

2014 Statistical Overview

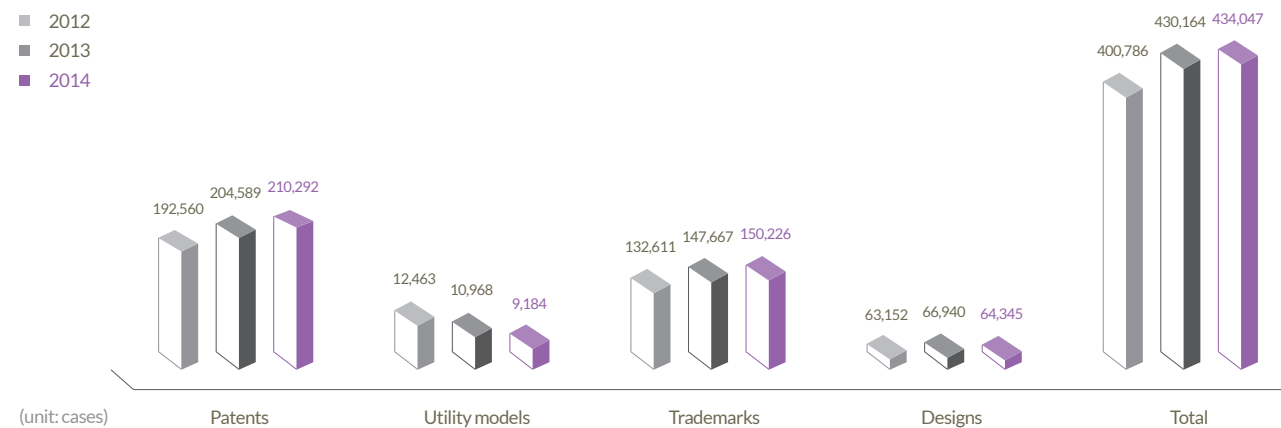
IPR applications

The total preliminary number of IPR applications—including patents, utility models, designs, and trademarks—submitted to KIPO in 2014 amounted to 434,047, an 0.9% growth rate year-on-year. In 2014, patent applications totaled 210,292, showing a 2.8% increase year-on-year, the highest growth rate among all IPRs.

Utility model applications decreased 16.3% year-on-year to total 9,184, and design applications decreased 3.9% for a total of 64,345. Trademark applications for 2014 totaled 150,226, a 1.7% growth rate year-on-year.

Volatility caused by the financial crisis lowered the number of patent applications by 4.2% in 2009, but this was soon rectified in 2010 by a 4.0% increase that kicked off an upward trend which has since continued unabated. Patent applications stood at around 200 in 1949, before jumping to around 5,000 in 1980, and 100,000 in 2000. Over the past 13 years, this number has doubled to over 200,000.

There were 46,223 foreign applications, accounting for 21.9% of the total number of patent applications. The greatest number of patent applications (15,661) was from Japan, posting a 3.9% decrease year-on-year. This was followed by the United States (14,004, 7.8% year-on-year increase), Germany (4,224, -4.4%), France (2,211, 13.4%), Switzerland (1,319, -0.8%), and China (1,571, 37.2%).



International search reports and international preliminary examinations

The number of PCT international search reports undertaken by KIPO totaled 30,160 in 2014, a 2.1% rise from 29,531 in 2013.

Of these, the number of requests submitted by Korean applicants reached 12,442, a 3.9% increase from 2013, and the number of requests submitted by foreign applicants reached 17,718, a 0.9% increase from 2013.

The number of international preliminary examinations undertaken by KIPO in 2014 was 236, a 6.3% decrease from 252 in 2013.

The numbers have continuously decreased over the past few years due to PCT regulation amendments made in 2002, which extended the time taken to enter the designated states from 20 months to 30 months, even if international preliminary examination has not been requested. This trend is also partly due to International Searching Authorities reviewing the patentability of applications since 2004.

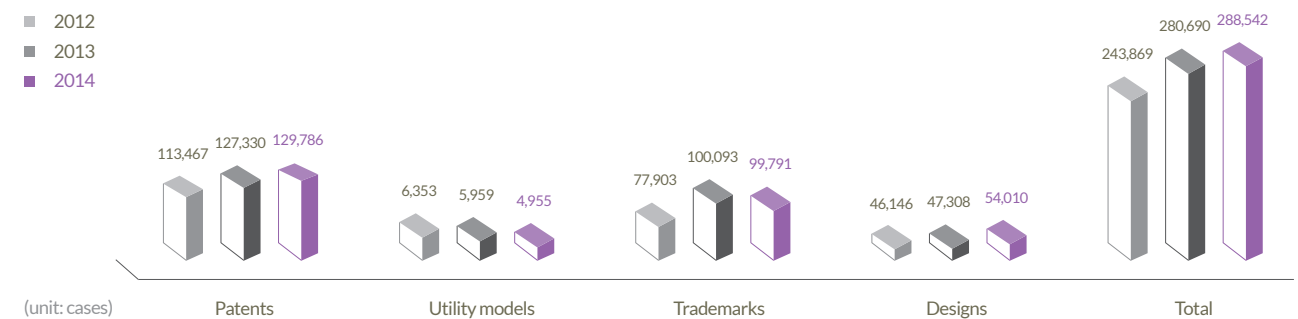


Registrations

The total number of registrations for intellectual property rights in 2014 reached 288,542, a 2.8% rise from 280,690 in 2013.

The registration trends for IPRs have shown a four-consecutive-year increase since 2010.

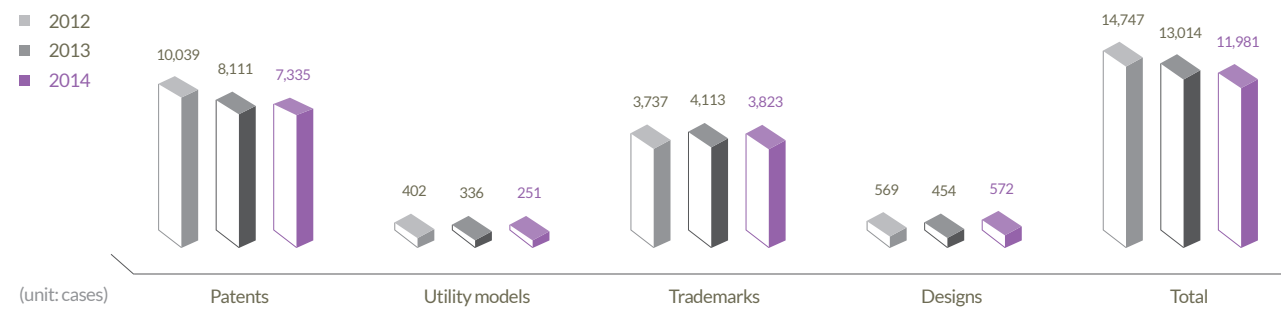
A breakdown of IP rights shows that patent registrations reached 129,786, a 1.9% growth rate year-on-year, utility models decreased by 16.8% to 4,955, and designs increased by 14.2% to 54,010. Trademark registrations decreased by 0.3%, totaling 99,791.



Trials

The number of trial requests decreased by 7.9% year-on-year to 11,981, down from 13,014 in 2013. A look at IP statistics shows that patents decreased by 9.6% to total 7,335, utility models decreased by 25.3% to total 251, trademarks decreased by 7.1% for a total of 3,823, while designs increased by 26% to total 572.

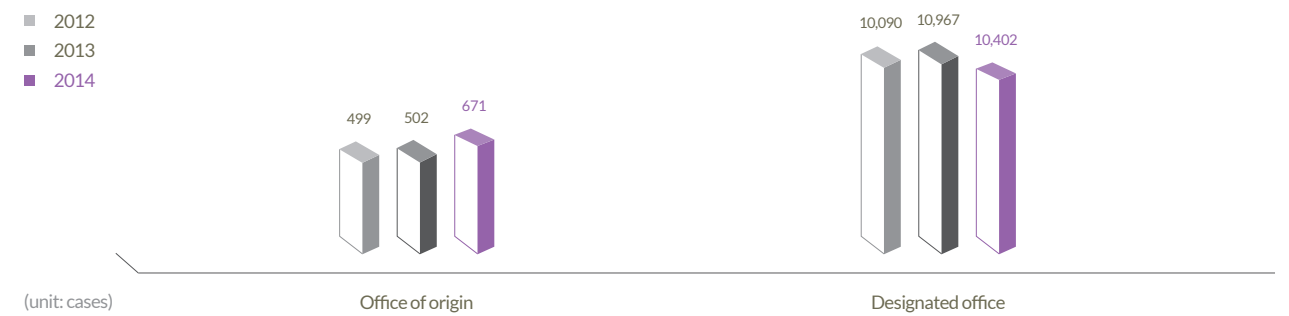
The number of closed trial cases totaled 9,549 in 2014, a decrease of 6.3% year-on-year.



Madrid

The total number of international trademark applications filed under the Madrid System in 2014 increased to 47,885, the highest number ever recorded, representing a 2.3% rise from 2013. Korea increased its number of Madrid international applications by 33% (from 502 in 2013 to 671 in 2014).

The number of Madrid international applications submitted by foreigners designating Korea reached 10,402 in 2014, a 5.1% decrease from 10,967 in 2013.



PCT, Madrid, Hague system

PCT

According to WIPO statistics in March 2014, the number of international applications filed globally under the PCT amounted to 213,820, representing a 4.16% increase compared to 2013. Korea experienced a 5.6% increase in PCT applications (from 12,439 in 2013 to 13,138 in 2014)—the 5th largest amount by country of origin.

The number of international applications filed under the PCT by Korean applicants has experienced a steady annual increase primarily due to a clearer understanding of the advantages of the PCT system, raising awareness as to the importance of IPRs, and continued efforts toward the consolidation of international patent rights.



Hague

From the time of Korea's joining the Hague Agreement in July 2014 until the end of that same year, We oversaw a total of 15 international trademark applications as the office of origin, and 68 such applications as the designated office.

