

Annual Technical Report on Patent and Utility Model Information Activities in 1998

? . Evolution of registration activities:

- Changes experienced in terms of application filing and grants (registration) with respect to the previous year:

(1) Patent

year classification	1997	1998	Ratio of variation
Filing	92,734	75,188	18.9%
Registration	24,579	52,900	115.2%

(2) Utility Model

year classification	1997	1998	Ratio of variation
Filing	45,809	28,896	36.9%
Registration	13,713	25,717	87.5%

- Trends or areas experiencing rapid changes with respect to the previous year:
None

? . Matters concerning the generation, reproduction, and distribution of secondary sources of Patent information;

- Publishing, printing, copying techniques;

1. The Issue of Official Gazettes on CD-ROM

(a) KIPO has published the following two types of Official Gazettes on CD-ROM since May 1998 and has distributed them inside and outside the country.

- Registered Examined Patents and Utility Models Specification
- Published Unexamined Patents and Utility Models Specification

(b) Index CD-ROMs

For a more effective search of information for Patent and Utility Model in each CD-ROM, KIPO has published Index CD-ROMs at the end of each year, since May 1998.

Everyone can easily access the information which he or she wants to search by using various key words. From 1999, KIPO is planning to publish them twice a year.

(c) '98 Issue results

classification rights	'98 results		remarks
	the number of items	the number of times	
1. Registered Examined Specification	48,788	441	
- Patent	31,110	219	
- Utility Model	17,678	100	
2. Published Unexamined Specification	160,885	408	
- Patent	91,818	268	
- Utility Model	69,067	140	
Total	209,673		

2. Korean Patent Abstract on CD-ROM

(a) Publication in 1998

- Contents;

Abstracts 6,500 cases (only domestic applicants)

(Patent Publication number 96-4687 ? 97-266)

- Amount;

300 copies (using MIMOSA)

(b) Distribution

- Domestic;

National Assembly Library, Korean Patent Attorney Association etc.
(35places, 125copies)

- Abroad;

Germany, England etc. (43places, 75copies)

(c) Distribution period: every January

? . Matters concerning classifying, reclassifying and indexing of Patent and Utility Model information:

- Classification system used

KIPO has used the IPC(International Patent Classification) as an official classification system.

- Other classification

KIPO has a dedicated team composed of 8 experts to classify filed applications by the IPC.

- Coordinating indexing

KIPO does not have its own classification indexing.

- Hybrid system indexing

KIPO does not mark Hybrid system indexing on its patent-related official document.

? . Search file establishment and upkeep:

- None

? . Activities in the field of computerized Patent and Utility Model search system:

1. Completion of the KIPOnet system;

- KIPO completed the KIPOnet system, an online electronic filing and administration system, in December 1998.
The KIPOnet, based on Intranet./Extranet environment, is employing state-of-the-art technologies such as digital signature & data encryption for security control, object-oriented database technology for the version management of amendments(paragraphs), and datawarehousing for analytical processing.

Starting January 1, 1999, applicants can make online electronic filing for Patens, Utility Models, Industrial Designs, and Trademarks.

In addition, the KIPOnet system provides a totally automated KIPO's IPR administration processes for acceptance, examination, registration, publication of official gazettes, trial, and so on.

2. Hardware type and number of units;

- Central processing : HP V2200(8GB) 4set
 HP T600 (1GB) 2set
 HP K570 (4.5GB) 4set
 HP K460 (1.5GB) 2set
 HP K100 (512MB) 1set
 HP D380 (768MB) 1set

- HP-Jukebox 2set
- PC 486DX 116 set
 586 236 set
 Pentium 827 set

3. Existing online thesauri;

- None

? . 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 extract):

A. Collection of Industrial Property Information Resources in 1998

- In 1998, KIPO purchased US patent specifications including the PCT Minimum Documentation of AT, DE, GB, FR, JP and also the WPI from Derwent Co.

(a) patent specifications

22 countries and 4 international organizations(AT, AU, BG, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, EG, FR, GB, HU, ID, JP, LT, LV, PH, RO, RU, TH, TW, US, AP, EP, OA, WO) on a mutual exchange basis

(b) Abstracts and Index

17 countries and 2 international organizations(AT, AU, BG, CA, CH, CN, DE, EG, FR, GB, HU, JP, PH, RO, RU, TW, US, EP, WO) and the JP Index

B. Non-patent literature

- KIPO preserves about 17,955 volumes related to science and technology including 426 titles of periodicals, 41 journals from research institutes which may be useful to examiners and trial examiners as reference material.

C. Administration of the Industrial Property Resource Room and services available to the public

(a) Computerization of the Industrial Property Library

KIPO accomplished the computerization of the IP Library concerning information searches and the management of non-patent literature in 1998 which was started in 1997, based on the "7-year Project of Automation of Industrial Property Administration".

(b) Membership of STIMA, Union DB, etc.

Due to the membership of these two associations, which science and Technology related research institutes and universities joined, original copies of external documents are available on the internet

(c) Internet Service of non-patent literature

KIPO has started to provide the general public as well as KIPO's staff with non-patent literature including general books and periodicals through the internet.

(d) KIPRIS search free of charge

It is possible to search for Patent-related information inside and outside the country through the network of KIPO's IP Library and local service centers free of charge.

? . Matters concerning mutual exchange of Patent and Utility Model documentation and information:

A. On the basis of mutual exchange, KIPO provides official gazettes with 20 other countries as follows:

Type of document	country	Type of material
Bibliographic data Of Registered Examined Patents and Utility Models	2countries EP, GB	FD
Korean Patent Abstracts	38 countries and 3 international organization AT, AU, BD, CA, CH, CN, CO, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, HU, IN, IR, JP, KE, KG, LK, MX, MY, NL, NZ, PA, PE, PL, RO, RU, SE, SG, TH, TR, TW, VE, VN, ZA, AP, EP, WO	CD-ROM
Official Gazettes	- Published Unexamined Specification BY, DE, JP, RU, US - Registered Examined Specification BY, DE, JP, RU, US, EP	CD-ROM

B. On the basis of mutual exchange, KIPO is provided from other countries as follows:

type of document	country	type of material
Patent Specification And Official Gazettes	23countries and 4 international organization AT, AU, BG, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, EG, FR, GB, HU, ID, JP, LT, LV, PH, PL, RO, RU, TH, TW, US, AP, EP, OA, WO	CD-ROM or Paper-form
Korean Patent Abstracts	3 countries and 2 international organizations EG, JP, TW, EP, WO	CD-ROM or Paper-form
Annual Reports	28 countries and 3 international organizations AT, AU, BG, BY, CA, CN, CZ, DE, ES, FR, GB, GR, HU, IL, JP, KZ, MK, MX, NL, NO, NZ, PH, PL, RO, RU, SE, SI, US, AP, EP, WO	paper-form

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

A. Training Courses for National Participants.

List of courses		Frequency	Numbers of participants
Total(23 courses)		48	3,051
Courses for Government Sector	- Course for beginning officer	2	37
	- Course for leading officer	1	47
	- Course for working-level staff	2	45
	- Introductory course for examiners	2	145
	- Advanced course for examiners	2	45
	- Course for trial examiners	1	52
	- Course for examiners in charge of IPR litigation	1	21
	- Course for staff in charge of IPR supervision	2	174
	- Course for school principals and education supervisors	4	516
	- Course for school invention club instructors	4	594
	- Course for teachers in charge of invention classroom	1	62
	Sub-total (11 courses)		22
Courses for Private Sector	- Course for patent attorneys-in apprenticeship	1	69
	- Course for chief executive officials	1	21
	- Introductory course on IPR	4	201
	- Advanced course on patent & utility model system	5	163
	- Advanced course on trademark system	1	26
	- Advanced course on Patent and Utility Model system	1	17
	- Course for electronic application exercise	5	305
	- Course for independent inventors	1	13
	- Course for individual corporations	4	153
	- Course on foreign IPR systems	1	36
	- Course for university or college students	1	166
	- Course for professors in science and engineering departments	1	143
Sub-total (12 courses)		26	1,313

B. Training Courses for Foreign Participants.

Title	Duration	Number of participating countries	Number of participants	Funding by organizations
Total		29	90	
- Training course on industrial property system	14 days (Sep. 10-Sep. 23, 1998)	8	17	Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
- WIPO Asian Regional Seminar on the Promotion of the Use of the Intellectual Property System by the Private Sector	3 days (Nov.17-Nov.19,1998)	21	73	WIPO (60%) and Korean Industrial Property Office(KIPO) (40%)

C. International Cooperation and Perspectives

The IIPTI(International Intellectual Property Training Institute) has been undertaking every effort for consolidating cooperative activities with domestic and international training and research institutes, patent offices or professional societies like Max Planck Institute in Germany, the Franklin Pierce Law Center of the United States and the International Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property(ATRIP).

In addition, while IIPTI is vigorously seeking ways to serve as a center for consolidating a network for information exchange on education and training programs on IPRs, it is also planning to offer medium and long-term specialized training courses catering to the demand of the post-graduates not only from Korea but also from the Asia-Pacific region.

? . Other relevant matters

1. Amendment of Quick Registration System for Utility Models (Effective as of July 1, 1999)

- Reflecting recent accelerated pace of technological innovations, the need for earlier protection of utility models is becoming higher than ever before. In addition, utility models or small inventions now have a tendency to be commercialized within a very short time after the filing, and the life cycle of such products as incorporated utility models has

been getting shorter and shorter. With this in mind, KIPO adopted the "Quick Registration System(QRS)" for utility models. Under the QRS, utility models are registered promptly after formality and basic requirements examination without substantive examination, possibly within about 3 months after the filing.

2. Amendment of the law for Adoption of Electronic Filing System
(Effective as of Jan. 1, 1999)

- To implement electronic filing, industrial property laws were amended. KIPO began to operate electronic filing system of patent, utility model, industrial design and trademark applications as of Jan. 1, 1999. This electronic filing system made it possible for applicants or patent attorneys to file applications and communicate with KIPO by electronic means, telecommunication network including internet.

3. Amendment of the system of Patent Term Extension
(Effective as of Jan. 1, 1999)

- Patent Law was amended to make possible patent term extension for pharmaceutical and agrochemical products that are subject to official testing requirements, even if the delayed time for a test process takes less than two years. Previously the extension term was allowed only when the test period was longer than two years.