



SUMMARY REGARDING NUMBERING SYSTEMS AND DATE FORMATS INTRODUCED OR PLANNED
TO BE APPLIED WITH REGARD TO THE ARRIVAL OF THE YEAR 2000

1. The International Bureau of WIPO conducted a survey concerning plans by industrial property offices to change over to new numbering systems for applications and/or published documents according to WIPO Standards [ST.13](#) and [ST.6](#), or to a new format for the representation of calendar dates according to WIPO Standard [ST.2](#), in view of the forthcoming millennium.
2. A summary reflecting the information received by the International Bureau as of January 10, 2000, is given in Tables I (numbering systems) and II (date formats).
3. In the date element representing the year designation of an application or publication number (Table I) and in the calendar date format (Table II), the letter "C" represents a digit used in the thousands and hundreds components of the time element "year"; "Y" represents a digit used in the tens and units components of the time element "year"; "M" represents a digit used in the time element "month"; and "D" represents a digit used in the time element "day."
4. For further information regarding numbering systems and formats of priority application numbers or the representation of calendar dates, please refer to the following:
 - ["Survey of numbering systems used, or intended to be used, by industrial property offices with regard to applications, published documents and registered rights"](#) (Part 7.2.2);
 - ["Presentation of application numbers"](#) (Part 7.2.1); and
 - ["Representation of calendar dates"](#) (Part 7.1).

[Table I follows]



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Ref.: Examples and IPO Practices

page: 7.2.3.2

Table I: Changes in numbering systems

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
AM			
Patent applications	YYXXXX	PCCYYXXXX	} January 1, 2000 The first letter given in each of the number formats indicates the type of industrial property right.
Utility model applications	YYXXXX	UCCYYXXXX	
Industrial design applications	YYXX	DCCYYXXXX	
Trademark applications	YYXXXX	MCCYYXXXX	
AP			
Patent applications	AP/P/YY/XXXXX	AP/P/CCYY/XXXXX	} January 1, 2000
Industrial design applications	AP/D/YY/XXXXX	AP/D/CCYY/XXXXX	
Trademark applications	AP/M/YY/XXXXX	AP/M/CCYY/XXXXX	
AT			
Patent applications	A XXXX/YY }	XXXXX/CCYY	January 1, 2000. The numbering system for published documents and registrations will not be changed since a serial numbering system is used.
Utility model applications	GM XXXX/YY }		
Applications for supplementary protection certificates	SZ XXXX/YY }		
Industrial design applications	MU XXXX/YY }		
Trademark applications	AM XXXX/YY }		
BE			
Patent applications	YYXXXXX	CCYY/XXXX	January 1, 2000. In the new format, the letter 'C' in the fifth position before the slash indicates the supplementary protection certificate. Application numbers of SPCs are used as publication numbers.
Applications for supplementary protection certificates	YYCXXXX	CCYYC/XXX	
BY			
		CCYYXXXX (e.g., BYa 1998 0001, for an application for a patent for an invention)	January 1, 1998



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Table I: Changes in numbering systems
page 2

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
CH Patent applications	XXXX/YY	XXXX/CCYY	During the year 1999.
CZ			(Format to be applied as from January 1, 2000, not determined yet)
DK Patent applications	XXXX/YY	PA CCYY XXXXX	<p><u>Date of changeover to new format</u></p> <p>June 4, 1998 (the date is relevant to all applications and granted rights contained in the database of the DK Office).</p> <p><u>Definitions (applications)</u></p> <p>CCYY means the year of filing and XXXXX is a serial number assigned within the year of filing with respect to applications for all types of I.P. rights.</p> <p><u>Definitions (granted rights)</u></p> <p>XXXXXX means, in the case of patents for inventions, a serial number assigned at the time of grant (continuous series). CCYY means, in the case of utility models, supplementary protection certificates and topographies, the year of filing, or in the case of trademarks, collective marks and industrial designs, the year of registration, and XXXXX means, in the case of utility models, supplementary protection certificates and topographies a serial number assigned to the application within the year of filing, or in the case of trademarks, collective marks and industrial designs a serial number assigned to the registration within the year of registration.</p> <p><u>General comment</u></p> <p>Letter codes PA, PR, BA and BR are not included in the publication numbers of applications and granted rights.</p>
Utility model applications	YY XXXXX	BA CCYY XXXXX	
Applications for supplementary protection certificates	CA CCYY XXXXX	CA CCYY XXXXX	
Industrial design applications	MA XXXX CCYY	MA CCYY XXXXX	
Trademark applications	VA XXXXX CCYY	VA CCYY XXXXX	
Applications for collective marks	FA XXXXX CCYY	FA CCYY XXXXX	
Applications for topographies of integrated circuits	TA XXXX CCYY	TA CCYY XXXXX	
Patents for inventions	XXXXXX	PR XXXXXX	
Utility models	YY XXXXX	BR CCYY XXXXX	
Supplementary protection certificates	CR CCYY XXXXX	CR CCYY XXXXX	
Industrial designs	MR XXXX CCYY	MR CCYY XXXXX	
Trademarks	VR XXXXX CCYY	VR CCYY XXXX	
Collective marks	FR XXXXX CCYY	FR CCYY XXXXX	
Topographies of integrated circuits	TR XXXX CCYY	TR CCYY XXXXX	



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Ref.: Examples and IPO Practices

page: 7.2.3.4

Table I: Changes in numbering systems
page 3

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
EA			
Patent applications	YYXXXX	CCYYXXXXX	} January 1, 1998
Patents	XXXX (e.g., 0024 is the last number of the four-digit system)	XXXXXX (e.g., 000025 is the first number of a patent under the new system)	
EP		The number format of EP applications will not be changed, and in the year 2000 the application numbers will therefore start with the digits '00'; the numbering of EP published patents will not change; the numbering sequence will continue serially, with no year-number component.	
ES			
Patent applications		PCCYYXXXXX	} January 1, 2000. The first letter given in each of the number formats indicates the type of industrial property right.
Utility model applications		UCCYYXXXXX	
Applications for supplementary protection certificates		CCCYYXXXXX	
Applications for topographies of integrated circuits		TCCYYXXXXX	
GE			
Patent applications		A CCYY XXXXXX	}
Utility model applications		U CCYY XXXXXX	
Industrial design applications		F CCYY XXXXXX	
Trademark applications		T CCYY XXXXXX	



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Table I: Changes in numbering systems
page 4

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
GE (cont'd)			
Patents for inventions		P CCYY XXXX (e.g., P 1998 1145 B)	} July 1, 1998. The letter following the serial number indicates the publication level.
Utility models		U CCYY XXX (e.g., U 1998 240 Y)	
Industrial designs		D CCYY XXX (e.g., D 1998 535 S)	
Trademarks		M CCYY XXXX (e.g., M 1998 1200)	
JP			
Patent applications		PCCYY-XXXXXX	} January 1, 2000. The JPO will start to publish on January 1, 2000, certain documents with a pre-determined number.
Utility model applications		UCCYY-XXXXXX	
Industrial design applications		DCCYY-XXXXXX	
Trademark applications		TCCYY-XXXXXX	
Published patents for inventions (if based on a PCT application, starting with the number 500001)		PCCYY-XXXXXXA (PCCYY-500001A)	
Granted patents (Starting with the number 2500001)		2500001	
Published utility models (if based on a PCT application, starting with the number 600001)		UCCYY-XXXXXXU (UCCYY-600001U)	
Utility model registrations (Starting with the number 3000001)		3000001	
Published industrial designs		XXXXXXX	



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Ref.: Examples and IPO Practices

page: 7.2.3.6

Table I: Changes in numbering systems
page 5

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
JP (cont'd)		XXXXXXX/01	}
	Industrial design publications (Relation to other similar design. The number 01 after the slash is a number allotted to the registered design.)		
	Registered trademarks (Starting with the number 4000001)	4000001	}
MD	Patent applications	a CCYY XXXX	}
	Utility model applications	u CCYY XXXX	}
	Industrial design applications	f CCYY XXXX	}
	Plant patent applications	v CCYY XXXX	}
	Layout-design (topographies) of integrated circuit applications	t CCYY XXXX	}
	SPC applications	c CCYY XXXX	}
			January 1, 2000. The first letter given in each of the number formats indicates the type of industrial property right according to paragraph 4(b) of WIPO Standard ST.13.
NL	Patent applications		
	– number of a patent application filed under the Patent Act 1910	9900000	9900000
– publication number of a patent application filed under the Patent Act 1910	9900000	9900000 (e.g., NL 9900000 A)	



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Ref.: Examples and IPO Practices

page: 7.2.3.7

Table I: Changes in numbering systems
page 6

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
NL (cont'd)			
– publication number of an examined application under the Patent Act 1910	191452	191452 (e.g., NL 191452 B)	
– publication number of a patent granted under the Patent Act 1910	191452	191452 (e.g., NL 191452 C)	
– number of a patent application filed under the Patent Act 1995	1000001	1000001	unaltered
– publication number of a patent application filed under the Patent Act 1995	1000001	1000001 (e.g., NL 1000001 A)	
– publication number of a patent granted under the Patent Act 1995	1000001	1000001 (e.g., NL 1000001 C)	
Supplementary protection certificates			
– application number for a certificate for a medicinal product	950001	300001	}
– certificate number for a medicinal product	950001	300001	}
– application number for a certificate for plant protection	951001	350001	} From 2000 on, it will be a serial number.
– certificate number for plant protection	951001	350001	}



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Ref.: Examples and IPO Practices

page: 7.2.3.8

Table I: Changes in numbering systems
page 7

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
NL (cont'd) Topographies of integrated circuits	TB970001	500001	}
PT			The Office does not intend to change its numbering system for national patents, utility models, industrial designs and trademarks (application numbers are allotted in continuous sequence).
RU Patent applications Utility model applications Industrial design applications		CCYYNXXXXX (e.g., 2000112345) CCYYNXXXXX (e.g., 2000401234) CCYYNXXXXX (e.g., 2000523456)	} The first digit following the year designation (digit 'N') indicates the type of industrial property right. } New format intended to be applied as from January 1, 2000. }
SI Patent applications Applications for Short-term patents Industrial design applications Trademark applications Patents for inventions	YYXXXXX YYXXXXX	CCYY XXXXX XXXXX	January 1, 2000. The first digit after the year indication (year of filing of the application) denotes the type of industrial property right and place of filing: 0-4 = patents and short-term patents, 5-6 = industrial designs, 7-8 = trademarks. The last four digits denote the serial number of the application. For publication numbers of patent documents a continuous numbering system with a fixed length of five digits is used.
TR Patent applications Utility model applications Patents for inventions Utility models		CCYY/XXXXX (e.g., a 2000/01255) CCYY/XXXXX (e.g., u 2000/00350) TR CCYY XXXXX A1 (e.g., TR 2000 01255 A1) TR CCYY/XXXXX U (e.g., TR 2000/00350 U)	New format applied as from January 1, 1998. The letter codes "a,""u"and "s"preceding the year designation indicate the type of industrial property right. } The kind-of-document codes following the document number are used according to the provisions of WIPO Standard ST.16. }



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Ref.: Examples and IPO Practices

page: 7.2.3.9

Table I: Changes in numbering systems
page 8

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
WO			<p>For PCT documents, the present numbering system (with two digits to indicate the year of publishing the international application) is maintained. The year designation might be changed to a fourdigit indication inthe future.</p> <p>For the international registrations of marks under the Madrid Agreement and Madrid Protocol, and the international registrations of industrial designs under the Hague Agreement, the numbering system does not include indication of the year of registration.</p>

[Table II follows]



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Ref.: Examples and IPO Practices

page: 7.2.3.10

Table II: Changes in date formats

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
AM	DD.MM.YY	DD.MM.CCY	January 1, 2000
AT	DD.MM.CCY CCYYMMDD YY MM DD	DD.MM.CCY CCYY MM DD DD.MM.CCY	No changes with respect to the date format in publications and in announcements in the official gazettes. Format to be used for screen display of online information services as from January 1, 2000.
BY		CCYY.MM.DD	The new format will be used as from January 1, 1999, for the representation of calendar dates in the official bulletin and in industrial property documents published on paper and electronic media.
DK	DD [month] CCYY Month abbreviated	CCYY-MM-DD	June 4, 1998. The new format is used in industrial property documents, entries in official gazettes and electronic records containing I.P. data.
EA	DD.MM.YY	CCYY.MM.DD	January 1, 1998. Format used in all data carriers covering patent documents.
EG		CCYY MM DD	January 1, 1998
EP		Printed dates include a year indication of four digits wherever necessary; all dates on outgoing electronic media are being reviewed, with the objective of extending to a four-digit year where necessary, and at the most opportune moment.	
ES		CCYY MM DD DD.MM.CCY	Format planned to be used for electronic data storage and for data transfer as from January 1, 2000. Format planned to be used in printed documents as from January 1, 2000.
GE	DD.MM.CCY	CCYY MM DD	July 1, 1998
JP	平成9年(1997)12月7日	平成12年2月28日(2000.2.28)	January 1, 2000



HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Ref.: Examples and IPO Practices

page: 7.2.3.11

Table II: Changes in date formats
page2

Country or Organization	Previous format	New format	Date of changeover to new format/ Comments
NL		CCYYMMDD	The format will be used as from January 1, 2000, for electronic data exchange as well as in printed documents and the patent bulletin.
PT			No changes with respect to date formats. The format DD.MM.CCYY is used in printed documents; CCYY.MM.D.D is used in electronic records.
RU		DD.MM.CCYY CCYY.MM.DD	In official products both on paper and electronic data carriers. In products for bilateral exchange on special request. As from January 1, 2000.
SI			The format DD.MM.CCYY is used in all publications.
TR	DD.MM.CCYY	CCYY.MM.DD	March 1, 1998

[End of Summary]