

VISION & GOALS

MISSION

To enhance technological innovation and industrial development through facilitating the creation, utilization and protection of IP

VISION

To become an IP powerhouse through innovative IP administration

STRATEGIC GOAL 01

To provide world-class IP services

• Performance goals

- To provide high-quality examinations and trials
- To make our examinations and trial systems more customer-friendly
- To operate customer-oriented IP systems and establish the related infrastructure

STRATEGIC GOAL 02

To expand global IP cooperation

• Performance goals

- To contribute to the IP5 cooperation framework
- To promote bilateral and multilateral cooperation
- To support developing and least developed countries

STRATEGIC GOAL 03

To improve IP competitiveness of companies

• Performance goals

- To expand IP-centered technology procurement strategies
- To promote IP - R&D interactive strategies
- To reinforce the IP competitiveness of small & medium enterprises

STRATEGIC GOAL 04

To promote the creation and utilization of IP

• Performance goals

- To reinforce the capacity to create IP and to promote technology transfers
- To enhance the IP capacity of universities and research institutes
- To foster the development of IP professionals

STRATEGIC GOAL 05

To create a culture of respect for IP

• Performance goals

- To reinforce domestic IP protection systems
- To establish IP protection systems overseas
- To cultivate talented next-generation IP entrepreneurs

ABOUT US

The Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) is the authoritative governmental office for intellectual property rights (IPRs) among the 41 central administrative organizations in Korea.

KIPO supports the effective creation, utilization and protection of IPRs including patents, trademarks and industrial designs by examining and granting IP applications, administering IPR laws, promoting and protecting intellectual endeavors, and developing the national policy on IPRs.

In 2010, Korea was ranked fourth in the world for IPR applications and fifth for the volume of International Patent Cooperation Treaty applications. Our staff of over 1500 works hard to provide the various services demanded by our customers.

OUR HISTORY

- 1949 Established as an external bureau of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry under the name of Patent Bureau
- 1967 Joined the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization
- 1977 Established as an independent office of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry under the name of Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO)
- 1987 Opened the International Patent Training Center
- 1998 Moved the main office from Seoul to Daejeon
Launched the Intellectual Property Tribunal
Established the Seoul branch office
- 1999 Launched the KIPOnet system, KIPO's office automation system for IP
- 2000 Renamed the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO)
- 2004 Renamed the International Patent Training Center to the International Intellectual Property Training Institute
- 2010 Granted the one millionth patent in Korea

KOREAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE

YOUR INVENTION PARTNER



Korean Intellectual Property Office

KIPO

Address Government Complex Daejeon Building 4, 189, Cheongsa-ro, Seo-gu, Daejeon, 302-701, Republic of Korea

Web site <http://www.kipo.go.kr/en>

E-mail kipoicd@kipo.go.kr

Seoul Branch Office

Address KIPS building 4-5th floor, 131, Teheran-ro, Gangnam-gu, Seoul, 135-980, Republic of Korea

IPR TREND

Application

(unit : cases)

IPR type	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Patents	166,189	172,469	170,632	163,523	170,101
Utility models	32,908	21,084	17,405	17,114	13,661
Trademarks	122,384	132,288	127,910	126,420	121,125
Industrial designs	51,039	54,362	56,750	57,903	57,187
Total	372,520	380,203	372,697	364,990	362,074

Registration

(unit : cases)

IPR type	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Patents	120,790	123,705	83,523	56,732	68,843
Utility models	29,736	2,795	4,975	3,949	4,301
Trademarks	65,825	60,361	65,583	53,155	53,136
Industrial designs	34,206	40,745	39,858	32,091	33,697
Total	250,557	227,606	193,939	145,927	159,977

Trial

(unit : cases)

IPR type	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Patents	9,725	10,950	12,238	10,561	9,274
Utility models	765	753	906	828	559
Trademarks	4,498	5,296	4,954	3,531	3,354
Industrial designs	503	601	766	663	689
Total	15,491	17,600	18,864	15,583	13,876

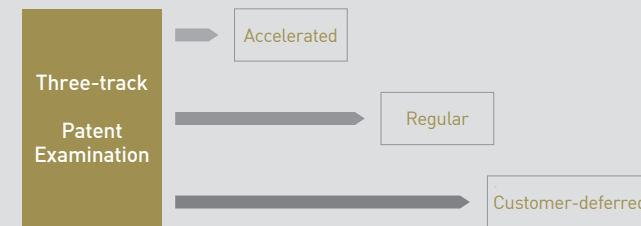
MAJOR ACTIVITIES AND POLICIES

Grant Procedure of IPRs

KIPO follows its own procedures when granting IPRs for patents, utility models, trademarks, and industrial designs. Please note that applicants without a residential or business address in Korea should appoint a representative with a residential or business address in Korea to pursue the grant procedures including the payment of fees.

- If you would like to appoint a patent attorney, contact the Korean Patent Attorneys Association at: (Tel : +82 (2) 3486-3486, E-mail : kpaal@kpaal.or.kr)

Customer-tailored services for examinations and trials



Our examination and trial system allows customers to select and manage a timeline for the examination and trial process that suits their own IPR strategy. Applicants for the patent/utility model can select one of following three tracks: accelerated, regular, or customer-deferred examination. Similarly, there are two tracks for trademark/industrial design examinations and three tracks for the trial process.

Design applications using 3D illustrations



In 2010, KIPO introduced a more convenient and economical system which allows 3-D drawings in the industrial design application.

International cooperation to expand collaboration in examination

We are currently conducting the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) program with 9 offices including Japan, USA, Denmark, the UK, Canada, Russia, Finland, Germany, and Spain. We also have discussions on work-sharing and harmonization of the patent system in the IP5 cooperation framework with EPO, JPO, SIPO, and USPTO.

IP & Development



KIPO is deeply committed to sharing our successful experience in rapid development with other countries by supporting them through IP-based development programs. Since we established the Korea Funds-in-Trust project with

WIPO in 2004, we have implemented various supportive activities for developing and least developed countries. Recently, we have provided developing and least developed countries with the appropriate technology to improve the quality of their daily life and branding strategies to market their goods.

IP Protection



In September 2010, we launched the Special Judicial Police Squad to more effectively crack down on the production, circulation and sale of counterfeit goods. Furthermore, we have waged a campaign for raising consumers' awareness of IP protection in conjunction with consumer groups.

SERVICES

KIPO's IP Office Automation System (KIPOnet)

KIPOnet is the IP office automation system that enables complete electronic management of IPR affairs. Since we launched KIPOnet in 1999 as the first internet-based e-filing system in the world, we have continuously improved its operation and expanded its function. Consequently, the e-filing ratio of patent application reached 98.1% in 2010.

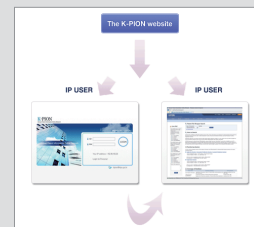
Free IPR Information Service (KIPRIS)



The Korea Industrial Property Rights Information Service (KIPRIS) is a free IP information search service in Korea. People can freely enjoy searching foreign IP information as well as Korean IP information through the KIPRIS website. (<http://eng.kipris.or.kr>)

Korean-English Machine Translation Service (K-PION)

The Korean Patent Information Online Network (K-PION) is a Korean-English machine translation service to help patent examiners around the world refer to and review Korean patent information. (<http://k-pion.kipo.go.kr/>)



Training & Education



The International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI) is a sub-organization of KIPO. The IIPTI is responsible for IP education and running various off-line and on-line programs for government officials, the private sector, children, and foreigners. (<http://iipti.kipo.go.kr/en/>)

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