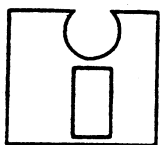


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INTERNATIONALFEDERATIONOF
INVENTORS' ASSOCIATIONS
(IFIA)



WORLDINTELLECTUAL
PROPERTYORGANIZATION

INVENTORS AT THE DAWN OF THE NEW MILLENNIUM: WIPO-IFIA INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

organized by
the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
and
the International Federation of Inventors' Associations (IFIA)
in cooperation with
the Government of Argentina
and
the Argentine Association of Inventors (AAI)

Buenos Aires, September 5 to 8, 2000

WIPO PATENT INFORMATION SERVICES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Document prepared by the International Bureau

INTRODUCTION

1. Patent documents contain descriptions of scientific and technical concepts as well as practical details of processes and apparatus. Before the full technological value of patent documents can be appreciated, it is necessary to understand why patent documents are published and the role they play in the economic and technical development of a country. Patent documents possess both a legal and a technical significance that is not easy to differentiate. It is thus essential to understand the basic concepts of the patent system in order to fully discuss the technological impact patent documents make.

INVENTION AND PATENT

2. An "invention" may be described as a new solution to a technical problem. The problem may be old or new. But the solution, in order to merit the name of invention, must be a new one, that is, one which has never been thought of before or at least, if thought of by someone, not published by him so that it became accessible to others.

3. The problem must be a "technical" one. The word "technical" has different meanings, depending on the context in which it is used. In connection with inventions, "technical" implies that the invention must be usable in practice, in industry, and that it cannot consist of the mere recognition of a law of nature (such recognition is called a scientific discovery and not a technological invention).

4. An invention—because it is usable in industry—is economically valuable. It enables industry to make new products, or make products more economically (faster, more cheaply), or to improve existing products (by making them more precise, yielding better or faster results when they are used).

5. Inventions are rarely the result of an accidental or an instantaneous stroke of genius. They are usually the result of long and hard thinking and experimentation with the precise aim and hope of arriving at a new solution amounting to an invention. In other words, inventions are usually the result of methodical research.

6. It is not only just, but it is also necessary, in order to encourage the investment required for research, that an invention, once made, should be allowed to be used, at least for a limited time, only by the person whomade it (the inventor) or by the enterprise for which it was made (the employer of the inventor). Such exclusivity of use of the invention, for a limited period of time (maximum 20 years, generally speaking), is assured to the inventor (or to his employer) by law, namely the patent law, but only in the country or territory subject to the law. In return for the grant of a patent, the inventor places the technological information surrounding his invention in the public domain. This is achieved by the industrial property office publishing a patent document.

7. An extremely important aspect, in particular for the users of patent information in developing countries, is the fact that any invention which is not protected in a given country, is considered as being in the public domain in that country. In other words, that invention could be used in the said country for its own technology development without the risk of infringement.

NUMBER OF PATENT APPLICATIONS AND GRANTS

8. According to recent statistics, the number of patent applications which are held in the world each year is well over two million. Those applications result in the grant of more than half a million patents. The number of inventions which are covered by those patent applications and grants is much smaller since each invention gives rise to an average of two to three patent applications in different countries. The number of patent documents published each year, both applications and granted patents, is over two million, in many different languages. Below, statistics are given for the major patenting countries.

Patents	Applications	Grants
Japan	417974	147686
United States of America	236692	111984
Germany	175595	55053
United Kingdom	148209	44754
Republic of Korea	129982	24579
Sweden	115000	19412
Spain	113767	20613
Switzerland	112852	18083
France	112631	50448
Austria	111224	16025
Finland	109437	2315
Denmark	109061	12103
Portugal	106687	7229
Luxembourg	106484	8981
Italy	91410	28096
Netherlands	90629	23794
Belgium	86645	17673
Ireland	83430	6889
Greece	82443	8555
Monaco	81270	3791
China	61382	3494
Canada	54446	7283
Sub-Totals	2737250	638840

9. The above figures are based on WIPO statistics for 1997. Where a country is a party to an international or regional arrangement, e.g. the PCT or the EPO, the figures include all international or regional applications in which that country was designated. The sub-total of patent applications given above for 20 countries represents over 60% of the total patent applications filed by 106 countries and organizations in 1997.

10. There are no exact statistics on the number of patent documents published so far from the beginning of the time when patents were first published. They can, however, be estimated at over 38 million. Normally, only the recent ones are of practical importance for those searching technological information; the older ones are frequently only of historical interest. Nevertheless, access to the older ones is an absolute necessity for any Industrial Property Office whose law requires it to pass a judgement on the question of whether a given patent application related to an invention is, objectively, new, since such a judgement requires looking at all the existing patent documents likely to disclose a similar invention.

By observing these figures the case for the computerization of industrial property offices seem to be evident.

ADVANTAGES OF PATENT DOCUMENTS AS A SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT

11. For technology assessment, patent documents generally convey the most recent information. This is because applicants are in a hurry; usually the applicant who was the first to apply among several persons applying for a similar invention will be granted the patent, whereas the applications of the others will be denied; furthermore, only with a patent in his hand does an inventor have the maximum legal means at his disposal for contesting the use of his invention by others against his will; finally, an inventor with a patent usually can stipulate a higher sales price or royalty for selling or licensing his invention than if he does not, or does not yet, have a patent.
12. Patent documents generally have a fairly uniform structure: the claims give the essence of what is new; the description gives the background to the invention (what was known before the invention, i.e., the "prior art"), and defines the difference between the pre-existing technology and what the invention contributes, as a new matter, as a step forward, to technology development; this means, among other things, and, as distinct from scientific or technological articles, that the reader of patent documents does not first have to familiarize himself with, and adjust his mental processes to the mental processes—different for every author—of the author of a scientific article; in other words, this fairly uniform structure of patent documents makes their reading, once one gets accustomed to it, generally easier.
13. Patent documents generally disclose technological information by describing the inventions in accordance with the requirements of the applicable patent law and by indicating the claimed novelty and inventiveness by reference to the existing state of the art. They are thus sources of information not only on what is new (the invention) but also on what is already known (i.e., the state-of-the-art), and in many cases furnish a history, in summary form, of the technological development in the field to which they relate. Certain patent documents are published together with search reports showing a series of references found while carrying out a documentary search made to establish in a first instance the level of novelty of the claimed invention.
14. Patent documents generally cover most of what is new and most of what is worthwhile knowing about technological development; this is shown not only by the great number of patents but also by the fact that they cover every branch—big or small, relatively simple or sophisticated—of technology. Naturally there are certain inventions, mainly in the field of arms and warfare, which are not or cannot be patented or are patented but not published because their publication could be prejudicial to national security. But, on the whole, such inventions constitute a relatively small percentage of all the inventions made.
15. Patent documents generally contain information which is not divulged in any other form of literature. Thus it is wrong to consider that relevant information contained in patent documents will come to one's notice by other means. An investigation made by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office shows that as much as 70% of the technology disclosed in U.S. patent documents from 1967 to 1972 had not been disclosed in non-patent literature.

16. Many patent documents contain an abstract. Abstracts allow a general idea to be formed of the contents of the document within a few minutes, and in any case a much shorter time than would be required to read the full text of the patent document (an inventory of currently available, or planned, CD-ROM products containing abstracts and full text patent documents, is given in Annex I).
17. Patent documents bear "classification symbols." For the purposes of maintaining search files and performing searches for the state of the art, patent offices classify patent documents according to the field or fields of technology to which their contents relate. A number of different classification systems exist. The International Patent Classification (IPC) has been established by an intergovernmental agreement, and is now applied by at least 50 Patent Offices.
18. The main part of the high cost of processing and classifying patent documents for building up search files, and of keeping the classification system up to date, is borne directly by the patent offices which publish large numbers of patent documents; users other than the Patent Office itself thus have access to patent documentation without incurring, in addition to their costs as users, the cost of maintaining, developing and classifying their own patent documentation collections.
19. Patent documents belonging to a given classification subdivision contain a highly concentrated supply of usually technical and advanced information on a given technological field.
20. Patent documents bear a date from which conclusions can be drawn as to the age of an invention and to the question of whether the invention they describe is still under legal protection. If they are no longer legally protected, they can be used without the consent of the patentee.
21. Patent documents mostly indicate the name and address of the applicant, the patentee, and the inventor, or at least one or two of those persons. These indications allow any potential licensee to contact the persons concerned in order to find out under what conditions the technology may be transferred.
22. Patent documents often disclose not only concepts concerning the general utility of the invention, but generally also give detailed information on the possibility of its practical application in industry.
23. Since the technological information contained in patent documents is not secret, it can be freely used to support research and development activities; if a given invention is not protected by a patent in the country of the user (and it is obvious from the statistics that only a minority of inventions are ever protected in the majority of developing countries), the said invention can even be put to industrial application in that country, although the results of that industrial application cannot be exported to another country where the invention is protected by a patent.
24. The above-mentioned specific characteristics of patent documents make them eminently useful sources of technological information, with some clear advantages over other sources of information.

PUBLICATION OF PATENT INFORMATION

25. Each publication of a patent document could be the basis for new technical developments of other inventors. Without publication there would be no chance at all for the public to obtain information about new technical developments. It is therefore understood that informing the public is one of the tasks to be fulfilled by an industrial property office. In the last 30 years an important change has taken place. Most industrial property offices have decided to increase their public information capacity and they have also realized that the task of informing the public might in future be of equal importance to the task of granting patents and registering trademarks and designs.

26. A patent system always has and still has two functions. Function one could be called the "protection function," function two "the information function." The fact that a patent gives an inventor exclusive rights in a special field and by doing so limits the possibilities of access to this special technology for other enterprises, is compensated by the information about the newly developed technology which is to be laid open by the inventor. This second function of the patent is not only the main cause for the continuous development of technology but is also of increasing importance for industrial property offices.

27. High quality information systems are created and permanently upgraded and have become one of the main tasks of a national patent organization. For research and development activities this new task might be of more importance than the original main function of a patent office, namely the granting of patents. Information is now one of the main products of national economies.

28. In spite of the advantages and possibilities of patent publications as a source of technological information, its use is unexpectedly low. A test in 1985 dealing with this problem and concerning technology and innovation in Austria found that only 4% of the enterprises used patent literature as an innovative instrument. It is of great interest that the influence of patent information increases in relation to the size of the research and development institution or the enterprise; companies with more than 100 staff have a percentage of 18.5. Enterprises with less than 100 staff used patent literature in only 2-3% of all cases in the first stage of development. This result correlates with a much more intensive patent activity in larger enterprises. Only 5% of the enterprises of this study had 500 and more employees but 55% of the applications originated from this group. The "Info-Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung" in Munich carried out another innovation test: patent literature as an innovative instrument was the last of all possible items to be chosen under 10 possibilities.

29. The low utilization of patent information is regrettable, because it is a fact that in the EC billions per year — the British Patent Office spoke of about 20 billion Pounds — are wasted to develop things that are already developed and documented in the description of patent specifications. There is no comparable analysis for Austria but the trend is the same. 40% of the patent applications in Austria do not lead to a granted patent, because they do not contain any new aspects. Costs for development and staff could be cut if the relevant patent literature was consulted at an earlier stage in the development.

30. The "Fraunhofer Institut für Systemtechnik und Innovationsforschung in Karlsruhe," Germany, has found out a lot of possible reasons for the low use of patent publications as a source of information. Many users of patent information are not informed about patent literature. It is a general misunderstanding that only basic inventions are protected. This is also one of the reasons why some people expect they have no chance of receiving a patent for their development.

31. People are not aware that also small improvements are disclosed in the descriptions. Even when people know patents as industrial property rights, there seems to be no logical connection between the function of protection and information. A common misunderstanding is that people think they have to pay licenses in any case when they use an invention. They forget that the industrial property right might have expired or that the invention may not be protected in their home country.

32. Without information about the state of the art, the risk is that the same product will be developed a second time. This is an obstacle for technical and economic development and a hindrance to innovation. It is a special task of the national examining patent offices to assist small and medium size enterprises and to eliminate this innovation obstacle. Therefore the highly qualified information services of the national industrial property offices are especially important in those countries where small and medium size enterprises dominate. The question is, therefore, what kind of services should be offered to them by industrial property offices. We know that knowledge about services and especially about the usefulness of patent information is not very high in these enterprises. Industrial property offices offering information services have to increase the public's knowledge about existing services, as well as knowledge about the usefulness of technical information and about the importance of information concerning trademarks, designs and patents on the market. This is commonly called advertising. There is no use in having an excellent service nobody knows about and which therefore nobody requests.

USE OF PATENT INFORMATION

33. The main user groups of patent information are:

- small and medium -size enterprises,
- research and development institutions,
- governmental authorities,
- individual inventors,
- professionals in the field of patents, e.g. administrators, of technical libraries, patent agents, researchers, producers of data banks
- educational institutions and university students

34. The main needs of the users in the field of patent information are:

- knowledge about existing prospective industrial property rights in the country (validity, ownership,...), particularly to avoid infringement actions,
- knowledge about the state of the art in a specific technology in order to be aware of the latest development,
- assessment of novelty and patentability of own developments with a view to applying for a domestic or foreign industrial property right,
- evaluation of a specific technology and identification of possible licensors,
- identification of alternative technology and its sources,
- location of sources of knowledge - how in a specific field in a given country,
- improvement of an existing product or process,
- development of new products or processes,
- solution of a specific technical problem,
- assessment of a particular technical approach (whether it has been tried before and might be worth pursuing or whether it would lead to wasteful duplication of research effort),

- monitoring of activities of competitors both within the country and abroad,
- survey of the market in order to identify a gap or to discover new trends at an early stage.

WIPO PATENT INFORMATION SERVICES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (WPIS) INTRODUCTION

35. One of the principal functions of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is to offer technical assistance to developing countries. This also includes the access to and use of technological information contained in patent documents in order to accelerate their economic, social and cultural development.

SERVICES

36. Since 1975, WIPO has been operating its program to provide users in developing countries with technical information as contained in patent literature. The WIPO Patent Information Services for Developing Countries (WPIS) are offered free of charge on the basis of contributions made by some 15 industrial property offices in industrialized countries, as well as the European Patent Office and the International Bureau of WIPO itself, and include the provision of :

- (i) reports on searches and investigations carried out in patent document collections and on-line databases to establish the state of the art in a specific technology;
- (ii) search and examination reports of applications for patents of the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO) under the Harare Protocol;
- (iii) search and examination reports of applications for patents under the International Cooperation in the Search and Examination of Inventions (ICSEI);
- (iv) information on equivalent patent documents and patent literature cited in earlier examination procedures or identified in documentary searches carried out by other patent offices;
- (v) information on the legal status of published patent applications and granted patents;
- (vi) copies of individual patent documents.

37. These services have proved to be highly successful, which is reflected in the number of users who regularly ask for information, as well as the number and diversity of requests received. From January 1 to December 31, 1999, 1334 search requests (including ICSEI) were received from 42 developing countries. So far, 106 countries and intergovernmental organizations have benefited from WIPO's free-of-charge Patent Information Services. Consequently, WIPO has done its best to meet this increasing demand and to augment both the capacities allotted and the diversity of the services.

38. The program of provision of reports on the state of the art carried out in patent document collections and on-line databases had started in 1975 in cooperation with Austria and was gradually extended to cover contributions from other donor countries. Agreements for the provision of search reports have been concluded between WIPO and the industrial property offices of the following countries: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Russian Federation (former Soviet Union), Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom. In addition, other offices provide assistance in particular cases, and some reports are provided by WIPO itself. The reports established by WIPO are made after carrying out on-line searches in Orbit and Questel host computers. The on-line searches are made possible by the courtesy of INPI, France, and Questel -Orbit. It should be mentioned that by December 31, 1999, more than 12,800 search reports were established and transmitted free -of-

charge to the requestors in 92 developing countries and 14 intergovernmental organizations and countries in transition. These reports also covered special requests for novelty search and substantive examination as to the patentability of patent applications in developing countries as well as special requests for search and examination of patent applications submitted by ARIPO. A cumulative survey of the number of requests for the state-of-the-art reports received from each developing country and intergovernmental organization is in Annex II.

39. There are, in practice, various reasons for requesting searches to be carried out in collections of patent documents and on-line databases, each of which requires a slightly different approach in the search method used. Some of these search "types" are basically concerned with technological information as such, while others are also directed towards patent rights and licenses.

40. Within the framework of the WPIS, searches can be carried out which may serve:

- to determine the general state of the art for the solution of a given technical problem as background information for R&D activities and in order to know what relevant patent documents already exist in the field of the research activity;
- to identify alternative technologies which may replace a known technology or to evaluate a specific technology which is being offered for license or which is being considered for acquisition;
- to locate information about published patent documents involving specific companies or individuals, such as applicants, assignees, patentees or inventors;
- to assist in determining the novelty or lack of novelty of the invention claimed in a patent application or a patent already granted, or even of an invention for which no application has yet been filed;
- to locate documents relevant to the determination not only of novelty but also of other criteria of patentability, such as the presence or absence of an inventive step, meaning the alleged invention is or is not obvious, or the achievement of useful results or technical progress;
- to identify a member of a "patent family" which could be useful in order to
 - find the countries in which a given patent application has been filed (if published);
 - locate the document that is written in a desired language;
 - obtain a list of prior art documents or "Reference Cited";
 - estimate the importance of the invention by number of patent documents relating to the same invention and being published in different countries or by industrial property organizations;
- to obtain information on the validity (status) of a published patent application or a granted patent, on a given date, under the applicable patent legislation in one or more countries. Such information can assist in making decisions on export, for example, or in the negotiation of license agreements. It can also give guidance on the value attached to a particular patent by the patentee.

41. In special cases, WPIS offers substantive examination of patent applications pending in developing countries. The WPIS offers two specific possibilities: a search in the framework of the International Cooperation in the Search and Examination of Inventions (ICSEI) and the search service "Equivalent patent documents and citations."

42. ICSEI, which started in December 1983, assists patent offices of developing countries in assessing novelty and inventive step of patent applications filed with them. A necessary prerequisite of using ICSEI is the availability of the complete text of the patent application which should be transmitted to the International Bureau of WIPO in either English, French, German or Russian.

43. This possibility, which complements the services rendered under ICSEI, has been used successfully in more than 1000 cases by such countries as Argentina, Cambodia, Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Republic of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Philippines, Peru, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, the former Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe and intend to assist industrial property offices of developing countries in examining patent applications pending with them and filed in their respective countries.

44. On the basis of these data, the International Bureau itself can proceed to search on-line for equivalent patent documents published in other countries or by regional or international patent authorities. In the case that equivalent patent documents were published and patent literature was cited during the examination procedure in other offices (normally in the form of search reports annexed to the published patent applications or cited on the first page of the granted patent), the International Bureau secures copies of both these search reports and patent documents cited therein.

45. The cooperation program with the African Regional Industrial Property Organization in examining ARIPO patent applications has been specifically adapted to the provisions of the Harare Protocol on Patents and Industrial Designs of December 10, 1982, and its Implementing Regulations.

46. The WIPO Patent Information Services for Developing Countries also provide free copies of full text of any published patent or patent application as may be specifically requested by the users from developing countries. In case a requested document is published by a country in a language not familiar to the requester, WIPO endeavors to identify the description of the same invention contained in another corresponding patent document published by another country in English. If no corresponding patent is available in a language familiar to the requester, WIPO seeks to obtain the translation of the abstract in English wherever available. Some 30 countries provide free-of-charge copies of their patent documents; however, the main suppliers of free copies are Austria, France, Germany, Japan, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, European Patent Office (EPO) and WIPO. Since 1984, starting date of this copy service, WIPO has received more than 2,800 requests from 50 developing countries and more than 44,000 copies of patent documents published by 37 countries have been supplied and mailed free-of-charge to the requesters.

PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED FOR SUBMITTING A REQUEST UNDER THE WPIS

47. All requests should be submitted to the International Bureau of WIPO in Geneva and should comply with a certain number of requirements which are to be found in the WIPO information brochure "WIPO Patent Information Services for Developing Countries (WPIS)."

48. In order to facilitate compliance with the said requirements, a printed form is to be used as the first page of the request. Search requests can be submitted in English, French, German, Russian or Spanish.

49. It must also be borne in mind that it depends to a large extent on the quality and clarity of the description, the summary, the drawings (if applicable), as well as the correct spelling of names and the completeness of bibliographic data, whether a search can be carried out and whether satisfactory results can be expected within a reasonable period of time or only after time-consuming investigations.

50. This search is carried out by a competent technical expert, mostly a patent examiner in one of the contributing patent offices. As a rule, this examiner uses the search files of his special field and other documentation available at the patent office library. This search is normally carried out without undue delay. Copies of relevant documents found in the course of the search are annexed to the search report. Sample search requests, and the corresponding search reports, are given in the WIPO information brochure "WPIS," which contains some further guidelines on the formulation of search requests, including sample requests which have been properly formulated as well as the forms to be used when submitting requests to the International Bureau of WIPO.

WIPO PROCEDURE IN PROCESSING A REQUEST

51. Immediately after the receipt of a request, a first evaluation is performed at WIPO on the quality and clarity of the description, the summary of the technological problem on which the report is requested, the drawings (if applicable), as well as whether the search should be limited as to period, countries, languages and symbols of the International Patent Classification. In some cases, the International Bureau contacts the requester asking for complementary information before sending the request to the industrial property office (IPO) of one of the donor countries.

52. Once the evaluation of the request has been completed, it is registered using the following code; for example "AT 1672/MX-125":

AT	1672*	MX	125
Code of the donor country where the search will be performed	Sequential number of searches performed by this donor country since it started its contribution	Code of the requester's country	Number of search requests received from the requesters country

*ICSEI and ARIPO searches are not included in these figures.

In case the request is not properly or clearly formulated, the requester is contacted and informed that, in order to process his/her request, additional information is required. Requests may be refused if they relate to sensitive military purposes.

53. After evaluation and registration, the requests are sent to the donor countries' IPOs according to subject, language and geographic preferences pointed out by the donor country. In some cases, requests may have to be translated, in particular in the case of those received in Spanish as the donor countries' IPOs do not process searches in this language.

54. The dates of receipt at WIPO, and the sending off to the donor offices of the search requests, are registered, as well as the date of receipt of each search report containing copies of the relevant patent documents mentioned in the report from the donor country; the dates of sending these documents to the requester are also registered in the file for possible future requests, statistics, etc. These search reports and documents mentioned in them are then sent to

thereque sterswithanaccompanyingletterencouragingthemtocontacttheInternational Bureauonceagainshouldthereportnotfullymeettheirneedsand/orshouldtheywishto receiveadditionalinformationonthesubjectmatteroftheinitialrequest.

55. Asi milarprocedureisfollowedwhenreceivingrequestsforsearchandexamination reports on patent applications under ICSEI or the cooperation program with the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO).

56. Requests for information on equivalent patent documents and patent families are processed directly by the International Bureau by on-line searches in QUESTEL -ORBIT; the information is sent to the requester by fax or via electronic mail immediately. Owing to the cooperation between IPOs of all countries, copies of equivalent patent documents or of the patent families are also received by the International Bureau and sent to the requester.

57. Information concerning the legal status (validity) on a given date of published patent applications and granted patents under the applicable patent legislation in certain countries is also obtained using the WIPO Patent Information Services. For the moment, this service is restricted to patent documents published by the IPOs of Australia, France, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America and by the European Patent Office and some developing countries.

58. Requests for copies of individual patent documents are registered and the copies are ordered from the IPOs of the donor countries. It should be mentioned that all countries contribute to this service, but particularly the IPOs of Austria, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America and the European Patent Office supply an important number of copies of patent documents from their collections.

59. All WIPO Patent Information Services are being computerized to facilitate the handling of requests, accelerate their processing and keep control over every single request. Different software, like PARADOX and EXCEL, are being used.

60. In all cases, requesters of the WIPO Patent Information Service will be advised on whether their requests will be processed. Furthermore, according to the policy of the International Bureau of WIPO, no copies of patent documents, search reports or other information related to arms, chemical warfare, military technologies, etc. will be furnished within the framework of these free-of-charge services.

PRESENTSITUATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO AND QUANTITATIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE SERVICES

61. On December 31, 1999, agreements on contributions to the WPIS were in force with and/or regular contributions were made by the following industrial property offices:

Australia: A capacity of 20 searches on the state of the art per year has been put at the disposal of the International Bureau. Furthermore, the Australian Industrial Property Organization is providing information on the legal status of Australian patent documents, as well as copies of Australian patent documents that WIPO cannot obtain from other contributing offices.

Austria: The Austrian Patent Office continues to provide up to 70 reports on the state of the art, including examination reports under the ICSE and copies of patent documents contained in its files.

Bulgaria: The Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria furnishes up to 15 search reports annually.

Canada: The Canadian Intellectual Property Office contributes by performing up to 25 search and examination reports per year. This figure includes search and examination reports on patent applications filed by ARIPO under the Harare Protocol. The Office also provides copies of Canadian patent documents.

Finland: The Finnish National Board of Patents and Registration provides 15 state-of-the-art search reports per year.

France: The National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) continues providing copies of French patent documents and furnishing information on the legal status of such documents. Since January 1990, INPI has been contributing to the WIPO Patent Information Services for Developing Countries by preparing up to 24 search reports per year. Furthermore, the International Bureau has limited free-of-charge access to the INPI computerized databases as available through QUESTEL-ORBIT, for the benefit of developing countries.

Germany: The German Patent Office provides up to 100 searches annually, including search and examination reports on ARIPO patent applications. It also furnishes copies of German patent documents.

Japan: The Japanese Patent Office furnishes up to 100 search reports for the 1999 fiscal year ending on March 31, 2000. This Office also provides 200 copies of Japanese patent documents annually.

Norway: The Norwegian Patent Office provides up to 15 searches annually.

Portugal: The Portuguese National Institute of Industrial Property provides a large number of copies of patent documents available in its collection.

Russian Federation: An annual total of 125 search and examination reports—including 100 state-of-the-art searches—have been made available. Furthermore, the State Patent Agency provides up to 1,000 copies of Russian patent documents per year.

Spain: The Registry of Industrial Property provides copies of Spanish patent documents, as well as information on their legal status.

Sweden: The Swedish Patent Office continues to provide approximately 50 search reports per year in accordance with the agreement concluded to that effect on November 16, 1979. Since the beginning of 1984, this contribution has been included among the activities planned within the Trust Fund Agreement concluded between WIPO and the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA).

Switzerland: The Swiss Federal Intellectual Property Office is contributing to the WPIS by furnishing up to 72 search reports annually. This Office continues to provide information on the legal status of Swiss patent documents and copies of patent documents to the extent that they are contained in its files.

United Kingdom : The United Kingdom Patent Office continues to provide up to 50 searches annually and up to 400 copies of British patent documents per year as well as information on the legal status of British patent documents.

United States of America : The United States Patent and Trademark Office provides copies of American patent documents.

The European Patent Office : This office provides information on the legal status of European patent documents and copies of published European patent applications.

Other countries : In addition, other offices have provided assistance in particular cases, especially in furnishing free copies of their national patent documents which were not obtainable from offices contributing regularly to the WPIS, this is the case of Belgium, Brazil, China, India, Mexico, The Netherlands, etc...

62. It should be mentioned that these Agreements have been flexible, especially so in 1994 and 1995, when the International Bureau started receiving an increasing number of requests exceeding the normal contributions of the donor countries. Owing to the generous exceptional contributions of Austria, Canada, Finland and Switzerland, the International Bureau has been able to process all the requests received until now.

63. From the start of the Program in 1975 up to December 31, 1999, a total of 12,867 search requests were received from 92 developing countries: Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Qatar, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Swaziland, Syria, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe; 2 countries with economies in transition and 14 international organizations on behalf of users in their member countries: AIDMO, ALADI, ARCT, ARIPO, CEDARE (CEDARE), CDC, ECA, ESCAP, FASRC, IFIA, OAPI, OAU, UNIDO and WHO.

64. From 1975 to December 31, 1999, a total of 12,028 search reports were delivered. Two hundred and fifty-two of these search reports were provided by Australia, 2,061 by Austria, 43 by Bulgaria, 158 by Canada, 258 by Finland, 154 by France, 1,747 by Germany, 1,265 by Japan, 62 by Norway, 1,043 by the Russian Federation, 857 by Sweden, 846 by Switzerland, 120 by the United Kingdom, 40 by the EPO, and in 1,020 cases, the International Bureau itself carried out searches, mainly to identify equivalent patent documents, by using its own access to computerized databases. Additionally, the International Bureau prepared 2102 preliminary reports (121 in 1995, 538 in 1996, 360 in 1997, 426 in 1998 and 657 in 1999) based on online searches (see Annex I).

65. Annex II contains a cumulative survey showing the number of requests for state-of-the-art reports and searches for equivalent patent documents received by the International Bureau from each developing country since the beginning of the Program in September 1975 (ICSEI examination requests included).

66. From the establishment of ICSEI in December 1983 up to December 31, 1999, a total of 1022 examination requests were received from 29 (see para. 42) countries: By December 31, 1999, 795 search and examination reports had been prepared by Austria (233), Finland (12), Germany (72), Russian Federation (346), Sweden (130) and EPO (2), and forwarded to the requesting offices.

67. Up until December 31, 1999, assistance in examination of ARIPO patent applications had been requested in 777 cases. Since the start of the program in 1984, a total of 625 search and examination reports have been provided by the industrial property offices of Austria (246), Canada (128), Germany (176), Russian Federation (41), Sweden (23), United Kingdom (9) and EPO (2). In 117 cases, through online searches, patent documents could be identified with priority data provided by ARIPO. The copies of the documents found were sent to ARIPO.

68. The difference between the search requests and reports provided (839) represents 6.5% of the total and in most cases, is due to the fact that additional detailed information was requested from the donor countries or WIPO and was not provided by the requestor. If it is considered that about 200 search reports were being processed by the donor countries, the difference only represents 5%.

69. Information on the legal status of patent documents was requested in only a few cases, and the International Bureau was able to provide the information with the help of the contributing offices.

70. In cooperation with the industrial property offices of several donor countries, WIPO has continued to supply free copies of specific patent documents upon request by developing countries. From January 1986, the date at which the International Bureau started to establish a statistical survey on this service, up to December 31, 1999, requests for copies of patent documents were received from the following 64 developing countries: Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Uruguay, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Turkey, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, two countries with economies in transition and, on behalf of their member states, from three intergovernmental organizations: ARCT, ARIPO, FASCR. A total of 48,406 copies of patent documents were requested and the International Bureau was able to satisfy virtually all of the requests. Only in very exceptional cases, like in the case of very old documents or of patent documents not published in multiple copies and normally not contained in search files, copies could not be provided. Some requests also referred to patent documents published in languages unlikely to be understood by the requestor. In such cases, the International Bureau attempted to identify and supply copies of the corresponding patents or of the abstracts in the desired languages. It should be noted that in 1994 and 1998, these copies were furnished mainly by the following Industrial Property Offices, in the proportions indicated:

	1994	1998
Austria	7%	9%
Germany	<1%	7%
UnitedStatesofAmerica	34%	26%
Japan	5%	4%
Portugal	6%	3%
UnitedKingdom	8%	6%
Switzerland	6%	29%
EPO	26%	4%
WIPO	6%	7%

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

71. The data given below were obtained by analyzing 1,748 search requests submitted to the International Bureau during the period 1997 - 1998. They give the following interesting picture (for comparison purposes, the results of 1995 - 1996 [1321 requests], 1993 - 1994 [646 requests] and 1991 - 1992 [318 requests] have been included).

72. According to the statements made by the users when submitting their requests, the main purpose for requesting the report was:

	<u>97-98</u>	<u>95-96</u>	<u>93-94</u>	<u>91-92*</u>
- to assist in the decision-making process concerning industrial property proceedings (e.g. filing of a patent application, etc.)	86%	88%	57%	36%
- to form a basis for developing research and development activities by identifying the solutions already known to a technological problem.	12%	6%	9%	36%
- to assist planning in the use of new technology.	<1%	<1%	<1%	40%
- to assist in overcoming difficulties in certain technological steps of a technology already implemented by the requestor	<1%	<1%	2%	31%
- to assess technology and/or equipment to be or being purchased	<1%	<1%	2%	9%
- to assess results reached under a current research and development project	<1%	<1%	2%	6%
- several intended purposes for the search report requested	<1	4%	29%	-

*The requestors pointed out several purposes

73. The distributions shown in the table point out that the main purpose of the search report is to assist IPOs, organizations or individuals in the decision-making process related to industrial property proceedings. In previous studies (1988 - 1990), the distributions shown above demonstrated that, for users in developing countries, the legal aspect of patent literature

was of almost equal importance as the technical information aspect. This was also significant in view of an earlier analysis established by the International Bureau in the 1980's in which the technical information aspect largely overrode the legal aspect. These changes could be seen as new developments in view of the demands of the users towards the WIPO Patent Information Services and shows proof of an increased use of the WPIS *by industrial property offices in developing countries to meet their information needs.*

74. The technical fields in which the said 1,748 requests for the period 1997 -1998, were carried out by contributing offices can be grouped as follows:

Technical field (according to IPC sections)	Percentage			
	97-98	95-96	93-94	91-92
Human necessities (A)	26	23	32	23
.Chemistry; metallurgy (C)	22	22	21	24
.Performing operations, transporting (B)	18	18	19	19
Electricity (H)	6	5	14	3
.Physics (G)	6	5	5	5
.Fixed constructions (E)	8	7	5	6
.Other or not specified	14	20	4	20

75. In most cases 77% in 1997 -1998, 87% in 1995 -96 and 92% in 1993 -94, three or more patent documents were supplied with the search report and in 23% of the cases non -patent literature was included (15% in 1995 -1996 and 11% in 1993 -1994).

76. The "final users" of these search reports can be categorized in the following proportions:

	97-98	95-96	93-94
Industrial Property Offices	87%	89%	76%
Research Institutions (Universities, Information Centres, Enterprises)	12%	8%	22%
Individuals	1%	3%	2%

With regard to the regions in which users are located, the following sequence was revealed:

REGION/YEAR	97-98	95-96	93-94	91-92
Asia & Pacific	21%	48%	43%	53%
Latin America	62%	38%	32%	30%
Africa	13%	8%	19%	12%
Arab Countries	4%	9%	6%	2%

77. The International Bureau continuously receives letters and comments from users concerning search reports and other services provided. It should be noted that, in most cases, the technological information submitted with the search report meets the need of requesters at a high level; only in exceptional cases, the information provided was considered not useful.

78. Concerning the time delay between submitting the request and receiving the search results from the IPOs of the different donor countries, the International Bureau could calculate the following averages for the years 1993 -1994 (total of 646 reports), 1995 -1996 (total of 1,321 reports) and 1997 -1998 (total of 1748 reports).

TABLE 1 (Number of IPOs requiring this time)

TIME/YEAR	97-98	95-96	93-94
less than 3 months	6	6	3
between 3 -4 months	3	3	5
between 4 -6 months	3	3	1
more than 6 months	1	1	1

79. It should be mentioned that in previous studies prepared by the International Bureau concerning this matter (1991), most of the requestors expressed the opinion that the delay was as expected, but about 40% of the users were not fully satisfied, pointing out that the response time was rather long. It is important to note that compared to 1995, the number of donors delivering the search reports with in less than three months has doubled.

80. It should also be mentioned that, in several cases, the donor office contacted the International Bureau to obtain complementary information. In these cases, the delay was considerably extended because of the time required to contact the requester and his/her sending of the necessary additional information.

WPIS would have amounted to more than 16 million dollars had they been made available on a commercial basis.

[Annexes follow]

ANNEXI
**WIPOINVENTORYOFPERIODI CALLYPUBLISHEDCD-ROMPRODUCTS
CONTAININGPATENTORTRADEMARKINFORMATION**

Office/ Organization	Nameof CD-ROM product	Frequency of publication	Contents	Recording Mode	Coverage	Price(Annualsubscription unlessotherwise stated; postagenotincluded)
EUROPEAN PATENTOFFICE (EP)	ESPACE/EP-A*	Weekly	EPapplications;full -textbibliographicdata	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1978 1979 1980 1981-82 1983-99	EURO51 EURO306 EURO613 EURO766 EURO869
	ESPACE/EP-B*	Weekly	EPpatent:full -text,bibiographicdata	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1980 1981 1982-84 1985-87 1988-99	EURO51 EURO153 EURO511 EURO920 EURO1431
	ESPACE/First	Bi-monthly	EP,WOfontpages,bibliographicdata	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1978-79 1980-81 1982-85 1986-87 1988-99	EURO 20 EURO51 EURO66 EURO86 EURO178
	ESPACE/ACCESS EP-B	Quarterly	EPpatents:bibliographicdata,firstclaimsandcitations	-Character(data)	1991 →	EURO306
	ESPACE/ACCESS EUROPE	Quarterly	BE,LI,LU,NL,CH,UK,bibliographicdata	-Character(data)	1985 →	EURO153
	ESPACE BENELUX	Monthly	1stpublicationdoc'sfromBE,NL,LU	-Facsimile	1991 →	EURO255
	ESPACECH	Monthly	CHpatentdocuments	-Facsimile	1990 →	EURO224
	ESPACEDK	Quarterly	DKpatentdocuments	-Facsimile	1990-92 1993 →	EURO255 EURO639
	ESPACEPRECES		PatentsfromBU,CZ,HU,LT,LV,PO,RO,SK	-Facsimile	1993-97 1998 →	EURO102 EURO204
	ESPACEIT	Monthly	ITpatentapplication slaidopenforpublicinspection	-Facsimile	1993-94	EURO511
	ESPACEPT		PTpatentdocuments	-Facsimile		
	ESPACEASEAN		PatentsfromMY,ID,SG,TH,PH	-Facsimile	1994	Prototype
	ESPACEIN		PatentsfromIN	-Facsimile	1991	Prototype
	BULLETIN	Bi-monthly	EPappl's:bibliographic+legalstatusdata	-Character(data)	1978 →	EURO306
LEGAL	Sixmonths	Boardofappeal,treaties,etc.	-Character(data)	1978 →	EURO153	

* Specialdiscountfordevelopingcountries

**WIPOINVENTORYOFPERIODICALLYPUBLISHEDCD -ROMPRODUCTS
CONTAININGPATENTORTRADEMARKINFORMATION**

Office/ Organization	Nameof product	Frequency of publication	Contents	Recording Mode	Coverage	Price(Annualsubscription unlessotherwise stated; postagenotincluded)
EUROPEAN PATENTOFFICE/ AUSTRIA(EP/AT)	ESPACE/AT		ATfull -text,bibliographicdataofpatents+utilitymode (1996→)	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1990-91 1992-99	DM400+postage ContactAustrian PatentOffice
EUROPEAN PATENTOFFICE/ GERMANY(EP/DE)	ESPACE/DE		DEfull -text,bibliographicdataofA,C,T,Udocuments	-Facsimile -Character(data)		ContactBundes druckerei (493025982205)
EUROPEAN PATENTOFFICE/ UNITEDKINGDOM (EP/GB)	ESPACE/UK*	Everymonth (approx.)	GBfull -text,bibliographicdata,PCTappl.enteringthe nationalphaseonlygetaGBfrontpage	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1979-82 1983-99 1979-89	Set:£970 £890 £7,700
EUROPEANPATENT OFFICE/SPAIN(EP/ES)	ESPACE-ES	Quarterly	ESfull -text,bibiograhicdata	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1990-99	EURO587
EUROPEANPATENT OFFICE/SLOVENIA (EP/SI)	ESPACE/SI	Every4 months	SIfull -text,bibliographicdata	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1992 →»	?
EUROPEANPATENT OFFICE/WIPO(WO)	ESPACE/WORLD*	Fortnightly	PCTfull -text,bibliographicdata	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1978-89 1990-94 1995-99	Set:Sfr.10,450 EUR O705 EURO869
	ACCESS-A*	Quarterly	EPapplications:bibliographicdata&abstractsin English/WOapplications:bibliographicdata&abstracts inEnglishandinFrench	-Character(data)	1978 →	EURO153
EUROPEANPATENT OFFICE/SPAIN/WIPO (EP/ES/WO)	DOPALES-Primeras	Yearly	FirstpagesofLatin -Americanpatents	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1991-95	DM500
EUROPEANPATENT OFFICE/USPTO	GLOBALPat	Yearly	Textanddrawingsfromfirstpagesofpatents	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1971_96 1997 →	EURO1150 EURO191

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**WIPO INVENTORY OF PERIODICALLY PUBLISHED CD-ROM PRODUCTS
CONTAINING PATENT OR TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

Office/ Organization	Name of product	Frequency of publication	Contents	Recording Mode	Coverage	Price (Annual subscription unless otherwise stated; postage not included)
CHINA (CN)	CNPATABSDAT (Chinese)	Quarterly	Bibliographic data and abstracts of Patent applications + utility models + designs	-Character (data)	1985 →	US\$1500
	CNPATAACCESS (English)	Quarterly	Bibliographic data and abstracts of patent applications + utility models	-Character (data)	1985 →	US\$1500
	CPAS (Chinese)	Weekly or bi-weekly	Full text; patent applications and utility models	-Facsimile	1985-1993 1994	US\$3900 US\$4300
GERMANY (DE)	DEPAROM T2	Weekly	German translation of EPO patents designating Germany	-Facsimile -Character (data)	Nov. 93 →	DM2,200
	DEPAROM U	Monthly 16 issues per year	Registered utility models	-Facsimile -Character (data)	1995 →	DM1,300
	DEPAROM ACT	Weekly	Unexamined patent applications, Granted patents, German translation (upon request) of EPO and PCT applications designating Germany (approx. 1000 docs/year)	-Facsimile -Character (data)	1995 →	DM4,900 ACT+U=DM5,900 ACT+U+T2= DM 7,900
	DEMAS		German trademarks	-Facsimile -Character (data)	1996 →	?
SPAIN (ES)	CD-CIBEPAT	Quarterly	ES, AR, CO, MX + other Latin American countries (bibliogr. data, abstracts)	-Character (data)	1969 →	US\$750 + VAT
FRANCE (FR)	BREF*	Bi-monthly	EP, FR, PCT abstracts in French, main drawings	-Mixed mode	1989 →	FF2,500
	COSMOS*	Bi-weekly	Full text of FR applications, bibliogr. data + abstracts searchable	-Mixed mode	1994 →	FF7,000
CANADA (CA)	Canadian Laid - open Applications	Weekly	Full text CALaid -open applications	-Mixed mode	1999 →	CAN\$1,500
	Canadian Granted Patents	Weekly	Full text CA Granted patents	-Mixed mode	1999 →	CAN\$1,200

* Special discount for developing countries

**WIPOINVENTORYOFPERIODICALLYPUBLISHEDCD -ROMPRODUCTS
CONTAININGPATENTORTRADEMARKINFORMATION**

Office/ Organization	Nameofproduct	Frequency of publication	Contents	Recording Mode	Coverage	Price(Annualsubscription unlessotherwise stated; postagenotincluded)
HUNGARY (HU)	HUNPATHECA	Quarterly	HU bibliographic data, (1896 -), abstracts (1971 -), main drawing (1971 -) claims (1992 -) App. (1990 -), publication (1990 -) English titles (1977 -)	-Character (data) -Drawings CCITT G4	1896 →	US\$300
JAPAN (JP)	JPOCD -ROM	twice weekly	Published non -examined patent + utility model applications and registered utility model appl.	-Mixed mode	1993 →	Y20,600/disc
	JPOCD -ROM B&Y	Weekly	Published examined patent + utility model applications Patent appeals	-Mixed mode	1994 →	Y13,500/disc
	PAJCD -ROM	Backfile Frontfile Monthly	Abstracts in English of published unexamined patent applications in IPC Class level descending order 33,000 documents/disc 99 discs Abstracts in English of published unexamined patent applications Numerical order, 30,000 docs/disc	-Mixed mode MIMOSA	1976-1993 1994 →	EURO 71 /disc EURO 858
KOREA (Republic of) (KR)	KPA		KR patent abstracts (examined applications)	-Character	1979 →	?
MEXICO (MX)	BANAPA	Bi-yearly	-Bibliographic data + abstracts of patents, certificates of invention + utility models. -Bibliographic data of industrial designs. -Bibliographic data + abstracts of published applications	-Character (data)	1980-92 1976-92 Dec. 1991- 1992	US\$500/disc
	ESPACE/ME	Monthly	ME full -text bibliographic data of patent applications	-Facsimile -Character (data)	1991 1996 →	Prototype ?

**WIPO INVENTORY OF PERIODICALLY PUBLISHED CD-ROM PRODUCTS
CONTAINING PATENT OR TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

Office/ Organization	Name of product	Frequency of publication	Contents	Recording Mode	Coverage	Price (Annual subscription unless otherwise stated; postage not included)
RUSSIA (RU)	Full patent and appl specifications		Full text in Russian	-Mixed mode	1996	US\$3,290
	Specifications of RU patents	Every three months	-Full texts in Russian -Bibliographic data, titles+abstracts	-Mixed mode	1994-1995	US\$1,990
	Abstracts of RU patents in English	Every three months	Texts in English with drawings	-Mixed mode	1994-1995 1996	US\$1,000 US\$900
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (US)	Patents BIB	Bi-monthly	US patents bibliographic data	-Character (data)	1969 → (1)	US\$300
	Patents CLASS	Bi-monthly	Classification of US patents	-Character (data)	1790 → (1)	US\$300
	Patents ASIGN	Bi-monthly	Changes in ownership recorded at PTO	-Character (data)	1981 →	US\$200
	Patents ASSIST	Quarterly	Various search tools	-Character (data)	Variable	US\$200
	USAPat	3 discs/week	Facsimile images of US patents	-Facsimile	1994 →	US\$2,400 (150 discs/year)
	Patents SNAP	Annually	Concordance between patent numbers and their application serial number	-Character (data)	1977 → Appl. data	US\$50/disc
	TM/Pending	Bi-monthly	Pending Trademark	-Character (data)	Pending TMs	US\$300
	TM/Registered	Bi-monthly	Active Trademarks	-Character (data)	Active TMs	US\$ 300
	TM/ASIGN	Bi-monthly	Changes in ownership recorded at PTO	-Character (data)	1995 →	US\$300
PTO Sampler	Irregularly	Sample files from PTO CD-ROM products shown above	-Facsimile -Character (data)	Variable	Free of Charge	

(1) abstracts for 3 year preceding publication

**WIPO INVENTORY OF PERIODICALLY PUBLISHED CD-ROM PRODUCTS
CONTAINING PATENT OR TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

Office/ Organization	Name of product	Frequency of publication	Contents	Recording Mode	Coverage	Price (Annual subscription unless otherwise stated; postage not included)
WIPO(WO)*	ESPACEWORLD	Fortnightly	PCT full -text, bibliographic data	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1978-89	SF10,450
	ESPACEOAPI		OAPI -Patent documents	-Facsimile	1967→	
	IPC:CLASS* (3rd edition)	Once every 5 years	IPC1 -6(full text), Catchword indexes, Rev. concordance data, Symbols data(E,F,G,H,R,S)	-Character(data)	IPC 1970-99	SF700(MS -DOS) SF900(Windows) Special prices for IPO offices
	JOPAL	Yearly	JOPAL data	-Character(data)	1981-92	SF250
	IP-LEX	Quarterly	Laws+treaties in the field of intellectual property	-Character(data)	Worldwide	SF1,500
	ART.6 <i>ter</i>	Yearly	Data concerning Art.6 <i>ter</i> of the Paris Convention	-Facsimile -Character(data)	Member States of the Paris Con- vention and WTO	SF150
	ROMARIN	Monthly	Bibliographic data+figurative elements(2 discs)	-Facsimile -Character(data)	1992→ Complete Int'l TM Register	SF2,200
	ROMARIN-BX		BX trademarks	-Facsimile -Character(data)		Prototype
ROMARIN-Latin America		LA trademarks	-Facsimile -Character(data)		Prototype	

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**WIPO INVENTORY OF PERIODICALLY PUBLISHED CD-ROM PRODUCTS
CONTAINING PATENT OR TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

Private Company	Name of product	Frequency of publication	Contents	Recording Mode	Coverage	Price (Annual subscription unless otherwise stated; postage not included)
Derwent Direct	OG/PLUS*	Weekly/monthly (+bi -monthly cumulating index)	US Official Gazette + abstracts	- Facsimile - Character (data)	1990-94 (backfile) 1995	£400/year £970/440
	Patent View Complete*	Weekly/monthly (cumulating index)	US patents full image	- Facsimile - Character (data)	1973-86 1987-94 1995	£3,995/year £5,000/year £2,975
	Patent View -Chemical -Electrical -Gen/Mech.	Weekly/monthly (cumulating index)	US patents full image	- Facsimile - Character (data)	1973-86 1987-94 1995	each: £1,595/year £2,000/year £1,250/year
	Patent Scan*	Annually (Rolling)	US patent bibliogr. data, litigation + legal status data	- Character (data)	1974-94	£625
	Patent Scan Update*	Monthly (cumulating)	US patent bibliogr. data + litigation and legal status data, claims and abstracts	- Character (data)	1995	£750
	Patent Scan Plus	Annually (Rolling)	Patent Scan, claims + abstracts	- Character (data)	1974-94: (2 yrs/disc)	£3,125/set (£315/disc)
	Patent Explorer software	Annually (cumulating)	US patents full -text	- Character (data)	1972-94	£1,330
	Patent View Customised by Assignee, IPC, US Class, Keyword	Various	US patents full image	- Facsimile - Character (data)	Various	Price on demand

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**WIPO INVENTORY OF PERIODICALLY PUBLISHED CD-ROM PRODUCTS
CONTAINING PATENT OR TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

Private Company	Name of product	Frequency of publication	Contents	Recording Mode	Coverage	Price (Annual subscription unless otherwise stated; postage not included)
Derwent Direct	Patent Family	Quarterly	Patent families (bibliogr. data) from 40 patent issuing offices	-Character (data)	1989 →	£950
	Pharma Patents source	Weekly	Pharmaceutical patents from 20 patent issuing offices	-Facsimile -Character (data)	1994 →	£3,200
	Patent Preview + Specification	Weekly	Pharmaceutical patents from 7 patent issuing offices	-Facsimile -Character (data)	1993 →	£3,200
Micro Patent	US Patent Search*	Monthly	US patents, front page, main claim, abstracts	-Character (data)	1975-94 (claims) 1975-94 (abstracts) 1995-1996	\$3,500 \$3,500 \$1,400
	Fulltext*	Monthly	US patents fulltext	-Character (data)	1975-1995 1996	\$1,500 \$1,500
	Patent Images - All Technologies *	Weekly	US patents full images	-Facsimile	1974-75 1976-98	\$3,500 \$6,100
	The Patent Bible	Semi-annual	Searchable text of Manual of Classification; Index to the Manual of Classification; Classification Definition Class -to- Patent Index/Patent-to-Class Index; the International Concordance published by the USPTO	-Character (data)	1995	£395
	Patent Images - Chemical	Fortnightly	US chemical patents full images	-Facsimile	1974-75 1976-95 1996	\$1,900 \$2,750 \$2,850
	Retro Chem	Bi-annual	US chemical patents, front page	-Character (data)	1976-95	\$1,000
	Mark Search	Monthly	US trademarks full images	-Facsimile	1884-95	\$1,950
	Trademark checker	Monthly	US trademarks fulltext	-Character (data >)	1884-95	\$699

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**WIPO INVENTORY OF PERIODICALLY PUBLISHED CD-ROM PRODUCTS
CONTAINING PATENT OR TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

Private Company	Name of product	Frequency of publication	Contents	Recording Mode	Coverage	Price (Annual subscription unless otherwise stated; postage not included)
Bertelsmann	PATOS-TEXT (1980-1990)	Bi-monthly	DE patent applications and utility models: bibliographic data, first claim	-Character (data)	1980-1990	Backfile DM2,500
	PATOS-TEXT (1991-)	Bi-monthly	DE patent applications and utility models, bibliographic data, first claim	-Character (data)	1991 →	Frontfile DM1,980
	PATOS-Image III*	Bi-monthly	DE patent applications: images of main drawings	-Facsimile -Character (data)	1980-1984 1985-1990 1991-1997	DM1,500 DM1,500 DM1,500
	EPROS Electronic Profile Service customised by assignee IPC	Various	DP, EP, WU, US full image & bibliographic data plus claim/abstract	-Facsimile -Character (data)	1978	Price on demand
Control Data Canada Ltd*	CD-Name search	Weekly	CA, UK, US trademarks	-Facsimile -Character (data)		CA\$7,000 -8,000 US\$5,000 -6,000
Silver Platter Search Systems	Claims, Patents	Bi-monthly	US patents: bibliographic data	-Character (data)	1950 → 1963 →	
	MARQUESA	Weekly	GB trademarks	-Facsimile -Character (data)	1876 →	£2,000 -4,000

* Special discount for developing countries

**WIPO INVENTORY OF PERIODICALLY PUBLISHED CD-ROM PRODUCTS
CONTAINING PATENT OR TRADEMARK INFORMATION**

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[Annex II follows]

ANNEXIII