

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1999

ON TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

submitted by the

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

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

Annual Technical Report on Trademark Information Activities in 1999

I. Evolution of registration activities:

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

Year	1998	1999	Ratio of Variation
Classification			
Filing	74,214	117,829	158.7%
Registration	59,611	32,987	55.3%

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

Applications in the area of machinery have increased outstandingly (increase rate: 450%). Registration is decreased by the influence of the decreased applications in 1998.

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction and distribution of secondary sources of trademark information, i.e. trademark gazettes:

A. The Issuance of Official Gazettes on CD-ROM

(1) KIPO has published Registered Examined Trademark Gazettes on CD-ROM twice a month since May 1998 and has distributed them inside and outside the country.

(2) Index CD-ROMs

For a more effective search of information for Trademark 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

Trademark Gazettes were published 28 times in which 34,089 applications were included in 1999. Trademark and Industrial Design Gazettes are published on the same CD-ROM.

III. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of trademark information:

A. Classification of Goods;

KIPO has adopted the NICE Classification System since '98. 3. 1. and officially joined the NICE Convention in '98. 10.

B. Classification of Figurative Elements of Marks;

KIPO had been using its own unique standard for classification, but started to adopt Vienna Classification in September 1999. KIPO began to organize its Database following this new classification.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

A. File Building

KIPO uses all the trademarks of applications and registrations, which are classified according to the types of trademark, letters, figures, and designated products.

B. Updating

These search files are updated periodically.

C. Storage, including mass storage media and microforms

These search files are stored and classified in electronic files.

V. Activities in the field of computerized trademark search systems:

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

The New Search System for Trademark which was established on September 3, 1998 makes it possible to search with a title and a figure together and fully supports searching for applications filed according to the NICE Classification.

B. 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.

VI. Administration of trademark services available to the public:

A. 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.

B. Information 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 Trademark 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 Centers.

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

A. On the basis of mutual exchange, KIPO provides official gazettes for 19 other countries as follows.

- AT, AU, CA, DE, ES, FR, GR, IR, IT, JP, LC, PA, PH, RU, SE, SG, TR, US, EP
- type of material: CD-ROM

B. On the basis of mutual exchange, KIPO is provided with annual reports from 33 other countries and 3 international organizations as follows.

- 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, RN, SE, SI, TR, US, AP, EP, WO
- type of material: paper-form

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

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 system	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

B. 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%)
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IX. Other relevant matters

A. Examinations are now generally conducted by the Nice Classification and Multiple application and registration system and examinations on designated products are strengthened to make classification and search on the designated products precise.

B. Reduction of an average period of examination for Trademark applications

- From 12 months in 1998 to 9.7 months in 1999