ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORTS ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

I. Evolution of Patent Activities

- Trends or areas experiencing rapid changes with respect to the previous year

The Patent Office was established in the Department of Intellectual Property (DIP) in March 1999 for Industrial design and Invention patent handling all the processes ranging from filing patent applications to patent granting as a one-stop shop, these services were formerly assigned to the Examination 1 Division, Services and Information Division and the Registration and Documentation division.

The Patent Act (No.3) B.E 2542 will be effective from 27 September 1999,amending the current Patent Act to comply with the TRIPS Agreement. The main features of the amendment include:

- the implementation of the national treatment principle,
- the narrowing of the provisions on the exception to the rights of patentee,
- inclusion of provisions on the exhaustion of patent rights,
- amendment of provisions on compulsory licensing,
- the abolition of the Pharmaceutical Patent Board,
- inclusion of provisions on petty patent (utility models)

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

- In case of publishing

- Published applications will be printed in the Patent Gazette every 2 weeks and will be available on the Internet .

- Main types of announcements

There are three type of announcements;

1. Internet, Web site is http://www.ipic.moc.go.th
2. Radio and TV broadcasting
3. Printed materials such as Patent Gazette, book, poster

- Mass storage media used

- In Paper such as Patent Gazette
- Available on the Internet

III. Matters concerning abstracting, classifying, reclassifying and indexing of technical information Contained in patent document

- Classification activities

The office uses International Patent Classification system.

- Coordinate indexing

The office uses Domestic deep indexing systems in form of Country Code such as TH=101.

-   Bibliographic data and full-text processing for search purposes

Patent application bibliography after publication and full-text processing after registration will be used the purpose of search, examination.

IV.   Search file establishment and upkeep

-   File building

Applications are kept in files. Each file will be assigned an application number and a barcode.

-   Updating

Applications will be updated when the applicants submit amendments and paper documents.

-   Storage, including mass storage media and microforms

Application files will be stored in both paper form and electric form, which will be accessible through in the Internet.

-   Documentation form other offices maintained and/or consider part of the available search file.

Lists of CD-ROMs from other office, which we used for examination and searching are as follow.

EP-A	Since 1996/033-Now
EP-B	Since 1980-now
JP-A	Since 1976-now
US.	Since 1994-now (absent 1995)
TH.	On line (Internet and Intranet)
Espace-First	Since 1996/001-now
Espace-Bulletin	1986-now

We use documentation form of USPTO,IBM,EPO which are on Internet for examination and searching.

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

-   In–house system (online / offline)

The IPIC system
The Industrial Property Information Center or IPIC system is a computer system which is used to organize various industrial property database at the computer center within the Department of Intellectual Property of Thailand. The databases to be organized are as follows:

Industrial property information within Thailand
a. Patent bibliographic data
b. Patent application image and publication image
c. Other relevant documents

- External database

On the IPIC system, we have CD-ROM Juke Box System.

Patent information from the other countries such as Japan (PAJ) United State of America (USPTO) and Europe (ESPACE) are stored on CD-ROM as a database.

The patent examiners of Department of Intellectual Property of Thailand: DIP can be accessed from the database on CD-ROM through an online system by CD-ROM jukebox System. The general public can easily access patent information from libraries (Public inspection rooms) at the DIP and the Ministry of Science, Technology & Environment.

- Search Patent on Internet

Everyone can access easily to our Retrieval System on the Internet and search for the Patent information which is published in Department of Intellectual Property in Thailand. In this system, one can get only the bibliographic data and abstract of the publication. The web Site is
http: //www.ipic.moc.go.th/

- Equipment Used

The IPIC system's equipments there are:

Hardware	(Qt.)	Open Software	Patent Application
PC Server	(4)	Windows-NT	Domestic Patent Storage S/W
PC	(54)	Windows 95	Domestic Patent Retrieval S/W
Printer	(13)	Oracle 7.3.3	Internet Patent Retrieval S/W
Scanner	(7)	ARCServe	DEQES
Network Equipment		Firewall	
Jukebox		BackOffice	
		MS-Exchange	
		MS-Office	

System configuration

Domestic document storage system operates by the following software

(1) Bibliographic conversion software is a program to convert extracted text files from P/I Open system which has been introduced in DIP into Oracle database
(2) Domestic document storage software is a program to store patent documents read from data entry terminals via image scanner in Oracle database.

IPIC system configuration

1. Machine configuration
Machine specifications are described below,

    1.1 Server (Express 5800)
(1) OS
Windows NT Server Ver 4.0
(2) Database
Oracle 7 Server for Windows NT Release 7.3.3
(3) Communication protocol
TCP/IP
(4) Others
SQL*Net TCP/IP for Windows NT Ver 2.2 or 2.3 (attached to Oracle 7 Server)
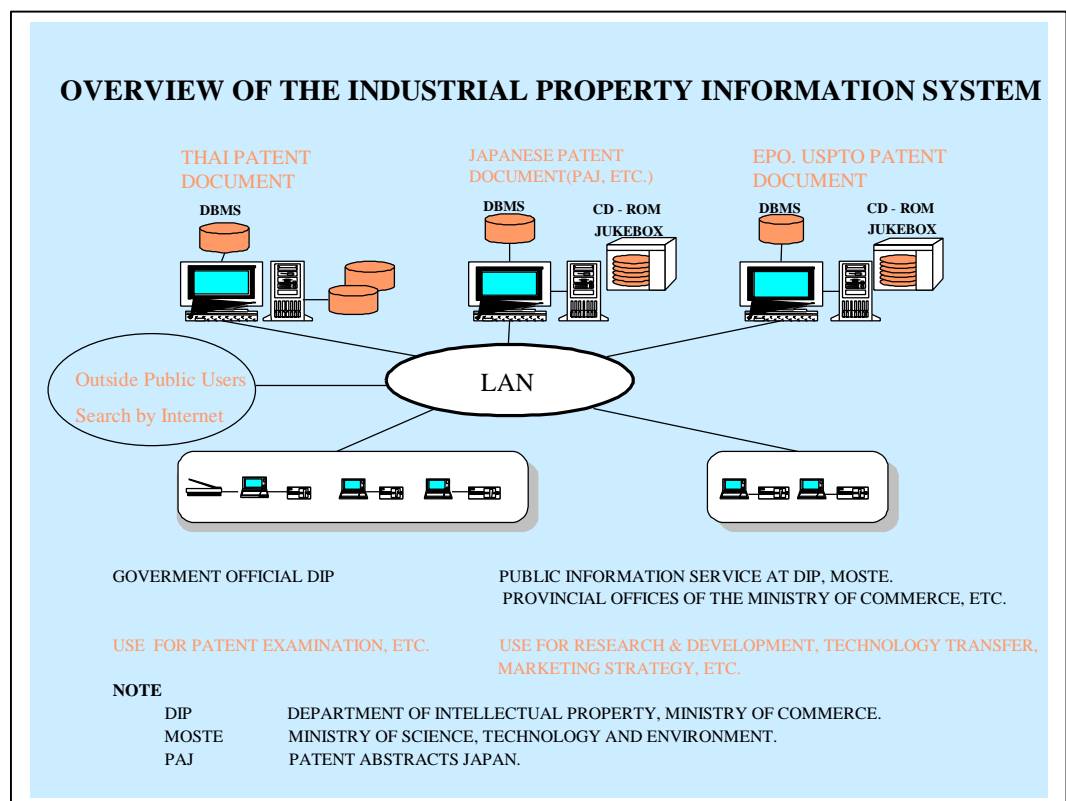
1.2 Terminal (Client PC)
   The terminal needs the following software;
(1) Domestic document storage software or Domestic document retrieval software
(2) OS
   Windows 95
(3) Communication protocol
   TCP/IP
(4) Others
   SQL*Net TCP/IP for Windows 95 Ver 2.2 or 2.3
   Imaging Software for Windows 95 (Wang)

1.3 Bibliographic conversion terminal
   The Bibliographic entry terminal needs the following software;
(1) Bibliographic conversion software
(2) OS
   Windows 95
(3) Communication protocol
   TCP/IP
(4) Others
   SQL*Net TCP/IP for Windows 95 Ver 2.2 or 2.3

OVERVIEW OF THE INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION SYSTEM

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

There are not any electronic security system and automation systems in the IP Library now, but in the further we plan to set up the IP library automation by using the software which can share data or information with other libraries of government university or other information centers.

IP Library collects the patent literatures and non-patent literatures concerning to intellectual property. We acquire documents at the request of examiners, officers and some library users.

There are 3 kinds of document in our collections, those are:

1.   IP Information

    1.1 WIPO Publication
    1.2 IP Law Textbook
    1.3 Related IP Law Text
    1.4 IP Publication / Gazette
    1.5 IP Journal

2.   Scientific Information
    2.1 Scientific Journal
    2.2 Scientific Textbook
    2.3 Scientific Dictionary & Encyclopedia
    2.4 Researching publication / Thesis

3.   Other information

Now we do not have any network system of patent libraries or interlibrary lending in the country , but we provide document delivery service by FAX or urgent mail (EMS). User can receive document which he/she request within one day after requesting by FAX.

For Information services available to the public, we have many services such as;

1.   guiding and training the user in searching with computer (LAN system and stand alone system)
2.   document copying service
3.   advising the user in the item of IP Information
4.   document procuring when the patent information is not available in IP Library
5.   providing document lending for the officers
6.   document delivery by FAX or EMS (user can request by FAX or E-mail)
7.   Group training in the item of patent information searching or how to use the IP information when being requested by academic institute or private companies.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information

Medium used for exchange of priority document and filing applications is a paper form.

VIII. Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of patent information , including technical assistance to developing countries

The office has organized the following seminars and training courses to strengthen IP administration and protection ;

- Seminar on Transfer Technology from Patent Document to Industrial Export Business for the Patent Representatives and inventors.
- Training course on drafting patent applications for the Patent Representatives.