

**ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON PATENT INFORMATION ACTIVITIES OF
THE FEDERAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF YUGOSLAVIA FOR THE
YEAR 1998**

I. Evolution of patent activities:

In 1998, there occurred an increase in the number of applications for the protection of inventions in comparison to 1997. Compared with the previous year, the increase is 20,5%, and the number of applications of Yugoslav applicants (526) is increased for 0,77%, while the number of foreign applicants (203) is increased for 40%.

The structure of the applications filed is also significantly changed. The applications of petty patent amount to 15% of the total number of applications filed.

In comparison to the previous year the number of patent applications is increased for 20%, while the number of petty patents is unexpectedly decreased for 28%, as the protection of petty patents is obtained in a very short period of time (a few months), with less expenses.

In the following table we have shown the number of patent applications and petty patent applications filed in the last three years. (Petty patent was introduced in Patent Law from 1995.)

| Year | Patent Applications | Petty Patent Applications |
|------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1996 | 714 | 96 |
| 1997 | 513 | 154 |
| 1998 | 618 | 111 |

With regard to registered patents and petty patents, a decrease of 16,7% has been noticed in comparison to 1997. The number of registered patents has increased for 22, 7%, and registered petty patents for 3,3% in comparison to 1997. It can be explained by the increase in the number of patent applications that comply with the criteria of patentability, and for that reason, after the procedure of substantive examination is carried out, end with the grant of protection.

In the following table the number of registered patents and petty patents has been shown for the period of the last three years:

| Year | Registered Patents | Registered Petty Patents |
|------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1996 | 336 | 100 |
| 1997 | 203 | 90 |
| 1998 | 249 | 93 |

The number of patent applications in a certain field of technology, the percentage in respect to the total number of applications filed, and in the comparison to the previous year, is given in the following table:

| Title of the Units | Class | No. of APP in 1998 | % in 1998 | % in 1997 |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. ORGANIC CHEMISTRY | C07, A01N | 69 | 11,2 | 15,9 |
| 2. BUILDING | E01-E06 | 47 | 7,6 | 9,3 |
| 3. HEALTH, AMUSEMENT | A61-A63,A61K | 54 | 8,7 | 7,4 |
| 4. ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING | H01,H02, H05 | 39 | 6,3 | 7,4 |
| 5. ENGINES AND PUMPS | F01-F04 | 34 | 5,5 | 6,2 |
| 6. TRANSPORTING II | B60-B64 | 14 | 2,3 | 4,3 |
| 7. PREPARATION FOR MEDICAL, DENTAL, and TOILET PURPOSES | A61K | 43 | 6,9 | 3,3 |

In the seven mentioned technical fields, the percentage of patent applications filed in comparison to the total number of all applications filed is 48,5%. When compared to 1997, we can notice the significant changes in the field of health and amusement, because in 1998, the surplus of 42% of the applications was filed, and in the field of preparations for medical, dental and toilet purposes) with 253% more than the number of applications in the previous year.

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

The basic documents printed in paper form in 1998, are the following:

- 7 issues (2,100 copies) of the Official Gazettes titled " The Intellectual Property Journal" ;
- 578 patent files, of what 108 files belongs to petty patents (40,560 copies totally);
- 140 patent certificates;
- 40,918 copies of different forms, instructions for patent applications and for other needs for the Office;
- 80,000 photocopied pages.

Other publications:

- " Industrial Property Protection in Yugoslavia" (250 copies, 230 pages);
- " Copyright and Neighboring Rights Law" (250 copies, 155 pages);
- " Seminar of the Federal Intellectual Property Office on Industrial Property" (110 copies, 160 pages)

Three books of 6th edition of International Patent Classification (Section D, 122 pages, Section E, 124 pages, Section F 326 pages, all that in the 200 copies).

In the Intellectual Property Journal we publish bibliographical data, abstracts and technical drawings (one characteristic drawing) for patent applications - patent document A. In 1998, we published 1,760 patent applications in the Intellectual Property Journal, patent application is available to the public and can be photocopied at the request of the user in the Office Library.

Bibliographical data, the first patent claim and drawings for registered patents and petty patents - patent document B, are published in the Intellectual Property Journal. In 1998, we published 331 registered patents and 107 petty patents.

The registered patents and petty patents after being published in the Intellectual Property Journal are also printed as patent document C. In 1998, we published 470 patents and 108 petty patents.

The following text processors are used in the Office: MS, WORD and WORD 97.

Except in the Trademark department, the Office has no LAN, but all the activities are carried out partially and separately by PC computers.

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

Patent documents (patent application - A, Patent - C and petty patent) are classified according to IPC 5 and IPC 6. Other classification systems are not used.

Concerning paralleled systems of indexing, there is no change with regard to the report on the activities in 1997.

Bibliographical data included in the internal data base are used in the framework of the information system of the Office.

Search reports are done by using bases on CD-ROMs, INPADOC databases on microfiches, available classified collections of patent documents.

IV. Search file establishment and upkeep:

Search reports are made according to the WIPO recommended standards, and on the bases of available fund of paper documentation, INPADOC collection of microfiches, CD-ROM and Internet databases.

During 1998, in cooperation with WIPO, EPO, German Patent Office, some new databases are supplied and the existing collections of CD-ROM databases are completed. The Office has at its disposal more than 3,600 CD-ROMs (that make 2,7 times more compared to the number of CD-ROMs in 1997) that are available free of charge to all the users in public library of the Office. The supply of underneath mentioned databases and publications on CD-ROMs significantly influenced on the increase in the number of requests for search reports, i.e. information. The Office has the following data bases:

1. ESPACE ACCESS, ESPACE ACCESS EP-B
2. ESPACE WORLD
3. ESPACE FIRST
4. ESPACE EP-A, ESPACE EP-B
5. PAJ UNEXAMINED APPLICATIONS CD-ROM:
 - PAJ FRONT FILE
 - PAJ BACK - FILE
 - PAJ INDEX
6. WIPO HANDBOOK, 1997 and 1998
7. GLOBALPAT, 1971 -1996
8. PCT GAZETTE, from Vol. 15/1998
9. PATENTBLATT CD for 1998
10. WIPO Industrial Property Statistic, 1995
- 11 JOPAL
12. ESPACE SI, 1998
13. ESPACE DE, 1992-1994
14. DEPAROM ACT, DEPAROM U, 1995 - 1998
15. WIPO IPC:
 - CLASS (with 6th editions of IPC)
 - CATCHWORD indexes and revision Concordance tables for 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6th edition of IPC.

All the mentioned databases are functional and available to the users in the Office.

A computer program has been made for the evidence of CD-ROMs from existing bases, allowing computerized keeping and updating.

With regard to the significant increase in the number of CD-ROMs, and the requests for research, in December of 1998, a new JUKEBOX system provided for the research of bases on CD-ROMs enables access to 4 users at the same time.

Search reports, as paper documents, are being kept in accordance with standard, in boxes arranged according to the years of edition.

V. Activities in the field of computerized and other mechanized search systems:

Except in the Sector for Distinctive Signs, the Office uses:

a) the internal system which is constituted by:

- Bibliographical database with YU-A and YU-B documents on PC computers for the period 1991-1998. (Database is CLIPPER created).
- Bibliographical database with YU-A and YU-B documents for the period from 1975-1990. (Database is created in ORACLE 5.1).

b) the external databases used for searching in the Office are: CD-ROMs, INPADOC collection of microfiches and Internet, as well.

Except in the Sector for Distinctive Signs, the equipment, used for the above mentioned activities in the Office, consists of: 10 PCs 486, 17 PCs 586, and JUKEBOX SYSTEM of the capacity for 100 CD with 4 working stations and MS ACCESS 97 base.

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 Services, which the Office gave to the users, refer to:

- State-of-Art search report:

In 1998, 129 searches of patent documentation were made at the written request of the user (62% on the subject of invention and 38% according to the bibliographical data). The highest percentage of patent documentation search, according to the technical fields, belongs to pharmacy and technology (74%), machine engineering (16%), electronics (8%) and the rest (2%).

With the help of the experts of the Office, about 700 searches of patent documentation were done, to establish state-of-art for the benefit of external users (about 70% more than in 1997).

During 1998, the translation of the 6th edition of IPC was completed.

The Office has at its disposal about 11 million patent documents, about 25 thousand patent bulletins, 4,8 thousand referral bulletins, about 6,5 thousand journals and specialized library of about 5,3 thousands of books.

The library of patent documents consists of 16 numerical collections, 6 system collections classified according to IPC and 2 system collections according to the national classification.

The public library, in the Office, was visited by more than 860 users who were given access to more than 11,000 patent documents (national and foreign).

The total number of bibliographical information for the external users from all available information bases (on microfiches, CD-ROMs, Internet, card-files and the collection of patent documents on paper) amount to 8,600.

All information supplied to the external users, except at the written requests, are free of charge.

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

Due to the inflow of documents from 12 foreign countries, European Patent Office, East-German patent collection of documents including the Yugoslav fund, the Office disposes with 15 collections of patent files. However, ever since the sanctions have been imposed, only three countries have maintained to send patent documents, AT, CH and PL, thus only 4 collections are regularly update, YU collection included.

The Office in 1998, sent 10500 patent documents in 14 countries. Since 1992, patent bulletin fund consisting of 24 collections from foreign countries has been extended to 29, on account of establishment of some new states that maintain the documentation exchange with our Office. The delivery of bulletins was discontinued by 7 countries (DK, CO, HU, USA, SE, CH, EP).

The Office sent 532 copies of the Intellectual Property Journal to the following countries of the world:

AM, AT, AU, BE, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CO, CU, CZ, DK, DZ, EG, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, JN, IT, JP, LI, LT, LY, MK, NO, PL, RO, RU, SE, SI, TR, UA, US.

The Office has no electronic data carrier for the exchange of patent documents.

The exchange of patent documents, and the application filing are still carried out on paper.

The Office has available access to patent documents of other Offices on Internet, but the Office has no of its own databases of patent documents on its own site.

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

In 1998, the Office considered programs of training inventors, scientists, and business men of particular importance, bearing in mind specific quality of economic earning in the country and abroad. The introduction of the system of quality in doing business and preparing enterprises for proprietary transformation, necessitate documentation classifying and checking of industrial property status, that additionally influenced on fostering cooperation with the Office. Having in mind economic potential and strategic orientation of the country, the Office took particularly active part in cooperation with the associations of inventors, scientific research institutes, and faculties in the framework of the development programs relevant to the agriculture (along with the development of biotechnology), food industry, pharmaceutical and mechanical industry.

In 1998, the Federal Intellectual Property Office continued to pursue intensive activities of intellectual property affirmation, the Office organized 19 lecturers during the year, and 4 seminars, two of which for the students of Faculty for Natural-Mathematics Sciences (with the purpose to get them acquainted with patent documentation and the importance of patent information). One of the lecturers was held at the Seminar "INOST '98", in Banja Luka.

The experts of the Office with their paper works and lecturers took part in many national and international congresses, symposiums and consultations: " ETRAN" , in Vrnjaka Banja; - "PROCESSING '98", in Beii; "VI Congress SAUM", in Ni; "HIPNEL '98", in Belgrade, etc.

As in previous years, the particular importance was devoted to affirmation and promotion of protected innovations and participated in organization of exhibition of inventions. An exhibition was prepared in Geneve, and held in organization of WIPO in Geneve, the Office took an active part in organization of exhibition "Inventorship '98", in Belgrade and exhibition "TESLA FEST '98",

in Novi Sad. Moreover, the Office helped in preparation for the participation in the 47th World Exhibition of Industrial Property Inventions "EUREKA", in Brussels, and etc.

At congresses, consultations and seminars, in 1998, 17 expert lecturers were held in the field of industrial property protection.

Three new study works are prepared (2 for the School of Natural Law, in Kopaonik, and 1 expert work on Tesla's inventions in the field of remote control).

One patent engineer took part in the work of "International Symposium on Inventorship and Information Technologies", held in Budapest, Hungary, March 16-19, 1998, and one patent lawyer took part in "Regional Seminar on Licensing", held in Kiev, Ukraine, October 5-7, 1998.

Besides, during 1998, delegation from the Chinese Patent Office visited The Federal Intellectual Property Office of Yugoslavia, and on that occasion the experiences on work and organizations of both Offices were exchanged.

As in previous years, the Office trained patent engineers and provided help in all the intellectual property aspects, institutions and individuals, and to the courts also, by engagement of its experts as judge experts in intellectual property disputes.

IX. Other relevant matters:

The following sublegislative regulations have been done, instructions and methodological instructions necessary for the implementation of laws and international treaties:

- a) Regulations on the Procedure for the Grant of Topologies of Integrated Circuits Protection;
- b) Instruction "Patent Cooperation Treaty" harmonized with the amendments of the Regulations for PCT Implementation;
- c) Methodological instruction on appropriate form of patent claims for inventions in the field of chemistry, biotechnology and pharmacy, and
- d) expert study on nucleic acids