

IPR education and training



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KIPO's training institute, the IIPTI, fosters IP experts by providing systematic education for government officials, people from the private sector, students and international participants. The IIPTI program for 2007 comprised 188 IP courses, at an average of 16 courses a month. Sixty-five of these courses, including the course for new examiners, were for government officials; 28, including the course for patent lawsuit cases, were for the private sector; 87, including the course for school invention teachers, were for invention promotion; and eight, including the WIPO Asian-Pacific Regional Seminar, were for international participants.



Commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the IIPTI

The courses for government officials, which cover basic and advanced knowledge of IPRs, target KIPO examiners and judges, as well as officials from the Korea Customs Service, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the central government and local governments. The courses for the private sector target patent attorneys, IT experts, R&D experts, those in charge of IPRs in companies, as well as students and teachers. These courses aim to raise the general awareness of IPRs.

Having fully revised our IP training courses in 2006, we endeavored in 2007 to consolidate those courses, the cornerstone of which is a step-by-step educational approach to the three basic IP legislative acts, including *the Patent Act* and the *Trademark Act*. In addition, we ran a course on the use of English in the IP field and developed a variety of educational material.

We also targeted the private sector with our IP training programs. In particular, we sought to enhance public awareness of IPRs by offering programs for various types of IP professionals, such as patent attorneys, experts and researchers in science and technology, and private enterprise personnel in charge of IP matters, as well as teachers and students.

Furthermore, to raise the quality of our IP educational programs, we remain totally committed to fostering sufficient IP experts to meet the needs of specific industrial

fields. To that end, we have expanded efforts to customize our educational and training programs and developed courses that focus on actual practices.

The IIPTI was established in 1987 to nurture the development of IPRs and to foster IPR experts in the Asia-Pacific region. Subsequently, in conjunction with WIPO and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), the IIPTI has held 63 international seminars for an aggregate of 1,508 foreign participants. In 2007, the IIPTI's eight international seminars had a total of 135 participants.

In 2007, we fully revised our educational courses to enhance the expertise of IP experts. We established a step-by-step system of learning about the three fundamental acts of legislation on IPRs, and we ran an English course on relevant patent terminology to reinforce the global capabilities of our staff. New learning materials were also introduced to add further substance to our courses.

By providing customized education, such as extended group-training sessions, we have focused on the development of practical courses that satisfy the needs of IPR novices and professionals.

For the first time since our establishment, we were asked in 2007 to educate officials from other countries on IP issues. We accepted this new responsibility by tailoring our courses, firstly, for the Vietnamese Ministry of Science Technology and, secondly, for Malaysian bioengineering examiners. That we were chosen for this task is a sign of our growing reputation in the international community. It also underscores the outstanding teaching ability of our IIPTI staff. The IIPTI has actively accepted overseas requests for IP education since being designated as a WIPO partner training institute.

Since 2005 when the Invention Education Center was opened, more than 3,000 students, parents and teachers have participated in invention programs designed to encourage positive attitudes towards inventions.



The IIPTI

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To foster student inventors, we provide educational programs for elementary, middle, and high school students as a way of helping them develop their problem-solving capabilities. Creative and talented students, who will someday lead the IP field of Korea in the 21st century, are learning a range of concepts: from invention theory to projects involving TRIZ (a Russian acronym for the theory of inventive problem solving). In 2008, we plan to offer an invention study course for underprivileged students in an effort to relieve the educational gap between social classes.



WIPO sub regional workshop
on the effective use of PCT

In 2007, we provided teachers with an invention leadership course that focuses on practical application rather than educational theory. This course drew a good response. In 2008, we plan to offer new courses, such as a course on the development of invention education programs, to raise the proficiency of invention teachers. In short, we aim to continue raising outstanding leaders in the field of invention.

By providing customized education, such as invention experience courses and lecture tours on inventions, we hope to expand the foundations of invention education. In 2008, we aim to broaden the scope of lecture tours by shifting the focus from a theoretical model to the practical needs of schools.

In 2007, we continued to support the Invention Education Center by holding various events and programs, such as the Family Invention Camp and the 2007 Student Inventors Experience Festival, which are a great source of excitement for many invention clubs in Korea.

International courses in 2007

Name of course	Number of participants	Number of participating countries	Duration	Training schedule for 2007
WIPO Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on the Use of Patent Information Systems for Promotion of Innovation	23	17	2 days	May 9 - 10
WIPO Regional Workshop on Arbitration and Mediation of Intellectual Property Disputes	16	9	2 days	June 28 - 29
Intellectual Property Expert Training Course	15	9	16 days	July 26 - August 10
Training Course for Vietnamese Government Officials on Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property	20	1	5 days	August 27 - 31
The Evolving Role of Intellectual Property System : Impact on and Importance for Developing Country	30		3 days	September 5 - 7
WIPO Regional Workshop on the Effective Use of PCT	11	8	3 days	October 10 - 11
Training Program for Malaysian Patent Examiners	4	1	2 months	October 22 - December 22
KOICA-IIPTI Training Course on IP Office Automation and Patent Information	16	14	10 days	November 4 - 20
Total	135	59		

On-campus courses in 2007

Category	Training courses	Sessions	Trainees
Total	70	188	6,769
Public sector	39	65	2,549
Private sector	12	28	1,086
Invention promotion	11	87	2,999
International	8	8	135

Off-campus courses of the IIPTI in 2007

Category	Sessions	Trainees
Educational tours to promote student inventions	113	9,034