

Innovation

KIPO fosters IP Innovation through fast services with reliable quality.

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

Premium Examination Services

KIPO aims to provide fast, high-quality, and customer-oriented examination services by continuing to improve examination systems, raise the quality of IP administration, and reduce first action pendency.

The average first office action pendency in 2020 was 11.1 months for patents and utility models, 8.9 months for trademarks, and 4.6 months for industrial designs.

Moreover, we offer appropriate examination services to accommodate the IP strategies of our users and timely registration of rights. Patent and utility model examinations have three tracks: regular examination, accelerated examination, and customer-deferred examination. Trademark and industrial design examinations have two tracks: regular examination and accelerated examination.

11.1 months

First office action pendency for patents and utility models

◀Automatic Driving
Self-driving cars do not require a human to drive. This is a revolution that changes our daily lives. And it is a core technology that will lead the future industry.

▶Bridal Palanquin
A palanquin to take the bride to the groom's home after the Korean traditional wedding ceremony. A mode of transport, the palanquin takes the form of a small litter on horizontal poles, carried by a group of bearers on their shoulders.



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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 of competent business strategies. KIPO is dedicated to establishing a competitive and rewarding IP system by transforming novel ideas into strong IPRs.

IP Competitiveness

IPR Applications

In 2020, we received a preliminary total of 557,256 applications filing for patents, utility models, trademarks, and industrial designs. Out of that number, 79,054 applications were filed by non-residents.

PCT Applications

The number of PCT applications from Korea has continued to grow every year. We have the 4th largest amount of PCT applications by country of origin where with 20,600 PCT applications in total for 2020 which is a 5.2% increase from 19,500 in 2019 (Source: 2021 Yearly Review).

The Korean language is also the 5th most commonly used language as an official publication language (source: WIPO IP Statistics Data Center).

557,256

IPR applications

20,600

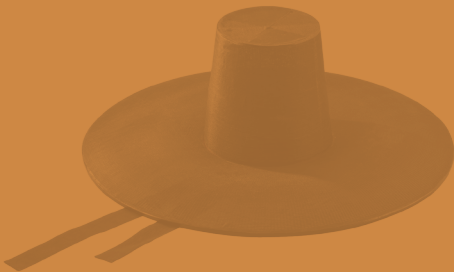
PCT applications

◀Gat Craft

A gat (Korean traditional hat) is made from horsehair with a bamboo frame and is partly transparent. As gat making requires artisanship throughout a complex series of techniques involving an array of materials, it has been designated as Intangible Cultural Property No. 4 on December 24, 1964.

▶Gat

A gat is a type of Korean traditional hat worn by men along with hanbok (Korean traditional clothing) during the Joseon period. As Korean historical dramas became popular around the world, a gat also drew attention from people around the world.



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Harmonization

KIPO collaborates with key national allies to create a global community that appropriately values and rewards inventions.

Cooperation is fundamental to creating an environment where IPRs are promptly acquired and firmly protected for stakeholders. KIPO engages in activities that advance the global IP systems as it works to increase the value of IP.

Worldwide IP
Collaboration

13.3 million CHF contribution
Korea Funds-In-Trust (FIT)

*PPH participants: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, Eurasia, European Patent Office, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan(Province of China), UK, USA, and Vietnam.

34 Countries/Regions
Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)

WIPO Korea Funds-In-Trust (FIT)

Since 2004, Korea has contributed about 13.3 million Swiss francs in total for the continued operation of the WIPO Korea FIT. Jointly undertaken in collaboration with KIPO and WIPO, the funds are applied towards projects that help developing countries and strengthen the global IP system through economic, social and cultural development.

55 IP sharing projects

◀Wedding Presents

One of the Korean wedding traditions. When the bridegroom's family sends silk to the bride's family, the bride's family makes silk quilts and clothes and sends them to their parents-in-law, and the parents-in-law send the money to the bride's house.

▶Hwarot (Traditional

A robe worn by princesses of upperclass women of the Joseon Dynasty when they got married. Various animal and plant patterns were embroidered on red silk to pray for health and happiness.

Appropriate technology and brand development

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Worldwide IP Collaboration

Global Cooperation Forums

Taking on the role as one of the world's leading IP office, we engage in cooperation forums with other leading IP offices that contribute to harmonizing global IP systems such as the IP5 for patents, the TM5 for trademarks, and the ID5 for industrial designs.

Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) with 34 Countries and Regions

We work with countries around the world under the PPH for reducing the time and costs required to obtain patent rights overseas. As of 2020, the PPH has been implemented with 34 countries/regions.

• PPH participants: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, Eurasia, European Patent Office, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan(Province of China), UK, USA, and Vietnam.

55 IP-Sharing Projects

Based on the experience of achieving remarkable development within a short period of time, KIPO carries out IP-Sharing projects to share our gained knowledge and help bridge the IP divide. In particular, we endeavor to assist local communities improve their quality of life and income with projects that facilitate cost efficient and sustainable appropriate technology and brand development.

WIPO Korea Funds-In-Trust (FIT)

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▶Hwarot (Traditional Korean Wedding Dress)

A robe worn by princesses or upper-class women of the Joseon Dynasty when they got married. Various animal and plant patterns were embroidered on red silk to pray for health and happiness.

