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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

2001

ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES*

submitted by

ESTONIA

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

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- 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.

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INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

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I. Evolution of registration activities:

In 2001 77 registration applications of industrial designs were received, i.e. 14% less than in 2000. Domestic industrial designs formed 27% of the total number of applications.

During 1998–2001 the Estonian patent office has entered 395 industrial designs (without taking the variants into consideration) into the State Register. 40% of the industrial designs belong to the Finnish owners, 21% belong to the Estonian owners and 7% to the Danish and German owners. Applications concerning storage, communication and information searching devices are numerous (111). More applications are submitted for packages and containers (55), tools and ironware (30), plays and toys (31), electricity production and transfer equipment (29). The Estonian owners have protected mostly industrial designs concerning packages and containers (17) and furniture (10).

In 2001 15 registration applications remained pending. The duration of processing is on the average 2 months.

In 2001 software for trademark applications and industrial designs registration applications and processing thereof as well as state periodical statistical reports was worked out. The detailed periodical reports are available at the homepage of the Estonian Patent Office www.epa.ee.

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

The official publication of the Estonian Patent Office is the Estonian Industrial Design Gazette.

The Statutes of the Estonian Industrial Design Gazette was confirmed by the Regulation of the Minister of Economics of May 15, 1998. The Estonian Industrial Design Gazette comprises of the following parts:

- 1) Registered industrial designs,
- 2) Renewal of term of industrial design,
- 3) Change in data relating to the registration of industrial design,
- 4) Transfer of rights of proprietor of industrial design into usufruct,
- 5) Deletion of industrial design registration,
- 6) Issue of a duplicate of industrial design certificate,
- 7) Lists,
- 8) Legal acts and information.

The Estonian Industrial Design Gazette is published 4 times a year.

Mass storage media is not in use yet.

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

The Estonian Patent Office uses the International Classification for Industrial Designs (Locarno Agreement). The Republic of Estonia became party to the said Agreement on Oct. 31, 1996. WIPO Standard St. 80 is used for bibliographic data coding.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

The Estonian Patent Office uses the following manual search files:

- database concerning processing of industrial design registration applications comprises of the files of industrial design registration applications.
- the card file of industrial designs are used for the purpose of trademark examination,
- the State Register of Industrial Designs.

The files are updated continually.

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

In-house search system (offline) is under development phase.

VI. Administration of industrial design services available to the public (relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, registering designs, assisting clients with search procedures, obtaining official publications and registry extracts):

The computerised Estonian industrial designs database can be exploited at the reading room of the Estonian Patent Library. The searches are carried out at the request of the users and the customers pay a moderate price for the computerised services.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of industrial design documentation and information:

The Estonian Patent Library receives gazettes containing the information on industrial design from 33 IP offices, 30 titles are acquired by exchange and 3 titles by purchase.

At present information concerning the Estonian industrial design on machine-readable carriers is not being forwarded to our exchange partners.

VIII. Matters concerning education and training including technical assistance to developing countries:

Customer training activities of the Estonian Patent Library in 2001.

In 2001 we have arranged 21 information days on the field of use of information concerning industrial property.

The aim of these days is to highlight the impact of the use of information concerning patents, trademarks and industrial designs and they are arranged in the library or in centres of entrepreneurship.

IX. Other relevant matters.

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