

# Innovation

KIPO fosters IP Innovation through fast patent examination service and reliable quality.

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



## Premium Examination Services

We aim to provide fast, high-quality and customer-oriented examination services by continuing to improve our examination systems, raise the quality of our IP administration (application, examination and registration) and reduce first action pendency.

Accommodating the IP strategies of our users, we offer appropriate examination services for timely registration of rights. There are three tracks for patent and utility model examinations, two tracks for trademark and design examinations as well as three tracks for trials.

The average first office action pendency is as follows:

- Patents and utility models: 11.0 months (2014) → 10.0 months (2015) → 10.6 months (2016) → 10.4 months (2017) → 0.3 months (2018)
- Trademarks: 6.4 months (2014) → 4.7 months (2015) → 4.8 months (2016) → 5.0 month (2017) → 5.5 months (2018)
- Designs: 6.5 months (2014) → 4.4 months (2015) → 4.7 months (2016) → 4.9 months (2017) → 4.9 months (2018)

### ◀ OLED waterfall

At the Consumer Electronics Show (CES), the world's largest consumer electronics exhibition, LG Electronics installed the "OLED waterfall" using curved OLEDs.

### ▶ Cheonsangyeolchabunyajido

One of the oldest astronomical circles in the world. According to later analysis, this astronomy was found to be a constellation around 40 AD. In 1395 he made a tombstone, and in 1687 he reprinted it with woodblocks.





Prologue

# Competitiveness

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

In this era of creative economies, IPRs are the core of competent business strategies.

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

# IP Competitiveness

## IPR Applications

Patent applications submitted to KIPO stood at around around 5,000 applications in 1980 and 100,000 in 2000. Over the past 18 years, this number has exponentially grown to more than 400,000 applications a year.

We received a preliminary total of 465,015 applications for IPRs, including patents, utility models, designs and trademarks in 2018.

## Patent Application Competitiveness

According to the World IP Indicator published by WIPO in December 2018, Korea has ranked 1st for the highest number of resident patent applications per GDP and population for 11 consecutive years.

## PCT Applications

The number of PCT applications filed from Korea increased by 7.6 percent from 15,790 in 2017 to 16,991 in 2018, which is the 5th largest amount by country of origin.



◀ Hunminjeongeum, Korean Script

Hunminjeongeum is 28 letters made by King Sejong the Great in 1443. It is one of the best cultural heritage sites in Korea, which has received the highest evaluation in UNESCO among 2,900 languages.

▶ Banchado

It is a cultural heritage that shows the level of record culture of the Joseon Dynasty in the form of a picture or letter showing the location of the performers of the court ceremonies in the Joseon Dynasty.

# Harmonization

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

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

# Worldwide IP Collaboration

## Participation in Global Cooperation Forums

Taking on the role as one of the world's leading IP office, we are working towards harmonizing global patent, trademark and design systems. We engage in global cooperation forums such as the IP5, TM5 and ID5 in order to improve the efficiency and quality of examinations.

## Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) with 29 Countries

The Patent Prosecution Highway is implemented with 29 countries to reduce the time and costs required to obtain patents internationally.

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

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

Since 2004, we have contributed in total around 12.1 million Swiss francs for the continued operation of WIPO Korea FIT. The funds are applied towards projects jointly undertaken by KIPO and WIPO to support the IP capacity of developing countries.

## 30 IP Sharing Projects

We implemented numerous IP-sharing projects to assist the sustainability of local communities in developing countries by facilitating appropriate technologies and brand development.



### ◀ Pungmul

Korean folk music that was popular among farmers. It plays in drum, janggu, gong, nabal, tnaebyeongso.

### ▶ Ssireum(Korean wrestling)

Treasure No. 527. By the end of 18th century. Ssireum is a representative traditional sport in Korea, and this painting was painted by Kim Hongdo who represents the Chosun Dynasty. It is in the National Museum of Korea.