

SCIT.ATR.PI.2006.RO

Annual Technical Report 2006 on Patent Information Activities submitted by Romania (SCIT/ATR/PI/2006/RO)

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 term "patent" covers utility models and Supplementary Protection Certificates (SPCs). Offices which issue design patents should report their design patent information activities in their Annual Technical Reports on Industrial Design Information Activities.

I. Evolution of patent activities

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

In 2006 a number of 876 patent applications were filed under the Patent Law no. 64 of 1991. Of the sum of 876 filed patent applications, 814 patent applications were filed by Romanian applicants, the difference of 62 patent applications being filed by foreign applicants (27 applications filed by national route and 35 applications filed by PCT route).

In 2006, Romania was designated in 121,607 European patent applications (89.9 % from the total).

[Pat-appl-2006](#)

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

The Official Publications of OSIM:

OFFICIAL INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY BULLETIN (BOPI) – Section "Inventions"

It contains: Abstracts of patents applications and granted patents, various information on the changes of the legal status of patents, lists containing the Romanian industrial property attorneys and other useful information.

OFFICIAL INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY BULLETIN (BOPI) – Section "New Plant Varieties". New plant varieties applications, proposed names and accepted names, granted patents for new plant varieties, or granted licences for use of new plant varieties and other specialized information, ex: Law no. 255/1998 regarding the protection of new plant varieties, implementing of the Law, technical norms in the examination of new plant varieties, others.

OFFICIAL INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY BULLETIN (BOPI) - Section "European Patent Applications and european patents with effects in Romania". It contains: Data on the European patent applications and European patents with extended effects in Romania, according to the Law no. 32/1997, as well as data on the European patent applications and European patents with effects in Romania, according to the Law no. 611/2002.

ROMANIAN REVUE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY. It contains: Articles in the field of industrial property protection, legal news, others.

CD-ROMs are also edited in Romania as follows:

- RO-BULLETIN is a disk issued quarterly, comprising all BOPI sections. The last annual disk contains a complete collection of all the official bulletins published by OSIM during the year; said disk also comprises the Romanian Industrial Property Review. There are search means for it. The required software and the specific fonts are delivered together with the disk, free of charge.
- RO-PATENT-IMAGES is the disk which offers you a complete collection, in facsimile, of all the patents published by OSIM in one year. There are adequate search means. The required software is delivered along with the disk, freely.
- RO-INDEX is a disk which allows the identification of the patents published by OSIM starting with 1994, by using the bibliographic data. CD-ROMs made in cooperation with other offices:
- RO - PATENT BULLETIN – monthly publication (PDF format); electronic version of BOPI- Section "Inventions"
- RO - VARIETIES OF PLANTS - BULLETIN – monthly publication (PDF format); electronic version of BOPI - Section "New Plant Varieties"
- CD-ROM ERRATUM – (Yearly) Disk comprising all the errata published by OSIM
- ESPACE-PRECEs - a disk which comprises the facsimile copies of the patents published by OSIM and other patent offices: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia
- ESPACE ACCESS PRECEs - disk which comprises all the bibliographic data of the ESPACE-PRECEs collections; it is a search mechanism which helps identify the patents in facsimile in the PRECEs collection by searching according to various criteria such as the patent number, the international class, the filing date, the date of publication, the key-words in a title or abstract, etc.
- CD-ROM RRPI - Electronic version of the Romanian Property Revue
- ESPACE – EROB, in MIMOSA technology

Starting with 1996, the publication, i.e. the whole process of publication, is carried out in-house (for both publication on paper and on CD-ROMs) as well as text setting, editing and desktop publishing, printing and delivery. As all the documents are processed in electronic format exclusively, they can be turned into html and pdf format for publication in the INTRANET and INTERNET.

The data printed in the Official Industrial Property Bulletin (BOPI) are taken from the Common Software database exclusively.

Corel Word Perfect is employed in desktop publishing and Corel Draw in image processing. Several years ago, OSIM started to store the complete patent collection (patents granted in Romania) in electronic format. In the year 2001, more than 50,000 patents for invention (about 250,000 pages) were scanned and processed; the whole process was finished in 2003.

The modifying documents are also scanned and integrated into the document database. The data in the database are searched during the substantive examination procedure but they are also the primary source employed in manufacturing some CD-ROMs.

Facsimile documents are searched in two ways:

- directly, by using Acrobat Reader (you have got to know the number of the searched patent);
- using the RO Patent Search database developed by OSIM specialists. For a limited number of documents, round 12700, and over a short period of time, namely 1996-2005, one can make use of the full-text search system.

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

Classification and reclassification activities; Classification system used, e.g., International Patent Classification (IPC), other classification (please indicate whether or not patent documents are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification is used)

The Office classifies all the patent documents exclusively by using the International Patent Classification. OSIM uses the 8th IPC edition currently.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep

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

In-house systems (online/offline)

V. 1.1. The management of the patent applications filed with OSIM is based on the Common Software System. Our system relies on the SGBD-Informix Online DSA v.9.4 system; the interface is created by means of Hyperscript Tools. Said database is employed in managing the examination process, the publication and the dissemination of information. The information stored in that database enables the upgrading of other databases (see below), making preparations for other CDs such as ESPACE-PRECES and also the international exchange of data, a.s.o.

V. 1.2. RO Patent Search is a database designed for electronic search; it has two components:

- one comprising the bibliographic data required in the formulation of the search equations;

- the other one comprising the facsimile documents. Said database contains about 120,000 records; in 2006 it will cover the period 1906-2006, completely. The database comprising bibliographic data works on an Informix 9.4 platform for Linux.

The facsimile document database comprises about 120,000 documents stored by scanning (as already described above). The facsimile document database also comprises the facsimile image of the official bulletins published by OSIM.

In 2001 OSIM also succeeded in putting an end to the first stage of the generation of the database designed for the Legal and Technical Library; said database provides access to the list of books or periodicals extant in the Library of OSIM and also enables the on-line formulation of the requests for books/periodicals even for publications which are not retrievable in the Library. In such cases, the publications are borrowed by the Library on the basis of the inter-library exchange system. Starting from 2001 that database can be accessed in the INTERNET as well.

V.1.3. A part of the RO Patent Search (the one comprising the bibliographic data of the patents starting with no. 105544 to date and the related facsimile documents are available in the INTERNET) and can be accessed at www.osim.ro. The Ro- ESPACenet is accessible too. At OSIM headquarters we also have patent collections on CD-ROMs.

V.1.4. Using MIMOSA Authoring software and benefiting of training from EPO Vienna sub office, OSIM developed the Espace- RO CD-ROM. As an important feature of this product it is worth mentioning that, using MIMOSA retrieval software, users may perform full text searches.

V. 1.5. The index databases on CD-ROM that can be accessed by internal users in the network are the following ones:

- Access A - IPC Class - Access Europa

- Access B - Bulletin

- Access Preces - Casis - Bib - Global Patent

The full-text databases, stored in juke-boxes can be accessed from local PCs:

- Espace-EPA complete Espace CH 1994- to date

- Preces complete Espace DK 1990- to date

- Espace UK 1974- to date Espace ES 1990- to date

- USAPAT complete Espace EPS complete

- COSMOS 1992- to date

- DEDEPAROM 1993- to date

- World 1991- to date

- Espace AT 1992- to date

- Espace IT 1993-1995

- Espace RU 1996-1997

- Espace SI 1993-1998

- Espace OAPI 1994- to date

- GLOBALPAT

All the collections are available for search by internal users and the public.

External databases

EPOQUE database

Commercial ones:

- STN

Other free databases in the INTERNET:

- ESPACE-NET and other databases in the INTERNET, made available by other industrial property offices.

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

The Electronic Information System of OSIM:

HARDWARE

- S AN system with 7 servers in a group
- EPTOS hardware platform
- 300 PCs (220 Pentium IV, 80 PIII and PII). For patent related activities there are used about 110 PCs;
- 40 network printers;
- 8 scanners;
- 8 Juke-boxes: one JVC-type and seven NSM, each having a capacity of 600 disks, provided with DVD and CDROM readers, connected with the internal network by 4 servers;
- INTERNET Subsystem uses 10 Mb/s metropolitan, 4Mb/s external radio leased line. The INTERNET Subsystem comprises "www" and e-mail server, database server, proxy server, routers, firewalls.;
- Internal Network: 100 MB optical fiber backbone, NORTEL technology.

SOFTWARE

- HP Unix (former True 64 DIGITAL Unix) operating system for GS80 server;
 - Linux operating system for the Server of the INTERNET/INTRANET database, for the www and e-mail server, for the proxy server;
 - Windows 2003 server for domain controller servers
 - RDBMS Informix Dynamic Server V.9.4
 - Windows 2000 Professional for client PCs;
 - Corel Word Perfect Office for DTP;
 - Common Software application by Hyperscript Tools on client PCs;
 - EPOQUE-NET application for searches in EPO's databases;
 - Acrobat Exchanger for converting patents into PDF format;
 - Netscape v.6 and Microsoft Internet Explorer for INTERNET/INTRANET;
 - Software specific to the CD-ROM collections namely Mimosa, Data Ware, etc.
- Administration of the Patent Collection and of the Services Rendered to the Public (for applications, assistance on search, ways and means of getting the official publications and of gaining access to records/statistics).

VI. Administration of the industrial property office library and information products and services available to the public (relating to facilities, e.g., for lodging applications, for assisting clients on searching procedures, for obtaining official publications and registry extracts)

Collecting, acquisitions, preparation

OSIM exchanges documents with more than 45 foreign patent offices and international industrial property organizations. As a result of this international exchange OSIM received in 2004:

- All the patent collections in CD-DVD;
- 1,300 official journals;
- 80 specialized reviews (paper/CD-ROMs).

The received patent documents (paper) are entered in a key-card in sequential order and then classified according to the International Patent Classification. The patent collection of Romania comprises 173,000 patent applications and 119,000 patents and is arranged both sequentially and according to the IPC classes.

Collection management, preservation

The National Patent Collection comprises more than 20 million documents (on paper) grouped in national collections (countries) ordered by years, according to the IPC or sequentially.

The storage rooms are protected against fire; they are provided with air-conditioners and partially with moving shelves.

In 1998 OSIM set up a document preservation-restoration team and the National Industrial Property Archives Bureau in charge of protecting and exploiting information in the OSIM archives.

The team was trained in document restoration at the National Archives School; its entire activity is under the control of the National Archives.

Interlibrary lending, resource sharing, networks of patent libraries in the country

OSIM exchanges documents with the National Library which has a complete collection of the official bulletins printed by the Office; OSIM also exchanges documents with other national offices, regional organizations and the WIPO Library.

The Office also cooperates with other Romanian public libraries and especially with the libraries of other offices aiming at having a regular exchange of information and documents on industrial property.

According to its development programme OSIM set up 14 regional information centres all over the country thereby extending the dissemination of the patent literature information in the territory.

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

At its reading-room OSIM makes all its documentation available to the public and makes xerox copies of the patent documents, search reports and patent literature surveys, upon request. Upon paid order, the Offices makes searches on infringement risks in the territory of Romania.

The reading-room makes available to the public computer-aided services, providing access to the in-house databases: Access A/B, Espace Bulletin, EP-A full-text, BIB, Patents Assist, ASSIGN, CD-ROM (local search), assistance and use of external databases in the INTERNET.

In its INTERNET page - www.osim.ro the Office allows for the access of the public to a wide range of useful information: BOPI, patents, national legislation, etc.

Some of the documents were already stored in the moving shelves, the full security of those documents being under strict supervision.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information

OSIM exchanges, on bilateral basis, Official Gazettes and patent descriptions (on paper and/or CDROM) with 44 other industrial property offices.

VIII. Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries (please indicate URLs of web pages of the Office's website wherever appropriate)

In 2006, OSIM had a rich promotion activity all over the national territory: more than 10 seminars on topics specific to the industrial property field, participation in many exhibitions home and abroad, organization of training courses for beginners and advanced learners in the field of industrial property and computer search, etc. OSIM participated in the international fairs organized in Geneva and Bucharest, and in some important national fairs.

In the year 2006, OSIM sent patents on paper and the related bibliographic data in electronic format to ARCANUM and EPIDOS, monthly, to have them included in the PRECES CD-ROM.

The Office published the database of patents granted in Romania in the INTERNET, said database starts with the patent no. 105544, which was the first patent granted under the Patent Law (Law no. 64/1991).

In addition, there is a collaboration program between the OSIM and 10 county libraries.

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

X. Other relevant matters

1.	Classification is allotting one or more classification symbols (e.g., IPC symbols) to a patent application, either before or during search and examination, which symbols are then published with the patent application.
2.	Preclassification is allotting an initial broad classification symbol (e.g., IPC class or subclass, or administrative unit) to a patent application, using human or automated means for internal administrative purposes (e.g., routing an application to the appropriate examiner). Usually preclassification is applied by the administration of an office.
3.	Reclassification is the reconsideration and usually the replacement of one or more previously allotted classification symbols to a patent document, following a revision and the entry into force of a new version of the Classification system (e.g., the IPC). The new symbols are available on patent databases.