

WIPO



SCIT/ATR/ID/1999/KR

E

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1999

ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES*

submitted by the

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

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

*

- The expression “industrial design” covers designs and models.
- Information related to design patent activities reported by industrial property offices issuing design patents is included in this series of documents.

Annual Technical Report on Industrial Design Information Activities in 1999

I. Evolution of registration activities:

A. Changes experienced in terms of application filings and grants(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 increased outstandingly in the area of textiles (increase rate: 367.4%) and housing facilities (increase rate: 36.5%).

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction and distribution of industrial design documents and of secondary sources of industrial design information, i.e. official gazettes:

A. The Issue of Official Gazettes on CD-ROM

(1) KIPO has published the following two types of Official Gazettes on CD-ROM

- Registered Examined Industrial Design Gazette
- Published Unexamined Industrial Design Gazette

(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

Registered Examined Industrial Design Gazettes were published 28 times in which 20,824 applications were included in 1999. Published Unexamined Industrial Design Gazettes were published

together with registered examined gazettes and they covered 2,708 unexamined applications in 1999.

III. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of industrial design information according to the classification system applied:

A. Classification and reclassification activities;

KIPO is applying the Korean unique Industrial Design Classification system which is composed of 73 classes. Locarno Classification, International Classification for Industrial Designs, has not yet been applied in KIPO.

B. Bibliographic data and processing for search purposes

KIPO has a search file for application drawings and publicized data, but not the electronic form or processing for them.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

A. File Building;

KIPO uses all the drawings of applications, official gazettes for design of major countries including WIPO, photographs and designs published in major journals in Korea and overseas for industrial design search, which are classified according to the goods divisions.

B. Updating;

These search files are updated periodically.

C. Storage, including mass storage media and microforms;

All the materials used for search of industrial design are stored in paper-form.

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

The official gazettes of foreign countries and other search data for industrial design are available in KIPO's Patent Library so that the public can have easy access to them. Especially, the official gazettes of US, JP, DE, BE, NL, LU, WO are classified as search files and are being used frequently for examination.

V. Activities in the field of computerized search systems for industrial designs;

KIPO has no industrial design search system but uses the bibliographic data of industrial designs by using search keys such as application number, registration number, applicant's name, etc.

VI. Administration of trademark services available to the public:

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

(1) Establishment of Local Patent Information Support Center

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 Service, 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 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	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

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%)
--	-------------------------------	----	----	---

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. Applications for Non-substantial Examination are increased

Since the revised Korean Design Law takes effect on March 1. 1998, certain items including textile patterns, which have relatively short life cycle, are registered simply by formality examination without examining substantive matters. In 1999, applications for Non-substantive Examination were 6,944, 20.1% of all the design applications, and they increased dramatically from 1998's corresponding figures of 3,925 and 15.6% respectively.