



Hague System

for the International Registration
of Industrial Designs

Mid-Year Report up to June 2009

Hague System



WORLD
INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION

HAGUE SYSTEM FOR THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

Mid-Year Report
(January to June 2009)

Overall Registration Activity

From January to June 2009, the volume of registration activity under the Hague system globally increased relative to the same period in 2008. The International Bureau recorded 850 international registrations (+15.5%) for the protection of 4,655 designs (+32.3%). The number of designations contained in those international registrations, however, decreased by 17.2% relative to the same period in 2008. This decrease appears to be the result of many applicants having chosen to designate the European Community instead of the individual Member States of the European Union that were also Contracting Parties to the Hague Agreement (see Graphs 1 to 4).

In the first half of 2009, the number of renewals (1,455) recorded by the International Bureau decreased by 17.3% relative to the same period in 2008. This decrease appears to be the result of the significant decrease in registration activity that took place five years ago (Graphs 9 to 12).

The number of modifications recorded by the International Bureau under the Hague system decreased by 48% relative to the same period in 2008. This decrease was mainly due to a very significant decrease in the number of requests for changes in name or address of the holder (-58.6%) and changes in name or address of the representative (-70.4%). The number of refusals and statements of grant of protection issued increased by 195% (see Table 1, below).

Table 1
Selected Transactions Recorded in January-June 2009
Growth rates relative to 2008

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Growth</u>
Acquisition of rights			
International registrations	736	850	15.5%
Designs contained in international registrations	3,519	4,655	32.3%
Individual designations contained in international registrations	6,505	5,383	-17.2%
Maintenance of rights			
Renewals	1,759	1,455	-17.3%
Designs contained in renewals	7,640	5,831	-23.7%
International Registrations in Force on June 30, 2009			
Active registrations	25,713	25,974	1.02%
Number of designs in active registrations	108,522	109,733	1.12%
Active designations	265,694	262,503	-1.20%
Number of right holders	8,070	7,812	-3.20%
Modifications			
Changes in ownership	141	121	-14.2%
Changes in name or address of the holder	677	280	-58.6%
Renunciations of the international registration	0	4	-
Limitations	0	0	-
Appointments of representative	307	304	-1.0%
Changes in name or address of representative	682	202	-70.4%
Renunciations of appointment	54	52	-3.7%
Corrections	0	0	-
Refusals and Statements of Grant of Protection			
Refusals	9	84	833.3%
Statements of Grant of Protection	110	280	154.5%
Withdrawals of refusal	4	0	-

Profile of International Registrations

Filing Route

Of all the international registrations recorded by the International Bureau in the first half of 2009, 98.5% had been filed directly with the International Bureau.

Coverage (products, business sectors)

In descending order of frequency, the industrial designs for which international registrations were recorded in the first half of 2009 most commonly fell into classes 10, 9, 6, 7, and 32 of the Locarno Classification, 8th edition (see Table 2, below).

Of all international registrations recorded by the International Bureau in the first half of 2009, 49% contained products that fell into one of those five classes.

Table 2

Most Popular Classes in International Registrations

Registrations by class in January-June 2009, share of total

<u>Class</u>	<u>Heading</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Share</u>
Class 10	clocks and watches and other measuring instruments, checking and signaling instruments	116	13.6%
Class 9	packages and containers for the transport or handling of goods	97	11.4%
Class 6	furnishing	92	10.8%
Class 7	household goods, not elsewhere specified	63	7.4%
Class 32	graphic symbols and logos, surface patterns, ornamentation	48	5.6%

Coverage (territories)

The average number of Contracting Parties designated in an international registration was 6.3.

Of all international registrations recorded by the International Bureau in the first half of 2009, 66.5% contained five or fewer designations of Contracting Parties.

Priority Claim

Of all international registrations recorded by the International Bureau in the first half of 2009, 34% contained a priority claim. This suggests that in the other 66% of cases, the international application would be the first filing that could serve as a basis for a priority claim in further filings made outside the Hague Union.

Publication

Of all international registrations recorded by the International Bureau in the first half of 2009, 46.1% contained a request for immediate publication, whilst 14.1% contained a request for deferment of publication.

Amount of fees paid

The average amount of fees paid with respect to an international registration was CHF 1,895.

Of all international registrations recorded by the International Bureau in the first half of 2009, 86.7% required fees amounting to less than CHF 3,000.

For further details on filing profiles, see Graphs 5 to 7.

Registrations in Force

On June 30, 2009, there were 25,974 active international registrations belonging to 7,812 different right holders (see Graph 8). Those registrations contained 109,733 designs and 262,503 designations.

Filing Trends in International Applications (Tables 3 and 5)

Global

From January to June 2009, the International Bureau received 871 international applications, for the protection of 3,665 designs. Compared to the same period in 2008, this represented a slight decrease (0.6%) in the number of applications and a 14.4% decrease in the number of designs contained therein.

Graphs 13 to 16 compare total and monthly figures of applications up to June 30, 2009.

By Contracting Party

For the second consecutive year, applicants claiming a European Community entitlement accounted for the largest number of international applications filed.

Applicants claiming a Swiss, French or Turkish entitlement accounted, respectively, for the second, third and fourth largest number of international applications. Although Turkey remained in fourth place, as compared to the same period in 2008, the number of filings based on a Turkish entitlement increased by over 140%.

Applicants claiming a German entitlement, which used to account for the largest number of international applications filed, accounted for only one international application in the first half of 2009. All other German applicants claimed a European Community entitlement, apparently because Germany had not become a party to the Geneva Act.

Table 3
Applications Filed by Major User Contracting Parties (January-June 2009)
Share of total filings in 2009 and growth rate relative to 2008

Contracting Party of Origin	Jan-Jun 2008	Jan-Jun 2009	Share	Growth
1. European Community (EM)	398	369	42.4%	-7.3%
2. Switzerland (CH)	305	324	37.2%	6.2%
3. France (FR)	115	102	11.7%	-11.3%
4. Turkey (TR)	14	34	3.9%	142.9%
5. Bulgaria (BG)	3	6	0.7%	100.0%
6. Denmark (DK)	0	5	0.6%	-
7. Liechtenstein (LI)	6	5	0.6%	-16.7%
8. Spain (ES)	6	5	0.6%	-16.7%
9. Morocco (MA)	2	3	0.3%	50.0%
10. Hungary (HU)	3	2	0.2%	-33.3%
11. Republic of Moldova (MD)	3	2	0.2%	-33.3%
12. Netherlands (NL)	1	2	0.2%	100.0%
13. Slovenia (SI)	4	2	0.2%	-50.0%
14. Ukraine (UA)	0	2	0.2%	-
Other countries	16	8	0.9%	-50.0%
Total	876	871	100%	-0.6%

Trends in Designations (Tables 4 and 6)

5,383 new designations were notified to Contracting Parties in the first half of 2009. This represents a 17.2% decrease relative to the same period in 2008. As explained earlier, the reason for this decrease appears to be that many applicants chose to designate the European Community instead of individual European Union members that are also Contracting Parties to the Hague Agreement.

The European Community (with a 49% growth rate in designations) has become the most designated Contracting Party, thereby displacing Switzerland, now second in the ranking. Turkey continues to be third in the list of most designated Contracting Parties. Singapore has moved up in the rankings to become the fourth most designated Contracting Party.

Table 4
Top Designated Contracting Parties
Designations in Registrations (January-June 2009)
 Share of total designations in 2009 and growth rate relative to 2008

<u>Designated Contracting Party</u>	<u>Jan-Jun 2008</u>	<u>Jan-Jun 2009</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Growth</u>
1. European Community (EM)	412	614	11.4%	49.0%
2. Switzerland (CH)	602	608	11.3%	1.0%
3. Turkey (TR)	317	378	7.0%	19.2%
4. Singapore (SG)	242	263	4.9%	8.7%
5. Ukraine (UA)	295	242	4.5%	-18.0%
6. Croatia (HR)	287	218	4.0%	-24.0%
7. Indonesia (ID)	240	203	3.8%	-15.4%
8. Tunisia (TN)	231	197	3.7%	-14.7%
9. Morocco (MA)	210	196	3.6%	-6.7%
10. Monaco (MC)	227	192	3.6%	-15.4%
11. Liechtenstein (LI)	221	165	3.1%	-25.3%
12. Netherlands Antilles (AN)	195	160	3.0%	-17.9%
13. The F.Y.R. of Macedonia (MK)	214	160	3.0%	-25.2%
14. Montenegro (ME)	194	136	2.5%	-29.9%
15. Egypt (EG)	220	130	2.4%	-40.9%
Other Countries	2,398	1,521	28.3%	-36.6%
Total	6,505	5,383	100%	-17.2%

Membership

Oman and Poland deposited their instruments of accession to the 1999 Act of the Hague Agreement (Geneva Act) in the first half of 2009.

On July 2, 2009, when the accession by Poland became effective, the total number of Members of the Hague Union increased to 56, including 35 bound by the Geneva Act, 34 bound by the 1960 Act and 15 bound by the 1934 Act.

On June 3, 2009, Indonesia deposited its instrument of denunciation of the 1934 Act of the Hague Agreement. The 1934 Act will cease to be effective in respect of Indonesia as of June 3, 2010.

Electronic Communication

Since January 2008, a facility for the electronic filing of international applications has been available on the WIPO Hague website. More than 50% of the applications filed in the first half of 2009 were filed electronically.

The International Designs Bulletin and monthly statistics on registration are posted regularly on the Hague website.

Preparation for the Freezing of the Application of the 1934 Act

On February 24 and May 12, 2009, WIPO organized two informal consultative meetings of the Contracting States to the 1934 Act of the Hague Agreement to discuss the relevance of that Act. At the conclusion of the first meeting, the participants had already agreed that the 1934 Act was obsolete and that the Hague system should be centered around the 1999 Act in order to reduce its complexity. At the second meeting, the participants considered the possibility of terminating the 1934 Act through a collective decision by the 15 Contracting Parties.

Following those consultations, the International Bureau prepared a proposal to freeze the application of the 1934 Act as from January 1, 2010. This proposal will be submitted to an Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting States to the London (1934) Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Deposit of Industrial Designs to be held in Geneva in September 2009¹. If approved, the Hague Union Assembly will be invited to amend the Common Regulations, as proposed in document H/A/28/1., to reflect the freeze in operational terms².

[Graphs and Tables follow]

The following developments occurred after the close of the January to June 2009 reporting period:

¹ The proposal to freeze the application of the 1934 Act was unanimously approved by the Contracting States at the Extraordinary Meeting, which took place on September 24, 2009.

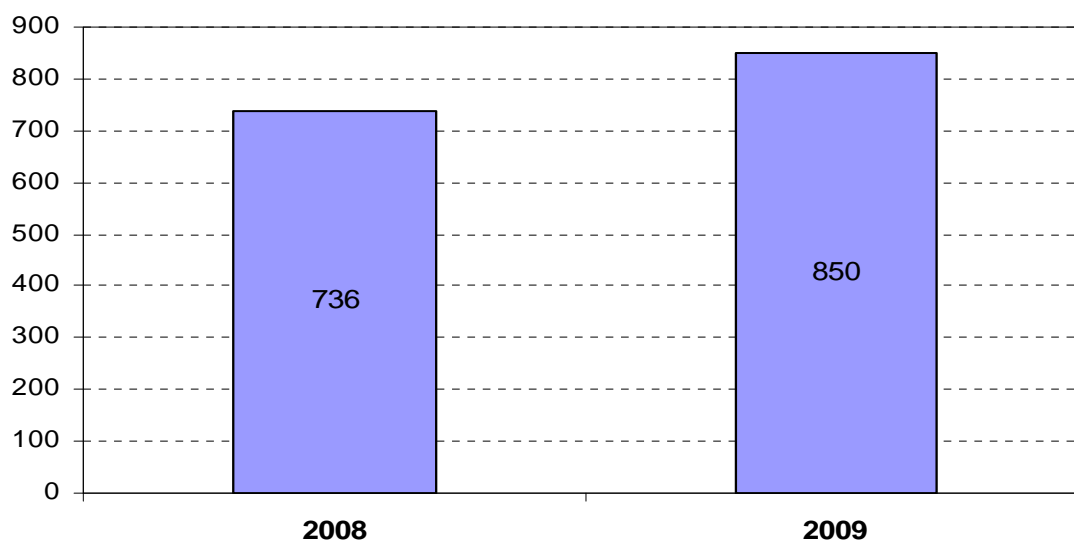
² The Hague Union Assembly adopted the proposed amendments to the Common Regulations at its 28th session held in Geneva from September 22 to October 1, 2009.

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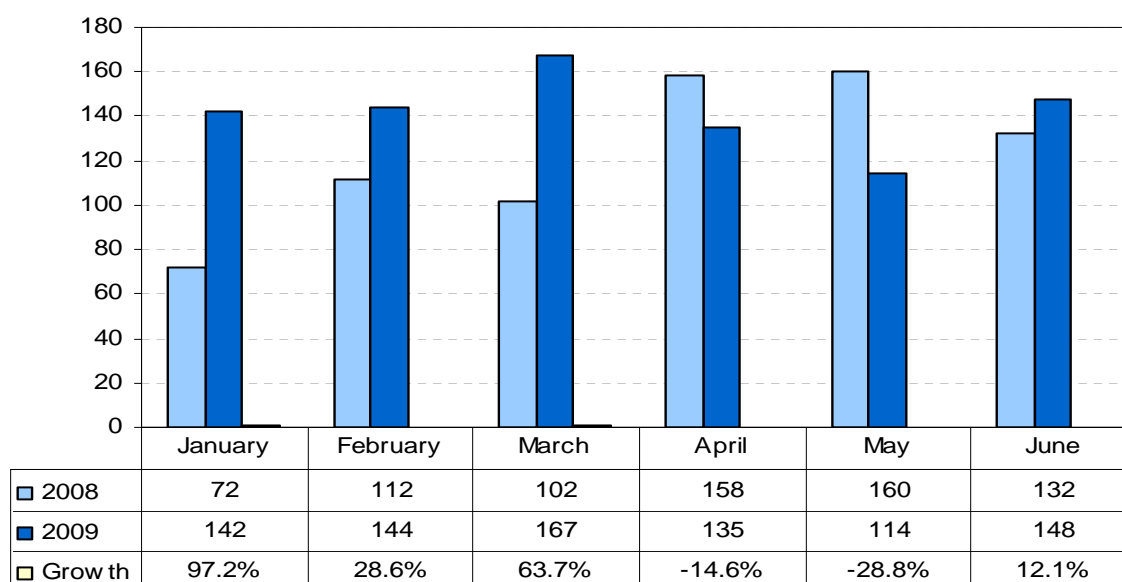
International Registrations

From January to June 2009, the International Bureau recorded 850 international registrations. This represented a 15.5% increase relative to the same period in 2008. The graphs below compare total and monthly figures up to June 30, 2009.

Graph 1 – Registrations Recorded in January-June 2009 (relative to 2008)



Graph 2 – Registrations Recorded in January-June 2008-2009 (by month)



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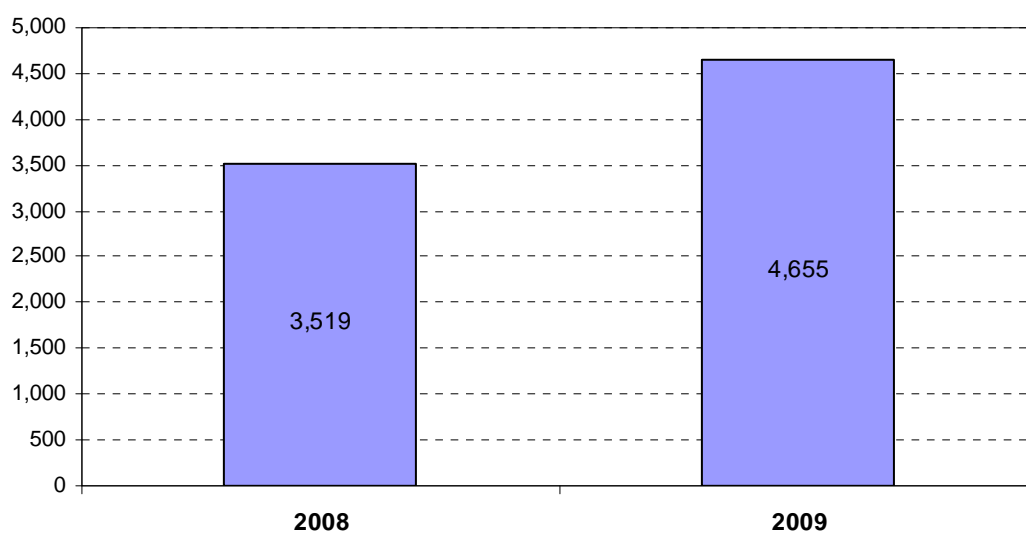
Designs contained in registrations

The international registrations recorded by the International Bureau from January to June 2009 contained 4,655 designs.

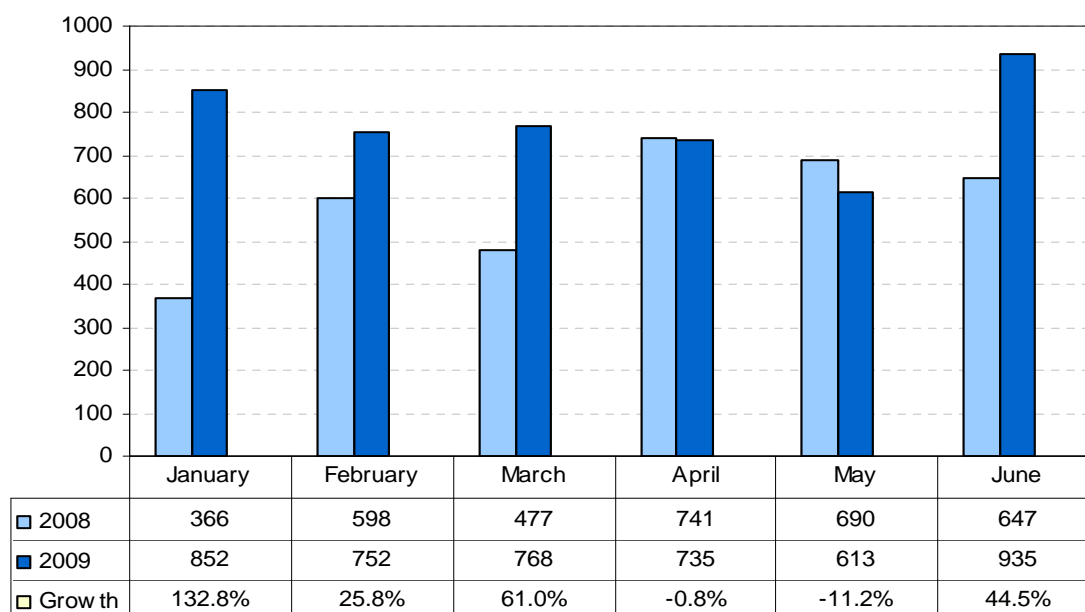
This represented a 32.3% increase relative to the same period in 2008.

The graphs below compare total and monthly figures up to June 30, 2009.

Graph 3 – Designs recorded in January-June 2009 (relative to 2008)

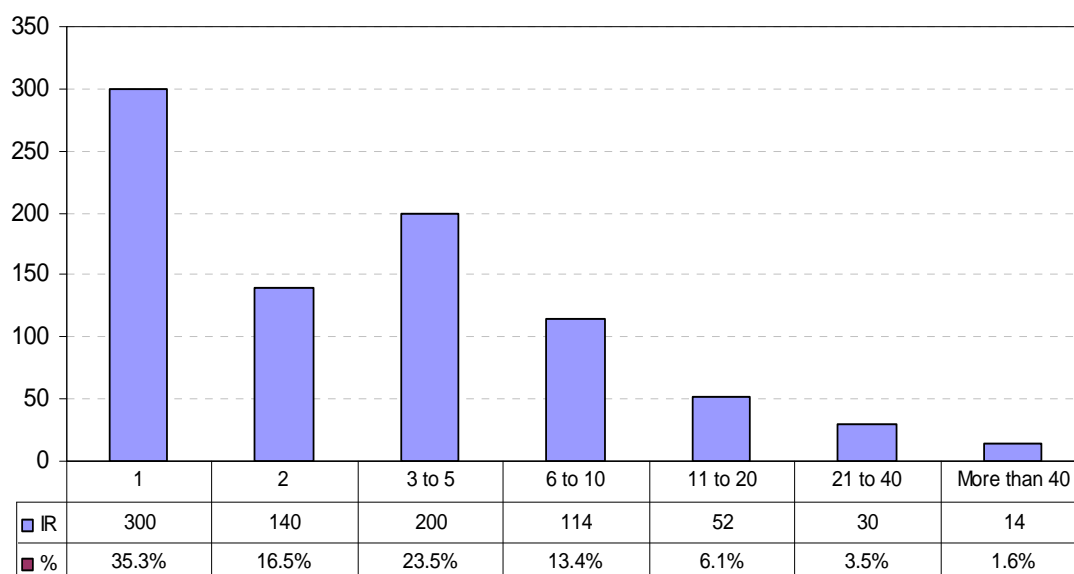


Graph 4 – Designs recorded in January-June 2008-2009 (by month)

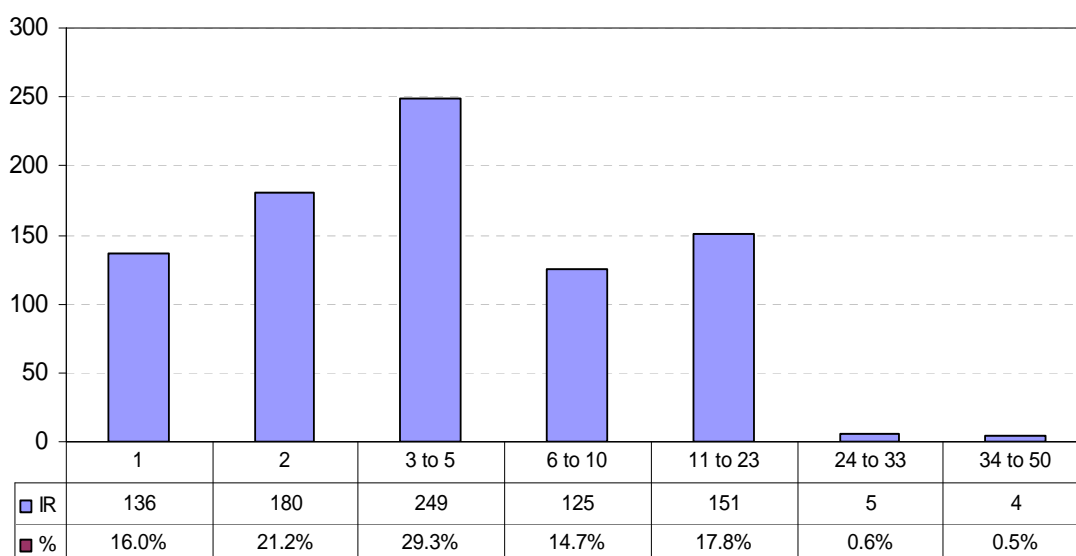


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Graph 5 – Number of Designs per Registration by June 2009

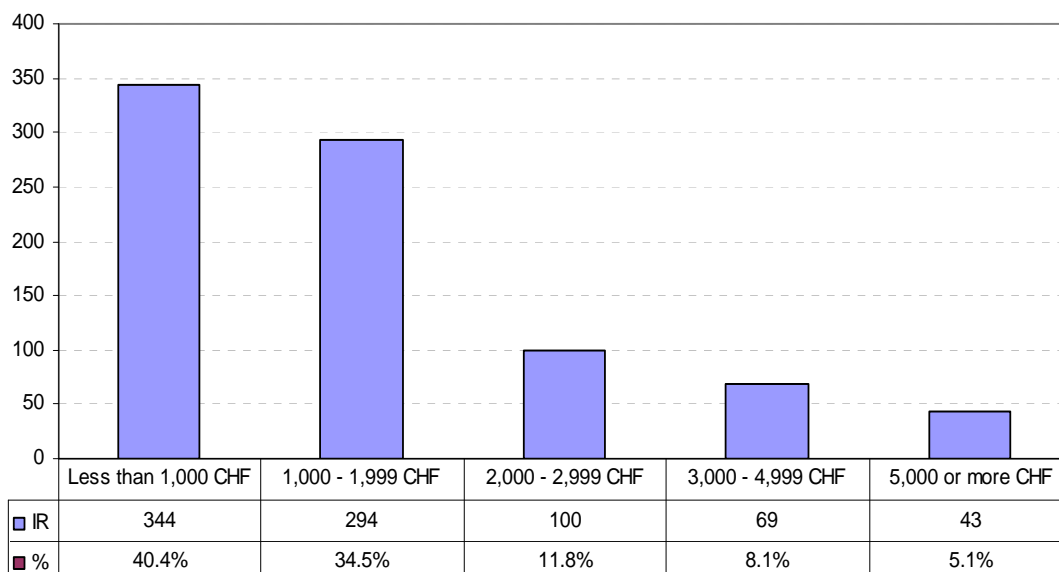


Graph 6 – Designations per Registration by June 2009



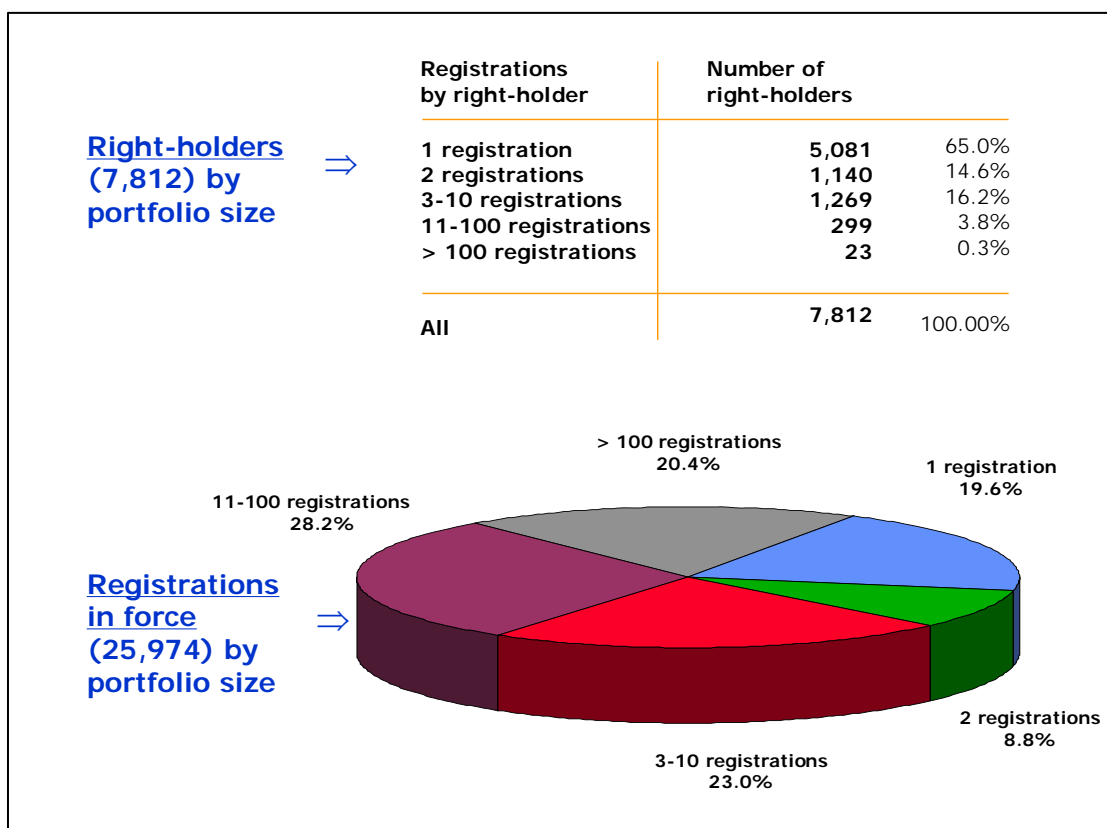
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Graph 7 – Amounts of Fees Paid per Registration by June 2009



Graph 8 – International Registrations in Force in the International Register

On June 30, 2009

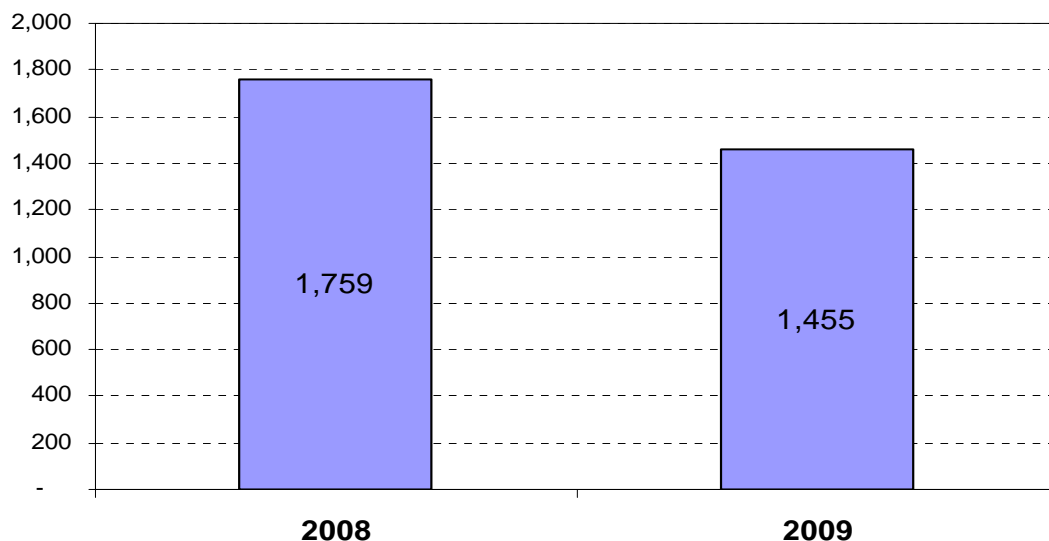


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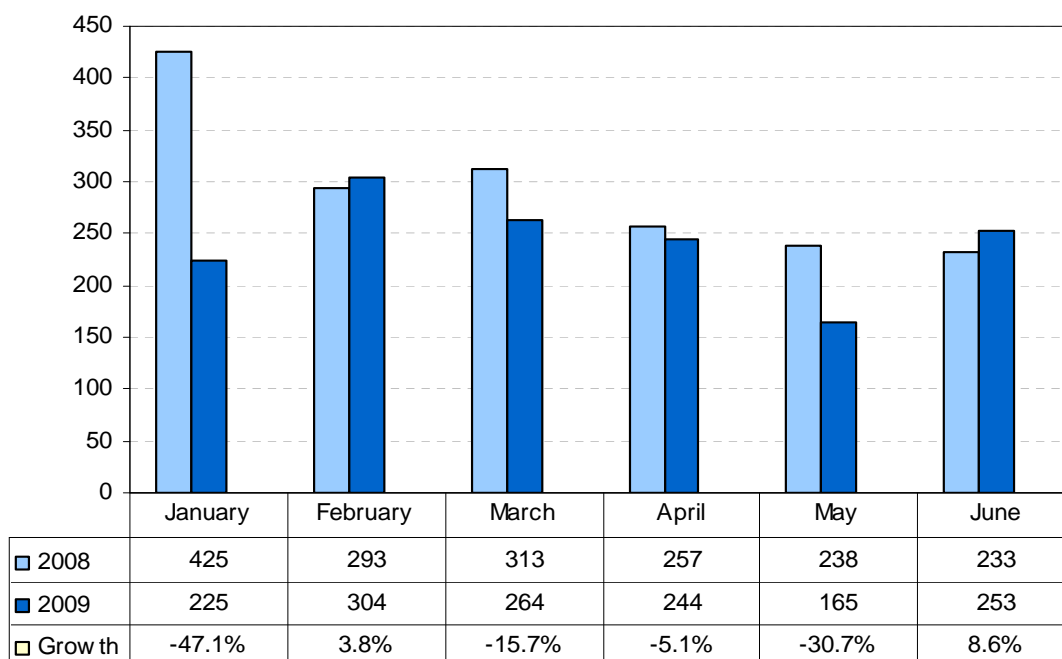
Renewals

From January to June 2009, the International Bureau recorded 1,455 renewals. This represented a 17.3% decrease relative to the same period in 2008. The graphs below compare total and monthly figures up to June 30, 2009.

Graph 9 – Renewals Recorded in January-June 2009 (relative to 2008)



Graph 10 – Renewals Recorded in January-June 2008-2009 (by month)



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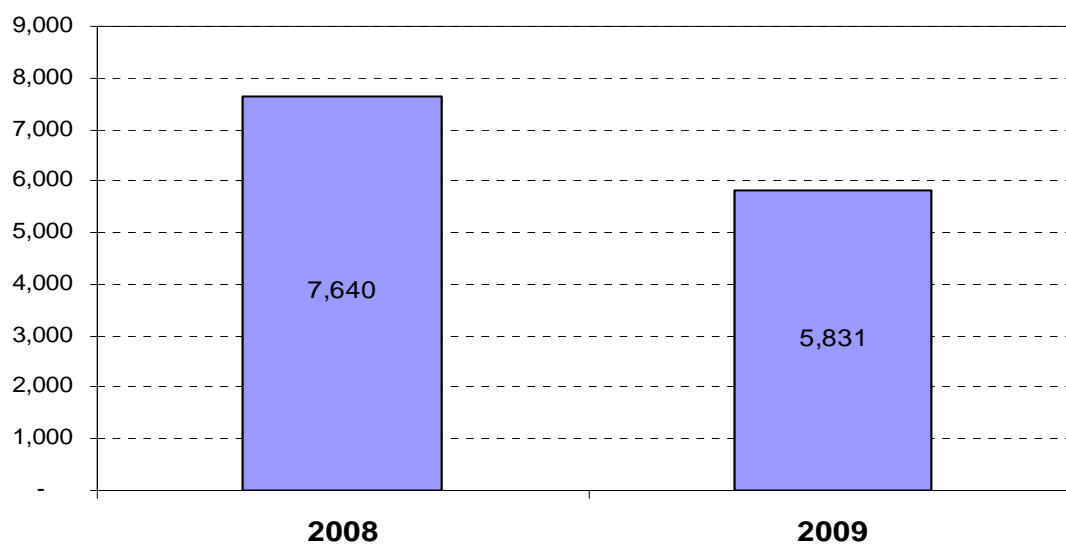
Designs Contained in Renewals

From January to June 2009, the International Bureau recorded 5,831 designs contained in renewals.

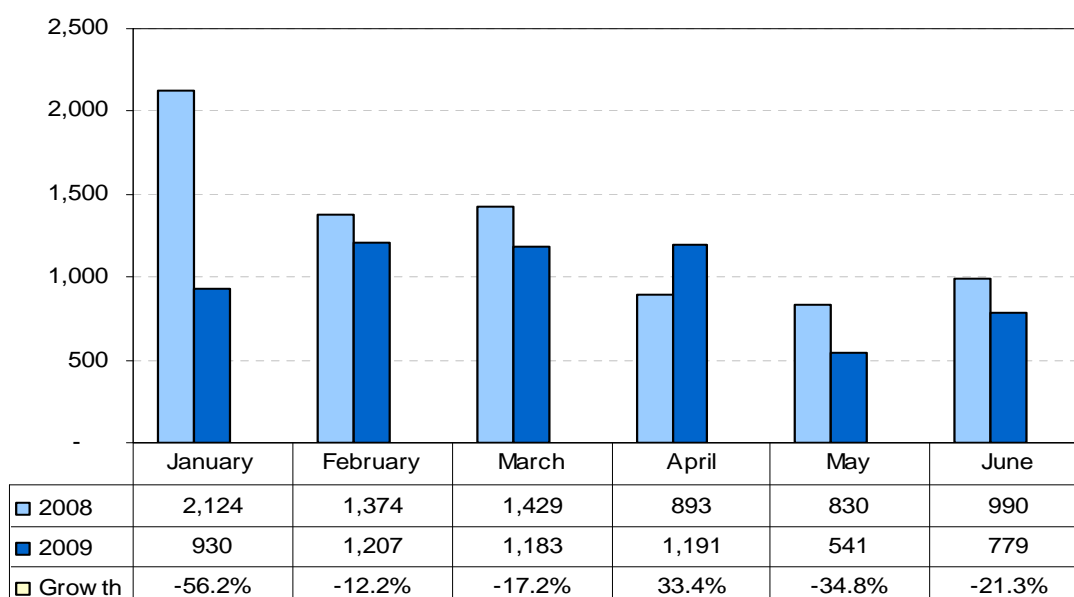
This represented a 23.7% decrease relative to the same period in 2008.

The graphs below compare total and monthly figures up to June 30, 2009.

Graph 11 – Designs Renewed in January-June 2009 (relative to 2008)



Graph 12 – Designs Renewed in January-June 2008-2009 (by month)

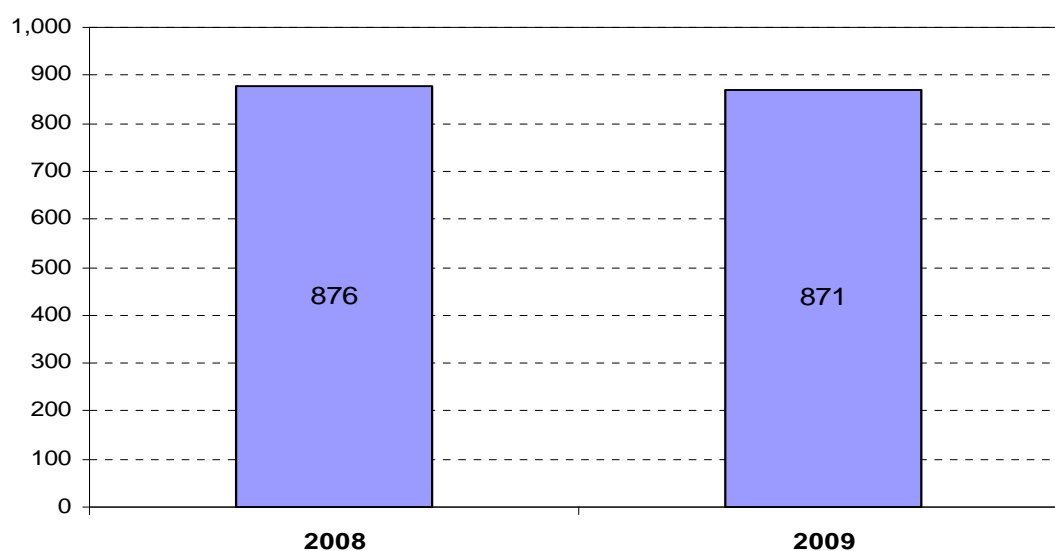


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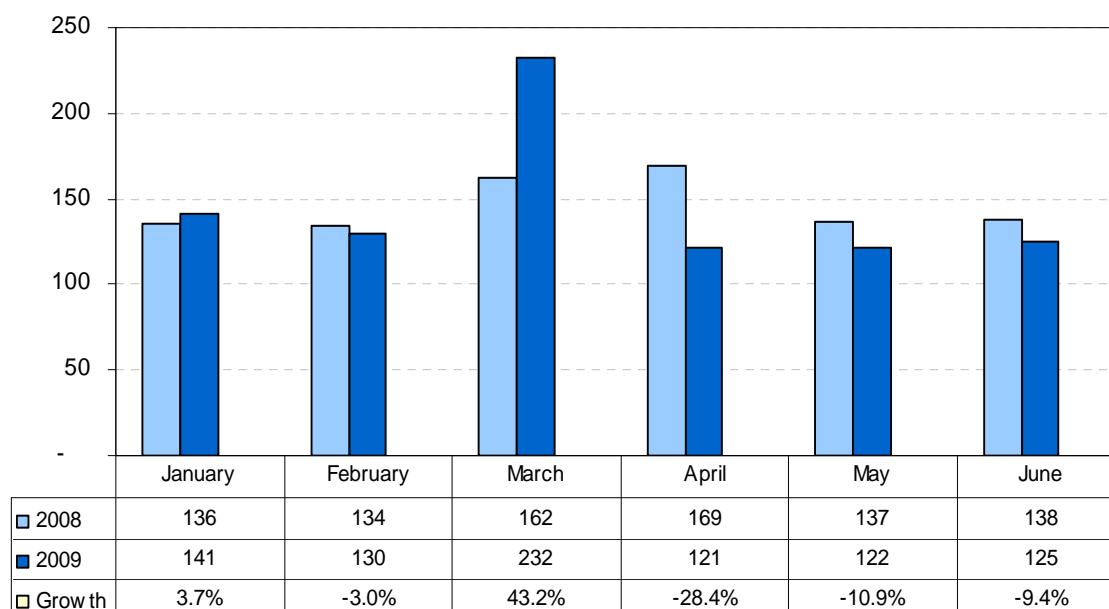
Filing Trends (Global)

From January to June 2009, the International Bureau received 871 international applications. This represented a 0.6% decrease relative to the same period in 2008. The graphs below compare total and monthly figures up to June 30, 2009.

Graph 13 – Applications Received in January-June 2009 (relative to 2008)



Graph 14 – Applications Received in January-June 2008-2009 (by month)



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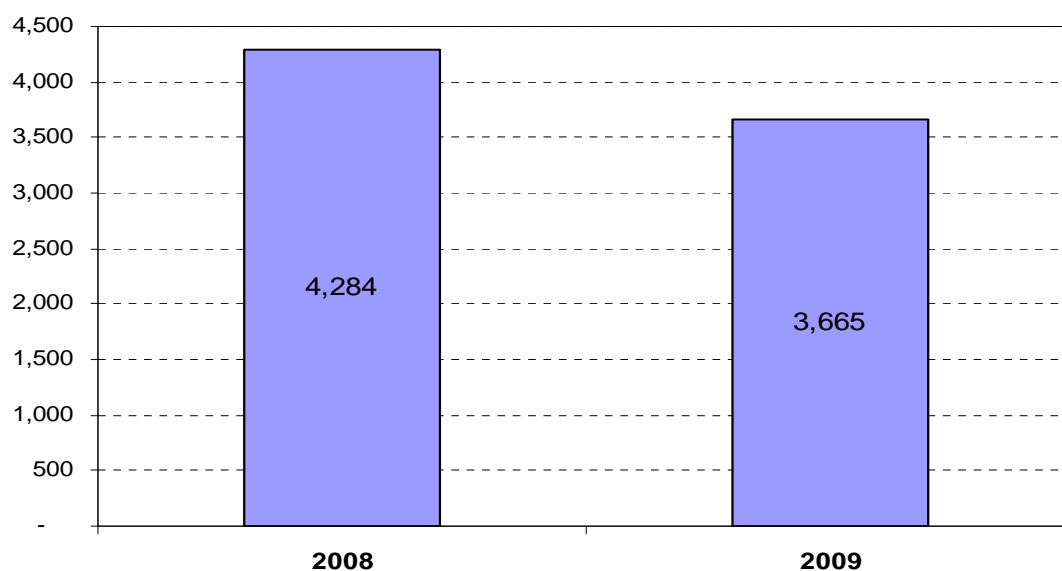
Designs Contained in Applications

From January to June 2009, the International Bureau received 3,665 designs contained in international applications.

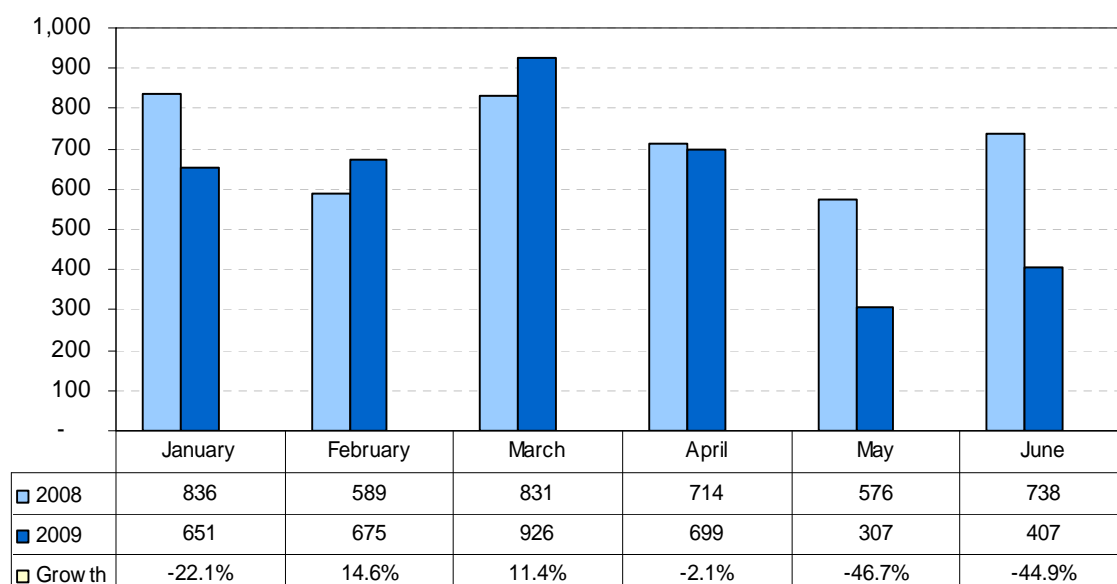
This represented a 14.4% decrease relative to the same period in 2008.

The graphs below compare total and monthly figures up to June 30, 2009.

Graph 15 – Designs Received in January-June 2009 (relative to 2008)



Graph 16 – Designs Received in January-June 2008-2009 (by month)



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Table 5

Applications by Contracting Party Applications filed from January to June 2009

Share of total number of filings in 2009 and growth rate relative to 2008

	<u>Contracting Party of Origin</u>	<u>Jan-Jun 2008</u>	<u>Jan-Jun 2009</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Growth</u>
1	African Intellectual Property Organization (OA)	-	1	0.1%	-
2	Albania (AL)	0	0	0.0%	-
3	Armenia (AM)	1	0	0.0%	-100.0%
4	Belize (BZ)	0	0	0.0%	-
5	Benelux (BX)	1	3	0.3%	200.0%
6	Benin (BJ)	0	0	0.0%	-
7	Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA)	-	0	0.0%	-
8	Botswana (BW)	0	0	0.0%	-
9	Bulgaria (BG)	3	6	0.7%	100.0%
10	Côte d'Ivoire (CI)	0	0	0.0%	-
11	Croatia (HR)	3	1	0.1%	-66.7%
12	Democratic People's Republic of Korea (KP)	0	0	0.0%	-
13	Denmark (DK)	-	5	0.6%	-
14	Egypt (EG)	0	0	0.0%	-
15	Estonia (EE)	0	0	0.0%	-
16	European Community (EM)	398	369	42.4%	-7.3%
17	France (FR)	115	102	11.7%	-11.3%
18	Gabon (GA)	0	0	0.0%	-
19	Georgia (GE)	0	1	0.1%	-
20	Germany (DE)	7	1	0.1%	-85.7%
21	Ghana (GH)	-	0	0.0%	-
22	Greece (GR)	0	0	0.0%	-
23	Hungary (HU)	3	2	0.2%	-33.3%
24	Iceland (IS)	0	1	0.1%	-
25	Indonesia (ID)	0	0	0.0%	-
26	Italy (IT)	1	0	0.0%	-100.0%
27	Kyrgyzstan (KG)	0	0	0.0%	-
28	Latvia (LV)	0	0	0.0%	-
29	Liechtenstein (LI)	6	5	0.6%	-16.7%
30	Lithuania (LT)	-	1	0.1%	-
31	Mali (ML)	0	0	0.0%	-
32	Republic of Moldova (MD)	3	2	0.2%	-33.3%
33	Monaco (MC)	1	0	0.0%	-100.0%
34	Mongolia (MN)	0	0	0.0%	-
35	Montenegro (ME)	0	0	0.0%	-
36	Morocco (MA)	2	3	0.3%	50.0%
37	Namibia (NA)	0	0	0.0%	-
38	Netherlands Antilles (AN)	0	0	0.0%	-
39	Niger (NE)	0	0	0.0%	-
40	Oman (OM)	-	0	0.0%	-
41	Romania (RO)	1	1	0.1%	0.0%

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	<u>Contracting Party of Origin</u>	<u>Jan-June 2008</u>	<u>Jan-June 2009</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Growth</u>
42	Sao Tome and Principe (ST)	-	0	0.0%	-
43	Senegal (SN)	1	0	0.0%	-100.0%
44	Serbia (RS)	0	0	0.0%	-
45	Singapore (SG)	0	0	0.0%	-
46	Slovenia (SI)	4	2	0.2%	-50.0%
47	Spain (ES)	6	5	0.6%	-16.7%
48	Suriname (SR)	0	0	0.0%	-
49	Switzerland (CH)	305	324	37.2%	6.2%
50	Syrian Arab Republic (SY)	0	0	0.0%	-
51	The F.Y.R. of Macedonia (MK)	1	0	0.0%	-100.0%
52	Tunisia (TN)	0	0	0.0%	-
53	Turkey (TR)	14	34	3.9%	142.9%
54	Ukraine (UA)	0	2	0.2%	-
	Total	876	871	100%	-0.6%

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Table 6

All Designated Contracting Parties

Members Designated in Registrations (January to June 2009)

Share of total number of designations in 2009 and growth rate relative to 2008

	<u>Designated Contracting Party</u>	<u>Jan-Jun 2008</u>	<u>Jan-Jun 2009</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Growth</u>
1	African Intellectual Property Organization (OA)	-	17	0.3%	-
2	Albania (AL)	150	100	1.9%	-33.3%
3	Armenia (AM)	141	97	1.8%	-31.2%
4	Belize (BZ)	120	86	1.6%	-28.3%
5	Benelux (BX)	118	66	1.2%	-44.1%
6	Benin (BJ)	20	6	0.1%	-70.0%
7	Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA)	-	17	0.3%	-
8	Botswana (BW)	17	14	0.3%	-17.6%
9	Bulgaria (BG)	35	15	0.3%	-57.1%
10	Côte d'Ivoire (CI)	25	6	0.1%	-76.0%
11	Croatia (HR)	287	218	4.0%	-24.0%
12	D.P.R. of Korea (KP)	126	32	0.6%	-74.6%
13	Denmark (DK)	-	6	0.1%	-
14	Egypt (EG)	220	130	2.4%	-40.9%
15	Estonia (EE)	20	16	0.3%	-20.0%
16	European Community (EM)	412	614	11.4%	49.0%
17	France (FR)	136	80	1.5%	-41.2%
18	Gabon (GA)	13	3	0.1%	-76.9%
19	Georgia (GE)	174	113	2.1%	-35.1%
20	Germany (DE)	116	80	1.5%	-31.0%
21	Ghana (GH)	-	5	0.1%	-
22	Greece (GR)	70	28	0.5%	-60.0%
23	Holy See (VA)	0	1	0.0%	-
24	Hungary (HU)	58	21	0.4%	-63.8%
25	Iceland (IS)	34	36	0.7%	5.9%
26	Indonesia (ID)	240	203	3.8%	-15.4%
27	Italy (IT)	114	62	1.2%	-45.6%
28	Kyrgyzstan (KG)	137	98	1.8%	-28.5%
29	Latvia (LV)	15	11	0.2%	-26.7%
30	Liechtenstein (LI)	221	165	3.1%	-25.3%
31	Lithuania (LT)	-	10	0.2%	-
32	Mali (ML)	11	3	0.1%	-72.7%
33	Republic of Moldova (MD)	160	107	2.0%	-33.1%
34	Monaco (MC)	227	192	3.6%	-15.4%
35	Mongolia (MN)	137	94	1.7%	-31.4%
36	Montenegro (ME)	194	136	2.5%	-29.9%
37	Morocco (MA)	210	196	3.6%	-6.7%
38	Namibia (NA)	18	15	0.3%	-16.7%
39	Netherlands Antilles (AN)	195	160	3.0%	-17.9%
40	Niger (NE)	13	4	0.1%	-69.2%
41	Oman (OM)	-	38	0.7%	-
42	Romania (RO)	27	27	0.5%	0.0%

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	<u>Designated Contracting Party</u>	<u>Jan-Jun 2008</u>	<u>Jan-Jun 2009</u>	<u>Share</u>	<u>Growth</u>
43	Sao Tome and Principe (ST)	-	2	0.0%	-
44	Senegal (SN)	22	7	0.1%	-68.2%
45	Serbia (RS)	204	82	1.5%	-59.8%
46	Singapore (SG)	242	263	4.9%	8.7%
47	Slovenia (SI)	56	30	0.6%	-46.4%
48	Spain (ES)	86	52	1.0%	-39.5%
49	Suriname (SR)	22	12	0.2%	-45.5%
50	Switzerland (CH)	602	608	11.3%	1.0%
51	Syrian Arab Republic (SY)	3	22	0.4%	633.3%
52	The F.Y.R. of Macedonia (MK)	214	160	3.0%	-25.2%
53	Tunisia (TN)	231	197	3.7%	-14.7%
54	Turkey (TR)	317	378	7.0%	19.2%
55	Ukraine (UA)	295	242	4.5%	-18.0%
	Total	6,505	5,383	100%	-17.2%

**Members of the Hague Union
grouped according to the Act or Acts by which they are bound**

Bound by the 1999 Act only:

African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Denmark, Estonia, European Community, Ghana, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Namibia, Oman, Poland³, Sao Tome and Principe, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey (18)

Bound by the 1999 and the 1960 Acts:

Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine (12)

Bound by the 1999 and the 1934 Acts:

Egypt, Spain (2)

Bound by the three Acts of the Hague Agreement:

France, Liechtenstein, Switzerland (3)

Bound by the 1960 Act only:

Belgium, Belize, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Gabon, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Mali, Montenegro, Niger, Serbia (11)

Bound by the 1960 and the 1934 Acts:

Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Germany, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands⁴, Senegal, Suriname (8)

Bound by the 1934 Act only:

Indonesia⁵, Tunisia (2)

³ Accession by Poland was received on April 2, 2009 and became effective on July 2, 2009.

⁴ The 1960 Act applies only in respect of the territory in Europe. The 1934 Act applies only in respect of the Netherlands Antilles.

⁵ Indonesia submitted its instrument of denunciation of the 1934 Act to the Director General of WIPO on June 3, 2009. This denunciation shall therefore be effective from June 3, 2010.