

WIPO



SCIT/ATR/PI/1999/LT

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

1999

ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES*

submitted by

LITHUANIA

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.

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

I. Evolution of patent activities.

Application filings and grants in 1999:

- 97 patent applications filed direct with the SPB, from which 88,7% applications originating in Lithuania (including 1 PCT international application)
- 60 PCT international applications commenced the national phase
- 2052 patent applications published, from which 92,3% European patent applications extended to Lithuania
- 160 Lithuanian patents granted
- 139 European patents enforced in Lithuania.

Compared with 1998 the number of:

- national filings decreased by 34,5%
- filings originating in Lithuania has fallen by 35,8%
- Lithuanian grants decreased by 5,0%
- published European patent applications extended to Lithuania increased by 14,1%
- European patents enforced in Lithuania are higher by 63,5%.

Agriculture, Organic Chemistry, Medicine, Biochemistry remain the leading areas as reflected in patent filings 1995 - 1999.

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

Official patent publications of the SPB are:

- Patent applications (A documents) open for public inspection on request
- Patent Specifications (B documents) printed
- Official Gazette on Inventions, Industrial Designs, Trademarks and Service Marks, Firm Names.

The Official Gazette contains announcements published in 1999 on the:

➤ Lithuanian Patents/Applications:

- Published applications (A documents)
- Published PCT international applications (A documents)
- Withdrawn applications
- Granted patents (B documents)
- Lapsed patents
- Transfer of patents
- Licensing

- Changes: in the name/address of the grantee/attorney
- Rectifications

➤ European extensions:

- Published applications
- Withdrawn applications
- Published patents
- Invalidation of extension
- 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 and Patent Specifications are prepared using DTP tools, printed and may be obtained at the **PIC**.

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

Patent Specifications contain abstracts filed by applicants.

Patent applications published in 1999 have been classified in accordance with the sixth edition of the International Patent Classification (IPC).

Internationally agreed Numbers for the Identification of Data (INID codes) relating to patents were used in the Register, Official Gazette and Patent Specifications.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep.

The internal file of the SPB contains the Lithuanian patent publications and the following CD-ROM databases:

- ESPACE-EP-A
- ESPACE-EP-B+ACCESS
- ESPACE-WORLD
- ESPACE-ACCESS
- ESPACE-FIRST
- ESPACE-BULLETIN
- ESPACE-PRECES+ACCESS
- ESPACE-LEGAL
- ESPACE-SI
- ESPACE-ACCESS-EUROPE.

By the end of 1999, the **PIC** resources included 21 mill. national and foreign patent documents in a form of paper-printed publications (arranged according countries and IPC symbols), microfiche and mostly in a form of optical disks - CD-ROMs. Within the period of one year the **PIC** acquired about 640,000 documents, 97% of which on CD-ROM.

Full patent specifications of 20 (17 of them - on CD-ROM) countries and international organisations (BG, CA, CH, CZ, DE, DK, EP, FI, HU, JP, LT, LV, NO, PL, RO, RU, SE, SK, US, WO) are available.

Some of bibliography and first page databases are available on CD-ROM as well, i.e. ESPACE-ACCESS, ESPACE-ACCESS PRECES, PAJ CD-ROM, GLOBALPat.

In addition to that, the **PIC** acquired INPADOC database in microfiches by the classes of International Patent Classification and full specifications of Russian patents on CD-ROM for the period 1996-1997.

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

- ESPACE-EP-A
- ESPACE-WORLD
- ESPACE-ACCESS
- ESPACE-CH
- Schweizerisches Patent-, Muster- und Markenblatt
- ESPACE-DK
- ESPACE-PRECES+ACCESS
- ESPACE-DE
- DEPAROM-ACT
- JPO CD-ROM A&U
- JPO CD-ROM B&Y
- PAJ CD-ROM
- Patenty Rossiji
- Izobretenija stran mira
- CD-BOPI
- Canadian Patent Applications
- USAPat
- GLOBALPat.

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

V. Activities in the field of computerised and other mechanised search systems.

The Register of Patents is a database which contains all bibliographic and legal status data (including changes in names, addresses, licences, transfers). Legal status (via the payment of a fee) is technologically connected with correspondence dates. It is possible to extract data from the database for the Official Gazette and for the First Page of Application/Patent, including data in special format for EPIDOS-INPADOC, PRECES and to extract statistical data for the WIPO publication "Industrial Property Statistics".

The software of the database (FoxPro 2.0) has been developed by the specialists of the Lithuanian Information Institute. The software SPIRIT (Version 1.3a) developed by the French Company SWORD was used for the publishing of data received weekly from the EPO but data from the Register of Patents into the Common Software (Informix) were not transited in 1999.

The CD-ROM databases as mentioned in Section IV were available in 1998 at the SPB and **PIC**.

VI. Administration of the industrial property office library 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).

The Register of Patents is open to public access only in the following form:

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

Lithuanian Patent Specifications (“B” documents) are also available on ESPACE-PRECES CD-ROM. ESPACE-PRECES Vol.1998/09, Vol.1999/02 - Vol.1999/05, Vol.1999/07, Vol.1999/08, Vol.2000/01, Vol.2000/02 and ACCESS-PRECES Vol.1/1999 (in which the Lithuanian documents are included) were pressed in 1999. ESPACE-PRECES (from Vol.1999/06) and ACCESS PRECES (from Vol.999/02) are converted to MIMOSA.

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/eng/>).

The **PIC** offers to its visitors the opportunity to get acquainted with a wide range of Lithuanian publications: Official Gazettes of the SPB, full patent specifications in paper and CD-ROM format, patent applications, patent bibliography on CD-ROMs, annual reports by the SPB, sets of communications and regulations.

In 1999 the **PIC** had 857 subscribers (including enterprises, firms, individuals) registered. Approximately 450,000 documents were lent for use in the reading-room or for use at home. The personnel of the **PIC** rendered a wide range of information services: search of patents in CD-ROM databases and Internet, topical search, adjustment of bibliographic data in patent documents. The **PIC** also was handling bibliographic data card index “Protection of Industrial Property in Lithuania”, organising topical and novelty exhibitions.

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

The distribution of official patent publications of the SPB in foreign states and intergovernmental organisations on the basis of mutual exchange is effected also by the **PIC**.

VII. Matters concerning mutual exchange of patent documentation and information.

In 1999, monthly supply of the EPO and Hungarian Company ARCANUM with bibliographic data and also with legal status data on the Lithuanian Patent Applications, PCT Applications, Lithuanian Patents, European Patents for PRECES, for EPIDOS-INDADOC and for the Register of European Patents continued.

SPACE-PRECES CD-ROMs are distributed by the Hungarian Patent Office.

Exchange of priority documents can be effected and patent applications can be filled only on paper.

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

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

- PATLIB99 Conference in Lucern (CH)
- SPACE-PRECES Technical Meeting in Budapest (HU)
- 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 esp@cenet 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
- PCT International Applications accessible through the EPIDOS/PRS
- 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).