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ON TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

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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
OF ROSPATENT IN 1999**

As compared to the previous year, there were no changes in the Russian Federation procedures and requirements for filing application for the registration of marks.

From the data in the table below which shows the number of applications filed in the Russian Federation for trademark registrations, including international applications filed under the Madrid Agreement, we can conclude that in 1999 there remained an upward trend (up by 5.9%) in the number of trademark applications, mostly owing to those originating from national applicants (up by 17.1%), while the number of applications from foreign applicants somewhat decreased (down by 17.4%).

	1998	1999	1999/1998 %
Trademark and service mark applications filed - Total	28,581	28,995	105.9
including – by Russian applicants	15,583	18,254	117.1
including – by foreign applicants	12,998	10,741	82.6
of which – under international registration procedures	8,133	7,331	90.1
Trademarks and service marks registered - Total	17,708	19,507	110.2
including – in the name of Russian applicants	7,791	9,181	117.8
including – in the name of foreign applicants	9,910	10,326	104.2
of which – under international registration procedure	6,691	6,574	98.2

Matters concerning the Generation, Reproduction and Distribution of Secondary Sources of Trademark Information, i.e. Trademark Gazettes

The official Gazette of ROSTPATENT *Trademarks, Service Marks and Appellations of Origin* is published twice a year on paper, each issue containing between 500 and 1000 documents. In 1999 14 547 announcements of trademark registration and 42 announcements of appellation of origin were published in the Gazette as well as 3 volumes of indexes to the Gazette. A total of 255 annual sets (or 6 120 copies) of the Gazette were disseminated in 1999.

The Gazette publishes trademark and service mark certificates (bibliographic data and reproduction), appellation of origin certificates (bibliographic data, description), announcements of changes in the legal status of certificates, as well as systematic and numerical indexes of trademark certificates, numerical index of appellation of origin certificates.

The Gazette is published with the help of automated systems using information generated in a database. Make-up of the original model is carried out using Corel Ventura application package and then is printed on a film which is, in its turn, submitted to the print-shop. The publication of trademark booklets is effected by offset printing.

Trademark information is also published on CD-ROMs which are issued twice a year and contain cumulative information within one year span. In 1999, the IRBIS information retrieval system was used to produce CD-ROMs.

Preparation for printing and publication are carried out with the help of technological equipment allowing to produce the final product both on paper and in the form of facsimile copies. The equipment comprises printing, facsimile and microfiche machines.

The complete automated preparation of texts and graphics is realized on the basis of automated subsystems (ASS) of the *Russian Federation Trademarks Automated System (AS)*:

- *ASS Bibliography Input* – keyboarding of data when applications are filed and correction of data with due regard to the results of examination;
- *ASS Graphic* – scanning of images (including color images) of trademark designations;
- *ASS Certificates* – preparation of data in a corporate network (including color graphic) to issue trademarks certificates;
- *ASS Publication*- arrangement of data in a corporate network intended for the purposes of preparation of official trademark gazettes.

Matters Concerning Classifying, Reclassifying and Indexing of Trademark Information

The ROSPATENT has been using:

- the Nice International Classification of Goods and Services (seventh edition) to classify goods and services (no reclassification was made when changing over to new editions);
- the Vienna International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks to classify figurative elements;
- the WIPO Standard (ST60) to index bibliographic data.

Electronic classification systems are used to check the classification symbols provided by applicant in a goods and/or services list.

The development of *ASS ICGS* is under way in order to maintain control over entering list of goods and services on the basis of applications filed for reducing errors and adjusting the list of goods and services.

As for bibliographic data and processing for search purposes:

- *ASS Formal Input* – arrangement of search formatted bibliographic data in order to create search files within ASS “search”;
- *ASS Intellectual Input* – arrangement of the search images for verbal parts of the trademark designations and typical combinations of words used in applicants’ appellations in order to create search files within ASS “search”;
- *ASS Correction* – arrangement used for automated correction of information arrays including correction of trademark designations.

The applicants are recommended to use the current version of the *International Classification of Goods and Services*.

Trademark Manual Search File Establishment and Upkeep

The collection of trademark Gazettes, published in a separate issue, is arranged in alphabetical order by the name of a country and in chronological order countrywise.

In 1999, the following was used for manual trademark information search:

- a file of designations claimed as trademarks and filed directly with ROSPATENT (hereinafter referred to as “the national procedure”);
- a file of trademarks registered under the national procedure;
- a file of international marks claimed and registered under Madrid Agreement;
- a file of figurative elements of trademarks;
- a file of trademark associated literature including official Gazettes of ROSPATENT and those of the International Bureau of WIPO;
- a file of applications for the registration of trademarks filed under the national procedure;
- an information retrieval subsystem within the automated system *Trademarks of the Russian Federation*.

Trademark manual search file is updated every month by adding applications for the registration of a trademark that are filed both under the national procedure and under the Madrid Agreement, new arrivals of trademark-associated literature and official publications of ROSPATENT and the International Bureau of WIPO. The card-file of trademark figurative elements is quarterly submitted to a relevant unit in order to update microfiche files.

Storage of the manual trademark search files is organized on paper, including:

- handwritten registers of all designations claimed for registration as trademarks under the national procedure;
- a numerical card-file of the registered trademarks;
- a card-file containing information on figurative elements of trademarks.

Storage is also kept on microfiches each containing up to 113 cards of a single or similar sections of card-file of figurative elements of trademarks.

Machine-readable carriers are also used for storage of trademark data. Thus, machine-readable data concerning international applications with territorial extension to the Russian Federation are daily supplied through electronic communication channels and entered without using a Keyboard to provide input for ASS the *International Bureau of WIPO* and their subsequent multifunctional use within Automated System Trademarks of the Russian Federation (ASTMRF).

Activities in the Field of Computerized Trademark Search Systems

Presently, the Federal Institute of Industrial Property has in operation the automated system ASTMRF containing more than 311,500 documents. In 1999 great attention was attached to the streamlining of the trademark search and indexing procedures aimed at finding similarity in verbal trademarks in order to reduce mark lists while maintaining the completeness of searches.

The *ASS Search* supports package offline information search for verbal parts of trademark designations to carry out examination and to serve the public.

Different automated subsystems operating within the ASTMRF carry out the following administration and management functions: applications and registration certificates, partial monitoring of the legal status, automated generation of statistical data, some clerical work, automatic allocation of application to examiners, automatic generation of the outgoing examination correspondence.

A paperless technology intended for processing application documents has been sampled within ASTMRF. Two new systems, namely *ASS Fees* intended for processing all types of financial documents at various stages of the examination procedure and *ASS ICGS* using a trilingual classifier, have been successfully developed and put into operation.

In 1999, the database of the Russian trademarks, an element within ASTMRF, became accessible through Internet. Updated quarterly, the database contains information concerning 93,000 Russian trademark certificates granted within the period from 1991 to 1999.

The completion of the preparatory work intended to implement project for integrated automation of the Russian State Patent Office has become an important milestone in the year under review.

Basic requirements were formulated and the integrated automation project was elaborated in cooperation with *Siemens Corporation*. In 1999, major efforts were concentrated on trademark automation exercise. The project stipulates the development of integrated and coordinated work flow based on electronic management of working procedures, including examination and processing of applications, as well as on-line publication of their particulars while creating electronic databases and a register by use of modern hardware.

Hardware used:

- Server Compaq Proliant 1000;
(OM-128 MB, processors-1, external memory – 35GB);
- Server Compaq Proliant 5000;
(OM-256 MB, processors-2, external memory – 38GB);
- Server Compaq Proliant 2500;
(OM-32 MB, processors-1, external memory – 8GB);
(OM-64 MB, processors-1, external memory – 3GB);
- Workstation Compaq 486, 586, PMMX, PII – 90 units.

Commutation equipment:

ISDN MAX 200 Plus c (8/4) WAN PCMC1A switching equipment Typell/Typel;
SmartSWITCH 6000.

Software:

Operational systems: Novell, Windows 95

Media used:

Magnetic tape DLT tape III.

Administration of Services Available to the Public

In order to provide better services to users, in addition to a general reading room, the Library has set up a special room servicing CD-ROM databases stored in racks. An information search system functions both in traditional and computerized modes.

More than 45,000 items of trademark related literature were issued to general public for familiarization.

Apart from official publication, the Federal Institute of Industrial Property (a ROSPATENT subordinate) offers to its users CD-ROM containing information on trademarks registered in the Russian Federation.

Subscribing to current entries, one can also order retrospective information concerning trademarks dating back to 1991.

Special profile-oriented databases containing information on trademarks have been created in order to better serve the users' needs. Most popular and demanded among those were databases relating to medicine and food industries. In 1999, a total of 60 various databases were created on request of the users.

In addition to the above-mentioned, users were offered the following services:

- the issue of a duplicate of a trademark certificate;
- verification of compliance of the list of goods and services in the national registration and transfer of the relevant application to the International Bureau of WIPO; preliminary free-of-charge advice on the matters of formulation of, applying for and examination of trademark applications;
- pre-filing search for verbal signs in computerized Russian Federation trademark database, with a printout, broken down by ICGS classes, made available;
- search for trademark owner, with his/her personal details, including full name and address for service, made available;
- package offline information search for verbal parts of the trademark designations to serve the public.

Matters Concerning Mutual Exchange of Trademark Documentation and Information

Within the framework of international exchange, in 1999 the RO SPATENT sent its *Trademarks, Service Marks and Appellations of Origin Gazette* to:

- 41 countries on paper (42 annual collections or a total of 1,008 copies);
- 16 countries on microfiches (18 annual collections).

The total number of trademark gazettes and trademark sections in industrial property gazettes received by RO SPATENT from 47 countries and three international organizations amounted to 1466 copies on paper and 171 copies on optical disks.

Matters Concerning Education and Training

In 1999 the Federal Institute of Industrial Property, in accordance with model programs in the field of trademark information, organized the following events:

- two workshops on the subject *Topical Issues of Protection of Trademarks, Appellations of Origin and Trade Names* with participation of 16 specialists from the Russian Federation;
- a seminar on *Enforcement of Rights of Applicants, Patent and Trademark Owners*.

Two scientific officials of the Trademark Examination Department, National Patent Information Center of the Republic of Tajikistan, participated in a special training course.

Twelve Round Table sessions were organized for the management and examiners of Trademark Department with the participation of experts in the field of intellectual property including officials of the Board of Appeal and the Higher Patent Chamber.

A special advanced course *Trademark School: From A to Z* was held in 1999 in the Russian Institute of Intellectual Property that has a status of a higher education institution.

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