

# WIPO



SCIT/ATR/ID/2001/US

# E

**WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**  
GENEVA

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES**

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT**

**2001**

**ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES\***

submitted by the

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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 ON  
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN INFORMATION ACTIVITIES**

submitted by the

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**PLEASE NOTE:** The USPTO issues design patents and does **not** register industrial designs. However, US design patent information is included in this report since WIPO has requested that "Offices which issue design patents should report their design patent information activities in this series of Annual Technical Reports."

**I. Evolution of registration activities:**

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the USPTO granted 16,872 design patents a reduction of 3 percent from the number granted in CY 2000. The share of grants having foreign origin, as determined by the residence of the first-named inventor, was 38.7 percent for CY 2001, up from 35.2 percent for CY 2000. The top patenting organizations receiving design patents in CY 2001 were Sony Corporation (177 design patents), Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. (100 patents), Canon Kabushiki Kaisha (99 design patents), Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company (91 design patents), Black and Decker Inc. (79 patents), Bernhardt, L.L.C. (65 patents), and Procter and Gamble Company (62 design patents).

There were 18,280 design patent applications filed at the USPTO in CY 2001, virtually unchanged as compared to CY 2000. The CY 2001 share of applications having foreign origin, as determined by the residence of the first-named inventor, is estimated to be 38 percent, up from 37 percent for CY 2000.

Trends or areas experiencing rapid changes with respect to the previous year

Among the highly active design patent areas for calendar year (CY) 2001, the number of design patent grants in 'Jewelry, Symbolic Insignia, and Ornaments' increased by 23 percent, the number of design patent grants in 'Lighting' increased by 14 percent, and the number of design patents in 'Medical and Laboratory Equipment' increased by 13 percent over the number of grants for CY 2000.

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

### Publishing, including printing, copying techniques and electronic printing

There are no new developments to report for calendar year 2001.

### Main types of announcements of the Office in the field of industrial design information

There are no new developments to report for calendar year 2001.

### Mass storage media and microforms used

#### Storage Devices

In 1996, the USPTO began incorporating magnetic rewritable storage devices into its standard operations to replace older optical storage technology. The magnetic device holds all patent data, and is used as a pre-load area for volume reproduction of patent data via high-speed printers. The use of the faster responding devices has dramatically improved search system performance. The "redundant array of disk" technology used by the magnetic devices has substantially improved data availability. During 1996-1999 USPTO acquired the necessary amounts of magnetic storage to process terabytes of patent, trademark, and other business data electronically. At the end of 1999 all the optical storage devices had been replaced.

In 1994, USPTO established its first publicly available Internet database offering AIDS-related patents in full-text and image formats. In 1995, USPTO established an additional database serving US Patent bibliographic data from 1976 to the present issue week. In 1998, USPTO offered an Internet database containing the text and cropped images of all registered and pending trademarks. In 1998, USPTO established an Internet database with access to the full-text and images of patents from 1976 forward, consisting of two terabytes of full-page images and 120GB of searchable full-text. In 2000, USPTO acquired an additional 2 terabytes of storage and added images of all US patents from 1790 through 1975. Presently, almost four terabytes of full-page image data for all patents from 1790 to the present is stored on these devices at USPTO and accessible from the Internet, along with 200GB of patent numbers and current US classifications for all patents from 1790 through 1975, as well as searchable full-text for all patents from 1976 to the present.

### Databases and office automation

EAST and WEST search clients provide access to text information available back to 1970. Images of all USPTO Design Patents are available in either EAST or WEST with access through domestic and/or international classification assignments. Additionally, the EAST and WEST search clients can access images from the Derwent, EPO, JPO and IBM Technical Disclosure

Bulletins databases. These same search tools can also access many of the images corresponding to the aforementioned non-US Patent databases.

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

Classification and reclassification activities; Classification system used, e.g., International Classification for Industrial Designs (Locarno Classification), other classification (please indicate whether industrial designs are classified by your Office and, if so, which classification is used)

All design patents that issued in 2001 include both a US Patent Classification designation and a Locarno International Classification designation. The Automated Patent Search (APS) systems available within the PTO and at selected Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries provide the capacity for searching for US Patent documents with either a US or a Locarno classification designation.

The USPTO maintains a concordance between the United States Patent Classification System and the Locarno International Classification System. This concordance was updated in 2001 to reflect new subclasses established in the design patent search file as part of the reclassification of US design patent documents.

During 2001, a reclassification project was completed for the vehicle tire art in design class D12 – *Transportation*. Approximately 100 new subclasses and one Cross-Reference Art Collection were established.

The *Index to Classification* was expanded to include with new terms pertinent to searching industrial designs for the reclassified subject matter in design class D12 - *Transportation*.

Formal definitions were published for all mainline and newly established subclasses in design class D12. The purpose of formal definitions is to clarify the type and scope of subject matter contained in a class or subclass. Formal definitions may include search notes that aid in locating additional areas in the USPC system pertinent to specific subject matter. Classification definitions are available at the URL below:

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/def/index.htm>

Further information about the use of the US Patent Classification System is available at:

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/menu/pats.html>

#### Bibliographic data and processing for search purposes

Currently, USPTO provides full text search of US patents back to 1970. In 2002, they plan to provide text access to US patents issued prior to 1970. This will be done using unperfected OCR data. All these documents have corresponding images available for review by examiners. It is expected that examiners will identify relevant documents by text searching the “dirty” OCR file,

but will use the document images to determine applicability to applications under review. Examiners also have full text access to IBM technical disclosure bulletins, and bibliographic data and abstract data from Derwent, EPO and JPO patents.

#### **IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:**

##### File building

By the end of calendar year 2001, the total number of US Design Patents increased by 16,872 for a total of 451,935 documents. An average of 324 design patent documents issued each week. An average of 477 original and cross-reference design patent documents were added to the search file each week.

##### OCR File

Using Optical Character Recognition, the USPTO has captured the text of all U.S. patents back to 1790 which is approximately 3.9 million additional documents. This text has not been perfected and contains mistakes in reading letters, and does not associate the data with the fields in the replacement search system. It is being characterized as the "dirty OCR data." The dirty OCR'ed text of the U.S. patent backfile was provided to the Computer Search System (CSS) project and loaded into the replacement text search system in 2000-2001. Initial examiner access to the OCR backfile was provided via the WEST (Web-based Examiner Search Tool) interface in October 2001. In FY 2002, the USPTO will begin efforts to add "clean" bibliographic data to the backfile and will investigate other ways of enhancing the searchability of the file. In FY 2004, the USPTO plans to start a five-year project to perfect the OCR data. The OCR patent back file will be made available for exchange with the USPTO's International partners and for sale to commercial customers.

##### NPL

Development of a database of examiner-identified NPL continued. Examiners working in business methods art areas were briefed on the project in October 2001 and they began submitting documents. Testing of the database interface using an initial database of about two hundred records will begin in early May. Each document in the database has been assigned an EPO XP number, to facilitate potential inclusion in the EPO's NPL database. The types of documents submitted by examiners include journal articles, portions of books, documents from the Internet, advertisements, press releases, and standards. Plans call for the database and tools to be available to examiners in early June 2002.

USPTO examiners have desktop access to over 6,000 journals in electronic format as well as several thousand electronic books

In 2001, registered industrial design images of CD-ROM from the International Bureau and the Japan Patent Office became available for access by design patent examiners.

### Updating

Concurrent with the publication of each new Design Patent in the Official Gazette, copies are added to the paper and electronic search files. However, examiner reliance on the Automated Patent Search systems is no longer supplemented by the examiner set of paper search files.

Also, see File Building, above.

### Storage, including mass storage media and microforms

In FY 1997 and FY 1998, the USPTO installed 42 terabytes of Redundant Arrays of Independent Disk (RAID) magnetic disk storage systems to process patent, trademark, and other business data electronically. In FY 1999 through FY 2001 additional capacity was acquired that doubled the amount of online magnetic storage available. The USPTO is continuing its partnership with EMC Corporation for server attached and Storage Area Network (SAN) storage devices. With a long-term lease agreement, USPTO will acquire the use of 225 TB of raw disk capacity by FY 2004. Managing this storage will require not only continued vendor support, but also integration with the Enterprise Management System (EMS).

### Documentation from other offices maintained and/or considered part of the available search file

Gazette type publications of design registrations from over 37 nations or international organizations are available to examiners. These publications are generally maintained in the Design Library or the USPTO Scientific and Technical Information Center (STIC).

A collection of non-patent literature is available to examiners in the Design Library and the main STIC facility. Non-patent literature includes commercial publications, catalogs, magazines, advertising fliers, technical publications and other information pertinent to the 33 classes for industrial designs in the United States Patent Classification system. Additionally, the Scientific and Technical Information Center provides complete library services that include links to libraries nation-wide, literature acquisition as requested, and cataloging of literature received. The literature in the collection can be searched via an on-line catalog maintained by the STIC.

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

### In-house systems (on-line/off-line)

Examiners at the USPTO have the same search tools as utility examiners. The International Patent Classification field that is part of the text search system can also be used to search Locarno classifications for industrial design patents. USPTO examiners do not frequently use this.

### External data bases

The STIC performs searches for the design examiners on commercial online databases when requested. They also search for resources on the Internet that are appropriate for design examiners.

### Administrative management systems (e.g., register, legal status, statistics, administrative support, etc.)

### Patents Location and Monitoring System (PALM) Migration

The USPTO continued the phased subsystem delivery with successful delivery of the first subsystem (Infrastructure) in October 1998. The second subsystem (File Ordering) was delivered in October 1999. The third subsystem (Pre-examination system) was delivered in February 2000.

The PALM project schedule has been impacted by implementation of the American Inventors Protection Act. All PALM related systems went through a major upgrade to support Legislation for the Pre Grant Publication of Application (PG Pub). This release was deployed throughout the PTO on 29 November 2000. Exam Post-Exam (EXPO) is the project name for the final migration of the PALM system from the A-16 computer. EXPO encompasses the functionality of Examination, Post Examination and Patent Term Adjustment and was deployed in the Fall of 2001.

### PALM on PTOnet

All Patent Examiners have been provided further access to the current Management Information System on their desktop PC via barcode readers and a web browser interface. This system has been found to provide increased case tracking accuracy. No future enhancements are planned until PALM Migration is completed.

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

PTOnet has an architecture consisting of a campus wide Gigabit Ethernet switched backbone with edge device switches providing switched Ethernet connection for individual workstations. Currently, PTOnet users have dedicated 100 Mbps switched Ethernet connections.

PTOnet provides examiners and other staff with access to the Internet through dual-redundant firewalls. Access zones implemented via firewalls and proxy servers have been implemented to provide a limited amount of controlled access to PTOnet resources for external users. Additional external access capabilities are being developed through implementation of a variety of access control mechanisms including digital certificate based authentication supported by a full Public Key Infrastructure (PKI).

**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):**

Planning, administration, automation, security

These functions are provided by the Design Library in cooperation with STIC whenever necessary.

Collection management, preservation

The STIC purchases and catalogs all non-patent materials purchased, and maintains the Design Library collection under the Design Group's guidance. The STIC receives design patent materials from sixteen countries via exchange agreements. These documents are kept in the Design Library except for materials received from two of the countries that include other patent documents together with the design documents. These materials are kept in the Main STIC.

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

Copies of Design patents continue to be provided to the 87 libraries in the USPTO's Patent and Trademark Depository Library (PTDL) Program in optical disc formats. Online access to Design patents is made available to the 27 PTDLs participating in the WEST pilot project, and the two Partnership PTDLs via access to EAST or WEST. The two Partnership PTDLs also offer additional fee-based services. A list of current PTDLs can be found at the PTDL Web site located at: <http://www.uspto.gov/go/ptdl>. The Web site includes information about the Program's mission, history, background, services, and core collections, as well as links to the Program's publications, materials, and reference tools. Each of the 87 PTDLs is linked from the PTDL List available from the Web site.

Automated Information in Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries

Web-based online searching for the patent text and image database is available at the 27 PTDLs participating in the WEST pilot project. Fees have been waived for the duration of the pilot.

The USPTO continues to provide a number of optical disc products to PTDLs for direct public use. This includes all Cassis optical disc products; Patents BIB, Patents CLASS, Patents ASSIST, Patents & Trademarks ASSIGN, Trademarks BIB, Trademarks ASSIST, USAPat, USAApp, and USAMark.

Partnership PTDLs in Sunnyvale, California and Detroit, Michigan offer fee-based access to selected USPTO's in-house automated systems. These systems include WEST, EAST, and X-Search. Other PTDL Partnership services include electronic ordering of US and foreign patent



documents, on-site and videoconference practitioner and public seminars, local filing of Disclosure Documents, and a secure videoconferencing capability between patent examiners and inventors and/or attorneys.

#### Automated Information in Patent Public Search Facilities

In 2001, public access continued to be offered via the Universal Public Workstation (UPWS), a secured access providing a single platform and consistent interface to all databases. The patent examiner search systems EAST and WEST, and the self-service document image print WALK-UP Print continued to be provided on UPWS. In addition, the DVD-ROM Cassis titles were moved to this platform in September 2001. In November 2001, the following additional databases migrated to UPWS: Patent Application Locator (PatAppLoc), Patent Maintenance Fees (PatFees), and Paper Classified File Locator (PatPapLoc). EAST is increasingly preferred by the public at a rate of ten to one over WEST. Both systems permit access to all US patent images and word searching of text contained in US patents granted since 1971. They also provide text searching of English language patent abstracts from the European Patent Office and Japan Patent Office. Public access to these search systems continued to grow throughout 2001. Use increased from 6,736 hours in January 2001 to 8,970 hours in January 2002. An average of 687 unique customers used the systems monthly, with a high of 728 users in March 2001. There were an average of 10,749 sessions monthly. This averages 488 patent sessions per day in the patent search facilities.

The number of workstations has increased significantly in the Patent Search Room, from 6 in 1999, to 64 by November 2001. In addition there are 23 UPWS workstations in a special ergonomic Patent Search and Image Retrieval Facility. Two were just added to the Patent Assignment Search Room in November 2001 for a total of 89 UPWS workstations for patent searching. Session fees are suspended to encourage electronic searching; however, print fees are collected at the UPWS workstations via on-line accounts. With the increased number of workstations and availability from 8 AM to 8 PM Monday through Friday there are no wait lines at this time.

An 8-hour training course for novice or first time patent users is available to the public on the WEST system. A 4-hour course for advanced users is available on the EAST system. Courses are scheduled once a month for a nominal fee or more often as needed. Special one-page guides and Helpful Hints are available in the on-line search areas. Individual assistance is always available from the staff.

The Re-examination file system REPS was introduced into the Patent Search Room in February 2000. Re-exam files may be browsed and images printed via a stand-alone REPS workstation and printer. 285,000 pages from 318 files were printed in 2001. As CD-ROM titles have migrated to wider access of UPWS, the number of workstations accessing the public CD-ROM Local Area Network in the Patent Search Room and Patent Assignment Search Room have been reduced to 3. These provide access to all USPTO's archival CD-ROM image retrieval products USAPAT, USAMARK, and Assignments. Access and printing from the CD-ROM LAN is free.

### Automated Products Provided to the Public

The USPTO's Information Dissemination Services continues to provide patent information products and services to the public in a variety of formats. The *Products and Services Catalog*, produced biennially, describes USPTO products and services, and contains details on how to obtain them. The *Catalog* is also available for viewing at the USPTO Web site.

The following CD-ROM products are available for purchase by the public:

*Patents BIB: Selected Bibliographic Information from US Patents Issued 1969 to Present*

This Cassis DVD-ROM contains bibliographic information for utility patents issued from 1969 to the present, and for other types of patent documents issued from 1977 to the present. It includes date of issue, state/country of first listed inventor's residence, assignee at time of issue, status (i.e., withdrawn, corrected, expired for failure to pay maintenance fees, reexamined or term extended), current classifications, patent title, and patent abstracts (for the most recent 2½-year period, as disc space allows). Patents BIB also refers to patent image locations on USAPat, described below. This DVD-ROM product is updated every two months.

*Patents CLASS: Current Classifications of US Patents Issued 1790 to Present*

This Cassis DVD-ROM contains current classification information for all utility, design, plant, reissue and X-numbered patents, as well as defensive publications and statutory invention registrations issued from 1790 to the present (over 6 million documents). Indexing of classification information has been optimized for rapid retrieval. This DVD-ROM product is updated every two months.

*Patents and Trademarks ASSIGN: US Patents and Trademarks Assignments Recorded at the USPTO 1980 August to Present*

This Cassis DVD-ROM includes data derived from assignment deeds for issued patents and registered trademarks, which were recorded at the Patent and Trademark Office after August 1980 for patents, and since 1955 for trademarks. The disc includes assignments recorded before and after the patent issued. This DVD-ROM product is updated every three months. This product is the combination of two previous titles, Patents ASSIGN and Trademarks ASSIGN, now no longer published.

*Patents ASSIST: Full Text of Patent Search Tools*

This Cassis DVD-ROM is a compilation of many patent search tools including the following: Manual of Classification, Index to the US Patent Classification, Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, IPC - USPC Concordance, and Attorneys and Agents Registered to Practice Before the US Patent and Trademark Office. In addition, Classification Definitions, a Patentee-Assignee Index, and a Classification Orders Index are included. The Patentee-Assignee Index shows ownership at time of issue for utility patents 1969 to present; for other patent types 1977 to present; and inventor names 1975 to present. The Classification Orders Index is a list of

classifications abolished and established since 1976 with corresponding Classification Order number and effective date. This DVD-ROM product is updated every three months.

*Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP)*

This Manual is published to provide US Patent and Trademark Office patent examiners, applicants, attorneys, agents, and representatives of applicants with a reference work on the practices and procedures relative to the prosecution of patent applications before the Patent and Trademark Office. The MPEP is available in electronic form as an ASCII text file downloadable (no charge) from the USPTO Web site on the Internet at <http://www.uspto.gov/>, and as a searchable text file on the Patents ASSIST DVD-ROM product which includes many other useful files. Each revision is fully incorporated into the base edition and republished as a whole.

*USAPat: Facsimile Images of United States Patents*

This Cassis DVD-ROM product contains facsimile images of US patents. An “image” is an actual page of the patent, including all drawings, and looks just like the original printed document. The purpose of USAPat is to serve as a document delivery system not as a search system. Retrieval is by document number only from a cumulative index. Excellent printed copies of actual documents can be obtained directly from a laser printer. Over 150 discs are published each year (three to four discs per week). Delivery of weekly discs is usually within 15 days from issue date.

*Trademarks BIB: Bibliographic Information from Abandoned, Canceled, Expired, Pending, and Registered US Marks*

This Cassis DVD-ROM contains the text of all abandoned, canceled, expired, pending, and registered trademarks from 1884 to present with 30 searchable fields. This DVD-ROM product is updated every two months. This product is the combination of two previous titles, Trademarks PENDING and Trademarks REGISTERED, now no longer published, with the addition of abandoned, canceled, and expired marks.

*Trademarks ASSIST: Full Text of Trademark Search Tools*

This Cassis DVD-ROM includes the searchable text of the Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure, the Goods and Services Manual, the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board Manual of Procedure, the Trademark Statute and Rules (Trademark Act of 1946 and the Rules of Practice), the Trademark Telephone Index, and the PTO Products and Services Catalog. It is updated on an irregular basis.

*USAMark: Facsimile Images of United States Trademark Registrations*

This Cassis CD-ROM contains facsimile images of U.S. registered trademarks from 1870 to the present. An “image” is an actual page of the trademark, including renewals and modifications, and looks just like the original printed document. *USAMark* is a document delivery system, not a search system. Retrieval is by document number only from a cumulative index that covers all issued discs. Excellent printed copies of actual documents can be obtained directly from a laser printer. USAMark consists of 153 discs including registrations through 2002 April. USAMark is published monthly.

The USPTO maintains World Wide Web (WWW) and File Transfer Protocol (ftp) sites on the Internet, which permit the public free access to selected information related to patents and trademarks.

The USPTO Web site at <http://www.uspto.gov/> contains information about the office and information about patents and trademarks. It also provides access to searchable databases of patent and trademark information, and to tools that assist users in obtaining information.

In August 1998, the USPTO began providing free access to a searchable trademark database. It consists of bibliographic data and full-text of over one million registered trademarks and pending applications which date back to 1870. Currently, the text portion of the database is updated on a two-month cycle, and images are updated weekly.

A new version of the trademark searchable database was recently added. It includes enhanced searching capabilities and is updated on the same schedule as the searchable database used internally by the Trademark Examiners.

In October 1998, the USPTO began accepting Trademark applications electronically from a web-based application. The USPTO currently receives approximately 15% of all Trademark applications from this site. A similar pilot project for Patents is currently underway.

Patent and Trademark application status information are both available from the USPTO website. Both of these databases are searchable and are updated on a daily basis.

In November 1995, the USPTO began providing access to patent bibliographic information and abstract text on its Web Site. The PatBib database contains the data back to January 1976, and is updated on a weekly basis, usually on issue day (each Tuesday). The raw data is available for FTP downloading on the same day. In November 1998, the USPTO began providing access to the searchable, full text of US patent from January 1976 to the present. The database is updated weekly, usually on issue day.

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

### International or regional cooperation in the exchange of industrial design information, e.g., in the form of official gazettes

The USPTO maintains exchange agreements with many intellectual property offices for the exchange of industrial design registrations and gazettes and continually seeks to expand the number of such exchanges.

Intellectual property offices have access to the US patent documents on USAPat DVD-ROM.

Exchange of machine-readable information, e.g., data contained on CD-ROM or magnetic tape

CD-ROM products including, but not limited to, design patent images and information are sent to 112 intellectual property offices (see descriptions of the products above).

The USPTO currently exchanges patent images and information on magnetic computer tapes with the EPO and JPO as part of a Trilateral Agreement.

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

Promotional activities (seminars, exhibitions, visits, advertising, etc.)

An article about the United States Patent Classification system as it pertains to ornamental designs was published in the September issue of **World Patent Information**.

Lectures about the United States Patent Classification System were presented in June 2001, at the British Library for the Patent User Search Group (PATMC) and for the general public.

Training courses for national and foreign participants

The USPTO provides technical training relevant to intellectual property law and patent and trademark practice for all attorneys and patent examiners. Additionally, a variety of technical classes are available dealing with search techniques on the USPTO automated system and methods of using a variety of custom computer software to assist in the examination process.

The Office of Legislative and International Affairs coordinates a two week Visiting Scholars Program and a one-week Enforcement training program. Here the USPTO hosts patent professionals from offices worldwide and presents them with training on patents, trademarks, copyrights, and related procedural and operational issues.

The USPTO also operates a televideo-conference facility. This has been used to broadcast live meetings and lectures with officials in foreign countries.

Assistance to developing countries (sending consultants and experts, receiving trainees from developing countries, etc.)

The USPTO offers various programs to provide technical assistance to developing countries and countries moving to a market economy. Programs focus on establishing adequate systems in these countries for the protection of intellectual property rights. Activity was increased in the area of intellectual property enforcement training. The programs provide advice and expertise to these countries with the desired goal being the reduction of losses resulting from piracy of U.S. intellectual property. There were two Visiting Scholars Programs in 2001 which provided

participants from 32 countries with two weeks of classroom and hands-on study of various aspects of the administration of intellectual property law, patent and trademark examination and copyright protection, and an opportunity to gain an understanding of the important role of intellectual property protection as a toll for economic development. Other highlights include two Intellectual Property Enforcement Training Programs, participation in an Intellectual Property Rights Conference in Nigeria, and participation in a Symposium on the Internet and IP Crime.

**IX. Other relevant matters**

[End of document]