

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT OF THE STATE PATENT BUREAU
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA (SPB)
ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN 1998

I. Evolution of patent activities.

Application filings and grants in 1998:

- 148 Patent Applications filed direct with the SPB, from which 90,5% Applications originating in Lithuania (including 2 International Applications);
- 57 International Applications entered the national phase;
- 1856 Patent Applications published, from which 89,9% European Patent Applications extended to Lithuania;
- 165 Lithuanian Patents granted;
- 85 European Patents enforced in Lithuania.

Compared with 1997 the number of:

- national filings increased by 6,5%;
- filings originating in Lithuania is higher by 7,2%;
- Lithuanian grants has fallen by 32,1%;
- published European Patent Applications extended to Lithuania has fallen by 5,4%;
- European Patents enforced in Lithuania is higher by 183,3%.

Agriculture, Organic Chemistry, Medicine, Biochemistry remain the leading areas as reflected in patent filings 1995 - 1998.

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 open for public inspection on request;
- Patent Specifications printed;
- Official Gazette on Inventions, Industrial Designs, Trademarks and Service Marks, Firm Names.

The Official Gazette contains announcements published on the:

⇒ Lithuanian Patents/Applications:

- Published Applications (A);
- Published International Applications (A);
- Withdrawned Applications;
- Granted Patents (B);
- Lapsed Patents;
- Transfer of Patents;

- Licensing;
- Changes: in the name/address of the grantee/inventor/attorney or in the title/claim of the invention;
- Revoked Patents;
- Invalidated Patents;
- Rectifications;

⇒ European extensions:

- Published Applications;
- Withdrawn Applications;
- Published Patents;
- Changes in the claims;
- Revoked Patents;
- Corrected translations of the claims;
- Lapsed Patents;
- Rectifications.

Sections of the Official Gazette are coded in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.17.

On July 28, 1998 the Lithuanian Technical Library (LTB) has been included into the the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania government sphere with the aim of developing the library into a resource for more comprehensive industrial property information.

The Official Gazette and Patent Specifications are prepared using DTP tools, printed and may be obtained at the **LTB**.

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

Patent Specifications contain abstracts filed by applicants.

Patent Applications filed in 1995 - 1998 have been clasified 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.

The Patent Department of the **LTB** is the Information Centre of Industrial Property in Lithuania. **LTB** is the only library of the state where national patent documents as well as other documents are accumulated according to the Instruction of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (the Rule 34. Minimum Documentation).

Patent Stock of the **LTB** contains national and foreign patent documentation in a form of paper-printed publications (arranged according countries and IPC symbols), microfishe and mostly (over 90 % of the total number of received documents) - in a form of optical disks - CD-ROMs.

At the **LTB** public users have a possibility to use the following CD-ROM databases:

- ESPACE-EP-A;
- ESPACE-WORLD;
- ESPACE-ACCESS;
- ESPACE-CH;
- ESPACE-DK;
- ESPACE-PRECES+ACCESS;
- ESPACE-DE;
- DEPAROM-ACT;
- USAPat;
- GLOBALPat;
- JPO CD-ROM A&U;
- JPO CD-ROM B&Y;
- PAJ CD-ROM.

V. Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized 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 1998.

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

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.1997/006 - Vol.1997/010, Vol.1998/001 - Vol.1998/008 and ACCESS-PRECES Vol. 1/1998 (in which the Lithuanian documents are included) were pressed in 1998.

The most recent issue of the Official Gazette is monthly provided on the INTERNET (<http://www.is.lt/vpb/engl>).

The employees of the **LTB** provide various patent services, such as making of bibliographical list according to the IPC classes presented by the client, search of patent information in electronic databases, search of patents. The card index "Protection of Industrial Property in Lithuania" is maintained.

On January 1, 1999 the Patent Stock of the **LTB** had about 22.6 mln. documents. In 1998, 590 thousand documents were acquired.

Computers of the reading-room of the **LTB** are connected to the Internet, so the information users have a possibility to get patent information also through the world computer network.

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

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

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

The monthly supply of the EPO and Hungarian Company ARCANUM INFORMATICS with the bibliographic, legal status data for EPIDOS-INPADOC, PRECES, also with the information about entry into the national phase of published International Applications and about revoked European Extensions continued in 1998.

SPACE-PRECES CD-ROMs were distributed by the Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic.

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

Official industrial property publications of the SPB are distributed in 41 foreign states and intergovernmental organizations (AM, AT, BG, BY, CA, CH, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, JP, KG, KZ, LV, MC, MD, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SE, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, UA, US, UZ, YU, BX, EP, WO) 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:

- Training for regional information centres (Alicante);
- On the use of EPO databases organized by EPIDOS at the Lithuanian Technical Library (Klaipėda);
- Industrial property on the Internet (Viena);
- Overview on MIMOSA authoring software (Viena).

The SPB specialists participated in the following Common Software meetings:

- Working Party on the quality control of the documentation and study of the source codes (Sofia).

The SPB and “Sidabrinis Tinklas” specialists participated at the following training for the Common Software technology transfer:

- Introduction (Vilnius);
- HyperScript training (Paris);
- Development course D8 (Mayenne).

IX. Other relevant matters.

The SPB participated in the following PCIPI/SCIT activities in 1998:

- Electronic communication of PCIPI/SCIT files via the INTERNET;
- PCT International Applications accessible through the EPIDOS/PRS;
- Project P 35 Task force;
- Project P 6 Task force;
- PCIPI/GI/XX (session);
- SCIT/WG/1 (session).