



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1999

ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES*

submitted by

LITHUANIA

An annual series of reports on the industrial design information activities of members of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies

The expression "industrial design" covers designs and models.

Information related to design patent activities reported by industrial property offices issuing design patents is included in this series of documents.

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT OF THE STATE PATENT BUREAU OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA (SPB) ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN 1999

I. Evolution of registration activities.

Application filings and registrations in 1999:

- 145 applications filed, from which 72,4% applications originating in Lithuania
- 160 industrial designs registered.

Compared with 1998 the number of:

- filings decreased by 35,3%
- filings originating in Lithuania decreased by 46,4%
- Industrial design registrations decreased by 22,0%.

Foodstuffs and their packaging, construction and finishing materials, furniture and household appliances were the leading areas as reflected in industrial design application filings in 1999.

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

The Official Gazette on Inventions, Industrial Designs, Trademarks and Service Marks, Firm Names contains announcements published in 1999 on the industrial design registrations:

- Published registrations
- Cancelled registrations
- Changes: in the name/address of the owner
- Renewal of registrations
- Lapsed registrations
- Transfer of industrial designs
- Licensing
- Rectifications.

Sections of the Official Gazette are coded in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.17.

In 1998 the Lithuanian Technical Library (LTL) has been included into the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania government sphere. In order to enhance the information system of industrial property protection in Lithuania, on February 1, 1999 the LTL had a new structural unit established, i.e. Patent Information Centre (PIC).

The Official Gazette is prepared using DTP tools, printed and may be obtained at the PIC.

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

Registrations have been classified in accordance with the fifth edition of the International (Locarno) Classification.

Internationally agreed Numbers for the Identification of Data (INID Codes) relating to industrial designs were used in the Register and in the Official Gazette.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep.

The internal file of the SPB contains Lithuanian Official Gazette.

The exchange of the Official Gazette of the SPB with foreign states and intergovernmental organisations is effected by the **PIC**, and this way the **PIC** is updated with national and foreign documentation.

Patent file of the **PIC** contains national and foreign Official Gazettes.

The card index "Protection of Industrial Property in Lithuania" is maintained.

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

The Register of industrial designs is a database which contains all bibliographic and legal status data (including changes in names, addresses, licences, transfers).

The software of the database (FoxPro 2.0) has been developed by the specialists of the Lithuanian Information Institute.

Public users have a possibility to use the following **PIC** CD-ROM databases:

- Design Gazettes CD-ROM
- Schweizerisches Patent-, Muster- und Markenblatt
- NIVILO:CLASS.

In 1999 LTL web site (http://www.tb.lt) addressing the issues of the **PIC** was expanded. The site offers information about the available documents, services, electronic databases on CD-ROM, subscribed publications, forms of orders thereof, sources in the Internet, newly received books, etc.

VI. Administration of industrial design 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).

The Register of industrial designs is open to public access only in the following forms:

- Extract from the Register (on request)
- Official Gazette.

In 1999, the provision of the most recent issue of the Official Gazette of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania monthly on the SPB Web site continued (http://www.is.lt/vpb/engl).

The **PIC** offers to its visitors the opportunity to get acquainted with a wide range of Lithuanian publications: Official Gazettes of the SPB, annual reports by the SPB, sets of communications and regulations.

In 1999, the **PIC** had 857 subscribers (including enterprises, firms, individuals) registered.

The personnel of the **PIC** rendered a wide range of information services: search in CD-ROM databases and Internet, topical search, search of Lithuanian industrial designs.

The **PIC** also was handling bibliographic data card index "Protection of Industrial Property in Lithuania", organising topical and novelty exhibitions.

The official publications of the SPB may be obtained at the **PIC**.

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

In 1999 the official gazette of the SPB was distributed in 43 foreign states and intergovernmental organisations (AM, AT, BA, BG, BY, BX, CA, CH, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EM, EP, ES, FI, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, JP, KG, KZ, LV, MC, MD, MK, NO, PL, RO, RU, SE, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, UA, US, UZ, WO, YU) on the basis of mutual exchange.

VIII. Matters concerning education and training including technical assistance to developing countries.

Lithuanian specialists took part in the following training courses and meetings:

- PATLIB99 Conference in Lucern (CH).
- 13th and 14th RIPP Coordination Meetings in Vilnius (LT) and in Sinaia (RO).

The SPB and "Sidabrinis Tinklas" specialists participated in the following Common Software meeting:

Evaluation meeting in Munich (EP).

In 1999 the Lithuanian version of Video on Industrial Property Protection was produced in accordance with PHARE-RIPP by the ADVANCE MULTI-MEDIA Ltd.

IX. Other relevant matters.

In 1999 the Strategy 2000 of the Industrial Property Information System of the Republic of Lithuania was defined (approved by the Order of the SPB Director No.118 of 4 October 1999).

The Strategy 2000 envisages the main goals of the SPB for the coming years:

- The replenishment of the SPB Web site with Lithuanian industrial property information data in accordance with requirements of the WIPO
- The use of <u>esp@cenet</u> and WIPONET for the dissemination of Lithuanian industrial property information data.

The SPB participated in the following SCIT activities in 1999:

- Electronic communication of PCIPI/SCIT files via the INTERNET
- Second and Fourth Plenary Sessions of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT2 and SCIT4)

 Second Joint Meeting of the Working Groups of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT/WG/2).