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ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

2001

ON TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

submitted by

LITHUANIA

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

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I. Evolution of registration activities:

Application filings and registrations in 2001:

- 2400 applications filed direct with the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania (SPB), from which 56.9% applications originating in Lithuania (including 43 international applications)
- 3453 trademarks registered
- 5017 notifications to extend protection of international registrations to Lithuania received.

Compared with 2000 the number of:

- filings direct with the SPB decreased by 7.6%
- filings originating in Lithuania decreased by 10.7%
- Lithuanian trademark registrations decreased by 27.8%
- international registrations extensions increased by 31.6%.

Lithuania, United States of America, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Sweden and Germany are the leading countries of origin as reflected in filings in 2001.

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of secondary sources of trademark information, i.e., trademark gazettes:

The Official Gazette on Inventions, Industrial Designs, Trademarks and Service Marks, Firm Names contains announcements published in 2001 on the trademark registrations:

- Published registrations
- Cancelled registrations
- Registrations left valid by court
- Changes: in the name/address of the holder/attorney or in the representation of the mark/in the list of goods and/or services
- Replacement of national registration by international registration
- Transfer of marks
- Licensing
- Invalidated registrations
- Expiration of registrations
- Renewal of registrations
- Pledging of the mark
- Invalidation of international registration extension to the Republic of Lithuania
- Licensing by the holder of international registration of the mark
- Rectifications.

Sections of the Official Gazette are coded in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.17.

The Official Gazette is prepared using DTP tools, printed and may be obtained at Patent Information Centre (PIC), the structural unit of Lithuanian Technical Library (LTL).

III. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of trademark information:

Registrations have been classified in accordance with:

- eighth edition of the International (Nice) Classification
- fourth edition of the International (Vienna) Classification.

Internationally agreed Numbers for the Identification of Data (INID Codes) relating to marks were used in the Register and in the Official Gazette.

IV. Trademark manual search file establishment and upkeep:

The internal file of the SPB contains Lithuanian Official Gazette.

The exchange of the Official Gazette of the SPB with foreign states and intergovernmental organisations is effected by the PIC, and this way the PIC is updated with national and foreign documentation.

PIC file contains national and foreign Official Gazettes.

The card index "Protection of Industrial Property in Lithuania" is maintained and file of Lithuanian trademark applications (on paper) is also open to the public access at the PIC.

V. Activities in the field of computerized trademark search systems:

The Register of Trademarks is a database (Informix) which contains all bibliographic and legal status data (including changes in names, addresses, licences, transfers).

Public users have a possibility to use the following PIC CD-ROMs:

- Trademarks BIB (US)
- Schweizerisches Patent-, Muster- und Markenblatt (CH)
- CD-BOPI (ES)
- Unexamined/International Trademarks Gazettes CD-ROM (JP)
- Trademarks Gazettes CD-ROM (JP)
- TRACES
- EUROM
- Community Trademarks Bulletin
- ROMARIN
- WIPO Gazette of International Marks
- NIVILO:CLASS
- Article 6ter.

PIC is an access provider to the website <http://www.tb.lt/PIC/PIC.htm>, and provides an opportunity to order trademark search.

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

The Register of trademarks is open to public access only in the following form:

- Extract from the Register (on request)
- Official Gazette.

In 2001, the provision of the most recent issue of the Official Gazette of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania monthly on the SPB Web site continued (<http://www.is.lt/vpb/>).

The year 2001 saw the registration of over a thousand subscribers who were handed about 590 thousand documents for use in the reading-room or lent for use at home. The main customers of the PIC were university students, staff members of private companies and education establishments, patent attorneys. The visitors of PIC can be consulted on the spot as well as by telephone or e-mail. PIC is an access provider to the website <http://www.tb.lt/PIC/PIC.htm>, and provides an opportunity to order trademark search. 223 trademark searches were carried out in the PIC last year, i.e. 2.5 times more as compared to 2000.

The official publications of the SPB may be obtained at the PIC.

The distribution of official patent publications of the SPB in foreign states and intergovernmental organisations on the basis of mutual exchange is effected also by the PIC.

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

In 2001 the official gazette of the SPB was distributed in 44 foreign states and intergovernmental organisations (AM, AT, BA, BG, BY, BX, CA, CH, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EM, EP, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, JP, KG, KZ, LV, MC, MD, MK, NO, PL, RO, RU, SE, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, UA, US, UZ, WO, YU) on the basis of mutual exchange.

While the monthly batches of bibliographic and legal status data on trademarks were sent to COMPU-MARK.

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

In April 2001, the Lithuanian Technical Library gallery housed the exhibition "Industrial Property Protection in Lithuania" dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the State Patent Bureau and the first commemoration of the World Intellectual Property Day.

Last year, the PIC convened several seminars on industrial property. The Seminar "Overview of the Community Trade Mark System", which was designed for patent attorneys and the SPB staff and was the result of co-operation with the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) was held on 16-17 May.

On 8-10 October, the European Patent Office together with the SPB, LTL and OHIM offered the seminar "Trade Mark Enforcement", attended by patent attorneys, judges, and representatives of the SPB and other public authorities. The seminar arranged by the European Patent Office was held in the framework of the Regional Industrial Property Programme PHARE-RIPP.

The seminar on the new Trademark Law of the Republic of Lithuania (2 February) was provided by the SPB in co-operation with the LTL.

IX. Other relevant matters.

During the year 2001 the replies of the Lithuanian party to SCIT Circulars were directed to WIPO and the formats of the publication and exchange of the Lithuanian industrial property data based on WIPO standards were determined.

In 2001, Lithuanian industrial property statistical data were submitted to WIPO to be published in its publication "Industrial Property Statistics".

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