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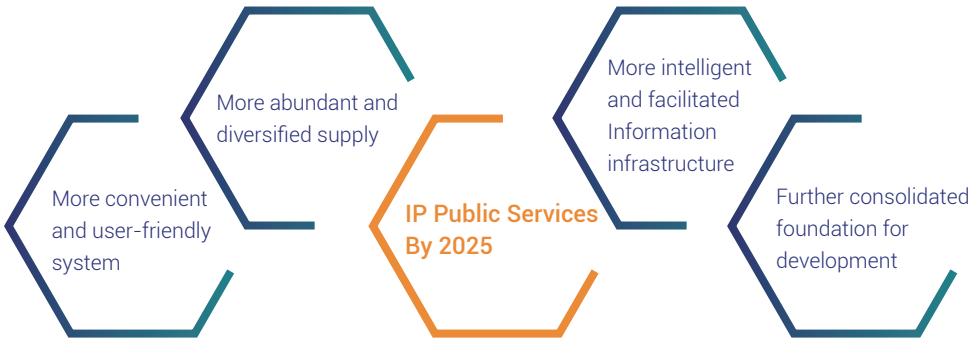
IP public services are fundamental to the smooth functioning of IP creation, utilization, protection and administration mechanisms to secure high-quality development in the IP field. Committed to establishing a more user-friendly IP public service system, CNIPA took active measures to expand the supply of IP public services to innovative entities.

01 Top-level design of IP public service system

The *Plan on IP Public Services for the 14th Five-Year Period* was issued. It envisaged that, by 2025,

- The IP public service system will be more convenient and user-friendly
- The information infrastructure for IP public service will be more intelligent and further facilitated
- The supply of IP public services will be more abundant and diversified
- The foundation for the development of IP public service sector will be further consolidated
- The availability and accessibility of IP public services will be further promoted

Thus, a solid foundation will be laid to provide comprehensive and efficient services for boosting China's IP competitiveness.



CNIPA continued to deepen the reform to streamline administration, delegate power, improve regulation and upgrade services in the IP field. In May, after deliberation at the executive meeting of the State Council, the *Notice on Deepening the Reform to Streamline Administration, Delegate Power, Improve Regulation, and Upgrade Services in the Intellectual Property Field for a Better Innovation and Business Environment* was issued.

A routine policy briefing of the State Council on deepening the reform to streamline administration, delegate power, improve regulation and upgrade services in the IP field

CNIPA optimized the IP indicator system for evaluation of business environment in China, and released the 2020 evaluation results on Chinese business environment with IP indicators. This system delivered positive effects in fostering a favorable innovation and business environment and promoting high-quality development in the IP field.

The *Public Services Item List (First Edition)* was published, providing the public with the information on identities of service providers, contents and forms of 49 public service items, so as to ensure equal, transparent and standardized provision of IP public services.

02 Delivery of more efficient IP public services

A multi-dimensional and multi-level network for IP public services took shape. As of the end of 2021, a total of 101 Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) were established to provide quality IP information services tailored to the needs of innovative entities; 80 university-based national IP information service centers were certified jointly with the Ministry of Education, providing full-process IP services for universities and colleges, covering IP creation, utilization, protection and administration; 88 national IP information public service centers were registered; 269 primary national IP public service branches were established in total.

IP Public Service System

Primary Branches

- Subordinate agencies directly under CNIPA
- Patent examination cooperation centers
- Trademark examination cooperation centers
- IP protection centers
- Fast-track IPR enforcement centers
- IPR enforcement aid centers
- Guidance centers for handling overseas IP disputes
- Representative offices of the Patent Office
- Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs)
- University-based national IP information service centers
- National IP information public service outlets

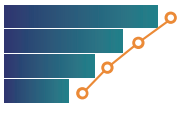
Key Nodes

IP public service organizations affiliated to IP administrative departments at provincial, municipal and county levels

Secondary Branches

- Trademark reception counters
- Provincial IP information public service outlets
- Trademark and brand guidance subcenters

The accessibility of basic IP data kept improved. 10 types of IP data were publicly available in 2021, among which the data of IC layout designs were open to the public for the first time. As of the end of 2021, 45 types of IP data were available for bulk download, including domestic and overseas data on patents, IC layout designs and trademarks.



Patent Data

40 types of basic patent data

Data of IC layout designs

4 types of data available to the public for the first time in 2021

Bandwidth for data download

Scaled up to 100 Mb/s

In 2021, a machine translation module was integrated into the National IP Public Service Website[1]. The module for bulk download of data was updated, with user guide provided in short videos. One-stop services were delivered at this website, covering all sorts of IP public services including handling IP-related affairs, information inquiry, data download, etc. The number of visits reached 2.15 million in 2021, an increase of 167% over the previous year.

National IP Public Service Website

03 Capacity building on IP information utilization

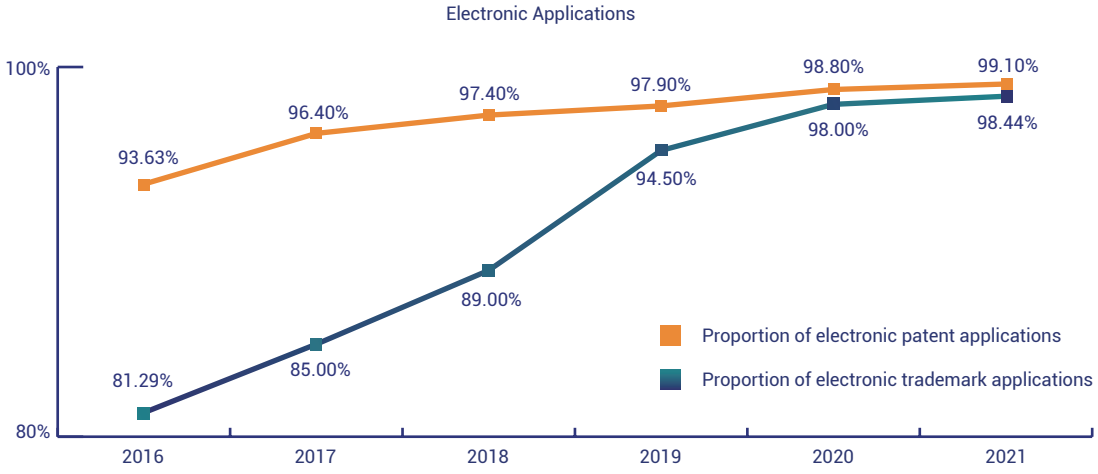
The new-generation local patent search and analysis system was structured to enhance the capabilities of IP administrative departments at all levels in providing IP information services for the public, especially innovative entities. In 2021, 2 local terminals were newly established. There were a total of 29 local terminals nationwide as of the end of 2021. In 10 local terminals including Guangdong, premium accounts were opened to users nationwide for registration. As of the end of 2021, there were a total of 2,304 self-built databases in the new-generation patent search and analysis systems nationwide. More than 700,000 patent search and analysis services were provided for innovative entities and start-ups, and over 34 million entries of patent bibliography data were downloaded.

1.http://ggfw.cnipa.gov.cn:8010/PatentCMS_Center/.

04 Facilitation reform on trademark registration and patent application

In order to facilitate trademark registration and patent application, the following efforts were made by CNIPA:

- Electronic patent application was further promoted. In 2021, the proportion of electronic patent applications rose to 99.1%, and the proportion of electronic PCT applications in the international phase reached 99.6%.
- The online trademark service system was optimized. All the 10 Madrid services were available online for Chinese applicants, including transfer, cancellation, deletion of services and goods registered under a trademark, abandonment of online application, etc.
- Electronic trademark registration certificates were fully applied. Trademark registration certificates would no longer be issued in paper format since January 1, 2022. In 2021, 98.44% of electronic applications for trademark registration were filed online, and a total of 43.295 million electronic trademark documents were issued throughout the year, a year-on-year increase of 18.8%.



05 IP documentation services

5.1 Patent documentation resource

As of the end of 2021, 540 types of patent documentation resources were collected, including 191 types of bibliography data, 167 types of full-page image data, 83 types of full-text data, 18 types of thematic data, 72 types of auxiliary search data, and 20 types of other data. The bibliographic data, the full-page image data and the full-text data covered 104, 103 and 36 countries (regions) or organizations, respectively. As of the end of 2021, the total collection of patent documents of CNIPA exceeds 143 million.

Patent documents were exchanged with 30 countries (regions) or organizations, and provided to 6 International Search Authorities (ISAs) and International Preliminary Examining Authorities (IPEAs).

5.2 Classification of patent documents

Both International Patent Classification (IPC) and Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) were applied to new applications for invention patents in all technological fields, with a total of 6.16 million documents classified throughout the year. Among them, 1.67 million applications for invention patents and 3.45 million applications for utility model patents were classified; 889,000 applications were reclassified under the IPC.

Quality supervision on data classification was carried on, and third party inspection was introduced to verify the classification. Classified data were verified in 29 batches throughout the year to ensure quality of data classification. New editions of IPC and CPC classes and definitions were translated, updated and applied, so as to secure the effectiveness of classification results.

5.3 Patent document publications

A total of 6.32 million patent gazettes for inventions, utility models and designs were published throughout the year, regarding 1.72 million publications of invention patents, 696,000 granting notifications for invention patents, and 3.12 million granting notifications for utility model patents, and 786,000 granting notifications for design patents.

Zhejiang Intellectual Property Online[1]

To further strengthen the full-chain IP protection service, Zhejiang Provincial Administration for Market Regulation launched an IP information service platform—Zhejiang Intellectual Property Online, on April 26, 2021.

- The platform provided a comprehensive database covering 9 major types of IP, a map illustrating major IP data in all the cities of Zhejiang Province, and a table displaying the distribution of IP industries.
- It bridged 14 national and provincial administrative systems, realizing "one-stop services" for 9 major types of IP.
- Functions on IP evaluation and pricing, pledge financing, transaction and commercialization were integrated to realize "IP transactions at one platform".
- "Full-chain protection" was provided, covering IPR enforcement aid, administrative enforcement, judicial protection, mediation, arbitration, etc.
- "One-stop management" of general affairs was realized, covering online publicity of cases, awards and honors, IP expert talent pool, IP review, etc.
- Modules such as laws and regulations, data retrieval, and early warning for intellectual property overseas were assembled to render "integrated services" of online consultation and remote learning.

All the institutions responsible for IPR enforcement, mediation and arbitration across Zhejiang Province joined the platform. IP protection was further facilitated, and the pendency for administrative enforcement of IP-related cases was shortened by 30%.

Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) : Delivering quality IP information services to enterprises in need

As one of the WIPO TISCs in China, Qingdao Municipal Intellectual Property Service Center helped SMEs with its expertise in IP information services. Database resources were offered to SMEs for free, which relieved the burden on those enterprises who could barely afford commercial databases.

Qingdao Aibo Detection Technology Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "Aibo") was a medical device SME founded in 2015. At its early stage, Aibo invested almost all its fund in product R&D, and was thus confronted with serious capital shortage that hindered its further development. In 2019, with the help of Qingdao Municipal Intellectual Property Service Center, Aibo obtained a loan of 3 million RMB (approximately 460,000 USD) from the Bank of Qingdao by pledging 2 patents. With this fund, it got rid of the predicament quickly, and achieved rapid growth. In 2019 and 2020, Aibo filed applications for 27 patents, and its revenue increased from 1.59 million RMB (approximately 246,000 USD) in 2017 to 13.62 million RMB (approximately 2.091 million USD) in 2020. In 2020, 6 patents brought in 2.4 million RMB (approximately 368,600 USD) bank loans through IP pledge financing. This case was selected as one of the best practices presented during the World Intellectual Property Day events in 2021, as the only case selected across the global TISC network.

1.http://zscqyjs.zjamr.zj.gov.cn/.