

WIPO



SCIT/ATR/PI/1999/GE

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1999

ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES*

submitted by

GEORGIA

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

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- The term “patent” covers utility models and SPCs.
- Information related to design patent activities reported by industrial property offices issuing design patents is included in the series of documents SCIT/ATR/ID.

**WIPO
Mr. K.-P. Wittig
Deputy Director
Inter-Office Information
Services Department
34,chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland**

**Re: Task No 24 of the SCIT Work Program:
Annual Technical Reports on Patent Information Activities in 1999**

Dear Sir,

With respect to your letter of March 16, 2000, C. SCIT 2486.06 we are sending you herewith the Annual Technical Report on Patent Information Activity in 1999 of the Georgian Intellectual Property Center.

Sincerely yours,

D. Gabunia

Director-General

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON PATENT INFORMATION
ACTIVITIES IN 1999**

1. Evolution of patent activities:

- Changes experienced in terms of application filings and grants with respect to the previous year;

The new Patent Law of Georgia was enacted from May 25, 1999. Unlike the former Statute the Law provides also grant of an importation patent in the name of the foreign patent owner. The importation patent is granted for the invention patented abroad, examination on which was conducted pursuant to all the criteria of patentability. Besides, the importation patent gives the patent owner the exclusive right to use, produce or sell production, but it does not give him the right to prohibit the third party to import such product from abroad.

Unlike the former Statute a patent is not granted for the invention, or utility model relating to the surgical, therapeutic and diagnostic methods of treatment of people and animals. This rule does not extend on devices, substances, which are applied in the mentioned methods.

The stage of conducting formal examination for inventions and utility models is specified, in particular, fixing of filing date is isolated as an independent action. For this, the following application documents should be furnished - (for an invention and utility model) - a request for grant of patent, description, claims and drawings, if they are necessary for explaining the essence of the invention and utility model (Art. 27).

With respect to utility model the examination as to the novelty is carried out within a month by considering the registered applications and patents granted by Sakpatenti if it is proved, that the application for utility model meets the requirements of examination as to form. Sakpatenti takes a decision on grant of patent for utility model if it is proved, that an application for utility model meets requirements of the examination as to the novelty (Art. 38).

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

	1998		1999	
	Inventions	Utility Models	Inventions	Utility Models
Applications	450	123	421	115
Grants	534	160	396	128

There were no changes in trends or areas during the last year.

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

- Publishing, printing, copying;

Main types of publication were amended with respect to the new Patent Law. We prepared the new formats which uniquely identify patent documents. These formats are partially used in our Official Bulletins and full-texts documents both on paper and machine-readable documents and will be implemented in full volume from the year 2000.

Here are some of them:

- (10) .AP 1998 1565 A AP - application for invention laid open,
1998 - the year of publication,
1565 - publication number,
A - first publication.
- (11) P 1999 1565 B P - publication of invention,
1999 - the year of publication,
1565 - patent number,
B - second publication.
- (11) U 1999 258 U U - utility model,
1999 - the year of publication,
258 - patent number,
U - first publication.
- (11) P1 1999 1519 A P1 - imported patent,
1999 - the year of publication,
1519- patent number,
A - publication of patent

All the documents are stored in files in the library in paper form.

- Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of patent information;

The Georgian Patent Office continues publishing its Official Bulletins on paper: "The Official Bulletin of Industrial Property of Georgia"

The Bulletin contains:

- the abstracts of patent applications laid open for public inspection for a period of 3 months;
- the abstracts of patents granted;
- the abstracts for utility models laid open for public inspection for a period of 3 months;
- industrial designs (bibliographic data and image).

All the bibliographic data are provided with INID codes (ST.9).

The abstracts for inventions are published in three languages: Georgian, English and Russian.

The Bulletins contain subject-matter index and numerical index.

The abstracts are arranged according to the International Patent Classification.

In 1998 7 issues of the Official Bulletin were published.

During the reported period the new structure of the Official Bulletin was prepared in view of the new Patent Law. The new announcements of the Bulletin reflect all the amendments of the new law. The publication of the new Bulletin will start in the year 2000.

- Mass storage media used;

All the publications are on paper and in database. The bulletins can be acquired directly with the Office

- Word processing and office automation

Preliminary processing of documents is performed on the workstations being part of the automated system by means of the specific software. Preparation of documents for publication and their formatting are conducted by the word processors like MS Office and Page Maker.

- (New) technique used for the generation of patent information (printing, recording, photocomposing, etc.).

Computer - 5 items;

Laser jet printer - 5 items;

Laser jet printer color - 1 item

Bubble jet printer - 1 item;

High resolution Monitor - 1 item;

Offset machine Dominant-725 - 1 item;

Web cutting tool - 1 item;

Paper cutting tool - 1 item.

- Reproducing devices:

XEROX Rx-5332 - 1 item;

XEROX Rx-5317 - 1 item;

LANIER 6725 Copier - 1 item;

LANIER 6713 Copier - 1 item;

Canon FC230 - 4 items;

Canon FC2 - 1 item.

Risograph - 1 item

Storing: On big capacity hard discs (18GB) RAI D-5, reserve copying on MO Discs, CD-R discs and magnetic tapes (strimmer).

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

- Abstracting, reviewing, translating;

During the reported period the Department of Inventions and Utility Models transferred to Publication Department 518 abstracts and full-texts, thereof 382 inventions and 136 utility models. The following work was carried out:

- abstracting,

- classifying by the International Patent Classification

- processing of bibliographic data and full-texts

- indexing abstracts and required bibliographic data for generation and publication purposes

- checking Russian translation.

- Classification and reclassification activities;

Filed applications for inventions and utility models are classified according to the 6-th edition of IPC.

- Coordinate indexing;

Nothing new to report

- Hybrid system indexing;

Nothing new to report.

The bibliographic data and the abstracts in Georgian language in the Experts database are accessible only by patent examiners of Sakpatenti.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

- File building;

During the reported period about 455 national documents were added to the patent search file and about 280 thousand patents on CD-ROMs from EPO, WIPO France, USA and Japanese Patent Office. The collection of the library contains about 4 million units of information.

The search file is used by examiners and any persons interested in search.

- Updating;

The search file is continuously developing and updating.

- Storage, including mass storage media;

The collection of full-text national documents on paper is arranged according to IPC. It is stored in files in the library of Sakpatenti.

Duplicate collection on paper is arranged numerically and is also stored in the library.

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

Beside the national collection the library contains foreign collections on CD-ROMs and also valuable reference literature, normative and methodical literature

The main part of the patent collection is patent documentation of "Espace" technology presented on CD-ROMs.

We have the following collections:

Global Pat - 1971-1998;

ACCESS EP A - from 1978 up to date;

PAJ - 1976-1993;

Espace EPA - from 1978 up to date;

Espace AT - from 1993 up to date;

Espace World - from 1990 up to date;

Espace Europe - 1997-99;

Espace Cosmos - from 1999 up to date;

Espace - Bref - from 1999 up to date;

Espace - Preces - 1993-99;

Espace - Bulletin - 1995-99;

UsaPat - full texts of USA (1994-1999)

Austrian Patents Espace - 1993-1998;

IPC Class for Windows;

Industrial Property Statistics 1995 - World Intellectual Property Organization

Espace - Legal;

Iplex CD-ROM;

PCT Gazette - from 1998 up to date;

Full texts of Russian patents from 1994 up to date;

Jopal - (1981-97);

Cosmos - Full-texts of French applications (1999, Sept-Dec);
Bref- First Pages of French, European and International applications (1999, Sept-Dec);

CASSIS CD-ROM (PATENTS ASSIST, March, June, September 1999, PATENTS CLASS from 1790 up to date, PATENTS ASSIGN from 1980 up to date, PATENTS BIB from 1969 up to date, PATENTS SNAP).

The number of CD-ROMS is more than 3500 as of end of December 1999.

Apart from that, the library contains the Official Bulletins of industrial property of Austria, France, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Republic of Belarus, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tadjikistan, Azerbaidjan, Armenia on paper.

Patent collection (full-texts) received from other countries on CD-ROMs is kept in storage files in the library of Sakpatenti.

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

- In-house systems (online/off-line);

The searches in the in-house databases are carried out online by means of the Office LAN. Each examiner is able to search in the databases on site. The foreign databases are searched off-line on CD-ROMs by the MIMOSA and DIAPAT (Russian search system) software in the Office library. The following basic program complexes are used in the Office automation:

- Inventions;
- Trademarks;
- Utility Models;
- Industrial Designs.

Each program complex contains the following subsystems:

- Registration;
- Examination;
- Publication;
- Registry;
- Fees.

- External databases;

External databases, in particular, Questel-Orbit, STN and IBM are accessed by the Internet.

- Administrative management systems (e.g. register, legal status, statistics, administrative support, etc.);

For the administrative management and search the following databases are developed:

- Bibliography of applications;
- Procedure documentation with respect to the application;
- Reference and normative documentation;
- Images of inventions;
- Registry;
- Fees;
- Published documents;
- System and operative record.

Every database is accessible from every workstation with the LAN. All databases are managed by means of ODBS Paradox 4.5.

- Equipment used (hardware, including the types of terminal and network used, and software), carriers used;

Up to 14 kinds of workstations are used in the automated system, which are as follows:

- Registration and initial processing workstation;
- Examiner's workstation;
- Bulletin formatting and printing workstation;
- Registry keeping workstation;
- Workstation for monitoring the payments;
- Official's workstation;

The automated system of Sakpatenti is based on a powerful LAN, which comprises 83 workstations and 5 Print Servers. It is the fast (100Mbps) network whose core is based on 12 port Switch. 2 items of 3Com Sybertack and 1 item of ATM Switch 3Com Coreduilder 7000 connect the local Hubs and 4 powerful servers of the system.

Each workstation is equipped with a printer and UPS and the CD-ROM drivers also provided thereon.

On 3 servers of the LAN the network operating system WIN NT4.0 and on 1 server the Novell Intranet Ware 4.1 for routing the VLANs are installed. Paradox V.4.5 for DOS is used for the database managing

- Existing online thesauri; their structure, presentation and usefulness for computerized searches.

Online thesauri has not been created so far.

The Program of the Development of Automated System of Sakpatenti for the Period of 2000-2005 years:

The development of the automated system is planned in three directions:

- The development of a user's software using upgraded database management system of ORACLE type and development of the last versions of the application Delphy;
- Widening of the network infrastructure based on the INTRANET solution to provide information services to the external users, both through INTERNET and by direct access to the internal databases.
- Step-by-step upgrading hardware with the modernized computer equipment for data storage and data transmission, and the high performance means for printing and entering the image data.

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

The library mainly holds the patent literature on data carriers such as CD-ROMs and floppy discs. The total number of CD-ROMs reaches about 5000 and they are stored in corresponding storage files. Four workstations are arranged in the library for search and retrieval. The Internet is also accessed, though with low speed connection, to get various

sorts of information relating to the industrial property protection activities, WIPO publications, USA patent abstracts, etc.

The library also keeps non-patent literature, such as reference books, dictionaries, encyclopedias, etc. It is staffed by qualified technical experts skilled in different languages: English, French and German, and who are assisting the Office examiners in searching.

The national collection of patent full-texts is provided only on paper. These documents are collected and stored both numerically and according to the IPC.

Like in the previous years the workers of the department translated the abstracts into the Russian and English languages for the Official Bulletins.

At present the work is going on creation of the new version of Sakpatenti home page on Internet. The development of WEB-page is carried out in accordance to the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) WIPO. In view of the available collections and the access to the commercial databases, the Office is capable to solve various search tasks.

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

- International or regional cooperation in the exchange of machine-readable information, e.g., bibliographic data, abstract and/or full-text information;

The mutual cooperation in the exchange of information with Austrian Patent Office was established from the very beginning of Sakpatenti activity and is still continuing. Sakpatenti receives Official Bulletins on paper and full-texts on CD-ROMs and floppy discs. There is also the mutual cooperation in the exchange of information with Japanese Patent Office. Our Office receives English abstracts of published unexamined patent applications (Patent Abstracts of Japan, PAJ). The abstracts are on CD-ROMs using software MIMOSA, CD-ROM discs covering 1976-1998 period. From our side we are sending them our Official Bulletin on paper. During the reported period Sakpatenti began to receive the Official Bulletin of France.

The Patent Bulletins on paper are also sent to 11 CIS countries and to the Ministers, Departments, Universities, big Information Centers, libraries and scientific research institutes of Georgia. Patent specifications are also disseminated to the Republican Library.

- Medium used for exchange of priority documents;

On paper and CD-ROMs

- Medium allowed for filing applications;

On paper.

- Implementation of the Statement of Principles Concerning the changeover to Electronic Data Carriers for the Exchange of Patent Documents.

During the reported period Sakpatenti has undertaken some steps towards the changeover to electronic data carriers, in particular:

- forming a database of abstracts and full text patent documents in Georgian language;

- using Electronic mail for the exchange of information ;

- using Internet for searching information.

- preparing issue of three-lingual Official Bulletin of Georgia on CD-ROMs for future exchange with other patent offices.

Sakpatenti is still taking part in creation of a new Regional product for Patent

documentation of CIS countries the production of which will be conducted by the RUPTO and planned to be produced on a regular base from the beginning of the year 2000. The product is intended to be involved in the exchange process based on the investigation results of the information needs of all the Offices participating in the creation of the disc.

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

- Training courses;

During the reported period, as in the previous years, the significant attention was paid to improvement of qualification of Sakpatenti staff. The fifteen specialists have taken part in various events organized under the aegis of WIPO and European Patent Office. The knowledge and the experience obtained during participation in these events substantially assist the specialists of Sakpatenti at carrying out examination in these branches on contemporary level.

With the help of EPO program of assistance to CIS countries (ICON Project) some specialists of Sakpatenti are continuing their training in English language.

- Assistance to developing countries;

Nothing to report

-Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.);

In March of this year, the WIPO representatives Mr. B. Khabirov and Mr. D. Kohen conducted the seminar related to the problems of International Registration of Trademarks under the Protocol to the Madrid Agreement. Georgia acceded this system in August 1998, but the work has actually began since 1999.. The WIPO representatives answered all the questions of the participants. The significance of the use of Madrid Protocol for Georgian manufacturers and the country as a whole was once more emphasized.

In May, with participation of the representative of commercial information company Questel-Orbit, Mr. N. Likhodedov in Sakpatenti were carried out theoretical and practical studies on conducting on-line searches in the international databases.

In November, in Sakpatenti with the working visit was the administrator on technical cooperation of the European Patent Office - Nina Formby. She familiarized on the spot with the directions of Sakpatenti activity. Specific attention was paid to the problems of use of CD-ROM products of the European Patent Office for searching.

Together with Sakpatenti leaders the plan on further cooperation with the European Patent Office was made, which covers training of the staff, extension of financing the courses on English language studying, etc.

-Studies to identify trends in new technology;

Nothing to report

- Assistance furnished by offices to facilitate the changing over of receiving offices to electronic data carriers for the exchange of patent documents .

Nothing to report

