

Innovation

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

Creative ideas have the power to change the world. KIPO continues to provide innovative, timely, and accurate IP examination services for ensuring that ideas receive adequate protection as IP.

Hunminjeongeum Haerye

The Korean alphabet is a unique and scientific language system established by King Sejong in 1443. The momentous document Hunminjeongeum Haerye, which explains how and why this alphabet was first created, was registered in UNESCO's Memory of the World Program, thereby acknowledging the lasting value of its historical innovation.

13.2 months

First action pendency for patents and utility models

Premium Examination Services

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

We carried out the largest organizational restructuring in our history to build a premium examination service for fusion technologies, enhance IP protection, and provide easier and better public access to IP information.

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

The average first action pendency is as follows:

- Patents and utility models: 16.8 months in 2011 > 14.8 months in 2012 > 13.2 months in 2013
- Trademarks: 10 months in 2011 > 8.9 months in 2012 > 7.7 months in 2013
- Designs: 10 months in 2011 > 8.8 months in 2012 > 7.4 months in 2013

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A BETTER IP SERVICE

Competitiveness

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

In this era of creative economies, IPRs are the core factor of any competent business strategy. KIPO is dedicated to establishing a competitive and rewarding IP system that nurtures IP creation and utilization by transforming novel ideas into strong IPRs.



Taekwondo

Taekwondo is a traditional Korean martial art form with a history that goes back thousands of years.

No.1

In the world for resident patent applications per GDP and population

IP Competitiveness

IPR applications

The total preliminary number of IPR applications, including patents, utility models, designs, and trademarks, submitted to KIPO in 2013 amounted to 430,164, an 8.4% growth rate year-on-year. Patent applications stood at around 200 in 1949 before jumping to around 5,000 in 1980 and 100,000 in 2000. Over the past 13 years, this number has doubled to more than 200,000.

Patent application competitiveness

According to the World IP Indicator unveiled by WIPO in December 2013, Korea ranked first for six consecutive years (2007 to 2012) in regard to the number of resident patent applications per GDP and population.

PCT applications

Korea increased its number of PCT applications by 4.5 percent, from 11,847 in 2012 to 12,386 in 2013, accounting for 6.0% of all PCT applications—the 5th largest amount by country of origin.



A HIGHER IP COMPETITIVENESS

Harmonization

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

International cooperation is vital for the development and growth of today’s global economy. KIPO contributes to the advancement of IP systems as it works to increase the value of IP holdings by participating in various activities worldwide.



Ganggangsullae

Ganggangsullae, which promotes unification and harmony among its practitioners, is a unique dancing technique associated with Korean folk music. This artistic blending of singing, dancing, and instrumentation was registered with UNESCO, in 2009, as part of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

21 Countries
Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)
13 IP sharing projects

Worldwide IP Collaboration

In order to improve the efficiency and quality of examinations, we have become involved in various activities through active participation in the IP5 and the TM5. In 2013, we successfully hosted the TM5 Annual Meeting to harmonize global trademark and design systems. In the area of IT, we have built the One Portal Dossier as part of the Global Dossier for work-sharing among the IP5 offices.

We are implementing Patent Prosecution Highways with twenty-one countries to reduce the time and costs required to gain patents internationally.

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

We have played an active role in various multilateral meetings organized by WIPO and APEC for harmonizing global IPR systems. We have also undergone FTA negotiations in order to form a stronger economic partnership.

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

Appropriate technologies developed and provided by KIPO are as follows:

- Sugar cane charcoal manufacturing for Chad in 2010
- Soil brick manufacturing for Nepal in 2010
- A simple water purifier for Cambodia in 2011
- A cooking stove for Guatemala in 2012
- Appropriate construction technology to improve insulation in bamboo housing for Nepal in 2012
- An oil extractor for farms in the province of Tarlac in the Philippines in 2013
- A bicycle-operated water pump for Pinu in Papua New Guinea in 2013

Brands developed and provided by KIPO are as follows:

- A Chadian mango brand in 2010
- Chinese bamboo products in 2011 and 2012
- Chilean fruit cocktail products in 2011 and 2012
- Cambodian red rice and longan (a tropical fruit) in 2012
- A Bolivian grain brand called Quinoa in 2013
- A local brand for the province of Tarlac in the Philippines in 2013



A STRONGER IP PARTNERSHIP