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Korean Intellectual Property Office

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KOREAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (KIPO)

Government Complex-Daejeon 920, Dunsan-dong, Seo-ku Daejeon Metropolitan City 302-122, Korea
Tel : + 82 - 42 - 481 - 5064 ~ 74 Fax: + 82 - 42 - 472 - 3459



Korean Intellectual Property Office

2001 Annual Report



Korean Intellectual Property Office



KIPRO

Foreword

In the knowledge-based age of the 21st century, governments and companies need to enhance their strategic efforts to create and increase intellectual property (IP), with an emphasis on its social and economic role. The protection and creation of intellectual property rights (IPRs) has become a driving force in the highly competitive global economy.

In recognition of its crucial role, KIPO has stepped up its wide-ranging efforts, far beyond the traditional role of conducting examinations, with a view to promoting the use of IPRs in the public and private sectors. KIPO stands at the forefront of motivating the nation's inventive and innovative potential as well as providing a firm nation-wide basis for sustainable wealth creation through the IPR system.

Among other things, nurturing the inventiveness of the Korean people, building up an IP-mart for connecting IP owners with business angels, staging an IPR acquisition campaign for SMEs, intensifying commercialization and strengthening examination capacity have been some of the priorities at KIPO.

KIPO has also endeavored to realize the goal of establishing a secure and convenient e-Office. In particular, through the successful operation of an online IPO system named KIPOnet, it has, in response to varied customer demands, set up a customer-focused IP administration in cyberspace. We believe that these efforts to improve the IP infrastructure will provide a valuable foundation for enhancing national competitiveness in the future.

KIPO has actively participated in international efforts to harmonize the IPR system around the world and to establish a global patent system. By striving to build cooperative relationships with other IP offices, KIPO hopes to achieve a more cost-effective and streamlined IPR system which facilitates international trade and economic growth.

Lastly, I hope this material will be useful for gaining a better understanding of the current IP system in the Republic of Korea, and for identifying some areas in which cooperation is needed as we envision a more global and customer-friendly IPR system for the future.

Thank you.



Gwang-lim KIM, Ph.D
Commissioner



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I Introduction to KIPO



KIPO has implemented the 「Comprehensive IP Administration Innovation Plan」 in order to progressively cope with the knowledge-information era and to play a leading role in the knowledge-based society.

1. KIPO's Recent Developments (2001)

In the information revolution age, society is woven together by a digital neural network; every nation is striving to learn how to exist and survive in a fiercely competitive world. Intellectual property rights are one of the vital neural networks. Where enormous royalties are transacted internationally, intellectual property management strategy is indispensable for determining the success of entrepreneurial and national management.

In coping with such a situation, KIPO has set its priorities on establishing an IP-related legal framework with equitable and efficient IPR protection and infringement prevention, as well as inducing technological innovation, and creating a friendly environment for direct foreign investment and trade growth.

Under the above policy direction, KIPO has made many efforts in 2001. While maintaining its low pendency period at a world class level, KIPO has endeavored to improve the quality of its examinations by employing long-term specialists as classification examiners, enhancing information accessibility and expertise by encouraging examiners to participate in professional academic societies, by expanding the outsourcing of searches and by launching the outsourcing of the IPC classification operation.

KIPO has introduced an Internet based online filing system, the first of its kind in the world, and has opened the era of home applications. In this way, KIPO strives to realize a Cyber IP office, in fact as well as in name. By adapting to the changing international IP environment, which has witnessed the emergence of the Patent Law Treaty, KIPO has established the Third Three-Year Computerization Plan for IP Administration (2002~2004) in order to develop the next generation of KIPOnet.



KIPO opened its "IP Customer Call Center" on March 20, 2002, which allows users to find solutions to their needs by one call or one click.

In addition, KIPO has strengthened its IPR protection activities such as anti-counterfeiting operations against the manufacturing and circulation of counterfeit products. Through the mass media and public-sponsored education, KIPO has extensively promoted public IPR's awareness nation wide and highlighted the criminality of circulating counterfeit products. It has also revised the Unfair Competition Prevention and Trade Secret Protection Law to provide a scale of damages. Under the revised Law, harming the reputation and distinctiveness of well-known trademarks is considered an act of unfair competition. In order to eradicate the circulation of counterfeit products, KIPO has made strenuous efforts, including a crackdown on IPR infringements in international trade.

2. Recent Trends in the IP Field at Home and Overseas

In 2001, KIPO received a total of 287,759 IPR applications. This figure represents a 1.6% increase from the 283,087 applications in 2000 – the highest number in KIPO's history. More than anything else, the increase reflects the reviving of the Korean economy which primarily results from structural reforms in the financial sector, the corporate sector, the labor market and the public sector. Driven by the recovery of the Korean economy, the application rate is expected to be on the increase in the future.

In December 1999, KIPO began its function, under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), as an International Search Authority (ISA) and an International Preliminary Examination Authority (IPEA). During the year 2001, KIPO received 2,314 PCT applications; it performed 1,939 international searches and 970 international preliminary examinations. These figures show increases 47%, 51% from the previous year and 139% respectively. KIPO's outstanding growth in the PCT field is expected to continue. In addition, KIPO embarked its function as a designated ISA and IPEA by Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines in last August.



In the field of international cooperation, KIPO has completed the revision of the national law and regulations in preparation for joining the Trademark Law Treaty and the Madrid Protocol. It has also been actively engaged in bilateral and multilateral cooperation, including participation in the Fourth Doha Ministerial Conference, finalization of the Basic Framework Agreement for Cooperation between KIPO and WIPO, participation in the discussion of international IPR standards at WIPO, promotion of technical cooperation within the APEC region.

3. Systematic Efforts for the 「Comprehensive IP Administration Innovation Plan」

KIPO has implemented the 「Comprehensive IP Administration Innovation Plan」 in order to progressively cope with the knowledge-information era and to play a leading role in the knowledge-based society. To do this, KIPO has applied the concepts of management skills such as Total Quality Management, Creative Management, Learning Organization, and Knowledge Management. In this regard, KIPO has employed and carried out 3 visions, 12 policies and 66 main tasks. As a result of these efforts, KIPO was awarded in the Best Knowledge Management Organization Competition hosted by the Maekyung Daily Times and Booz-Allen Associates in November 2001.



The 8th Commissioners' Meeting Between KIPO and SIPO was held in Jeju, 9 April 2002.



The atrium of the Daejeon Government Complex which houses KIPO as well as 10 other government agencies.

II 2001 Highlights



In 2001, KIPO received a record high 287,759 IPR applications, which is 4,672 more than the applications in “2000 (an increase of 1.6%) … IPR registrations” numbered 130,831, an increase 3.5% over the previous year.

1. Applications

In 2001, KIPO received a record high 287,759 IPR applications, an 1.6% of increase over 283,087.

- Among the various categories, there were 103,011 patent applications, which is 1% more than the previous year; utility model applications amounted to 40,775 cases, which is an increase of 9% for the year; design applications reached 36,845 cases (an increase of 8.2%); and trademark applications totalled 107,128 cases, 2.7% less than the year 2000. Applications for patents, utility models and designs showed a slight increase over the previous year.
- The consistent increase in the application rate represents an expanding IPR awareness at the grass roots level of Korean society.

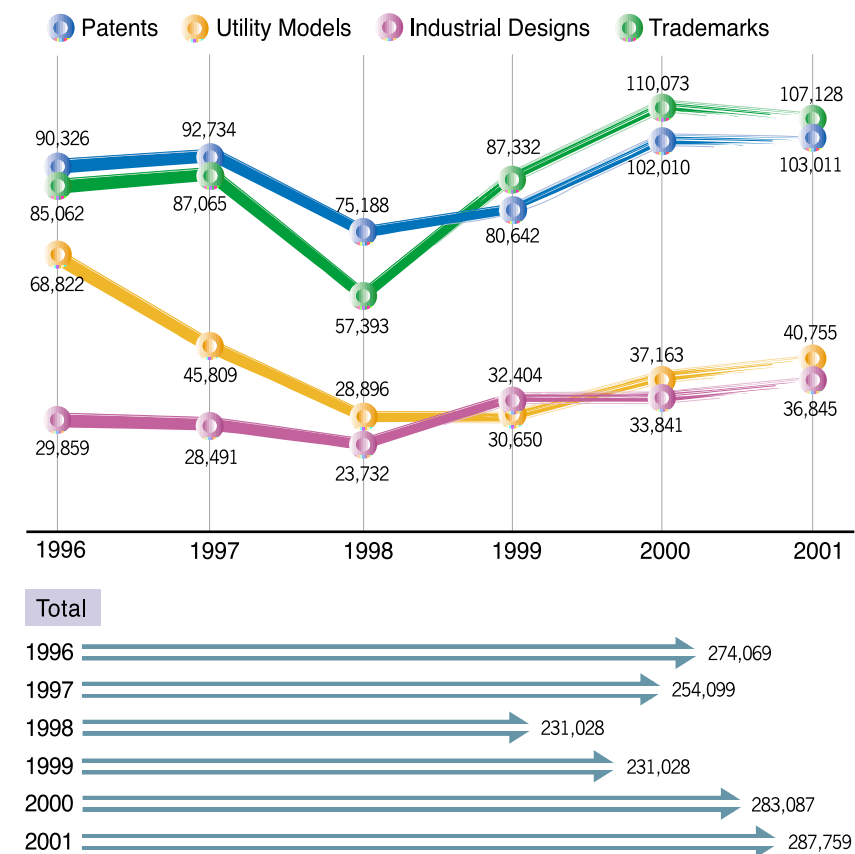
The IPR applications in 2001 by Korean nationals totalled 235,555, which is a 1.4% increase over the previous year's figure; the applications by foreigners totalled 52,204, an increase of 2.9% over the previous year. Although domestic applications constituted 81.9% of the total applications, the rate of increase of applications by foreigners more than doubled the rate of increase of domestic applications, indicating a positive view of the Korean market by foreigners.

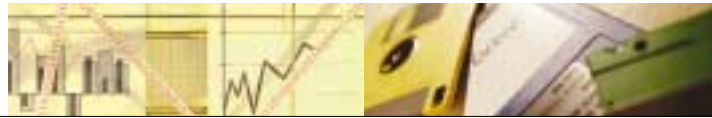
- Among the various categories of applications by foreigners, patent applications increased 0.6% (from 29,179 to 29,363), utility model applications 18.8% (from 346 to 411), design applications increased 3.6% (from 1,731 to 1,793), and trademark applications went up 6.0% (from 19,477 to 20,637).
- Analysis of foreigners' applications by national origin shows that 20,071 cases are from Japan (38.4%), 14,392 cases are from the USA (27.6%) and 4,433 cases are from Germany (8.5%). These top three countries made up 74.5% of the total applications submitted by foreign nationals.

Application Trend for Domestic Residents and Foreigners

Classification		number, %					
		2000		2001		Increase rate over the previous year	
		Number	Portion(%)	Number	Portion(%)	Number	Portion(%)
Patents	Domestic Resident	72,831	71.4	73,648	71.5	1.1	0.1P
	Foreigner	29,179	28.6	29,363	28.5	0.6	-0.1P
	Total	102,010	100.0	103,011	100.0	1.0	
Utility Models	Domestic Resident	36,817	99.1	40,364	99.0	9.6	-0.1P
	Foreigner	346	0.9	411	1.0	18.8	0.1P
	Total	37,163	100.0	40,775	100.0	9.7	
Designs	Domestic Resident	32,110	94.9	35,052	95.1	9.2	0.2P
	Foreigner	1,731	5.1	1,793	4.9	3.6	-0.2P
	Total	33,841	100.0	36,845	100.0	8.9	
Trade-marks	Domestic Resident	90,596	82.3	86,491	80.7	-4.5	-1.6P
	Foreigner	19,477	17.7	20,637	19.3	6.0	1.6P
	Total	110,073	100.0	107,128	100.0	-2.7	
Total	Domestic Resident	232,354	82.1	235,555	81.9	1.4	-0.2P
	Foreigner	50,733	17.9	52,204	18.1	2.9	0.2P
	Total	283,087	100.0	287,759	100.0	1.7	

Application Status





2. Examinations

A. Patents and Utility Models

- In 2001, KIPO examined 110,316 cases by the first action standard. Of these, 55,766 (51%) were patent applications and 54,550 (49%) were utility model applications.
- Of the utility model examinations, 9,666 (18%) were processed under the old utility model law, while 44,884 (82%) were processed under the new utility model law, namely, the Utility Model Quick Registration System.
- As for the success rate of applications, KIPO granted patents to 13,797 (24.7%) of the total 55,766 patent applications. It also granted 2,972 (30.9%) of the 9,666 utility model applications filed under the old law, and 35,988 (80.2%) of the 44,884 utility model applications which met the basic formality requirements of the Utility Model Quick Registration System.

B. Trademarks and Designs

- KIPO examined 123,067 trademark applications in 2001 – an increase of 12.1% over the 109,805 examinations in 2000. This increase was due to the expedited examination procedure which has resulted from the constantly updated, highly functional trademark search engine.
- KIPO also examined 33,645 design applications in 2001 – an increase of 14.3% over the 29,446 examinations in 2000. This encouraging increase is a result of KIPO's improvements to the infrastructure of the design examination process, particularly through the computerization of the design search system.

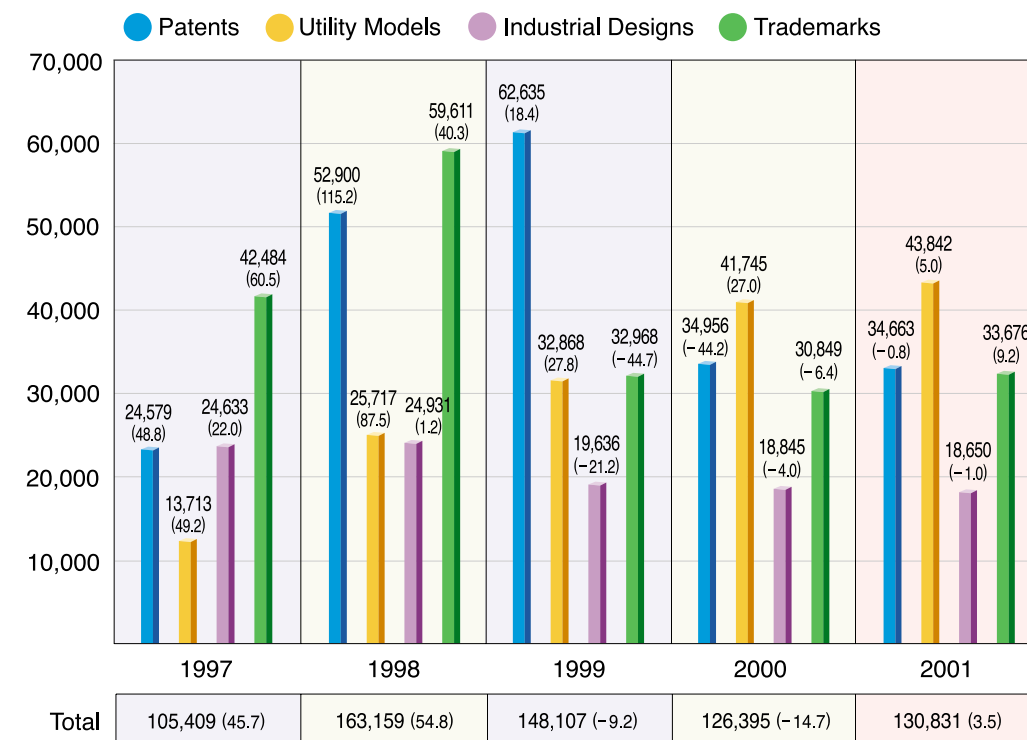
3. Registrations

In 2001, IPR registrations numbered 130,831, an increase 3.5% over the previous year. Renewed registrations by annual fee payment increased by 49.9% to 200,154. In addition, the change-by-assignment registrations numbered 126,269, a 5.6% increase.

Analysis of IPR registrations for 2001 shows that registrations for utility models and trademarks increased by 5.0% and 9.2% respectively, while registrations for patents and designs decreased by 0.8% and 1.0% respectively. [Table 1]

[Table 1] Registration Trend

number, %

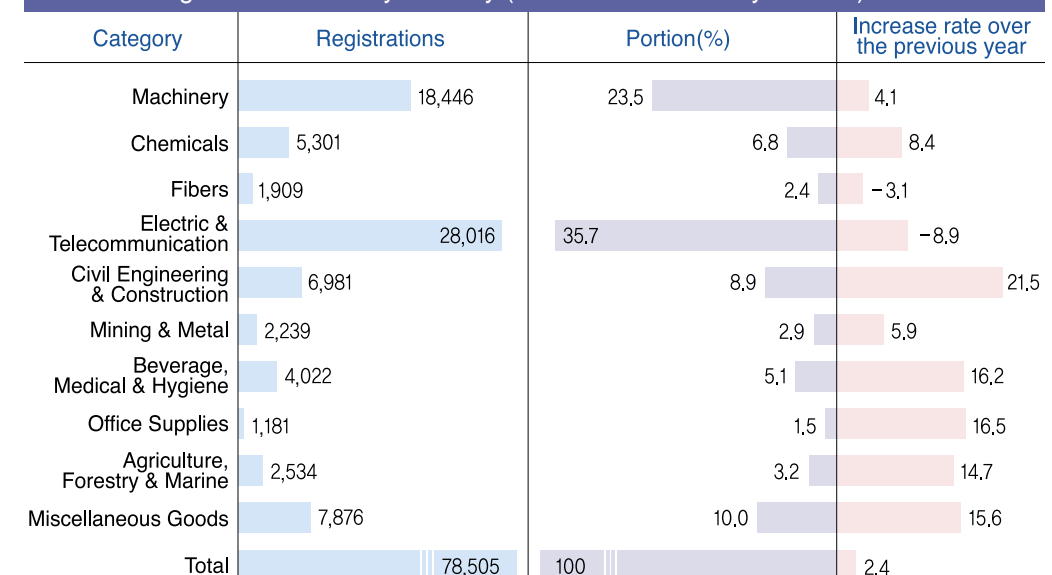


※ Remarks : Trademark renewals excluded. () means the rate of increase over the previous year.

In addition, analysis of new registrations by industry shows 28,016 registrations in the electronic and communication industry (representing 35.7%) and 18,446 (23.5%) in the machinery industry – the combined figure represents an overwhelming 59.2% of the total 78,505 registrations. [Table 2]

[Table 2] Registration Trend by Industry (for Patents and Utility Models)

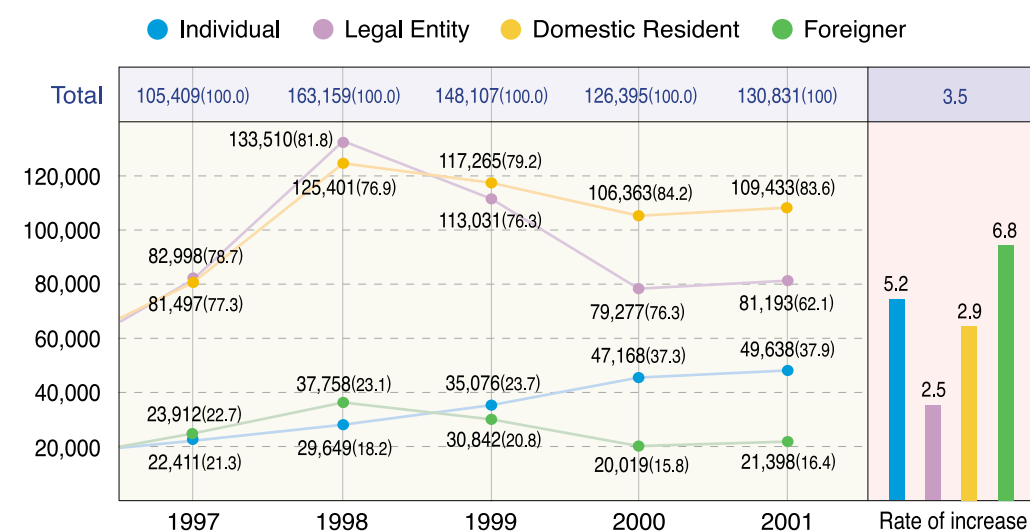
number, %





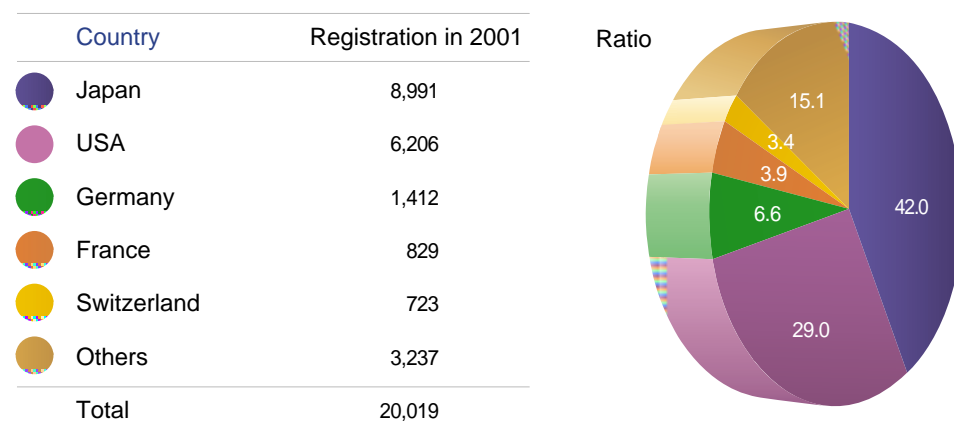
The comparison of registration ratios between individuals and legal entities shows that registration by individuals was 37.9%, while registration by legal entities was 62.1%. Registrations by Koreans and foreigners account for 83.6% and 16.4% respectively. [Table 3]

[Table 3] Registration Trend for Individuals, Legal Entities, Domestic Residents and Foreigners number, %



Of all the foreign registrations, those from Japan (42%) and the USA (29%) constituted 71%. A closer look reveals that Japan, USA and Germany led patent registrations while France and Switzerland led trademark registrations. [Table 4]

[Table 4] Registration by Foreigners in 2001 number, %



※ Trademark renewals excluded

By the end of 2001 there was a total of 1,362,056 IPR registrations.

4. Trials

In 2001, there were 3,908 trials filed for patents and utility models, showing an increase of 51.2% over the previous year. For trademarks and designs, 3,577 trials were filed – an increase of 8.6% over the previous year. The total number of trials filed was 7,485, a 27.3% increase.

KIPO concluded 3,023 trials for patents and utility models and 3,490 for trademarks and designs, making a total of 6,513 trials. Each trial examiner dealt with 92 cases in the field of patents and utility models and 171 in trademarks and designs.



III Steadfast Implementation of IP Administration Computerization

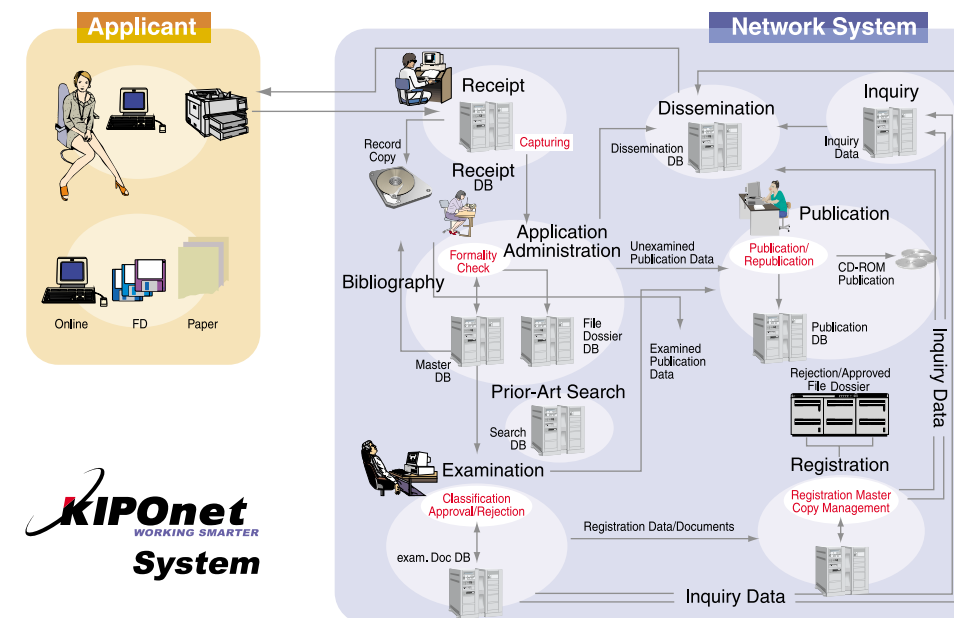


KIPOnet was put into operation in January 1999 with the launch of the Online Application System. Since then, KIPOnet's operating rate has been kept at 99.94%, with large support from IPR applicants.

1. Stabilization of KIPOnet and its Ongoing Refinement

KIPOnet was put into operation in January 1999 with the launch of the Online Application System. Since then, KIPOnet's operating rate has been kept at 99.94%, with large support from IPR applicants.

- Continuous System Upgrade
 - KIPO has completed the Unified Search System Environment by upgrading and standardizing the search system for patents, utility models, biotechnologies and trial decisions. Recently, KIPO expanded the existing system by incorporating the BM (Business Method) search system, which reflects the latest filing trend.
 - The new features of KIPO's search system include an upgraded analysis function for searching worldwide patent information and a user-friendly means of evaluating technology.
 - In order to expedite the online application process, KIPO shortened the procedure for granting electronic signature keys from two days to one day.
 - It has also earned international credibility by receiving the ISO 9001 service quality certificate by upgrading the operational quality of its examination support system through such means as the standardization of document formats and workflow.
 - A risk management scenario for coping instantly with system troubles was also prepared and put into operation. This has enhanced KIPO's capacity to prevent system troubles and has improved the system's stability. KIPOnet's responsiveness to the changing environment has been developed by incorporating institutional innovations such as the revised patent and utility model laws, the examiner ranking system and the co-examination system.
 - The speed of the KIPOnet system has been accelerated by revising the storage space allocation system. This has been accomplished by providing a sole access network (SAN) as a storage device and by allocating different kinds of storage media depending on the importance of the date and how frequently it is used.

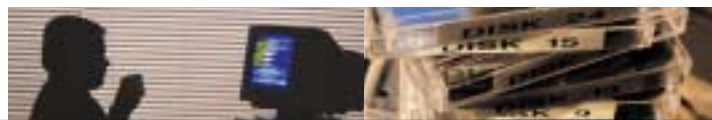


- Multi-faceted Promotion and Education
 - The online application rate increased from 57.1% in January 1999 to 86.2% in December 2001. The increase is due to the following: constant functional upgrading and free distribution of 「Electronic application preparation software」, free education via the Patent Information Assistant Center, the operation of the UHD (User Help Desk), the Field Access Helper System, the designation of 52 universities as models for making wider use of the KIPOnet system, a series of lectures at the International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI), the publication of information booklets for overseas and the distribution of KIPOnet videos.

2. Development of the Cyber IP Office

KIPO has established a cyber-system for its unified customer service. Through this system, KIPO's homepage has been revised with emphasis on its online customer help service. Consequently, KIPO is capable of handling all customer's requests in cyberspace, including document preparation, downloading of application forms. It has also expanded the scope of documents which can be submitted electronically and streamlined various procedures. This was done in order to drastically improve the convenience of its customers.

The Customer Call Center was established to provide customers with a comprehensive telephone service. The Customer Management System (p-CRM) was established to carry out systematic customer-oriented projects such as questionnaire evaluation, the provision of information, as well as education and seminars for the effective assessment of customer satisfaction. These efforts have paved the way for a customer-tailored administration service with the systematic management of customers' information and history. Moreover, the instant reply system, in which customers are informed of the results of their enquiries through a short message service using email



and mobile telephones, has led to the realization of customer-moving IP administration.

KIPO has shortened the interval of publishing official gazettes. Through the Internet gazette publication system, it now publishes the disclosure gazette and registration gazette on a day basis. Through this system, anyone can access the gazettes online. There is also a push-mail service which automatically emails customers about necessary information. These features have maximized customer convenience.

KIPO has also completed an online filing system for ex-parte trials. This has made it possible to file an ex-parte trial and transmit court documents through the Internet. At the same time, an online system for filing litigation and appeals is under construction. This will be completed by the end of 2003.

3. Expanded Role in Multilateral Fora for IP Computerization

- Bringing KIPOnet Technology to Developing Countries
 - In March 2001, KIPO concluded a memorandum of understanding with the Brazilian Patent Office to co-develop an information system. It also held roadshows to advertize KIPOnet in the developing countries of South-East Asia and the South American region. Through the development and operation of KIPOnet, KIPO's international status has been enhanced; it has established a firm foundation for technical cooperation in the information technology field.
 - The 「APEC IPR Administration IT Symposium」 was held under the co-sponsorship of WIPO and KIPO from 19 to 23 November 2001. Dr Kamil Idris, Director General of WIPO, delivered a keynote speech under the title of "Closing the Digital Gap in the Global Knowledge-based Economic Era." The symposium provided a forum for IT experts from the USPTO, the JPO and APEC's IP-related public officials to discuss possible cooperation for IPR administration and information technology. The discussion also covered the expansion of technology transfer to developing countries and the formation of a strategic partnership in the international community.
- Bilateral Cooperation for Sharing Information in the International Community
 - KIPO and the JPO held two meetings for their IP experts, in April and December 2001, in order to build up bilateral cooperation by sharing their experience and information about online application processing and computerization development. The two offices agreed on the electronic exchange of priority documents and free access to their respective IPR databases.
 - In October 2001, KIPO also agreed with the EPO to exchange priority documents electronically and to connect KIPOnet to the TriNet system.

- Establishing Foundation for Electronic Document Exchange with Foreign Offices
 - The Trilateral Technical Meeting (held in Washington, D.C.) agreed to allow KIPOnet to be connected to TriNet for electronic document exchange. KIPO finished its technical preparation for the connection and agreed with the JPO to establish a network between the two offices.
- Participation in the Harmonization of International Technical Standards in the Field of IP Computerization
 - KIPO has progressively voiced its position in the meetings to revise WIPO's technical standard and in the discussion of electronic PCT filing with regard to the electronic processing of IP documents.
 - KIPO agreed to dispatch its IT experts to WIPO for the development of PCT e-filing. It is expected that KIPO will participate in the pilot project to test the PCT e-filing system.



The 「APEC IPR Administration IT Symposium」 was held under the co-sponsorship of WIPO and KIPO from 19 to 23 November 2001.

IV Improved Efficiency and Quality of IPR Administration



KIPO has continued to shorten the examination period to a level that is comparable to advanced countries ... [and] placed its priority on improving the quality of its examination.

1. Maintaining the Performance Goal and Improving the Quality of Examinations and Trials

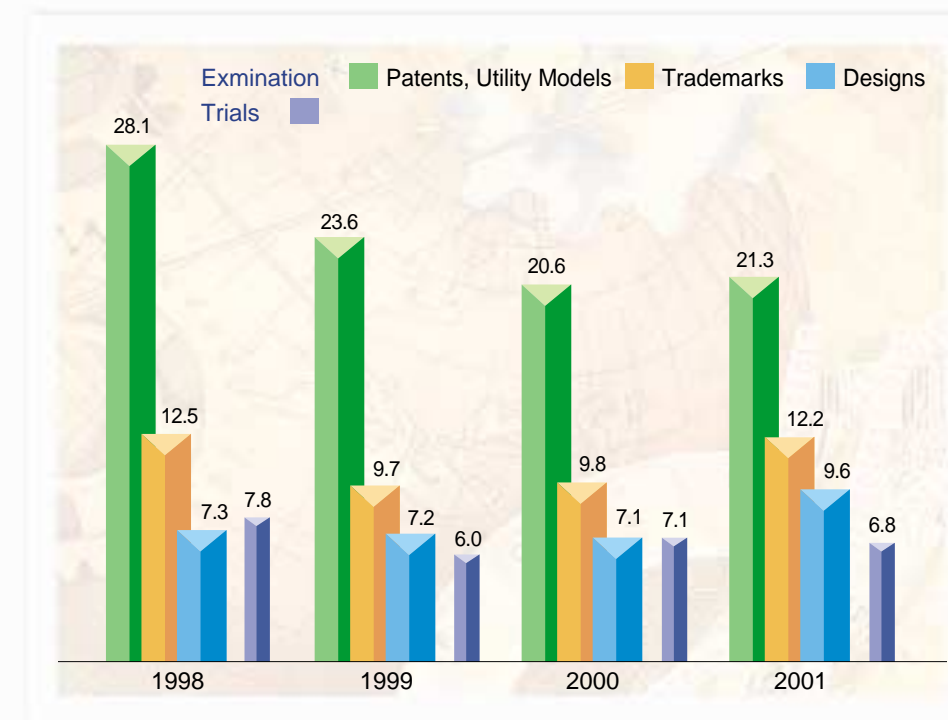
A. Preservation of Optimal Examination-Trial Pendency

KIPO has continued to shorten the examination period to a level that is comparable to advanced countries. Although the examination workload in 2001 increased by 137%, KIPO reduced its actual workload by such means as increasing its outsourcing and upgrading its computerized examination support system.

Furthermore, in the year 2000, KIPO changed its index for measuring the duration of the examination process. In consideration of the applicants' convenience, the determining factor became the date of the first action, rather than the date in which the case was closed. The trial pendency period, which was 9.6 months for patents and utility models and 5.3 months for trademarks and designs, averaged 6.8 months at the end of 2001. The pendency period for patent and utility model was 21.3 months. Meanwhile, the pendency period for trademarks was 12.2 months and 9.6 months for designs. The pendency period for trademarks and designs increased slightly because of the escalation in the applications for trademarks and designs due to the economic recovery which followed the IMF bailout situation.

Examination-Trial Pendency Period by Year

Unit: month



※ Figures for 1998~1999 are based on the closing date of each case; for 2000~2001, on the date of first action.

B. Improvement in Examination Quality

- Patents, Utility Models, Trademarks and Designs
 - In 2001, KIPO placed its priority on improving the quality of its examinations. It recognized that the voluntary efforts of examiners is the most important determinant for such quality improvement. Accordingly, under its Comprehensive IP Administration Innovation Plan, KIPO implemented systematic examination quality control through such means as the operation of the Examination Evaluation Division, by upgrading databases and by enhancing the training programs for examiners. As a result of such efforts, the examination quality greatly improved in 2001. This improvement was confirmed by the positive survey results among applicants and customers.
- Trials
 - KIPO has improved the verbal adversarial hearings and interviews by streamlining procedural formalities and giving more opportunities for interested parties to present their opinions in a better way. It also launched the Open Internal Preview System of pending trial cases, held report sessions on legal research, and established a group to research precedents. This has enabled KIPO to publish abstracts of court rulings, and ensure expertise and consistency in trial decisions.



- For the professional development of its tribunal personnel, KIPO published and distributed the following documents in 2001: the 「Introduction to IP Trial Practices」 in April, the 「Manual for IP Trials」 in October and the 「Introduction to Filing IP Trials」 in December. KIPO also revised the trial-related 「Administrative Instructions」 in December by incorporating the expedited trials, the provisions for extending the time limit for filing litigations and the five-person consultation system.

2. KIPO's Role as PCT ISA/IPEA

There were 2,318 PCT applications in 2001. This is a 48% increase over the previous year's figure, due largely to extensive promotions and educational workshops. Consequently, Korea was ranked as the eighth largest PCT filing country. The number of PCT applications filed at KIPO by foreigners was 16,690, an increase of 10.3% over the 15,133 cases in 2000.

- Along with the soaring PCT filing rate in Korea, the workload of the International Search Authority (ISA) and the International Preliminary Examination Authority (IPEA) has also increased dramatically. Since KIPO has undertaken this role just two years ago, the number of requests for international searches peaked at 1,910 in 2001, making it the sixth largest ISA in the world.
- The rate of increase for PCT filing in Korea is likely to continue in 2002. The ISA and IPEA workload should increase at a corresponding rate.
- Meanwhile, KIPO has achieved noticeable success in PCT-related technical cooperation.
 - KIPO proposed a revision of the current PCT provision with regard to the responsibility of preparing the translations of international publications. This proposal shifts the responsibility from the ISA to the applicant. Through active participation in the PCT reform procedure, as in the above proposal, KIPO has enhanced the equity of PCT procedures and advanced the PCT system worldwide.
 - KIPO's activities at the level of bilateral PCT cooperation has been conspicuous. The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines designated KIPO as a competent ISA/IPEA when the Philippines became a new PCT contracting state on 27 August 2001. Besides providing ISA/IPEA services to Filipino PCT applicants, KIPO has held bilateral discussions with the IPO and IP Australia to mutually designate each other as a competent ISA/IPEA for PCT applications prepared in English.
 - KIPO has been active in the technical cooperation field. It developed on-the-job training material for PCT Receiving Offices and Designated Offices in developing PCT contracting states. With this material, KIPO has provided on-the-job training for PCT staff at IPO Philippines and has made efforts to disseminate the PCT system internationally.



The WIPO Seminar on the Madrid System was held in Daejeon under the co-sponsorship of WIPO and KIPO, 5 June 2002.



WIPO Asia-Pacific Regional Seminar on the Patent Cooperation Treaty, Seoul, 29 Oct.–1 Nov. 2001

V Efforts to Advance the IP Legal Framework



KIPO revised its IP-related laws to harmonize them with international standards, to promote speedy examinations and to strengthen IPR protection.

1. Improvement of the Patent and Utility Model System

In February 2001, KIPO revised its patent laws to harmonize them with international standards, to promote speedy examinations and to strengthen IPR protection. The related regulations and decrees were amended accordingly so that the revised laws could take effect in the day-to-day operations.

- The new features are as follows:
 - (1) the inclusion of technologies released on the Internet in the realm of prior art,
 - (2) allowing expedited examinations even before public disclosure,
 - (3) the streamlining of formalities such as omitting the application filing date and the name of the head person in charge of a legal entity,
 - (4) the opportunity to give explanations before returning submitted documents,
 - (5) the choice to abandon some claim(s) at the time of paying registration fee for a patent application in which two or more claims are patent granted,
 - (6) the addition of Japanese as a PCT filing language, and
 - (7) the enlarged scope of electronic documents which can be submitted.

2. Improvement of the Trademark and Design System

KIPO's revised trademark law came into effect on 1 July 2001 to bring it into line with international trends and customer demands.

- In preparation for Korea's accession to the Trademark Law Treaty, various documents have been simplified and the process has begun reclassifying certain goods in conformity with the classification system required under the treaty.



The Trial Examiners' Manual and the Administrative Instructions for Trials were revised to improve the equity, expertise and consistency of trials.

- For the purpose of joining the Madrid Protocol, provisions have been added to the trademark law and regulations in relation to the filing and examination procedure for international applications. Under the Madrid Protocol, more provisions will subsequently be reflected in related decrees to support the functions of the home office and the designated office.
- Meanwhile, to provide stronger protection to trademark owners, the penalty for infringement has increased from a maximum fine of 50 million won or five years imprisonment to a maximum fine of 100 million won or seven years imprisonment.

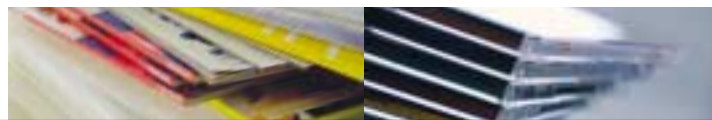
The design law was also revised and put into effect on 1 July 2001 with the main purpose of intensifying the protection of designs.

- In order to extend the scope of protection, KIPO introduced the Partial Design Registration System and loosened the requirements for the design of a set of articles.
- In addition, KIPO reinforced the requirements for design registration under the Non-Substantive Examination System in order to minimize the creation of unreliable design rights.
- Finally, the penalty for infringing a design right was increased.

3. Improvement of the Trial System

The Trial Examiners' Manual and the Administrative Instructions for Trials were revised to improve the equity, expertise and consistency of trials.

The Trial Search System was upgraded so that similar and/or previous trials related to a certain case could be completely searched.



In the case of cancellation trials, corrections are allowed during the trial proceedings without the necessity of going through a separate trial. This has effectively expedited the trial proceedings.

The Correction Request Disclosure System and the Appeal Request Procedure were abolished in order to expedite trial proceedings and to harmonize trials related to patents with those related to utility models and trial procedures with appeal procedures.

The Online Trial Filing System for Ex-parte Trials was developed with the aim of being operational in early 2002. Development of the online filing system for adversarial trials is under way. By next year, trial-related administration should be completely computerized.

A database of all trial decisions since 1957 has been compiled. This database will help to provide better service for IP trials and customer access to IP trial information.

4. Improvement of the Application and Customer Service System

As Internet users have proliferated, KIPO has enriched its customer service on Internet-based responses. One example is the Quick Response System (QRS), which answers each customer's questions within 48 hours. In 2001, KIPO processed 8,489 QRS questions.

KIPO also set up the Cyber Customer Referral Service on its homepage. This service provides customers with various forms and important information. Furthermore, two senior examiners have been dispatched to the Customer Referral Service Center at KIPO to provide an expert consultation service to visiting customers. An Examiner Interview Room has also been set up at KIPO enabling one-stop customer service.

To process the requests and questions of customers received via the telephone, KIPO has also established an IP Customer Call Center. This center launch the operation since March 20, 2002.



VI IPR Protection and Enhanced Enforcement



To prevent unfair competition and promote sound business practices, KIPO has reinforced its anti-counterfeiting activities.

1. Revision of the Legal Framework for IPR Protection

The Korean Government has long recognized that IP protection is beneficial to the economic development of the nation and to international trade. In this regard, it has continuously revised laws in compliance with international standards, including the standards set by WTO and TRIPs.

In 2001, KIPO strengthened its IPR protection by revising the Patent Law, the Utility Model Law, the Trademark Law, the Industrial Design Law, and the Unfair Competition Prevention and Trade Secret Protection Law.

- The revised laws increased the maximum fine for infringements from 50 million won to 100 million won and maximum imprisonment from 5 years to 7 years.
- The revised laws also made it easy to prove the amount of damages in compensation claims: the damage is deemed to be a portion of the profit for each item multiplied by the total number of items sold.

An act of dilution of well-known trademarks without any justifiable excuse has been included as an act of unfair competition in the Unfair Competition Prevention and Trade Secret Protection Law, reflecting the international trend in the protection of well-known trademarks. The Law forbids the use of a trademark by a representative without the permission of its owner and also prohibits the commercial use of the flags and national symbols of the states affiliated with the Trademark Law Treaty.



2. Anti-Counterfeiting Measures

In 1987, KIPO established a division exclusively responsible for anti-counterfeiting activities. Its purpose was to prevent unfair competition and promote sound business practices.

- Anti-counterfeiting activities are regularly undertaken on a nationwide scale in close cooperation with local governments, the prosecutor's office and the police.
- In 2001, KIPO pressed charges in 146 cases, issued 645 correction recommendations and found 33,274 infringing articles.

To make such anti-counterfeiting activities effective, KIPO operate the Counterfeit Report Center to receive and process report on counterfeit products and their circulation.

3. Public Awareness Campaign

Recently, the circulation and manufacturing of counterfeit products has gone underground. This has made investigations more difficult and requires more expertise in detection of them. To deal with this tendency, KIPO held training and education sessions on 22 occasions for the police, customs officers and local government officials. Meanwhile, KIPO has strived to develop the expertise of investigation manpower by publishing and distributing relevant material, by providing IPR training and education on skills of investigations and by providing practical investigation drills.

Consumer awareness is also essential factor in rooting out counterfeit products. As a way of driving public education and consumer awareness, KIPO has put Ads on IPR's protection on 140 large electronic screens in major cities. The display helps to encourage consumers to boycott counterfeit products.



VII Expanding the Basis for IP Creation and Commercialization



KIPO has networked with universities, research institutes, and provincial governments to assist them in making maximum use of patent information. These efforts have helped provincial organizations to raise their R&D efficiencies.

1. IPR Acquisition Campaign for SMEs

Since September 1999, KIPO has carried out in 「The IPR Acquisition Campaign for SMEs」 in cooperation with 14 related organizations, including the Korean Chamber of Commerce, aiming at the technical competitiveness of SMEs by means of IPRs.

- As part of this campaign, KIPO conducted IPR promotional shows in 52 areas in 2001. KIPO also arranged for SMEs to be sponsored by KIPO examiners in order to assist the SMEs to be educated in prior art searches and to enjoy consultations in IP laws. KIPO plans to expand this campaign to a bigger number of areas in 2002 and to place its priority on raising IPR awareness among enterprises and inventors.
- To reduce the financial burden of acquiring IPRs, KIPO provides a discount to SMEs on filing fees (from 50% to 70%) and arranges patent attorneys to provide them with free legal service for their first application. Consequently, KIPO is actively assisting SMEs to create IPRs.

As a result of these efforts, 47,267 SMEs filed their first application by the end of 2001 since the launch of the Campaign.

- As of the end of 2001, 49,919 SMEs held IPR registrations. This represents an increase of 107.4% over the figures of September 1999 (24,065).

2. Student Invention Activities

Taking into consideration the importance that young children gain IPR awareness and that invention-talented children are cultivated at earliest possible time, KIPO has progressively developed and conducted various Projects for Promoting Student Inventions since 1988.



The 3rd Award Ceremony for Women's Ideas on Invention was held in Seoul, 29 May 2002.

It has also set up 「Classrooms for Experimenting with Inventions」 in 180 School Supervisory Offices nationwide. Furthermore, it has encouraged every elementary and secondary school to form and operate student invention clubs. At the same time, to nurture the expertise of teachers who supervise this clubs, KIPO designated some schools as 「Invention Education Research Model Schools」 and held a National Invention Research Paper Competition. To foster an inventive spirit, it also held various competitions and exhibitions such as the 「Korean Student Invention Exhibition」. It sponsored students who created outstanding inventions to participate in international competitions.

Committed to educating students about inventiveness and cultivating talented students, KIPO has conducted the 「Project for Cultivating 100,000 Invention Hopefuls」 since 1999. To this end, it has strived to secure sufficient budget and incentives for teachers in order to form close cooperation with education-related government agencies.

3. Information Service for IPR Creation

A. Providing IPR-related Diagnosis

To guide them with technology development trend and provide them with patent-related diagnosis of their technical developments, KIPO has arranged a group of experts in technology and patents to perform a comprehensive diagnosis of developed technology and imported technology when requested to do so by SMEs.

B. Development and Distribution of Patent Maps

KIPO develops and distributes Patent Maps. These maps contain the classifications, analyses, processing data, and summaries of patented technology information, all of which serve as a



useful source for R & D activities. Since 2000, KIPO has annually made out PMs in 24 technical fields and has diffused them free of charge to the private enterprises and customers by Internet(<http://www.patentmap.or.kr>) and CD-ROM.

4. Facilitated Transfer and Transaction of Patented Technologies

KIPO's Internet IP Mart (<http://www.patentmart.or.kr>) disseminates information on the sale and commercialization of technology, to prevent the non-use of excellent patented technology. Meanwhile, KIPO also organizes real IP Mart and exhibits technologies for transfer and provides assistance for inventions, applications and commercialization.

For the active transfer of technologies, the above-mentioned markets provide information on new technology trends and patent maps in response to customer demand. Such information helps SMEs to avoid investment in technologies which are already patented, to obtain moderate royalties, and to get advice on the direction of technology development and on technical evaluations.

In addition, KIPO conducts vigorous activities for the transfer of technology such as operating the Patented Technology Transfer Promotion Group. The Group, which consists of KIPO's examiners, provides assistance on concluding contracts, with reference to the model contract for technology transfer.

5. Assistance in Commercialization of Patented Technology

For the expedited commercialization of superior patented technologies, KIPO assists with the technical evaluation fee and the pilot production of promising inventions. In particular, the Patent Commercialization Council provides assistance with knowledge creation, technology development, design development, business incubation, funds for equipment and operation funds. KIPO also regularly holds meetings with patent angels to promote investment.

Furthermore, to secure a market for superior patented products, KIPO has arranged on a regular basis the Grand Exhibition of Superior Patented Products, the Deajeon Invention Patent Exposition and the Grand Patented Technology Exhibition. It also implemented various efforts to promote products through the mass media, such as TV shopping channels, CATV and newspapers.



The 37th Annual Invention Day Ceremony at the COEX Auditorium in Seoul, 20 May 2002.



The 15th Korea Student Invention Exhibition was held at the COEX Pacific Hall in Seoul, 12-17 July 2002.

VIII International Cooperation in the IP Field



KIPO has taken an active part in the process of setting international IP standards and has built up cooperation at bilateral and multilateral level.

1. Strengthened Cooperation with International Organizations in the IP Field

A. Implementation of the WTO/TRIPS Agreement and Negotiations on the Doha Development Agenda

- Republic of Korea's amendments to its national legislation for the implementation of the TRIPS Agreement, which were reviewed at the TRIPS Council in June 2000, were recognized to be in full compliance with the TRIPS Agreement. KIPO has positively participated in the activities of the TRIPS Council including the legislation review.
- With the adoption of a Ministerial Declaration at the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference, which was held in November 2001, the TRIPS Agreement faces new challenges and opportunities. Many items that had been discussed under the built-in agenda of the TRIPS Council will, henceforth, be negotiated and discussed under the Doha Development Agenda.
- The agenda items, which will be discussed in earnest from now on, include: the TRIPS Agreement and public health; the establishment of a multilateral system of notification and registration of geographical indications for wines and spirits; extension of the protection of geographical indications provided for in Article 23 to products other than wines and spirits; the relationship between the TRIPS Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity; protection of genetic resources and traditional knowledge and folklore; and non-violation complaints.
- To follow up these negotiations effectively as well as to respond appropriately to the activities of the TRIPS Council, KIPO set up task force in December 2001. It works in cooperation with related government agencies such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the

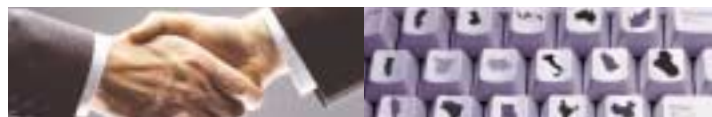


The Heads Meeting between KIPO and the EPO was held in Daejeon, 25 April 2002.

Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry, and the Ministry of Health and Wealth.

B. Increased Role in WIPO and International Cooperation

- KIPO is preparing to join the Trademark Law Treaty (TLT) and the Madrid Protocol for the international registration of marks. This will bring Korea's level of IPR protection in line with other nations and improve customer satisfaction. In preparation for these events, KIPO has already completed the revision of its laws.
- It is now revising the subordinate laws and regulations and developing a computerized system for processing related work. In the second half of 2002, when the domestic preparation will be completed, Korea's accession to these international agreements will be put into effect.
- KIPO is also seriously considering joining the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs and the Patent Law Treaty (PLT), which are administered under the auspices of WIPO.
- In addition, KIPO has actively participated in WIPO's discussions on the new IPR standards, especially those related to the Substantive Patent Law Treaty (SPLT), PCT reform, genetic resources and traditional knowledge.
- The Framework Agreement of Cooperation between KIPO and WIPO was signed in Daejeon on 19 November 2001.
- This agreement encourages KIPO to share its experiences for the purpose of promoting the IPR system in developing countries. The agreement specified nine priority items of cooperation including information technology, SME IPR policies, genetic resources and



traditional knowledge, PCT, IPR enforcement, human resources development, the worldwide IPR protection system and management know-how of IPR offices.

C. The Furtherance of IPR Cooperation at the APEC Level

- The most noteworthy event which KIPO accomplished in relation to APEC in 2001 was the holding of the APEC International Symposium on IP & IT. The purpose of the symposium was to assist economies of the APEC region to computerize IPR administration and to raise their awareness of computerization. The symposium resulted from Korea's proposal – item (e) of the New APEC Collective Actions – for cooperation on the improvement of the IPR Administration System. It was funded by APEC's Trade and Investment Liberalization and Facilitation Organization. The symposium was held for five days, from 19 to 23 November 2001, in Daejeon, Korea. Thirty-one IT experts from 13 member economies attended and discussed the strategy & procedure for computerizing IPR administration as well as the prospects of future development.
- KIPO will continue cooperative efforts to upgrade the IPR administration services in APEC member economies on the basis of its experience in the computerization of IPR administration; and it will strive to improve the IPR system through other activities at the APEC IPEG.

2. Enhanced Bilateral Cooperation with Other IP Offices

A. Efforts to protect local companies' IPRs overseas

- KIPO has operated the Overseas IPR Protection Center since July 1997 to assist in the IPR protection of Korean companies in foreign countries.
 - The center has provided legal advice and a consulting service for Korean companies which face difficulties abroad in relation to trademark infringements and the circulation of counterfeit products.
 - KIPO is progressively carrying out bilateral cooperation with countries where Korean companies are stationed, for the furtherance of mutual IPR protection.

B. Meetings with the Heads of Major IPR Offices

- KIPO proposed to hold a trilateral Heads Meeting among JPO, SIPO and KIPO to discuss challenges and opportunities the three Offices have in the field of patent. With the other Offices' positive efforts, the Trilateral Policy Dialogue Meeting among the Commissioner of KIPO, SIPO and JPO was held in Tokyo, Japan, on 11 September 2001.



The Second Heads Meeting between the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and the National Office of Industrial Property of Vietnam (NOIP) was held in Hanoi, 8 May 2002.

- The meeting produced an agreement that the Three Country IPR Heads Meeting be held regularly, that a permanent Working Group and a Joint Experts Groups on specific areas or topics be established, that the second meeting be held in Korea in 2002, that the three offices exchange information on international issues, and that they enhance their cooperation with IP offices in ASEAN for the harmonization of IPR systems and the exchange of IPR information.
- The meeting was especially meaningful in that it was the first institutional arrangement to concretely implement trilateral cooperation for the advancement of the IPR system in North-East Asia.
- The cooperation among the three countries aimed firstly at realizing an effective system of IPR protection in the region and the acknowledgement of each other's examination results as a means of overcoming territorial limitations.
- To consolidate its relationship with China, which became the 143rd member of the WTO on 11 December 2001, KIPO agreed to further cooperate with SIPO in the fields of examination computerization, and patent information. Under this agreement, both offices have exchanged personnel seven times in the areas of examinations, trials and computerization.
- KIPO and the JPO had their 13th Annual Bilateral Heads Meeting on 14 September 2001 and agreed to strengthen their cooperative relationship.
 - The Agreement includes the electronic exchange of priority documents (which started in July 2001), KIPO's re-designation of Japanese as a PCT receiving language, the meeting of trademark and design examiners, and the joint project for searching prior art search project.
- In September 2001, KIPO and IP Australia held their Fourth Heads Meeting in Daejeon. They agreed to continue the exchange of examiners, to discuss the possibility of mutually designating each other as competent ISAs, to hold an IT experts meeting and exchange information on accession to the Madrid Protocol.
- In June 2001, KIPO held meetings with the heads of IPO Malaysia and IPO Singapore in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore respectively. KIPO agreed with these offices to cooperate on subjects of mutual interest such as exchange of personnel and information, and automation.

IX Human Resource Development in the IP Field



KIPO established the International Intellectual Property Training Institute in 1987 for the purpose of raising IPR awareness and developing IPR human resources. The IIPTI has developed and conducted various educational programs: it has promoted international cooperation by holding IPR seminars and provided training programs for foreigners in the Asia-Pacific region.

1. Main Role of the IIPTI

The International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI) works to cultivate experts in the field of IPR in public and private sector. Trainees come from KIPO, other government organizations, patent attorneys, private companies, and education community. It provide a wide range of national and international courses and on-the-job training programs. On annual basis, about 80 training courses are organized for public officials, civilians, and educators.

2. Overview of Training Courses by the IIPTI

- Courses for public officials
 - To improve capabilities of public officials, IIPTI provides various training programs for IPR-related workers from KIPO, other governmental agencies, provincial governments, etc. The programs mainly include course for examiner candidates, course for newly appointed examiners, supplementary course for examiners, course for trial examiners.
- Courses for civilians
 - To enhance IPR management capacity in private sectors such as enterprises, patent law firms, research institutes, IIPTI provides diversified courses.
 - The courses deal with the Introduction to IPRs, Patent Commercialization, and IPR e-Commerce, new technologies, and so on.
- Courses for educators
 - To inspire invention's will into educators and students, IIPTI provides three forms of courses, which are course for school principal and supervisors, course for teachers in charge of invention club, course for professors.

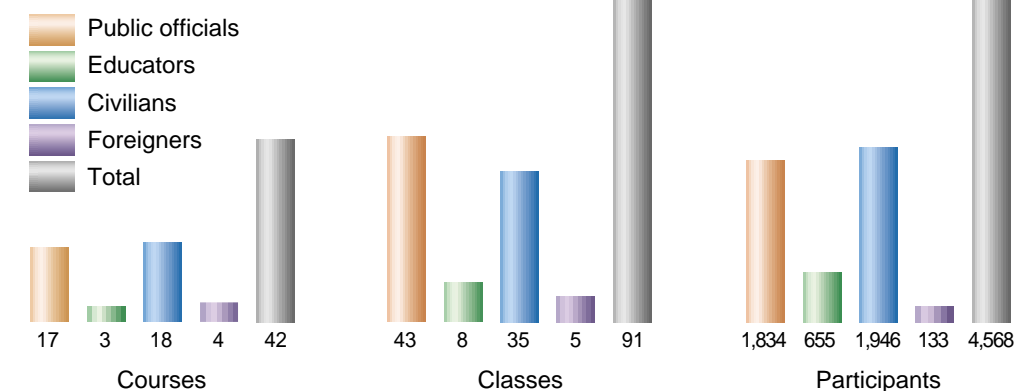


WIPO Asian Regional Seminar, Promoting Synergy between Government Authorities and Users of the Intellectual Property System, was held at KIPO/IIPTI, November 20-22, 2001.

- School Circuit training program
 - IIPTI regularly organizes school-visiting seminars. It invites well-known inventors and IPR professionals to speak on invention skills and basic knowledge of IPR at the assemblies of students. The targeted schools include elementary schools, middle & high schools, and colleges.
- Courses for foreigners
 - The IIPTI hosted the WIPO Asia Regional Seminar and the IPR Educator International Seminar in cooperation with WIPO, and the Korea-Japan IPR Enforcement Seminar in cooperation with JPO. With sponsorship from the Korea International Cooperation Agency, it also provided on-the-job training for IPR-related public officials from the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

3. Training Achievements at IIPTI in 2001

A. Training at IIPTI



B. School Circuit Training Program





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A. Statistics

1. Application

1-1. Application Status

Sector	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Patents	20,051 (14,355)	23,315 (16,294)	25,820 (16,738)	28,132 (14,879)	31,073 (31,073)	36,491 (15,032)	45,712 (17,148)	78,499 (19,263)	90,326 (21,913)	92,734 (25,388)	75,188 (24,592)	80,642 (24,672)	101,782 (29,014)	103,011 (29,363)
Utility Models	22,677 (1,011)	21,530 (875)	22,654 (993)	25,895 (770)	28,665 (742)	32,218 (713)	39,806 (574)	59,866 (504)	68,822 (360)	45,809 (359)	28,896 (292)	30,650 (306)	37,120 (346)	40,775 (411)
Industrial Designs	18,162 (1,425)	18,196 (1,687)	18,769 (1,363)	20,097 (1,284)	22,948 (1,188)	27,568 (1,368)	29,033 (1,369)	29,978 (1,596)	29,859 (1,768)	28,491 (1,816)	23,732 (1,588)	32,404 (1,533)	33,806 (1,729)	36,845 (1,793)
Trademarks	34,681 (10,480)	39,832 (12,914)	46,826 (13,262)	46,612 (13,144)	45,124 (11,961)	59,593 (13,034)	72,581 (16,262)	71,852 (16,634)	85,062 (18,621)	87,065 (20,843)	57,393 (14,492)	87,332 (16,070)	110,059 (19,427)	107,128 (20,637)
Total	95,571 (27,271)	102,873 (31,770)	114,069 (32,296)	120,736 (30,077)	127,810 (29,012)	155,870 (30,147)	187,132 (35,353)	240,195 (37,997)	274,069 (42,662)	254,099 (48,406)	185,209 (40,964)	231,028 (42,581)	282,767 (50,516)	287,759 (52,204)

Note: The figures in parentheses indicate the corresponding number of applications by foreigners.



A. Statistics

1-2. Applications by Type of Right and Industry

A. Patents

B. Utility Models

Sector	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Machinery	26,146	20,606	11,254	13,532	10,578	15,403	38,487	19,452	9,218	8,638	9,168	9,695
Chemicals	8,489	9,395	9,112	9,934	6,708	10,370	1,096	1,125	780	1,067	1,380	1,520
Fibers	1,409	1,864	1,637	1,363	776	1,678	1,711	1,511	1,002	963	1,120	1,234
Electric & Telecommunication	44,057	48,989	41,420	41,390	38,704	49,443	16,350	13,831	8,388	6,427	7,823	8,322
Civil Engineering & Construction	1,651	1,577	1,507	2,628	2,318	3,473	3,115	2,351	2,162	3,443	5,038	6,223
Mining & Metal	2,218	2,630	2,442	2,827	2,839	3,492	1,323	1,062	832	799	700	616
Beverage, Medical & Hygiene	3,842	4,595	4,875	5,446	4,721	7,202	1,185	1,037	1,135	1,600	2,000	2,299
Office Supplies & Printing	430	691	926	955	711	608	782	789	681	759	807	898
Agriculture, Forestry & Marine	355	473	534	590	907	1,013	1,080	1,128	1,161	1,629	1,725	1,936
Miscellaneous Goods	1,293	1,350	1,618	1,396	1,904	2,621	3,699	3,523	3,537	5,325	5,952	7,254
Total	78,499	90,326	92,734	75,188	80,642	103,011	68,822	45,809	28,896	30,650	37,120	40,775

A. Statistics

1-2. Applications by Type of Right and Industry

C. Patents and Utility Models

Sector	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Machinery	64,633	40,058	20,472	22,170	19,926	25,098
Chemicals	9,579	10,520	9,892	11,001	8,088	11,890
Fibers	3,120	3,375	2,639	2,326	1,896	2,912
Electric & Telecommunication	60,407	62,820	49,808	47,817	46,527	57,765
Civil Engineering & Construction	4,766	3,928	3,669	6,071	7,356	9,696
Mining & Metal	3,541	3,692	3,274	3,626	3,539	4,108
Beverage, Medical & Hygiene	5,027	5,632	6,010	7,046	6,721	9,501
Office Supplies & Printing	1,473	1,715	1,636	1,470	1,231	1,506
Agriculture, Forestry & Marine	1,553	1,662	1,751	2,536	2,267	2,949
Miscellaneous Goods	5,049	5,141	4,933	7,229	7,424	9,875
Total	159,148	138,543	104,084	111,292	138,902	143,786

D. Industrial Designs

Sector	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Foodstuffs, Including Dietetic Foods	49	148	106	223	140	416
Articles of Clothing and Personal Belongings	2,304	2,018	2,108	2,849	3,043	3,748
Household Goods, Furnishing	3,444	3,266	3,012	4,531	4,185	5,176
Housing Apparatus	3,383	3,721	2,472	4,185	4,511	4,827
Games, Toys and Sports Goods	969	933	804	1,150	1,080	1,162
Stationer's Goods, Desk Equipment and Office Machinery	2,977	3,053	2,599	3,478	3,576	4,303
Vehicles	3,389	2,513	1,272	1,643	1,205	1,525
Electrical and Electronic Equipment	3,747	3,645	3,205	3,665	3,691	4,514
General Machinery, not elsewhere specified	1,471	1,612	1,296	1,658	1,469	1,703
Industrial Machinery	2,746	2,680	2,409	2,411	2,045	2,500
Building Units and Construction Elements	3,024	3,047	2,845	3,404	3,286	3,815
Basic Industrial Products	2,353	1,855	1,604	2,972	2,516	2,475
Not elsewhere specified	-	-	-	235	3,059	680
Total	29,856	28,491	23,732	32,404	33,80	36,845

A. Statistics

1-2. Applications by Type of Right and Industry

E. Trademarks

Sector	1999		2000		2001	
	Number	Portion(%)	Number	Portion(%)	Number	Portion(%)
Chemicals	13,130	15.0	14,761	13.4	14,897	13.9
Metal	2,572	3.0	2,782	2.5	2,762	2.6
Machinery	13,584	15.6	19,399	17.6	17,236	16.1
Fibers	10,905	12.5	10,405	9.5	9,804	9.1
Furniture	2,964	3.4	3,278	3.0	3,307	3.1
Jewelry	4,204	4.8	4,360	4.0	4,668	4.4
Musical Instruments	2,159	2.5	2,657	2.4	2,708	2.5
Papers	4,818	5.5	5,424	4.9	4,620	4.3
Confectionery	10,840	12.4	12,279	11.2	12,995	12.1
Rubber Marks	470	0.5	481	0.4	461	0.4
Service	21,573	24.7	34,004	30.9	27,054	25.3
Others	114	0.1	243	0.2	6,616	6.2
Total	87,332	100	110,073	100	107,128	100

1-3. Applications by Foreign Nationals (2001)

Country	Patents	Utility Models	Industrial Designs	Trade marks	Total
France	890	0	71	1,298	2,259
Germany	2,871	11	47	1,504	4,433
Japan	13,602	46	981	5,442	20,071
Netherlands	1,210	0	45	501	1,756
Switzerland	557	1	55	1,052	1,665
U.S.A.	7,390	58	322	6,622	14,392
United Kingdom	516	0	18	915	1,449
OTHERS	2,327	295	254	3,303	6,179
Total	29,363	411	1,793	20,637	52,204



A. Statistics

2. Examinations

2-1. Status of Examined and Unexamined Applications

Right	Year	Applications	Examined	Unexamined	Total
Total	1996	274,069	133,567	626,896	133,348
	1997	254,099	194,492	464,625	194,112
	1998	185,209	303,564	647,560	303,134
	1999	231,028	262,377	507,176	262,377
	2000	282,767	248,015	557,206	248,015
	2001	287,759	229,670	557,911	229,670
Patents	1996	90,326	23,011	297,809	22,891
	1997	92,734	36,246	198,116	36,246
	1998	75,188	86,655	325,810	86,364
	1999	80,642	94,578	304,986	94,578
	2000	101,782	68,338	352,066	68,338
	2001	103,011	55,766	386,583	55,766
Utility Models	1996	68,822	20,893	203,591	20,794
	1997	45,809	29,496	118,387	29,336
	1998	28,896	58,758	180,467	58,619
	1999	30,650	66,364	101,061	66,364
	2000	37,120	68,779	74,708	68,779
	2001	40,775	54,550	55,429	54,550
Industrial Designs	1996	29,859	29,799	34,591	29,799
	1997	28,491	38,455		38,455
	1998	23,732	34,416	38,878	34,416
	1999	32,404	26,985	22,312	26,985
	2000	33,806	27,540	26,369	27,540
	2001	36,845	32,276	25,649	32,276
Trademarks	1996	85,062	59,864	124,768	59,864
	1997	87,065	90,075	122,977	90,075
	1998	57,393	123,735	120,405	123,735
	1999	87,332	74,450	78,817	74,450
	2000	110,059	83,358	104,063	83,358
	2001	107,128	87,078	90,250	87,078

2-2. Details of Examined Applications

	Year	Patents - Utility Models						Final Action		
		First Action						Decision for Registration	Withdrawn, Abandoned, Invalidated	Total
		Decision for Registration	Notice to Rejection	Expedited Examination	Other Notices	Abandoned	Total			
Patents	1996	—	—	—	—	—	—	16,646	484	23,011
	1997	—	—	—	—	—	—	27,581	526	36,246
	1998	—	—	—	—	—	—	62,955	1,468	86,364
	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—	58,604	5,099	86,978
	2000	18,861	46,927	69	318	2,163	68,338	33,149	9,148	54,525
	2001	13,797	38,900	128	277	2,664	55,766	38,590	3,700	57,737
Utility Models	1996	—	—	—	—	—	—	10,720	370	20,893
	1997	—	—	—	—	—	—	17,091	472	29,336
	1998	—	—	—	—	—	—	34,646	848	58,619
	1999	—	—	—	—	—	—	32,281	4,445	57,722
	2000	40,629	27,036		114	1,000	68,779	43,426	11,385	63,412
	2001	38,960	15,097		40	453	54,550	43,581	6,628	58,975

A. Statistics

2-2. Details of Examined Applications

		Industrial · Utility Models				Trade Marks			
		First Action				Final Action			
		Registration Publication/ Decision for Registration	Notice to Rejection	Expedited Examination	Total	Decision for Registration	Final Rejection	Withdrawn, Abandoned, Invalidated	Total
Industrial Designs	1996	—	—	—	—	23,919	5,371	509	29,799
	1997	—	—	—	—	31,290	6,928	237	38,455
	1998	—	—	—	—	25,924	5,252	—	31,176
	1999	—	—	—	—	23,293	3,031	—	26,324
	2000	17,498	10,034	8	27,540	21,791	3,848	—	25,640
	2001	18,300	13,962	14	32,276	24,004	4,378	—	28,382
Trade marks	1996	—	—	—	—	39,007	11,788	801	59,864
	1997	—	—	—	—	47,275	19,721	1,204	90,075
	1998	—	—	—	—	69,150	31,931	—	117,432
	1999	—	—	—	—	85,501	22,407	—	72,908
	2000	43,096	40,077	185	83,358	50,501	22,169	—	70,700
	2001	45,373	41,449	256	87,078	57,500	23,645	—	81,145

3. Registration

3-1. Registration Status

Sector	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Patents	16,516 (8,195)	24,579 (10,082)	52,900 (17,000)	62,635 (19,321)	34,894 (12,006)	34,663 (12,840)
Utility Models	9,191 (442)	13,713 (458)	25,717 (553)	32,868 (374)	41,726 (395)	43,842 (475)
Industrial Designs	20,192 (1,509)	24,633 (1,768)	24,931 (2,231)	19,636 (1,469)	18,835 (1,117)	18,650 (1,273)
Trademarks	26,464 (6,735)	42,484 (11,604)	59,611 (17,974)	32,968 (9,678)	30,806 (6,501)	33,676 (6,810)
Total	72,363 (16,881)	105,409 (23,912)	163,159 (37,758)	148,107 (30,842)	126,261 (20,019)	130,831 (21,398)

Note : The figures in parentheses indicate the corresponding number of registration by foreigners.



A. Statistics

3-2. Registrations by Type of Right and Industry

Sector	A. Patents						B. Utility Models					
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Machinery	2,644	4,297	10,867	12,716	5,773	6,669	2,818	5,295	10,049	12,408	11,931	11,777
Chemicals	3,178	3,508	7,210	6,977	3,431	3,643	291	337	520	773	1,449	1,658
Fibers	513	862	1,108	1,471	613	629	304	419	1,041	1,222	1,358	1,280
Electric & Telecommunication	7,324	12,031	26,740	33,117	20,900	18,701	2,771	4,091	8,669	8,927	9,838	9,315
Civil Engineering & Construction	411	610	1,393	1,706	732	946	723	1,035	1,914	2,838	4,994	6,035
Mining & Metal	936	809	1,222	1,954	996	1,233	316	392	489	794	1,116	1,006
Beverage, Medical & Hygiene	900	1,373	2,669	2,544	1,520	1,700	378	331	545	858	1,931	2,322
Office Supplies	142	322	501	725	187	257	154	216	310	562	827	924
Agriculture, Forestry & Marine	121	189	319	424	219	309	382	458	689	1,099	1,991	2,225
Miscellaneous Goods	347	578	867	1,001	523	576	1,054	1,139	1,489	3,387	6,291	7,300
Total	16,516	24,579	52,896	62,635	34,894	34,663	9,191	13,713	25,715	32,868	41,726	43,842

A. Statistics

3-2. Registrations by Type of Right and Industry

C. Patents and Utility Models

Sector	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Machinery	5,462	9,592	20,916	25,124	17,704	18,446
Chemicals	3,469	3,845	7,730	7,750	4,880	5,301
Fibers	817	1,281	2,149	2,693	1,971	
Electric & Telecommunication	10,095	16,122	35,409	42,044	30,738	28,016
Civil Engineering & Construction	1,134	1,645	3,307	4,544	5,726	6,981
Mining & Metal	1,252	1,201	1,711	2,748	2,112	2,239
Beverage, Medical & Hygiene	1,278	1,704	3,214	3,402	3,451	4,022
Office Supplies & Printing	296	538	811	1,287	1,014	1,181
Agriculture, Forestry & Marine	503	647	1,008	1,523	2,210	2,534
Miscellaneous Goods	1,401	1,717	2,356	4,388	6,814	7,876
Total	25,707	38,292	78,611	95,503	76,620	78,505

D. Industrial Designs

Sector	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
A. Foodstuffs, Including Dietetic Foods	25	30	100	67	54	97
B. Articles of Clothing and Personal Belongings	1,186	1,281	1,427	1,581	1,623	1,900
C. Household Goods, Furnishing	2,536	2,069	2,566	2,274	2,603	2,725
D. Housing Apparatus	2,515	2,477	2,456	1,980	2,242	2,294
E. Games, Toys and Sports Goods	713	529	701	546	542	547
F. Stationer's Goods, Desk Equipment and Office Machinery	1,771	2,787	2,913	2,300	2,188	2,514
G. Vehicles	1,870	3,945	2,733	1,029	1,155	844
H. Electrical and Electronic Equipment	2,806	4,070	4,384	2,671	2,248	2,043
I. General Machinery, not elsewhere specified	917	1,483	1,187	1,054	965	811
J. Industrial Machinery	1,853	2,348	2,382	1,812	1,390	1,376
K. Building Units and Construction Element	2,493	2,059	2,289	2,319	1,922	1,971
L. Basic Industrial Products, not elsewhere specified	1,507	1,555	1,793	2,003	1,903	1,528
Total	20,192	24,633	24,931	19,636	18,835	18,650

A. Statistics

3-2. Registrations by Type of Right and Industry

E. Trademarks

Sector	1999		2000		2001	
	Number	Portion(%)	Number	Portion(%)	Number	Portion(%)
Chemicals	3,724	15.2	5,151	16.9	4,240	12.6
Metal	597	2.4	937	3.1	1,079	3.2
Machinery	3,384	13.8	5,066	16.7	5,961	17.7
Fibers	1,981	8.1	3,349	11.0	3,876	11.5
Furniture	856	3.5	1,112	3.7	1,377	4.1
Jewelry	940	3.8	1,224	4.0	1,333	4.0
Musical Instruments	568	2.3	892	2.9	1,039	3.1
Papers	1,320	5.4	1,506	4.9	2,276	6.8
Confectionery	2,606	10.6	3,729	12.3	4,760	14.2
Rubber Marks	167	0.7	176	0.6	179	0.5
Service	4,168	17.0	7,101	23.3	7,328	21.8
Others	4,204	17.2	168	0.6	147	0.4
Total	24,515	100	30,411	100	33,595	100

3-3. Registrations by Foreign Nationals (2001)

Country	Patents	Utility Models	Industrial Designs	Trade marks	Total
France	389	1	56	383	829
Germany	846	12	62	492	1,412
Japan	6,813	77	621	1,480	8,991
Netherlands	239	2	52	161	454
Switzerland	235	-	37	451	723
U.S.A.	3,314	81	294	2,517	6,206
United Kingdom	197	3	15	313	528
Others	807	299	136	1,013	2,255
Total	12,840	475	1,273	6,810	21,398

A. Statistics

4. Trials

4-1. Requests and Disposals by Type of Right

Year		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Requests	Patents	1,161	1,614	2,277	3,298	1,994	3,004
	Utility Models	751	980	758	783	591	904
		703	712	584	629	508	529
		2,073	2,566	2,762	2,703	2,787	3,048
	Total	4,688	5,872	6,381	7,413	5,880	7,485
Disposals	Patents	1,080	1,840	2,264	2,481	2,413	2,415
	Utility Models	776	1,037	1,137	729	550	608
		699	799	1,091	696	535	548
		2,280	2,542	3,328	3,373	2,896	2,942
	Total	4,835	6,218	7,820	7,279	6,394	6,513

Note 1: The Trial Board (TB) and the Appellate Trial Board (ATB) within KIPO was integrated into the Industrial Property Tribunal (IPT) on March 1, 1998. Therefore, the date from '95 '97 are the sum of appeals/trials that both TB and ATB dealt with.

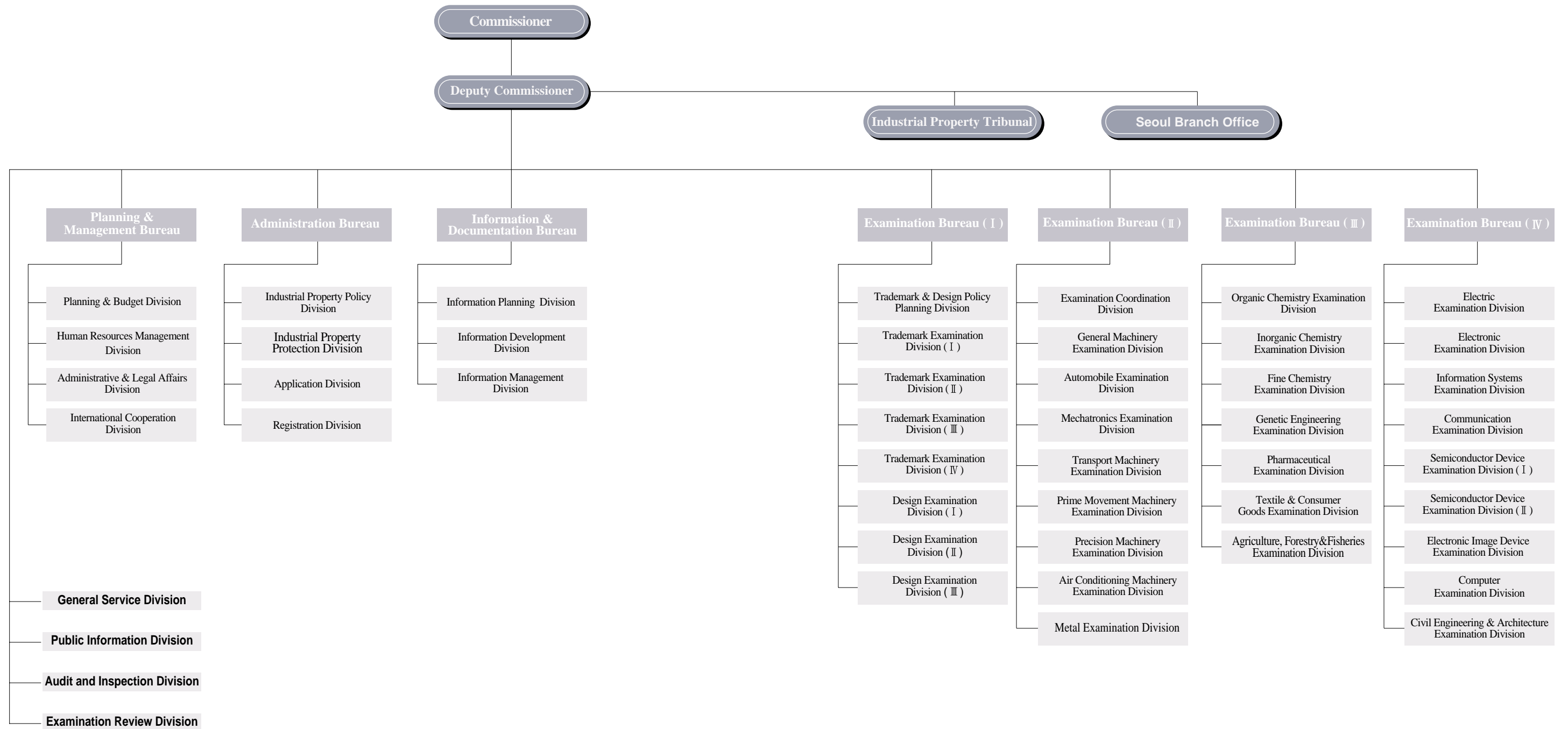
Note 2: Requests for re-examination to oppose decision of registration refusal are included in the date of "Disposals".

4-2. Requests and Disposals by Type of Trial

Type of Appeal/Trial	Right	99		2000		2001	
		Request	Disposal	Request	Disposal	Request	Disposal
Rejection	Patents	2,942	2,208	1,537	2,108	2,529	1,976
	Utility Models	370	398	144	197	222	177
	Industrial Designs	197	209	166	152	128	172
	Trademarks	1,395	1,912	1,614	1,659	1,764	1,774
	Total	4,904	4,727	3,461	4,116	4,643	4,099
Invalidation	Patents	132	116	193	122	208	181
	Utility Models	201	162	218	174	330	198
	Industrial Designs	293	337	223	260	246	243
	Trademarks	505	576	401	437	397	385
	Total	1,131	1,191	1,035	993	1,181	1,007
Cancellation	Patents	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Utility Models	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Industrial Designs	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Trademarks	717	790	697	712	796	709
	Total	717	790	697	712	796	709
Scope of Protection	Patents	121	93	157	112	152	134
	Utility Models	189	154	162	161	218	145
	Industrial Designs	137	150	114	117	152	126
	Trademarks	85	94	75	88	82	68
	Total	532	491	508	478	604	473
Others	Patents	103	64	107	71	115	124
	Utility Models	23	15	67	18	134	88
	Industrial Designs	2	-	5	6	3	7
	Trademarks	1	1	-	-	9	6
	Total	129	80	179	95	261	225
Total	Patents	3,298	2,481	1,994	2,413	3,004	2,415
	Utility Models	783	729	591	550	904	608
	Industrial Designs	629	696	508	535	529	548
	Trademarks	2,703	3,373	2,787	2,896	3,048	2,942
	Total	7,413	7,279	5,880	6,394	7,485	6,513

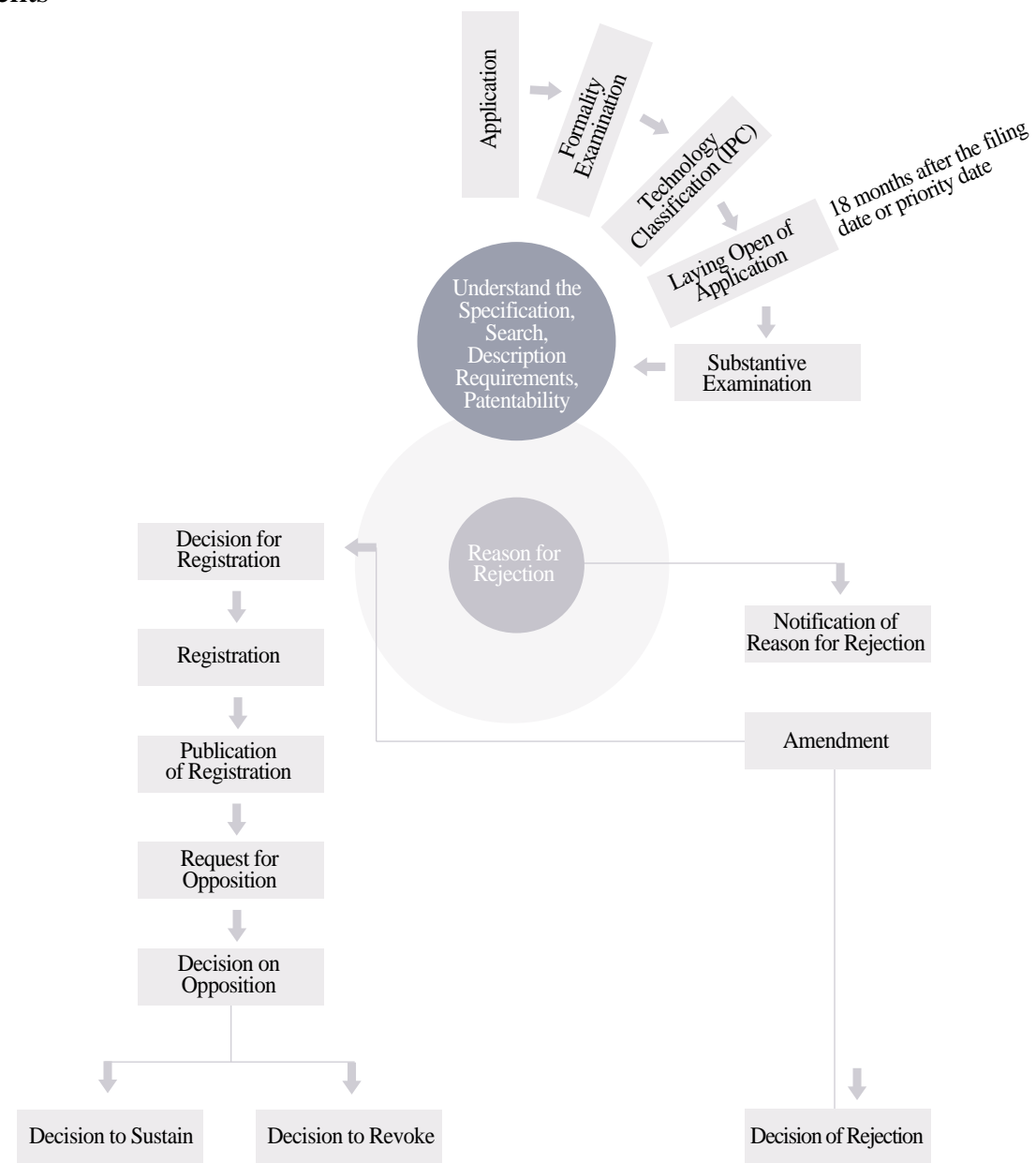


B. Organization Chart of KIPO

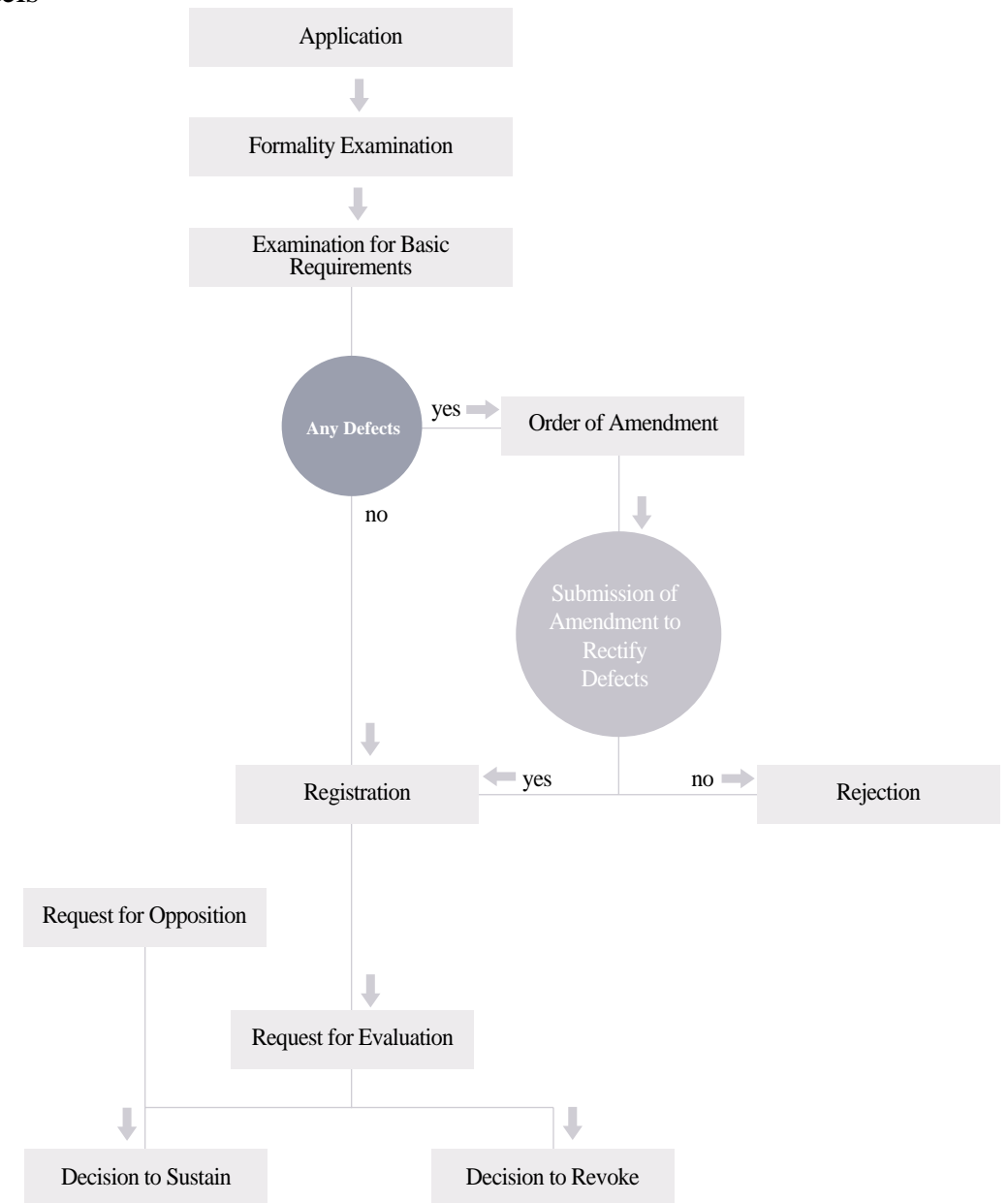


C. Flow Chart for Examinations

Patents

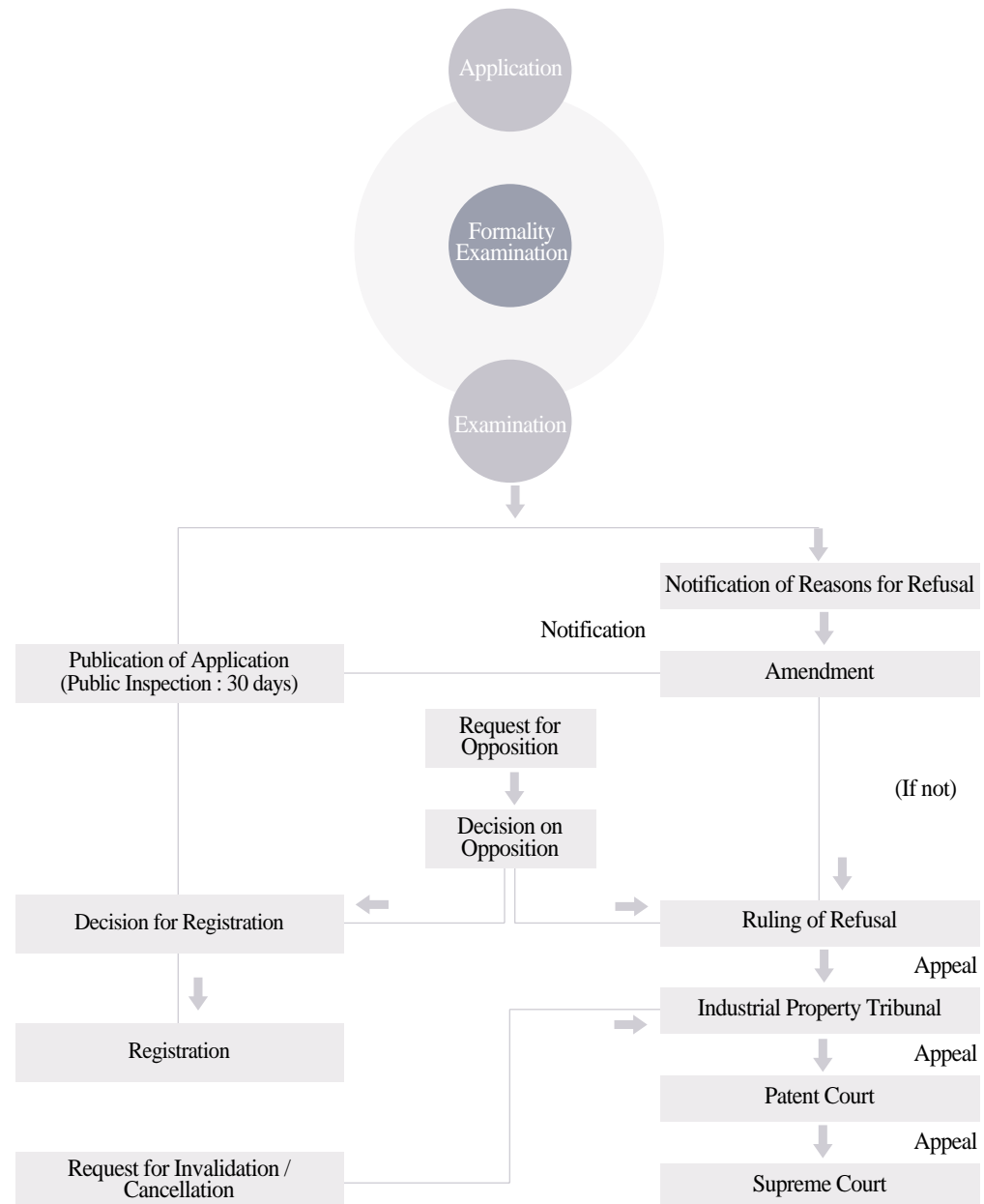


Utility Models

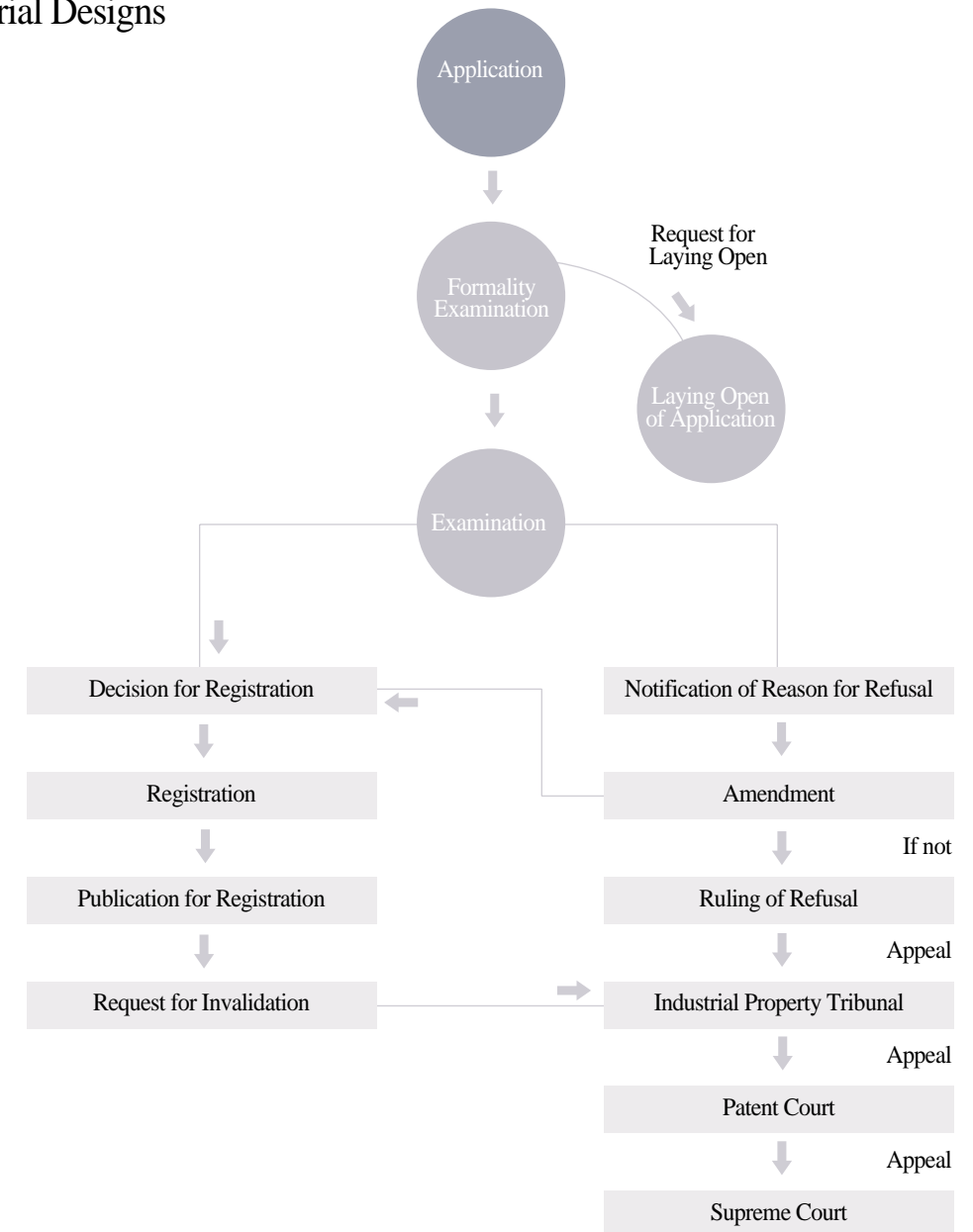


C. Flow Chart for Examinations

Trademarks

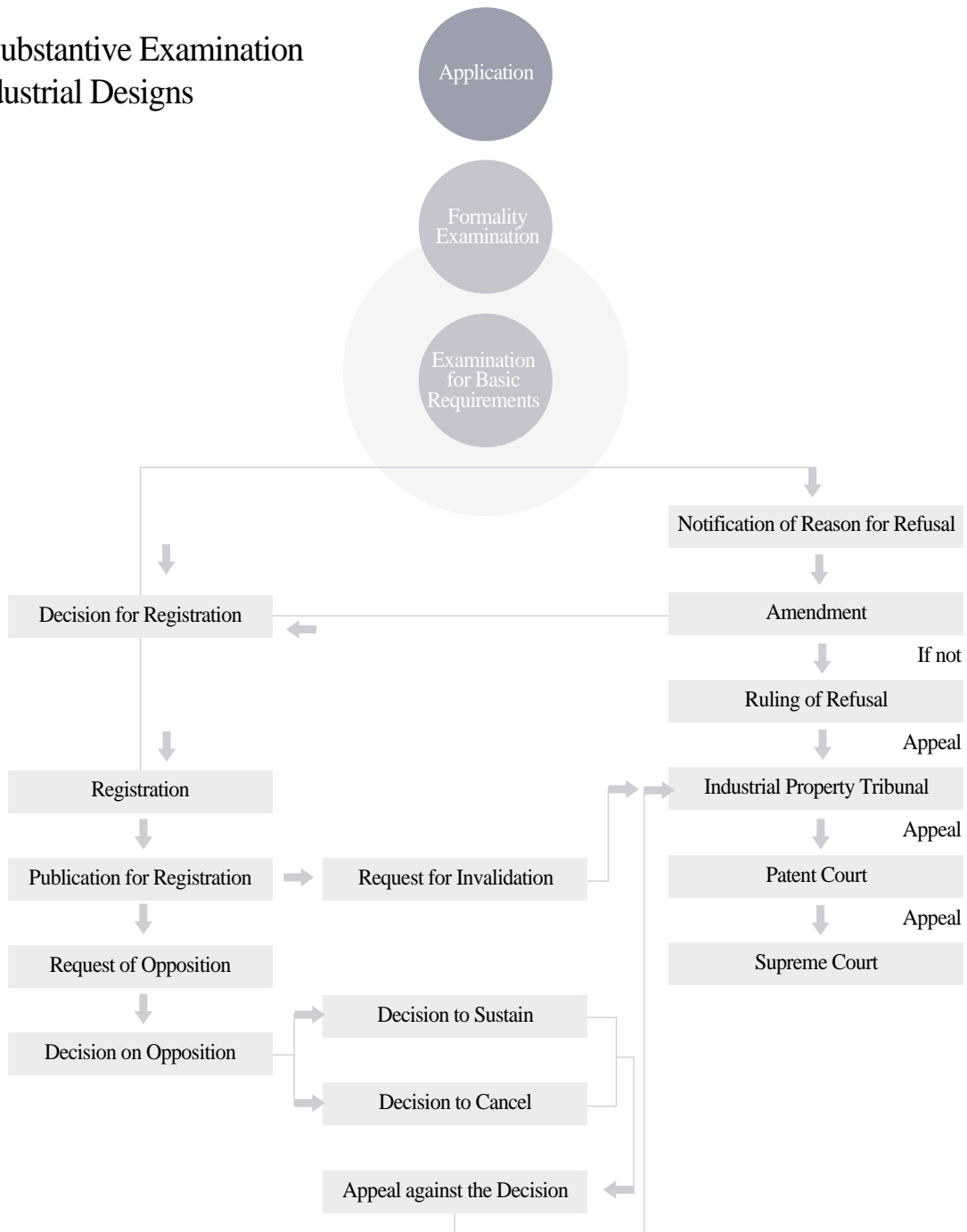


Substantive Examination for Industrial Designs



C. Flow Chart for Examinations

Non-Substantive Examination for Industrial Designs



D. Intellectual Property Related Organizations & Associations

When dialing from outside Korea, please dial the following: +82 (2) × × × - × × ×

Korea Invention Promotion Association	www.kipa.org Tel: 557-1077~8 Fax: 554-1532
Korea Institute of Patent Information	www.kipris.or.kr Tel: 3452-8144 Fax: 3453-2966~7
Korea Association of Schools Invention	http://netizen.att.or.kr/~unikasi/ Tel: 707-0052 Fax: 716-5611
Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information	www.kisti.re.kr/english/index.html Tel: 962-4092 Fax: 962-4702
Supreme Court of Korea	www.scourt.go.kr/english/index.html Tel : 3480-1882
The Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office	www.sppo.go.kr Tel: 3480-2000 Fax: 3480-2555
National Association for Scientists & Engineers of Korea	www.nasek.or.kr Tel: 508-7881, 3453-8604 Fax: 3453-8420
The Korea Patent Attorneys Association	www.kpaa.or.kr/english/about/frame.asp Tel: 3486-3486 Fax: 3486-3511