Statistical overview of 2010

IPR application

The total number of applications for industrial property rights in 2010 was 362,074 cases. There were 305,495 cases of applications (84.4%) by local residents and 56,579 cases of applications (15.6%) by foreigners.



IPR registration

The total number of registrations for industrial property rights in 2010 was 159,977 cases. There were 128,838 cases of application (80.5%) by locals and 31,139 cases of registration (19.5%) by foreigners.



Request for trial

The number of requests for trials in the Intellectual Property Tribunal (IPT) dropped to 13,876 cases. There were 9,163 cases of application (66.0%) by local residents and 4,713 cases of registration (34.0%) by foreigners.



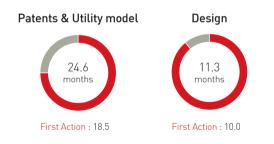
Request for PCT international searches

The number of requests for PCT international searches soared from 5,898 cases in 2006 to 22,707 cases in 2010. In particular, foreigners' requests for PCT international investigations to the Korean Intellectual Property Office grew significantly.



Average pendency period for examinations

In 2010, we averaged 18.5 months for the first action pendency period for patent and utility model examinations and 10 and 10.6 months for design and trademark examinations, respectively. The average total pendency periods for patent/utility-models, design and trademark applications were 24.6, 11.3, and 14.1 months.



Staff

Our staff of 1,548 includes 843 examiners and 99 judges. To help shorten the pendency period for examinations, we plan to recruit around 301 examiners by 2015.



