

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON  
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN 1998  
BY THE AUSTRIAN PATENT OFFICE

I Evolution of registration activities

The following numbers of applications/registrations in 1998 in Austria are presented below by comparison with the numbers in 1997 (=100%):

Number of applications:	5 363	in 1998	(+8,4%)
	4 947	in 1997	
Number of registrations:	5 186	in 1998	(+9,4%)
	4 742	in 1997	

49,9 % of the applications in 1998 originated from applicants with residence in Austria.

II Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of industrial design documents and of secondary sources of industrial design information

Nothing new to report since the 1996 report.

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

Industrial design applications are classified according to the Locarno Classification System. No other classification system is applied. Normally, the classification symbols of an application are allotted by the applicant. It is up to the office to afterwards check, and eventually to correct, the classification symbols.

IV Search file establishment and upkeep

Nothing new to report since the 1997 report.

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

For the year 1999 it is planned to start with the implementation of an electronic archive comprising all industrial design applications as a first step towards an electronic administration and manipulation of the applications.

VI Administration of industrial design services available to the public

The homepage of the Austrian Patent Office was redesigned and, due to changes in the Internet structure, the URL of the homepage had changed to:

<http://www.patent.bmwa.gv.at>

In February 1999 Internet access to the industrial design register data via the Austrian homepage was made available to the public. The access is subjected to subscription.

VII Matters concerning mutual exchange of industrial design information and documentation

The Austrian Industrial Design Gazette ("Österreichischer Musteranzeiger") is now submitted to the following countries:

BY, CA, CH, CN, DE, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GE, HR, IL, IT, KR, KZ, LT, MD, NO, NZ, OA, PL, RO, RU, SE, SI, SK, TR, UA, US and YU.

The office receives the industrial design gazettes from the following countries:

BY, CH, CN, ES, FI, FR, GR, HR, IL, LV, MK, NO, SI, SK, UA, UZ, VN and WIPO.

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

A presentation of the office's industrial design registration procedure usually forms part of the visiting and training program of the office.

Under the project TACIS of the European Union a three-day seminar was organized for participants from the CIS states by the Austrian Patent Office in cooperation with EPIDOS Vienna. Among other topics in the fields of patents and trademarks also issues concerning legal aspects of industrial design protection were discussed.

IX Other relevant matters

Nothing is to be reported.