

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Korean Intellectual  
Property Office

## CONTENTS

### Introduction

- 04 Message from the Commissioner
- 06 Prologue
- 12 2022 Highlights

### Overview

- 14 2022 IP Trends

### Key Achievements

- 22 Improving the IP System
  - Expansion of AI in Examination and Trial Services
  - Adoption of Examination Guidelines on Virtual Goods
  - Accelerated Examination for Semiconductor Patent Applications
  - New Division for Accelerated Examination of Service Marks
  - Improvements for Customer-centered IP Application Services
- 30 Promoting the Creation and Use of IP
  - Customized Support for IP-based R&D Strategies
  - Vitalization of the Linkage between Patent Big Data Analysis and R&D
  - Support for Stable Growth of Innovative Enterprises
- 36 Strengthening IPR Protection
  - Amendment to the Punishment of Unfair Practices during Trial Proceedings
  - Launch of an Integrated Reporting & Consultation Center for IP Infringement
  - Enforcement Against Distribution of Counterfeit Products of Korean Brands
- 42 Enhancing Global IP Cooperation
  - IP-R&D Methodology Training Course for Developing Countries
  - KIPO-WIPO-KIPA Joint Development of IP Panorama 2.0
  - Hosting of the Korea-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting
  - Adoption of a Joint Statement on the 10th Anniversary of the TM5/ID5

### Appendix

- 51 KIPO Vision & Strategy
- 52 KIPO Organization Chart
- 54 IP Statistics

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

# Message from the Commissioner



KIPO has been continuously working to establish an innovation-friendly IP ecosystem in accordance with emerging technologies and digital transformations.”

The prolonged crisis of COVID-19 has finally begun a gradual downward and stabilizing trend. However, in its aftermath, the world faces unprecedented challenges brought on by slow economic recovery and intensifying trade protectionism. Amidst these circumstances, intellectual property (IP) is a powerful tool that drives sustainable economic growth and industrial competitiveness through scientific and technological innovation. In that regard, the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) has been continuously working to establish an innovation-friendly IP ecosystem in accordance with emerging technologies and digital transformations.





For better quality IP examination and trial services, KIPO has further expanded its use of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies for an AI-based patent search system. New examination guidelines have also been established due to the exponential increase in the number of applications of virtual goods in virtual spaces (i.e., metaverse). Furthermore, accelerated examination has been expanded to the semiconductor field to help technological competitiveness, and a new Prioritized Service Mark Examination Division has been created so that it can reduce examination pendency. Additionally, for the sake of convenient application filing services, we published a booklet of standard IP forms and developed an electronic application software (KIPO-Editor).

To promote IP creation and utilization, KIPO has supported the provision of customized IP-based research and development (R&D) strategies to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that lack IP capabilities. This gives SMEs opportunities to set R&D direction, prevent conflict, and secure excellent patents. Strategic utilization of IP information such as patent big data analysis is also important to help identify emerging technologies and provide R&D innovation strategies, thereby enhancing the efficiency of investment into R&D in key industrial and technological areas. In the financial sector, we have been working to provide suitable and accessible financing opportunities based on the IP assets of innovative SMEs by expanding designated institutes for IP valuation and providing IP mutual aid services.

For appropriate protection of the results of innovation, KIPO has endeavored to construct an environment which can sufficiently protect IPRs. Amendments have been made to eliminate unfair practices during trial proceedings and provide reliable and fair court judgments. The Integrated Reporting and Consultation Center began operation as a one-stop platform to handle IP infringement complaints and issues. Moreover, Korean businesses are being further affected by the recent rise in counterfeit products as Korean brands and cultural content gain global popularity. Through collaboration between the government and private sectors, KIPO has been strengthening support for the affected entities and is actively pursuing organized enforcement activities both domestically and abroad.

For the advancement of the IP system on a global stage, the Republic of Korea (ROK) has made efforts to enhance international cooperation. In 2022, we hosted an in-person Korea-ASEAN IP Heads Meeting in Seoul which allowed members to discuss collaborative efforts. As one of the top five largest office on trademarks (TM5) and industrial design (ID5), KIPO also participated in the 10th annual TM5/ID5 meeting where a joint statement was adopted to enhance global networks and form reliable partnerships. Collaborative efforts with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in the education field have led to launching the first IP-R&D training course for developing countries and IP Panorama 2.0, which is a modern e-learning course on IP.

Through consistent and dedicated pursuits, the ROK's innovative performance has been recognized as No.1 in Asia and No.6 in the world by the WIPO Global Innovation Index in 2022. KIPO will continue to take an active role in establishing a virtuous cycle for economic development and innovative growth and to step forward as a nation leading in IP.

It is my great pleasure to present to you the 2022 Annual Report. I hope this publication gives you a better understanding of the recent activities and future vision of KIPO.

**LEE Insil** | Commissioner



Prologue



# 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, and innovative IP examination services to ensure that ideas are adequately protected as IPR.

# Premium Examination Services

KIPO continually aims to provide high-quality, customer-oriented, and fast examination services by raising the quality of IP administration, improving examination systems, and reducing first office action pendency.

In 2022, the average first office action pendency was 14.4 months for patents and utility models, 13.9 months for trademarks, and 4.8 months for industrial designs.

To provide timely registration of rights and accommodate the IP strategies of our users, 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.

## ◀ AI and Robot Technology

A new future using AI and robot technology is coming.



# 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

## Top Global Ranking

According to WIPO's Global Innovation Index unveiled in 2022, the ROK ranks 1st worldwide for having the highest number of national patent and industrial design applications per PPP\$ GDP.

## IPR Applications

In 2022, we received a preliminary total of 588,885 applications for patents, utility models, industrial designs, and trademarks. Out of that number, 81,206 applications were filed by non-residents.

## PCT Applications

The number of PCT applications from the ROK has continually grown every year. We have the 4th largest amount of PCT applications by country of origin. There is an estimated 22,012 PCT applications in total for 2022 which is a 6.2% increase from 2021. The Korean language is also the 4th most commonly used language as an official PCT publication language. (source: WIPO IP Statistics Data Center)

### ◀ Danuri

Korea's first lunar orbiter, Danuri, launched on August 5, 2022.



# 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

## Global Cooperation Forums

Taking on the role as one of the world's leading IP offices, KIPO engages 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 35 Countries & Regions

KIPO works with countries and regions around the world under the PPH for reducing the time and costs required to obtain patent rights overseas. As of 2022, the PPH has been implemented with 35 countries and regions.

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

## 75 IP-Sharing Projects

KIPO implements IP-Sharing Projects to share our gained knowledge of rapid development and to help bridge the IP divide among developed and developing countries. These projects aim to help create cost efficient and sustainable appropriate technology and brand development for improving the quality of life and income of local communities.

## WIPO Korea Funds-In-Trust (FIT)

Jointly undertaken in collaboration between KIPO and WIPO, the WIPO Korea FIT is applied towards projects that support developing countries and strengthen the global IP system through economic, social, and cultural development. For the continued operation of the WIPO Korea FIT, Korea has contributed about 14.3 million Swiss francs in total since 2004.

### ◀ Korean Natural Dyeing

Korean natural dyeing with beautiful harmony of colors made from materials obtained from nature.



# 2022 Highlights

- Jan.** 11 KIPO-DAPA MOU on Transactions of Defence Patents  
17 KIPO-SAIP Advanced Strategic Partnership in the Field of IP



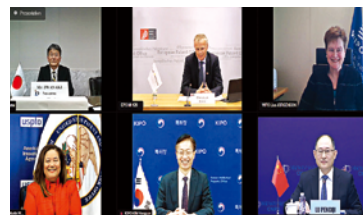
- Feb.** 01 Commencement of the RCEP Agreement in the ROK  
25 Roundtable on International NPE IP Dispute Response



- Mar.** 16 Opening of the Gyeongbuk Invention Experience Education Center  
21 KIPO-Rural Development Administration MOU signing on ODA



- Apr.** 07 IP5 Deputy Heads Meeting



- May.** 11 Roundtable on Counterfeit Enforcement  
27 Roundtable on IP-R&D Support



**Jun.**      **08~09**    IP5 Heads Meeting  
**09**        12th International IP Protection Conference  
**14**        57th Invention Day



**Jul.**        **01**        KIPO-IPOPHL Heads Meeting  
**14~22**    63rd WIPO General Assembly



**Aug.**      **04**        Youth Invention Festival  
**25~27**    Korea International Women's Invention Expo



**Sep.**      **01**        18th Patent Information Expo  
**06**        KIPO IP Protection and Investigation Seminar



**Oct.**      **13**        Youth Invention Journalist Festival  
**18**        Roundtable on IP in the Cosmetic industry  
**24~29**    TM5/ID5 Annual Meeting



**Nov.**      **14**        Korea-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting  
**16~19**    Korea IP Exhibition  
**29**        TRIPO Heads Meeting



**Dec.**      **09**        4th IP Finance Forum  
**16**        Tech Police Policy Forum  
**29**        Korea-UAE Heads of IP Offices Meeting

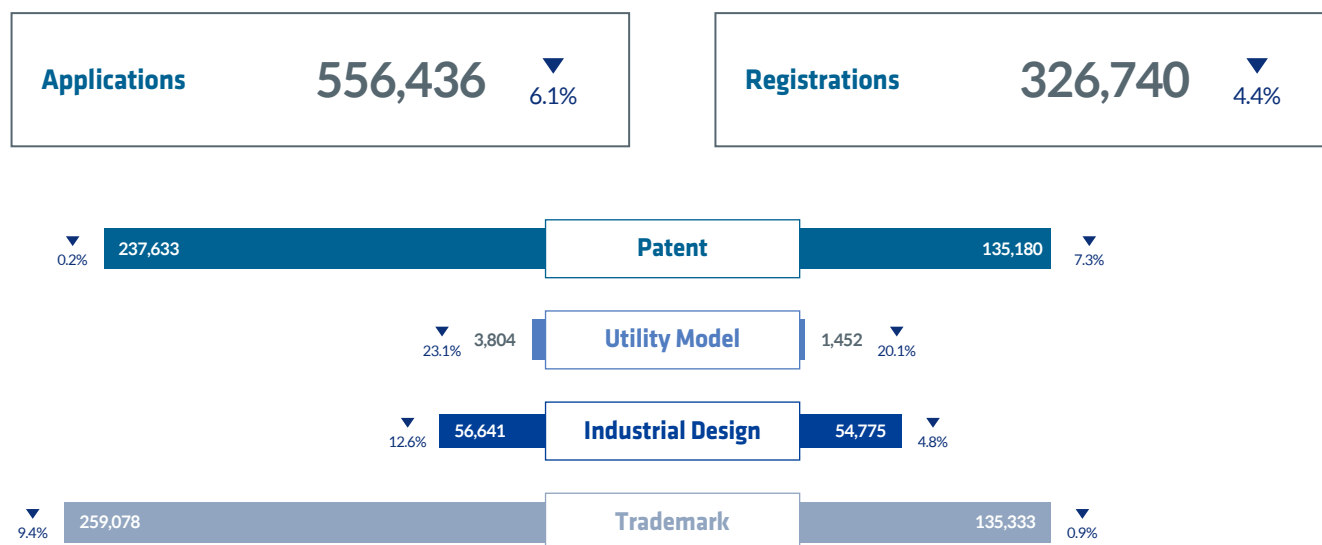


# 2022 IP Trends

## Overview of Key Data in 2022

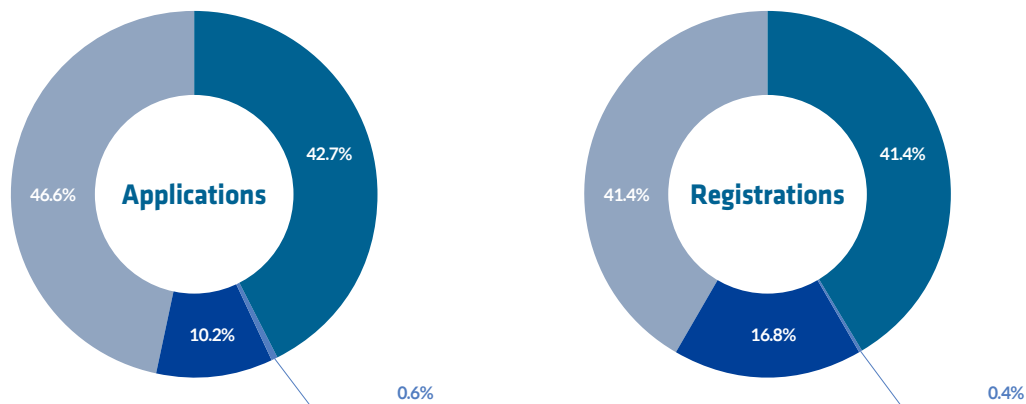
### Domestic IPR Applications

(unit: cases)



### • Ratio by IPRs

- Patent
- Utility Model
- Industrial Design
- Trademark

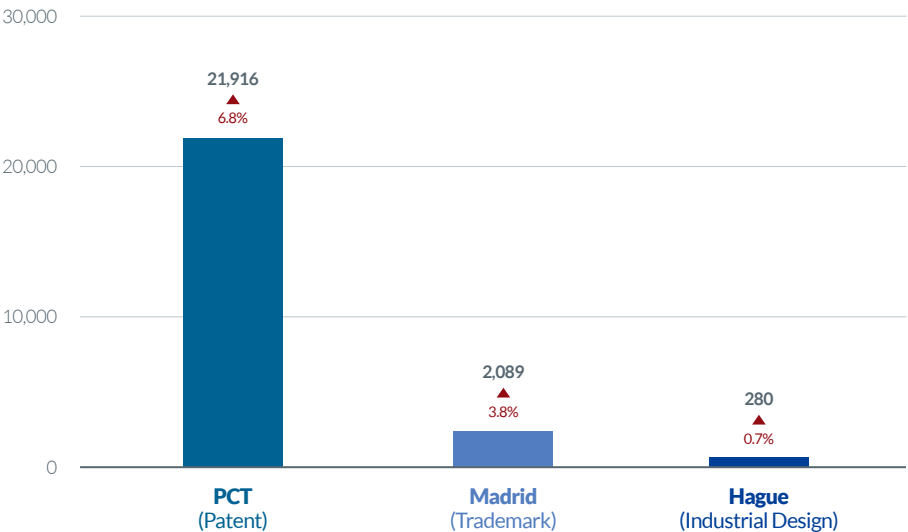


International IPR Applications

• KIPO as the Receiving Office (International Phase)

(unit: cases)

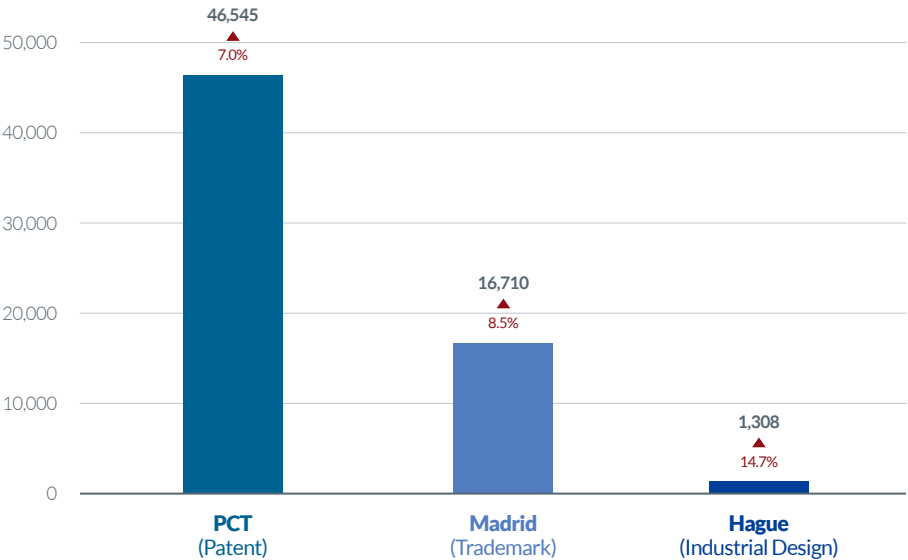
24,285 ▲ 6.4%



• KIPO as the Designated Office (National Phase)

(unit: cases)

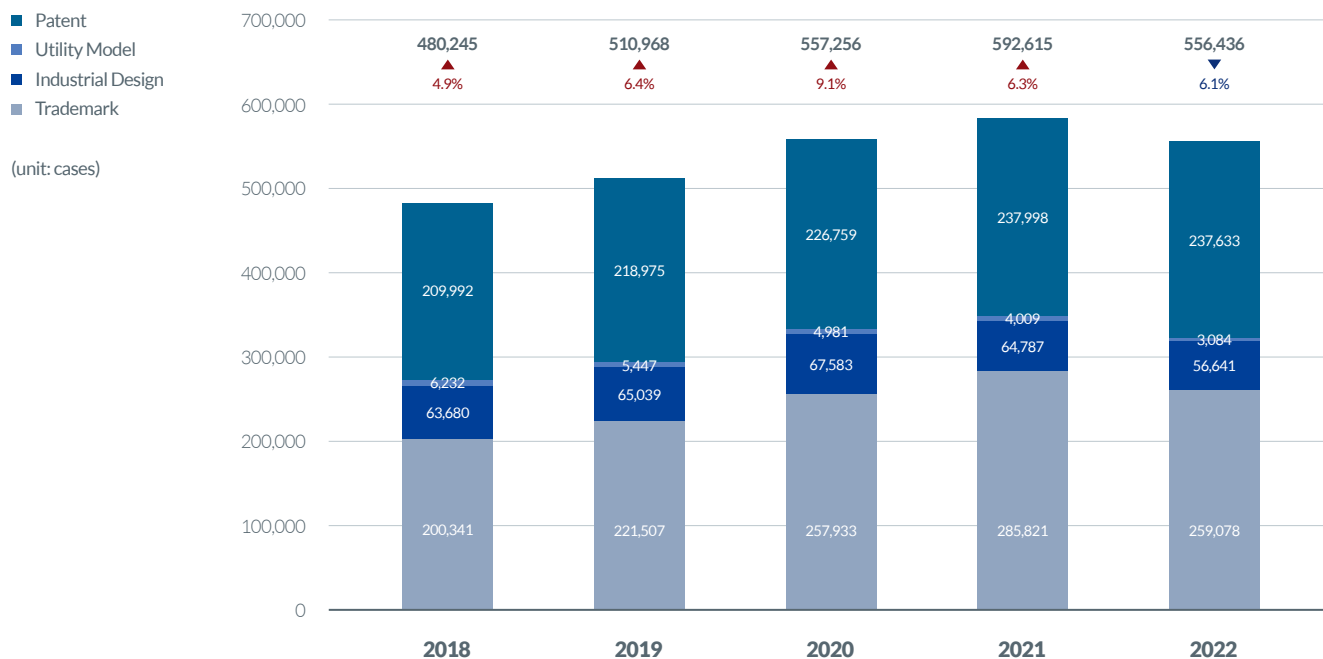
64,563 ▲ 7.5%



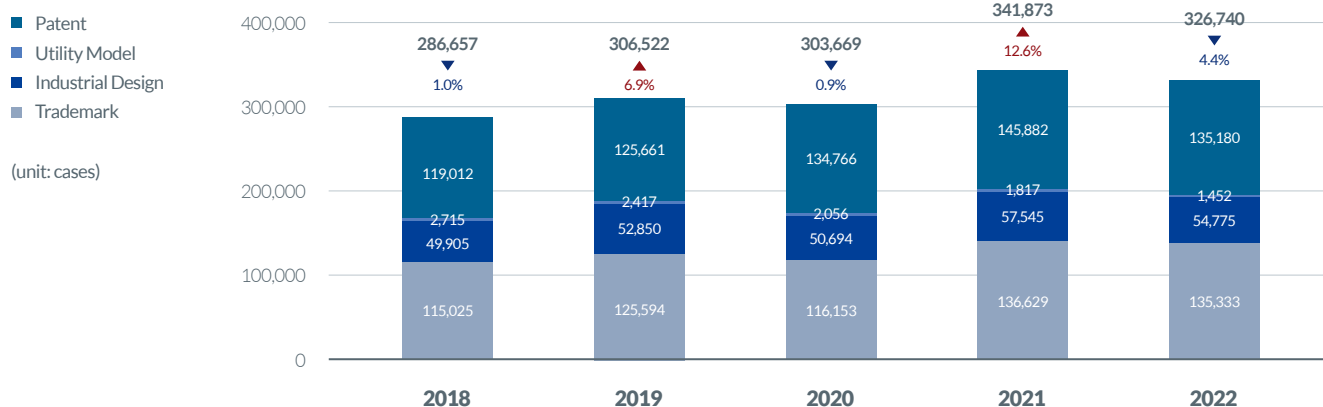
## IPR Applications and Registrations by Year

### IPR Applications

\*Including PCT, Madrid, Hague international applications

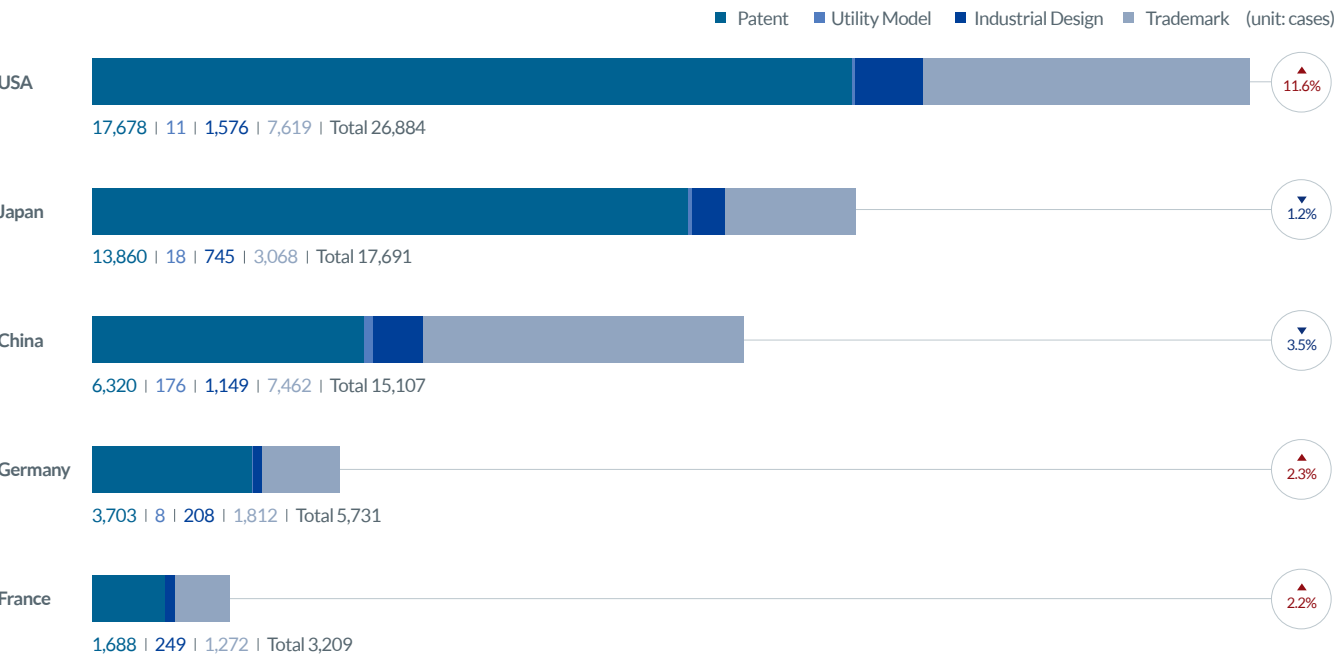
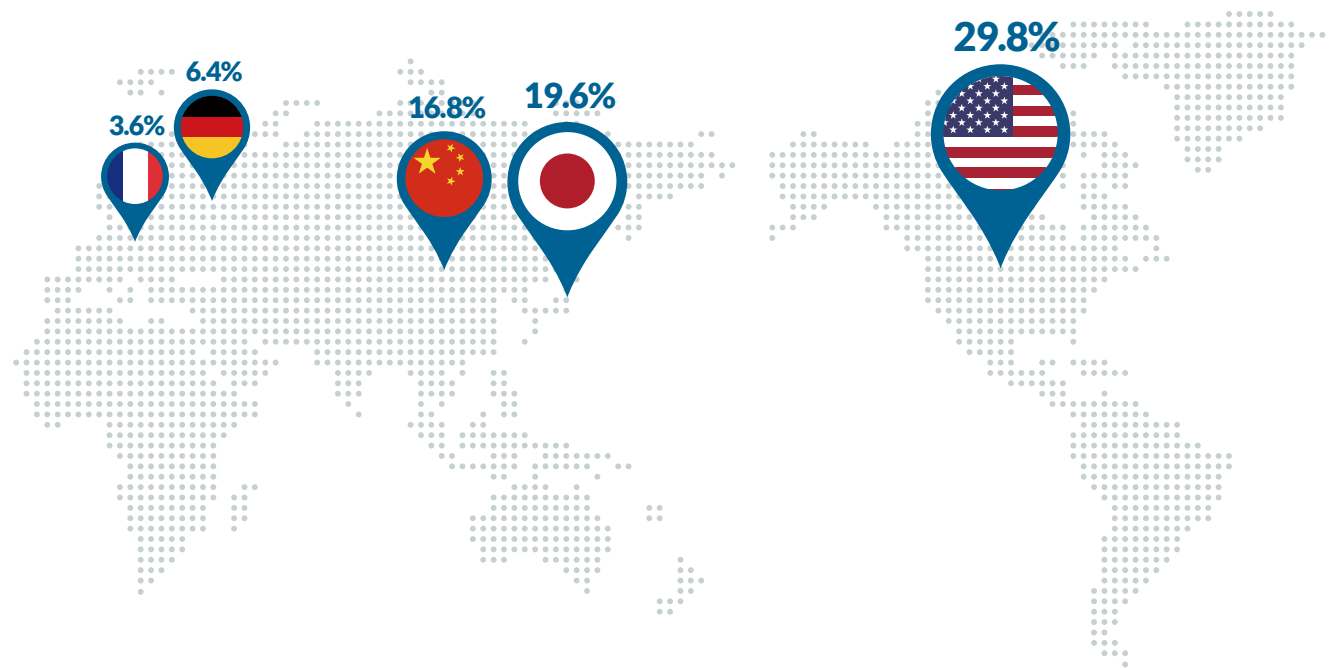


### IPR Registrations



# Non-resident IPR Applications filed at KIPO











## Top 5 Countries/Regions













Total : 130 Countries and Regions

## Top IPR Filing Domestic &amp; Foreign Companies










## Patent

	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	5th.
Domestic	 <b>11,417</b> 9,857 ▲15.8%	 <b>4,722</b> 4,008 ▲17.8%	 <b>3,384</b> 2,605 ▲29.9%	 <b>3,145</b> 2,600 ▲21.0%	 <b>2,984</b> 2,975 ▲0.3%
Foreign	 <b>857</b> 430 ▲99.3%	 <b>707</b> 687 ▲2.9%	 <b>683</b> 623 ▲9.6%	 <b>608</b> 644 ▼5.6%	 <b>594</b> 601 ▼1.2%

## Industrial Design

	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	5th.
Domestic	 <b>718</b> 604 ▲18.9%	 <b>443</b> 403 ▲9.9%	 <b>433</b> 573 ▼24.4%	 <b>223</b> 407 ▼45.2%	 <b>177</b> 193 ▼20.6%
Foreign	 <b>304</b> 193 ▲57.5%	 <b>196</b> 67 ▲193%	 <b>65</b> 52 ▲25.0%	 <b>54</b> 72 ▼25.0%	 <b>48</b> 21 ▲129%

## Trademark

	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	5th.
Domestic	 <b>863</b> 905 ▼5.0%	 <b>429</b> 281 ▲52.7%	 <b>374</b> 344 ▲8.7%	 <b>372</b> 446 ▼17.0%	 <b>363</b> 80 ▲354%
Foreign	 <b>82</b> 50 ▲64.0%	 <b>77</b> 37 ▲108%	 <b>76</b> 55 ▲38.2%	 <b>73</b> 41 ▲78.0%	Rise River Asset Co., LTD. <b>65</b> —

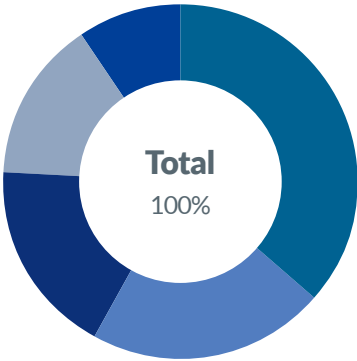
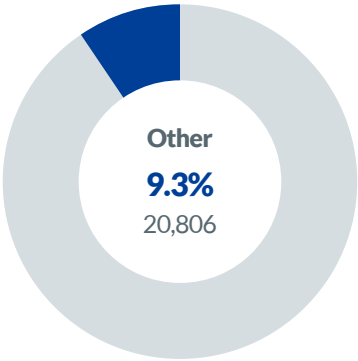
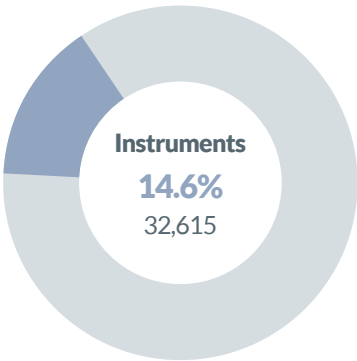
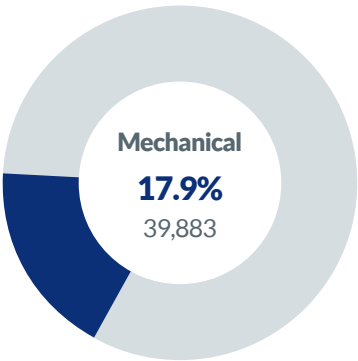
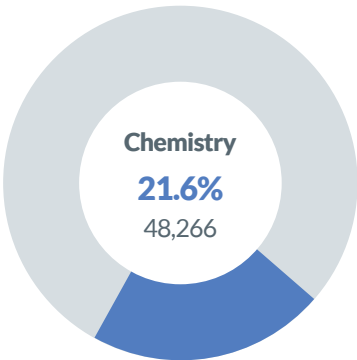
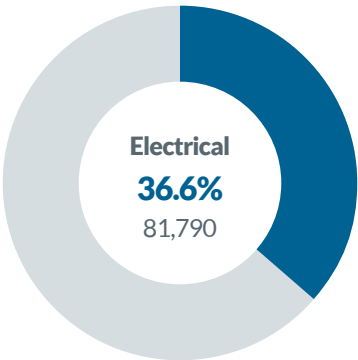
■ 2022 ■ 2021 | ▲▼ Year-over-year comparison (unit: cases)



# Patent Applications by Technology

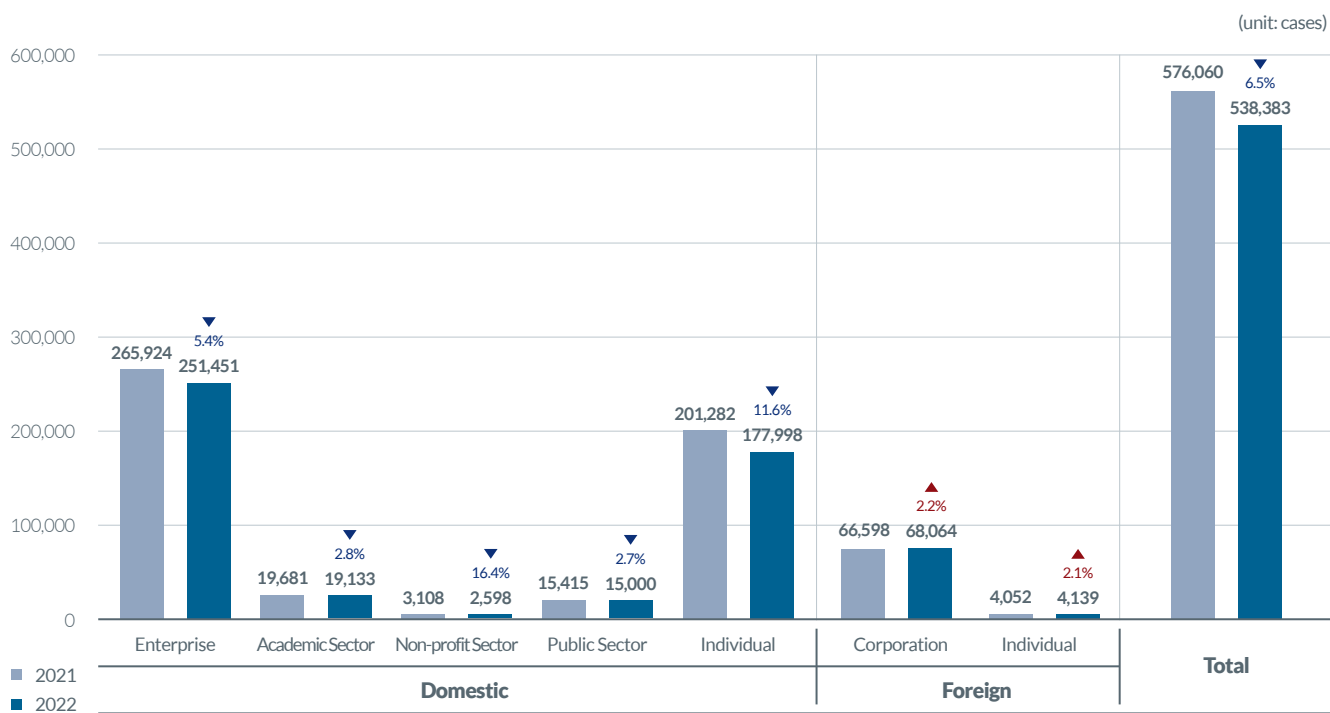
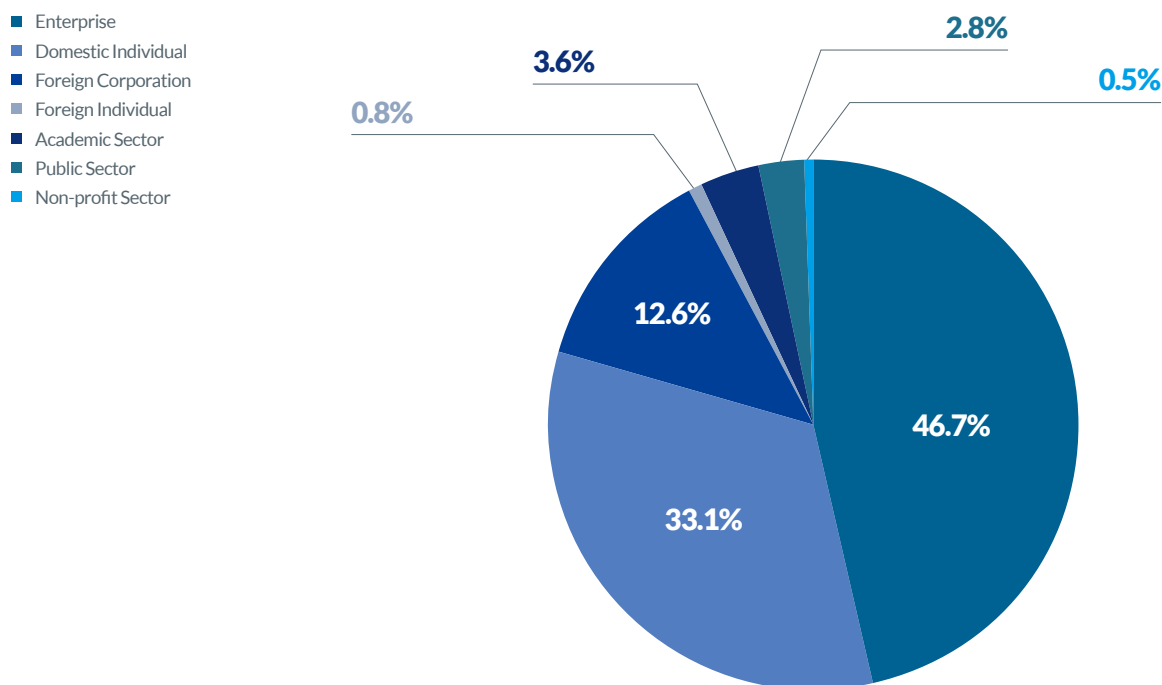
## Top 5 WIPO Technology Fields

(unit: cases)



## Applications by Applicant Type for each IPR

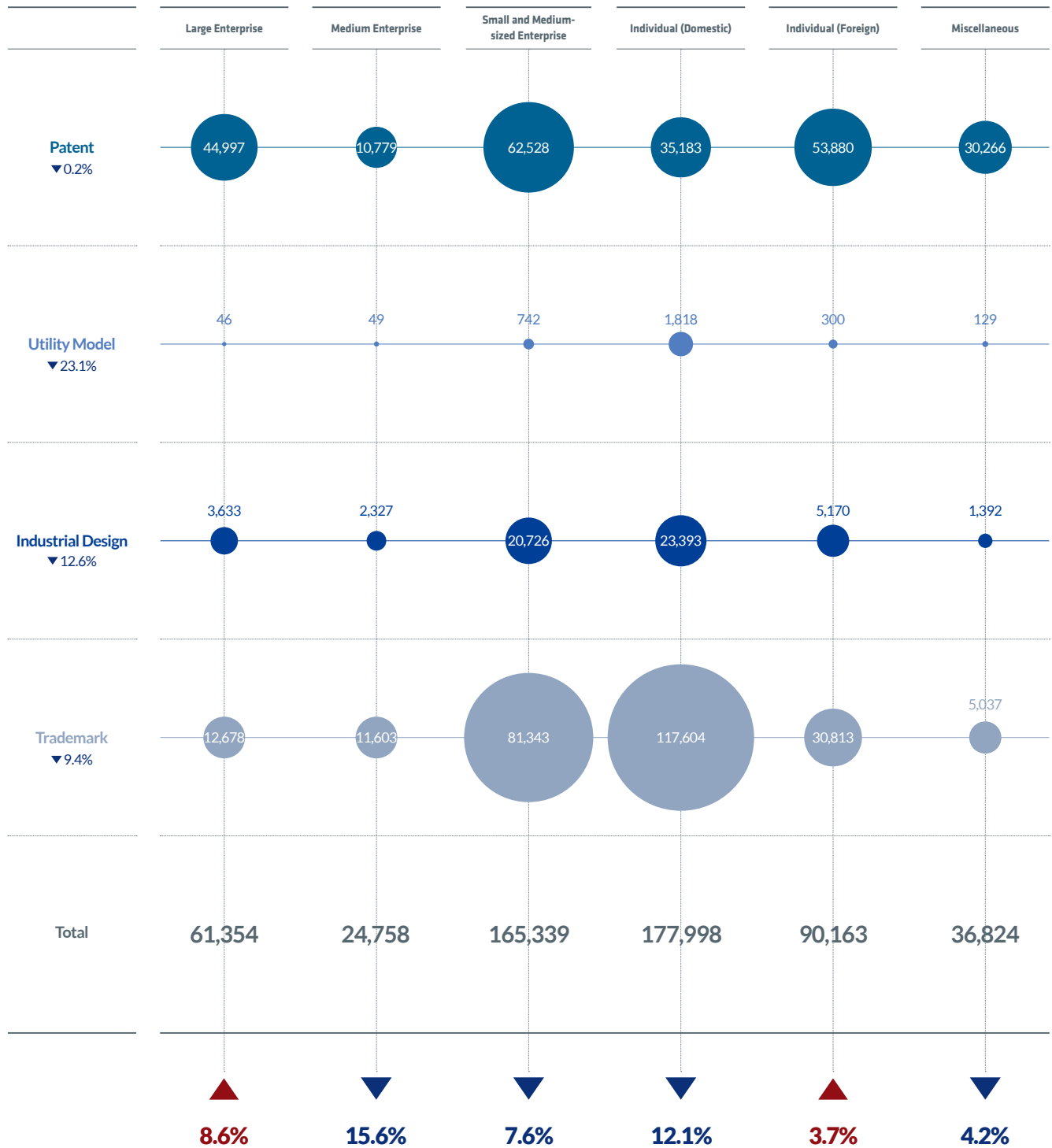
### Ratio of Applications According to Applicant Type



※ Not Included: Miscellaneous (uncategorized applicant type, domestic filing of international designs and trademarks) 18,503 cases

## Applications by Applicant type for each IPR

(unit: cases)



# Improving the IP System





24	Expansion of AI in Examination and Trial Services
25	Adoption of Examination Guidelines on Virtual Goods
26	Accelerated Examination for Semiconductor Patent Applications
27	New Division for Accelerated Examination of Service Marks
28	Improvements for Customer-centered IP Application Services



#### KIPO expanded the utilization of AI

In order to meet user demand without affecting quality and accuracy, KIPO expanded the utilization of AI, a core technology of digital transformation, in its examination and trial services.

# Expansion of AI in Examination and Trial Services

## Information Management Division

The number of intellectual property (IP) applications continues to rise as society becomes increasingly aware of the importance of IP rights (patent rights, trademark rights, design rights, etc.). In order to meet user demands without affecting quality and accuracy, KIPO expanded the utilization of artificial intelligence (AI), a core technology of digital transformation, in its examination and trial services.

As a part of the ROK government's proactive administration initiative, KIPO jointly developed with Kakao Corporation an AI-based Patent Search System for patent examinations and trials. By 2021, development was completed using approximately 5 million domestic patent documents as training data and beta tested with a sample of examiners. The AI-based system was officially launched for utilization in March 2022.

The assistance of AI technology will help shorten the time spent searching through prior art documents and enhance the

quality of examination services. Rather than requiring examiners to individually search for keywords, the AI-based Patent Search System automatically identifies words and sentences from documents to search similar prior art and make recommendations. Accuracy of search results is also enhanced by using information specific to the patent document, such as key sentences and Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) codes. After its launch in 2022, the search system was further improved through examiner feedback and user statistics analysis to ensure the best performance.

Previously, KIPO has applied AI in other areas including an AI-based search system for trademark and design examination in 2021 and translation of overseas patent documents and recognition of patent drawing in 2020. Such AI-based services help facilitate the application of AI technology across all IP fields to enhance efficiency of the IP system to provide high-quality IP and ultimately spur transition into a digital government.



# Adoption of Examination Guidelines on Virtual Goods

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## **Trademark Examination Policy Division**

Recent trends show an exponential increase in the number of trademark applications related to virtual goods especially with the growing transaction of virtual goods in the “metaverse” and other extended reality. There were only 6 applications related to virtual goods in 2020 and 17 applications in 2021 which grew to 869 applications by the end of 2022. Therefore, KIPO newly established the “Examination Guidelines for Virtual Goods” to help provide clarity to applicants and improve examination consistency.

Under the new guidelines, more options are allowed for product names of virtual goods. For example, applicants were previously required to describe virtual clothing as “downloadable image files (virtual clothing)” or “computer program recorded with virtual clothing (virtual products).” Now, acceptable descriptions are “virtual + [goods name],” such as “virtual clothing” and “virtual shoes” which allow for a wider range of descriptions of goods.

Additionally, virtual goods have been separated into a distinct class rather than

being considered “similar” to image files and computer programs. Sub-categories of virtual goods have been created to reflect the characteristics of their physical product counterparts. These measures will help prevent trademark disputes in virtual spaces and provide a more variety of trademark selection.

Lastly, distinction will be recognized between virtual products and physical products in examination. While virtual products may have similarity to their corresponding physical products as they share the same names and key features in appearance, it has been deemed that there is little possibility of consumer confusion due to the different purpose of use and channel of sale.

Overall, the newly established guidelines will help provide a wider range of trademark selection and prevent trademark disputes in virtual spaces. The establishment of such examination standards reflects the practices of actual transactions and prepares for trademark applications of emerging products in the age of accelerating digital transformation.



# Accelerated Examination for Semiconductor Patent Applications

## Patent Legal Administration Division

In a global market with the intensifying technological competition, accelerated examination is a decisive mechanism to achieve international competitiveness. To secure this competitiveness in the semiconductor field, patent applications for semiconductors, for which research and development (R&D) and production have been carried out domestically, have been included in the list of cases eligible for accelerated examination for a one-year duration starting from November 1, 2022.

Specifically, the accelerated procedure is available to applications which are directly related to semiconductor technology and have assigned their main classification with the Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) code for semiconductor technology. The application must also meet at least one of the following conditions: 1) be an application filed by an enterprise that is domestically producing or preparing to produce semiconductor-related products, devices, etc., 2) be an application regarding the

outcome of a national R&D project of semiconductor technology, or 3) be an application filed by a university or graduate school specializing in semiconductors under the *Act on Special Measures for Reinforcement and Protection of National High-tech Strategic Industry Competitiveness*. When enterprises, R&D institutions, academic institutions, etc. rely on the accelerated examinations under the new action, a semiconductor application can be processed in about 2.5 months on average which is 10 months earlier than general examination's pendency of 12.7 months (as of 2021).

The action was initiated through amendment of the Enforcement Decrees of both the *Patent Act* and the *Utility Model Act* to substantially make available accelerated examinations for advanced technologies that are critical to economic development and national competitiveness. According to the amendment, the Commissioner of KIPO can designate and announce additional technology fields to be eligible for accelerated examination and the petition period as well.

In accordance with the ROK's cross-governmental efforts to strengthen support for the semiconductor field, KIPO's accelerated examination for semiconductor patent applications will help speed up the revitalization of the economy by enabling rapid acquisition of patent rights.



# New Division for Accelerated Examination of Service Marks

## Trademark Examination Policy Division

The continual increase in the number of trademark applications has led to extended examination pendency period and, in turn, an increase in requests to receive accelerated examination for faster results. To better meet user needs, KIPO decided in December 2022 to newly organize a “Prioritized Service Mark Examination Division” dedicated to accelerated examinations related to wholesale/retail and restaurant services, which have the highest number of applications in the services area.

Out of all trademark filings, the percentage of accelerated examination applications has increased from 6.4% in 2020 to 8.5% in 2021 and 11.7% in 2022. Among them, the rate of increase of applications related to the area of services, which are considered Class 35 to 45 of the “International (NICE) Classification of Goods and Services,” have grown from 43% in 2020 to 44.9% in 2021 and 48.9% in 2022. In particular, accelerated examination applications have risen for

the wholesale/retail services (Class 35) and restaurant services (Class 43) with an average annual increase rate of 56.6% in the past five years.

A high percentage of small business owners (including individual business owners) applied for accelerated examinations of Wholesale/retail and restaurant services. In 2022 alone, small business owners accounted for 78.9% of accelerated examination cases filed for Class 35 and 43. Therefore, establishing a new division dedicated to these specific fields will help address the need for quick examination results.

The Prioritized Service Mark Examination Division will officially begin carrying out their duties in January 2023. Once operation begins, this effort dedicated to accelerated examinations for the wholesale/retail and restaurant industries will help reduce the delayed pendency for regular examination of service marks and better support applicants.

No. of Accelerated Examination Applications for Wholesale/Retail and Restaurant Services

Unit: Cases

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Average Annual Rate of Increase
Wholesale/Retail Services (Class 35)	817	1,243	2,383	4,774	6,070	68.3%
Restaurant Services (Class 43)	614	693	1,293	2,129	2,942	42.1%
Wholesale/Retail and Restaurant Services in Total	1,431	1,936	3,676	6,903	9,012	56.6%

# Improvements for Customer-centered IP Application Services

## Application Division

### Booklet of Standard IP Application Forms

As one of KIPO's proactive administration activities, a booklet containing best example cases of standard documents related to filing patents, trademarks, designs, etc. was published in December 2022 to mitigate inconveniences suffered by applicants.

IP applications require many different types of documents with technical terminology which make preparation of such documents difficult without help from specialists, such as patent attorneys. For the past three years, about 19% of total applications each year have been submitted directly by applicants without third party assistance. In other

words, one out of five applicants handle the challenging application process by themselves.

The booklet includes detailed information about 35 forms and standardized examples to fill out the application documents. Therefore, the publication becomes a useful resource for SMEs and individual applicants lacking the relevant experience to accurately prepare documents and successfully register their IP.

As such, the provision of detailed and accurate instructions on document filing is a foundational task to help acquire IP rights. The booklet has been distributed to 25 regional IP centers as well as made available to the public on KIPO's official website ([www.kipo.go.kr](http://www.kipo.go.kr)).



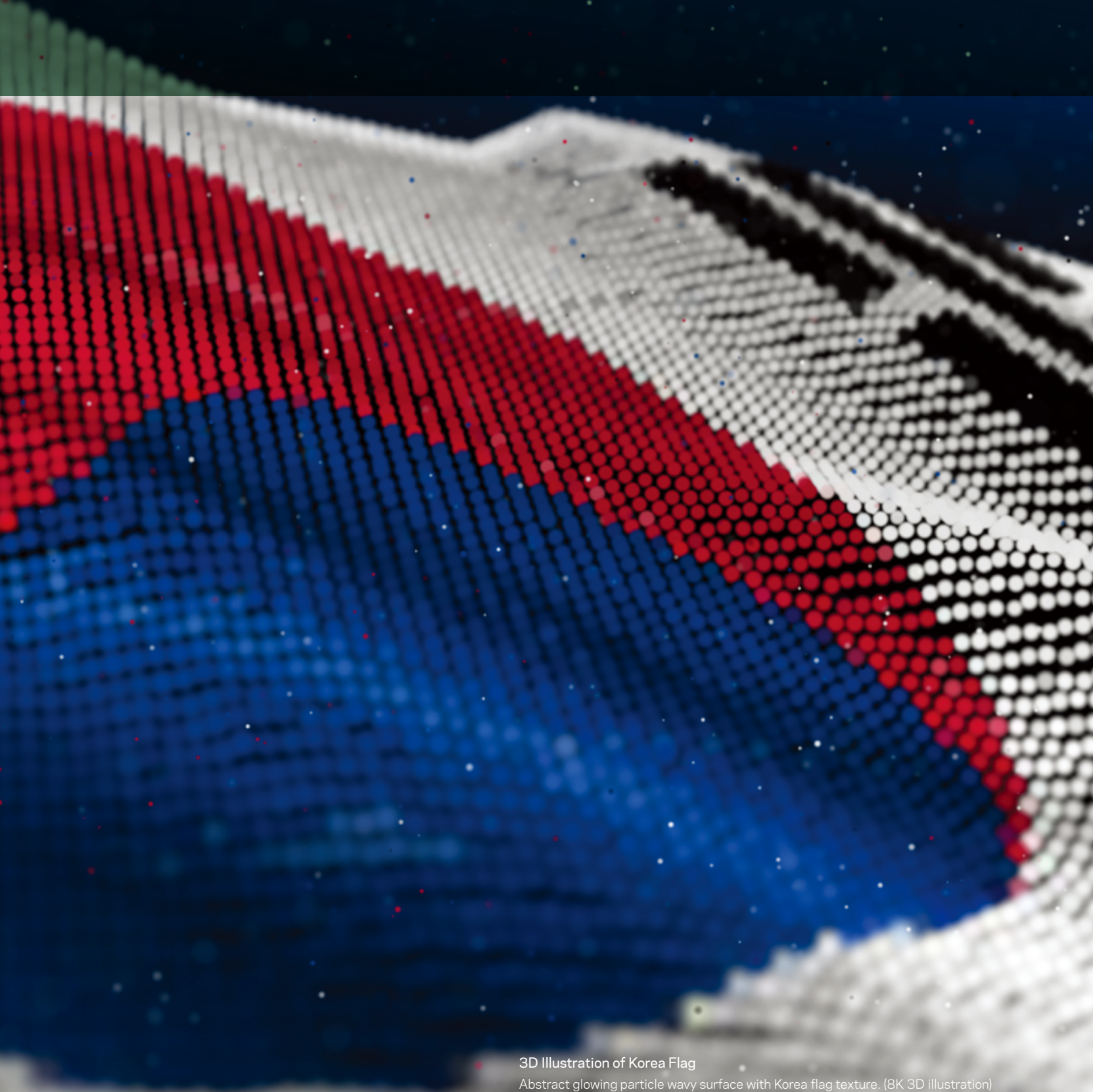




# Promoting the Creation and Use of IP



- 32 Customized Support for IP-based R&D Strategies
- 33 Vitalization of the Linkage between Patent Big Data Analysis and R&D
- 34 Support for Stable Growth of Innovative Enterprises



3D Illustration of Korea Flag  
Abstract glowing particle wavy surface with Korea flag texture. (8K 3D illustration)

# Customized Support for IP-based R&D Strategies

## Intellectual Property Creation Strategy Team

Intellectual property-based R&D (IP-R&D) refers to the utilization of patent analysis in the early stages of R&D. In other words, global patent information is analyzed to identify the best direction for the R&D projects to better overcome patent barriers and quickly obtain promising patents where there exists gaps of patented technology. KIPO provides customized IP-R&D strategies to SME & mid-market enterprises, universities, and public research institutions to develop strategic technologies and secure original and core patents.

In 2022, a total of 615 IP-R&D projects for small and medium-sized companies and 98 tasks were supported to streamline R&D for universities and public research institutes. KIPO also expanded support to R&D in important technology fields for leading global technology and overcoming the COVID-19 crisis, such as semiconductors, vaccines, materials, parts, and equipment.

Furthermore, KIPO established a new selective option that allows SMEs that lack IP capabilities to select one module of support at a low cost, such as either

conflict prevention, excellent patent creation, or R&D direction. Once a year has passed since receiving IP-R&D support, a follow-up will be carried out to provide re-examination of the R&D direction and to support IPR registration.

The patent technologies from projects supported with IP-R&D strategies have resulted in higher industrial utilization value than patents generated by general R&D tasks. Over five years (2017-2021), patent quality indicators (e.g., high-quality patents, international patents, etc.) have shown an increase up to 2.5 times, the rate of patent transfer by 1.2 times, and royalties per technology transfer contracts by 3.7 times.

With proven results, KIPO has been working to expand IP-R&D into important technology fields through legislative systems. As a result, IP-R&D (strategic analysis of IPRs) has become a mandatory requirement reflected in the *National Advanced Strategic Industry Act (Semiconductor Special Act)* in 2022 and is planned to be reflected in the *National Strategic Technology Promotion Special Act* in 2023.





# Vitalization of the Linkage between Patent Big Data Analysis and R&D

## Patent Analysis Division

The value of IP information and its strategic utilization, such as utilizing patent big data in R&D activities is becoming more important as the competition for technological dominance and resource protectionism increases. In November 2022, KIPO hosted a meeting with personnel from R&D institutions to discuss and establish plans for promoting R&D investment efficiency through analysis of patent big data.

Participants shared about the current situation of patent big data analysis in key industrial and technological areas with R&D-specialized institutions, such as the Korea Institute of Science & Technology Evaluation and Planning (KISTEP) and Korea Evaluation Institute of Industrial Technology (KEIT), and considered ways to link government and private R&D policies and patent big data analysis as well as to encourage inter-institutional cooperation.

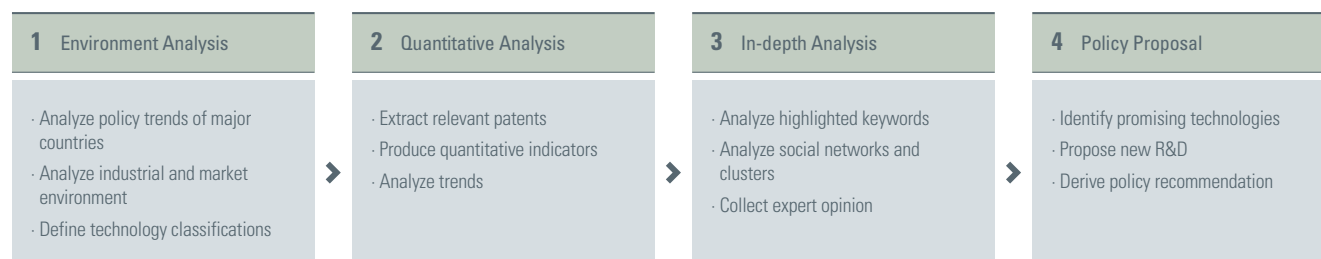
KIPO has been carrying out projects to support industrial innovation based on patent big data since 2019. About 500 million patent information worldwide is analyzed to identify promising

technologies and provide R&D innovation strategies to relevant institutions in order to establish direction of R&D investment in the government and private sector.

Topics for analysis are chosen from areas crucial to industrial policies (e.g., national strategic technologies, etc.) or areas that can be linked to R&D implementation plans according to government departments. Quantitative patent indicators are used to analyze national/enterprise patent trends and various big data analysis methods are applied to identify emerging future technologies.

In 2022, patent big data analysis activities identified a total of 173 emerging technologies by focusing on four strategic industries (digital healthcare, aerospace, digital security, synthetic biology), three new industries (metaverse, advanced robots, smart manufacturing), and two areas with ongoing issues (nuclear power generation, smart agriculture). The analysis results were disseminated to the public through the “2022 Patent Big Data-based Emerging Technology Conference” to help establish R&D strategies and be used in government R&D as well.

## Implementation Stages of Patent Big Data-based Industrial Innovation Strategies



# Support for Stable Growth of Innovative Enterprises

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## Intellectual Property Utilization Division

### Expansion of Designated Institutes for IP Valuation

IP valuation refers to the assessment of the economic value of IP which is essential to providing financial services based on IP or "IP finance" (e.g., IP collateralized loans, IP mutual aid, etc.). Valuation is carried out by a KIPO-designated institute specializing in evaluating the technical and business merits of inventions by using methods such as appraisal, grading, or scoring. As the IP finance market grows, there has been a call to increase the number of institutes capable of evaluating inventions.

KIPO began the process of accepting applications from institutions, conducting on-site inspections, and organizing a designation review committee. In result, five additional private evaluation institutes were designated as invention evaluation institutes. As of 2022, there are a total of 23 designated invention evaluation institutions (9 public and 14 private institutions) in the ROK. IP valuation by these institutes can be utilized to get IP guarantee certificates, IP collateral loans from banks, analysis of business feasibility, and evaluation of damages from IP-related disputes.

However, the lack of established models to assess value for specialized fields raised concerns about the reliability of evaluations. To address these concerns,

KIPO revised the *Invention Promotion Act* in December 2022 to improve the reliability of IP valuation. Key features of the amendments include strengthening the legal basis for valuation, expanding the scope of evaluation, and introducing a quality control system. The amendments are scheduled to be enacted in January 2023 and will be effective from July 2023.

### Surpassing 10,000 Members for IP Mutual Aid

Intellectual Property Mutual Aid is a financial service operated by the Korea Technology Finance Cooperation which allows members (e.g., SMEs) to make monthly deposits for future loans. As of 2022, the program reached a total of 12,531 members and accumulated KRW 146.1 billion in deposits, which began with 1,409 members by the end of the first year of its launch in 2019.

There are two types of loans available. "Loans for IP costs" require reasons such as domestic and foreign IP applications, domestic and foreign IP litigation, and IP transfer or commercialization. "Loans for operation funds" are for when temporarily funds are needed for business management and operation. As of 2022, a total of 161 cases worth 4 billion won were provided in loans for IP costs and 590 cases worth 11.2 billion won in loans for operating funds.

The Mutual Aid allows loans up to five times the accumulated deposits funds for filing domestic/international IP applications, dealing with IP conflicts or other IP costs. First, the Korea Technology Finance Corporation reviews the reason for requesting the loan and at least six deposits must have been made to the mutual aid program before funds are provided.

KIPO has been supporting the stable implementation of the mutual aid by subsidizing business operating expenses and providing legal and institutional support as well as overseeing the Korea Technology Finance Corporation. As such, KIPO will continue to improve the commercial value of this service and diversify membership channels to make it an essential financial product that helps the growth of enterprises.

#### Types of IP Mutual Aid Loans

Type	Purpose of Use	Interest rate	Duration	Limit
Loans for IP Costs	Domestic and International IP applications, IP disputes, Transactions/commercialization	1.75%	Up to 5 years	Up to 5 times the deposits
Loans for Operation Funds	Temporary fund for operation	2.75%	1 year	Up to 90% of deposits



# Strengthening IPR Protection





- 38 Amendment to the Punishment of Unfair Practices during Trial Proceedings
- 39 Launch of an Integrated Reporting & Consultation Center for IP Infringement
- 40 Enforcement Against Distribution of Counterfeit Products of Korean Brands



BTS on the Digital Billboard  
Globally popular K-Pop group BTS appeared on the digital billboard at COEX in Seoul.



# Amendment to the Punishment of Unfair Practices during Trial Proceedings

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## *Trial Policy Division*

On January 25, 2022, the “Announcement of the Determination of the Costs of Trial proceedings” came into effect to prevent unfair practices and to rectify the burden of trial expenses. In principle, for *inter partes cases*, the losing party is obligated to pay the trial expenses. However, the amendment was made to protect those whose rights were violated with unfair practices and have been burdened with trial expenses due to losing the case.

Accordingly, the following actions are now deemed as unfair practices: entering a trial with falsely or unfairly acquired IP rights, conducting unfair actions during a trial, or winning a trial by intentionally submitting evidence late to the Court which has not been presented at the trial phase or due to gross negligence. Those responsible for such actions will be liable to bear the cost of proceedings (fees for filing a petition for trial, legal representation, other documents, drawings, etc.) as well as the entire expense incurred by the other party regardless of the results of the court decision.

Previously, the cost of legal representation could only be claimed up to the maximum amount of fees for filing a petition for trial. The amount received did not always guarantee to cover the cost of hiring an attorney by the injured party due to unfair practices. Therefore, additional articles were included to stipulate that when a party bears the trial expenses for committing unfair practices, the other party may claim the actual costs incurred for hiring legal representation (up to KRW 7.4 million).

Transparent and fair proceedings will be promoted by placing the burden of expenses on those who committed unfair practices (e.g., unlawful practices, intentional or gross negligence, etc.) during trials. KIPO commits to reacting sternly to attempts to interrupt proceedings with tampered data or false claims with necessary measures as it is crucial to make efforts to eradicate unfair practices for reliable and fair judgments.

# Launch of an Integrated Reporting & Consultation Center for IP Infringement

## Technology & Design Police Division

To provide more convenience to the public, KIPO established a single integrated platform for receiving reports and providing consultation services on infringement of IP, such as patent rights, trademark rights (counterfeit products), design rights, trade secrets, unfair competition acts, etc. In July 2022, the Integrated Reporting & Consultation Center on IP Infringement was launched to provide the public with more specialized and expert services.

Before the launch, IP infringement could be reported to the KIPO Special Judicial Police Divisions, the Unfair Competition Investigation Team, the IP Customer Service Center or even to KIPO employees who manage general public complaints. The varied contacts made it difficult for the public to find the right channel to address their issue. Having a one-stop integrated center will allow more convenient access and consistent quality of services

regardless of personnel transfers or duty changes.

KIPO designated the Korean Intellectual Property Protection Agency (KOIPA) to organize and operate the integrated center and selected four experts to provide professional and methodical consultation services. Key issues for consultation include distribution of counterfeit products, infringement of patent and design rights, leaks of trade secrets, theft of ideas, imitation of product forms, acts of unfair competition, etc.

The Reporting & Consultation Center on IP Infringement began operation after six months of preparation in order to quickly and accurately handle complaints and give guidance to issues of IP infringement. The public is able to call or visit the official website ([www.ippolice.go.kr](http://www.ippolice.go.kr)) as a one-stop platform for services from reporting IP infringement to receiving consultations.



# Enforcement Against Distribution of Counterfeit Products of Korean Brands

## Intellectual Property Dispute Settlement Division

### Private-Public Cooperation Against Overseas Counterfeit Products

The technological competitiveness of Korean enterprises and popularity of Korean culture has led an increase in the number of counterfeit products of Korean brands (K-brands) overseas, which can result in reduced sales, loss of jobs, damages to brand images, etc.

To help respond to counterfeit K-brand products in international markets, KIPO established a “Private-Public Cooperation Program for Zero Counterfeit Products in the International Market” which began implementation in April 2022. The program is carried out through a three-party arrangement between KOIPA, a collective of industry members, and an implementing organization.

First, a collective formed of three or more members from industries frequently

affected by counterfeit and imitation products (e.g., food, cosmetics, clothing, and goods) submits a request for support. KOIPA will receive the application and related materials from the collective then go through a selection process to choose an organization to implement the program’s activities.

After an agreement is signed between the three parties, KOIPA and the implementing organization work to conduct factual surveys of counterfeit products in the international market, gather evidence, and establish countermeasures in two stages. The first stage, “survey of facts and evidence,” analyzes the current situation and issues/damages from online/offline distribution of counterfeit products as well as collects related evidence. Based on the results, the second stage provides timely and customized strategies of each type of damage and helps execute administrative and criminal actions as countermeasures.

### Detailed Support of Each Stage

		Activities	Budget per Project (max)	Duration
Stage 1	Survey of Facts and Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis of damages and current issues caused by counterfeit products, analysis of countermeasures (e.g., legal review)</li> <li>Issuance of a warning (if necessary)</li> </ul>	KRW 100 million	3~4 months
Stage 2	Support for IP Dispute Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of countermeasure strategies by type of damages</li> <li>Implementation of strategy: customs enforcement, administrative enforcement, criminal enforcement, civil litigation, etc.</li> <li>Support for overseas IP disputes strategy (Trademark &amp; Design), Provision of resources for individual or joint response</li> </ul>	KRW 100 million	3~4 months



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## **Trademark Police Division**

### **Enforcement Activities against Counterfeit K-pop Merchandise**

Key entertainment celebrities are returning to their concert performances after a prolonged duration of social distancing and quarantine measures due to COVID-19. As in-person activities resume and the celebrity merchandise (goods) industry is once again active, there is also a rise in trademark infringement through the distribution of counterfeit merchandise.

Working in cooperation with the Korea Music Content Association (KMCA) and major entertainment companies (HYBE, SM, JYP, and YG), KIPO conducted intensive monitoring of K-pop merchandise on major online markets. In 2022, three rounds of monitoring were carried out from February to October resulting in uncovering 5,572 sales listings of counterfeit merchandise and appropriate corrective measures were taken accordingly, such as suspension of sales and imposing sanction on retailers.

Furthermore, KIPO and HYBE Co., Ltd., the management agency of the globally popular K-pop group “BTS,” conducted offline enforcement activities regarding counterfeits of celebrity merchandise at BTS concerts held in Seoul in March and Busan in October. Before each performance, HYBE even posted on BTS’ official social media channel to request that their fans abstain from purchasing counterfeit products and to provide notice of the upcoming joint crackdown with KIPO’s Trademark Police Division.

The excessive distribution of counterfeit Korean cultural merchandise can have substantially negative effects on both trademark holders and the national image. Therefore, KIPO is highly committed to cooperating with related parties and stakeholders, such as KMCA and entertainment agencies etc., for regular monitoring and enforcement of trademark infringement.



# Enhancing Global IP Cooperation





- 44 IP-R&D Methodology Training Course for Developing Countries
- 45 KIPO-WIPO-KIPA Joint Development of IP Panorama 2.0
- 46 Hosting of the Korea-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting
- 47 Adoption of a Joint Statement on the 10th Anniversary of the TM5/ID5



K-POP, K-Culture Futuristic Experience space

K-pop, K-culture futuristic experience space 'Hiker Ground' exhibition hall operated by Korea Tourism Organization.

# IP-R&D Methodology Training Course for Developing Countries

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## **Trade and Cooperation Division**

KIPO implemented the first Innovation Skills Development Camp (“InnoCamp”) online training course from June 13 to 24, 2022 with the Korea Intellectual Property Strategy Agency (KISTA) and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). InnoCamp is an educational course which globally shares new R&D methodology using IP (IP-R&D) which has played a key role in the ROK’s economic growth.

Hosted on WIPO Academy’s platform, the two-week course is designed to support the economic growth of developing countries by disseminating IP-R&D methodology implemented in the ROK. A total of 60 people participated in the first ever InnoCamp including professors, university students, and patent examiners from 39 countries.

Participants learn from lectures for

one week and conduct group activities for another week with experts from KISTA working as mentors. The lectures provide step-by-step IP-R&D education, such as prior art search and analysis, IP-R&D strategy establishment, securing of national core patents, IP finance, etc. For group activities, students carry out tasks to establish an IP-R&D strategy as a group by applying learned methodologies, such as the collection and analysis of patent data, to hypothetical situations.

With the success of the first InnoCamp, the programs has potential to be expanded in the future into a tailored training course according to different countries or technical fields, which will ultimately encourage more researchers to create and commercialize their IP.



# KIPO-WIPO-KIPA Joint Development of IP Panorama 2.0

## International Education Division

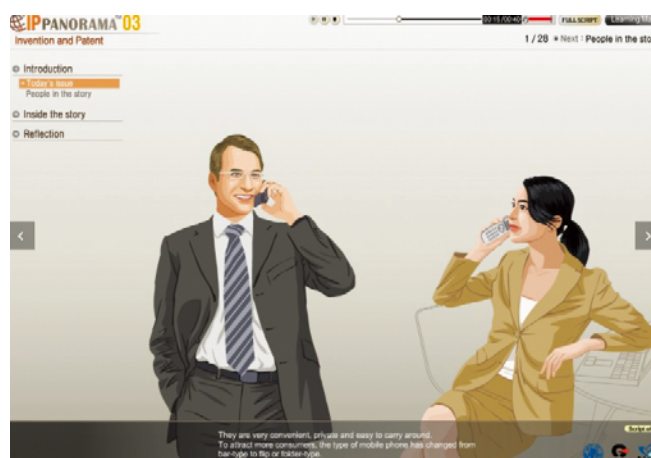
In collaboration with WIPO Academy and the Korea Invention Promotion Association (KIPA), KIPO released “IP Panorama 2.0” an e-learning course on the basic of IP in 2022. The online course is an updated and modern restructuring of the original “IP Panorama” released in 2007 that teaches IP strategies such as acquisition, utilization, protection, and marketing from a business perspective and addresses main issues in the field of IP rights.

Joint development was carried out in 2019 and completed in 2022 to resolve issues such as legislative changes, outdated examples, and software upgrades. The new version supports a mobile learning user interface and applies a microlearning method which allows users to learn 1-2 concepts in around 15 minutes. It also features the latest video techniques to teach new IP-related laws, cases, and other topics.

A promotional booth was set up to showcase the launch of IP Panorama 2.0

on July 15, 2022 during the 63rd WIPO General Assembly in Geneva. With more than 350 visitors, many showed interest in having their countries collaborate to utilize the program, including heads of IP offices and official representatives from various countries. KIPO plans to develop multiple versions of IP Panorama 2.0 with different languages, such as Spanish and French, in cooperation with WIPO.

KIPO also created a roadmap for developing and utilizing global IP e-learning content in 2022. Roadmap development was joined by experienced IP educators and professionals in the education field to analyze IP-related educational content and learning programs of the International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI). This effort enables KIPO to prioritize new content by field and level and build a development strategy. IP Panorama 2.0 and other newly developed content will be used in accordance to the roadmap for global IP e-learning to help narrow the IP knowledge gap between countries.





## Hosting of the Korea-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting

### **International Cooperation Division**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is an important trade partner of the ROK and a region with growing economic potential. For mutual benefit of the ROK and the ASEAN countries, continuous efforts have been made to support the establishment and advancement of the IP system. The Korea-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meetings have grown into a high-level cooperation platform of great importance since its commencement in 2018.

In November 2022, KIPO invited its ASEAN counterparts to Seoul for the 5th Heads of IP Offices Meeting to continue dialogue on ongoing efforts among the countries. The occasion was especially meaningful as the first in-person meeting held in three years. Meanwhile, KIPO and ASEAN IP offices remained committed by continuing video conferences despite the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic.

With a renewed sense of responsibility, delegations from the 11 countries agreed to join together to build an IP-based innovative ecosystem after in-depth discussions under the main theme of “IP and innovation towards a sustainable future.” Further discussions on specific and detailed activities were carried out through bilateral talks on existing and upcoming cooperation projects while focusing on different aspects of examination, education, legal systems or digitization depending each country's conditions and circumstances.

In particular, during this gathering, KIPO was able to sign Memorandums of Understandings (MOUs) for reinforced and comprehensive cooperation with the Philippines and Brunei, respectively. As of 2022, there are a total of 26 MOUs signed between KIPO and ASEAN members regarding a wide range of subjects that cover patent examination, training, information sharing, IT, and IP protection.



# Adoption of a Joint Statement on the 10th Anniversary of the TM5/ID5

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## **Trademark Examination Policy Division**

A cooperative framework of the world's five largest offices (China, Europe, Japan, ROK, and the U.S.) on trademark (TM5) and industrial design (ID5) marked its 10th anniversary at the annual meeting in 2022. Members agreed to adopt a joint statement on trademarks and designs at the TM5/ID5 annual meeting held in Brussels from October 24 to 29, 2022.

In the joint statement, the TM5 confirmed their contribution in the field of trademarks to the development of SMEs and economic growth through various research projects over the past 10 years. They also expressed their commitment to the establishment of a transparent and accessible trademark system, compatibility of systems among the IP offices for enhanced user convenience, and continuous cooperation with users.

In the design field, the ID5 recognized the

changes in user demand of the design system due to development of new technologies and digital transformation. Resolutions were made to enhance the response measures of the design protection systems for a rapidly changing environment, to provide quality services, and to improve usability of the outcomes of ID5 cooperation through interaction with users.

Additionally, as China joined the Hague Agreement in May 2022, the five IP offices promised to put effort into enhancing mutual compatibility with the Hague International Design System.

Moreover, KIPO was chosen as the next chair to lead international cooperation in trademark and design standards. It will be the third time that KIPO hosts the TM5/ID5 working group, midterm, and annual meetings in the ROK since 2018 and 2013.



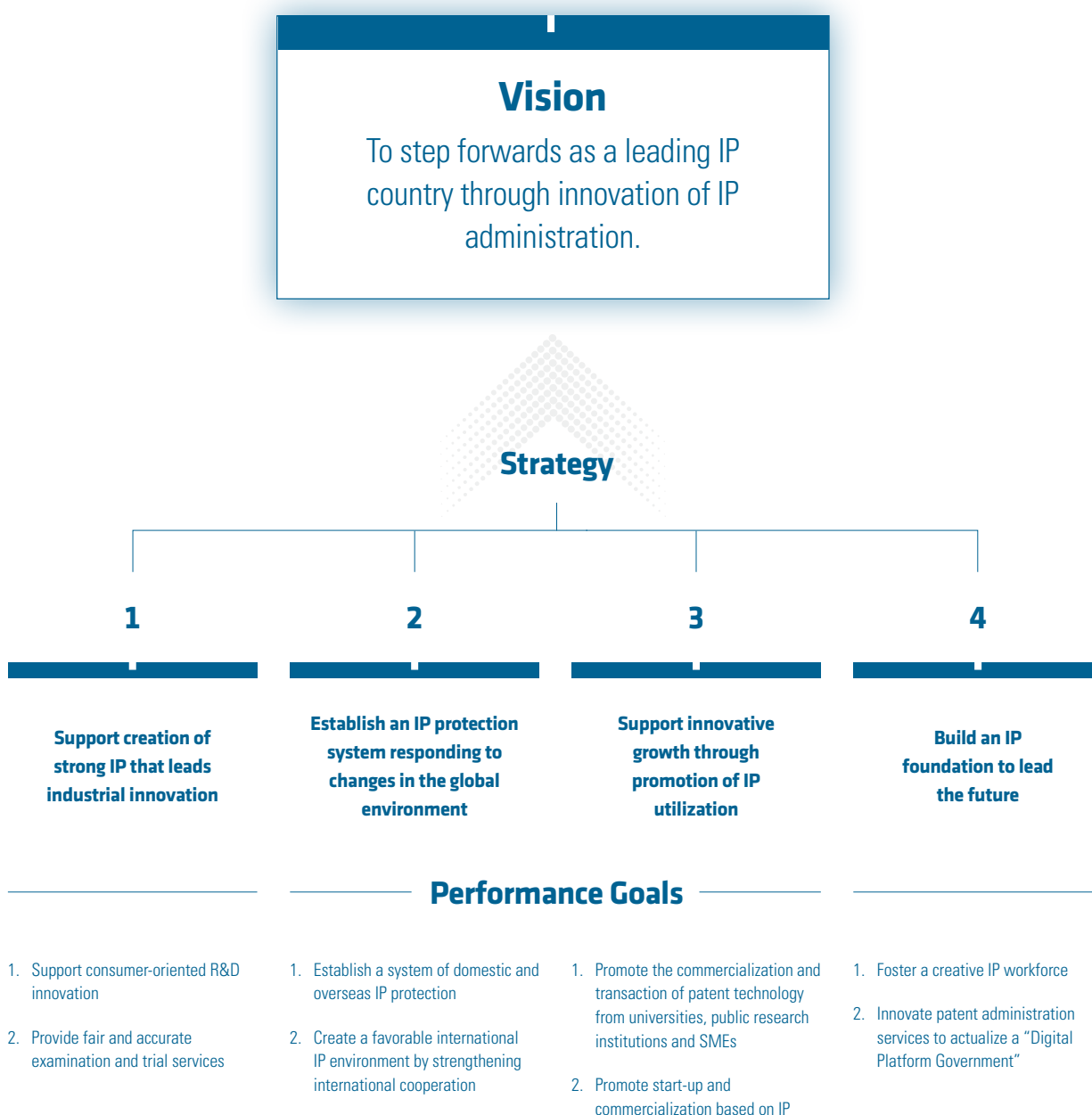
# Appendix



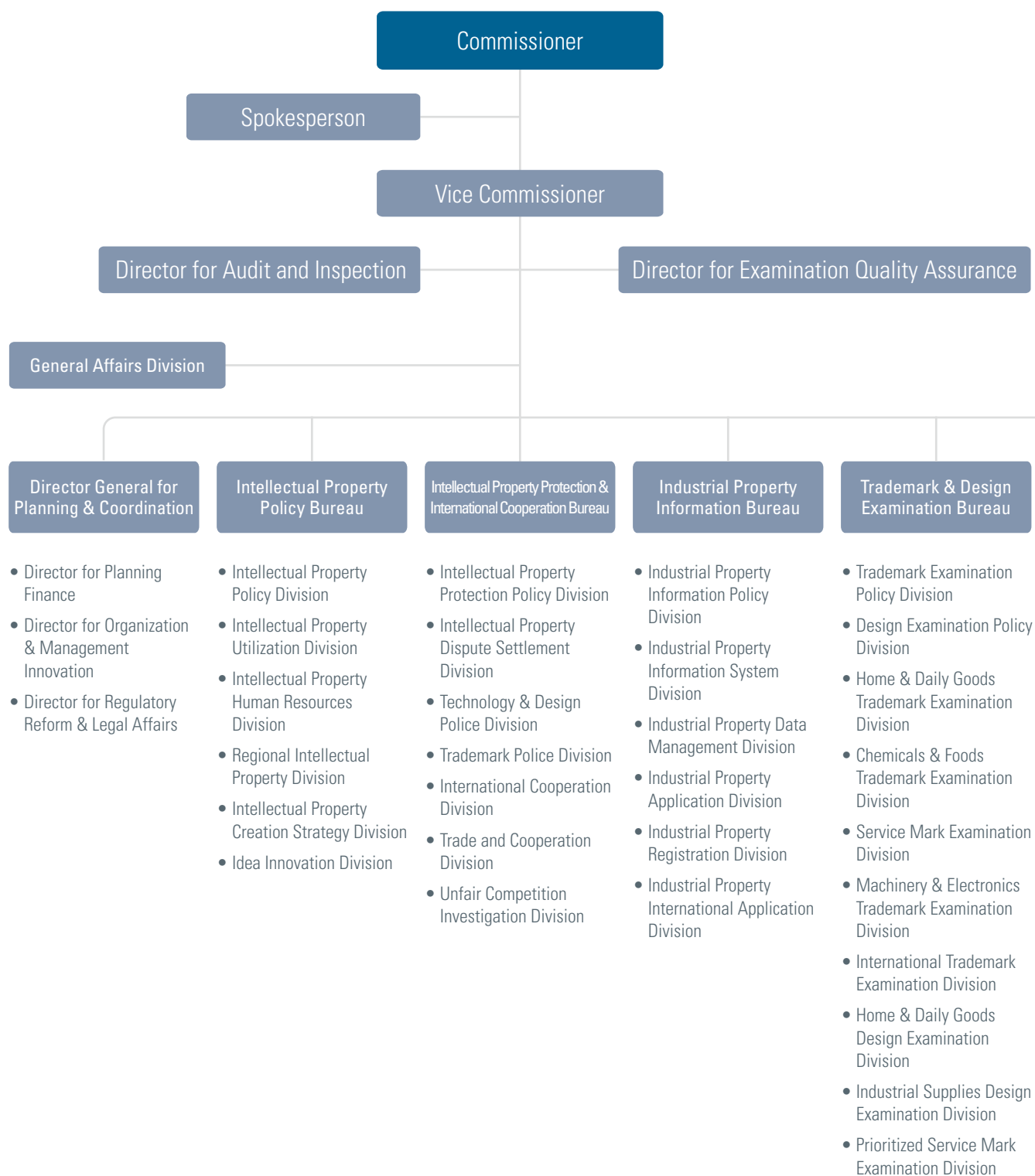


# KIPO Vision & Strategy

Our mission is to contribute to technological innovation and industrial development by promoting the creation and utilization of IP and strengthening its protection.



# KIPO Organization Chart



- Artificial Intelligence & Big Data Examination Division
- Internet of Things Examination Division
- Biotechnology & Healthcare Examination Division
- Intelligent Robot Examination Division
- Autonomous Driving Technology Examination Division
- Smart Manufacturing Examination Division

#### Digital Convergence Examination Bureau

#### Intellectual Property Trial and Appeal Board

- Board 1-10
- Trial Policy Division / Litigation Division

#### International Intellectual Property Training Institute

- Education Planning Division
- IP Education Division
- International Education Division

#### Seoul Branch Office

- General Affairs Support Division
- Electronic Documentation Division

#### Patent Examination Policy Bureau

- Patent Examination Policy Division
- Patent Legal Administration Division
- Household Goods Examination Division
- Food & Biological Resources Examination Division
- Residential Technology Examination Division
- Home Applications Examination Division
- PCT International Search & Preliminary Examination Division I
- PCT International Search & Preliminary Examination Division II

#### Electricity & Communications Examination Bureau

- Electrical Systems Examination Division
- Computer Systems Examination Division
- Communications Systems Examination Division
- Electronic Commerce Examination Division
- Broadcasting & Multimedia Examination Division

#### Chemistry & Biotechnology Examination Bureau

- Organic Chemistry Examination Division
- Pharmaceuticals Examination Division
- Materials Chemistry Examination Division
- Advanced Energy Technology Examination Division
- Polymer & Textile Examination Division
- Medical Technology Examination Division
- Environmental Technology Examination Division

#### Machinery & Metals Examination Bureau

- General Machinery Examination Division
- Mechatronics Examination Division
- Construction Technology Examination Division
- Automobile Examination Division
- Mechanical Power Systems Examination Division
- Transportation Machinery Examination Division
- Measurement Technology Examination Division
- Materials & Metals Examination Division

#### Semiconductor Examination Bureau

- Semiconductor Fabrication Process Examination Division
- Semiconductor Design Examination Division
- Display Device Examination Division
- Semiconductor Materials Examination Division
- Semiconductor Package and Assembly Examination Division
- Semiconductor Fabrication Equipment Examination Division

# Applications

## Application by IPR type

(unit: cases)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Patents	209,992	218,975	226,759	237,998	<b>237,633</b>
Utility models	6,232	5,447	4,981	4,009	<b>3,084</b>
Subtotal	216,224	224,422	231,740	242,007	<b>240,717</b>
Designs	62,823 (65,434)	64,111 (66,637)	66,354 (68,695)	63,647 (65,922)	<b>55,333 (57,845)</b>
Trademarks	185,968 (232,109)	204,998 (252,309)	243,935 (290,207)	270,421 (290,209)	<b>242,368 (290,323)</b>
Total	465,015 (513,767)	493,531 (543,368)	542,029 (590,642)	576,075 (598,138)	<b>538,418 (588,885)</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

## PCT applications (KIPO as the Receiving Office)

(unit: cases)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of applications	16,991	18,885	19,675	20,528	<b>21,916</b>
Growth rate	7.6%	11.1%	4.2%	4.3%	<b>6.8%</b>

## International trademark applications under the Madrid System

(unit: cases)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Korea as office of origin	1,322	1,419	1,599	2,012	<b>2,089</b>
Korea as designated office	14,373	16,509	13,998	15,400	<b>16,710</b>

## International design applications under the Hague System

(unit: cases)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Korea as office of origin	116	178	250	279	<b>280</b>
Korea as designated office	857	928	1,229	1,140	<b>1,308</b>

## Comparison of domestic and foreign applications

(unit: cases)

Category			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Patents	Domestic	Cases	162,576	171,606	180,484	186,245	<b>183,747</b>
		Ratio	77.40%	78.4%	79.6%	78.3%	<b>77.3%</b>
	Foreign	Cases	47,416	47,396	46,275	51,753	<b>53,886</b>
		Ratio	22.60%	21.6%	20.4%	21.7%	<b>22.7%</b>
	Total		209,992	218,975	226,759	237,998	<b>237,633</b>
Utility models	Domestic	Cases	5,768	4,975	4,595	3,642	<b>2,784</b>
		Ratio	92.60%	91.3%	92.3%	90.8%	<b>90.3%</b>
	Foreign	Cases	464	472	386	367	<b>300</b>
		Ratio	7.40%	8.7%	7.7%	9.2%	<b>9.7%</b>
	Total		6,232	5,447	4,981	4,009	<b>3,084</b>
Designs	Domestic	Cases	58,699 (60,021)	59,877 (61,204)	62,698 (63,939)	59,880 (61,175)	<b>51,428 (52,814)</b>
		Ratio	93.4% (91.7%)	93.3% (91.8%)	94.5% (93.1%)	94.1% (92.8%)	<b>92.9% (91.3%)</b>
	Foreign	Cases	4,124 (5,413)	4,234 (5,433)	3,656 (4,756)	3,767 (4,747)	<b>3,905 (5,031)</b>
		Ratio	6.6% (8.3%)	6.7% (8.2%)	5.5% (6.9%)	5.9% (7.2%)	<b>7.1% (8.7%)</b>
	Total		62,823 (65,434)	64,111 (66,637)	66,354 (68,695)	63,647 (65,922)	<b>55,333 (57,845)</b>
Trademarks	Domestic	Cases	170,545 (207,958)	190,204 (228,530)	230,318 (269,332)	255,746 (269,219)	<b>228,219 (268,334)</b>
		Ratio	91.7% (89.6%)	92.8% (90.6%)	94.4% (92.8%)	94.6% (92.8%)	<b>94.2% (92.4%)</b>
	Foreign	Cases	15,423 (24,151)	14,794 (23,779)	13,617 (20,875)	14,675 (20,990)	<b>14,149 (21,989)</b>
		Ratio	8.3% (10.4%)	7.2% (9.4%)	5.6% (7.2%)	5.4% (7.2%)	<b>5.8% (7.6%)</b>
	Total		185,968 (232,109)	204,998 (252,309)	243,935 (290,207)	270,421 (290,209)	<b>242,368 (290,323)</b>
Total	Domestic	Cases	397,588 (436,323)	426,662 (466,315)	478,095 (518,350)	505,513 (520,281)	<b>466,178 (507,679)</b>
		Ratio	85.5% (84.9%)	86.5% (85.8%)	88.2% (87.8%)	87.8% (87.0%)	<b>86.6% (86.2%)</b>
	Foreign	Cases	67,427 (77,444)	66,869 (77,053)	63,934 (72,292)	70,562 (77,857)	<b>72,240 (81,206)</b>
		Ratio	14.5% (15.1%)	13.5% (14.2%)	11.8% (12.2%)	12.2% (13.0%)	<b>13.4% (13.8%)</b>
	Total		465,015 (513,767)	493,531 (543,368)	542,029 (590,642)	576,075 (598,138)	<b>538,418 (588,885)</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.



## Patent and utility model applications by technological field in 2022

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	14,720	4,053	18,773	142	45	187
Audio-visual technology	5,365	1,939	7,304	60	3	63
Telecommunications	2,572	598	3,170	12	5	17
Digital communication	7,214	3,212	10,426	4	-	4
Basic communication processes	567	334	901	-	-	-
Computer technology	12,863	3,882	16,745	34	7	41
IT methods for management	15,836	473	16,309	27	-	27
Semiconductors	5,012	3,366	8,378	4	11	15
Optics	2,877	2,416	5,293	20	12	32
Measurement	7,998	1,956	9,954	63	13	76
Analysis of biological materials	580	270	850	2	-	2
Control	3,661	521	4,182	39	1	40
Medical technology	10,050	2,441	12,491	139	27	166
Organic fine chemistry	3,773	2,593	6,366	2	-	2
Biotechnology	3,817	3,074	6,891	2	-	2
Pharmaceuticals	3,178	2,646	5,824	-	-	-
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	1,899	1,885	3,784	-	-	-
Food chemistry	4,516	329	4,845	22	4	26
Basic materials chemistry	2,705	1,565	4,270	8	-	8
Materials, metallurgy	2,906	1,570	4,476	3	2	5
Surface technology, coating	2,329	1,778	4,107	5	3	8
Micro-structural and nano-technology	20	18	38	-	-	-
Chemical engineering	3,300	1,036	4,336	47	8	55
Environmental technology	3,219	395	3,614	45	8	53
Handling	4,555	914	5,469	215	17	232
Machine tools	3,561	1,097	4,658	83	11	94
Engines, pumps, turbines	2,060	733	2,793	32	12	44
Textile and paper machines	1,463	503	1,966	23	2	25
Other special machines	6,422	1,366	7,788	234	1	235
Thermal processes and apparatus	2,784	353	3,137	33	9	42
Mechanical elements	2,368	826	3,194	62	12	74
Transport	9,563	1,442	11,005	133	16	149

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Furniture, games	5,424	630	6,054	485	37	522
Other consumer goods	5,591	1,188	6,779	372	23	395
Civil engineering	7,591	422	8,013	269	7	276
Others	11,388	2,062	13,450	163	4	167
Total	183,747	53,886	237,633	2,784	300	3,084

Note: Figures for 2022 are preliminary.

### Patent applications in biotechnology

(unit: cases)

Category	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	7,239	72.2%	7,269	71.0%	7,878	71.0%	8,010	67.2%	7,844	63.8%
Foreign	2,794	27.8%	2,973	29.0%	3,218	29.0%	3,918	32.8%	4,443	36.2%
Total	10,033	100%	10,242	100%	11,096	100%	11,928	100%	12,287	100%

Note1: Figures for 2022 are preliminary.

Note2: Based on the following biotechnological categories of the Eighth Edition of the International Patent Classification: A01H; A01K 67/00-67/04; A01N 63/00-65/00; A61K 8/97-8/99; A61K 8/64-8/68; A61K 35/12-35/76; 36/00-36/9068; A61K 38/00-38/58, 39/00-39/44, 48/00, 51/00-51/10; C02F; C07H 19/00-21/04; C07K; C12C-M; C12N; C12P; C12Q; C12S; G01N 33/50-33/98.

### Patent applications in business methods

(unit: cases)

Category	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	9,754	94.8%	10,321	95.1%	12,251	96.5%	15,019	96.4%	15,836	97.1%
Foreign	536	5.2%	534	4.9%	449	3.5%	557	3.6%	473	2.9%
Total	10,290	100%	10,855	100%	12,700	100%	15,576	100%	16,309	100%

Note1: Figures for 2022 are preliminary.

Note2: Based on the Ninth Edition of the International Patent Classification.

## Applications by residents of foreign countries/regions in 2022

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
United States of America	1,676	11,469	1,426 (1,851)	150 (398)	3,668 (6,778)	3,968 (7,486)	<b>22,357 (29,658)</b>
Japan	4,426	10,598	632 (766)	113 (204)	1,445 (2,640)	1,634 (3,416)	<b>18,848 (22,050)</b>
China	738	3,165	891 (1,008)	258 (476)	5,453 (6,247)	2,009 (3,640)	<b>12,514 (15,274)</b>
Germany	743	3,489	69 (77)	139 (447)	184 (376)	1,629 (4,439)	<b>6,253 (9,571)</b>
France	173	1,377	118 (148)	131 (219)	279 (478)	991 (2,359)	<b>3,069 (4,754)</b>
Switzerland	166	1,144	77 (220)	161 (345)	141 (251)	864 (2,142)	<b>2,553 (4,268)</b>
United Kingdom	103	964	79 (109)	34 (77)	507 (1,105)	830 (2,337)	<b>2,517 (4,695)</b>
Taiwan, Province of China	1,149	99	62 (71)	-	432 (584)	-	<b>1,742 (1,903)</b>
Netherlands	104	886	227 (267)	54 (159)	68 (129)	313 (742)	<b>1,652 (2,287)</b>
Italy	65	399	46 (66)	85 (153)	128 (200)	822 (1,603)	<b>1,545 (2,486)</b>
Sweden	76	716	66 (133)	15 (35)	51 (128)	293 (851)	<b>1,217 (1,939)</b>
Canada	58	356	35 (36)	5 (7)	240 (415)	197 (442)	<b>891 (1,314)</b>
Australia	11	216	39 (42)	1 (2)	133 (195)	455 (1,107)	<b>855 (1,573)</b>
Singapore	54	113	12 (40)	6 (29)	378 (672)	210 (483)	<b>773 (1,391)</b>
Belgium	28	296	12 (19)	10 (18)	24 (40)	150 (303)	<b>520 (704)</b>
Austria	88	246	1 (1)	3 (31)	21 (72)	154 (461)	<b>513 (899)</b>
Israel	60	302	4 (4)	15 (34)	20 (26)	107 (229)	<b>508 (655)</b>
Denmark	9	171	45 (74)	22 (49)	36 (70)	206 (501)	<b>489 (874)</b>
Spain	11	120	1 (3)	5 (10)	59 (84)	285 (549)	<b>481 (777)</b>
Cayman Islands	7	386	-	-	35 (118)	4 (5)	<b>432 (516)</b>
Finland	18	231	1 (1)	2 (3)	11 (37)	112 (384)	<b>375 (674)</b>
Luxembourg	8	120	11 (11)	1 (1)	26 (30)	101 (259)	<b>267 (429)</b>
Ireland	33	121	3 (3)	1 (4)	17 (22)	88 (179)	<b>263 (362)</b>
Russian Federation	5	89	3 (3)	11 (15)	9 (9)	126 (299)	<b>243 (420)</b>
Norway	4	114	-	12 (23)	8 (20)	96 (310)	<b>234 (471)</b>
India	12	121	2 (2)	-	49 (64)	41 (112)	<b>225 (311)</b>
Turkiye	4	35	-	6 (11)	10 (15)	164 (318)	<b>219 (383)</b>
New Zealand	7	30	10 (16)	-	40 (62)	103 (193)	<b>190 (308)</b>
Saudi Arabia	-	105	-	-	52 (187)	-	<b>157 (292)</b>
United Arab Emirates	-	5	-	1 (1)	114 (165)	16 (31)	<b>136 (202)</b>
Viet Nam	3	3	4 (4)	2 (7)	43 (51)	65 (147)	<b>120 (215)</b>
Thailand	7	44	2 (2)	-	45 (53)	18 (22)	<b>116 (128)</b>
Poland	7	35	-	8 (9)	2 (2)	61 (135)	<b>113 (188)</b>
Cyprus	2	7	-	-	7 (12)	67 (200)	<b>83 (221)</b>

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Czech Republic	1	24	-	3 (4)	3 (6)	39 (133)	<b>70 (168)</b>
Malaysia	11	10	1 (1)	-	28 (44)	18 (66)	<b>68 (132)</b>
Barbados	35	15	-	-	9 (24)	4 (42)	<b>63 (116)</b>
Liechtenstein	8	28	-	1 (6)	-	23 (74)	<b>60 (116)</b>
Bulgaria	-	3	3 (3)	1 (1)	1 (1)	50 (88)	<b>58 (96)</b>
Mexico	-	23	1 (1)	-	23 (28)	10 (11)	<b>57 (63)</b>
Virgin Islands (British)	-	4	-	-	43 (55)	10 (19)	<b>57 (78)</b>
Portugal	-	24	2 (2)	1 (1)	6 (6)	23 (42)	<b>56 (75)</b>
Greece	1	34	-	1 (1)	1 (1)	12 (19)	<b>49 (56)</b>
Brazil	-	18	3 (9)	-	11 (19)	13 (20)	<b>45 (66)</b>
Indonesia	1	-	-	-	22 (23)	22 (53)	<b>45 (77)</b>
Chile	2	7	-	-	34 (40)	1 (2)	<b>44 (51)</b>
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China	1	3	8 (8)	-	27 (43)	-	<b>39 (55)</b>
Malta	-	11	-	-	3 (5)	22 (44)	<b>36 (60)</b>
Antigua and Barbuda	-	28	-	-	1 (6)	1 (5)	<b>30 (39)</b>
Hungary	1	14	-	-	-	15 (26)	<b>30 (41)</b>
Uzbekistan	9	1	2 (2)	-	7 (8)	10 (13)	<b>29 (33)</b>
Morocco	-	-	-	-	-	29 (558)	<b>29 (558)</b>
Lithuania	-	10	-	-	2 (3)	13 (19)	<b>25 (32)</b>
Slovenia	1	2	-	1 (1)	-	17 (62)	<b>21 (66)</b>
Azerbaijan	-	-	-	-	21 (21)	-	<b>21 (21)</b>
South Africa	-	14	-	-	6 (11)	-	<b>20 (25)</b>
Croatia	-	2	-	-	-	18 (31)	<b>20 (33)</b>
Philippines	-	2	-	-	4 (4)	14 (24)	<b>20 (30)</b>
Estonia	-	2	-	-	-	17 (43)	<b>19 (45)</b>
Ukraine	-	2	-	2 (4)	1 (1)	13 (27)	<b>18 (34)</b>
Slovakia	-	8	-	1 (2)	-	7 (10)	<b>16 (20)</b>
Bermuda	-	2	-	-	12 (24)	1 (1)	<b>15 (27)</b>
Panama	-	-	-	2 (7)	10 (27)	3 (15)	<b>15 (49)</b>
Mongolia	1	-	-	1 (1)	8 (14)	4 (6)	<b>14 (22)</b>
Argentina	-	1	-	-	13 (14)	-	<b>14 (15)</b>
Romania	-	2	-	-	5 (30)	6 (7)	<b>13 (39)</b>
Qatar	-	1	-	-	10 (40)	2 (6)	<b>13 (47)</b>



(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1	-	-	-	1 (1)	9 (12)	11 (14)
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	11 (11)	-	11 (11)
Belarus	2	-	-	-	-	8 (8)	10 (10)
Andorra	-	1	-	-	-	9 (19)	10 (20)
Costa Rica	1	2	-	-	7 (28)	-	10 (31)
Bahamas	-	-	-	-	9 (12)	1 (1)	10 (13)
Latvia	-	2	-	-	-	7 (15)	9 (17)
Seychelles	-	1	-	-	6 (6)	2 (5)	9 (12)
Kazakhstan	-	1	-	-	1 (1)	7 (19)	9 (21)
Egypt	-	-	-	-	5 (8)	3 (5)	8 (13)
Jersey(U.K.)	-	3	-	-	-	4 (7)	7 (10)
Colombia	-	-	-	-	5 (7)	2 (2)	7 (9)
Samoa	2	1	-	-	3 (3)	-	6 (6)
San Marino	-	1	-	-	-	5 (12)	6 (13)
Iceland	-	1	1 (22)	-	-	4 (12)	6 (35)
Monaco	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	5 (13)	6 (15)
Uruguay	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	5 (6)	6 (7)
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	6 (12)	-	6 (12)
Macao	-	1	-	-	4 (4)	-	5 (5)
Cuba	-	2	-	-	3 (3)	-	5 (5)
Mauritius	-	-	1 (1)	-	4 (7)	-	5 (8)
Bahrain	-	2	-	-	2 (2)	-	4 (4)
Bangladesh	1	-	1 (1)	-	2 (2)	-	4 (4)
Jordan	-	2	-	-	2 (4)	-	4 (6)
Kuwait	-	1	-	-	3 (3)	-	4 (4)
Pakistan	1	1	-	-	2 (2)	-	4 (4)
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	1 (1)	-	3 (3)	-	4 (4)
Peru	-	1	1 (1)	-	1 (1)	-	3 (3)
Nigeria	-	-	2 (2)	-	1 (2)	-	3 (4)
Marshall Islands	-	-	-	-	3 (5)	-	3 (5)
Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	3 (3)
Serbia	-	-	-	-	-	3 (12)	3 (12)
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	3 (3)
Cook Islands	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	-	3 (3)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Nepal	1	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	2 (2)
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	-	1	-	-	1 (1)	-	2 (2)
Myanmar	2	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2)
Brunei Darussalam	-	1	-	-	-	1 (8)	2 (9)
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	2	-	-	-	-	2 (2)
Sri Lanka	-	2	-	-	-	-	2 (2)
Guatemala	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	2 (2)
Namibia	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	2 (2)
Liberia	-	-	-	-	-	2 (6)	2 (6)
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	1 (1)	2 (3)
Armenia	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	2 (2)
Angola	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	2 (2)
Oman	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	2 (2)
Gibraltar	-	-	-	-	-	2 (8)	2 (8)
Belize	-	1	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
European Patent Office (EPO)	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Montenegro	-	-	-	-	1 (3)	-	1 (3)
Saint Lucia	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
El Salvador	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Kenya	-	-	-	-	-	1 (6)	1 (6)
Curacao	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Palau	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Others	2	-	-	-	6 (10)	-	8 (12)
Total	9,939	37,897	3,905 (5,031)	1,265 (2,795)	14,143 (21,979)	16,695 (37,345)	83,844 (114,986)

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

# Examinations

## Patents and utility models

(unit: cases)

Category			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Patents	Office Action	Approval of registration	9,126	9,637	11,483	12,900	12,851
		Notice of preliminary rejection or amendment	148,772	158,527	170,299	164,312	155,927
		Other notices	1,202	1,613	1,990	1,709	504
		Withdrawal or abandonment	2,190	2,594	2,723	3,055	3,511
		Total	161,290	172,371	186,495	181,976	172,793
	Final Decision	Approval of registration	106,129	115,302	126,228	134,338	125,619
		Rejection or cancellation	55,613	50,944	47,331	46,074	41,538
		Withdrawal abandonment, annulment, or rejection	3,636	3,914	3,997	4,298	5,335
		Total	165,378	170,160	177,556	184,710	172,492
Utility models	Office Action	Approval of registration	235	225	216	144	146
		Notice of preliminary rejection or amendment	5,258	4,739	4,007	3,192	2,724
		Other notices	12	21	14	8	6
		Withdrawal or abandonment	113	109	99	97	74
		Total	5,618	5,094	4,336	3,441	2,950
	Final Decision	Approval of registration	2,619	2,329	1,994	1,801	1,419
		Rejection or cancellation	3,282	2,815	2,254	1,854	1,524
		Withdrawal abandonment, annulment, or rejection	196	217	174	152	118
		Total	6,097	5,361	4,422	3,807	3,061

## Designs and trademarks

(unit: cases)

Category			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Designs	Office Action	Publication/approval of registration	27,559 (28,708)	31,029 (32,218)	31,232 (32,640)	36,682 (38,470)	<b>34,907 (36,636)</b>
		Notice of preliminary rejection	29,654 (31,962)	29,303 (31,778)	27,068 (29,055)	28,415 (30,537)	<b>26,783 (29,546)</b>
		Other notices	-	-	-	-	-
		Total	57,213 (60,670)	60,332 (63,996)	58,300 (61,695)	65,097 (69,007)	<b>61,690 (66,182)</b>
	Final Decision	Approval of registration	50,161 (52,750)	53,987 (56,989)	51,407 (54,101)	58,103 (61,383)	<b>54,687 (57,883)</b>
		Rejection	7,356 (8,089)	7,343 (8,055)	7,095 (7,776)	7,864 (8,396)	<b>7,743 (8,406)</b>
		Total	57,517 (60,839)	61,330 (65,044)	58,502 (61,877)	65,967 (69,779)	<b>62,430 (66,289)</b>
Trademarks	Office Action	Publication/approval of registration	96,236 (109,983)	98,557 (112,244)	94,942 (108,405)	118,905 (133,969)	<b>133,505 (149,427)</b>
		Notice of preliminary rejection	73,376 (106,978)	77,623 (116,298)	67,433 (99,287)	80,913 (113,232)	<b>88,165 (123,366)</b>
		Other notices	-	-	-	-	-
		Total	169,612 (216,961)	176,180 (228,542)	162,375 (207,692)	199,818 (247,201)	<b>221,670 (272,793)</b>
	Final Decision	Approval of registration	133,359 (168,237)	145,794 (187,392)	133,882 (173,499)	162,874 (201,381)	<b>167,261 (204,848)</b>
		Rejection	29,873 (36,697)	32,014 (41,658)	28,219 (37,267)	31,697 (39,962)	<b>31,000 (38,996)</b>
		Total	163,232 (204,934)	177,808 (229,050)	162,101 (210,766)	194,571 (241,343)	<b>198,261 (243,844)</b>

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.



## Average first office action pendency

(unit: months)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Patents / Utility models	10.3	10.8	11.1	12.2	14.4
Trademarks	5.5	6.8	8.9	10.8	13.9
Designs	4.9	5.4	4.6	5.2	4.8

## Average total pendency

(unit: months)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Patents / Utility models	15.8	15.6	15.8	16.0	18.4
Trademarks	10.4	11.1	13.2	14.7	17.7
Designs	6.3	6.9	6.2	6.4	6.0

## PCT international search reports and preliminary examinations undertaken by KIPO

(unit: cases)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
International Search Reports	24,123	27,167	28,547	28,359	29,935
International Preliminary Examinations	131	131	100	124	105

Note: Based on KIPO data

# Registrations

## Registrations by IPR type

(unit: cases)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Patents	119,014	125,661	134,766	145,882	135,180
Utility models	2,715	2,417	2,056	1,817	1,452
Subtotal	121,729	128,078	136,822	147,699	136,632
Designs	49,905	52,850	50,694	57,545	54,775
Trademarks	115,025	125,594	116,153	136,629	135,333
Total	286,659	306,522	303,669	341,873	326,740

Note: Trademark registration renewals are excluded.

## Comparison of domestic and foreign registrations

(unit: cases)

Category			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Patents	Domestic	Cases	89,229	94,852	103,881	110,351	99,202
		Ratio	75.0%	75.5%	77.1%	75.6%	73.4%
	Foreign	Cases	29,785	30,809	30,885	35,531	35,978
		Ratio	25.0%	24.5%	22.9%	24.4%	26.6%
	Total		119,014	125,661	134,766	145,882	135,180
Utility models	Domestic	Cases	2,521	2,238	1,842	1,618	1,288
		Ratio	92.9%	92.6%	89.6%	89.0%	88.7%
	Foreign	Cases	194	179	214	199	164
		Ratio	7.1%	7.4%	10.4%	11.0%	11.3%
	Total		2,715	2,417	2,056	1,817	1,452
Designs	Domestic	Cases	44,150	46,011	45,169	50,878	47,518
		Ratio	88.5%	87.1%	89.1%	88.4%	86.8%
	Foreign	Cases	5,755	6,839	5,525	6,667	7,257
		Ratio	11.5%	12.9%	10.9%	11.6%	13.2%
	Total		49,905	52,850	50,694	57,545	54,775

(unit: cases)

Category			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Trademarks	Domestic	Cases	94,532	102,333	94,892	116,997	115,442
		Ratio	82.2%	81.5%	81.7%	85.6%	85.3%
	Foreign	Cases	20,493	23,261	21,261	19,632	19,891
		Ratio	17.8%	18.5%	18.3%	14.4%	14.7%
	Total		115,025	125,594	116,153	136,629	135,333
Total	Domestic	Cases	230,432	245,434	245,784	279,844	263,450
		Ratio	80.4%	80.1%	80.9%	81.9%	80.6%
	Foreign	Cases	56,227	61,088	57,885	62,029	63,290
		Ratio	19.6%	19.9%	19.1%	18.1%	19.4%
	Total		286,659	306,522	303,669	341,873	326,740

## Patent and utility model registrations by technological field in 2022

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	7,343	2,401	9,744	74	18	92
Audio-visual technology	4,241	1,194	5,435	39	3	42
Telecommunications	1,827	507	2,334	14	8	22
Digital communication	3,637	2,123	5,760	1	-	1
Basic communication processes	408	289	697	-	-	-
Computer technology	7,084	2,549	9,633	7	9	16
IT methods for management	5,892	300	6,192	2	-	2
Semiconductors	5,286	4,340	9,626	3	9	12
Optics	2,471	1,713	4,184	8	4	12

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Measurement	4,180	1,198	5,378	18	5	23
Analysis of biological materials	365	194	559	2	-	2
Control	2,316	361	2,677	28	-	28
Medical technology	5,610	1,581	7,191	52	28	80
Organic fine chemistry	1,972	1,485	3,457	-	1	1
Biotechnology	1,392	1,092	2,484	2	-	2
Pharmaceuticals	1,150	930	2,080	1	-	1
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	1,042	1,442	2,484	-	-	-
Food chemistry	2,011	114	2,125	4	-	4
Basic materials chemistry	1818	1402	3220	3	-	3
Materials, metallurgy	1,749	1,164	2,913	-	-	-
Surface technology, coating	1,304	1,309	2,613	15	1	16
Micro-structural and nano-technology	17	21	38	-	-	-
Chemical engineering	2,214	700	2,914	23	6	29
Environmental technology	1,957	267	2,224	24	1	25
Handling	2,519	669	3,188	98	8	106
Machine tools	2,211	843	3,054	54	4	58
Engines, pumps, turbines	1,489	626	2,115	15	3	18
Textile and paper machines	913	504	1,417	6	-	6
Other special machines	3,991	1,218	5,209	116	3	119
Thermal processes and apparatus	2,132	280	2,412	37	8	45
Mechanical elements	1,579	680	2,259	51	7	58
Transport	5,535	968	6,503	80	4	84
Furniture, games	3,068	471	3,539	206	17	223
Other consumer goods	3,128	707	3,835	173	13	186
Civil engineering	5,351	336	5,687	132	4	136
Total	99,202	35,978	135,180	1,288	164	1,452

Note: Figures for 2022 are preliminary.



## Patent registrations in biotechnology

(unit: cases)

Category	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	4,524	79.3%	4,534	78.4%	4,969	79.0%	4,913	76.4%	3,481	67.9%
Foreign	1,149	20.3%	1,249	21.6%	1,321	21.0%	1,514	23.6%	1,643	32.1%
Total	5,673	100%	5,783	100%	6,290	100%	6,427	100%	5,124	100%

Note1: Figures for 2022 are preliminary.

Note2: Based on the following biotechnological categories of the Eighth Edition of the International Patent Classification: A01H; A01K 67/00-67/04; A01N 63/00-65/00; A61K 8/97-8/99; A61K 8/64-8/68; A61K 35/12-35/76; 36/00-36/9068; A61K 38/00-38/58, 39/00-39/44, 48/00, 51/00-51/10; C02F; C07H 19/00-21/04; C07K; C12C-M; C12N; C12P; C12Q; C12S; G01N 33/50-33/98.

## Patent registrations in business methods

(unit: cases)

Category	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	3,560	93.1%	3,500	93.6%	4,581	94.3%	5,898	94.9%	5,892	95.2%
Foreign	262	6.9%	241	6.4%	277	5.7%	316	5.1%	300	4.8%
Total	3,822	100%	3,741	100%	4,858	100%	6,214	100%	6,192	100%

Note1: Figures for 2022 are preliminary.

Note2: Based on the Ninth Edition of the International Patent Classification.

## Registrations by resident of foreign countries/regions in 2022

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patents & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
United States of America	9,473	1,114	1,464	401	2,272 (3,784)	2,389 (4,355)	17,113 (20,591)
Japan	10,308	1,315	932	285	918 (1,508)	1,263 (2,816)	15,021 (17,164)
China	2,852	294	1,187	217	3,341 (3,901)	1,556 (2,621)	9,447 (11,072)
Germany	2,425	289	70	451	121 (213)	1,227 (3,279)	4,583 (6,727)
Switzerland	844	97	173	356	149 (219)	594 (1,449)	2,213 (3,138)
France	977	119	138	208	163 (244)	605 (1,436)	2,210 (3,122)
United Kingdom	722	101	85	26	263 (464)	505 (1,396)	1,702 (2,794)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patents & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Netherlands	701	82	204	192	37 (55)	201 (404)	<b>1,417 (1,638)</b>
Taiwan, Province of China	864	104	69	-	233 (340)	-	<b>1,270 (1,377)</b>
Italy	352	31	35	152	98 (173)	574 (1,142)	<b>1,242 (1,885)</b>
Sweden	493	65	56	37	36 (73)	229 (611)	<b>916 (1,335)</b>
Canada	226	31	58	13	164 (297)	121 (236)	<b>613 (861)</b>
Australia	107	9	36	-	82 (108)	282 (596)	<b>516 (856)</b>
Singapore	161	25	11	8	121 (182)	150 (322)	<b>476 (709)</b>
Denmark	121	24	49	40	17 (31)	152 (389)	<b>403 (654)</b>
Spain	89	7	15	9	54 (71)	207 (362)	<b>381 (553)</b>
Austria	212	31	1	20	12 (42)	99 (246)	<b>375 (552)</b>
Israel	193	28	21	21	25 (34)	70 (118)	<b>358 (415)</b>
Belgium	160	26	3	13	19 (51)	112 (275)	<b>333 (528)</b>
Finland	162	15	4	3	21 (73)	121 (366)	<b>326 (623)</b>
Luxembourg	122	18	8	1	34 (52)	48 (111)	<b>231 (312)</b>
Norway	84	10	7	24	6 (22)	56 (137)	<b>187 (284)</b>
Ireland	81	13	11	2	15 (35)	52 (82)	<b>174 (224)</b>
Russian Federation	40	3	5	9	17 (17)	93 (254)	<b>167 (328)</b>
New Zealand	19	3	26	-	15 (31)	64 (116)	<b>127 (195)</b>
Cayman Islands	77	15	-	-	29 (88)	5 (10)	<b>126 (190)</b>
India	59	11	2	-	30 (33)	23 (38)	<b>125 (143)</b>
Turkiye	23	7	2	4	18 (23)	57 (103)	<b>111 (162)</b>
Thailand	25	-	6	-	25 (37)	13 (16)	<b>69 (84)</b>
Viet Nam	1	-	4	-	29 (44)	33 (87)	<b>67 (136)</b>
Poland	18	2	-	5	9 (14 )	33 (74)	<b>67 (113)</b>
Saudi Arabia	48	3	-	-	7 (14)	-	<b>58 (65)</b>
Czech Republic	15	-	-	17	1 (5)	22 (73)	<b>55 (110)</b>
Cyprus	9	-	-	5	9 (12)	27 (71)	<b>50 (97)</b>
Barbados	28	1	3	-	2 (3)	13 (24)	<b>47 (59)</b>
Malaysia	13	-	2	-	16 (20)	16 (22)	<b>47 (57)</b>
Liechtenstein	10	1	-	17	1 (1)	15 (42)	<b>44 (71)</b>
United Arab Emirates	3	-	-	1	34 (53)	2 (3)	<b>40 (60)</b>
Chile	6	-	2	-	20 (22)	4 (5)	<b>32 (35)</b>
Portugal	8	1	-	-	2 (2)	21 (34)	<b>32 (45)</b>

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patents & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Mexico	6	-	-	-	21 (37)	5 (5)	32 (48)
Hungary	7	2	2	-	2 (2)	16 (36)	29 (49)
Bulgaria	1	-	-	-	10 (10)	18 (29)	29 (40)
Brazil	10	2	1	-	7 (7)	4 (4)	24 (24)
Greece	11	2	-	1	1 (6)	8 (17)	23 (37)
Virgin Islands (British)	-	-	-	-	11 (11)	11 (16)	22 (27)
Malta	6	-	-	-	3 (3)	11 (37)	20 (46)
Indonesia	1	-	-	-	10 (10)	9 (14)	20 (25)
Slovenia	6	1	-	4	-	7 (15)	18 (26)
South Africa	11	-	1	-	5 (5)	-	17 (17)
Lithuania	2	-	-	-	2 (7)	13 (31)	17 (40)
Ukraine	1	-	-	5	1 (1)	9 (19)	16 (26)
Philippines	1	-	-	-	4 (4)	10 (17)	15 (22)
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China	1	-	-	-	13 (42)	-	14 (43)
Estonia	2	-	-	-	-	12 (25)	14 (27)
Antigua and Barbuda	12	-	-	-	-	-	12 (12)
Croatia	1	-	-	7	-	4 (6)	12 (14)
Belarus	2	-	-	-	-	9 (15)	11 (17)
Latvia	-	-	-	1	-	8 (13)	9 (14)
Argentina	-	-	-	-	9 (9)	-	9 (9)
Mauritius	-	-	-	-	7 (8)	1 (1)	8 (9)
Slovakia	3	-	-	2	-	3 (7)	8 (12)
Seychelles	1	-	-	-	6 (6)	1 (1)	8 (8)
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	8 (24)	8 (24)
Uzbekistan	-	1	2	-	2 (2)	2 (4)	7 (9)
Morocco	1	-	-	-	-	6 (12)	7 (13)
Monaco	1	-	-	-	2 (2)	4 (27)	7 (30)
Colombia	-	-	-	-	6 (10)	1 (2)	7 (12)
Sri Lanka	3	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	5 (5)
Qatar	-	-	-	-	2 (7)	3 (14)	5 (21)
Bermuda	-	2	-	-	3 (3)	-	5 (5)
Panama	-	-	-	-	5 (5)	-	5 (5)
Romania	2	-	-	-	-	2 (8)	4 (10)
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	-	-	-	-	3 (4)	1 (3)	4 (7)
Serbia	1	1	-	-	-	2 (2)	4 (4)
Uruguay	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	1 (1)	4 (4)
Kazakhstan	-	-	-	-	4 (4)	-	4 (4)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patents & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Costa Rica	2	1	-	-	1 (1)	-	4 (4)
Mongolia	1	-	-	-	3 (3)	-	4 (4)
Armenia	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	1 (1)	3 (3)
Peru	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	-	3 (3)
Pakistan	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	-	3 (3)
Kuwait	-	-	-	-	2 (3)	1 (1)	3 (4)
Cuba	2	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	3 (3)
Bahamas	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	-	3 (3)
Ghana	-	-	2	-	-	-	2 (2)
Guernsey	-	-	-	-	-	2 (4)	2 (4)
Syrian Arab Republic	1	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	2 (2)
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	2 (2)
Tajikistan	-	-	-	-	2 (3)	-	2 (3)
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	2 (4)	-	2 (4)
Gibraltar	-	-	-	-	-	2 (6)	2 (6)
Guatemala	-	-	1	-	-	-	1 (1)
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	1	-	-	-	1 (1)
Jersey(U.K.)	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	1 (5)	1 (2)	2 (7)
Isle of Man	-	-	-	-	-	1 (6)	1 (6)
Egypt	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Bahrain	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Tunisia	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Zimbabwe	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
San Marino	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Belize	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Marshall Islands	-	-	-	-	-	1 (6)	1 (6)
Others	-	1	1	-	-	1 (1)	3 (3)
Total	32,234	3,908	4,700	2,557	8,632 (12,632)	11,259 (24,159)	63,290 (80,190)

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications



# Trials and Appeals

## Requests for trial and appeal

(unit: cases)

Category		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Appeal against examiner's decision to reject application	Patents	3,624	2,820	2,110	2,196 (2,196)	<b>1,589 (1,589)</b>
	Utility models	162	128	59	33 (33)	<b>28 (28)</b>
	Designs	102	58	50	49 (49)	<b>41 (41)</b>
	Trademarks	1,437 (2,046)	1,330 (1,868)	1,021 (1,615)	1,104 (1,724)	<b>748 (1,115)</b>
	Subtotal	5,325 (5,934)	4,336 (4,874)	3,240 (3,834)	3,382 (4,002)	<b>2,406 (2,773)</b>
Appeals against examiner's decision to dismiss amendment	Patents	1	-	-	-	-
	Utility models	-	-	-	-	-
	Designs	-	-	-	1 (1)	-
	Trademarks	-	3	-	1 (1)	<b>1 (1)</b>
	Subtotal	1	3	-	2 (2)	<b>1 (1)</b>
Appeals against examiner's decision of cancellation	Patents	-	-	-	-	-
	Utility models	-	-	-	-	-
	Designs	1	3	3	3 (3)	<b>1 (1)</b>
	Trademarks	-	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	1	3	3	3 (3)	<b>1 (1)</b>
Trials for correction	Patents	128	127	119	150 (150)	<b>109 (109)</b>
	Utility models	-	2	3	4 (4)	-
	Designs	-	-	-	-	-
	Trademarks	-	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	128	129	122	154 (154)	<b>109 (109)</b>
Invalidation	Patents	460	478	383	408 (408)	<b>374 (374)</b>
	Utility models	21	15	20	12 (12)	<b>11 (11)</b>
	Designs	207	215	188	152 (152)	<b>160 (160)</b>
	Trademarks	472 (559)	472 (541)	372 (433)	291 (342)	<b>264 (323)</b>
	Subtotal	1,160 (1,247)	1,180 (1,249)	963 (1,024)	863 (914)	<b>809 (868)</b>

(unit: cases)

Category		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Trials to confirm scope of IP right	Patents	512	348	374	445 (445)	<b>300 (300)</b>
	Utility models	20	21	17	11 ( 11)	<b>14 (14)</b>
	Designs	151	136	169	155 (155)	<b>142 (142)</b>
	Trademarks	158 (175)	103 (123)	108 (129)	112 (123)	<b>88 (104)</b>
	Subtotal	841 (858)	608 (628)	668 (689)	723 (734)	<b>544 (560)</b>
Cancellation trials on trademark registration	Patents	1	-	-	-	-
	Utility models	-	-	-	-	-
	Designs	17	-	-	-	-
	Trademarks	2,523 (3,011)	2,574 (3,193)	2,497 (3,003)	2,395 (2,827)	<b>2,411 (2,802)</b>
	Subtotal	2,541 (3,029)	2,574 (3,193)	2,497 (3,003)	2,395 (2,827)	<b>2,411 (2,802)</b>
Opposition of patent/ utility model	Patents	150	174	146	154 (154)	<b>149 (149)</b>
	Utility models	4	1	9	6 (6)	<b>2 (2)</b>
	Designs	-	-	-	-	-
	Trademarks	-	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	154	175	155	160 (160)	<b>151 (151)</b>
Grand total	Patents	4,876	3,947	3,132	3,353 (3,353)	<b>2,521 (2,521)</b>
	Utility models	207	167	108	66 (66)	<b>55 (55)</b>
	Designs	478	412	410	360 (360)	<b>344 (344)</b>
	Trademarks	4,590 (5,791)	4,482 (5,728)	3,998 (5,180)	3,903 (5,017)	<b>3,512 (4,345)</b>
	Grand total	10,151 (11,352)	9,008 (10,254)	7,648 (8,830)	7,682 (8,796)	<b>6,432 (7,265)</b>

Note1: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

Note2: Opposition of patents / Utility model has been enforced from March, 2017

\* Rejection refers to appeals against examiners' decisions of refusal and appeals against examiners' decisions to dismiss utility models.

\*\* Invalidation refers to invalidation trials and trials for invalidation of corrections.

## Successful petitions

(unit: cases)

Category		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
		Acceptance	Ratio	Acceptance	Ratio	Acceptance	Ratio	Acceptance	Ratio	Acceptance	Ratio
Ex partes	Patents	1,370	31.1%	1,977	36.3	1,341	39.9	1,008	36.8	747	33.2
	Utility models	40	20.5%	48	24.2	45	24.9	16	28.1	11	29.7
	Designs	21	20.6%	27	32.5	20	40.8	8	26.7	27	33.8
	Trademarks	1,026 (1,648)	58.3% (63.1%)	1,017 (1,607)	55.2 (60.4)	693 (1,063)	55.9 (60.4)	536 (884)	57.0 (61.0)	456 (733)	56.0 (56.9)
	Subtotal	2,457 (3,079)	38.0% (42.1%)	3,069 (3,659)	40.5 (43.6)	2,099 (2,469)	43.4 (46.1)	1,568 (1,916)	41.6 (44.8)	1,241 (1,518)	39.0 (41.5)
Inter partes	Patents	552	49.1%	653	53.4	382	42.8	361	47.5	382	52.0
	Utility models	19	35.2%	16	35.6	8	24.2	13	37.1	10	45.5
	Designs	210	51.0%	142	48.3	140	53.8	141	46.2	154	46.7
	Trademarks	1,747 (1,962)	70.1% (70.2%)	2,753 (3,173)	74.0 (73.6)	1,877 (2,351)	70.6 (72.4)	2,268 (2,627)	78.8 (79.1)	1,792 (2,030)	77.7 (77.4)
	Subtotal	2,528 (2,743)	61.9 (62.6%)	3,564 (3,984)	67.5 (67.8)	2,407 (2,881)	62.6 (65.0)	2,783 (3,142)	69.9 (71.1)	2,338 (2,576)	68.9 (69.5)
Grand total	Patents	1,922	34.7%	2,630	39.4	1,723	40.5	1,369	39.1	1,129	37.8
	Utility models	59	23.7%	64	26.3	53	24.8	29	31.5	21	35.6
	Designs	231	44.9%	169	44.8	160	51.8	149	44.5	181	44.1
	Trademarks	2,773 (3,610)	65.2% (66.8%)	3,770 (4,780)	67.8 (68.5)	2,570 (3,414)	65.9 (68.2)	2,804 (3,511)	73.4 (73.6)	2,248 (2,763)	72.0 (70.6)
	Total	4,985 (5,822)	47.3% (49.8%)	6,633 (7,643)	51.6 (53.6)	4,506 (5,350)	51.9 (54.7)	4,351 (5,058)	56.2 (58.1)	3,579 (4,094)	54.4 (55.6)

Note1: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

Note2: The successful petitions refer to the number of petitions granted. These figures exclude cases where the registration was decided on the basis of an examiner's reconsideration before a trial and invalidation of a patent process. The figures in parentheses indicate the percentage of the petitions granted.

· Ex partes: Appeals against examiners' decisions of refusal / Appeals against examiners' decisions of cancellation / Appeals against examiners' decisions to dismiss amendments / Trials for correction

· Inter partes: Invalidation trials / Trials to confirm scope of IP rights / Trials for invalidation of correction / Trials for granting non-exclusive licenses / Trials for invalidation of registrations for extension of patent right term / Trials for invalidation of registration for renewals of trademark right term / Cancellation trials on trademark registrations / Cancellation trials on registrations of exclusive or non-exclusive licenses / Trials for invalidation on registrations for conversion of classification of goods

### Comparison of domestic and foreign trial requests

(unit: cases)

Category		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Patents	Domestic	3,214	2,545	2,064	2,293	888
	Foreign	1,662	1,402	1,068	1,060	1,060
Utility models	Domestic	201	164	102	63	51
	Foreign	6	3	6	3	4
Designs	Domestic	419	381	386	337	323
	Foreign	59	31	24	23	21
Trademarks	Domestic	3,077	2,939	2,780	2,726	2,512
	Foreign	1,513	1,543	1,218	1,177	1,000
Total		10,151	9,008	7,648	7,682	6,432

Note: Multiple applications for trademarks and designs are treated as single applications.



## Income and Expenditures / KIPO Staff

### Income

(unit: USD)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Income from fees	446,163,758	443,443,731	484,871,681	533,627,760	<b>471,906,646</b>
Income carried over from the previous year	42,855,898	17,542,755	9,997,345	48,094,637	<b>78,923,259</b>
Internal income and others	148,403,121	115,788,238	109,041,593	70,221,721	<b>116,525,316</b>
Total	637,422,777	576,774,723	603,910,619	651,945,020	<b>667,356,804</b>

### Expenditures

(unit: USD)

Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Non-personnel resources (projects)	455,687,588	413,003,996	400,492,035	426,200,090	<b>477,916,930</b>
Personnel resources	116,102,191	116,951,668	122,678,761	130,149,617	<b>119,738,924</b>
Deposit for special fund	47,461,470	37,046,713	33,516,814	5,680,937	<b>23,734,177</b>
Total	619,251,249	567,002,377	556,687,611	562,030,644	<b>621,390,823</b>

### KIPO staff

(unit: number of positions)

Category		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Examiners	Patents and utility models	875	839	830	861	<b>902</b>
	Designs and trademarks	162	191	198	194	<b>209</b>
Administrative judges		107	107	107	107	<b>107</b>
Administrative staff		517	604	632	649	<b>586</b>
Total		1,661	1,741	1,767	1,811	<b>1,804</b>

### Academic and professional credentials of KIPO examiners

(unit: number of staff)

Category		Ph. D	Master's degrees	Patent attorney certificate only	Lawyer certificate only	Professional engineer certificate only
Examiners	Patents and utility models	282	142	29	3	17
	Trademarks	7	10	8	2	0
	Designs	5	11	0	0	0
	Total	<b>294</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>



# About KIPO



## Our History

The Korean Intellectual Property Office is the governmental authority in charge of affairs regarding patents, utility models, industrial designs, and trademarks. It was established in 1949 as an external bureau of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry under the name of Patent Bureau. In 1977, the Patent Bureau became an independent office of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and took the name of Korean Industrial Property Office. In 2000, it was renamed the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO).



## Our Functions

The main functions of KIPO include: the examination and registration of intellectual property rights; the conducting of trials on intellectual property disputes; the management and dissemination of information on intellectual property rights; the promotion and enhancement of public awareness of invention activities; the advancement of international cooperation; and the training of experts on intellectual property rights.



## Our Vision

In response to the competitive global environment where intellectual property is becoming increasingly valuable, we aim to advance Korea and its position in the world through innovative intellectual property.



## Our Mission

We support technological innovation and industrial development by promoting the creation, protection, and utilization of intellectual property. We strive to provide world-class intellectual property services; to promote the economic and industrial use of intellectual property; and to create an environment respectful of the intellectual property system.





Korean Intellectual  
Property Office

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