

# WIPO



SCIT/ATR/PI/2001/SK

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**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**  
GENEVA

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES**

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT**

**2001**

**ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES<sup>1</sup>**

submitted by

**SLOVAKIA**

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

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<sup>1</sup> – 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.

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES**

submitted by

**SLOVAKIA**

## I. Evolution of patent activities:

- Changes experienced in terms of application filings and grants with respect to the previous year;
- Trends or areas experiencing rapid changes with respect to the previous year.

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

In comparison with the year 2000 there are following statistical data concerning patent and utility model activities.

	<b>PATENTS</b>			
	2000		2001	
	Applications	Registrations	Applications	Registrations
Domestic	241	83	247	86
Foreign	1799	811	1695	957
Total	2040	894	1942	1043

<b>PATENTS</b>		
	Applications	Registrations
2000	2040	894
2001	1942	1043
Trend	- 4.8 %	+ 16.7 %

In 2001 the Office received 1 942 patent applications. The decrease in the number of applications by 98 when compared with the past year is the decrease by 4,8 %. The PCT applications form 87,3 %. At the same time, the number of PCT applications grew by 62 % to the figure of 73 003, in which SR is the designated country. The growth in the number of patent applications from the Slovak applicants by 6 to the figure of 247 may be considered insignificant with regard to the wide activities of the Office aimed at the support of creativeness. The largest share in the number of 1 695 patent application from abroad have Germany (494), USA (374) and France (118). By 31 December 2001 there were 3 790 valid patents in SR. By 31 December 2001 there were 3 790 valid patents in SR.

<b>UTILITY MODELS</b>				
	2000		2001	
	Appl.	Reg.	Appl.	Reg.
Domestic	313	298	280	260
Foreign	96	116	86	83
Total	409	414	366	343

<b>UTILITY MODELS</b>		
	Applications	Registrations
2000	409	414
2001	366	343
Trend	-10.5%	-17.1%

During the year 2001 the situation changed to worse with regard to the application of technical solutions in the form of utility models. In comparison with the year 2000 by 10,5 % fewer applications were filed. Similarly, the number of applications filed by the Slovak applicants decreased. The share of the Slovak applicants in the total number of 366 filed applications for utility models in one year is 76,6 %. Almost 20 % applications from abroad were from the Czech Republic, what confirmed the long-term trend in the decrease of applicants from the nearest neighbour country. In 3 - 4 months in average 343 utility models were registered in the utility models Register, out of which 75,8 % by national holders. Moreover, more than 20 % registered utility models are from the branch of civil engineering and transport, fewer from general engineering, personal and domestic articles, amusement and foodstuffs. By 31 December 2001 there were 1 790 valid utility models in the Slovak Republic.

Patent and utility models application procedure without changes.

- II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, distribution and use of primary and secondary sources of patent information:
- Publishing, printing, copying (main types of publications of the office in the field of patent information, etc.);
  - Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of patent information;
  - Mass storage media used (paper, microforms, optical storage, etc.);
  - Word processing and office automation;
  - (New) techniques used for the generation of patent information (printing, recording, photocomposing, etc.).

*Publishing, printing, copying (main types of publications of the office in the field of patent information, etc.)*

The following numbers of documents were published in 2001:

Patent applications	A3	1990
Patent specifications	B6	1093
Utility models	U	359

The IPO SR distributed Slovak patent specifications to six regional libraries in order to build the territorial fund of the national patent documentation in paper also in electronic form. Slovak patents published on ESPACE - PRECES CD ROM are being distributed to foreign patent institutions within the frame of mutual patent documentation exchange.

Patents and utility models information forms part of the Official Gazette - " Vestník ÚPV SR", covering all industrial property rights in one publication. Paper form issued monthly is published in standard size A4, paperback and usually in cca 300 pages. In 2001 the Gazette had a circulation of 250 copies, of which 129 were distributed by subscription. Electronic form, available to the public in the Internet free of charge, contains searchable data.

*Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of patent information*

Patents and utility models announcements contained in the Gazette are arranged in following main chapters:

- list of published patent applications (numerical series with classification symbols)
- bibliographic data and abstracts of published patent applications with an image, where available (arranged according to the International Patent Classification)
- list of granted patents (numerical series with classification symbols)
- bibliographic data of granted patents (arranged according to the International Patent Classification)
- list of registered utility models (numerical series with classification symbols)
- bibliographic data of registered utility models (arranged according to the International Patent Classification)
- official decisions (revocation, cancellation, etc.)
- assignments of rights and other changes of owners
- extension of the term of validity of the utility models registration
- licence contracts registered in the register
- the right of lien
- the lapse of the right of lien

*Mass storage media used (paper, microforms, optical storage, etc.)*

Patent documents are available in paper form in the Office's library and, in addition, patent specification are available also in electronic form in the Office's web site [www.upv.sk](http://www.upv.sk) as well as on ESPACE - PRECES CD ROM (Patents from the Region of

Eastern and Central European States). As an index the ESPACE ACCESS PRECES CD ROM (complete bibliographic information) is used.

Word processing and office automation

Word processing and office automation is ensured by application over the patent and utility models database.

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

MS Office 97, QuarkXpress 3.32 for Windows and Corel Draw 9.0, Photoshop 6.0 are used for the data processing; the photocomposing and printing is carried out by the Office.

The Desk-Top Publishing technology is used for data and image inputs processing, for the Gazette and first pages of the patent documents.

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

- Abstracting, reviewing, translating;
- Classification and reclassification activities; Classification system used, e.g., International Patent Classification (IPC), other classification (please indicate whether or not patent documents are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification is used);
- Coordinate indexing (ICIREPAT-types and/or domestic deep indexing systems, keyword indexing);
- Hybrid system indexing;
- Bibliographic data and full-text processing for search purposes.

Abstracting, reviewing, translating

Abstracts of patent documents are revised and corrected by the Office's experts before publication of application. Abstracts of published patent documents are printed on title pages of patent documents as well as in the Official Gazette "Vestník ÚPV SR", but only in case of patent application publications.

The English translation of abstracts are being sent to the EPIDOS for the ESPACE PRECES CD-ROM production.

Classification and reclassification activities; Classification system used

The applications are classified and reclassified by office's experts according to the International Patent Classification - Int.Cl.7.

The WIPO Standards ST.8 and ST.10/C are also used for these purposes. Reclassifying

is carried out before granting of patent.

#### Hybrid system indexing

For indexing of technical information contained in patent documents the hybrid system of the IPC are used.

#### Bibliographic data and full-text processing for search purposes

The WIPO Standard ST. 9 is used for patent and utility model bibliographic data coding in all relevant outcomes or records. All bibliographic data are being processed and made available to the public each 15 minutes in the Internet. All data are fully searchable and provided by help.

#### IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

- File building;
- Updating;
- Storage, including mass storage media;
- Documentation from other offices maintained and/or considered part of the available search file

#### File building

The patent documentation search file used by the patent examiners and technical public contains patent documents from 24 countries, the EPO and the WIPO, patent gazettes from 37 countries, including the EPO and the WIPO and the non-patent literature (60 titles technical periodicals and 6764 titles special monographies).

#### Updating

Updating of patent documentation search file is performed regularly according to current technical possibilities.

#### Storage, including mass storage media

The basis of the patent fund is the collection stored on the paper medium. However the majority of patent documentation is currently received on electronic carriers. In 2001 the total number of optical discs collection exceeded the limit 8000 and the regular annual accession reached the figure of 940.

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

In 2001, within the frame of mutual exchange, the IPO SR received patent and utility model gazettes from foreign offices.

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

- In-house systems (online/offline);
- External databases;
- Administrative management systems (e.g., register, legal status, statistics, administrative support, etc.);
- Equipment used (hardware, including the types of terminal and network used, and software), carriers used;
- Existing online thesauri; their structure, presentation and usefulness for computerized searches.

In-house systems (online/offline)

Creating of national search database on granted patents, published patent applications and registered utility models continued; nowadays, selected data are also available through Internet.

It is possible to carry out searches according to bibliographic data in all the databases used for granted patents, published patent applications and registered utility models.

Following search CD-ROM are used through the local CD ROM network by the

Ultranet 2000 system: ESPACE - ACCESS EP - A  
 ESPACE - ACCESS EP - B  
 ESPACE – ACCESS - EUROPE  
 ESPACE – ACCESS - PRECES  
 ESPACE - BULLETIN  
 ESPACE - LEGAL  
 PAJ  
 GLOBALPAT  
 WIPO Handbook  
 PCT Gazette  
 legal and economic information, encyclopedia and statistics

External databases

Searches carried out in the STN on-line service, access to DERWENT, INPADOC, CAS and the like databases.

Using the ESPACENET internet database and other free available databases of the national offices (e.g. Czech patent and utility models database) and WIPO.

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

The Office automation management system contains patent and utility models registry (data since 1993 – patents, data since 1992 – utility models, ) using “INVENTIO” software.

Administrative management system is based on Lotus Domino.

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

Fast ETHERNET 1000/10/10 Mbit/s, WINDOWS NT 4.0, 2000 for servers; workstations PC Pentium, Windows 95, NT 4.0 and 2000; HP Unix for database, Informix Dynamic Server 9.21

VI. Administration of the industrial property office library and services available to the public (relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, for assisting clients on searching procedures, for obtaining official publications and registry extracts):

- Planning, administration, automation, security, buildings;
- Collecting, acquisitions, preparation;
- Collection management, preservation;
- Interlibrary lending, resource sharing, networks of patent libraries in the country;
- Information services available to the public (including computerized services and search files contained in libraries remote from your Office and patent information posted by your Office on the World Wide Web).

Collecting, acquisitions, preparation

The patent literature is acquired within the frame of mutual exchange and the non-patent literature mostly by purchase and by subscription or as a gift.

Interlibrary lending, resource sharing, networks of patent libraries in the country

Network of patent libraries in the Slovak Republic comprises of 6 regional libraries (patent information centers). The regional libraries regularly receive from IPO Slovak patent specifications in paper also on optical discs (fulltext CD ROM ESPACE PRECES, bibliographic data thereof on ESPACE ACCESS PRECES ) as well as announcements concerning industrial property right in the Official Gazette form.

The relationship between the IPO and libraries is determined by particular agreements concerning the building of the patent documents fund.

Information services available to the public (including computerized services and search files contained in libraries remote from your Office and patent information posted by your Office on the World Wide Web)

The library provides following services to the public:

- lending service (patent documents, Gazettes) in the Reading Room
- reprographic services upon request or on the place
- sale of special monographies and periodical publications (“Intellectual Property”, “Vestník ÚPV SR”)



- interlibrary lending service (regional libraries)
- international interlibrary lending service
- searches: state of the art, patent families, bibliographic data; monitoring of the state of selected technical fields upon request (permanent sending of documents)
- CD-ROM workstations available in the Reading Room
- methodical and consultation assistance for the public

Patent information on the World Wide Web:

- general information
- information about Office activities (seminars, training courses, etc.)
- application guide and forms
- relevant laws
- Annual Reports
- select registry data
- patent specifications (meanwhile since 1993)
- Official Gazette
- order forms (searches, non-patent literature)
- products and services
- IPC (7-th edition)

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;
- Medium used for exchange of priority documents;
- Medium allowed for filing applications;
- Implementation of the Statement of Principles Concerning the Changeover to Electronic Data Carriers for the Exchange of Patent Documents<sup>2</sup> (please make a status report on the extent to which your Office has changed over to electronic data carriers for the exchange of patent documents).

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

Regional co-operation

In 2001 IPO SR continued in participation in the joint ESPACE PRECES CD ROM project (patent specifications of BG, CZ, HU, LT, LV, PL, RO and SK).

International co-operation

Bibliographic data and abstracts of the published patent applications and granted patents in English were supplied to the EPIDOS database in electronic form.

In 2001, within the frame of mutual exchange, the IPO SR exchanged the Official

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<sup>2</sup> See WIPO *Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation* CD-ROM, Part 8.4.

Gazettes with many offices and international organizations, including the EPO and the WIPO (i.e. to 43 countries dispatches and from 37 receives).

Medium used for exchange of priority documents

The Office distributed patent specifications on CD ROM ESPACE PRECES to foreign patent institutions within the frame of mutual patent documentation exchange.

Medium allowed for filing applications

Patent and utility model applications are filled in paper form.

Implementation of the Statement of Principles Concerning the Changeover to Electronic Data Carriers for the Exchange of Patent Documents<sup>3</sup> (please make a status report on the extent to which your Office has changed over to electronic data carriers for the exchange of patent documents)

The IPO SR fully accepted change-over to electronic data carriers. The exchange of the patent documents in paper form was terminated by the end of 2000. Beginning from 2001 the IPO has been realized the exchange of patent documents only on electronic data carriers.

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 for national and foreign participants, use of audiovisual means;
- Assistance to developing countries (sending consultants and experts, receiving trainees from developing countries, etc.);
- Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.);
- Studies to identify trends in new technology, e.g., by the use of patent statistics, preparation of monographs, etc.;
- Assistance furnished by offices to facilitate the changing over of receiving offices to electronic data carriers for the exchange of patent documents (see also item 4 of Chapter VI, above).

Training courses for national and foreign participants, use of audiovisual means

Four Module Accredited COURSE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY conducted by the Intellectual Property Institute of the Industrial Property Office for office employees and professional public continued in 2001 with more than 60 participants.

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<sup>3</sup> See WIPO *Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation* CD-ROM, Part 8.4.

Three-day special COURSE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY for the Tax Authority in the Slovak Republic was held in office and covered all issues connected with intellectual property protection and enforcement of rights.

Two-day SEMINAR ON COMMUNITY TRADEMARK took part in cooperation of OHIM and Industrial Property Office.

Two week COURSE ON ENFORCEMENT OF RIGHTS in cooperation with the Dutch Government within the project “Strengthening the IPO SR Activities” took part separately in May and in September 2001. The first was devoted to enforcement of trademark rights, the second one to patent enforcement. This course was specially devoted to the judges adjudicating IP cases.

Supporting activities:

*CONFERENCE*

THE CONFERENCE - INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY IN SLOVAKIA I. was organized by the office celebrating April 26, the World Intellectual Property Day. The conference was attended by 25 lecturers and 80 participants

*LECTURES*

Lectures outside Industrial Property Office for seminars covering IP rights and their enforcement.

Lectures for students of economic, technical and law faculties of universities in Slovakia.

Special lectures for the ministries and branches of economy, defense and education.

*JOURNAL*

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY magazine (“Duševné vlastníctvo”) published by Industrial Property Office was issued 4 times in 2001 covering all relevant fields in IP rights, copyright, trade names, domain names, logos, licenses, creativity and management with 47 original extensive papers and a number of translations, news, decisions of Industrial Property Office and Supreme court etc.

*EXHIBITIONS*

UmInEx – independent exhibition of inventions and technical innovations organized by Industrial Property Office in September 2001.

Participation at INCHEBA Fair in Bratislava and the International Engineering Fair in Nitra with aim to provide free information and consultations in IP field.

*AWARDS*

The JÁN BAHÝĽ AWARD and the Mentions of Honour were awarded in September 2001 by the president of the office for extraordinary and exceptionally valuable technical solution. The award was named after important Slovak inventor of the helicopter – Ján Bahýľ.

*PUBLICATIONS*

New INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICE BROCHURE, leaflet and other materials were published under new design bearing information on IPO activities, industrial property in a user-friendly form.

The first original publication CREATIVE PROCESSES OF A HUMAN was issued in volume of 1000 pieces.

Collection of speeches presented at Conference was issued.

Catalogue of Exhibits from UmInEx Exhibition with description and contact addresses was published.

Three publications covering Nice Classification and new laws in the IP field with commentaries were issued.

*OTHER*

The OPEN DOOR DAY - celebrating April 26, the World Intellectual Property Day

IX. Other relevant matters.

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