



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND DOCUMENTATION

1 Information Technology

The year 2008 is SIPO's IT year. With a focus on two major projects, namely the China Patent Electronic Examination System & associated facilities as well as the Patent Search and Service System (office part), SIPO effectively implemented its construction plan for key IT projects and infrastructure projects.

(1) Construction of Key IT Projects

China Patent Electronic Examination System and associated facilities

The China Patent Electronic Examination System is one of the key IT projects of SIPO. The System will realize electronization of the whole patent examination procedures, while decreasing the cost for transfer and storage of paper documents and increasing efficiency and quality of patent examination and granting. Furthermore, the system will also realize electronic and network management of the whole legal procedures from filing to expiration of patent right and the whole work flow. Its operation demonstrates the capacity of the Office to provide IT support and service to the public and in-house users. At the end of 2008, the China Patent Electronic Examination System entered into the test and trial operation phase. Its associated projects, such as the coded documentation database, upgrade of e-publication system, were also going on smoothly.



Patent Search and Service System

The Patent Search and Service System is a key IT project of SIPO. It is an intelligent search system that can satisfy comprehensively the needs of patent examination and will effectively increase efficiency and quality of examination. The system under construction is divided into two parts: in-house search and public service. In 2008, the in-house part of the Patent Search and Service System was in the full development phase, and in 2009, the in-house users will start testing the system.

Other IT Projects

Development of the Chinese-English Machine Translation System was smoothly completed. The system intends to provide a tool for the English-speaking public to quickly access and learn of Chinese patent information. The public may access the system via SIPO's website. The design search system, mainly based on figures and images, is under development and construction. It offers necessary technical tools for patent examination and IPR protection by searching design patents through the means of comparison.

(2) Construction of IT Infrastructure

Construction of the new Computer House for operation of the



On April 16, Deputy Commissioner Yang Tiejun unveiled the plaque of Wuhan Data Backup Center.

China Patent Electronic Examination System and the Patent Search and Service System was completed, offering necessary technical safeguard. SIPO's Wuhan Data Center was also established. In the meantime, construction of other IT infrastructure projects was also completed, such as disaster relief for search system and expansion of network storage, leading to an enhanced hardware environment support and stronger IT security for SIPO's IT systems.

(3) Construction of Information Resources and Standardization

In 2008, SIPO collected new data from Europe, United States and Canada, and rearranged, integrated and processed all data, providing necessary data preparations for development of the China Patent Electronic Examination System and the China Patent Search and Service System. In 2008, SIPO also completed formulation and revision of 12 standards.

(4) National Patent Information Service

In 2008, SIPO completed equipping 38 local patent information services with all-field patent databases, and providing them with coded full-text Chinese patent data and uniformed patent information service hardware. In the meantime, SIPO also enhanced training of local professionals for patent information service.

2 Documentation

(1) Documentation Collection and Resources Management

In 2008, SIPO exchanged documentation with IPR authorities in 37 countries and regions. The Office collected patent specifications, patent gazettes and search CD-ROMs from countries and regions around the world, including 62 types of patent specifications and 35 types of patent gazettes published by 30 IPR authorities, 63 types of patent search data from 94 authorities, and a new collection of full-text image data and abstract data of China's Taiwan region.

Non-Patent Digital Resources Portal System

The system is divided into intranet portal and internet portal. SIPO examiners may choose either portal according to their needs or may conduct cross-database search. As indicated by statistics, from January to September in 2008, the average monthly visits to non-patent portal were nearly 50,000 times while monthly cross-database searches exceeded 32,000.

Construction of IPR Library Database

Five new sub-databases were released in the year, including

annual reports of IP offices worldwide, IP degree candidate treatises, IP conference treatises, IP legislations of countries worldwide and IP newspapers, with a new addition of 42,623 entries of data. The database collected a total amount of 63,000 documents.

(2) Formulation and Revision of Documentation Standards

Formulation of State Standards for IPR.

The two state standards, Basic Glossary for IPR Documentation and Information (GB/T 21374-2008) and Classifications and Codes of IPR Documentation and Information (GB/T 21373-2008) were approved by the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of China and State Standardization Administration Commission and then promulgated, which entered into force as of June 1, 2008.

Revision of Patent Documentation Standards.

In an effort to promote construction of the China Patent Electronic Examination System, SIPO revised six standards related to patent documentation. Three of them had been released, including Standards for Patent Documentation Numbers, Standards for Codes of Patent Documentation Categories and Standards for Bibliographic Data of Patent Documentation (Trial).

(3) Patent Data Processing

SIPO conducted research on rules of processing patent data. The quality of data processing was significantly improved through establishment of well-laid quality inspection and monitoring system and adoption of scientific quality standards and management measures.

The patent data feedback-error correction mechanism was formally introduced. The automated data feedback environment was initially built up and would be made available to examiners for use in early 2009.

(4) Patent Information Dissemination and Service

In 2008, 188,921 invention patents, 177,104 utility model patents and 142,860 design patents in 53 editions of patent gazettes in paper form were published,

In 2008, 39 training courses on use of patent and search of information were provided freely to the public, during which 1,700 people were trained. 5,000 readers/times were received, 2,760 commissioned services offered, 9,400 copies of patent specifications of various countries provided (up 25% over the previous year), and 7,700 documents downloaded and burnt on CDs (up 70% over the previous year). Besides, 3,200 queries were answered via the internet-based "patent documentation helpdesk".