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**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT**

**1999**

**ON TRADEMARK INFORMATION ACTIVITIES**

submitted by

**POLAND**

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

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON TRADEMARK ACTIVITIES**  
**1999**  
**prepared by**  
**THE PATENT OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND**

**I. Evolution of registration activities**

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1. Application filing procedure, as well as registration procedure remained unchanged in 1999 with respect to the previous year.
2. In 1999, 12.465 decisions were taken relating to trademark registrations under the national procedure (of that, 9.571 were positive decisions) and justness of recognition in Poland of 10.009 international registrations was examined. The total number of decisions taken in respect of trademarks amounted to 22.474, which makes 99,2% in comparison with 1998.
3. The number of trademark registrations in force on 31.12.1999 amounted to 61.716 under the national procedure and to 46.779 under the Madrid Agreement (108.495 in total).

**II. Matters concerning the generation, reproduction and distribution of secondary sources of trademark information, i.e. trademark gazettes**

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1. Information on applications

In 1999, the Polish Patent Office received in total 24.973 trademark applications, including 15.658 trademark applications filed under the national law ( of them, 12.465 were filed by Polish subjects) and

9.315 foreign applications filed under the Madrid System ( notifications of international registrations with the designation of Poland), which makes a 3,3% total increase, comparing the 1998 data. In the period under review, of 393 received requests for international registration of Polish trademark applications under the Madrid System, 207 were transmitted to WIPO.

## 2. Storage and distribution of trademark information

Trademark information is stored on paper carrier and in machine-readable form (hard discs and CD-ROM). In 1999, that information was made accessible to:

### 2.1. the outside users:

- on the premises of the Polish Patent Office in the Office's Library, in the form of indices of trademark applications and indices of registered trademarks on paper. The Polish Patent Office publishes trademark applications only as an information material to enable making initial searching before filing an application. Indices of trademark applications are not official.
- within telecommunication access:
  - from 2 workstations installed in the Office's Library for performing retrieval on the data bases containing complete data on trademarks protected in Poland under the Madrid System /MARMAD/ and under national law /MARPOL/. (National applications are available on the MARPOL data base three months after the filing date);
  - from a user's computer, after he has acquired an appropriate authoriza-

tion (through a telephone line or through INTERNET);

- in the local mode:
- from a terminal in the Informatic Center of the University of Warsaw (CIUW) directly by a user or with the help of an operator of the CIUW.
- in the Polish Patent Office, for retrieval on the data bases contained on CD-ROM (ROMARIN, TRACES, DEMAS, CASSIS TRADEMARK PENDING, CASSIS TRADEMARK ASSIGN, CASSIS TRADEMARK REGISTERED, COMMUNITY TRADEMARKS BULLETIN (OHIM)).

2.2. the experts of the Polish Patent Office:

- in-house data bases BAZPAT and ROMARIN accessible in the network from experts' workstations.

The BAZPAT data base contains all data on trademarks filed and registered under national law, including data on the current stage of processing of each case.

### 3. Publishing techniques

Information on registered trademarks is published in the monthly official gazette „Wiadomosci Urzedu Patentowego” („Communications of the Patent Office „) – WUP, which is printed in offset, basing on the data contained in the BAZPAT data base, and is prepared for print with the use of DTP (VENTURA Publisher) system.. Laser printouts are the basis for the montage. In 1999, the Office issued 12 Nos of WUP (9.355 copies). WUP is also published on the Internet.

### **III. Classifying, reclassifying and indexing of trademark information**

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The Polish Patent Office applies the Nice Classification for goods and services and the Vienna Classification for figurative elements of trademarks. An applicant performs preliminary classification.

Classification symbols are verified and corrected at the stage of registration procedure.

### **IV. Trademark manual search file establishment and upkeep**

At present, traditional methods of searching trademarks are not used in the Polish Patent Office.

### **V. Activity in the scope of computerized trademark search systems**

1. In 1999, the Patent Office continued building up of the computerised trademark data base for internal purposes connected with filing, examination and registration of trademarks. The base included four data bases accessible in the network system:

- verbal trademark data base (BAZSLO), containing trademark

applications and registrations under the national procedure;

- figurative trademark data base (BAZGRA), containing trademark applications and registrations under the national procedure;
- international trademark registrations data base (ROMARIN);
- pesticide data base.

The above mentioned data bases were used for searching trademark information.

2. The following search tools are used for retrieval and search proposes:

2.1. bibliographic data:

- name of trademark (word in the mark, word beginning and word ending)
- application number (and/or the scope of application numbers)
- registration number (and/or the scope of registration numbers)
- application date (and/or the scope of dates)
- registration date (and/or the scope of dates)
- priority date (and/or the scope of dates)
- owner of mark (name or word contained in the name)
- Nice Classification
- Vienna Classification
- word in the list of goods and services.

At the end of 1999, data from the BAZSLO and BAZGRA data bases were transferred into the new-established, integrated trademark data base, functioning on the base of the ORACLE data base management tools (transition to the VERITY search system).

2.2. phonetic similarities of words contained in textual description of mark.

### 3. Administrative management systems

Information stored in the data base supports administrative functions. The computerised trademark data base has been also exploited for filling in registration cards and other kinds of printed matter used by a respective department and for correspondence with an applicant, e.g. prints of decisions, refusals, corrections and changes, decisions concerning collisions, decisions on registration and certificates of protection.

Statistical returns (including statistics for the WIPO) are prepared automatically.

Legal status information is daily recorded in the network.. System of fees' administration is also in operation.

4. In 1999, the following data bases containing verbal and figurative data on trademarks protected in Poland were rendered accessible for the needs of the outside users, i.e.:

4.1. in the Informatic Center of the Warsaw University /CIUW/:

- MARMAD data base, containing data on trademarks filed or protected in Poland under the Madrid System, and
- MARPOL data base, containing data on trademarks filed and registered in the Polish Patent Office under national law.

Access to the bases was possible through remote connections and from 2 workstations in the Office's Library. In December 1999, the Office resigned from the CIUW's services.

4.2. on the INTERNET:

- ARSTM data base, containing data on all trademarks filed and protected in Poland under national law, as well as information service on trademarks filed under international law, prepared on the base of data received from WIPO.

5. In 1999, an information service was launched on the INTERNET, containing, among others, current numbers /beginning from 1999/ of our official monthly gazette „Communications of the Patent Office” /WUP/, where data on trademarks registered in Poland are contained. Works were undertaken in order to have that publication launched on CD-ROM.

6. Works were continued in connection with making information on trademarks protected in Poland available on the Internet. Access to that information is possible from experts` terminals (for the needs of trademark examination), as well as from terminals in the Library within services for external users.

7. We continued cooperation with the European Patent Office and patent offices of Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Romania and Bulgaria in relation with the production of the TRACES CD-ROM optical disc, containing data on protected /verbal and figurative/ trademarks of said countries and Poland.

8. Modernized systems were implemented in the scope of works connected with personnel-wages, finance-accounting, materials management and recording of capital assets. Necessary training of personnel was also performed.

9. Works were undertaken with regard to modernization of the system of



searching figurative trademark elements, by having established a new data base in the Office`s local network, based upon the ORACLE data base management tools, with the simultaneous movement of the trademarks into an integrated data base, enabling trademark searches according to figurative and verbal elements.

10. The line capacity was extended from 9,6 kbps to 128 kbps.

11. Tasks connected with the 2000 year problem were performed.

12. Equipment used:

- Computer Local Area Network (Lan) with PC workstations /55 pieces/;
- The carriers are network discs ( hard discs and CD- ROM`s) supported by Novell`s NetWare system (the total capacity of discs for trademarks: 9 GB);
- Server NT with the ULTRANET system, for handling the ROMARIN system;
- In-house developed software in the tool systems:
  - Revelation system - bibliographic data,
  - FoxPro system and, at the end of 1999 – Verity and ORACLE system - figurative data;
- CD-Connection software for network access to the ROMARIN data base.

## **VI. Trademark services available to the public**

1. The following publications containing trademark information are

accessible in the Office's Public Library on paper:

- A bulletin „Wiadomosci Urzedu Patentowego” ( „Communications of the Patent Office”) - WUP, containing the following information on registered trademarks:

- registration number
- application date
- application priority date or exhibition priority date with the country code
- name and seat of the trademark owner with the country code
- list of goods and services to be marked by the given mark
- product classes
- the registered trademark
- classification of figurative elements
- colours claimed.

- Alphabetical index of trademark applications (in the form of computer printouts) for the last several years, supplemented monthly and containing :

- trademark name
- application number
- application date
- kind of trademark (verbal, figurative or mixed )
- product class, service class
- applicant's name
- applicant's city and country.

- Alphabetical index of registered trademarks covering the period 1924-1999 ( in the form of computer printouts), supplemented quarterly and containing data as in the above mentioned index, application number being replaced by a registration number.
2. The MARPOL and MARMAD data bases (characterised more precisely in paragraph V.4 above ) were accessible in the Informatic Center of the Warsaw University (CIUW) in a remote on-line mode on IBM-ES/900 mainframe. In the period under review, 2.395 searches were carried out, against payment, in the above mentioned trademark data bases. In December 1999, the Office resigned from the CIUW` s services.
  3. Data in the bases were updated monthly. The bases were accessible locally from a terminal in the CIUW directly by a user (or with the help of an operator of the CIUW) or in remote on-line mode from:
    - terminals installed in the Office` s Library;
    - a user` s computer, through a telephone line or through INTERNET.
  4. Information on services performed by the Office for users within the scope of trademarks has been contained on the www home page of the Patent Office and is periodically contained in a monthly information brochure „ Patent Office` s News „ .
  5. Information services for the users, with respect to trademark protection, have been performed by the General Information unit of the Office and in the Public Library where customers may also receive payable help within the retrieval and searching procedures.
  6. Excerpts, duplicates and certificates confirming specified entries in the

trademark register have been delivered against payment on request of an interested user.

## **VII. Exchange of documents and information**

1. Within mutual exchange between offices, in 1999, our Office sent 525 copies of the „Communications of the Patent Office” (WUP) to 32 foreign offices and to 1 international organization (EPO), receiving in exchange from the majority of them their official gazettes, containing, among others, trademark information.

Thus, in the period under review, documentation files of the Polish Patent Office enlarged of official gazettes (on paper) from 37 foreign patent offices and from the WIPO.

2. On CD-ROM, we received trademark data from the USA (40 discs), from Germany (1 disc) and from OHIM (74 discs).

Totally, in 1999, the files of the Office enlarged of 115 discs with trademark data.

3. In the period under review, data necessary for production of the TRACES disc were prepared and transmitted in electronic form. In 1999, within the framework of popularisation of the TRACES data base, the countries covered by the RIPP Programme were provided, free of charge, with 35 sets /disc + manual/ of that product, while in the country 36 sets of the disc were sold on individual orders, mainly to patent attorneys' offices and to the libraries of various universities.

4. Under the Madrid System, the Office received 12 sets of optical discs

ROMARIN with applications of international trademarks.

5. In 1999, the Office received 25 numbers (200 copies) of the WIPO Bulletin „WIPO Gazette of International Marks”, free of charge.

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

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1. Between May 3 and May 5, 1999, 2 persons of the Office`s staff participated in a seminar organized in Ljubljana (Slovenia). The subject of the seminar related to international agreements and classifications within the scope of trademarks.

2. In 1999, between June 30 and July 1, 3 persons from the Patent Office took part in the training course organized in the Hague by the EPO in cooperation with the Benelux Trademark Office on the subject of trademark searches.

3. Between 13 and 19 September, 1999, 30 employees of the Office participated in a conference organized jointly with the EPO in the Polish Patent Office. The subject of the conference covered trademarks, keeping registers, opposition procedure connected with trademark registrations. The lecture was delivered by an expert from the German Patent and Trademark Office.

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