data of trademark applications and registered trademarks are indexed for search purposes.

**IP:CLASS** (Industrial Property Classification Systems), the CD-ROM product of the HPO contains the English-French version of the first-seven editions of the International Patent Classification, the Hungarian version of the 5-7<sup>th</sup> editions, **the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Nice Classification and the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Vienna Classification concerning trademarks**, and the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Locarno Classification concerning industrial designs in English, French and Hungarian.

#### **IV. TRADEMARK MANUAL SEARCH FILE ESTABLISHMENT AND UPKEEP**

Manual searches are no more carried out at our Office. The upkeep of the manual search files was terminated.

#### **V. ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF COMPUTERIZED TRADEMARK SEARCH SYSTEMS**

In 1999, the HPO's electronic administration and recording system was modernised and improved with respect to all forms of industrial property protection. The administrative procedure according to the new Law No. XI. of 1997 on the Protection of Trademarks and Geographical Indications was integrated this year into the ORACLE/Netware-based uniform administration-management system (ENYV).

Preparations were made for the integration of domestic administration of international trademark applications under the Madrid Agreement/Protocol in the ENYV-system as well.

All the examiners of the Department have access to the web based trademark database. It enables the examiners to search all the bibliographic data of the Hungarian national trademarks and pending applications. All the illustrating images are also available for displaying. (<http://www.hpo.hu/English/db/vedjegy/>)

#### **VI. ADMINISTRATION OF TRADEMARK SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC**

In the Office building the modernisation of the first-floor public information section has been completed.

The clients have a full-service assistance possibility there :

- filling of application forms (the use of which is not obligatory)
- searches in all the electronic databases available in the Office
- use of Nice Classification
- photocopying

The public information section received new computers, printing and colour photocopying facilities. Public assistance is available every day from 9 to 13 hours.

A floppy disc named “**MSZH 98**” (syst. WINDOWS 3. and above) is available both for internal use and also for public purposes. It contains the full procedure carried out by the Hungarian Patent Office - by means of an ingenious flow chart and an explanatory text - in all the categories of industrial property protection i.e. patent, utility model, **trademark**, industrial design.

The Web site of the Office provides full service to the users on the following pages: <http://www.hpo.hu/English/evedj.html> and <http://www.hpo.hu/English/evedjku.html> The web-based database of the *valid* Hungarian national trademarks (TRADEMARK) is also available for the users <http://www.hpo.hu/English/db/vedjegy/>.

## **VII. MATTERS CONCERNING MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF TRADEMARK DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION**

Within the framework of international exchange of documentation the HPO receives trademark gazettes or official gazettes containing trademark information from the WIPO and from 20 countries.

Within the framework of the electronic exchange of information and regional co-operation the HPO sends data on the TRACES CD-ROM trademark database of Central-European countries. A TRACES site is available on the web (<http://www.hpo.hu/English/TRACES>) as the Hungarian Patent Office will be responsible for the manufacture of the product, for the co-ordination of the production and for the international distribution, while production will be made by Arcanum Informatics Ltd. (Hungary) after having been signed the Basic Agreement and Service Contracts in the first half of 2000.

## **VIII. MATTERS CONCERNING EDUCATION AND TRAINING INCLUDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

In 1999, two persons (from Mexico and Sri – Lanka ) were received in the framework of WIPO assistance to developing countries.

Several guides and brochures helped the familiarization with the work of the Office, and the industrial property protection, for example the “*Summary*” *about the national industrial property protection system in English*, *the Inventors’ Guide*, *the Education booklet* or *the Guide to the optical databases*.