

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT OF ROSPATENT  
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN 1998

Evolution of Registration Activities

In 1998 there were no changes in the filing, examination and publication procedures for industrial designs in the Russian Federation.

The table below shows the trends in the number of applications filed and patents granted for industrial designs in 1997 and 1998.

	1997	1998	1998/1997 %
Industrial design applications filed			
– by Russian applicants	929	1076	115,8
– by foreign applicants	373	433	116,0
Total	1302	1509	115,9
Industrial design patents granted	937	964	102,9
Industrial design patents valid	6400	7234	113

There was a general upward trend in the number of valid patents and applications filed by Russian and foreign applicants. As compared to the previous year there was some stabilization of the upward trend in the number of applications filed by Russian and foreign applicants which increased by 15,8% and 16% respectively.

Matters Concerning the Generation, Reproduction and Distribution of Industrial Design Documents and of Secondary Sources of Industrial Design Information

The official Office publication “Utility Models — Industrial Designs Gazette” is published monthly (12 issues a year). An annual publication contains information on 964 patents granted for industrial designs in the Russian Federation and registered during the year. There were no changes in the structure of the publication.

The following information is included in the Gazette:

- bibliographic data;
- graphic materials;
- a list of essential features;
- announcements of changes in the legal status;
- systematic index of patents;
- numerical index of patents.

The Gazette is published with the help of automated systems using the information gathered in a database. The bibliography and texts are composed:

- by direct composition (for documents of poor quality)
- by scanning and converting into digital form (for documents of good quality).

The Official Gazettes are distributed on a paper carrier.

After some decline in the number of subscriptions in 1997 (by 34.5% compared to 1996), in 1998 we witnessed some stabilization and growth of subscriptions for the Official Gazette (386 copies).

Data contained in the Official Gazette is stored on diskettes and optical disks in the form of a database or files.

#### Matters Concerning Classifying, Reclassifying and Indexing of Industrial Design Information Under Classification Systems Used

To classify industrial design applications, the Locarno International Classification of Industrial Designs (sixth edition) is used.

On the basis of the international classification of industrial designs an International Classification of Industrial Designs Automated Subsystem (ICID ASS) is used as part of the Russian Federation Industrial Designs automated system.

Two-digit INID codes are used to index bibliographic data on standard forms and automated systems. To classify industrial designs, an information search can be effected by using:

- (a) a classification pattern;
- (b) an index which is in fact an alphabetical list of categories/titles, with their digital codes, of products belonging to each subclass (these titles are used for the purposes of category identification within the framework of classification review and improvement).

#### Search File Establishment and Upkeep

The industrial design file is grouped by ICID indexes (Japan) or gazette issues (Bulgaria, Hungary, Switzerland, etc.) and consists of the following domestic and foreign publications:

- official gazettes;
- domestic periodicals on artistic design (27,000 copies);
- advertising brochures and catalogues (37,500 copies);
- issue-oriented compilations containing publications from national gazettes of 11 countries;
- methodological and reference literature.

The examination search file is established in geographical, systematic and chronological order and contains over 2 million copies of documents from 19 countries and WIPO.

File storage facilities used depend on the type of data carrier:

- patent documents on paper are stored in cassettes on shelves;
- microforms are stored in metal boxes in film library file-folders (microfilms) and in metal safes (microfiches);
- information on CD is stored on catalogue cubes.

Files are updated through international exchange and subscription. In 1998 information on industrial designs came from 46 countries and 2 international organizations.

#### Activities in the Field of Computerized Search Systems for Industrial Designs

An automated system called “Russian Federation Industrial Designs” (ASRFID) is used internally in on-line mode for national industrial design information search at the application examination stage. This system contains a national application and patent information file (15,198 documents) covering the period from 1991 up to now. The system contains national application and patent information, examined and filed, with a description and related graphic materials. The data is updated on a daily basis. The ASRFID runs on CDS\ISIS\M software. The built-in search tools of the latter make it possible to effect information searches on the basis of straight text and different keys, e.g. State registration number, filing date, ICID, industrial design title, etc.

To prepare automatically the outgoing correspondence at the examination stage a subsystem is used.

In addition to that, the Federal Institute of Industrial Property (FIIP) has an administration management system, called Administration Database (ADB) supporting the following functions: storing information on applications filed (bibliographic data), on the location of applications, on patent grants, on patent fees collection, on patent expiry dates, etc. This automated subsystem runs on CDS/ISIS/M-30 software. The hardware used comprises:

- Server Compaq Proliant 1000;
- (OM-128 MB, processors-1, external memory –3,5GB);
- Server Compaq Proliant 5000;
- (OM-256 MB, processors – 2, external memory – 38GB);
- Work stations Compaq 486, 586, PMMX, PII – 10 units;
- PCs connected to a server – 6 units;
- Laser printers – 2 units;
- Color scanner – HPS canJet 4P – 1 unit.

#### Commutation equipment:

ISDN MAX 200 Plus c (8/4) WAN PCMCIA switching equipment Typell/Typel;  
SmartSWITCH 6000.

#### Software:

Operational systems: Novell, Windows 95;  
Media used: magnetic tape Data 8mml.

### Administration of Industrial Design Services Available to the Public

A special reading room has been established in the FIIP branch “All-Russia Patent Library” to work with industrial design information. The volume of services provided amounted to:

- 18,087 documents for issue-oriented compilations;
- more than 15,000 units for journals and magazines;
- 22,200 units for gazettes.

In addition to Official Gazettes on paper carrier a greater volume of information was presented in 1998 on CD-ROM.

Industrial design information users are offered the following services:

- pre and post-filing information search;
- information search on third party request;
- defining search area when a search order is placed and/or an application is filed;
- selection of highly efficient and promising industrial designs for preferable use;
- search for industrial design owner, with his/her personal details made available.

In addition to FIIP the patent and information services are provided by the ROSPATENT Information and Publication Center (IPC) which concentrates its efforts on foreign information. In 1998 a publication “Industrial Designs of Foreign Countries” (divided into 10 subject groups on the basis of ICID) was prepared presenting data on industrial designs with international registration under the Hague Agreement and information on certain countries (USA, France, etc.). In 1998, an issue of the Gazette “News on Patent Information” was published.

### Matters Concerning Mutual Exchange of Industrial Design Documentation and Information

In 1998, within the framework of international exchange, the ROSPATENT sent its Official Gazette “Utility Models – Industrial Designs” to: 40 countries on paper (43 annual collections); 17 countries on microfiches (19 annual collections).

The following industrial design information was received from 46 countries, WIPO and EPO:

- separately published gazettes (29 collections of which 25 on paper and 4 on CD-ROM);
- industrial property gazettes with industrial design sections (47 collections of which 45 on paper and 2 on CD-ROM);
- descriptions to US industrial designs on paper (one annual collection).

### Matters Concerning Education and Training Including Technical Assistance to Developing Countries

An industrial designs training course was provided to prospective patent attorneys.