

# CWS/ATR/TM/2022/PL

## Annual Technical Report on Trademark Information Activities in 2022 submitted by Poland

### I. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE OFFICE

#### Outline of main policies and plans aimed at development of trademark information activities and expected time frames for their realization

In 2022, the PPO continued to maintain the new electronic services platform (PUEUP). The whole system includes the following modules that were fully implemented from the design phase to production and delivered with the infrastructure:

- e-Baza-Wiedzy(e-Knowledge Base),
- e-Profil(e-Profile),
- e-Rejstry(e-Registers),
- e-Wyszukiwarka(e-Search),
- e-Powiadomienia(e-Notifications),
- e-Płatności(e-Payments).

The following forms were available in the e-Profile module:

- Application for a protection right for a trademark,
- Application for granting the right in registration for an industrial design,
- Application for granting a patent for an invention,
- Application for a protection right for a utility model,
- Application for a protection right for a trademark – fast track,
- Application for granting the right in registration for an industrial design - fast track,
- European patent validation,
- Opposition to a trademark application,
- Application for the publication of information on the invention / utility model at an earlier date,
- Application for a priority document,
- Response to the provision on the listing of goods and services,
- Application for entry in the register (change of the authorized entity),
- Indication of the goods for which the right of protection for a trademark is renewed,
- Application for entry in the register (entry of information about the granted license),
- Application for entry of a civil / registered pledge,
- Application for an extract from the register,
- Contact details form for notifications about the date of payment for the extension of the protection of exclusive rights,
- General Correspondence form.

Customers of the PPO can submit applications on the forms available in the PUEUP e-Profile module, which is integrated with the Electronic Document Management System EZD.

In 2022, the PPO continued to maintain the Intranet system based on Microsoft SharePoint Server 2013 Enterprise software.

The PPO continued to maintain Patent Attorneys and Applicants List searchable. Only small adjustments in the data structure were introduced and the system was adopted to existing legislation.

The PPO continued to provide public data concerning the protection of industrial property, publications as well as information on patent attorneys, etc. The address of the website on which the data is published has changed, currently it is <https://dane.gov.pl/pl>.

The PPO still maintained separate official publications of Bulletin of the Patent Office (BUP) for trademarks, inventions and utility models.

In 2022, the BackOffice system for trademarks and industrial designs was maintained, implementing various changes at the request of end users.

In 2022, the PPO maintained system Aczepto 11 for new trademarks - Aczepto contains bibliographic data and images regarding national, international and community trademarks.

In 2022, the new endpoint "/ewyszukiwarka/api/external/search-bibliographics-results - bibliographic data for given numbers and dates of BUP and WUP publications" was launched on the production environment, which was to replace the manual preparation of data in accordance with BUP and WUP publications from our systems for the needs of EPO and the Chinese Patent Office.

#### **New projects launched or resumed this year in the context of the policies and plans mentioned above, short description: aims, partners, tasks**

In 2022, the PPO trademark examiners participated in the working groups of the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) concerning various aspects of trademarks. Polish trademark examiners participate in the working groups along with the representatives from other European national offices, EUIPO, and user associations and work on the following topics:

ECP2 Improvements to Collaborative Work Tools, Improvements to Similarity Tools

ECP3 Integrated Multiple Assessment Solution (IMAS)

ECP4 - CP13: Trade Mark Applications Made in Bad Faith, CP14 Trade Marks Contrary to Public Policy or to Accepted Principles of Morality and CP15 Comparison of goods/services: Treatment of terms lacking clarity and precision (WS1) and Common interpretation of Canon and other criteria (WS2)

Polish trademark examiners participate also in the ongoing projects **ECP4 Maintenance of Common Practices & Convergence Analysis 2.0**

In 2022, BackOffice, the system for trademarks and industrial designs was upgraded. The PPO implemented a fairly large extension of BackOffice with a new IP type (migrated from Soprano system) - Integrated Circuit Topographies (ICT).

Soon after, there was an update to the uses of technical components in BackOffice ver. 3.0 (so-called Technology Stack Upgrade for BOv3.0). It will appear on the production environment in April 2023.

The new Polish Industrial Property Law is expected to be published, so the PPO will have to prepare BackOffice and other systems for the new law. The purpose of the PPO is to adapt BackOffice to changes in procedures regarding trademarks and industrial models and to include inventions, utility models, EP and SPC which will have to be migrated to BackOffice from Soprano system. In 2022, the „Nowe PWP” (New IPR) project was set for this purpose with a team that started describing the processes and functionalities of implementing BackOffice for all procedures.

In 2022, the new ERP class system was implemented and it has been used on production since then. Thanks to the optimized processes implemented in the system, the settlement of fees and the extension of property rights have been improved and administrative burdens have been reduced.

In 2022, 7 electronic services were used as part of the Electronic Services Platform (PUEUP):

- e-Registry - viewing the entries entered in the registry and obtaining an excerpt from registry;
- EP Validation - obtaining protection on the territory of Poland;
- Expiration Date Notification - informing about the expiration date of protection;
- Information Subscription - searching for information in defined sources maintained by UPRP (including automatic notifications based on user criteria);
- e-Filing - applying for trademarks, patents, industrial designs registration to obtain an IP protection;
- e-Submission - handling electronic correspondence during the whole IP lifecycle of trademarks, patents and industrial designs;
- Changes in registry - management of records changes in registry (e.g. in case of extension of the protection, updating the owners, resignation from protection, changes in rights, pledges, licenses, etc.).

#### **Main areas of trademark information activities and related information and communication technology (ICT) practices which were in the focus of attention last year**

The PPO is continuously developing the functionalities of the above-mentioned PUEUP modules in accordance with the needs and expectations of customers and users of the platform.

For the purpose of the e-Search, the PPO provided the user with the functionality of configuring and saving his own set of attributes, thanks to which the search will be carried out, visible by default after logging in.

The search algorithm in simple mode of e-Search was modified to improve the order in which the information most relevant to the query was currently presented.

#### **Statistics: changes in terms of application filings and registrations with respect to previous year; trends or areas experiencing rapid changes**

In 2022, the Polish Patent Office received in total 12596 trademark applications under the national procedure (out of which 11908 by national and 688 by foreign entities). This marks a decrease of almost 19% in comparison with 2021 when 15506 trademark applications were received under the national procedure (out of which 14680 by national and 826 by foreign entities).

Exclusive rights granted / entered into the register	2021	2022	Change (%) 2022:2021
Trademarks (national procedure)	15 040	11 161	-25.79

Rights in force as of 31 December	2021	2022	Change (%) 2022:2021
Trademarks (national procedure)	170 675	175 064	+2.57

#### **Other matters and useful links (URLs): annual report of the Office, news page, statistics, etc.**

Statistics are accessed at the following URLs: <https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/o-urzedzie/statystyki>

This page consists of:

- Statistical module (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/o-urzedzie/statystyki/modul-statystyczny>),
- The PPO annual report (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/publikacje/raport-roczny-uprp>),
- Methodology and glossary of concepts (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/o-urzedzie/statystyki/metodologia-i-slownik-pojec>),
- Infographics (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/o-urzedzie/statystyki/infografiki>)
- Rules for sharing statistical data (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/o-urzedzie/statystyki/zasady-udostepniania-danych-statystycznych>)
- API for statistics (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/o-urzedzie/statystyki/api-do-statystyk>)

News page: <https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/aktualnosci>

## II. SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES RELATED TO TRADEMARK INFORMATION CARRIED OUT BY THE OFFICE

Information and support provided by the Office to applicants regarding filing on paper and/or e-filing (instructions, seminars, etc.) - URLs

The PPO information and support options in 2022 included:

- 1) Via website: <https://uprp.gov.pl> (all information about patents, trademarks, designs, etc. and instructions e.g. "How to patent an invention or protect a utility model?");
- 2) Via telephone: (+48 22 579 05 55);
- 3) Via e-mail: <https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/centrum-informacji>
- 4) Via virtual information service window (Webex platform): <https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/wirtualne-okno-obslugi-informacyjnej>
- 5) Directly in the Front Office of the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland at the Cambridge Innovation Centre - Warsaw: [https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/aktualnosci/informacje/front-office-urzedu-patentowego-rp-w-kampusie-innowacji#googtrans\(pl|en\)](https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/aktualnosci/informacje/front-office-urzedu-patentowego-rp-w-kampusie-innowacji#googtrans(pl|en))

Management of the contacts in 2022 (phone + mail) was performed through software:

- 1) Personal contacts (CRM system):

- **437** meetings in PPO Front Office
- **39** meetings via virtual window
- **13** meetings in PPO Front Office in Cambridge Innovation Centre (2 hours a week)

(Patents and utility models: 162, Trademarks: 236, Industrial designs: 14)

- 2) Within Register IP Info Center customer contacts (OSCC, CRM systems);

- **7 806** emails were received
  - **20 659** calls were answered and performed (including the call back - 627)
- (Patents and utility models: 3 118, Trademarks: 14 485, Industrial designs: 620)

- **62** meetings took place with examiners and at the Center of information

- **409** meetings via live-chat (only for logged PUEUP clients)

- 3) Identification and differentiation of customers (OSCC, CRM systems);

- 4) Carrying out customer satisfaction surveys (CRM system) - level of satisfaction 95%;

- 5) Analyses of the contacts (analyses, statistics - CRM, OSCC systems);

- 6) Keeping records and transferring customer requests (satisfaction, complaints, suggestions for improvement) (TRX system);

- 7) Sending e-notifications about the expiry of the protection period of industrial property rights (PUEUP system): **15 785**

The CRM system is shared between 14 departments in contact with the public. A change of version was introduced for:

- independent work with the contact, regardless of the fact who established the contact and possibility to change/edit the contact data;

- interfacing with other applications (Computer Telephony Integration, callback, meetings time and visits, virtual information service window and live-chat) to facilitate the customer relation management. Tool for measuring the customers' satisfaction. IP Info Center has a non-verbal communication system to improve information service for deaf and hard hearing customers.

### Availability of the application dossier in electronic form

Customers using PUEUP have access to application files which are sent electronically to the PPO. Customers may also use the forms available in the e-Profile module in order to submit applications in electronic form.

### Matters concerning classifying

1. **Classification and reclassification activities; classification systems used, e.g., International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification), International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks (Vienna Classification), other classification**
2. **Use of electronic classification systems and pre-defined terms of the classification applied**

The Polish Patent Office uses the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Nice Classification) 11th 2020 edition (the Polish version of Nice Classification is downloaded from WIPO websites once a month) as well as International Classification of the Figurative Elements of Marks (Vienna Classification) 8th edition.

During the procedure, the Office's staff amends the goods and services classes.

### III. SOURCES OF TRADEMARK INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE

#### Main types of publications in the field of trademark information, outline of the content and medium (on paper, on CDs, online - URLs)

In 2022, the following publications were issued:

- "Biuletyn Urzędu Patentowego. Znaki towarowe" (Bulletin of the Patent Office. Trademarks) – weekly (in electronic form on the Office's website) (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/publikacje/biuletyn-i-wiadomosci-uprp>) – 52 numbers; announcements on trademark applications;
- "Wiadomości Urzędu Patentowego" (Communications of the Patent Office) – weekly (in electronic form on the Office's website) (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/publikacje/biuletyn-i-wiadomosci-uprp>) – announcements on granted protection rights for trademarks;
- 2021 Annual Report of the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland – in electronic form on the Office's website (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/publikacje/raport-roczny-uprp>);

Information on trademarks is also available on the website of the Office:

- The PPO's website at (<http://www.uprp.gov.pl>),
- e-Search at (<https://ewyszukiwarka.pue.uprp.gov.pl/search/simple-search>).

#### Official Gazettes: main types of announcements, frequency of publication, medium (on paper, on CDs, online, URL), etc.

Both official publications of the PPO concerning trademarks, i.e. "Bulletin of the Patent Office. Trademarks" (BUP) with applications for national trademarks and "Communications of the Patent Office" (WUP) with registered national trademarks and international registrations of trademarks approved in Poland are available free of charge in PDF format on the webpage: <https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/publikacje/biuletyn-i-wiadomosci-uprp>.

In 2022, there were 11532 announcements on trademark applications published in "Bulletin of the Patent Office. Trademarks" and 11 541 announcements on granted protection rights for trademarks published in "Communications of the Patent Office".

Announcements containing ordinances of the President of the Polish Patent Office, official Announcements containing ordinances of the President of the Polish Patent Office, official announcements and communications are published in the Official Journal of the Patent Office (<https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/publikacje/dziennik-urzedowy-uprp>). Announcements regarding non-procedural matters, but connected to the Office's activity like: general information on the PPO's tasks, references, organizational structure, HR matters are published on the Internet version of "Biuletyn Informacji Publicznej" (Public Information Bulletin: <https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/bip>) on the official PPO's website. Many non-regular, important announcements are immediately published on the website.

#### Information products (coverage, medium, etc.) available to examiners, including external documentation and databases

In 2022, the following information products were available to examiners:

- e-Search provides simple (full-text) search, advanced(deterministic) search and searching in collections of documents (PDF). The e-Search module contains bibliographic data and a list of collections:
  - Trademarks,
  - Inventions,
  - European Patents,
  - Supplementary Protection Certificate,
  - Utility Models,
  - Industrial Designs,
  - Topographies of Integrated Circuits.

The data is published free of charge on the website <https://ewyszukiwarka.pue.uprp.gov.pl/search/simple-search> (user interface in Polish, English and French).

- Separate Internet applications enable the presentation of Nice and Vienna classifications in Polish and are available at:

<https://grab.uprp.pl/Klasyfikacje/Strony%20witryny/Klasyfikacje.aspx>.

The latest version of the Nice Classification has been uploaded. Currently, the Viennese and Locarno classifications are being prepared.

- Trademarks data stored in specialized internal databases of the PPO called BackOffice in which image information and bibliographic details are stored.

The Polish Patent Office uses external databases, such as:

- **MedNet - INN** database (International Nonproprietary Names) available at <http://mednet.who.int/inn>, free of charge
- **E-Ambrosia** (<https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/food-safety-and-quality/certification/quality-labels/geographical-indications-register/>) is a public database which gives easy access to information on all EU Geographical Indications (GI), including their status (applied, published or registered), their product specifications, and direct link to the legal basis when they are officially protected. By summer 2019, it included EU GI spirit drinks, by the end of 2019, all EU GI agri-food products were part of eAmbrosia. It was designed to replace the previous databases for wine (e-Bacchus), spirits (e-Spirit-Drinks) and food (Door). eAmbrosia includes an easily searchable and intuitive interface. This new system simplified the search for information about Geographical Indications and increased transparency for producers, national authorities and anyone curious about European GIs.
- **NATIONAL PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION - COBORU** ([coboru.pl](http://coboru.pl)), free of charge
- **COMMUNITY PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION - CPVO** ([cpvo.europa.eu](http://cpvo.europa.eu)), free of charge

#### Information products (coverage, medium, etc.) and services available to external users; conditions of access (e.g., free of charge, subscription, etc.)

Online sources of trademarks information include:

- e-Search provides simple (full-text) search, advanced (deterministic) search and searching in collections of documents (PDF). <https://ewyszukiwarka.pue.uprp.gov.pl/search/simple-search>

#### **Legal status information (kind of information, coverage, medium, etc.)**

In order to make entries on the legal status of exclusive rights protected on the territory of Poland, the trademark register is held. The register includes information necessary to establish the subject and scope of protection (e.g. date of filing, title), entity (or entities) entitled to rights concerning a given subject of protection (e.g. holders, licensees, securities, seizure) and other useful information (e.g. applications for revocation). Everyone who submits a relevant application and pays a fee to the account of the Office can obtain excerpts from the register.

If the number of the granted right is known, the registers may be searched directly at: <https://eprofil.pue.uprp.gov.pl/public/registry/search?lng=en>

The number of the granted exclusive right may be identified using e-search engine at: <https://ewyszukiwarka.pue.uprp.gov.pl/search/simple-search?lng=en>

Information on the legal status is available in e-Search at: <https://ewyszukiwarka.pue.uprp.gov.pl/search/simple-search>

The examiners at the Polish Patent Office use external legal databases, like:

- Judgements of The Court of Justice of the European Union, website: <http://curia.europa.eu>
- Administrative Court Central Databases, website: <http://orzeczenia.nsa.gov.pl/cbo/query>.

## **IV. ICT SUPPORT TO SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES RELATED TO TRADEMARK INFORMATION CARRIED OUT BY THE OFFICE**

#### **Specific software tools supporting business procedures within the Office: general description, characteristics, advantages, possible improvements**

ACSEPTO is a primary system of searching and examining trademarks, a tool that integrates many types of IT resources in order to enable searching for registered trademarks through the national route, international registrations, Community Trademarks, appellations of origin, pharmaceutical names, materials under Article 6 of the Paris Convention.

The BackOffice is the main system for managing the procedures for granting and maintaining rights to trademarks and industrial designs in the PPO. BackOffice is the source system for many databases (search engines) and it is interconnected with other systems in the PPO.

#### **Hardware used to supporting business processes of the Office**

The PPO uses workstations and notebooks with Microsoft Windows 10/11 Pro; multimedia tablets with Apple iPadOS system; physical servers with Microsoft Windows Server 2016 Standard and virtual servers using Microsoft Windows Server 2019 Datacenter with Windows Server 2003, Windows Server 2003 R2, Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows Server 2012 R2, Windows Server 2016 and Windows Server 2019 installed, SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 10/11/12, CentOS Linux 5/6/7/8, Oracle Linux 5/6/7, Debian GNU/Linux 6/7/8 and Ubuntu Server LTS, RedHat Enterprise Linux 7.x/8.x; hypervisor servers with VMware vSphere.

All of workstations, notebooks and servers are secured by Symantec antivirus.

All network connections are based on Cisco, FortiNet and Extreme Networks equipment with up to 700 Mb/s redundant access to the Internet (two separate Internet connections). The availability of services published on the Internet is supported by the FortiNet WAF cluster. Security is also provided by Forcepoint IPS and Fidelis Cybersecurity and Forcepoint antispam systems.

The server infrastructure is supported by local UPSs and secured by the main power supply unit for the PPO. The main IT infrastructure units are located in a secure server room equipped with a fire alarm, CCTV system, redundant air-conditioning and a technical floor.

#### **Internal databases: coverage, updates, interlinks with external sources**

Trademark data is stored in specialized, regularly updated internal databases in which image information and bibliographic details are stored, for example:

- The BackOffice system,
- Databases supporting the process of publishing trademarks.

Most production databases are hosted by Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Enterprise, Microsoft SQL Server 2017 Enterprise and MySQL Server 4/5, PostgreSQL 9.

#### **Establishment and maintenance of electronic search file: file building, updating, storage, documents from other offices included in the search file**

EUTM, IR (designated to EM and PL) and 6ter data are stored and accessed via Accepto search system, IR (designated to PL) are stored and accessed via BackOffice system.

#### **Administrative management electronic systems (register, legal status, statistics, and administrative support)**

The BackOffice is a workflow-based system for dealing with trademarks and designs throughout the entire lifecycle of the process, from application to registration and publication. It also streamlines the working process by enabling users to create and monitor correspondence with clients. It is adopted to work together with Electronic Document Management System (EZD) which facilitates the processing of incoming and outgoing correspondence. External users have access to registers and information on legal status via the e-Search module. Settlement Module (MR) is used as a supplementary system for managing fees and payments.

#### **Other matters**

The PPO maintained a professional call centre service based on Unify OpenScope Contact Centre Enterprise software and a new system of customer relationship management based on Microsoft Dynamics CRM Server 365 software.

The EZD system was integrated with The BackOffice in the field of exchanging correspondence and information about entities.

The public information request lists are stored in the EZD system.

The leading office software used for word processing and spreadsheet was: Microsoft Office 2016 Standard & Professional Plus and Apache OpenOffice 4.

In 2022, the PPO maintained the Data Protection System in order to protect and control trademark data to avoid uncontrolled outflow or unwanted access.

## **V. PROMOTION ACTIVITIES AIMED TO SUPPORT USERS IN ACCESS AND EFFICIENT USE OF TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

**Publications related to different business procedures and trademark information sources available to users, for example, books, brochures, Internet publications, etc.**

As part of promotion of knowledge on industrial property, the Patent Office issues various publications such as guides, information and promotion brochures addressed to wide audience, among others to entrepreneurs, students, school youth. Those publications are available free of charge in an electronic version and PDF format at: <https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/publikacje/pozostale-publikacje-uprp>. The printed versions of some of them are available at the premises of the Office and distributed during various events organised by the PPO or in which the PPO participates.

The publications include the following titles: Get Familiar with Intellectual Property, Intellectual Property for an Entrepreneur, Your World of Intellectual Property, What Is Intellectual Property, Industrial Property Protection in a Nutshell, New Types of Trademarks, Protection of Black and White Trademarks, Protect Your Trademark in China, Use of a Trademark in a Different Form than Registered, Trademarks (comic book) to name a few.

In 2022, new versions of CP1 & CP2 and updated versions of CP3, CP4 & CP5 were published on the Offices website.

**Cooperation with universities, technology and innovation support centers, etc.**

The Polish Patent Office collaborates with various institutions in promoting knowledge on intellectual property (organisation of conferences, workshops, trainings, patronage of the PPO President over numerous initiatives etc.).

In 2022, the Office collaborated with the following entities, to name a few:

- collaboration with universities (Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Warsaw School of Economics, University of ód, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toru, Warsaw University of Technology, Lazarski University, etc.);

- collaboration with science and business-related institutions, including The National Centre for Research and Development, ukasiewicz Research Network, Association of Polish Inventors and Rationalisers, Office of the Ombudsman for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, The High Tech Foundation, Polish Chamber of Patent Attorneys; National Information Processing Institute, Coalition for Polish Innovation, The Prof. Jerzy Dietl Foundation for Promotion of Entrepreneurship, Polish Agency for Enterprise Development, Polish Investment and Trade Agency, Agency for Industrial Development S.A., Polish Craft Association etc.;

- collaboration with governmental administration institutions, including Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, as well as local government authorities.

**Education and training: training courses, e-learning modules (URLs), seminars, exhibitions, etc.**

In 2022, the PPO organised and co-organised, among others, the following events:

- Webinar for Biaystok Science and Technology Park "Protection of Intellectual Property as a factor for enterprise development" (21 February)
- Training for students of Jagiellonian University "Searching for patent information" (30 March)
- IP Day Conference "Are you into IP games? Intellectual property in the world of games" (26 April)
- "Patent by Night" as part of the Night of Museums (14 May)
- Ideas Powered for Business online seminar and IP4You seminar co-organised with the EUIPO (23 and 25 May)
- IP Statistics for Decision Makers (IPSDM) conference co-organised with the OECD (14-15 June)
- 15th International Conference on Innovation and Creativity in the Economy "Designing in a Digital World" (22 June)
- "Patent for entrepreneur – business support tools" online training (21 June)
- Webinar for entrepreneurs, co-organised with Deloitte and entitled "Intellectual property generated at an enterprise – why it is worth protecting, financing opportunities, practical examples" (8 September)
- Online training on the protection of regional products, co-organised with the National Rural Housewives' Association and entitled "Intellectual property protection at your fingertips!" (13 September)
- Conference on "Protection of Intellectual Property in Teleinformatics" co-organised with the Polish Information Processing Society (27 September)
- 20th edition of the annual competition for the best artistic poster as well postdoctoral, doctoral, master's and student's theses on the subject of industrial property protection and the 10th edition of a short movie and press release competition;

In 2022, the PPO maintained information in the e-Knowledge Base module on a specially prepared Educational Platform (Educational Platform, current address <https://uprp.gov.pl/pl/platforma-edukacyjna>) which was a compendium of knowledge about intellectual property issues. The target group includes enterprises (especially MSEs) and businesses related to public institutions (including schools of higher education) and other entities.

- The Knowledge Zone includes information, publications and other materials addressed both to entities with advanced knowledge on IP issues as well as those ones looking for basic information on IP protection, procedures and management.
- The training zone consists of 2 parts: beginner user and advanced user. For these users, training in intellectual property protection is available, which ends with a test verifying the acquired knowledge.

The Patent Information Centre Forum was prepared, a platform for exchanging experiences, knowledge, comments and opinions between Patent Information Centres and the Office.

#### **Other activities**

In 2022, the PPO maintained a special Seventica service for non-verbal communication (using the service, the sounds of human language are immediately translated into sign language on a computer or tablet). The aim of the project was to remove communication barriers among people with hearing deficiency.

## **VI. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

#### **International exchange of trademark information in machine-readable form (e.g., Official Gazettes)**

Information on Community Trademarks was downloaded using XML data, which was then transferred to the search systems of the PPO.

The XML trademark files were downloaded from WIPO and were also transferred to the search systems of the PPO.

The PPO maintained its own service for collecting Nice classification data from the WIPO website. All changes to the Polish version of the Nice classification were implemented in the WIPO system and then copied to a special dedicated application that would be presented to Polish users.