



Wolfgang Pilch

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Mr Pilch started his professional career after finishing his studies at the Technical University of Vienna in 1969. In 1970 he began to work for the Austrian Patent Office as examiner for computer hardware. In 1971 he became involved in the preparation of an Austrian bid for the WIPO plan for an international patent documentation centre.

Austria was selected by WIPO and INPADOC was founded in 1972. 1973 Mr. Pilch became its technical director and stayed in this post until 1990. During this time INPADOC created a bibliographic patent database which was updated by regular deliveries from patent offices and institutions from all continents. These data were offered to patent offices as well as to private industries in the form of microfiche services, later on online. During this time Mr. Pilch had the opportunity to discuss the needs of the customers as well as the possibilities of the patent offices in bilateral talks as well as in user meetings worldwide. WIPO missions brought him to China, India and Bahrain. He developed features of the INPADOC services especially the INPADOC patent family service as well as special programs like a tool to query the Kanji-based PATOLIS database and to derive the answers in plain English. He presented papers in the US in Japan and in many venues in Europe. 1991 INPADOC was incorporated in the European Patent office which based its EPIDOS product line on the services of the former INPADOC.

Mr. Pilch became director in the Vienna sub-office of the European Patent Office. Five years later he went back to the Austrian Patent office where he is involved in special tasks, mostly outside of the field of patent documentation.

In June 2003 Mr. Pilch became principal director for patent information in the European Patent-Office and head of the Vienna Sub-Office of the European Patent Office.