

SUBJECT: Exchange of information on current trends in activity at the NPOs and at the EPO

SUBMITTED BY: President of the European Patent Office

ADDRESSEES: Administrative Council (for information)

SUMMARY

Following a discussion at the 120th meeting of the Administrative Council (Munich, 8 to 11 December 2009) about an exchange of information between the members of the Council, it was agreed that the EPO will prepare, with the support of the National Offices, a new report on the trend in industrial property rights in the member states.

This document summarises the information collected on first filings, incoming PCT RO activity, PCT ISA activity, grants, EP validations, withdrawal rates (active), trademark applications and utility models, covering 2008 and 2009.

This document replaces CA/79/10 dated 11.06.2010. The amendments are indicated by grey hatching.
This document has been issued in English only.

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		EPO	AT	BE	BG	CH/LI	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	ES	FI	FR	GB	GR	HR	HU	IE	IS	
Patents	Rate of change of first filings year to year	-9%	-3%	13%	-3%	-1%	-42%	11%	-5%	-10%	26%	-2%	1%	-4%	-4%	-13%	-24%	11%	-5%		
	First filings 2008	20 967	2 627	592	251	2 030	12	727	62 417	1 689	65	3 884	1 731	16 707	23 379	824	348	682	1 007		
	First filings 2009	19 162	2 557	668	243	2 017	7	805	59 583	1 520	82	3 803	1 754	16 106	22 465	720	266	756	961		
	Comments																				
	Rate of change of incoming PCT RO activity year to year	-7%	5%	-42%	-19%	-26%	0%	9%	-15%	-19%	-37%	17%	24%	-1%	-12%	-1%	-15%	-28%	-27%		
	Incoming PCT RO 2008	29 493	477	106	26	542	1	151	2 158	780	27	1 065	943	4 282	5 541	70	40	155	125		
	Incoming PCT RO 2009	27 340	499	62	21	400	1	164	1 832	631	17	1 250	1 165	4 220	4 893	69	34	112	91		
	Comments																				
	Rate of change of incoming PCT ISA activity year to year	-11%	34%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	105%	n.a.	-4%	29%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
	PCT ISA 2008	77 912	1 121								108		1 333	660							
PCT ISA 2009	69 677	1 500								221		1 281	852								
Comments										Nordic institute											
Rate of change of grants year to year	-13%	-15%	-31%	22%	24%	-90%	1%	-17%	-9%	-23%	14%	4%	-3%	1%	0%	8%	133%	3%			
Grants 2008	59 809	1 301	526	329	787	115	1 280	17 308	233	172	2 277	1 015	10 812	5 360	444	143	303	318			
Grants 2009	51 969	1 102	365	400	973	12	1 293	14 435	211	132	2 602	1 055	10 528	5 428	443	154	707	328			
Comments																					
Rate of change of EP validations year to year (=patents which come into force)	n.a.	-5%	-13%	2%	0%	-11%	-3%	6%	-4%	12%	-13%	-13%		-13%	-11%	58%	41%	-6%			
EP validations 2008		36 238	19 344	1 034	28 755	1 518	3 513	51 688	5 840	1 009	18 630	5 245		55 237	3 652	240	1 909	36 822			
EP validations 2009		34 332	16 877	1 050	28 701	1 356	3 412	54 751	5 584	1 134	16 255	4 556		48 316	3 259	378	2 695	34 674			
Comments																					
Rate of change of withdrawal rates (active) year to year	42%	-7%	34%	11%	-38%		-21%	-1%	-12%	-33%	24%	-24%	7%	-9%	-31%	-64%	2%	37%			
Withdrawals 2008	11 590	273	32	101	118		87	7 887	190	3	866	106	790	87	26	81	176	124			
Withdrawals 2009	16 410	253	43	112	73		69	7 771	168	2	1 074	81	842	79	18	29	179	170			
Comments											including withdrawals deemed withdrawn										
Others	Rate of change of trademark applications year to year	n.a.	-8%	n.a.	-27%	-5%	-41%	-13%	-7%	-21%	-27%	-15%	-19%	10%	-1%	n.a.	-21%	-3%	-19%		
	Trademark applications 2008		8 263		10 891	16 587	1 463	9 083	73 903	4 891	1 800	49 750	4 461	73 956	29 214		10 245	3 843	5 196		
	Trademark applications 2009		7 569		7 993	15 753	869	7 892	69 069	3 858	1 317	42 437	3 629	81 127	28 861		8 121	3 741	4 210		
	Comments						National applications						National applications						Combination of national + international		
Rate of change of utility models year to year	n.a.	8%	n.a.	21%	n.a.	n.a.	17%	1%	-15%	-6%	-5%	14%	n.a.	n.a.	-40%	n.a.	13%	n.a.			
Utility models 2008		861		147			1 183	17 067	224	140	2 682	422			134		222				
Utility models 2009		928		178			1 382	17 306	191	132	2 560	479			80		251				
Comments																					
Other relevant indicators		Designs: 2008=1032; 2009=716 SPC applications 2008 = 51; 2009 = 52										Designs: 2008=1414; 2009=1529				SPC applications 2008 = 50; 2009 = 62		Design applications 2008 = 299; 2009 = 225			

		IT	LI	LT	LU	LV	MC	MK	MT	NL	NO	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK	SM	TR		
Patents	Rate of change of first filings year to year	-6%		4%	17%	9%	0%	15%		4%	15%		48%	6%	-8%	22%	-1%	60%	16%		
	First filings 2008	8 701		92	101	222	10	34		2 732	1 050		405	1 006	2 639	327	242	43	2 078		
	First filings 2009	8 215		96	118	243	10	39		2 854	1 203		600	1 062	2 439	399	239	69	2 409		
	Comments																				
	Rate of change of incoming PCT RO activity year to year	-27%		70%	n.a.	0%			100%		-3%	-4%		43%	8%	-11%	-4%	-28%	0%	9%	
	Incoming PCT RO 2008	827		10		8			1		1 143	466		58	12	2 297	71	29	2	150	
	Incoming PCT RO 2009	603		17		8			2		1 113	448		83	13	2 044	68	21	2	163	
Comments																					
Rate of change of incoming PCT ISA activity year to year	n.a.		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		n.a.	n.a.		n.a.	n.a.	-15%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
PCT ISA 2008															2 408						
PCT ISA 2009															2 044						
Comments																					
Rate of change of grants year to year	149%		12%	9%	24%	-43%	200%			-5%	1%		-10%	32%	2%	7%	-2%	47%	18%		
Grants 2008	7 318		75	85	163	14	16			2 058	1 639		236	489	1 224	242	566	51	551		
Grants 2009	18 218		84	93	202	8	48			1 948	1 648		213	646	1 248	259	554	75	651		
Comments																					
Rate of change of EP validations year to year (=patents which come into force)	-14%		34%	-8%	14%	-8%	2%			-8%			-16%	0%	-9%	-3%	8%		-5%		
EP validations 2008	28 690		776	36 345	694	36 101	312			13 857			4 354	1 939	10 063	1 687	1 726		4 734		
EP validations 2009	24 697		1 039	33 500	794	33 291	319			12 725			3 641	1 933	9 185	1 641	1 871		4 520		
Comments																					
Rate of change of withdrawal rates (active) year to year	-64%		100%	200%	-21%	-100%				83%	5%		-12%	-6%	-71%		17%		-32%		
Withdrawals 2008	112		1	1	19	5				183	103		612	307	140		12		91		
Withdrawals 2009	40		2	3	15					335	108		537	288	40		14		62		
Comments																					
Others	Rate of change of trademark applications year to year	-1%		-25%	n.a.	-28%	-25%	-34%		-8%	-16%		-3%	-16%	-11%	-17%	-25%	-32%	-5%		
	Trademark applications 2008	54 163		2 812		1 920	737	1 966		23 453	16 260		20 177	15 541	11 659	1 991	3 821	189	74 991		
	Trademark applications 2009	53 539		2 108		1 382	551	1 299		21 490	13 727		19 667	13 015	10 361	1 660	2 847	129	71 604		
	Comments									at the BOIP											
Rate of change of utility models year to year	5%		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	-41%				n.a.	n.a.		13%	321%	n.a.	9%	145%	-54%	-3%		
Utility models 2008	2 200					66							109	19		58	102	13	2 986		
Utility models 2009	2 304					39							123	80		63	250	6	2 882		
Comments																	registrations				
Other relevant indicators		All information provided by the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property		Designs: 2008 = 44; 2009 = 29		Designs: 2008 = 91; 2009 = 108		Designs: 2008 = 32; 2009 = 46							Design applications: 2008 = 679; 2009 = 685		Designs: 2008 = 713; 2009 = 672		Applications of utility models: 2008 = 326; 2009 = 331		Designs: 2008=29954; 2009=27159