

Innovation

KIPO fosters IP innovation through fast patent examination service and reliable quality

Creative ideas have the power to change the world. KIPO continues to provide innovative, timely, and accurate IP examination services to ensure that ideas are adequately protected as IP.



☉ Armillary Sphere

It is an astronomical instrument used to measure the positions and motions of the constellations, and it is assumed to have been used since around the 7th century, while making its first appearance in literature during 1433.

☀ Sundial (Angbu-ilgu)

It was originally made during the reign of King Sejong the Great of the Joseon Dynasty in the 15th century. This sundial differs from those of other centuries as it is concaved so the regularity of the space between the time and dial will be maintained, even if the length of the shadow of the sun varies with time.

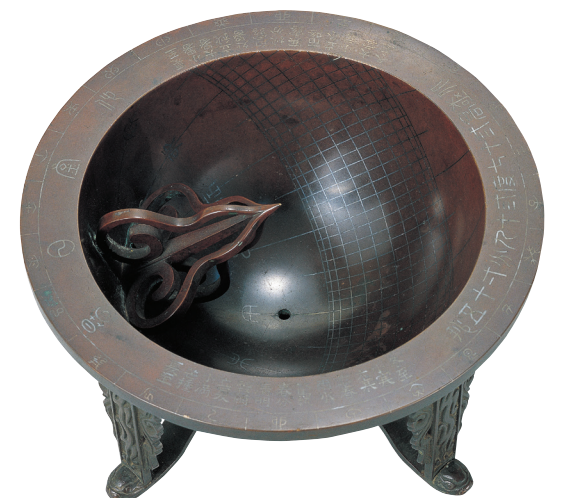
Premium Examination Services

We aim to provide high-quality and customer-oriented examination services by improving examination systems, raising the overall quality of each of our IP administration processes (the application, examination and registration stages), and reducing first action pendency.

We offer customized examination services with our three-track patent and utility model examination system, two-track trademark and design examination system, and three-track trial system.

The average first office action pendency is as follows:

- Patents and utility models: 14.8 months in 2012 → 13.2 months in 2013 → 11.0 months in 2014 → 10.0 months in 2015
- Trademarks: 8.9 months in 2012 → 7.7 months in 2013 → 6.4 months in 2014 → 4.7 months in 2015
- Designs: 8.8 months in 2012 → 7.3 months in 2013 → 6.5 months in 2014 → 4.4 months in 2015



Prologue

Hojakdo

It is a folk painting that depicts a tiger and a magpie; these two figures represent the yin-yang duality that the tiger drives off evil spirits and the magpie brings good news. Hojakdo Paintings were popular in the 18th and 19th century.

Samjokoh(Three-Legged Crow)

It is a legendary bird which is said to live in the sun, and it is the symbol of Goguryeo (BC 31-668) – a powerful nation in East Asian ancient times. Samjokoh means a crow with three legs.

Competitiveness

KIPO increases its IP competitiveness by maintaining the highest number of resident patent applications per both GDP and population

In this era of creative economies, IPRs are the core factor of any competent business strategy.

KIPO is dedicated to establishing a competitive and rewarding IP system that nurtures IP creation and utilization by transforming novel ideas into strong IPRs.

IP Competitiveness

IP applications

The total preliminary number of IP applications, including patents, utility models, designs, and trademarks, submitted to KIPO in 2015 amounted to 462,243, a 6.5% growth rate year-on-year. Patent applications stood at around 200 in 1949 before jumping to around 5,000 in 1980 and 100,000 in 2000. Over the past 14 years, this number has doubled to more than 200,000.

Patent application competitiveness

According to the World IP Indicator unveiled by WIPO in December 2015, Korea ranked first for 8 consecutive years (2007 to 2014) in regard to the number of resident patent applications per GDP and population.

PCT applications

Korea increased its number of PCT applications by 11.1 percent, from 13,138 in 2014 to 14,594 in 2015, accounting for 4.16 percent of all PCT applications—the 5th largest amount by country of origin.



Harmonization

KIPO, in collaboration with key national allies, creates a global community that appropriately values and rewards inventions

International cooperation is critical in order for the stakeholders to easily acquire and protect IPRs. KIPO contributes to the advancement of IP systems as it works to increase the value of IP holdings by participating in various activities worldwide.



Korean Fan Dance
It is a Korean traditional dance performed with showy fans decorated with floral patterns and feathers, creating various beautiful shapes. Splendid costumes and rhythmical Korean classical music add to this dance.

Goryeo Celadon (Incense Burner, Celadon with Openwork Design)
It is representative of Goryeo celadons of the Goryeo Dynasty which had the world's most advanced skills and techniques of making pottery in the 12th century. Three dainty rabbits which surmount the incense burner are impressive.

Worldwide IP Collaboration

WIPO Korea Funds-In-Trust (FIT)

Since 2004, we have contributed around 9.1 million Swiss francs for the continued operation of WIPO Korea FIT. On April 20, 2015, during the 15th meeting of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property (CDIP), we hosted a launch ceremony for IP IGNITE, an IP educational platform that serves as an audio-visually enhanced version of WIPO Academy's Distance Learning-101 (DL-101).

21 Countries Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)

In order to improve the efficiency and quality of examinations, we have become actively involved in the IP5 and the TM5. In 2014, we successfully hosted the IP5 Annual Meeting to harmonize global patent systems. We are also implementing the Patent Prosecution Highway with twenty-one countries to reduce the time and costs required to obtain patents internationally.

- PPH countries: Japan, USA, China, Austria, Denmark, UK, Canada, Russia, Finland, Germany, Spain, Mexico, Singapore, Hungary, EPO, Australia, Israel, Sweden, Norway, Portugal, and Iceland

21 IP Sharing Projects

In collaboration with WIPO and APEC, we are implementing IP sharing projects to support key national allies through the provision of appropriate technologies and brand development.

Appropriate technologies developed and provided by KIPO are as follows:

- Sugar cane charcoal manufacturing for Chad in 2010
- Soil brick manufacturing for Nepal in 2010
- A simple water purifier for Cambodia in 2011
- A cooking stove for Guatemala in 2012
- Appropriate construction technology to improve insulation in bamboo housing for Nepal in 2012
- An oil extractor for farms in the province of Tarlac in the Philippines in 2013
- A bicycle-operated water pump for Pinu in Papua New Guinea in 2013
- Dispersing-type sewage processing equipment in the Vietnam in 2014
- Manual extractors for bee farms in Ghana in 2014
- Natural Dyeing machines in Mongolia in 2015
- Waste water treatment system in Myanmar in 2015

Brands developed and provided by KIPO are as follows:

- A Chadian mango brand in 2010
- Chinese bamboo products in 2011 and 2012
- Chilean fruit cocktail products in 2011 and 2012
- Cambodian red rice and longan (a tropical fruit) in 2012
- A Bolivian grain brand called Quinoa in 2013
- A local brand for the province of Tarlac in the Philippines in 2013
- A brand for bee farms in Ghana in 2014
- A brand called Diamond Mango in Myanmar in 2014
- A brand for Florens Bajawa Coffee in Indonesia in 2015
- A brand for wool product called Tsagaan alt wool in Mongolia 2015

