

**ANALYSIS OF SURVEY RESULTS
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WIPO STANDARD ST.91**

*Survey results presented to the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS)
at its twelfth session on September 19, 2024*

INTRODUCTION

1. At its eleventh session, held in December 2023, the Committee on WIPO Standards (CWS) approved the questionnaire on the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.91 by Intellectual Property Offices (IPOs). The CWS requested the Secretariat to issue a circular inviting IPOs to respond to this survey (see paragraph 87 of document CWS/11/27).

SURVEY RESULTS

2. In March 2024, the Secretariat issued the circular C.CWS.179 inviting IPOs to participate in the survey on implementation of the WIPO Standard ST.91. The survey was conducted from March to April 2024.

3. The 22 CWS Members took part in the survey: Offices from the following Member States - Australia (AU), Bhutan (BT), Bulgaria (BG), Canada (CA), Croatia (HR), Czech Republic (CZ), Estonia (EE), Gambia (GM), Germany (DE), Hungary (HU), Italy (IT), Japan (JP), Lithuania (LT), Namibia (NA), Republic of Korea (KR), Russian Federation (RU), Slovakia (SK), Syrian Arab Republic (SY) and United Kingdom (GB); and the following regional Offices - Eurasian Patent Office (EA), European Patent Office (EP) and European Union Intellectual Property Office (EM). The individual responses by IPOs and collated responses are available in [Part 7 of the WIPO Handbook](#).

SURVEY ANALYSIS

4. Among the responses, 12 respondents (55 per cent) indicated that they still do not use 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures; nine (41 per cent) indicated their use; and one (five per cent) indicated a special use-case in its response.

5. Among the respondents who are using 3D models, images or chemical structures in their practice: 67 per cent use 3D for industrial designs, 56 per cent use 3D for trademarks, 44 per cent use 3D for patents, 22 per cent use 3D for utility models; and 22 per cent use 3D for other IP rights.

6. It is also important to note that among the respondent Offices, the majority (64 per cent) do not implement WIPO ST.91 while 27 per cent partially implement and nine per cent fully implement the Standard.

7. Regarding the use of file formats recommended by WIPO ST.91 which are currently received by IPOs:

IP Right	File format most used (listed in order)
Trademark	OBJ, STL, 3D PDF
Industrial Designs	3D PDF, OBJ, STL, STEP
Patent (including chemical structures)	3D PDF, STEP
Utility models	3D PDF

8. Regarding the publication of 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures, recommended by WIPO ST.91, respondent Offices indicated that most do not publish 3D information received even if the 3D was accepted. The most used formats for trademarks are OBJ and STL while the most commonly used formats for publication for industrial designs, patents and utility models is 3D PDF. Similarly, in the question regarding paper publication of 3D, most of the respondent Offices do not publish information of 3D models, 3D images or 3D chemical structures on paper even if they were accepted by the Office. The IPOs, which do publish 3D objects on paper, publish the filed 3D objects using 2D representations generated from the source 3D models or 3D images for all IP rights indicated in the survey.

9. It is important to note that no IPO uses any of the recommended 3D formats for integrated circuit topology, for filing or publication.

10. During examination, the majority of respondent Offices use 2D representations for the comparison of the 3D models and 3D images rather than the 3D models or images themselves.

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