



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2025**



지식재산처
Ministry of Intellectual Property

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ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Note: For consistency, this Annual Report uses “MOIP” throughout to refer to the institution, including for activities undertaken before its elevation from the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) to the Ministry of Intellectual Property (MOIP) on October 1, 2025.

Message from the Minister



“As the strategic value of intellectual property continues to rise, MOIP is committed to becoming a leading partner in the global innovation ecosystem.”

Across the world, the accelerating shift toward artificial intelligence (AI) is heightening the race to secure critical technologies. In this changing landscape, intellectual property (IP) is no longer simply a means of protecting inventions and creative ideas. It has become a strategic asset that shapes a nation's innovation capacity, industrial competitiveness, economic security, and prospects for future growth.

These challenges are not for any one country to address alone. Governments around the world are working to foster innovation while maintaining a fair and competitive marketplace. They are also seeking to build sustainable ecosystems in which creative ideas and technological advances are properly protected and IP is translated into industrial development and economic value.

Moving proactively to meet these challenges, the Government of the Republic of Korea elevated the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) to the Ministry of Intellectual Property (MOIP) in October 2025. This institutional reform marked a historic turning point, reflecting the Government's commitment to place IP at the heart of Korea's national growth strategy and position MOIP as the central control tower for coordinating national IP policy. In doing so, it laid a stronger foundation for coordinated government-wide policies spanning the creation, protection, utilization, and commercialization of IP.

Throughout 2025, we pursued a broad range of initiatives to strengthen the role of IP as a practical driver of national innovation and economic growth.

First, we reinforced the protection and enforcement of IP rights. The launch of MOIP was accompanied by an organizational restructuring that included the establishment of the IP Dispute Resolution Bureau to enable faster and more systematic response to IP disputes at home and abroad. We also expanded monitoring and enforcement actions against counterfeit goods across online and offline markets, while strengthening remedies for trademark and design infringement. Through these efforts, we worked to better safeguard the technologies and brands of Korean enterprises.

Second, we advanced digital transformation by leveraging AI and IP data. We opened IP datasets for AI training to the public for promoting AI innovation and enhancing industrial competitiveness. We also carried

out a comprehensive upgrade of the Korea Intellectual Property Rights Information Service (KIPRIS), Korea's search platform for IP information, to provide advanced search functions and improve usability. These initiatives were designed to broaden access to IP data and expand its practical use in support of data-driven innovation.

Third, we enhanced our examination systems. We established a dedicated biotechnology examination division, expanded accelerated examination for advanced strategic industries, and introduced a super-accelerated examination track for export-oriented enterprises. Within the trial and appeal system, we increased the number of specialized trial and appeal boards for advanced technology sectors and strengthened coordination between adjudication and mediation procedures. These reforms aimed to establish a framework for IP rights to be secured more rapidly and reliably.

Finally, we expanded our international cooperation networks to contribute more actively to the development of the global IP system. Korea hosted the 8th ROK–ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting in Seoul, bringing together Korea and all ten ASEAN Member States. The meeting resulted in the adoption of a Joint Statement outlining three priority areas for cooperation: AI-based IP administration, IP protection and enforcement, and IP finance and commercialization. We also participated in discussions on shaping international norms and policies and broadened strategic cooperation with WIPO, the IP5, partners in the Middle East, and developing countries. These cooperation efforts underscored Korea's commitment to active engagement and leadership within the international IP community.

This Annual Report highlights the major developments and policy achievements of Korea's IP administration in 2025. The publication holds particular significance as the first Annual Report published following the launch of MOIP. I sincerely hope that it will provide readers with a clearer understanding of Korea's progress over the past year, as well as our vision for the future.

KIM Yong Sun | Minister



MOIP Vision & Strategy

MISSION

Supporting Korea's Real Growth
by Building a Robust IP System for
Innovation

VISION

Empowering Innovation and
Strengthening the Global IP
Competitiveness of SMEs

Strategic Goals

1

Create Strong Intellectual Property to Foster Next-Generation Strategic Technologies

2

Build a Fair and Favorable Market Environment through Stronger IP Protection

3

Support Innovation-Led Growth by Promoting the Use of IP

4

Establish an IP Foundation to Secure Future Growth Potential

Performance Goals

- Create high-quality IP by promoting R&D innovation centered on advanced industries.
- Support the swift acquisition of rights by upgrading examination and trial services.

- Protect rights holders by establishing robust domestic and overseas IP protection systems.
- Create a favorable IP environment for Korean companies through international cooperation.

- Build a virtuous IP ecosystem by facilitating IP commercialization and transfer.
- Support the establishment and growth of IP-based startups.

- Foster creative talent who will drive future IP competitiveness.
- Innovate IP administrative services by adopting advanced technologies such as AI.

Timeline of MOIP

1908

-
- Promulgation of the Korean Patent Ordinance

1946

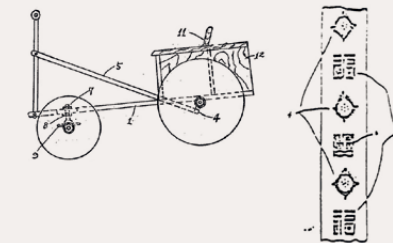
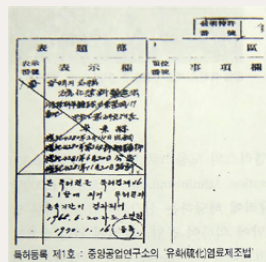
-
- Enactment of the Patent Act
- Establishment of the Patent Office

1947

-
- First Patent Attorney Examination

1948

-
- Publication of the first Patent Gazette and first patent registered: Method for Manufacturing Sulfur Dyes
- First utility model registered: Children's Health Cart
- First design registered: Combination of Shape and Color of a Traditional Coat Ribbon



1949

-
- Enactment of the Trademark Act
- First trademark registered: "天" (Cheon) of Cheonil Industrial Co.



1953

-
- First Invention Exhibition and Outstanding Commercial Products Exhibition

1957

-
- First Invention Day Commemoration Ceremony



1961

- - Patent Act separated into four industrial property laws (Patent Act, Utility Model Act, Trademark Act, Design Act)

1977

- - Establishment of the Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO, renamed the Korean Intellectual Property Office in 2000)



1979

- - Membership in the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

1980

- - Accession to the Paris Convention

1984

- - Accession to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

1987

- - Opening of the International Patent Training Center (renamed the International Intellectual Property Training Institute, IIPTI)



1997

- - Designated as a PCT International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA)

1998

- - Establishment of the Intellectual Property Trial and Appeal Board (IPTAB) and KIPO Seoul Branch Office
- Relocation of KIPO Headquarters to Daejeon



1999

- - Launch of KIPOnet (Beginning of digital IP administration)



2002

-
- Accession to the Trademark Law Treaty

2003

-
- Accession to the Madrid Protocol

2005

-
- Launch of KIPOnet II
- Opening of the Invention Education Center



2006

-
- Launch of "Patent-ro" e-filing system
- Designation as Korea's first autonomously-managed central government agency

2007

-
- Adoption of Korean as an official PCT publication language
- Launch of the IP5 (World's five largest IP offices)



2010

-
- Establishment of the Special Judicial Police on Trademark



2017

-
- Enactment of the Act on the Promotion of and Support for Invention Education

2019

-
- Expansion of the Special Judicial Police's jurisdiction to IP (trademarks, patents, designs, and trade secrets)
- Milestone of the two-millionth patent registration



2024

-
- 20th Anniversary of the WIPO Korea Funds-in-Trust

2025. 10. 1

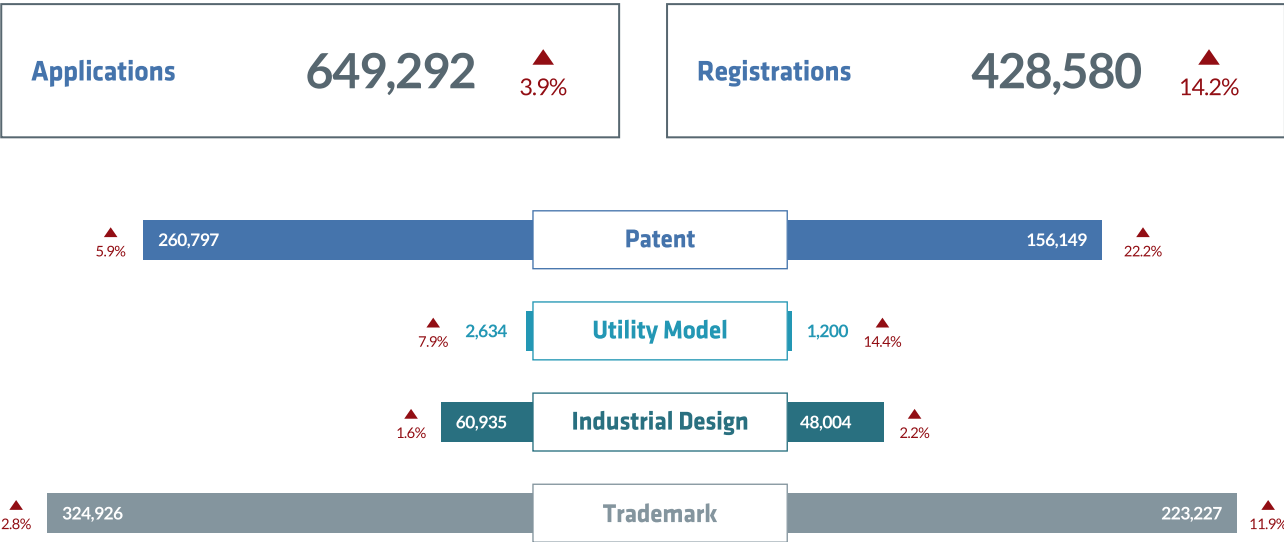
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- Elevation to the Ministry of Intellectual Property (MOIP)

2025 IP Trends

Overview of Key Data in 2025

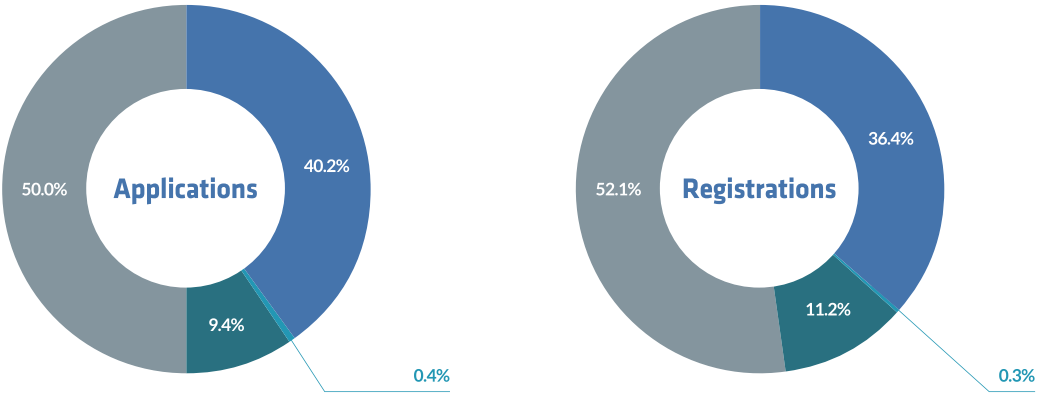
Domestic IPR Applications

(unit: cases)



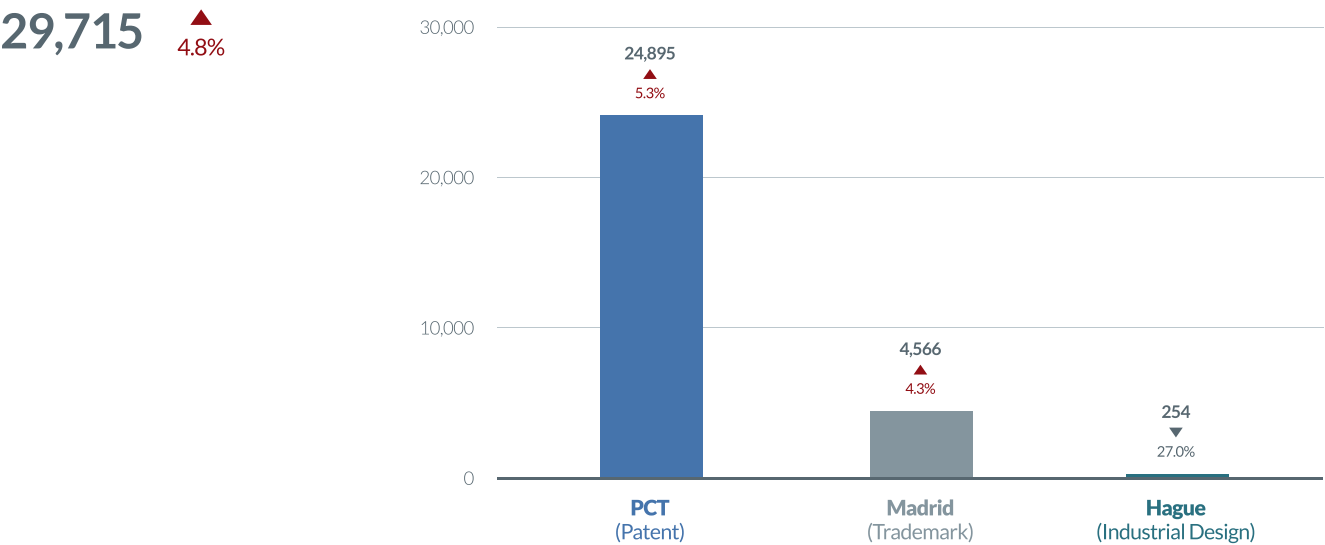
• Ratio by IPRs

- Patent
- Utility Model
- Industrial Design
- Trademark

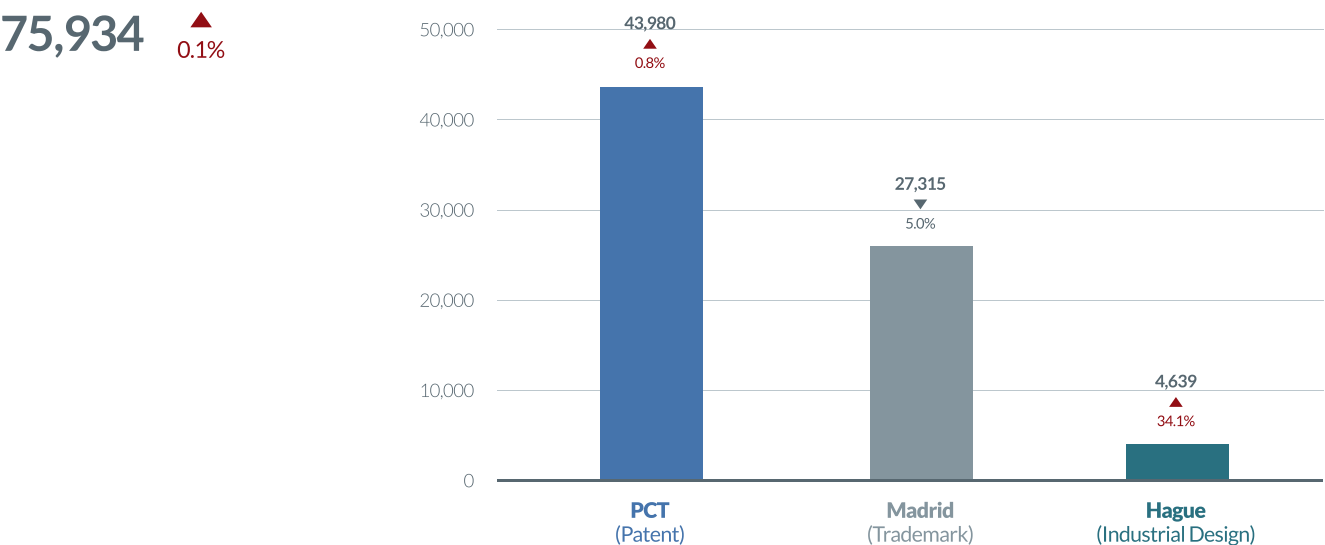


International IPR Applications

• MOIP as the Receiving Office (International Phase) (unit: cases)



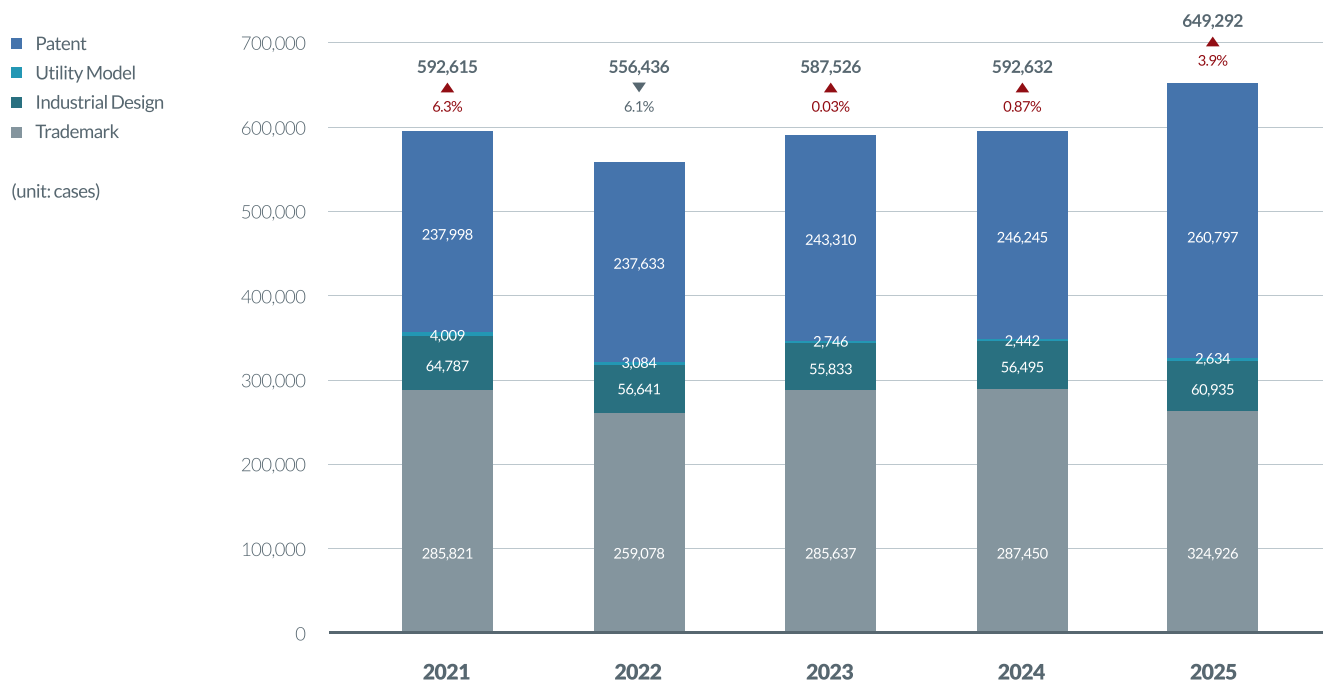
• MOIP as the Designated Office (National Phase) (unit: cases)



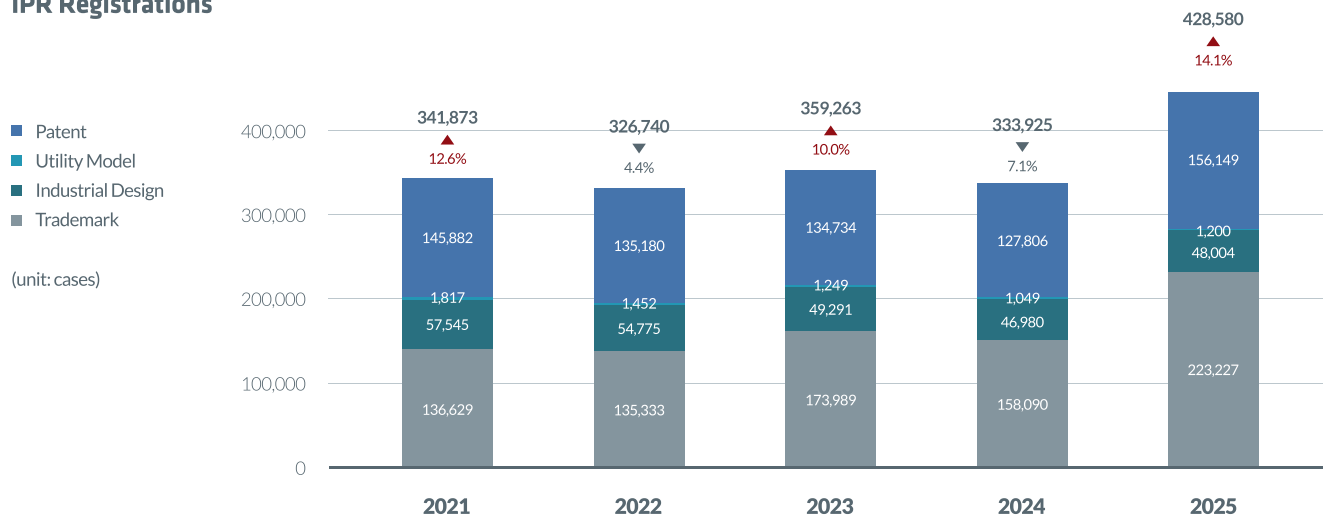
IPR Applications and Registrations by Year

IPR Applications

*Including PCT, Madrid, Hague international applications

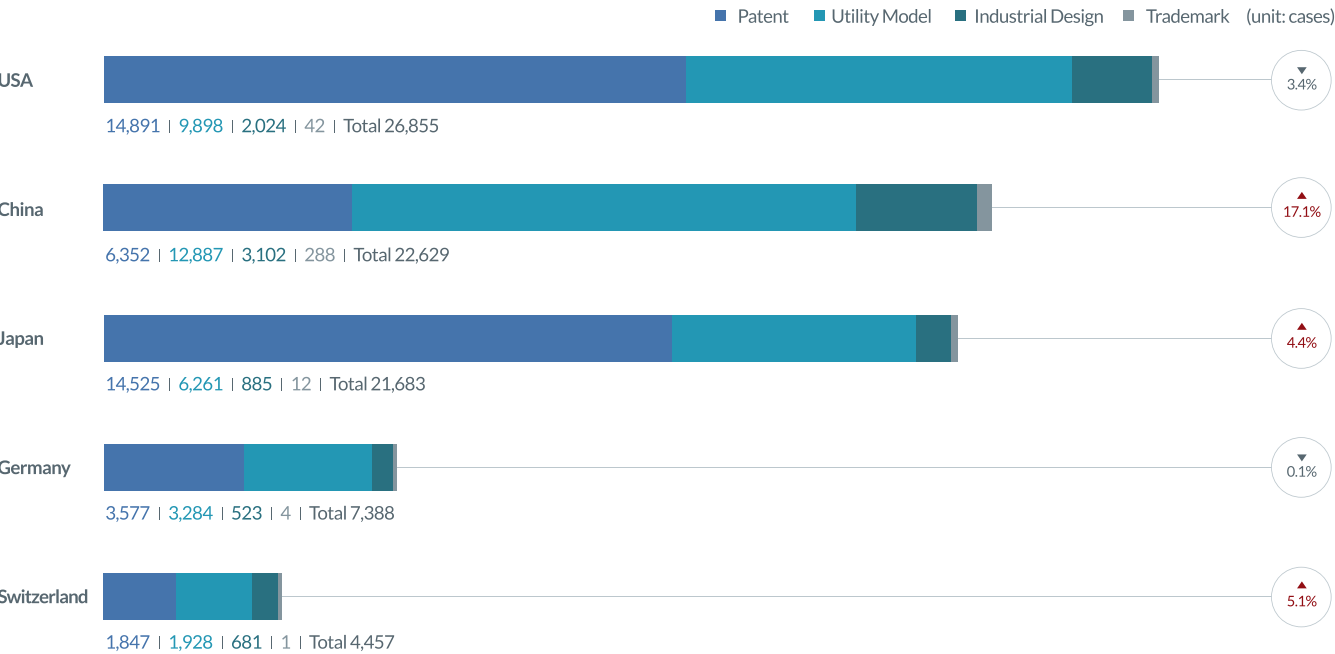
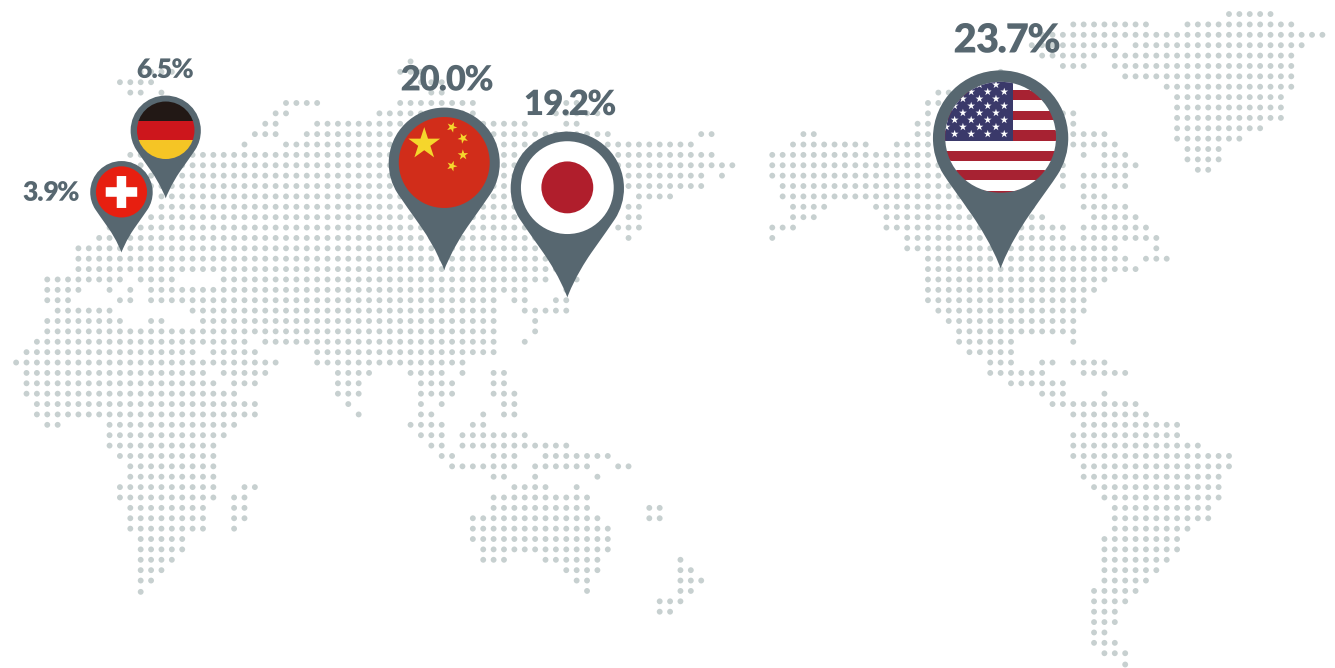


IPR Registrations



Non-resident IPR Applications Filed at MOIP

Top 5 Countries/Regions



Total : 130 Countries and Regions

Top IPR Filing Domestic & Foreign Companies

Patent

	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	5th.
Domestic	 13,572 13,299 ▲2.1%	 4,944 4,364 ▲13.3%	 4,540 4,615 ▼1.6%	 3,383 3,795 ▼10.9%	 3,374 3,181 ▲6.1%
Foreign	 1,028 625 ▲64.5%	 805 610 ▲32.0%	 792 393 ▲10.2%	 654 1,354 ▼51.7%	 479 382 ▲25.4%

Industrial Design

	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	5th.
Domestic	 621 391 ▲58.8%	 589 518 ▲13.7%	IICOMBINED 508 416 ▲22%	광기테크놀로지(유) 350 -	 341 532 ▼35.9%
Foreign	 152 228 ▼33.3%	Weihai Soldier Ant Kingdom Information Technology Service 114 -	 114 20 ▲470%	 98 54 ▲81.5%	 73 41 ▲78.0%

Trademark

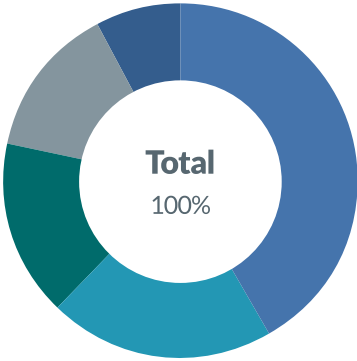
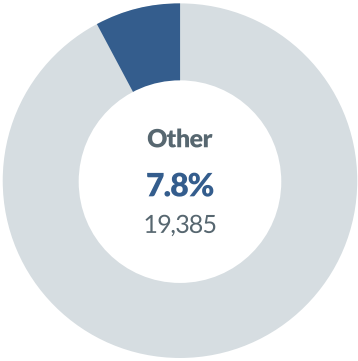
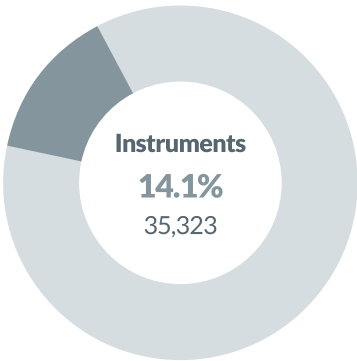
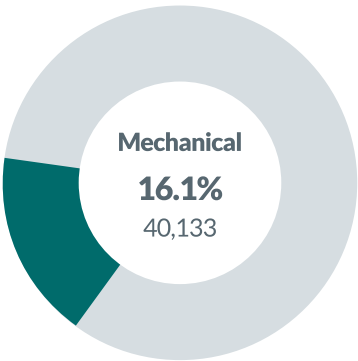
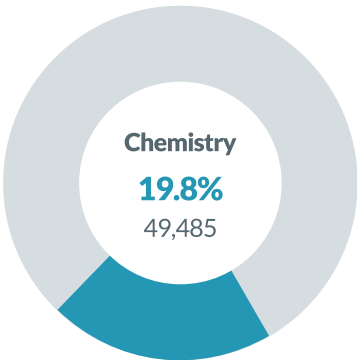
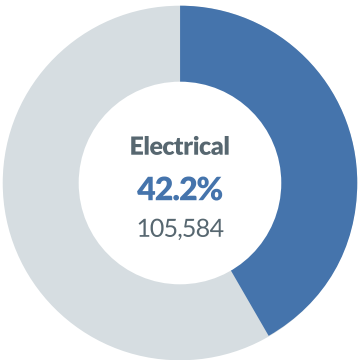
	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	5th.
Domestic	 701 744 ▼5.8%	 648 38 ▲1,605%%	 562 266 ▲111%	두나무 406 78 ▲421%	NAVER 374 179 ▲109%
Foreign	 195 -	 166 148 ▲12.2%	 149 64 ▲133%	 102 180 ▼43.3%	 100 136 ▼26.5%

■ 2025 ■ 2024 | ▲▼ Year-over-year comparison (unit: cases)

Patent Applications by Technology

Top 5 WIPO Technology Fields

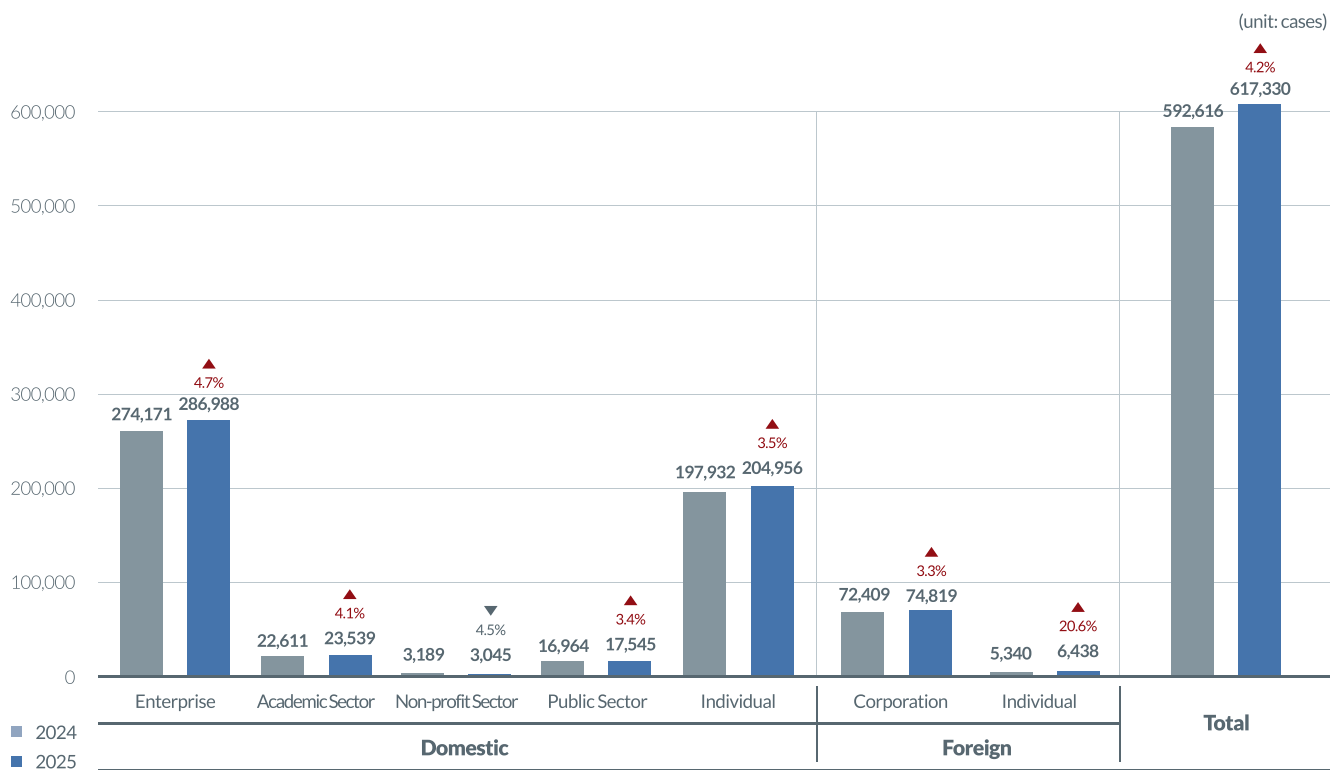
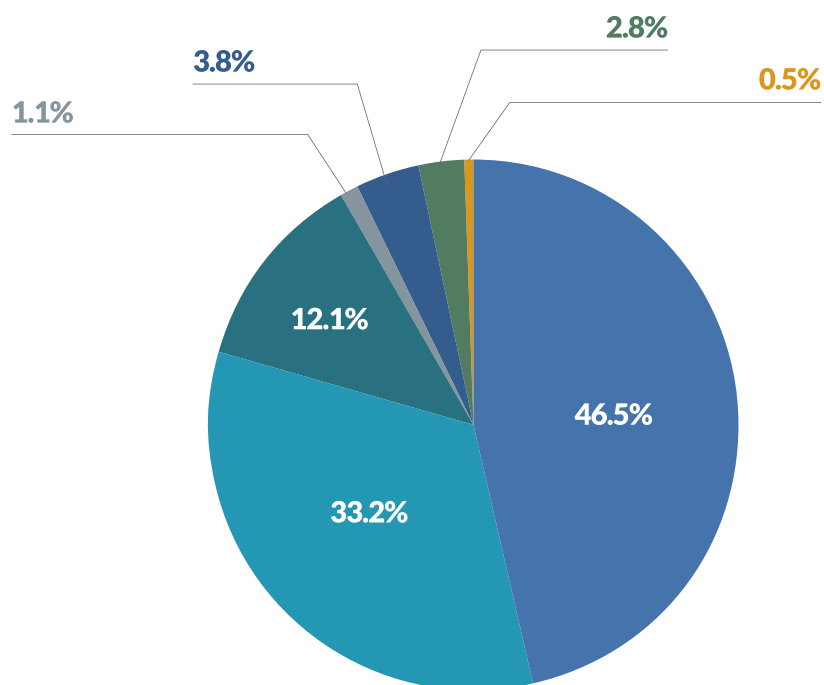
(unit: cases)



Applications by Applicant Type

Ratio of Applications According to Applicant Type

- Enterprise
- Domestic Individual
- Foreign Corporation
- Foreign Individual
- Academic Sector
- Public Sector
- Non-profit Sector



※ Not Included: Miscellaneous (uncategorized applicant type, domestic filing of international designs and trademarks) 31,962 cases

Applications by Applicant Type for Each IPR

(unit: cases)



SPOTLIGHT

The Inauguration of the Ministry of Intellectual Property

Korea launches the Ministry of Intellectual Property to mark a major shift in Korea's approach to innovation—placing intellectual property (IP) at the heart of industrial competitiveness, economic growth and national strategy.



01 A New Era for Korea's Intellectual Property Policy

On October 1, 2025, the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) was elevated to the Ministry of Intellectual Property (MOIP), opening a new chapter in Korea's IP administration nearly five decades after the establishment of its dedicated intellectual property office in 1977.

Over the decades that followed, Korea's IP administration has evolved alongside the country's transformation into an innovation-driven economy. As technology and industry have become more sophisticated, IP has grown beyond its traditional role of protecting inventions and brands. Today, advances in artificial intelligence (AI), intensifying competition over critical technologies, and the rising value of intangible assets are placing IP at the center of technological development, industrial competitiveness, and economic security.

This changing landscape has also broadened the role of IP policy beyond the protection of rights. Patents, utility models, trademarks, designs,

trade secrets, and other forms of IP increasingly shape how innovation is developed, protected, utilized, and commercialized. The establishment of MOIP therefore represents the next step in the evolution of Korea's IP administration—giving IP a stronger institutional foundation and enabling a more coordinated approach across government.

02 IP at the Center of National Strategy

The establishment of MOIP has changed both the institutional position and the scope of Korea's IP administration. Previously operating as an agency under the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE), KIPO focused primarily on the examination, registration and administration of IP rights. MOIP is now placed under the Prime Minister, reflecting a broader role for IP in national policy.

The Ministry has also been given responsibility for coordinating IP policy across government. This broader mandate is clearly reflected in key legislation governing MOIP's functions and responsibilities, including the amended



특허청

Korean Intellectual
Property Office



지식재산처

Ministry of
Intellectual Property

Government Organization Act and the newly enacted Decree on the Organization of the Ministry of Intellectual Property and Institutions under its Jurisdiction.

The new structure provides a framework for a more coordinated response to emerging domestic and international IP challenges, including the protection of strategic technologies, IP disputes involving Korean companies and international discussions on IP norms.

Taken together, these changes establish a stronger basis for developing and coordinating Korea's IP policy in an increasingly complex global environment, with MOIP serving as the central coordinating body, or "control tower," for IP policy across government.

03 A New Structure for an Expanded Mandate

MOIP's launch was accompanied by an expansion of the organizational capacity needed to carry out its broader responsibilities. The restructuring focused on three main areas: examination of strategic technologies, IP utilization and commercialization, and IP protection and dispute response at home and abroad. As part of these changes, the Ministry's total workforce was expanded to 1,800.

Strengthening Examination in Strategic Technologies

MOIP reinforced its examination capacity in three strategic technology fields where

technological development and patent activity are advancing rapidly: biotechnology, advanced robotics, and AI.

The additional personnel strengthen MOIP's capacity to conduct timely, high-quality examinations in rapidly developing technology fields and respond to the growing volume and complexity of related patent applications.

Expanding IP Utilization and Commercialization

MOIP strengthened its organizational functions for the creation, utilization, transaction and commercialization of intellectual property. The former IP Utilization Division was reorganized as the IP Creation and Utilization Division, and a new IP Transactions Division was established to provide dedicated support for IP transactions and commercialization.

The restructuring is intended to strengthen the connection between the creation of IP and its economic use and to help IP arising from research and development move more effectively into transactions and commercialization, supporting subsequent business growth and investment.



Strengthening IP Dispute Resolution

MOIP also expanded its organizational capacity for responding to intellectual property disputes. Functions previously carried out at the division level were elevated to the bureau level through the establishment of the new IP Dispute Resolution Bureau, providing a more comprehensive framework for supporting Korean companies facing IP disputes.

The bureau addresses issues including infringement of Korean brands overseas, patent disputes involving non-practicing entities (NPEs), and other IP disputes affecting Korean businesses in international markets. The expanded structure is intended to provide more systematic support for securing and protecting IP rights both at home and abroad.

04 A Broader Role in the Global IP System

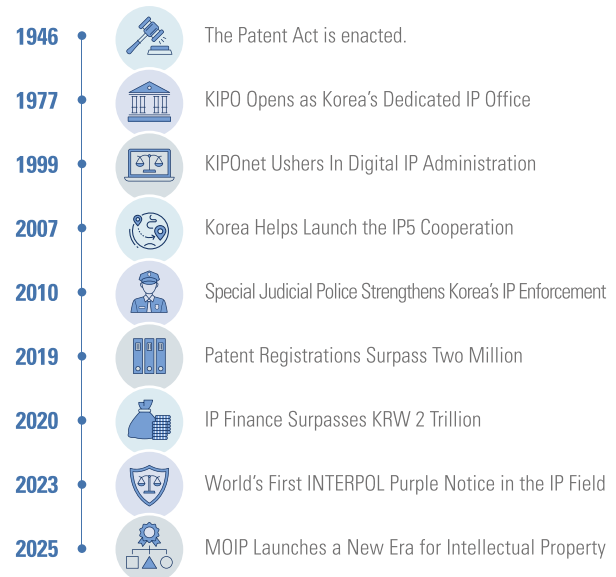
With its elevation to ministry status, MOIP is positioned to take a more active part in international discussions on IP policy, norms and cooperation. As IP becomes increasingly intertwined with innovation, technology, trade and other areas of economic policy, the Ministry is able to engage more directly in bilateral and multilateral discussions that extend beyond the traditional IP community.

Building on Korea's longstanding participation in WIPO and the IP5, MOIP's ministry-level status also provides greater opportunities for IP issues to be addressed in ministerial and other high-level exchanges and to be considered

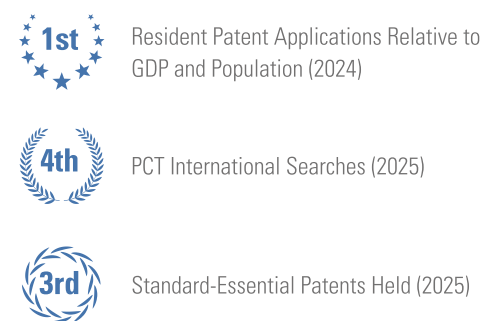
alongside broader economic and innovation policy priorities.

Through these efforts, MOIP aims to further strengthen international cooperation and contribute to a global IP environment that supports creativity, innovation and shared growth.

Key Achievements



Korea's Global Rankings



Promoting IP Creation, Utilization, and Protection

- 25 The 60th Anniversary of Invention Day
- 26 IP Strategy Integration throughout the R&D Cycle
- 26 IP-backed Loan Recovery Support
- 27 Fivefold Punitive Damages for Trademark and Design Infringement
- 28 Enforcement against Counterfeit Goods and Protection of K-Brands

Promoting IP Creation, Utilization, and Protection

In 2025, Korea strengthened policies across the full intellectual property cycle, from fostering the creation of new ideas to supporting their effective utilization and protection. Efforts ranged from promoting a culture of invention and integrating IP strategy more closely into the R&D process to expanding opportunities for IP transactions and corporate recovery. Korea also reinforced the protection of IP through stronger remedies for trademark and design infringement, enhanced enforcement against counterfeit goods, and greater support for K-brands facing challenges overseas. Together, these measures helped strengthen the conditions for intellectual property to contribute to innovation, business growth, and competitiveness.

Korea developed the world's first standardized rain gauge. The occasion celebrates the achievements of Korean inventors and reaffirms the important role of invention in shaping future industries.

To mark the 60th anniversary, MOIP hosted a commemorative ceremony at COEX Magok in Seoul under the theme "60 Years of Invention: Creating Today, Envisioning Tomorrow." The ceremony celebrated Korea's inventive heritage while looking ahead to the creativity and technological advances that will shape the nation's future. A total of 80 individuals were recognized for their outstanding contributions to invention and innovation, including the recipient of the Inventor of the Year Award.

01 *The 60th Anniversary of Invention Day*

On May 19, 2025, Korea celebrated its 60th Invention Day, marking a significant milestone in the nation's history of creativity and technological innovation. Invention Day is a statutory observance commemorating May 19, 1441, when

The occasion was especially meaningful as it coincided with the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation. Special commendations were presented posthumously to distinguished patriots such as Kwon Do-in, Kim Yong-gwan, and Jeong In-ho in recognition of their contributions to Korea's independence movement through their inventions.

A special exhibition was held to offer visitors a panoramic view of Korea's inventive journey by showcasing achievements ranging from notable inventions of earlier



generations to cutting-edge technologies developed by the 2025 Inventor of the Year. Additionally, an invention and IP conference was held with the theme “A Future Sustained by Creativity and Innovation” to highlight the value of invention and share examples of IP-driven innovation and strategies for the future.

02 IP Strategy Integration throughout the R&D Cycle

Recent R&D-related laws and regulations have placed greater emphasis on IP search and analysis, either requiring or recommending its use in R&D activities. However, many researchers lacked clear standards for conducting such analyses and applying the findings effectively to project planning and implementation. This created greater demand for practical guidance among research institutions.

Drawing on feedback from the field, MOIP collaborated with the Presidential Council on Intellectual Property (PCIP) and the Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT) to develop guidance on the effective use of IP search and analysis throughout the R&D life cycle. The three institutions jointly

published Korea's first Guidelines for Strategic Intellectual Property Search and Analysis and Quality Management Manual for Strategic Intellectual Property Search and Analysis.

The Guidelines explain how IP information can be used strategically at each stage of R&D, from project planning and implementation to the application of research outcomes. The Manual establishes standards for improving the reliability and practical value of search and analysis results. It identifies the types of analysis appropriate for different stages and purposes and specifies the essential elements to be included in final deliverables. The two publications provide a practical basis for identifying patent-related risks at an early stage, reducing duplicative research, and improving the quality and commercial potential of R&D outcomes.

The Guidelines and Manual were distributed to relevant government agencies, research management institutions, universities, public research organizations, and companies. They were also made available through the websites of MOIP (www.moip.go.kr), PCIP (www.ipkorea.go.kr), and MSIT (www.msit.go.kr). Building on this initiative, MOIP will continue to strengthen inter-ministerial cooperation and engagement with researchers to enhance IP management capabilities across Korea's R&D ecosystem.



03 IP-backed Loan Recovery Support

In the area of IP utilization, Korea expanded support for financially distressed companies seeking to rebuild their businesses through the effective use of IP. The measures were designed to help companies in rehabilitation or bankruptcy proceedings use their IP assets for debt repayment and business recovery.

In January 2025, MOIP and the Busan Bankruptcy Court signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to promote the effective management and transaction of IP assets held by companies undergoing rehabilitation or bankruptcy proceedings. The agreement extended support previously concentrated in the Seoul metropolitan area to companies in Busan, Ulsan, and Gyeongsangnam-do. The partnership provides a broader mechanism for using IP assets to support corporate recovery.

Under the agreement, companies undergoing rehabilitation proceedings may, with court approval for the disposition of their IP, sell IP as collateral through the IP-backed loan recovery support mechanism. Under the Sale & License Back (SLB) program, the company may continue using the sold IP under a license and is given priority to repurchase it after its business has recovered. The proceeds from the sale can be used to repay outstanding debt, helping the company continue operations while pursuing rehabilitation.

Companies in bankruptcy proceedings may also receive brokerage and transaction support through the Intellectual Property Trade Platform IP-Market* and their affiliated financial institutions. The initiative connects valuable IP assets with potential buyers, helping prevent them from remaining unused or losing economic value while improving the prospects for creditor recovery.

04

Fivefold Punitive Damages for Trademark and Design Infringement

In the area of IP protection, Korea strengthened remedies for trademark and design infringement through amendments to the Trademark Act and the Design Protection Act. Effective July 22, 2025, the amendments were designed to deter willful infringement and provide more effective relief to rights holders.

A persistent concern has been that infringement may be more profitable when the gains from unlawful use exceed the cost of legitimate use. The need for stronger remedies became increasingly evident as the number of online counterfeit listings identified through MOIP’s domestic monitoring and enforcement support nearly doubled in five years, rising from 137,382 in 2020 to 272,948 in 2024.

Therefore, amendments were made to increase the maximum punitive damages for intentional trademark and design infringement from three to five times the amount of actual damages. This builds on similar provisions introduced in 2024 for patent and trade secret infringement and the misappropriation of business ideas. By increasing the



*IP-Market: A national platform providing integrated services for IP transactions, financing, commercialization, and valuation. Website: <https://ipmarket.or.kr/ko/>

potential financial consequences of deliberate violations, the amendments strengthened the basis for deterring infringement and providing meaningful compensation to affected businesses and rights holders.

05

Enforcement against Counterfeit Goods and Protection of K-Brands

Through comprehensive enforcement targeting counterfeit goods in both online and offline markets, Korea further strengthened its response to counterfeit goods and overseas misuse of K-brands, including coordinated enforcement, public-awareness campaigns, and specialized advisory support. These efforts endeavored to disrupt counterfeit distribution, protect consumers and rights holders, and preserve the reputation and commercial value of Korean brands at home and abroad.

In 2025, the Trademark Police, MOIP's special judicial police on trademarks, opened criminal cases against 388 suspects and seized approximately 140,000 counterfeit items, demonstrating the scale of enforcement against trademark infringement and counterfeit distribution. Under Korea's legal system, government officials with specialized expertise can be granted investigative authority in designated fields as Special Judicial Police.

Enforcement activities targeted a range of counterfeit distribution channels and product categories. In Busan, authorities investigated a distributor operating a large accessories store and wholesaling counterfeit luxury accessories and merchandise featuring well-known characters, seizing approximately 40,000 items. Targeted action was also taken against counterfeit K-pop merchandise, as unauthorized sellers sought to capitalize on growing demand for artist-related goods by distributing products bearing protected trademarks without permission. In cooperation with trademark owners, approximately

29,000 counterfeit K-pop merchandise items were seized.

Alongside enforcement, public-awareness campaigns were carried out with local governments, the Korea Consumer Agency, trademark owners, and other partners in major cities and commercial districts, including Seoul, Busan, and Daegu. Promotional booths and on-site activities at K-pop concert venues further raised awareness among fans and the general public, helping prevent harm to consumers and rights holders.

Furthermore, MOIP strengthened the protection of K-brands overseas. As Korean culture continues to expand its global reach, Korean companies are increasingly facing bad-faith trademark filings and misleading business practices that falsely suggest a connection with or origin in Korea. In response, the K-Brand Protection Advisory Group was established, bringing together experts in IP and overseas dispute response. The group monitors practices that take advantage of the popularity of Korean culture in major markets and develops tailored response strategies based on the laws and institutional frameworks of each jurisdiction.

Advancing Digital Transformation in IP Administration

- 30 Upgrade of the KIPRIS Search Platform
- 30 IP Data Opened for AI Innovation on KIPRISplus
- 31 AI-Based Digital Patent Trial and Appeal System
- 32 Korea's Digital IP Administration Model Export Overseas

Advancing Digital Transformation in IP Administration

In 2025, MOIP advanced the digital transformation of IP administration as part of a broader effort to make IP services more accessible, efficient, and responsive to a rapidly changing innovation environment. Key initiatives included upgrading the national IP search platform, opening AI-ready IP datasets, establishing an AI-assisted patent trial and appeal system, and laying the groundwork for the first overseas application of Korea's AI-based IP administration model. Together, these efforts strengthened Korea's digital IP infrastructure while expanding the role of AI and data across key areas of IP administration.

01 Upgrade of the KIPRIS Search Platform

In February 2025, MOIP launched a fully upgraded version of the Korea Intellectual Property Rights Information Service (KIPRIS, <https://www.kipris.or.kr/>), making it easier and more efficient for users to search, access, and analyze IP information. KIPRIS is Korea's free public platform for searching domestic and international IP information. It provides integrated access to patent, trademark, and design publications from 29 countries and organizations, along with domestic administrative information on applications, examination, registration, and other IP procedures.

The upgrade comprehensively revamped the platform's search and user interface. A unified search function allows users to retrieve both domestic and overseas information through a single query, while redesigned menus and a two-panel results page improve readability and streamline access to search results. Accessibility was also enhanced across devices and languages by allowing displays to adjust automatically on personal computers, tablets, and smartphones and by integrating the Korean and English websites into a single interface for seamless language switching.

KIPRIS' analytical capabilities were also strengthened. Search results can be viewed in tables, charts, and graphs, while expanded statistics covering overseas trademark and design data support more effective global market and technology analysis. These improvements make KIPRIS a more accessible, intuitive, and analytically powerful platform for IP-based research, innovation, and business decision-making.

02 IP Data Opened for AI Innovation on KIPRISplus

In April 2025, MOIP released seven high-quality, AI-ready IP datasets free of charge through KIPRISplus (plus.kipris.or.kr/).

Current Status of AI in IP Administration

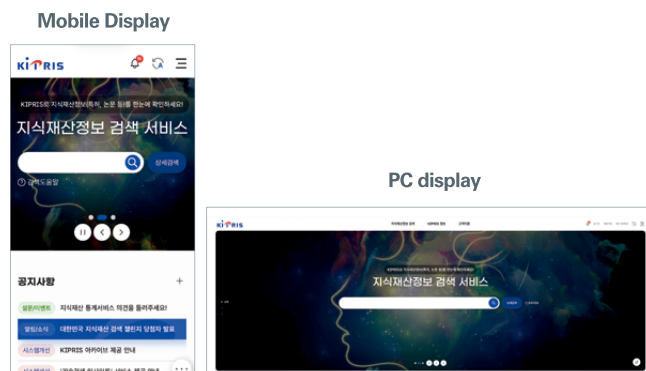
Patents	Improved Similar Sentence Search, New Private-sector AI Systems Connection
Trademarks & Designs	Improved Expanded Search Scope
Trials & Appeals	New Similar Case Search New Relevant Trial and Court Judgment Recommendation

or.kr), Korea's public platform for providing large volumes of structured domestic and international IP data through Open APIs and bulk-data services. Unlike KIPRIS, which allows users to search and view IP information online, KIPRISplus is designed to support large-scale access to and use of patent, trademark, design, and other IP data.

The initiative responds to growing demand for reliable training resources across the AI sector. Patent information is increasingly valuable for technology analysis and innovation, but the complex structure of patent documents and their specialized terminology make it costly and time-consuming to prepare raw information for AI development.

The newly released datasets cover 1) Korean patent and utility model publications; 2) U.S. patent publications; 3) notifications of grounds for rejection and decisions of refusal; 4) Korean-English machine translations of patent family data; 5) International Patent Classification data; 6) machine-reading comprehension data for patent consultations; and 7) patent customer consultation cases.

The release is expected to reduce the time and cost required to prepare patent data for AI training while supporting the development of patent analysis tools, technology intelligence services, IP consultation chatbots, and other AI-powered applications. It also marks an important step toward strengthening Korea's AI ecosystem and enhancing the competitiveness of its IP information services industry.



03 *AI-Based Digital Patent Trial and Appeal System*

In December 2025, MOIP completed a three-year development of its AI-based Digital Patent Trial and Appeal System, marking a significant advance in the digital transformation of Korea's IP trial and appeal services. Developed from 2023 to 2025 with an investment of KRW 8.1 billion, the system was designed around the needs of both users and administrative patent judges.

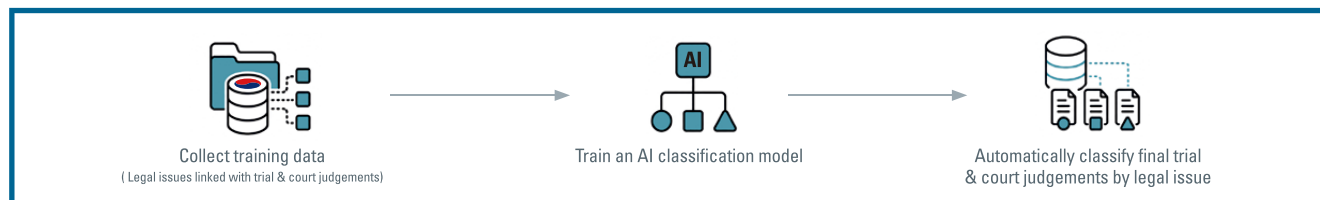
The first two phases focused on improving the convenience and accessibility of services for parties involved in trial and appeal proceedings. Building on this foundation, the final phase introduced advanced AI and digital tools to support faster case review and more consistent decision-making.

A key function of the system is an AI-based recommendation tool that draws on approximately 180,000 trial decisions and court judgments held by MOIP. It automatically classifies cases by legal and technical issue, summarizes the grounds (issues) raised in each case, and recommends recent decisions involving similar issues. By providing rapid access to relevant precedents, the function reduces the burden of manual searches and promotes greater consistency in decision-making.

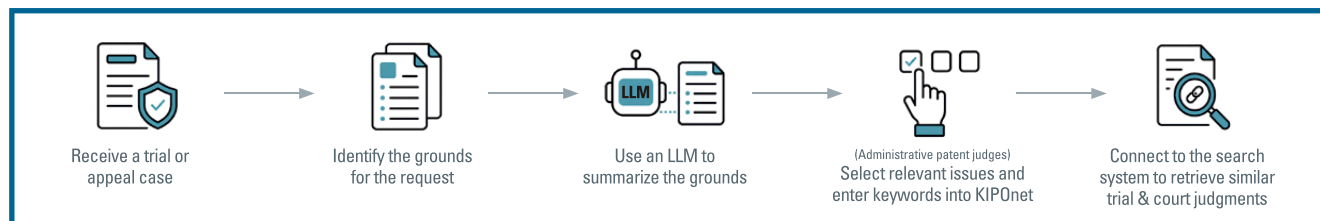
The system also includes an automated tool that compares registered patent specifications with corrected versions, together with a pre-issuance review function that identifies potential deficiencies in draft decisions before they are finalized. These functions strengthen adjudication support and enhance the accuracy and reliability of patent trial and appeal services.

By combining user-centered design with AI-powered decision support, the system lays a strong foundation for more efficient and reliable patent adjudication. MOIP will continue to refine the platform in response to evolving user needs.

Data Structuring based Classification of Decisions by Legal Issue



Integration of Similar-Issue Recommendations and Search Tools



04 Korea's Digital IP Administration Model Export Overseas

In December 2025, MOIP announced a large-scale cooperation project with Uzbekistan that will become the first overseas application of Korea's AI-based intellectual property administration model. Funded through Korea's official development assistance (ODA) program, the project will establish an integrated digital administration system for patents, trademarks, and designs in Uzbekistan from 2026 to 2029. With a total budget of USD 9.73 million (approximately KRW 13.4 billion), it will be the largest overseas project to date involving Korea's IP administration system.

Drawing on Korea's extensive experience in digitalizing intellectual property services, the new system will support key functions such as classification, information searches, public search services, and statistical analysis across patents, trademarks, and designs. The project is intended not only to introduce digital infrastructure, but also to apply

Korea's experience in building efficient and reliable IP administration systems in an overseas setting.

To support effective implementation, the project will also provide system stabilization and operational support, alongside capacity-building programs for Uzbek government officials. By combining digital infrastructure, AI technologies, and institutional capacity building, the initiative is expected to contribute to the development of Uzbekistan's IP administration while broadening the international application of Korea's digital IP expertise.



Improving the IP Examination System

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- 35 Accelerated Examination for Strategic Industry Sectors
- 35 Super-Accelerated Examination for Exporting Companies
- 36 Design System Reform and Stronger Rights Protection

Improving the IP Examination System

Rapid technological change and growing competition in strategic industries and overseas markets have placed new demands on the IP examination system. In 2025, MOIP responded by enhancing specialized examination capacity, expanding faster examination options, and improving procedures to better reflect the needs of innovators and businesses. Key measures included the expansion of Accelerated Examination for advanced technologies, a dedicated biotechnology examination organization, and Super-Accelerated Examination for overseas market entry, alongside reforms to design application procedures and rights protection, contributing to a more efficient, reliable, and innovation-oriented IP system.

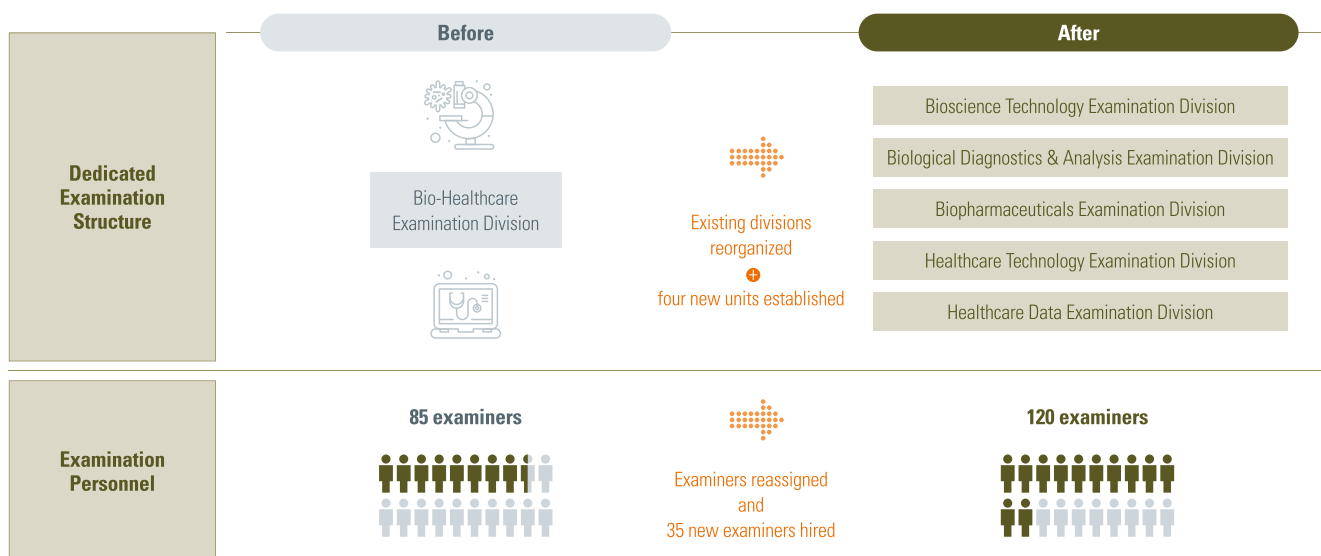
01 Examination Capacity Dedicated to Biotechnology

Biotechnology is a national high-tech strategic technology and a key driver of Korea's future growth. Alongside the

sector's rapid development, domestic patent applications in biotechnology, including life sciences and healthcare, have increased significantly in recent years, creating greater need for timely and expert examination. To meet this demand, MOIP strengthened both the scale and specialization of its biotechnology examination capacity.

In February 2025, MOIP reorganized the former Bio-Healthcare Examination Division into a more specialized structure covering biotechnology and healthcare. The new structure consists of five specialized units: three focused on biotechnology—the Bioscience Technology Examination Division, Biological Diagnostics & Analysis Examination Division, and Biopharmaceuticals Examination Division—and two on healthcare—the Healthcare Technology Examination Division and Healthcare Data Examination Division.

MOIP also brought together personnel previously dispersed across multiple examination bureaus and recruited 35 biotechnology specialists from the private sector, increasing the number of examiners from 85 to 120. This reorganization concentrated specialized personnel



and expertise across biotechnology and healthcare, strengthening examination quality and contributing to broader efforts to build examination capacity in Korea’s national high-tech strategic technology fields.

02

Accelerated Examination
for Strategic Industry Sectors

Since 2022, MOIP has been progressively broadening the scope of accelerated examination for advanced technology fields closely linked to national competitiveness and economic growth. Biotechnology, AI, and advanced robotics were the latest fields to be added in 2025, following secondary batteries in 2024, displays in 2023, and semiconductors in 2022. This expansion enabled applicants in these strategically important sectors to secure patent rights more rapidly.

Eligibility in the secondary battery sector was also renewed and broadened to include performance testing and evaluation, control and management systems, and recycling technologies. MOIP also expanded accelerated examination for carbon-neutral green technologies to cover next-generation nuclear power, renewable energy, hydrogen and ammonia, and advanced mobility.

In addition to expanding the eligible technology fields, application requirements were also reduced to relieve the administrative burden on companies. Applicants were no longer required to conduct their own prior art searches, removing a requirement that had involved the preparation of complex supporting documentation. Applicants seeking accelerated examination on the basis of commercializing an invention, or preparing to do so, were also allowed to submit technology transfer agreements or other relevant evidence in place of a business registration certificate. These changes reflect a more responsive approach to patent examination, aligning support with emerging technologies and evolving industry needs.

03

Super-Accelerated Examination
for Exporting Companies

In October 2025, MOIP introduced “super-accelerated examination” for patent, utility model, and trademark applications linked to overseas market entry. Designed around the practical needs of exporting companies, the new examination track helps companies secure IP rights at an early stage by providing the first office action within one month for patent and utility model applications and within 30 days for trademark applications.

IP Right	Accelerated Examination					Super-Accelerated Examination			
	1st Office Action	Final Disposition	1st Office Action	Final Disposition	Total		1st Office Action	Final Disposition	Total
Patents and Utility Models	16.1 months	23.1 months	End of the 2nd month	End of the 4th month	6 months +	▶	1 month	1 month	2 months
Trademarks	12.8 months	17.2 months	45 days	30 days	75 days	▶	30 days	30 days	60 days

For patents and utility models, the system applies to domestic applications that qualify for Accelerated Examination on export-promotion grounds. It also covers domestic applications in designated advanced-technology fields—such as semiconductors, AI, and secondary batteries—that are used as the basis for subsequent foreign filings.

For trademarks, the system applies to domestic applications for marks already used, or intended for use, in connection with exports. It also covers applications that serve as the basis for a subsequent foreign priority claim or as the basic application for an international application under the Madrid Protocol.

SMEs and mid-sized enterprises selected for MOIP's export-support and overseas IP dispute assistance programs are also eligible for this track. This linkage between export strategy development, dispute prevention, and the timely acquisition of IP rights provides businesses with more coordinated support as they prepare for overseas expansion.

Particularly for patent applicants, an early examination result in Korea may be used to request expedited examination under Patent Prosecution Highway programs in jurisdictions such as the United States, China, and Japan. This creates a more efficient pathway for companies to protect core technologies as they expand into overseas markets.

04

Design System Reform and Stronger Rights Protection

To establish a more balanced design protection framework, the Design Protection Act and related regulations were amended to make registration more convenient for applicants while improving the reliability and fairness of the system. The amendments simplified application procedures, strengthened safeguards against misuse of the registration system, and provided more effective remedies for legitimate rights holders.



Application requirements for partial designs (or designs protecting only a specific part of a product) were made more flexible. Applicants may now identify either the product as a whole or the particular part for which protection is sought. MOIP also removed the redundant requirement to indicate separately whether an application concerned a partial design, as this could already be determined from the submitted drawings and description. These changes reduced unnecessary procedural burdens and brought Korea’s system into closer alignment with practices adopted by major IP offices.

MOIP also strengthened safeguards under the Partial-Substantive Examination System (PSES), which provides faster registration for products with short market cycles. To address misuse involving previously known designs, particularly in online markets, examiners may now refuse applications where a clear lack of novelty or conflict with an earlier application is identified. Parties receiving an infringement notice may also file an opposition within three months of receiving the notice, provided that it is filed within one year of the publication of registration.

These changes preserve the speed of the system while strengthening confidence in the rights granted.

Protection for rightful design owners was further enhanced through the introduction of a claim for the transfer of a design right to strengthen protection for rightful owners. Previously, a rightful owner generally had to invalidate a misappropriated registration and then file a new application. Under the new mechanism, the owner may instead seek the direct transfer of the existing design right through the courts, providing a faster and more flexible remedy.

① Strengthened Examination of Applications under the PSES

(New) Article 62(5) of the Design Protection Act - Grounds of Refusal for partial examination applications

Before		Revised
(Grounds for refusal under partial examination) Novelty and prior-application issues are examined only where relevant information has been submitted.	➡	A partially examined design application may be refused where there is an “obvious ground for refusal” based on lack of novelty or conflict with a prior application.

② Extended Opposition Period for Recipients of Infringement Notices

(Amended) Article 68(1) of the Design Protection Act - Opposition period and eligible parties

Before		Revised
Anyone may file an opposition within three months from the publication of the design registration.	➡	Additionally, a person who receives an infringement notice may file an opposition within three months from the date of receipt, provided that the opposition is filed within one year from the date of publication of the registration.

Enhancing the Trial and Appeal System

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Enhancing the Trial and Appeal System

In 2025, the Intellectual Property Trial and Appeal Board (IPTAB) continued to adapt to the increasing complexity of IP disputes and rapid technological change. Structural reform and improvements to trial and appeal procedures focused on enhancing expertise in advanced technology disputes, reorganizing the Boards to better reflect the characteristics of each technology field, and providing more efficient and user-centered dispute resolution services. IPTAB also improved procedural fairness, expanded the use of mediation, and advanced cooperation with other major IP offices. Together, these efforts enhanced IPTAB's institutional capacity and reinforced confidence in Korea's patent trial and appeal system.

01

Specialized Boards for Advanced Technology Sectors

In response to rapid technological changes and the increasing complexity of IP disputes, IPTAB restructured its organization to strengthen expertise in both advanced technologies and areas with growing caseloads. The restructure focused on aligning technical expertise more closely with emerging industries while improving the timely and consistent resolution of disputes.

Of IPTAB's 36 trial divisions, the number of specialized divisions dedicated to advanced technologies was expanded from six to nine. Three new Boards for robotics, biotechnology, and pharmaceuticals were added to the existing six Specialized Boards, covering semiconductors, mobility, secondary batteries, artificial intelligence (AI), next-generation communications, and digital media. The organizational restructure enabled IPTAB to align its expertise more closely with emerging areas of technological development and growing demand for specialized adjudication.

The newly established Boards were reinforced with

administrative patent judges with advanced technical expertise and extensive practical experience, including doctoral degree holders, licensed professional engineers, and officials with substantial experience in patent examination and trial and appeal practice. Strengthening the expertise of the Specialized Boards enhanced IPTAB's capacity to ensure consistent and high-quality decisions in technically complex cases.

IPTAB also addressed the growing volume of trademark trial and appeal cases. Additional administrative trademark judges were assigned, and responsibilities were realigned by technical fields, covering machinery and electronics trademarks, chemical and food trademarks, and consumer goods trademarks and designs. These measures were intended to build greater expertise and provide timely resolution of trademark and design disputes.

Overall, the reorganization created a more specialized adjudication framework better equipped to address emerging technologies and the evolving nature of IP disputes. By enhancing both technical expertise and institutional capacity, IPTAB reinforced its institutional foundation for delivering faster, more consistent and transparent adjudication, while enhancing confidence in Korea's IP dispute resolution system.

02

Invalidation Trial Proceedings

IPTAB also reformed invalidation trial proceedings to enhance the reliability and stability of patent rights while strengthening procedural fairness for the parties involved. The reforms focused both on providing patent holders with a meaningful opportunity to maintain valid rights and on ensuring that invalidation cases are reviewed in a more streamlined and efficient manner.

A key feature of the reform was the proposed introduction of an advance notice of invalidation decisions. Under the proposed system, when the grounds for invalidation are considered to be well founded, the patent holder would be notified of the preliminary decision before a final invalidation decision is issued. This would give the patent holder an opportunity to request a correction and maintain claims that remain patentable. By providing the patent holder with a meaningful opportunity to respond, the reform is expected to enhance the predictability of invalidation proceedings and help prevent valid patent rights from being unnecessarily lost.

In parallel with the proposed reform, IPTAB revised its hearing procedures to encourage a more thorough and focused review of invalidation cases. Petitioners are required to clearly specify the grounds for invalidation and submit supporting evidence within the specified period, to encourage timely submission. Key issues in disputes were also identified and narrowed at an earlier stage, allowing the parties to fully present their arguments and evidence, while improving the efficiency of oral hearings.

Procedures for claim construction were further strengthened as part of this effort. Petitioners were encouraged to identify their proposed interpretation of disputed claims when filing a petition for patent invalidation. Where the parties disagreed on claim construction or the meaning of a claim remained unclear, they are given a further opportunity to make additional submissions.

Taken together, the procedural reforms and proposed

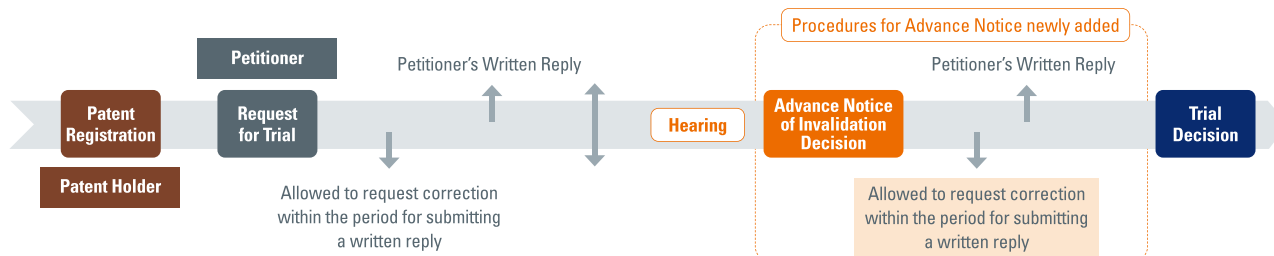
advance-notice mechanism are intended to establish a more balanced and structured framework for patent invalidation proceedings. By strengthening procedural safeguards while ensuring more focused and efficient adjudication, IPTAB sought to improve the quality and predictability of its decisions, strengthen the procedural rights of the parties, and promote confidence in the patent trial and appeal system.

03

IPTAB-annexed Mediation

While administrative trial and appeal proceedings and litigation remain the primary means of resolving IP disputes, they involve considerable time, cost, and procedural complexity, making alternative dispute resolution (ADR) an attractive option in appropriate cases. To promote a more flexible and efficient dispute resolution, IPTAB expanded the use of IPTAB-annexed mediation in suitable trial and appeal cases. Building on its experience in trademark and design cases, IPTAB established the institutional framework and procedures needed to expand the use of IPTAB-annexed mediation to patent disputes.

Patent disputes often involve complex technical issues and may give rise to parallel civil or criminal proceedings, making settlement more difficult. Under the IPTAB-annexed mediation mechanism, the IPTAB judge assigned



to the case may participate in the mediation proceedings as a member of the mediation panel. Drawing on their technical expertise and an in-depth knowledge of the case, the IPTAB judge helps the parties identify the key issues in disputes and facilitates a fair and practical settlement that reflects both the technical issues and the parties' respective interests.

The first patent dispute successfully resolved through IPTAB-annexed mediation involved two Korean semiconductor equipment companies. Before issuing a decision on the patent validity, IPTAB carefully considered the nature of the dispute and its broader implications for the industry, and recommended mediation as a means of resolving the dispute at an early stage. Following a mediation session and several rounds of discussions, the companies reached an agreement on joint ownership of the patent. The settlement was reached and the trial proceedings concluded in June 2025, only three months after the mediation process began.

The case was significant not only because it resolved the patent dispute, but also because it helped rebuild the business relationship between the companies and laid the groundwork for future cooperation. The case demonstrated that IPTAB-annexed mediation can provide an effective mechanism for resolving patent disputes while preserving business relationships and driving innovation.

04

IP5 Cooperation on Patent Trials and Appeals

In September 2025, the 6th IP5 Trial and Appeal Boards High-Level Meeting—a forum for the heads of the patent trial and appeal bodies of the five IP5 Offices to exchange policy developments and practical experience—was held in China. The meeting brought together representatives from Korea, the United States, the European Patent Office,

Japan, and China to discuss cooperation in patent trial and appeal administration.

Participants shared recent developments in their respective systems and discussed common challenges arising from the increasing complexity and convergence of technologies. They also explored measures to strengthen case management capabilities, improve the efficiency and quality of proceedings, and enhance institutional capacity to handle complex and cross-border IP disputes. The discussions highlighted the value of closer cooperation and the exchange of administrative experience in promoting more consistent, predictable, and user-oriented dispute resolution.

IPTAB shared its recent reforms aimed at enhancing procedural transparency and improving the timeliness and accessibility of trial and appeal services. In particular, IPTAB shared its experience in the operation of fast-track proceedings and digitalization of IPTAB proceedings. It also proposed directions for continued cooperation among the IP5 Offices, including further exchanges of institutional practices and operational expertise.

Korea's participation highlighted its growing role in international cooperation on patent adjudication. By sharing its experience in procedural reform, fast-track proceedings, and digitalization, IPTAB contributed to ongoing efforts to build more efficient, accessible, and reliable patent adjudication systems across the IP5 Offices.



Developing Capacity for Innovation and IP

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Developing Capacity for Innovation and IP

In 2025, MOIP strengthened human resource development as part of a broader effort to foster creativity and build the practical IP capabilities needed in a rapidly changing innovation environment. Through the International Intellectual Property Training Institute (IIPTI) and other domestic and international capacity-building initiatives, MOIP expanded specialized training in emerging technologies, invention education, IP valuation and finance, and IP administration, while broadening access to digital and inclusive learning. Together, these efforts helped build a broader and more capable talent base equipped to create, protect, utilize, and commercialize IP.

01

The 2025 IP Education and Training Plan

The IIPTI, MOIP's specialized institution for IP education and professional training, set out its "2025 Intellectual Property Education and Training Plan" around four priorities: (1) strengthening the education infrastructure needed to support technology-driven innovation; (2) providing customized training for diverse participants across the IP ecosystem; (3) expanding digital education for IP talent development; and (4) strategically advancing international IP education and capacity-building.

First, IIPTI expanded IP education for businesses and universities through specialized online and in-person training tailored to the needs of technology startups and other enterprises. Partnerships with IP-focused universities in nine regions also supported programs for faculty members, students, and businesses, strengthening regional innovation and industry-academia cooperation.

Second, IIPTI broadened customized training across the IP ecosystem, including advanced practical courses for SME R&D personnel and specialized programs for IP valuation professionals. It also expanded invention

education for teachers, including AI-based programs and training for special education teachers, while enhancing emerging-technology courses for patent examiners through classroom instruction and industry visits.

Third, IIPTI strengthened digital education through the National Intellectual Property Education Portal, or IP Academy. In 2025, the portal offered 421 e-learning contents, including eight newly developed courses, for businesses, students, and the general public. IIPTI also expanded inclusive programs, including sign-language-based invention education for students at schools for the deaf and online training for instructors delivering invention education through after-school programs for elementary school students.

Fourth, IIPTI expanded international IP education for Korean businesses operating overseas, foreign companies in Korea, and IP professionals from developing countries. Training activities were extended to Viet Nam and Thailand, while region-specific capacity-building programs for Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America were tailored to identified training needs, helping participants gain more relevant and practical IP knowledge.

Under the 2025 plan, IIPTI set targets to deliver 213 in-person courses to approximately 40,000 participants and 421 e-learning courses to approximately 500,000 learners.



This portfolio of domestic and international programs was designed to broaden access to IP education, strengthen the practical capabilities of businesses and IP professionals, and enhance the expertise needed to maintain high-quality patent examination services. Further details of the 2025 Intellectual Property Education and Training Plan are available on the IIPTI website at iipti.moip.go.kr.

02 *Invention Education in Elementary Schools*

The role of invention education has also grown as creative problem-solving and innovation have become increasingly important in preparing students for the future. Against this backdrop, MOIP promoted the expansion of invention education in elementary schools as part of its broader efforts to cultivate the next generation of creative and IP-literate talent.

At the second Social Affairs Ministers' Meeting, MOIP presented the "Plan for Expanding Invention Education in Elementary Schools," which set out the policy direction and priority measures for integrating invention education more effectively into the elementary school curriculum and expanding access nationwide. Building on the introduction of invention-related content into the national curriculum, the plan called for a broader range of age-appropriate learning opportunities through school-directed curriculum hours, creative experiential activities, and after-school programs.

MOIP also strengthened the human and institutional foundations needed to support wider implementation. Training for teachers and private-sector invention instructors was expanded, together with measures to improve the quality and safety of instruction. After-school invention classes are expected to increase substantially, from nine to 129, providing more students with opportunities to engage

in hands-on invention activities.

At the institutional level, MOIP enhanced coordination between regional invention education support centers and local invention education centers and moved to designate an Invention Education Development Institute responsible for research, program development, and policy support. These measures are intended to support a more systematic response to curriculum reform, digital transformation, and changing educational needs. Together, they are helping to establish a sustainable foundation for expanding invention and creativity education and nurturing the next generation of innovators.

03 *Special Education Teachers in Invention Education*

As part of its broader efforts to foster IP talent through inclusive education, MOIP expanded invention education for students who may face barriers to accessing invention education, including students with disabilities. The initiative combined professional development for teachers with the development of more accessible and tailored learning content to better support invention education in special education settings.

In cooperation with the National Institute of Special Education, IIPTI provided professional development training for teachers from special schools and special education support centers across Korea. The program focused on practical content that could be readily applied in the classroom, including the fundamentals of invention education in special education settings, hands-on making and prototyping activities, and guidance on preparing students for invention competitions.

MOIP also held a consultation meeting with special education teachers to inform the development of more

accessible and tailored invention education programs. Participants shared current practices in special schools and classes and provided practical feedback on curricula and educational content under development. Their recommendations on e-learning delivery, assistive devices for in-person instruction, and hands-on teaching materials will help future programs better reflect the needs of both students and educators.

04 *IP Leadership among Women Scientists*

To strengthen international IP capacity-building for women scientists, MOIP continued its cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through the 2025 Korea–WIPO–UNESCO Intellectual Property Leadership Program for Women Scientists.

Bringing together women scientists from Korea and abroad, the 2025 program focused on the practical use of IP throughout the research and commercialization process. Through case studies, expert lectures, and mentoring by patent attorneys, participants explored the role of IP across

the R&D cycle, strategies for creating value from research outcomes, and practical approaches to protecting and commercializing scientific achievements.

Participants also visited industry and research institutions, including the Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute and the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology, gaining first-hand insight into how research outcomes are applied and commercialized. At a forum held at the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, they exchanged experiences and good practices in research and IP with Korean faculty members and students and expanded professional networks among women scientists and IP practitioners.

05 *Korea-WIPO Master Class on IP Valuation and Finance*

In November, MOIP and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) jointly launched the Korea–WIPO Master Class on IP Valuation and Finance, a specialized online training course supported through the WIPO Funds-in-Trust Korea. Drawing on Korea’s policy and practical experience in IP valuation and finance, the course was designed to build professional capacity while promoting knowledge exchange and professional networks among practitioners in developing WIPO Member States.

The program brought together professionals working in IP policy, law, research and development, and finance from more than 40 countries. Policymakers and experts from the public, nonprofit, and private sectors presented comprehensive approaches to IP valuation and IP-backed financing, helping participants understand how IP can be assessed and utilized as an economic and financial asset to support investment, financing, and business growth.

The curriculum combined foundational concepts with



practical applications. It covered the fundamentals of IP finance; key approaches to technology valuation; patent information analysis methodologies; IP-backed lending and securitization; strategies for generating returns from IP and attracting investment; global IP finance and value-creation models; and Korean practices in technology transfer and commercialization.

As the first international training course introduced following MOIP's elevation to ministry status, the Master Class broadened the scope of MOIP's international IP education activities into the growing fields of IP valuation and finance. By sharing Korea's experience and practical expertise, the program also helped strengthen professional capacity and foster knowledge exchange and cooperation among participating countries.

06 *Supporting the Establishment of Timor-Leste's IP Office*

Responding to Timor-Leste's request, MOIP and WIPO began supporting the establishment of the country's first IP office. The initiative represents an important step in building the foundation for the effective administration and protection of IP rights. Drawing on Korea's experience

in building and operating an effective IP system, the cooperation is helping Timor-Leste build the institutional and professional capacity needed to operate an effective IP system and support innovation and economic development.

As part of the project, IIPTI provided training for officials from Timor-Leste's Ministry of Trade and Industry involved in preparations for the new office. The training covered the full process of setting up and operating an IP office, from defining its vision and organizational structure to developing procedures for the filing, examination, and registration of patents, trademarks, and designs. It links institutional planning with practical aspects of day-to-day IP administration, giving participants a broader understanding of the systems and expertise required to operate a national IP office. Follow-up cooperation is expected to include support for detailed implementation planning and the training of IP examiners.

The project marked the first use of the WIPO Funds-in-Trust Korea to support the establishment and operation of an IP office in another country. This broadened the scope of the fund's capacity-building activities from education and training to more comprehensive institutional development. By bringing together Korea's administrative expertise and WIPO's international cooperation framework, the initiative helped lay the foundation for a reliable and accessible IP system in Timor-Leste while creating a new model for sharing Korea's IP administration experience with partner countries.

Training Curriculum

Category	Course
Theory & Advanced Topics	① Understanding IP Finance
	② Introduction to Technology Valuation
	③ IP Information Analysis Methodologies
	④ Global IP Finance and Value Creation
	⑤ In-Depth Analysis of IP-Backed Lending and Securitization Structures
Application & Practice	② IP Monetization Strategies and Investment
	③ Practical IP Licensing Negotiation and Contracting
	④ Strategies and Practices for Successful Technology Transfer I (University Technology Commercialization)
	⑤ Strategies and Practices for Successful Technology Transfer II (Research Institute Technology Transfer)

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Expanding Global IP Cooperation

In 2025, Korea continued to expand its international IP cooperation through bilateral, regional, and multilateral frameworks. Working with major IP institutions and partner countries around the world, MOIP exchanged policy and administrative experience and advanced cooperation in response to evolving needs in the global IP environment. The scope of cooperation extended across the IP lifecycle, from education, examination, and IP protection and enforcement to commercialization and finance, while also encompassing automation and AI-based IP administration. Through these engagements, Korea contributed to the broader international IP community by supporting institutional capacity-building, sharing practical expertise, and participating in discussions on the development of more effective and responsive IP systems.

01

Korea-Europe IP Cooperation

Across Europe, Korea deepened cooperation with major IP institutions, including the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), the European Patent Office (EPO), the German Patent and Trade Mark Office (DPMA), and the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (OEPM). Cooperation covered not only examination and IP administration, but also SME support, commercialization and finance, anti-counterfeiting, and responses to emerging technologies.

IP Utilization, Protection, and SME Support

In March and July, MOIP held heads-level meetings with the EUIPO to discuss the implementation of “EU-ROK IP Action,” which aims to strengthen cooperation between the EU and Korea in the areas of IP protection and enforcement, particularly in the digital environment. Under the initiative, it was agreed to share policy experience on preventing and blocking the online distribution of counterfeit goods. MOIP and EUIPO also agreed to renew

their comprehensive cooperation MOU and continue cooperation through the TM5 and ID5 frameworks.

Cooperation with OEPM placed greater emphasis on supporting SMEs in the utilization and commercialization of IP. MOIP and OEPM discussed sharing policy experience in areas such as R&D support using patent big data and IP finance for commercialization. The two offices also agreed to cooperate on the development of a Spanish-language version of IP Panorama 2.0, a global IP learning platform and concluded an amendment to the existing comprehensive cooperation MOU.

Patent Administration and Emerging Technologies

In April, MOIP held separate heads-level meetings with the EPO and the DPMA in Munich, Germany, focusing on patent administration, user support, and cooperation in emerging technology fields. With the EPO, MOIP agreed to hold a briefing session for Korean users on the European Unitary Patent system and discussed the Global Assignment initiative. The two offices also exchanged policy and institutional information on IP commercialization and finance.

With the DPMA, MOIP revised the comprehensive cooperation MOU originally concluded in 1994, marking its first revision in 31 years. The two offices also agreed to resume an examiner exchange program covering emerging technology fields such as AI and green technologies and to pursue the launch of a Collaborative Search Program (CSP).

02

IP5 Cooperation

Since its establishment in 2007, the IP5 framework has continued to evolve in response to changing user needs and developments in patent administration. Against this

backdrop, the IP5 members gathered for the 18th IP5 Heads of Office Meeting and the IP5 Heads of Office and Industry Meeting in Tianjin, China in May 2025. At the meetings, MOIP discussed measures to improve the efficiency and convenience of patent procedures, while also examining the implications of emerging technologies such as AI for patent administration.

A key area of progress was the Global Assignment initiative, which aims to simplify procedures for recording changes in patent ownership across the IP5 offices. MOIP led the development of a common application form, which was completed in 2025 and marked an important step toward implementing a more streamlined assignment process. Once implemented, the initiative is expected to reduce the administrative burden on patent holders by allowing assignment information to be submitted through a common procedure, rather than requiring separate filings with each IP5 office.

IP5 cooperation also continued to broaden beyond examination and administrative procedures to the utilization and commercialization of IP. Under the strategic topic “Promoting IP Utilization and Commercialization,” MOIP shared Korea’s policy experience in areas including IP finance, valuation, and technology transfer. It also presented a report compiling SME support policies and practices, contributing to discussions on how IP systems can better support SMEs in commercializing their IP and expanding into overseas markets.

*IP5: A cooperation framework established in 2007 comprising the world’s five largest IP offices—Ministry of Intellectual Property (MOIP), China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), European Patent Office (EPO), Japan Patent Office (JPO), and United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

At the global multilateral level, MOIP participated in WIPO’s 66th Series of Meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States (WIPO Assemblies) in Geneva, Switzerland in July 2025, where it took part in discussions on major developments in the international IP landscape and exchanged views with WIPO and partner IP offices on areas of common interest. Discussions focused on the growing importance of IP in supporting innovation and economic growth amid global economic uncertainty, as well as the implications of technological change for IP policy and administration.

In its address to the Member States, MOIP emphasized the importance of IP in sustaining innovation. It introduced recent developments in Korea’s IP administration, including the application of AI, the recruitment of private-sector experts as patent examiners, and the use of AI-based monitoring to prevent the online distribution of counterfeit goods. Korea also shared its experience in supporting IP capacity-building in developing countries through the WIPO Korea Funds-in-Trust.

This policy direction was developed further at the high-level policy dialogue hosted by the WIPO Director General. MOIP emphasized the need for IP strategies to respond to demographic change and rapid technological transformation, highlighting the importance of securing high-value, premium patents and making greater use of AI and big data in R&D and IP creation.

Beyond the policy discussions, MOIP continued its practical cooperation with WIPO through a bilateral meeting with the Director General. The two sides reviewed personnel exchange and capacity-building projects supported through the WIPO Korea Funds-in-Trust, including assistance for the establishment of an IP office in Timor-Leste. Through these projects, Korea continued to share its experience in IP administration while supporting the development of institutional capacity in partner countries.

The WIPO Assemblies also provided an important platform for engagement with national and regional IP

institutions, allowing MOIP to review ongoing cooperation and discuss areas for further collaboration. MOIP held bilateral meetings with the USPTO covering areas such as patent administration, trade secret protection, and anti-counterfeiting, while exchanges with other partner institutions, such as JPO, addressed opportunities for broader institutional cooperation. In particular, MOIP and the Gulf Cooperation Council Patent Office (GCCPO) agreed to pursue a comprehensive cooperation MOU covering areas including automation, patent examination, and capacity-building. MOIP and the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) also agreed to amend their existing comprehensive cooperation MOU, providing a basis for further cooperation in Africa.

04 *Korea-ASEAN IP Cooperation*

Korea-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting

Regional cooperation also advanced through the Korea-ASEAN framework. In September, Korea hosted the 8th Korea-ASEAN Heads of IP Offices Meeting in Seoul, bringing together all ten ASEAN Member States for the annual high-level dialogue on IP cooperation, with Timor-Leste participating as an observer. Since concluding a Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of IP in 2018, Korea and ASEAN have held the heads meeting annually, gradually broadening cooperation in response to changing policy and industry needs.

At the meeting, Korea and ASEAN adopted the Korea-ASEAN Joint Statement on IP Cooperation, setting out priorities for future cooperation amid rapid technological change and the growing importance of effective IP protection and utilization. The Joint Statement identified three key areas for enhanced cooperation: advancing AI-based IP administration, strengthening IP protection

and enforcement, and promoting IP finance and commercialization. The statement provided a common framework for expanding cooperation beyond traditional exchanges on IP administration toward emerging technologies, enforcement, and the commercial use of IP.

The high-level discussions were complemented by the Korea-ASEAN IP Symposium. The symposium brought together representatives of ASEAN IP offices, Korean companies, patent attorneys, and other stakeholders to exchange practical information on IP utilization and protection. Korea introduced relevant policy experience, while ASEAN participants shared information on their IP systems, dispute resolution mechanisms, and issues relevant to companies seeking to enter ASEAN markets.

An exhibition held alongside the symposium introduced anti-counterfeiting and authentication technologies developed by Korean companies, including holograms, watermarks, and product-authentication labels. By presenting practical technological approaches to preventing the distribution of counterfeit goods, the exhibition added an industry-oriented dimension to the broader discussions on IP protection and enforcement.

Bilateral Cooperation and Capacity-Building

In parallel with the regional cooperation framework, Korea pursued bilateral arrangements and capacity-building projects with the individual ASEAN Member States and Timor-Leste. With Singapore, MOIP concluded a reinforced cooperation MOU that expanded existing cooperation to include information exchange on AI, IP finance, and valuation. With Viet Nam, Indonesia, and Cambodia, MOIP established work plans specifying cooperation in areas such as laws and systems, education, protection, trademark cooperation, and awareness-raising.

Korea also continued longer-term capacity-building cooperation tailored to the needs of individual partners. With Cambodia, MOIP pursued the National Invention and Creativity Education (NICE) project, a three-year initiative

from 2025 to 2027 aimed at strengthening the country's invention education framework. In May, an MOU was exchanged with Cambodia's Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and Ministry of Commerce to support the project's implementation. With Timor-Leste, Korea began supporting the establishment of a National IP Office, through its cooperation with WIPO, extending capacity-building cooperation to the development of national IP administration.

05 *Korea-Middle East IP Cooperation*

With Middle Eastern partners, Korea expanded its IP cooperation by combining support for national IP strategy and institutional capacity-building with broader cooperation in emerging areas such as AI, commercialization, and IP protection.

In July, MOIP established a Strategic Partnership Program on the Establishment of a National Intellectual Property Strategy and the Enhancement of Capacity Building with

Qatar's Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI). Building on this framework, MOIP concluded a Contract on the Establishment of a National Intellectual Property Strategic Plan for the State of Qatar in December, moving from an initial cooperation framework toward supporting the development of Qatar's comprehensive national IP strategy.

MOIP and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) also deepened the scope of their existing IP cooperation. On the occasion of the Korea-UAE summit in November, MOIP concluded an arrangement with the UAE Ministry of Economy and Tourism (MOET), expanding on the reinforced IP cooperation MOU concluded in 2023. The new arrangement broadened cooperation to emerging and increasingly important areas, including the use of AI in IP administration, IP commercialization, and IP protection and enforcement.

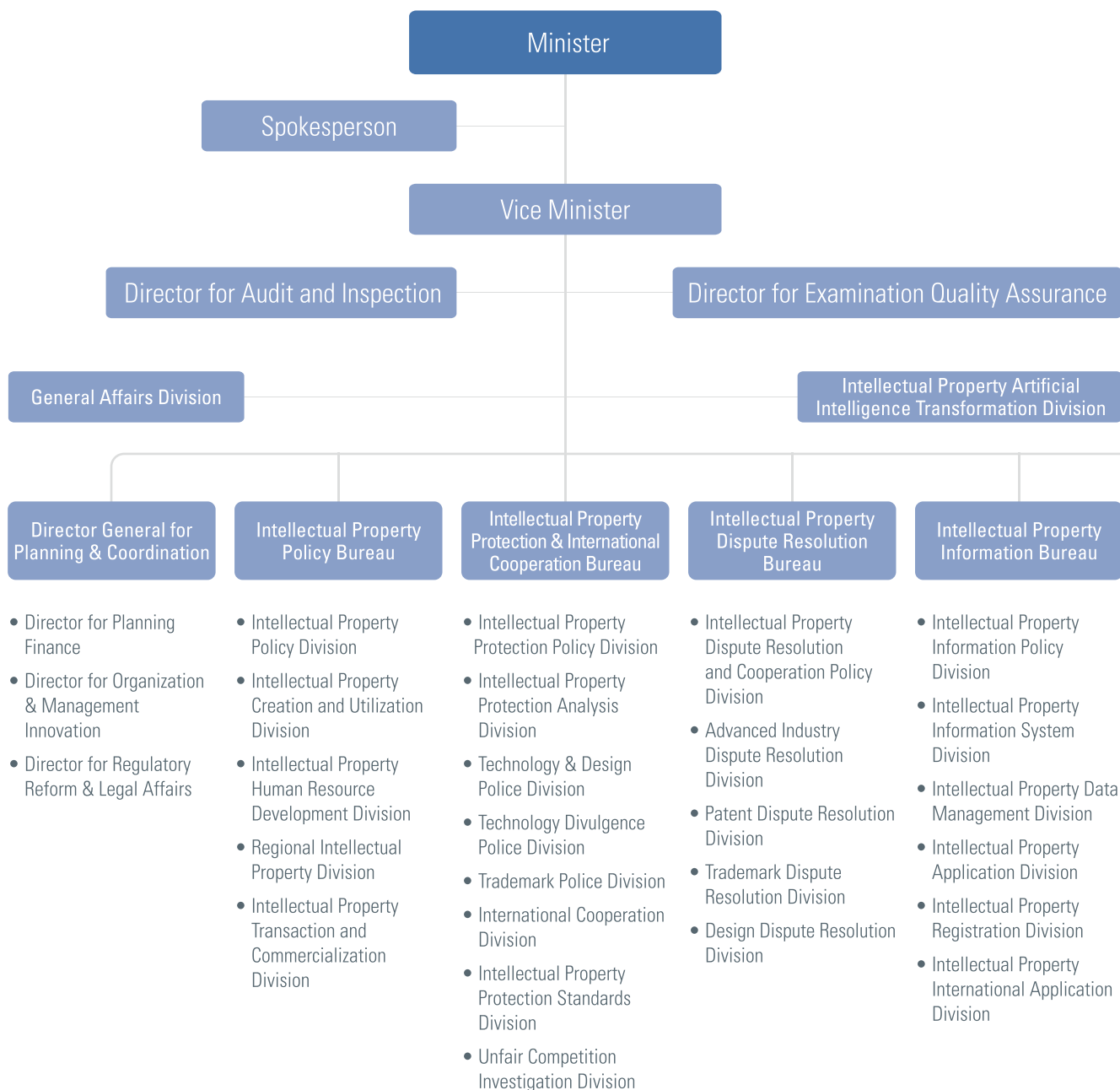
Taken together, these engagements strengthened Korea's institutional links with international partners while supporting continued exchange and cooperation across the global IP community. Building on this foundation, MOIP will continue to deepen international cooperation and contribute to discussions on emerging IP issues as technological and economic conditions continue to evolve.



MOIP at a Glance

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Organizational Structure of MOIP



- 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

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

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
- Intellectual Property Application and Registration Division

Patent Examination Policy Bureau

Electricity & Communications Examination Bureau

Trademark & Design Examination Bureau

- Trademark Examination Policy Division
- Design Examination Policy Division
- Home & Daily Goods Trademark Examination Division
- Chemicals & Foods Trademark Examination Division
- Professional Service Mark Examination Division
- General Service Mark Examination Division
- Machinery & Electronics Trademark Examination Division
- International Trademark Examination Division
- Home & Daily Goods Design Examination Division
- Industrial Supplies Design Examination Division
- Korean Wave Trademark Preferential Examination Division

Digital Convergence Examination Bureau

- Artificial Intelligence & Big Data Examination Division
- Internet of Things Examination Division
- Bioscience Technology Examination Division
- Intelligent Robot Examination Division
- Autonomous Driving Technology Examination Division
- Smart Manufacturing Examination Division
- Biological Diagnostics & Analysis Examination Division
- Biopharmaceuticals Examination Division
- Healthcare Technology Examination Division
- Healthcare Data Examination Division

Chemistry & Biotechnology Examination Bureau

- Organic Chemistry Examination Division
- Pharmaceuticals Examination Division
- Materials Chemistry Examination Division
- Battery Materials Examination Division
- Polymer & Textile Examination Division
- Medical Technology Examination Division
- Environmental Technology Examination Division
- Battery Design Examination Division
- Battery Control & Management 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

Presidential Council on Intellectual Property

IP Support Policies and Programs

Field	Project/Initiative Name	Beneficiaries	Support Details
Creation	IP Didimdol	Aspiring Entrepreneurs and Individuals	Support for transforming creative ideas from aspiring entrepreneurs into IP-based business items and securing the associated rights.
	IP Narae	"Technology-based Startups * Within seven years of establishment (ten years for new-industry sectors)"	IP technology and management strategy consulting for the advancement of startups' IP management systems.
	Global IP Star Company Development	SMEs	Comprehensive IP services, including overseas rights acquisition, for the growth of exporting and prospective exporting SMEs into globally competitive IP-based companies.
	IP-Linked R&D Strategy Support	SMEs and Mid-sized Companies with In-house R&D Organizations, Universities, and Public Research Institutions	Customized, hands-on IP-linked R&D strategy support for companies, universities, and public research institutes seeking to secure core and foundational patents.
	Standard-Essential Patent Creation Support	Universities, Public Institutions, SMEs, and Mid-sized Companies	Strategy support throughout the entire standard-essential patent creation process for improved research productivity and the technology trade balance.
	Creation and Utilization of High-Quality Patents from Government R&D Support	Universities and Public Institutions	Capacity-building support for the creation and utilization of high-quality patents through IP management assessments of universities and public research institutes.
	In-Depth Analysis of National R&D Patent Trends	Government R&D Ministries and Specialized Agencies	Patent-based planning strategies and implications for national R&D pre-planning, aimed at preventing duplicative research in nationally prioritized fields and improving planning quality.
	IP Services Growth Support	IP Information Service Companies	Support for market-oriented IP information service development strategies, minimum viable pilot services, and service-function improvements.
	Women Invention Everywhere	Aspiring Women Entrepreneurs	Support for identifying readily commercializable everyday inventions based on women's creative ideas and for applications, design, prototyping, and commercialization.
	IP Data Gift Policy	Aspiring Entrepreneurs and Small Enterprises Established within the Past Seven Years	Free provision, for up to seven years, of IP data required for product development in the IP information service sector, differentiated by startup and growth-stage tracks.
	IP Emergency Support	SMEs	Support for resolving urgent IP-related difficulties arising in SME business operations and removing barriers to business growth.
	Public-Private Partnership IP Strategy Support	Aspiring Entrepreneurs and Startups Established within the Past Seven Years	Private-sector investment in startups and overall management of corporate IP, combined with government support through IP product commercialization packages covering rights acquisition, commercialization, production, and certification.

Field	Project/Initiative Name	Beneficiaries	Support Details
Utilization	IP Creation Support for Small Businesses	Small Business Owners	Support for securing rights in trademarks, recipes, and other assets owned by small business owners, together with education and consultation programs to raise IP awareness.
	Designation of Industrial Property Diagnosis Institutions	Specialized Industrial Property Diagnostic Institutions and Organizations	Designation of industrial property diagnosis institutions that provide R&D directions and strategies to companies, research institutes, and other entities through comprehensive investigation and analysis of industrial property and related information.
	Patent-Based Commercialization R&D	MSMEs	Strategic support for SMEs using IP for innovative product development and upgrading, commercialization consulting, and market development.
	Domestic IP Transaction Support	Individuals, SMEs, etc.	IP transaction brokerage services by dedicated specialists for individuals, SMEs, and others seeking transactions such as the acquisition of patented technologies.
	International IP Transaction Support	SMEs and Mid-sized Companies (in Advanced Industries)	Overseas IP transaction brokerage support for SMEs and mid-sized enterprises in advanced industries to produce and sell export products and promote the early acquisition and localization of core technologies.
	IP Valuation Support for Commercialization	Individuals, SMEs, etc.	Support for IP valuation costs to facilitate the use of IP held by individuals, SMEs, and others for business feasibility analysis, technology transactions, and related purposes.
	Everyone's Ideas Competition	General Public	Operation of the "Everyone's Ideas Competition" to solve key economic and industrial issues through creative public ideas and translate those ideas into policies and projects.
	Transaction and Commercialization Support for Carbon-Neutrality Ideas	SMEs (in Carbon-Neutrality Sectors)	Support for identifying and refining public ideas in carbon-neutrality fields and for providing SMEs with IP strategies and IP product commercialization consulting.
	Climate-Tech Growth Support Using Public Patent Technologies	SMEs (in Climate-Tech Sectors)	Identification of public-sector patent technologies needed for carbon-reduction product development and process improvement, transfer of those technologies to the private sector, and support for validation and commercialization.
	Priority Purchase Recommendation System for High-quality Inventions	Individuals, SMEs	Market development support through recommendations by the Minister of Intellectual Property to central government agencies, local governments, and public institutions for the priority purchase of outstanding products incorporating patented technologies.
	Public IP Commercialization Support	Universities and Public Research Institutions	Full-cycle support for the utilization of patents held by universities and public research institutes, from patent creation to technology transfer, commercialization, and the development of self-sustaining ecosystems.

Field	Project/Initiative Name	Beneficiaries	Support Details
	Diagnostic Support for Government R&D Patents	Universities and Public Research Institutions	Consulting support for the strategic management and utilization of patents held by public institutions, based on patent diagnoses aimed at improving the utilization of government R&D outcomes.
Protection	Trade Secret Protection Center	Universities, Public Research Institutions, and SMEs	Provision of online and customized trade secret education, trade secret management systems, protection consulting, legal advice on leakage disputes, original-document certification services, and related support.
	Overseas IP Centers	Exporting and Prospective Exporting SMEs and Middle Market Enterprises	Support for securing local IP rights and resolving IP-related difficulties to strengthen the export competitiveness of companies entering overseas markets.
	"Support for Blocking Counterfeit Goods in Overseas Online Markets"	Current and Prospective Exporters among SMEs and Mid-sized Enterprises	Support the monitoring and removal of counterfeit product listings on overseas online platforms.
	K-Brand Dispute Response Strategy Support	Current and Prospective Exporters among SMEs and Mid-sized Enterprises	Provision of customized strategies to prepare for and respond to overseas IP disputes related to counterfeit K-brand products.
	Patent Dispute Response Strategy Support	Current and Prospective Exporters among SMEs and Mid-sized Enterprises, Universities, Public Research Institutions	Provision of tailored protection strategies for each situation of international patent disputes, including responses to warning letters and litigation, license renewals, and IP rights enforcement.
	Strengthening IP Risk Response Capabilities for Emerging Exporters	Domestic-focused and Early-stage Exporting SMEs and Mid-sized Companies	Diagnosis of and response support for potential overseas IP dispute risks facing export-challenging companies entering foreign markets.
	Industrial Property Dispute Mediation System	Rights Holders, Licensees, Employee Inventors, and Other Interested Parties	Facilitation of dispute resolution through mutual agreement by a mediation panel composed of experts in the relevant field upon the filing of a mediation request.
	IP Mutual Aid Program	SMEs and Mid-sized Companies	Distribution and alleviation of IP-related cost burdens for SMEs and mid-sized enterprises and establishment of a foundation for business stability through a mutual-aid scheme based on mutual assistance among companies.
Finance	IP-backed Collateral/Loans Recovery Support	Banks with IP Collateral Loan Agreements	Reduction of bank losses through the purchase of collateralized IP from partner banks when a company defaults after receiving an IP-backed loan.
	IP Valuation Cost Support	SMEs, etc.	Support for valuation costs enabling companies to raise financing through IP-based guarantees, secured loans, investment, and other mechanisms based on the assessed value of their IP rights.

Field	Project/Initiative Name	Beneficiaries	Support Details
Education and Consultation	Korea Fund of Funds Patent Account	SMEs, venture companies, etc.	Provision of stable commercialization funding to SMEs and venture companies through direct investment in IP, including patents, or investment in innovative patent-based companies, using IP funds operated through the Korea Fund of Funds.
	IP Digital Education	General Public	Online provision of digital educational content on basic IP topics, including patents, trademarks, and designs, as well as IP management.
	Regional Universities Specializing in IP Professional Education	Undergraduate and Graduate Students	Support for regional IP-focused universities that train bachelor's, master's, and doctoral-level IP professionals specializing in national strategic technologies and key regional industries and serve as regional hubs for expanding IP education.
	Next-Generation IP Entrepreneur Development	Middle School Students and Youth Aged 13–15	Selection and development of highly creative young inventors as IP-based talented entrepreneurs capable of creating future growth industries.
	Invention Education Centers	Elementary, Middle, and High School Students	Expansion of the foundation for invention education and early identification and development of creative invention talent through invention education centers.
	IP Meister Program	Vocational High School Students	Support for vocational and Meister high school students in identifying industrial-site problems and proposing, refining, protecting, and transferring solutions, thereby developing into prospective technical professionals sought by industry.
	Invention Education Teacher Development	Current and Prospective Elementary, Middle, and High School Teachers	Training for current and prospective teachers in the instruction of invention-related subjects, aimed at strengthening teacher capabilities to foster students' creativity.
	Employee Invention System Consulting	SMEs and Mid-sized Companies	Dispatch of employee-invention experts, including doctoral-level specialists, to companies introducing employee invention regulations or experiencing operational difficulties, with support for establishing regulations and resolving implementation challenges.
	Patent Support Consultation Desks	SMEs, Aspiring Entrepreneurs, etc.	IP-related consultation services provided by IP specialists at regional IP centers.
	Public Patent Attorney Counseling Center	Small Businesses, Persons with Disabilities, Basic Livelihood Security Recipients, and Other Socially Disadvantaged Groups	Free patent attorney services for socially vulnerable groups, including industrial property consultations, document preparation, and direct representation in trials and actions for revocation of trial decisions.
	Patent Information Search and Electronic Filing Training	IP Personnel at Companies, Institutions, and Research Organizations; Students; and Aspiring Entrepreneurs	Customized training in patent information searches and electronic filing tailored to different groups of IP learners.

Field	Project/Initiative Name	Beneficiaries	Support Details
	IP Education for Business Professionals	Business Professionals	Training for enterprises in AI-based IP investigation and analysis (AIxIP) for IP creation, commercialization, and global expansion, using AI-based IP service providers.
Events	Invention Day Event	General Public	Designation and commemoration of May 19—the date on which the world's first rain gauge was invented and officially put into use—as Invention Day, together with awards for contributors to invention.
	Korea Grand IP Exhibition	General Public	Integrated hosting of the Korea Invention Patent Exhibition, Trademark and Design Rights Exhibition, and Seoul International Invention Fair.
	Korea International Women's Invention Exposition	Women Who Have Filed or Registered Industrial Property Rights	Operation of exhibition booths for domestic and international participating companies, provision of distribution consultation opportunities with major domestic retailers, and support for live commerce.
	IP Data Utilization Startup Competition	General Public	Operation of a competition to identify creative ideas using IP data and support startups and commercialization, including awards for outstanding teams, free data provision, and recommendations to startup support programs of the Ministry of Science and ICT and other agencies.
	D2B Design Fair	Youth Designers	Strengthening of young designers' IP capabilities through support for design rights acquisition and commercialization, together with provision of customized high-quality designs to companies.
	Campus Patent Universiade	Undergraduate and Graduate Students in Korea	Development of IP talent needed by companies through expanded university education in patent data utilization and analysis, together with the transfer of creative university ideas to industry.
	Korea Student Invention Exhibition	Elementary, Middle, and High School Students	Development of creative invention talent through the identification and recognition of student invention ideas, and promotion of invention awareness and culture through exhibitions of outstanding student inventions.
	Korea Student Creativity and Innovation Championship	Elementary, Middle, and High School Students	Development of creativity, teamwork, leadership, and other future-oriented competencies through team-based creative problem-solving by groups of five to seven elementary, middle, and high school students.
	Patent Technology Award	General Public	Identification and recognition of outstanding inventions registered with MOIP, aimed at boosting inventor morale and fostering a nationwide culture of invention.

Field	Project/Initiative Name	Beneficiaries	Support Details
	IP Startup Contest (IP League)	Aspiring Entrepreneurs, Entrepreneurs	Selection of aspiring entrepreneurs and startup teams holding or applying for outstanding IP through MOIP's preliminary IP League for the interministerial Challenge! K-Startup competition, followed by interministerial awards and follow-up startup and IP support from the Ministry of SMEs and Startups and MOIP.
Other Programs and Initiatives	Certification Program for Excellence in Employee Invention Compensation	SMEs and Mid-sized Companies That Operate an Employee Invention System and Have Provided Compensation within the Past Two Years	Provision of incentives to certified companies, including accelerated examination of patents, utility models, and designs; an additional 20 percent reduction in registration fees for years four through nine; preferential treatment by SGI Seoul Guarantee; and additional points in government support programs.
	IP Management Certification Program	SMEs Demonstrating Exemplary IP Management	Provision of various incentives to certified companies, including additional points for participation in government support programs.
	Fee Reduction Program	Individuals, SMEs, etc.	Reduction of patent, utility model, and design application fees and examination request fees; a 70 percent reduction in registration fees for the first three years; and a 50 percent reduction from the fourth year through the end of the term.
	IP-Related Tax Support	SMEs, Mid-sized Companies, and Large Enterprises	Tax support comprising income tax exemption for employee invention compensation; income and corporate tax reductions for technology transfer and licensing income; and tax credits for patent search and analysis expenses incurred by SMEs.
	State-Appointed Representative System for Patent Trials	Small Businesses, Disabled Individuals, and Other Socially/ Economically Disadvantaged Groups	Support for the appointment of court-appointed representatives for socially and economically vulnerable parties without representation in patent trial proceedings.
ODA	Appropriate Technology and Brand Development Support	Cooperatives in Developing Countries	Provision of problem-solving technologies to developing countries using patent information, together with brand and business strategy development aimed at increasing local incomes.
	Interministerial ODA Support Using Intellectual Property	Cooperatives in Developing Countries, etc.	Customized patent consulting during joint research with developing countries through patent R&D analysis in cooperation with other ministries, including the Ministry of Science and ICT and the Rural Development Administration, together with appropriate technology and brand development for seeds targeted by Rural Development Administration technology projects to support sustainable economic growth.
	Fund-In-Trust Korea (WIPO)	IP-related Human Resources in Developing and Least Developed Countries, Youth, Women, and SMEs	Support for IP capacity-building and awareness-raising in developing and least developed countries through contributions to the WIPO Korea Funds-in-Trust.

Appendix

Applications

Application by IPR type

(unit: cases)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Patents	237,998	237,633	243,310	246,245	260,797
Utility models	4,009	3,084	2,746	2,442	2,634
Subtotal	242,007	240,717	246,056	248,687	263,431
Designs	63,647 (65,922)	55,333 (57,845)	53,738 (55,833)	54,333 (56,495)	54,646 (56,296)
Trademarks	270,421 (290,209)	242,368 (290,323)	241,130 (285,637)	242,545 (287,450)	248,159 (297,611)
Total	576,075 (598,138)	538,418 (588,885)	540,924 (587,526)	545,565 (592,632)	566,236 (617,338)

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

PCT applications (MOIP as the Receiving Office)

(unit: cases)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of applications	20,528	21,916	22,166	23,641	24,895
Growth rate	4.3%	6.8%	1.1%	6.6%	5.3%

International trademark applications under the Madrid System

(unit: cases)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Korea as office of origin	2,012	2,089	2,150	2,437	4,566
Korea as designated office	15,400	16,710	14,079	13,500	27,315

International design applications under the Hague System

(unit: cases)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Korea as office of origin	279	280	202	291	254
Korea as designated office	1,140	1,308	1,597	1,564	4,639

Comparison of domestic and foreign applications

(unit: cases)

Category			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Patents	Domestic	Cases	186,245	183,747	191,154	195,789	209,310
		Ratio	78.3%	77.3%	78.6%	79.5%	80.3%
	Foreign	Cases	51,753	53,886	52,156	50,456	51,487
		Ratio	21.7%	22.7%	21.4%	20.5%	19.7%
	Total		237,998	237,633	243,310	246,245	260,797
Utility models	Domestic	Cases	3,642	2,784	2,400	2,021	2,195
		Ratio	90.8%	90.3%	87.4%	82.8%	83.3%
	Foreign	Cases	367	300	346	421	439
		Ratio	9.2%	9.7%	12.6%	17.2%	16.7%
	Total		4,009	3,084	2,746	2,442	2,634
Designs	Domestic	Cases	59,880 (61,175)	51,428 (52,814)	49,907 (51,068)	50,332 (51,721)	50,386 (51,281)
		Ratio	94.1% (92.8%)	92.9% (91.3%)	92.9% (91.5%)	92.6% (91.5%)	92.2% (91.1%)
	Foreign	Cases	3,767 (4,747)	3,905 (5,031)	3,831 (4,765)	4,001 (4,774)	4,260 (5,015)
		Ratio	5.9% (7.2%)	7.1% (8.7%)	7.1% (8.5%)	7.4% (8.5%)	7.8% (8.9%)
	Total		63,647 (65,922)	55,333 (57,845)	53,738 (55,833)	54,333 (56,495)	54,646 (56,296)
Trademarks	Domestic	Cases	255,746 (269,219)	228,219 (268,334)	227,221 (264,779)	227,273 (265,463)	230,745 (273,241)
		Ratio	94.6% (92.8%)	94.2% (92.4%)	94.2% (92.7%)	93.7% (92.4%)	93.0% (91.8%)
	Foreign	Cases	14,675 (20,990)	14,149 (21,989)	13,909 (20,858)	15,272 (21,987)	17,414 (24,370)
		Ratio	5.4% (7.2%)	5.8% (7.6%)	5.8% (7.3%)	6.3% (7.6%)	7.0% (8.2%)
	Total		270,421 (290,209)	242,368 (290,323)	241,130 (285,637)	242,545 (287,450)	248,159 (297,611)
Total	Domestic	Cases	505,513 (520,281)	466,178 (507,679)	470,682 (509,401)	475,415 (514,994)	492,636 (536,027)
		Ratio	87.8% (87.0%)	86.6% (86.2%)	87.0% (86.7%)	87.1% (86.9%)	87.0% (86.8%)
	Foreign	Cases	70,562 (77,857)	72,240 (81,206)	70,242 (78,125)	70,150 (77,638)	73,600 (81,311)
		Ratio	12.2% (13.0%)	13.4% (13.8%)	13.0% (13.3%)	12.9% (13.1%)	13.0% (13.2%)
	Total		576,075 (598,138)	538,418 (588,885)	540,924 (587,526)	545,565 (592,632)	566,236 (617,338)

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

Patent and utility model applications by technological field in 2025

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	20,582	5,075	25,657	106	51	157
Audio-visual technology	6,691	1,806	8,497	40	10	50
Telecommunications	2,796	508	3,304	12	7	19
Digital communication	8,942	2,423	11,365	3	2	5
Basic communication processes	623	287	910	1	-	1
Computer technology	19,279	3,001	22,280	22	14	36
IT methods for management	17,856	508	18,364	28	2	30
Semiconductors	11,257	4,400	15,657	10	11	21
Optics	2,676	2,282	4,958	28	7	35
Measurement	9,827	1,829	11,656	31	14	45
Analysis of biological materials	599	208	807	-	-	-
Control	4,135	470	4,605	53	1	54
Medical technology	11,463	2,024	13,487	128	35	163
Organic fine chemistry	3,970	2,811	6,781	3	-	3
Biotechnology	3,825	2,959	6,784	1	-	1
Pharmaceuticals	3,229	2,127	5,356	-	-	-
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	1,645	1,665	3,310	1	-	1
Food chemistry	4,748	297	5,045	21	8	29
Basic materials chemistry	2,798	1,716	4,514	8	-	8
Materials, metallurgy	3,538	1,696	5,234	5	-	5
Surface technology, coating	2,527	1,699	4,226	12	1	13
Micro-structural and nano-technology	13	33	46	-	-	-
Chemical engineering	3,552	882	4,434	22	14	36
Environmental technology	3,604	471	4,075	42	6	48
Handling	5,500	782	6,282	169	28	197
Machine tools	3,442	940	4,382	36	7	43
Engines, pumps, turbines	2,069	796	2,865	21	14	35
Textile and paper machines	1,353	481	1,834	16	1	17
Other special machines	6,055	1,279	7,334	206	11	217
Thermal processes and apparatus	3,060	368	3,428	29	16	45
Mechanical elements	2,331	860	3,191	36	12	48
Transport	9,460	1,553	11,013	92	20	112

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Furniture, games	4,566	684	5,250	355	71	426
Other consumer goods	4,941	1,275	6,216	272	59	331
Civil engineering	7,566	414	7,980	196	5	201
Others	8,792	878	9,670	190	12	202
Total	209,310	51,487	260,797	2,195	439	2,634

Note: Figures for 2025 are preliminary.

Patent applications in biotechnology

(unit: cases)

Category	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	8,010	67.2%	7,844	63.8%	8,126	64.8%	7,776	65.6%	7,957	66.5%
Foreign	3,918	32.8%	4,443	36.2%	4,419	35.2%	4,070	34.4%	4,007	33.5%
Total	11,928	100%	12,287	100%	12,545	100%	11,846	100%	11,964	100%

Note1: Figures for 2025 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	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	15,019	96.4%	15,836	97.1%	14,683	97.3%	14,153	97.4%	17,856	97.2%
Foreign	557	3.6%	473	2.9%	402	2.7%	379	2.6%	508	2.8%
Total	15,576	100%	16,309	100%	15,085	100%	14,532	100%	18,364	100%

Note1: Figures for 2025 are preliminary.

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

Applications by residents of foreign countries/regions in 2025

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
United States of America	1,696	13,248	1,027 (1,318)	246 (706)	2,876 (4,858)	3,010 (5,101)	22,103 (26,927)
China	1,228	5,413	1,800 (1,913)	568 (1,188)	8,698 (9,754)	2,068 (3,172)	19,775 (22,668)
Japan	4,253	10,283	533 (616)	155 (269)	1,709 (3,113)	1,504 (3,179)	18,437 (21,713)
Germany	607	2,974	50 (75)	116 (448)	187 (365)	1,126 (2,958)	5,060 (7,427)
Switzerland	255	1,593	58 (100)	229 (581)	153 (284)	702 (1,653)	2,990 (4,466)
France	167	1,293	165 (181)	165 (254)	326 (445)	828 (1,664)	2,944 (4,004)
United Kingdom	82	1,014	93 (146)	28 (132)	426 (764)	602 (1,838)	2,245 (3,976)
Netherlands	275	803	94 (99)	68 (207)	78 (103)	270 (524)	1,588 (2,011)
Taiwan, Province of China	879	107	56 (65)	-	525 (772)	-	1,567 (1,823)
Italy	63	434	33 (67)	128 (287)	118 (174)	634 (1,200)	1,410 (2,225)
Singapore	220	222	22 (22)	36 (110)	559 (850)	295 (674)	1,354 (2,098)
Sweden	89	587	30 (57)	16 (32)	61 (85)	215 (491)	998 (1,341)
Canada	55	423	13 (13)	12 (25)	220 (341)	200 (329)	923 (1,186)
Australia	21	231	46 (46)	1 (1)	201 (349)	313 (619)	813 (1,267)
Finland	25	493	5 (7)	19 (28)	8 (15)	77 (187)	627 (755)
Denmark	48	306	48 (95)	15 (28)	20 (55)	173 (350)	610 (882)
Israel	69	342	-	12 (20)	25 (30)	64 (115)	512 (576)
Spain	26	148	3 (4)	9 (16)	76 (102)	221 (372)	483 (668)
Belgium	13	288	2 (2)	16 (25)	18 (37)	127 (253)	464 (618)
Austria	20	243	-	10 (28)	10 (14)	84 (241)	367 (546)
Ireland	10	178	1 (3)	2 (4)	34 (67)	97 (146)	322 (408)
Luxembourg	36	155	6 (6)	32 (48)	10 (14)	79 (238)	318 (497)
India	32	100	4 (4)	-	53 (63)	55 (69)	244 (268)
New Zealand	8	44	24 (24)	-	61 (70)	81 (146)	218 (292)
Norway	1	128	-	9 (26)	9 (20)	51 (129)	198 (304)
Mongolia	93	-	71 (71)	-	12 (14)	4 (4)	180 (182)
Viet Nam	8	-	5 (5)	1 (2)	58 (77)	91 (206)	163 (298)
Thailand	4	29	1 (2)	-	85 (93)	43 (68)	162 (196)
Türkiye	3	21	2 (2)	6 (24)	18 (18)	111 (241)	161 (309)
United Arab Emirates	-	25	-	-	83 (159)	44 (67)	152 (251)
Russian Federation	18	41	3 (3)	5 (12)	33 (35)	48 (135)	148 (244)
Poland	-	48	-	8 (12)	4 (11)	73 (192)	133 (263)
Cayman Islands	-	21	-	-	87 (240)	2 (3)	110 (264)
Saudi Arabia	-	72	-	-	31 (103)	-	103 (175)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Malaysia	13	19	1 (1)	-	37 (55)	25 (49)	95 (137)
Virgin Islands (British)	1	1	-	-	75 (148)	14 (32)	91 (182)
Brazil	6	27	1 (4)	3 (7)	24 (35)	25 (47)	86 (126)
Indonesia	4	-	-	-	63 (70)	19 (22)	86 (96)
Czech Republic	-	10	27 (27)	2 (3)	6 (18)	37 (89)	82 (147)
Portugal	1	22	-	6 (14)	7 (9)	30 (43)	66 (89)
Cyprus	2	14	-	1 (26)	5 (10)	32 (68)	54 (120)
Greece	1	12	-	2 (2)	21 (83)	16 (83)	52 (181)
Chile	-	3	-	-	35 (58)	9 (9)	47 (70)
Bulgaria	2	2	-	4 (9)	3 (9)	26 (38)	37 (60)
Ukraine	3	-	1 (1)	4 (6)	1 (2)	25 (45)	34 (57)
Liechtenstein	4	20	-	4 (7)	1 (1)	3 (3)	32 (35)
Mexico	1	6	-	-	14 (18)	10 (18)	31 (43)
Uzbekistan	4	-	3 (3)	-	19 (20)	2 (2)	28 (29)
Estonia	-	4	1 (1)	1 (1)	3 (3)	17 (39)	26 (48)
Slovenia	3	4	-	1 (1)	3 (9)	15 (37)	26 (54)
Slovakia	1	4	1 (1)	3 (3)	2 (10)	13 (24)	24 (43)
South Africa	2	13	-	-	8 (14)	-	23 (29)
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China	-	-	1 (1)	-	22 (51)	-	23 (52)
Hungary	1	12	1 (1)	-	1 (2)	7 (10)	22 (26)
Seychelles	8	1	-	-	13 (21)	-	22 (30)
Kazakhstan	1	-	2 (2)	-	10 (12)	7 (9)	20 (24)
Malta	1	5	-	-	6 (9)	6 (12)	18 (27)
Monaco	1	-	-	1 (1)	7 (9)	9 (13)	18 (24)
Pakistan	5	1	2 (2)	-	10 (14)	-	18 (22)
Philippines	-	2	-	-	7 (15)	9 (15)	18 (32)
Oman	-	-	-	-	4 (4)	11 (11)	15 (15)
Romania	-	2	2 (2)	-	-	11 (23)	15 (27)
Georgia	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	12 (24)	13 (25)
Lithuania	-	1	-	-	1 (2)	11 (20)	13 (23)
Nigeria	5	-	7 (7)	-	-	-	12 (12)
Bangladesh	1	-	1 (1)	-	9 (9)	-	11 (11)
Colombia	-	1	-	-	6 (6)	4 (10)	11 (17)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Argentina	-	-	-	-	10 (11)	-	10 (11)
Azerbaijan	-	-	-	-	7 (7)	3 (3)	10 (10)
Iceland	-	5	-	-	1 (1)	4 (9)	10 (15)
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	3	-	2 (2)	-	-	5 (9)	10 (14)
Morocco	-	-	-	-	4 (4)	6 (43)	10 (47)
Bahrain	-	-	-	-	9 (10)	-	9 (10)
Jersey (U.K.)	-	-	-	-	-	9 (36)	9 (36)
Sri Lanka	2	1	-	-	6 (6)	-	9 (9)
Iraq	-	-	2 (2)	-	6 (6)	-	8 (8)
Latvia	-	1	-	-	-	7 (17)	8 (18)
Mauritius	-	1	-	-	7 (11)	-	8 (12)
Saint Kitts and Nevis	3	5	-	-	-	-	8 (8)
Armenia	-	-	-	-	1 (5)	6 (9)	7 (14)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	-	-	-	5 (5)	2 (7)	7 (12)
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	-	-	6 (6)	1 (10)	7 (16)
Marshall Islands	-	-	-	-	5 (8)	2 (4)	7 (12)
Qatar	-	-	-	1 (6)	4 (9)	2 (6)	7 (21)
Bermuda	-	3	1 (2)	-	2 (4)	-	6 (9)
Costa Rica	1	4	-	-	1 (1)	-	6 (6)
Kuwait	-	-	-	-	5 (8)	-	5 (8)
Peru	1	2	-	-	2 (2)	-	5 (5)
Republic of Moldova	-	1	-	1 (1)	-	3 (3)	5 (5)
Cuba	-	4	-	-	-	-	4 (4)
Curacao	-	-	-	-	-	4 (4)	4 (4)
Dominican Republic	2	1	-	-	-	1 (1)	4 (4)
Egypt	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	3 (6)	4 (8)
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	4 (4)	-	4 (4)
Panama	-	1	-	-	3 (4)	-	4 (5)
Barbados	2	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	3 (3)
Belarus	-	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	3 (3)
Cook Islands	-	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	3 (3)
Croatia	-	2	-	-	-	1 (3)	3 (5)
Jamaica	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	2 (2)	3 (3)
Rwanda	2	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	3 (3)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patent & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Serbia	-	1	-	-	-	2 (2)	3 (3)
Algeria	-	-	-	-	-	2 (5)	2 (5)
Bahamas	-	-	-	-	2 (4)	-	2 (4)
Cameroon	1	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	2 (2)
El Salvador	-	-	-	-	2 (6)	-	2 (6)
Ghana	-	-	2 (2)	-	-	-	2 (2)
Gibraltar	-	2	-	-	-	-	2 (2)
Guernsey	-	-	-	-	-	2 (6)	2 (6)
Jordan	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)	-	2 (2)
Paraguay	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	2 (2)
San Marino	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	2 (2)
Andorra	-	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	1 (2)
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Cambodia	-	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	1 (1)
Congo	-	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	1 (1)
Guatemala	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Lao People's Democratic Republic	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Lebanon	1	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Malawi	-	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	1 (1)
Nepal	-	1	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	-	1 (7)	1 (7)
Senegal	-	1	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	1 (1)
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	-	-	-	-	1 (3)	1 (3)
Uruguay	-	1	-	-	-	-	1 (1)
Others	-	3	-	-	18 (18)	-	21 (21)
Total	10,393	41,533	4,260 (5,015)	1,946 (4,600)	17,414 (24,370)	13,778 (27,567)	89,324 (113,478)

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

Examinations

Patents and utility models

(unit: cases)

Category			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Patents	Office Action	Approval of registration	12,900	12,851	12,019	13,450	11,817
		Notice of preliminary rejection or amendment	164,312	155,927	160,912	186,382	207,489
		Other notices	1,709	504	514	575	999
		Withdrawal or abandonment	3,055	3,511	4,205	3,690	3,710
		Total	181,976	172,793	177,650	204,097	224,015
	Final Decision	Approval of registration	134,338	125,619	124,947	122,382	150,181
		Rejection or cancellation	46,074	41,538	44,168	39,761	48,318
		Withdrawal, abandonment, annulment, or rejection	4,298	5,335	6,421	5,647	5,886
		Total	184,710	172,492	175,536	167,790	204,385
Utility models	Office Action	Approval of registration	144	146	111	117	136
		Notice of preliminary rejection or amendment	3,192	2,724	2,457	2,385	2,349
		Other notices	8	6	5	13	12
		Withdrawal or abandonment	97	74	33	59	43
		Total	3,441	2,950	2,606	2,574	2,540
	Final Decision	Approval of registration	1,801	1,419	1,280	1,106	1,257
		Rejection or cancellation	1,854	1,524	1,414	1,133	1,053
		Withdrawal abandonment, annulment, or rejection	152	118	62	101	74
		Total	3,807	3,061	2,756	2,340	2,384

Designs and trademarks

(unit: cases)

Category			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Designs	Office Action	Publication/approval of registration	36,682 (38,470)	34,907 (36,636)	30,406 (31,725)	30,288 (31,906)	29,010 (30,766)
		Notice of preliminary rejection	28,415 (30,537)	26,783 (29,546)	23,169 (25,198)	22,493 (24,552)	25,147 (27,192)
		Other notices	-	-	-	-	-
		Total	65,097 (69,007)	61,690 (66,182)	53,575 (56,923)	52,781 (56,458)	54,157 (57,958)
	Final Decision	Approval of registration	58,103 (61,383)	54,687 (57,883)	48,317 (51,473)	45,992 (48,941)	46,929 (50,252)
		Rejection	7,864 (8,396)	7,743 (8,406)	6,527 (7,131)	5,778 (6,430)	7,555 (8,161)
		Total	65,967 (69,779)	62,430 (66,289)	54,844 (58,604)	51,770 (55,371)	54,484 (58,413)
Trademarks	Office Action	Publication/approval of registration	118,905 (133,969)	133,505 (149,427)	160,149 (181,197)	154,070 (174,723)	163,532 (185,483)
		Notice of preliminary rejection	80,913 (113,232)	88,165 (123,366)	103,381 (148,228)	98,845 (140,689)	96,443 (131,593)
		Other notices	-	-	-	-	-
		Total	199,818 (247,201)	221,670 (272,793)	263,530 (329,425)	252,915 (315,412)	259,975 (317,076)
	Final Decision	Approval of registration	162,874 (201,381)	167,261 (204,848)	221,979 (273,040)	202,025 (252,096)	238,403 (291,542)
		Rejection	31,697 (39,962)	31,000 (38,996)	42,708 (54,565)	39,290 (50,445)	33,903 (39,976)
		Total	194,571 (241,343)	198,261 (243,844)	264,687 (327,605)	241,315 (302,541)	272,306 (331,518)

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications.

Average first office action pendency

(unit: months)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Patents / Utility models	12.2	14.4	16.1	16.1	14.7
Trademarks	10.8	13.9	13.1	12.6	11.9
Designs	5.2	4.8	4.0	4.6	3.9

Average total pendency

(unit: months)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Patents / Utility models	16.0	18.4	20.1	23.1	24.2
Trademarks	14.7	17.7	17.6	17.5	16.3
Designs	6.4	6.0	5.2	5.9	5.8

PCT international search reports and preliminary examinations undertaken by MOIP

(unit: cases)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
International Search Reports	28,359	29,935	29,285	31,218	30,794
International Preliminary Examinations	124	105	118	101	107

Note: Based on MOIP data

Registrations

Registrations by IPR type

(unit: cases)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Patents	145,882	135,180	134,734	127,806	156,149
Utility models	1,817	1,452	1,249	1,049	1,200
Subtotal	147,699	136,632	135,983	128,855	157,349
Designs	57,545	54,775	49,291	46,980	48,004
Trademarks	136,629	135,333	173,989	158,090	180,994
Total	341,873	326,740	359,263	333,925	386,347

Note: Trademark registration renewals are excluded.

Comparison of domestic and foreign registrations

(unit: cases)

Category			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Patents	Domestic	Cases	110,351	99,202	99,315	95,165	117,232
		Ratio	75.6%	73.4%	73.7%	74.5%	75.1%
	Foreign	Cases	35,531	35,978	35,419	32,641	38,917
		Ratio	24.4%	26.6%	26.3%	25.5%	24.9%
	Total		145,882	135,180	134,734	127,806	156,149
Utility models	Domestic	Cases	1,618	1,288	1,098	895	980
		Ratio	89.0%	88.7%	87.9%	85.3%	81.7%
	Foreign	Cases	199	164	151	154	220
		Ratio	11.0%	11.3%	12.1%	14.7%	18.3%
	Total		1,817	1,452	1,249	1,049	1,200
Designs	Domestic	Cases	50,878	47,518	42,019	39,894	39,706
		Ratio	88.4%	86.8%	85.2%	84.9%	82.7%
	Foreign	Cases	6,667	7,257	7,272	7,086	8,298
		Ratio	11.6%	13.2%	14.8%	15.1%	17.3%
	Total		57,545	54,775	49,291	46,980	48,004

(unit: cases)

Category			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Trademarks	Domestic	Cases	116,997	115,442	150,166	135,025	153,924
		Ratio	85.6%	85.3%	86.3%	85.4%	85.0%
	Foreign	Cases	19,632	19,891	23,823	23,065	27,070
		Ratio	14.4%	14.7%	13.7%	14.6%	15.0%
	Total		136,629	135,333	173,989	158,090	180,994
Total	Domestic	Cases	279,844	263,450	292,598	270,979	311,842
		Ratio	81.9%	80.6%	81.4%	81.1%	80.7%
	Foreign	Cases	62,029	63,290	66,665	62,946	74,505
		Ratio	18.1%	19.4%	18.6%	18.9%	19.3%
	Total		341,873	326,740	359,263	333,925	386,347

Patent and utility model registrations by technological field in 2025

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	11,646	3,893	15,539	84	29	113
Audio-visual technology	4,575	1,646	6,221	20	5	25
Telecommunications	1,425	388	1,813	5	2	7
Digital communication	3,267	2,060	5,327	1	-	1
Basic communication processes	480	298	778	-	-	-
Computer technology	8,778	2,385	11,163	9	7	16
IT methods for management	7,096	293	7,389	-	-	-
Semiconductors	8,997	4,547	13,544	5	14	19
Optics	2,613	2,467	5,080	8	14	22
Measurement	6,417	1,594	8,011	40	4	44

(unit: cases)

Classification	Patents			Utility models		
	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal	Domestic	Foreign	Subtotal
Analysis of biological materials	397	153	550	1	-	1
Control	2,299	333	2,632	9	1	10
Medical technology	6,035	1,489	7,524	62	20	82
Organic fine chemistry	2,824	1,796	4,620	-	1	1
Biotechnology	2,214	1,352	3,566	-	-	-
Pharmaceuticals	1,183	813	1,996	-	-	-
Macromolecular chemistry, polymers	1,491	1,413	2,904	-	-	-
Food chemistry	3,034	180	3,214	3	2	5
Basic materials chemistry	2,189	1,411	3,600	2	-	2
Materials, metallurgy	1,790	1,183	2,973	-	2	2
Surface technology, coating	1,470	1,310	2,780	7	3	10
Micro-structural and nano-technology	9	9	18	-	-	-
Chemical engineering	1,972	520	2,492	16	7	23
Environmental technology	2,254	267	2,521	13	4	17
Handling	2,883	619	3,502	81	8	89
Machine tools	2,364	878	3,242	29	4	33
Engines, pumps, turbines	1,471	562	2,033	16	4	20
Textile and paper machines	772	315	1,087	6	1	7
Other special machines	4,010	942	4,952	85	1	86
Thermal processes and apparatus	1,817	211	2,028	22	5	27
Mechanical elements	1,849	808	2,657	25	8	33
Transport	5,876	927	6,803	42	9	51
Furniture, games	2,902	579	3,481	151	22	173
Other consumer goods	3,068	913	3,981	109	26	135
Civil engineering	5,761	363	6,124	129	17	146
Others	4	-	4	-	-	-
Total	117,232	38,917	156,149	980	220	1,200

Note: Figures for 2025 are preliminary.

Patent registrations in biotechnology

(unit: cases)

Category	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	4,913	76.4%	3,481	67.9%	3,845	68.2%	3,372	65.9%	4,415	70.1%
Foreign	1,514	23.6%	1,643	32.1%	1,794	31.8%	1,743	34.1%	1,886	29.9%
Total	6,427	100%	5,124	100%	5,639	100%	5,115	100%	6,301	100%

Note1: Figures for 2025 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	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio	Cases	Ratio
Domestic	5,898	94.9%	5,892	95.2%	6,148	96.5%	6,063	95.8%	7,096	96.0%
Foreign	316	5.1%	300	4.8%	223	3.5%	264	4.2%	293	4.0%
Total	6,214	100%	6,192	100%	6,371	100%	6,327	100%	7,389	100%

Note1: Figures for 2025 are preliminary.

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

Registrations by resident of foreign countries/regions in 2025

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patents & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
United States of America	9,877	1,045	1,314	384	2,907 (5,013)	2,712 (4,737)	18,239 (22,370)
Japan	11,183	1,194	701	277	1,309 (2,359)	1,390 (3,155)	16,054 (18,869)
China	4,251	506	1,481	796	5,865 (6,645)	1,904 (3,275)	14,803 (16,954)
Germany	2,638	285	121	425	141 (256)	1,235 (3,429)	4,845 (7,154)
Switzerland	1,076	78	167	492	232 (379)	783 (1,696)	2,828 (3,888)
France	985	85	138	220	308 (446)	833 (1,970)	2,569 (3,844)
United Kingdom	771	78	176	61	381 (683)	597 (1,668)	2,064 (3,437)
Italy	313	33	62	241	131 (195)	669 (1,441)	1,449 (2,285)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patents & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Netherlands	723	89	76	176	54 (105)	251 (516)	1,369 (1,685)
Taiwan, Province of China	764	91	59	-	451 (559)	-	1,365 (1,473)
Singapore	201	19	64	40	564 (851)	218 (551)	1,106 (1,726)
Sweden	437	52	80	52	28 (74)	231 (701)	880 (1,396)
Canada	263	33	24	26	164 (275)	197 (452)	707 (1,073)
Australia	103	17	65	-	115 (172)	292 (642)	592 (999)
Denmark	161	18	106	18	36 (69)	173 (388)	512 (760)
Israel	248	36	-	25	70 (78)	81 (174)	460 (561)
Austria	235	32	14	12	19 (44)	109 (320)	421 (657)
Spain	75	10	3	17	60 (73)	252 (506)	417 (684)
Belgium	190	21	1	40	26 (50)	116 (266)	394 (568)
Ireland	114	9	8	38	46 (72)	93 (204)	308 (445)
Finland	161	14	3	8	8 (16)	66 (238)	260 (440)
Luxembourg	71	5	11	27	14 (24)	64 (169)	192 (307)
India	80	11	7	-	41 (48)	50 (126)	189 (272)
New Zealand	20	4	22	-	36 (52)	89 (175)	171 (273)
Thailand	36	1	-	4	93 (115)	34 (48)	168 (204)
Norway	77	5	-	15	13 (15)	57 (217)	167 (329)
Viet Nam	4	-	11	3	61 (71)	67 (108)	146 (197)
Russian Federation	32	6	3	5	16 (22)	74 (238)	136 (306)
Turkiye	13	-	1	3	16 (16)	87 (163)	120 (196)
Poland	26	3	2	8	10 (11)	64 (203)	113 (253)
Cayman Islands	12	-	-	-	70 (192)	8 (36)	90 (240)
United Arab Emirates	9	-	5	1	43 (61)	25 (44)	83 (120)
Malaysia	12	-	1	-	40 (58)	24 (93)	77 (164)
Argentina	-	-	-	-	65 (65)	-	65 (65)
Cyprus	4	-	-	-	5 (8)	56 (129)	65 (141)
Czech Republic	12	-	24	2	-	23 (39)	61 (77)
Saudi Arabia	26	7	4	-	23 (89)	-	60 (126)
Mongolia	2	-	41	-	10 (16)	5 (14)	58 (73)
Virgin Islands (British)	2	-	1	-	41 (66)	10 (23)	54 (92)
Indonesia	-	-	1	-	36 (37)	16 (23)	53 (61)
Brazil	17	1	1	3	15 (20)	14 (20)	51 (62)
Portugal	11	1	2	1	17 (19)	14 (45)	46 (79)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patents & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Hungary	11	3	1	2	3 (7)	26 (46)	46 (70)
Chile	1	1	-	-	39 (44)	4 (5)	45 (51)
Liechtenstein	18	1	-	7	7 (13)	11 (46)	44 (85)
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China	2	-	-	-	35 (63)	-	37 (65)
Mexico	13	1	-	-	18 (27)	3 (10)	35 (51)
Greece	10	-	-	4	5 (5)	11 (18)	30 (37)
Estonia	2	-	1	3	4 (4)	10 (20)	20 (30)
Barbados	9	1	3	-	5 (10)	-	18 (23)
Slovakia	4	1	-	3	-	10 (26)	18 (34)
South Africa	2	-	1	-	13 (13)	-	16 (16)
Ukraine	-	-	-	-	5 (6)	11 (16)	16 (22)
Mauritius	-	-	-	-	15 (18)	-	15 (18)
Bulgaria	-	-	-	2	2 (2)	10 (24)	14 (28)
Lithuania	3	-	-	-	-	11 (21)	14 (24)
Seychelles	-	-	-	-	13 (21)	-	13 (21)
Monaco	1	-	-	1	2 (2)	9 (27)	13 (31)
Republic of Moldova	-	-	-	1	-	12 (16)	13 (17)
Slovenia	2	1	-	1	1 (2)	8 (20)	13 (26)
Kazakhstan	-	-	4	-	2 (2)	6 (18)	12 (24)
Malta	3	-	-	1	2 (2)	6 (27)	12 (33)
Saint Kitts and Nevis	4	-	6	-	1 (1)	-	11 (11)
Romania	1	-	1	-	3 (13)	6 (10)	11 (25)
Philippines	-	-	-	-	5 (9)	6 (9)	11 (18)
Bangladesh	-	-	1	-	8 (8)	-	9 (9)
Uzbekistan	1	-	1	-	6 (7)	1 (1)	9 (10)
Azerbaijan	-	-	-	-	8 (8)	1 (3)	9 (11)
Colombia	-	-	-	-	5 (6)	4 (5)	9 (11)
Iceland	2	-	-	1	1 (1)	5 (11)	9 (15)
Croatia	2	-	-	-	-	7 (18)	9 (20)
Armenia	-	1	3	2	1 (1)	1 (6)	8 (13)
Pakistan	1	-	1	-	5 (6)	1 (2)	8 (10)
Sri Lanka	2	-	1	-	5 (5)	-	8 (8)
Morocco	-	-	-	-	-	8 (46)	8 (46)
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	-	-	6 (6)	1 (1)	7 (7)
Qatar	-	-	-	-	7 (32)	-	7 (32)
Nigeria	-	-	6	-	-	-	6 (6)
Kuwait	-	-	2	-	4 (8)	-	6 (10)
Bermuda	1	-	2	-	3 (4)	-	6 (7)
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	6 (6)	-	6 (6)
Cameroon	-	-	4	-	1 (1)	-	5 (5)

(unit: cases)

Countries/Regions	Patents & Utility models		Designs		Trademarks		Total
	Domestic	PCT	Domestic	Hague	Domestic	Madrid	
Jordan	-	-	-	-	5 (9)	-	5 (9)
Isle of Man	-	-	-	-	4 (4)	1 (3)	5 (7)
Dominican Republic	-	-	-	-	4 (4)	1 (1)	5 (5)
Costa Rica	3	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	5 (5)
Serbia	-	-	-	-	-	5 (23)	5 (23)
Ghana	-	-	4	-	-	-	4 (4)
Belarus	-	-	-	-	-	4 (11)	4 (11)
Samoa	3	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	4 (4)
Cambodia	-	-	2	-	-	1 (1)	3 (3)
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1	-	1	-	1 (1)	-	3 (3)
Jersey (U.K.)	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	1 (7)	3 (9)
Gibraltar	1	-	-	-	2 (14)	-	3 (15)
Guatemala	-	-	-	-	3 (4)	-	3 (4)
Bahamas	-	-	-	-	3 (3)	-	3 (3)
Egypt	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	2 (2)	3 (3)
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	1	-	1 (1)	-	2 (2)
Fiji	-	-	-	-	2 (6)	-	2 (6)
ZZOthers	-	-	-	-	-	2 (6)	2 (6)
Guernsey	-	-	-	-	-	2 (4)	2 (4)
Macao	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	2 (2)
Curacao	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	2 (2)
Paraguay	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	2 (2)
Nepal	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	2 (2)
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	2 (2)	-	2 (2)
Yemen	-	-	1	-	-	-	1 (1)
Iraq	-	-	1	-	-	-	1 (1)
Rwanda	-	-	1	-	-	-	1 (1)
Zimbabwe	-	-	1	-	-	-	1 (1)
Oman	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
El Salvador	-	-	-	-	1 (2)	-	1 (2)
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Panama	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Namibia	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Algeria	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Bahrain	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Netherlands Antilles	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	-	1 (1)
Antigua and Barbuda	-	-	-	-	1 (6)	-	1 (6)
San Marino	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Latvia	-	-	-	-	-	1 (3)	1 (3)
Lao People's Democratic Republic	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1)	1 (1)
Total	35,338	3,799	4,850	3,448	13,869 (19,852)	13,201 (28,764)	74,505 (96,051)

Note: Figures in parentheses include multiple applications

Trials and Appeals

Requests for trial and appeal

(unit: cases)

Category		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Appeal against examiner's decision to reject application	Patents	2,196 (2,196)	1,589 (1,589)	1,700 (1,700)	1,380 (1,380)	1,097 (1,097)
	Utility models	33 (33)	28 (28)	22 (22)	12 (12)	15 (15)
	Designs	49 (49)	41 (41)	39 (39)	134 (134)	41 (41)
	Trademarks	1,104 (1,724)	748 (1,115)	1,073 (1,563)	1,196 (1,885)	903 (1,338)
	Subtotal	3,382 (4,002)	2,406 (2,773)	2,834 (3,324)	2,722 (3,411)	2,056 (2,491)
Appeals against examiner's decision to dismiss amendment	Patents	-	-	-	-	-
	Utility models	-	-	-	-	-
	Designs	1 (1)	-	1 (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)
	Trademarks	1 (1)	1 (1)	-	1 (2)	-
	Subtotal	2 (2)	1 (1)	1 (1)	2 (3)	1 (1)
Appeals against examiner's decision of cancellation	Patents	-	-	-	-	-
	Utility models	-	-	-	-	-
	Designs	3 (3)	1 (1)	2 (2)	2 (2)	15 (15)
	Trademarks	-	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	3 (3)	1 (1)	2 (2)	2 (2)	15 (15)
Trials for correction	Patents	150 (150)	109 (109)	125 (125)	124 (124)	132 (132)
	Utility models	4 (4)	-	1 (1)	3 (3)	2 (2)
	Designs	-	-	-	-	-
	Trademarks	-	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	154 (154)	109 (109)	126 (126)	127 (127)	134 (134)
Invalidation	Patents	408 (408)	374 (374)	336 (336)	365 (365)	277 (277)
	Utility models	12 (12)	11 (11)	14 (14)	9 (9)	12 (12)
	Designs	152 (152)	160 (160)	151 (151)	164 (164)	175 (175)
	Trademarks	291 (342)	264 (323)	231 (282)	283 (332)	332 (363)
	Subtotal	863 (914)	809 (868)	732 (783)	821 (870)	796 (827)

(unit: cases)

Category		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Trials to confirm scope of IP right	Patents	445 (445)	300 (300)	770 (770)	261 (261)	362 (362)
	Utility models	11 (11)	14 (14)	11 (11)	9 (9)	9 (9)
	Designs	155 (155)	142 (142)	123 (123)	132 (132)	119 (119)
	Trademarks	112 (123)	88 (104)	132 (138)	102 (116)	68 (76)
	Subtotal	723 (734)	544 (560)	1,036 (1,042)	504 (518)	558 (566)
Cancellation trials on trademark registration	Patents	-	-	-	-	-
	Utility models	-	-	-	-	-
	Designs	-	-	-	1 (1)	-
	Trademarks	2,395 (2,827)	2,411 (2,802)	2,459 (2,782)	2,503 (3,150)	2,745 (3,122)
	Subtotal	2,395 (2,827)	2,411 (2,802)	2,459 (2,782)	2,504 (3,151)	2,745 (3,122)
Opposition of patent/ utility model	Patents	154 (154)	149 (149)	186 (186)	161 (161)	196 (196)
	Utility models	6 (6)	2 (2)	1 (1)	-	-
	Designs	-	-	-	-	-
	Trademarks	-	-	-	-	-
	Subtotal	160 (160)	151 (151)	187 (187)	161 (161)	196 (196)
Grand total	Patents	3,353 (3,353)	2,521 (2,521)	3,117 (3,117)	2,291 (2,291)	2,064 (2,064)
	Utility models	66 (66)	55 (55)	49 (49)	33 (33)	38 (38)
	Designs	360 (360)	344 (344)	316 (316)	434 (434)	351 (351)
	Trademarks	3,903 (5,017)	3,512 (4,345)	3,895 (4,765)	4,085 (5,485)	4,048 (4,899)
	Grand total	7,682 (8,796)	6,432 (7,265)	7,377 (8,247)	6,843 (8,243)	6,501 (7,352)

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		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
		Acceptance	Ratio	Acceptance	Ratio	Acceptance	Ratio	Acceptance	Ratio	Acceptance	Ratio
Ex partes	Patents	1,008	36.8	747	33.2	578	29.9	531	29.1	519	34.1
	Utility models	16	28.1	11	29.7	7	25.0	5	26.3	6	33.3
	Designs	8	26.7	27	33.8	9	29.0	14	25.9	17	12.9
	Trademarks	536 (884)	57.0 (61.0)	456 (733)	56.0 (56.9)	477 (821)	55.4 (64.0)	432 (685)	58.2 (64.7)	622 (1,040)	57.6 (63.1)
	Subtotal	1,568 (1,916)	41.6 (44.8)	1,241 (1,518)	39.0 (41.5)	1,071 (1,415)	37.5 (43.2)	982 (1,235)	37.2 (41.8)	1,164 (1,582)	42.3 (47.7)
Inter partes	Patents	361	47.5	382	52.0	355	52.4	511	48	317	54.4
	Utility models	13	37.1	10	45.5	11	37.9	9	42.9	7	33.3
	Designs	141	46.2	154	46.7	177	51.8	164	52.2	146	51.4
	Trademarks	2,268 (2,627)	78.8 (79.1)	1,792 (2,030)	77.7 (77.4)	2,463 (2,718)	81.9 (81.5)	1,735 (2,036)	75 (75.5)	1,923 (2,261)	70.8 (71.7)
	Subtotal	2,783 (3,142)	69.9 (71.1)	2,338 (2,576)	68.9 (69.5)	3,006 (3,261)	74.1 (74.4)	2,419 (2,720)	65.2 (66.4)	2,393 (2,731)	66.4 (67.6)
Grand total	Patents	1,369	39.1	1,129	37.8	933	35.7	1,042	36.1	836	39.7
	Utility models	29	31.5	21	35.6	18	31.6	14	35	13	33.3
	Designs	149	44.5	181	44.1	186	49.9	178	48.4	163	39.2
	Trademarks	2,804 (3,511)	73.4 (73.6)	2,248 (2,763)	72.0 (70.6)	2,940 (3,539)	76.0 (76.6)	2,167 (2,721)	70.9 (72.4)	2,545 (3,301)	67 (68.8)
	Total	4,351 (5,058)	56.2 (58.1)	3,579 (4,094)	54.4 (55.6)	4,077 (4,676)	59.0 (61.0)	3,401 (3,955)	53.6 (56.1)	3,557 (4,313)	56 (58.6)

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		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Patents	Domestic	2,293	1,633	2,164	1,499	1,391
	Foreign	1,060	888	953	792	673
Utility models	Domestic	63	51	48	33	37
	Foreign	3	4	1	-	1
Designs	Domestic	337	323	286	313	321
	Foreign	23	21	30	121	30
Trademarks	Domestic	2,726	2,512	2,807	2,922	2,859
	Foreign	1,177	1,000	1,088	1,163	1,189
Total		7,682	6,432	7,377	6,843	6,501

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

Income and Expenditures / MOIP Staff

Income

(unit: USD)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Income from fees	533,627,760	471,906,646	475,832,558	411,047,619	445,844,444
Income carried over from the previous year	48,094,637	78,923,259	45,039,535	11,329,252	8,784,028
Internal income and others	70,221,721	116,525,316	139,237,984	72,303,401	80,988,889
Total	651,945,020	667,356,804	660,110,078	494,680,272	535,617,361

Expenditures

(unit: USD)

Category	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Non-personnel resources (projects)	426,200,090	477,916,930	503,641,085	359,329,252	389,270,139
Personnel resources	130,149,617	119,738,924	120,303,101	113,821,088	124,557,639
Deposit for special fund	5,680,937	23,734,177	23,255,814	12,925,170	13,003,472
Total	562,030,644	621,390,823	647,200,000	486,075,510	526,831,250

MOIP staff

(unit: number of positions)

Category		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Examiners	Patents and utility models	861	876	876	873	885
	Industrial designs and Trademarks	194	214	213	224	224
Administrative judges		107	107	106	106	106
Administrative staff		649	597	596	593	596
Total		1,811	1,804	1,791	1,796	1,811

Academic and professional credentials of MOIP 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	330	172	26	1	18
	Trademarks	5	8	4	2	0
	Industrial designs	2	6	0	0	0
	Total	337	186	30	3	18



**Ministry of
Intellectual Property**

Publisher

International Cooperation Division

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