

## **Annual Technical Report 1998 on Trademark activities of the Portuguese Patent and Trademark Office**

### **I. Development of registration activities**

The number of trademarks applications filed in 1998 was 6 992, a drop of 1,2% in relation to the number of applications filed in the previous year. The number of grants in 1998 was 7318.

### **II. Generation, reproduction and distribution of secondary sources of trademark information, i.e. the official trademark gazette**

The official gazette “Boletim da Propriedade Industrial” is now also published in CD-R. The retrospective collection 1970 - 1998 is already available. There is a monthly updating one week after the publication in paper. A backfile from 1970 - 1998 is available as well as the updates for 1999, after demand.

### **III. Classification, reclassification and indexing of trademark information**

We use the Internacional Classification of Goods and Services (Nice Agreement) to classify the trademarks and concerning this matter, nothing has been changed. No activities of reclassification and indexing are carried out.

Bibliographic data (number, proprietor, application date, type of trademark, class, etc) is used for different kinds of searches including legal status as well as retrospective searches for similar and identical marks on the basis of the trademark nominative sign.

For figurative trademarks we do not use the Vienna Classification. All searches are made on paper files ranged by class.

### **IV. Generation and updating of trademark records.**

The figurative trademark catalog is monthly updated after publication of the trademark gazette.

## **V. Activities in the field of computerized search systems**

The database used to search trademark is an internal database. The database, SIREG, contains the bibliographic data and legal status of all national trademarks includes nominatives signs.

ROMARIN is also used in all search activities for examination and information purposes.

### **Equipment and media used for the computerized search system:**

Several upgrades have been made to the system.

## **VI. Administration of the services available to the public:**

### **Planning, administration, automation, security:**

The corresponding databases of trademarks and other distinctive signs are updated daily, and that is of the responsibility of the computer department. Each data input process is subject to an automatic control. For safety reasons, one copy of magnetic tapes is stored as back up unities.

### **Information Services available to the public (including computerized services)**

Concerning this matter, INPI offers a wide number of services to the public. The prices of these services are controlled and periodically updated according to the law. The public can request our services by e-mail, fax or in person to the information department of INPI.

Our activities related to the services offered to the public include now the availability of all forms in the website of INPI. In this website, the public can also find information about common questions as well as the fees.

The INPI has two periodical publications concerning trademarks:

- \* Industrial Property Gazette, which is published monthly.
- \* The annual report of INPI's activities, which includes trademark statistics.

The INPI technical library is open to the public for searching on trademark publications from Portugal and a large number of other countries, as well as a large number of references on world trademark legislations.

## **VII. Exchange of patents documents and information**

The Official Trademark Gazette is sent to about 30 countries and consequently INPI receives similar publications from 20 countries.

## **VIII. Matters concerning education and training**

Annually INPI plans several training activities on trademarks including training on application and examination procedures. These courses are attended by jurists and lawyers, and many other entities interested in Industrial Property. These courses are organized on the premises of the Office as well as at other national institutions with which INPI has co-operation agreements on the behalf of dissemination of industrial property knowledge.

Concerning promotional activities, INPI organises frequently seminars, exhibitions and congresses, to inform the public of the application procedure for patents and utility models and the relevant services and products offered by INPI in general.

We are also receive foreign students and other groups from other industrial property offices, for example, technicians from the portuguese speaking countries. In this training activities, there is an introduction to the working method of the Institute, to the facilities of the Office, demonstration of the databases as well as training on general procedure on trademark registration.