

# WIPO



SCIT/ATR/PI/1999/AT

**E**

**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**

GENEVA

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES**

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT**

**1999**

**ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES\***

submitted by

**AUSTRIA**

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

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- The term “patent” covers utility models and SPCs.
- Information related to design patent activities reported by industrial property offices issuing design patents is included in the series of documents SCIT/ATR/ID.



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Mr.  
Klaus-Peter **WITTI**G  
Deputy Director  
Inter-Office Information Services Department  
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CH-1211 Genève 20

Re.: Task No. 24 of the SCIT Working Program:  
Annual Technical Reports on Patent Information Activities in 1999 -  
Contribution of the Austrian Patent Office

Dear Deputy Director,

With reference to WIPO Circular SCIT 2486 of March 16, 2000, I have pleasure in providing the Annual Technical Report on Patent Information Activities in 1999 of the Austrian Patent Office.

We would like to bring to the International Bureau's attention that only changes in our patent information activities which have taken place during 1999 and foreseeable changes in our information activities are included in the report. For further information reference is made to our previous reports.

Yours sincerely,

Encl.

**i.A. HR Dr. E. Gronau**  
Head of Technical Department XI  
Austrian Patent Office

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT**  
**ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN 1999**

of the Austrian Patent Office

I. Evolution of patent activities

The numbers of applications, grants and registrations in 1999 in Austria are presented together with the numbers in 1998 (= 100%):

National patent applications:	2 369	in 1999	(+2,7%)
	2 307	in 1998	
Granted national patents:	1 328	in 1999	(- 2%)
	1 355	in 1998	
Granted European patents with AT as designated state:	13 130	in 1999	(-1,5%)
	13 328	in 1998	
Utility model applications:	964	in 1999	(+8,9%)
	885	in 1998	
Utility model registrations:	722	in 1999	(+3,3%)
	699	in 1998	
Supplementary protection certificate applications:	51	in 1999	(+37,8%)
	37	in 1998	
Supplementary protection certificate registrations:	27	in 1999	(-38,6%)
	44	in 1998	

The majority of national applications yielded from the technical fields of fixed construction (14,6%), of human necessities (13,0%), of process engineering (11,3%) and of transportation and packaging (11%).

2 828 of the 2 333 domestic applications were filed by Austrian enterprises and Austrian individuals which is an increase of 4,5% compared with 1998.

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

Nothing new to report since the 1998 report.

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

Nothing new to report since the 1996 report.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep

Nothing new to report since the 1996 report.

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

An electronic registry for Appeals and Nullities procedures including work-flow information and access via the office´ intranet was set up.

Activities for securing the Y2K-Compliance of the EDP installations were carried out.

In order to improve the access time to the patent documents a project for migrating the document data of the in-house patent search system RISP from Juke-Boxes to Hard-Disk was started.

An intranet help system for online demands of the technical examiners was established.

In 1999 a new project which will integrate all Austrian patent publications (patent documents since 1899, filed and published translations of EP-patent documents

designated for Austria since 1979) into the [esp@cenet](mailto:esp@cenet) system within the next three years was launched.

VI. Administration of the industrial property library and services available to the public

Internet access to the patent, utility models and supplementary protection certificates registers was made available to the public in 1999. The access is subjected to subscription.

**Amendments of the Homepage** of the Office:

- The pamphlets concerning the filing procedure and fees were revised.
- All application filing forms were posted on the Internet in PDF-format.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information

Nothing new to report since the 1998 report.

VIII. Other relevant matters concerning education and training in, and promotion of, the use of patent information, including technical assistance to developing countries

Training courses for national and foreign participants:

The main target group of the patent information activities of the office in 1999 were the domestic enterprises, in particular small and medium sized enterprises. Seminars were organized also for lawyers, universities and schools.

The program of periodical training courses on online search systems for the technical examiners of the office was continued. A computer training room with 6 workstations and a screen overhead projector were installed.

In addition to the activities of the APO in cooperation with WIPO and the European Patent Office, training courses and information seminars on patent examination and on utility model protection were organized according to bilateral cooperation agreements. Participants were members of several governmental and non-governmental institutions, besides others of the Patent Offices of Romania, the People's Republic of China, Macedonia and Turkey.

Assistance to developing countries:

In cooperation with WIPO a three-week training course on search and examination procedures was held for members of the intellectual property offices of Zimbabwe, Philippines, Jamaica and China.

In addition to a presentation of the organization and administration system of the office and of the library, the training program included lectures on

- examination and granting procedures of patent applications
- manual and online searching including the Internet
- build-up and upkeep of the patent document files which are only at the disposal of the technical examiners
- patent documentation on CD-ROM
- EDP assisted administration management system of the office
- introduction to the PCT
- introduction to the TRIPS agreement

A PCT symposium was organized by WIPO and the office focusing on the activities of a PCT searching and examination authority and the importance of the PCT for developing countries.

Promotional activities:

Delegation on the office chairman level from the Intellectual Property Offices of Mongolia, Croatia, Slovenia and of the Cooperation Council for the Arabian Gulf states paid a visit to the APO. Issues on further bilateral cooperation were discussed and experiences in the field of industrial property protection exchanged.

## Exhibitions:

Two exhibitions were organized in 1999:

The exhibition "100 years Austrian Patent Office", shown in the House of the Industry, gave a survey on the history of the Austrian Patent Office and of the industrial property protection in Austria. The Patent Offices of Slovakia, of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia and Poland whose industrial property right is closely connected to the Austrian system because of the historical development presented the industrial property laws in their respective country.

An exhibition on "Designs in Austria" was presented at the office's building

## Fairs:

The Austrian Patent Office participated in

- the Hanover Industry Fair
- the international trade fair in Celje (Slovenia)
- the VIET in Vienna
- the IENA in Nuremberg
- the INTERTECH in Dornbirn (Austria).

Further, the Austrian Patent Office took part in the PATINNOVA '99 meeting at Sani.

## IX. Other relevant matters

None.