

CWS.ATR.ID.2010.CN

Annual Technical Report 2010 on Industrial Design Information Activities submitted by China (CWS/ATR/ID/2010/CN)

Where URLs are requested below, it is preferred that either URLs which are likely to remain stable over time (three years or more) are provided, or home (main) page URLs are provided with a short explanation of how to access the corresponding information.

The expression "industrial designs" covers industrial designs and models. Offices which issue design patents should report their design patent information activities in this series of Annual Technical Reports.

I. Evolution of registration activities

Changes experienced in terms of application filings and grants (registrations) with respect to the previous year

In 2010, SIPO received 421,273 design applications, a 19.9% increase compared to 2009, while designs granted were 335,243, with a 34.3% increase.

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

No statistics.

URLs of web pages of the Office's website that provide statistics related to industrial designs

Chinese <http://www.sipo.gov.cn/tjxx/>

English <http://english.sipo.gov.cn/statistics/>

II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of industrial design documents and of secondary sources of industrial design information, i.e., official gazettes

Publishing, including printing, copying techniques and electronic printing

Nowadays, SIPO not only promotes the electronic publication of patent information on the Internet, but also keeps the traditional medium of paper.

Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of industrial design information

Patent gazettes for designs

Patent gazettes for designs are published in paper and TIFF formats once a week with the bibliographic data, representations, legal status, indexes, etc.

Design patent offprint

Design patent offprint is printed by color digital printing technology, and published together with the gazettes once a week.

Certificates of design patents

Certificates for design patents are issued periodically.

Mass storage media and microforms used

The above-mentioned documents are stored in the medium of DVD and HDD.

Databases and office automation

The Design databases are set up to provide search service for examiners, which can also be accessible on the official website.

URLs of web pages of the Office's website that provide access to online industrial design gazettes and to other sources of industrial design information, including download of bulk industrial design data

Design gazette: <http://www.sipo.gov.cn/zwgs/zlgb/>

Design Search: <http://www.sipo.gov.cn/zljs/>

III. Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of industrial design information according to the classification systems applied

Classification and reclassification activities; Classification system used, e.g., International Classification for Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification), other classification (please indicate whether industrial designs are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification is used)

Design patents are classified according to the International Classification for Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification) without using any other classification systems.

Reclassification activities are not developed.

Bibliographic data and processing

The bibliographic data and representations of design patents granted since 1985 are provided.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep

File building

The bibliographic data and representations of design patents granted since 1985 are added to the search file, which can be retrievable from the design databases.

Updating

The search file is updated weekly or every two weeks.

Storage, including mass storage media

The above-mentioned file is stored in magnetic disk arrays and backed up with magnetic tapes.

Documentation from other offices maintained and/or considered part of the available search file

Via data exchange and purchase, SIPO collects the design documentations, and among these JP, KR, US and WO files are added in the search file:

V. Activities in the field of computerized search systems for industrial designs

In-house systems (online/offline)

D-System

CN, JP, KR, US and WO files are included in the databases. It provides with search entries of bibliographic data and image comparison capability. Examiners can access the system by B/S to retrieve the desired information.

External databases

No activities.

Administrative management systems (e.g., register, legal status, statistics and administrative support)

Electronic Filing System (EFS)

SIPO launched the EFS in 2004 in order to provide online filing service for applicants.

E system

SIPO launched the E system in February 10, 2010. E system realizes computerizing all patent administrations, such as filing, examining, publishing, granting, and appeal procedure. The system established a paperless environment facilitating examination based on full text. In 2010, SIPO furthered the promotion of electronic filing system, 538 patent agent offices have used this electronic filing system until December 31, 2010, the electronic filing rate of 183 patent agent offices reached 100%. In the December of 2010, the electronic filing rate hit a record high of 52.4%.

Equipment used (hardware, including the types of terminal and network used, and software), data carriers used

Examiners can access the Intranet with 10Gbps core switch and 100Mbps link to desktops for the network resources.

VI. Administration of industrial design information products and services available to the public (relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, registering designs, assisting clients with search procedures, obtaining official publications and registry extracts)

Planning, administration, automation, security

Patent Documentation Library

Patent Documentation Library offers documents reading, inquiry, search, replication and training services and is equipped with 60 computers for the public to access SIPO's intranet and Internet information resources.

Intellectual Property Library

The Intellectual Property Library collects domestic and international intellectual property books, journals and electronic publications.

Science and Technology Library

The Science and Technology Library collects domestic and international technical books, journals and electronic publications commonly used in the design examination.

Collection management, preservation

Books are preserved with the storage number and classifications and put on shelves.

Information services available to the public (including computerized services and search files contained in libraries remote from your Office and industrial design information posted by your Office on the World Wide Web)

The public service provided by SIPO includes:

Call center

The center offers information consultation to the public free of charge by face-to-face, telephone, online and mail.

Official website

The official website of SIPO offers search and inquiry services in both Chinese and English. Over 3 million records of Chinese patent data since 1985 are made available to the general public. In 2009, the official website of SIPO received 4.06 billion hits in total.

Local Patent Information Center

SIPO has set up 47 local patent information centers across the country and provided them with patent data. These centers provide search and inquiry services for the public.

Local Patent Receiving Offices

SIPO has set up Local Patent Receiving Offices in 24 cities all over the country in order to accept patent filings and provide inquiry service for the public.

URLs of web pages of the Office's website for electronic filing of industrial design applications

SIPO provides the following website for the online filing <http://www.cponline.gov.cn/>.

URLs of web pages of the Office's website that provide information on business procedures such as: filing, publication, examination and registration procedures related to industrial designs; opposition and appeal procedures related to industrial designs; etc.

Chinese: <http://www.sipo.gov.cn/zlsqzn/sqq/>;

English:

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/about/examinationAffairs/200804/t20080416_380173.html

http://english.sipo.gov.cn/about/examinationAffairs/200804/t20080416_380170.html

URLs of web pages of the Office's website that provide a description of information products and services offered by the Office (e.g., industrial design search service(s) and industrial design databases), as well as information on how to access and utilize them

Information Products

"China Patent Specification" optical disk, which collects images of designs since 1985.

"China Patent Abstract Databases" optical disk, which collects bibliographic data of designs since 1985, such as the inventor, publication date, priority, abstract, legal status, etc.

"China Patent gazette" optical disk, which provides gazettes information weekly (see <http://www.sipo.gov.cn/zwgs/zlgb/>).

"Design" optical disk, which covers design representations since 1998, using electronic scanning technology to present the representations in black/white, gray-scale and color.

http://www.sipo.gov.cn/xxcp/zwxxgp/200804/t20080407_370310.html

Search services

SIPO offers the following search systems on its official website for the public to retrieve designs:

Patent search: <http://www.sipo.gov.cn/zljs/>

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of industrial design documentation and information

International or regional cooperation in the exchange of industrial design information, e.g., in the form of official gazettes

In 2010, SIPO has exchanged documents with 37 authorities and organizations, and sent patent specifications (including full text of industrial design specifications) to 21 authorities (of 37), official gazettes (including industrial design information) to 17 authorities (of 37). In the mean time, SIPO has collected industrial design information products from multiple authorities through exchange, including products in the form of paper and CD or DVD.

Exchange of machine-readable information, e.g., data contained on CD-ROM or magnetic tape

In 2010, SIPO has provided industrial design information through patent specifications and official gazettes in the medium of DVD.

VIII. Matters concerning education and training, including technical assistance to developing countries (please indicate URLs of web pages of the Office's website wherever appropriate)

Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.)

From March 17 to 29, Roving Seminars on Chinese and Community Design Protection were held in Italy and France.

On April 29, Commissioner Tian Lipu met with President of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), and signed the Memorandum of Understanding between SIPO and OHIM (Trademarks and Designs) (2010-2011).

On July 21, the JPO-KIPO-SIPO Design Conference was held in Beijing.

On November 9, the IPOM-SIPO Design Conference was jointly organized by China and Mongolia for the 5th time in Qingdao.

On November 13, WIPO, for the first time, sent an ad hoc representative of the Director General to attend the 12th Conference of China Patent Award in Beijing for jointly granting China Patent Golden Award and Industrial Design Golden Award which was granted for the first time. Lu Yongxiang, Vice Chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, attended the Conference and issued the awards.

Training courses for national and foreign participants

In 2010, the training of SIPO kept growing rapidly. 101 training seminars were held to new examiners, patent agents, administrative departments, enterprises, leading cadres, academia, judicial offices, local government officials and foreigners, with 38,124 trainees in total. In 2010, SIPO developed its China long distance education platform and added more long-distance learning courses, including 9 video pre-exam courses for patent agents and 4 multimedia courses. By the end of 2010, 4 new sub sites of long-distance learning had been set up, including Ji Lin University sub site, China Agriculture sub site, Chongqing University of Post and Telecommunications sub site and Su Zhou Industrial Park sub site. In 2010, 2,855 students studied DL101 courses, an increase of 300% over last year. In 2010, 21 foreign training seminars were held by SIPO. SIPO kept on strengthening the cooperation with WIPO Worldwide Academy, Japan National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training, Korea International Intellectual Property Training Institute, American John Marshall Law School and Cardozo Law School.

Assistance to developing countries (sending consultants and experts, receiving trainees from developing countries, etc.)

In 2010, SIPO continued to increase its technical assistance to developing countries, organized and implemented 10 international training programs for patent examiners from the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, having accumulatively trained 124 foreign examiners.

From April 17 to 25, the ASEAN-China Intellectual Property Cooperation Conference was held in Beijing.

From November 10 to 16, the Seminar of Heads of Intellectual Property Offices of Members of African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) was held in Beijing.

IX. Other general information related to the Office that is available on the Internet -- URLs of web pages of the Office's website that:

provide information on legislation related to industrial designs

Chinese <http://www.sipo.gov.cn/zcfg/>

Chinese <http://search.sipo.gov.cn/sipo/zljs/searchflzt.jsp>

English <http://english.sipo.gov.cn/laws/>

contain the Annual Report of the Office

Chinese <http://www.sipo.gov.cn/gk/>

English <http://english.sipo.gov.cn/laws/>

if necessary, provide further information related to the topics referred to in the current ATR

Chinese <http://www.sipo.gov.cn>

English <http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/>

provide open source codes related to industrial design information systems

No activities.

contain industrial design-related news regarding the Office

Chinese <http://www.sipo.gov.cn/>

English <http://english.sipo.gov.cn/news/>

X. Other relevant matters