

EURASIAN PATENT ORGANIZATION

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON PATENT
INFORMATION ACTIVITIES**

I. Evolution of patent activities:

The average terms of the Eurasian applications examination (from the filing date to the date of resolution on the application) constituted 13 months in 1997 and 1998. With respect to the previous year the number of filed Eurasian applications increased more than two times from 458 applications in 1997 to 1085 applications in 1998.

Mainly this increase is explained by the increasing number of international applications, entered into the regional phase. In 1998 968 international applications has entered into the regional phase comparing with 374 in 1997.

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, distribution and use of primary and secondary sources of patent information.

Starting with 1998 the EAPO prepares the blueprints of its official publications using its own publishing facilities. The unified information technology involves scanning, image recognition, editing, and blueprints make-up.

Printing is performed by other companies on contractual basis.

In 1998 the EAPO has issued the following official publications: the Gazette "Inventions (Eurasian applications and Patents)", full-text Descriptions of inventions in Eurasian applications and Patents, Annual Report of the EAPO.

All official publications of the EAPO were issued in 1998 on paper. Starting with 1999 full-text Descriptions of inventions to Eurasian applications and Patents are also issued on CD-ROMs.

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

The EAPO uses International Patent Classification (IPC) for classifying the patent information.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

Currently the EAPO started to develop its own search file.

The data to be stored in this file is formed in process of scanned images recognition. The information is stored on network accessible hard drives. Backup copying to CD-ROM disks and tape media is performed on regular basis.

Estimated search file structure provides integration with electronic catalogues of digitally stored documents received from other patent offices and organizations.

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

External databases.

In 1998 the EAPO experts obtained access to external databases provided by the EPO (the Hague branch) and participated in training courses on these databases.

Besides that, the EAPO employees started to use Internet resources for implementing the keyword searches and interaction with public databases supported by foreign patent offices (including the US patent resources available at the IBM Web site) as well.

Existing online thesauri, their structure, presentation and usefulness for computerized searches.

Currently the EAPO is developing the structure of the project on systematization and structuring of existing information sources. One of the most important goals of the project is to develop tools for automated searches in own patent resources and interactive access to all Eurasian patent documents.

The minimal range of documents planned to support:

- full-text descriptions of inventions in Eurasian patents in Russian;
- bibliographic data and abstracts of Eurasian applications in Russian and English;
- images of descriptions of inventions in Eurasian applications in Russian;
- bibliographic data and claims for Eurasian patents in English.

VI. Administration of the industrial property office library and services available to the public.

In 1998 the work on all-round automation of library services available for experts was started in the EAPO. The conception and the project of the automation System were developed. This system is aimed for funds of patent and non-patent (patent-associated) documents collection and management, provision of information services, development and publishing on the Internet of the EAPO patent databases.

The structure of the System includes the following components: the information search and information management subsystems, search databases containing bibliographical data and databases of full descriptions of sources of patent and non-patent documents.

The System is developed as Internet-Intranet resources set based on the EAPO internal Web server. Databases on legal and reference information, WIPO standards, periodicals, other patent offices documents, catalogues of CD-ROM databases and patent databases available in the Internet were created and placed in the information System.

The main principle of the patent information library acquisition is satisfying the informational needs of the Office's experts. The library contains patent documents on CD-ROMs (more than 4000 disks), patent and non-patent documents on paper. Computerized information services on access to the EAPO patent documents, patent databases in Internet are granted to the Office's experts. The EAPO is participating in the interlibrary lending and resource sharing with All-Russian Patent Technical Library, Russian State Library and other leading libraries.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information.

In 1998 the EAPO continued its activities in the field of international and regional co-operation on patent documents exchange on paper carriers. The EAPO official publications were sent to 16 countries, as well as to WIPO and EPO.

The library stock in the EAPO is formed with full-text descriptions of inventions, bibliographic data and abstracts, patent-associated and non-patent information provided by WIPO International Bureau, EPO and patent offices of Austria, United Kingdom, Germany, Japan and other countries.

In early 1999 the library stock contained about 4000 CD-ROMs with documents and necessary software.

The EAPO is participating in the Regional CD-ROM project that is carried out to publish patent documents of the EAPO and CIS countries.

The Web site for publishing information on activities of the EAPO and patent offices of the states, party to the Eurasian Patent Convention was opened in 1998.

Currently preparations are carried out to introduce applications electronic filing and monitoring at all stages of grant procedure.

VIII. Other relevant matters concerning education and training.

In 1998 the EAPO experts participated in the following training courses on information activities:

January 21-23 1998, Moscow. Training on common software prototype for end users (days 1,2) and system administrators (day 3). The training was financed by the EPO. 9 EAPO experts participated.

February 1998 (1 week), EPO Vienna. Training on Internet technologies. One EAPO expert participated.

July 1998 (1 week), EPO Vienna. Training on Mimosa, one EAPO expert participated.

October 1998 (1 week), EPO Berlin. Training on EPOQUE, more than 7 EAPO experts participated.

November 1998 (1 week), Moscow. Training on Mimosa by Koddyr Ziddi (EPO, Hague), 9 EAPO experts participated.

1998, Moscow. Training of two EAPO specialists in DataX/Florin Company (partner of INFORMIX and IISC-HST). Totally 35 – day course consisted of educational programs: «UNIX basics and Shell-programming», «System administration in UNIX», «Network Administration in OS UNIX», «Applications development in HyperScript Tools environment», «INFORMIX-SQL language», «Application of stored procedures and triggers for business solutions development», «INFORMIX-4GL programming language», «Administration of INFORMIX-OnLine Database Server».

Besides that, regular trainings of the EAPO employees on the necessary software use (Microsoft Windows, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Common Software, Mimosa, Internet related software) were carried out in the EAPO according to a plan confirmed by the EAPO President. These trainings are continued in 1999.

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