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The protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights should contribute to the promotion of technological innovation and to the transfer and dissemination of technology, to the mutual advantage of producers and users of technological knowledge and in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare, and to a balance of rights and obligations.

An extract from Article 7 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)

Protection of inventions and other objects of industrial property is an integral part of the material culture of the state. After restoration of the Lithuanian State in year 1918 and restoration of independence in year 1990 the state of Lithuania gave big attention to protection of industrial property, since one's own patent like one's own currency is an attribute of the sovereignty of an independent state.

Although Lithuania was an agricultural state at the beginning of the 20th century and the first Law on Protection of Inventions and Improvements was enacted only in year 1928, inventions had been already registered since year 1923 by granting temporary documents for protection of inventions.

After restoration of the Independence of Lithuania on 11th March 1990, the Government of Lithuania assigned the Department of Sciences and Studies under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to perform functions of the state patent service on a temporary basis and secure state protection of the results of intellectual technical creative work. In year 1991 when the State Patent Bureau under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania was founded and after approval of Regulation of Patent Attorneys in year 1992, re-registration of rights of industrial property that have been granted in the former USSR started.

Thus, in a few stages including the transitional period until April 1993 a contemporary state protection system for the industrial property has been developed, which now covers the State Patent Bureau (SPB), Lithuanian Technical Library (LTL) and patent attorneys.

At the beginning of the 21st century when globalization was taking place actually in all areas and particularly in technologies and economy, the role of the patent services has been of even greater importance.

The year 2010 was special to the State Patent Bureau, as 20 years have passed since Order of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania "Regarding State Protection of the Results of Intellectual Technical Creative Work" and on 23 December 2010 a new edition of the Patent Law was adopted, which has already been the third one in the history of Lithuania.

In pursuing implementation tools of the Program of Year 2008-2010 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, amendments to the Law on Trademarks of the Republic of Lithuania, Design Law of the Republic of Lithuania and Law on Fees for the Registration of Industrial Property Objects of the Republic of Lithuania was drawn up and the Patent Law Treaty (PLT) and Trademark Law Treaty (TLT) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) was ready to be ratified.

The main operation of the State Patent Bureau is related to registration of exclusive rights to objects of the industrial property and administration of four state registers – Patent Register of the Republic of Lithuania, Register of Topographies of the Republic of Lithuania, Register of Designs of the Republic of Lithuania and Register of Trademarks of the Republic of Lithuania, protection of the data included into these registers, which holds over 70 thousand records. Economic recession that started in year 2008 determined complicated conditions for business. This also had impact on operations of the State Patent Bureau. From year 2008 a number of objects of industrial property under registration dropped, which depends on the declining number of the filed applications, however a number of national applications increased by 7 percent compared to year 2009. Year 2010 can be characterized as a year of intensive discussions and representation of interests of Lithuania in the bodies of the European Union regarding European patent and establishment of the unanimous patent litigation system, successful performance of bilateral agreements and the first lawsuit in the practice of courts of the Republic of Lithuania that was closed in the Court of Justice of the European Union in regards to refusal to grant a supplementary protection certificate, where the court adopted the judgment favourable to the State Patent Bureau.

In year 2010 the State Patent Bureau further actively collaborated with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (trademarks and designs) (OHIM), Eu-

ropean Patent Office (EPO), took part in activities of these organizations and bodies of the European Union.

Eighth year in a row on the World Intellectual Property day, WIPO awards are handed in Lithuania to the organization, which is the best in commercialization of the industrial property.

In year 2010 the State Patent Bureau implemented a program "Legal Protection of the Industrial Property in Lithuania", which exercises the strategic goal of the Ministry of Justice - to seek for rational functioning of the state registers by securing access of the services provided by registers and convenience for the user to use them.

In year 2010 the State Patent Bureau performing its functions, gave special consideration to the following areas of priority operations:

- development of the national protection system of industrial property;
- efficient dissemination of information on intellectual property and education of the general public on the matters of industrial property protection;
- transfer of the provided services to the electronic environment.

In year 2010 the State Patent Bureau exercised provisions of the Fifteenth Government of the Republic of Lithuania operation program and also took part in inter-institutional programs implementing measures of the National Lisbon strategy implementation program, implementation of the Lithuanian Innovation strategy of years 2010 – 2020, the tools plan of years 2010 – 2013, strategic tools plan of the Public administration development until year 2010.

Concluding my introduction I would like to thank all staff of the State Patent Bureau and all institutions that collaborate with the State Patent Bureau in development of the industrial property protection system of the independent Lithuania.

Only in the society, which honours intellectual property and exclusive rights of the creators, one can successfully take the challenge of modern innovative technology and economy. I hope that in this overview of year 2010 you will find comprehensive information on the results of protection of intellectual property rights during 20 years after restoration of the independent Lithuania.

Director Rimvydas Naujokas

On 14 November 2010 20 years have passed since restoration of the patent system in Lithuania

Patent history in Lithuania started just in year 1922, however its history is very colourful compared to other states of the world. During the interwar period Lithuania already had the principle laws on industrial property, such as: "Law on Protection of Inventions and Improvements" (year 1928), "Law on Protection of Trademarks" (year 1925), "Law on Industrial Drawings and Models Property Rights" was in effect in the territory of Lithuania too. It's amazing that at that time the top companies from the USA, Germany and France patented and registered their trademarks in Lithuania.

During the period from 1940 to 1990 Lithuania had no industrial property protection system. Until restoration of Independence results of intellectual creative work in Lithuania were protected under normative acts of the USSR. At that time 2.7 thousand certificates granted for industrial samples and 12 thousand certificates granted for inventions were in effect already, the authors of which were authors from the Lithuanian SSR.

After restoration of the Independence on 11 March 1990, there was a big concern in protection of the industrial property. In November 1990 under the Order of the Government "Regarding State Protection of the Results of Intellectual Technical Creative Work" the Department of Science and Studies was delegated to take over the matters from Inventions and Discoveries' Industrial Property Protection Service of the USSR and form general patent policy of the Republic, which has been pursued by the Ministry of Justice since year 2000.

The route of 20 years of the intellectual property protection was as winding as the route of Lithuania itself – science and business of Lithuania had to refocus towards protection of inventions under patents and not certificates of authorship and also develop the independent patent information system. On 21 March 1991 after approval of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania – Reconstituent Seimas, on 12 April 1991 the Government of the Republic of Lithuania founded the State Patent Bureau under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (SPB) (www.vpb.gov.lt). On 21 April of the same year Rimvydas Naujokas was appointed its Director. On 20 May 1992 the Government adopted an Order No. 362, which secured succession of rights to inventions, trademarks and industrial design granted in the soviet period in the independent Lithuania. Pursuant to this Order, 664 inventions and 8,377 trademarks was re-registered.

The protection system of industrial property was formed, which consisted of the following:

The State Patent Bureau – registers exclusive rights;

Lithuanian Technical Library - provides technical information and collects the patent fund;

Patent attorneys – represent applicants.

Within 20 years of Independence of the Republic of Lithuania a lot has been done, namely:

Registers of industrial property objects have been established, which save information on patents, trademarks, design and topographies of semiconductor products;

National laws have been adopted, such as:

In year 1993 – Law on Trademarks and Service Marks of the Republic of Lithuania;

In year 1994 – Patent Law;

In year 1995 – Industrial Design Law;

In year 1998 – Law on Legal Protection of Topographies of Semiconductor Products.

Lithuania became a member of 10 international industrial property conventions and two regional international organizations.

From 1 May 2004 Lithuania has protected the rights of Community trademarks and Community designs being in effect in the single market of the European Union.

Making a historic review, we can say that the national system was developing rather dynamically.

In year 1992 when registration of industrial property objects was actually realized, in year 1997 the SPB already received the 25,000th trademark and service mark application.

In year 1995 Baltic Patent Conference was held in Vilnius, which has been held every two years in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia since year 1962.

In year 1999 Patent Information Center was established at the Lithuanian Technical Library.

In year 2000 the 40 thousandth trademark was registered at the State Register of Trademarks and Service Marks.

In year 2003 the SPB received the 2,500th patent application.

On 1 December 2004, when Lithuania became a member of the EPC, European patents at the choice of the applicant started to be in effect not just in other members of the European Patent Organization: in all 27 member-states of the European Union and Iceland, Croatia, Macedonia, Lichtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey, but also in Lithuania[1].

In year 2010 1,025 national and European patents were granted or came into effect in Lithuania, however just 7 percent of the patent owners were Lithuanian applicants. 1,587 trademarks (2,647 classes of goods or services) and 20 designs (35 samples) were registered.

Currently over 5,6 thousand patents, about 37 thousand trademarks, about 1,5 thousand designs and 600 thousand Community trademarks, 400 thousand Community designs and 20 thousand international trademark registrations are in effect in Lithuania.

Membership in the World Intellectual Property and European Patent Organizations, normative environment of the Paris Convention and European Patent Convention is the grounds for adoption and development of national law. WIPO standards and technological requirements set by the European Patent Office for the State Patent Bureau formed a certain culture and attitude of this institution towards applicants' needs to protect their industrial property rights in a more economically efficient manner by applying simplified procedures. Implementation of the E-government concept has become one of the top priorities of the SPB in planning its operations. 15 years ago an automated application acceptance, examination and storage information system, that was implemented, formed technological environment, which enabled to integrate into the European patent data communication system; the developed information systems enabled to exchange data with the databases of the World Intellectual Property Organization and European Patent Office. Free databases of patents of the Republic of Lithuania, European patents, Trademarks and Designs have become accessible to applicants, scientists, students, academic and business community. It is important to mention that protected exclusive rights of industrial property in the Republic of Lithuania have become accessible to foreign applicants through espa@cenet, RegisterPlus, Inpadoc, PatentScope and other information systems; each technological solution, mark or graphic image protected in Lithuania and around the world is accessible on Internet websites of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), European Patent Office (EPO), EU Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (for trademarks and design) (OHIM), European Union Council and SPB.

Another step, which has been already made in the State Patent Bureau, is access of all operations of the SPB in an electronic environment until year 2014. Anticipated actions in regards to electronic filing of applications, appeals and oppositions and their examination are the biggest challenges which determine priorities of the SPB in implementation of new information systems and technologies. Development of external services, of course, predetermines internal processes of the SPB, too – search for new quality and efficiency of activities. One of the measures to make activities more efficient and to improve quality is absolute automatization of the documentation flow, usage of electronic documents and implementation of the electronic signature.

In the view of the user of the developed system, protection of rights of industrial property object owners cannot be diminished. During the survey conducted by the European Council in year 2006 when the features of the appropriate patent system for the 21st century, business concern was clearly identified in the principle to have One Stop patent system both examination before grant of the patent and procedures after grant of the patent, including consideration of disputes[2]. It is obvious that innovative activities of business first of all are influenced by a possibility to actually protect their property. Here we can make a conclusion that logics of the industrial property is realized in business solutions, which later becomes a protection tool of innovations, which may become a constituent part of business in order to realize business objectives.

Of course, in protection of rights, much bigger circle of concerned institutions takes part. National courts, customs, police, prosecutor's office and other institutions – this is an important and integral part of the intellectual property system. Within twenty years this system proved that intellectual property rights have been and will be protected in an efficient and professional manner.

Making a summary, we can be happy in the 20th year of the national patent system that national protection system of

industrial property, which has been developed in the state, is adequate to standards and traditions already formed in the states of the European Union.

Organizational Structure of the SPB and Human Resources

Under the Order No.394 of 6 May 2009 (Official Gazette, 2009, No. 57-2237) and Oder No. 1561 of 10 November 2010 (Official Gazette, 2010, No. 133-6773) of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania a maximum admissible number of positions at the SPB for year 2010 was approved, which was 60. On 1 January 2010 60 positions at the SPB were approved, 40 positions among them were of the government officials and 20 positions of the employees employed under the employment contracts. During the year a number of approved positions slightly changed: having optimized the number of positions at the SPB the number of positions at the end of year 2010 was 59 positions (39 positions of the government officials and 20 positions of employees working under employment contracts).

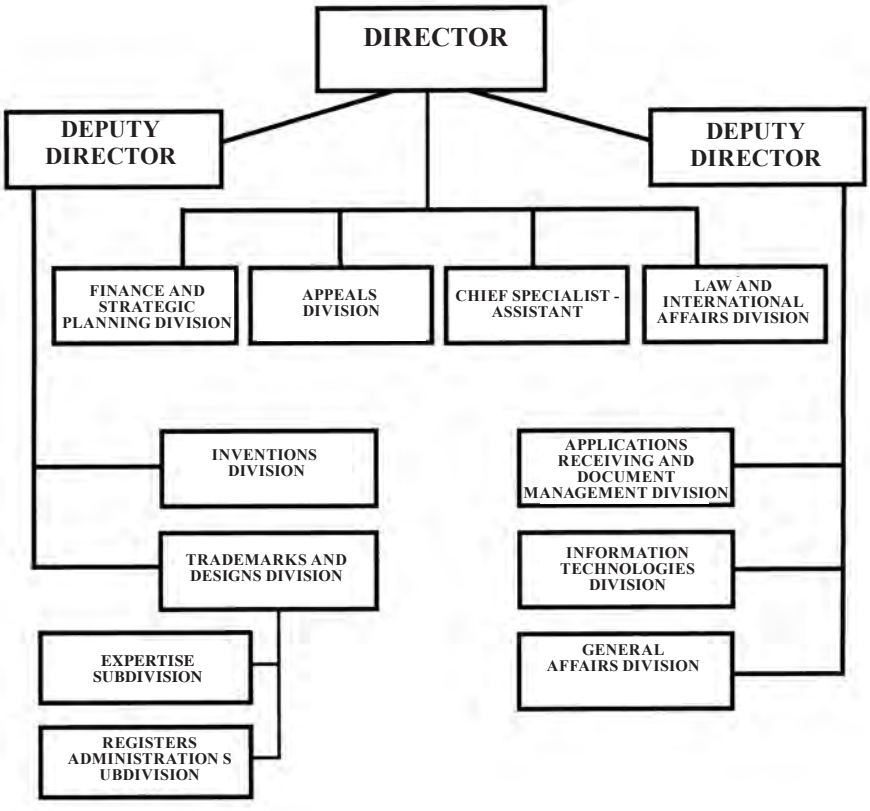
From 1 January 2010 organizational structure of the SPB (see scheme) the second position of the assistant director was introduced, a government official recalled on 31 December 2009 who held a position of the Justice Attaché for Industrial Property Law Matters in a Permanent Representation of Lithuania to the European Union, was transferred to this position. In year 2010 a more considerable reorganization of the SPB structure was not executed compared to the essential reorganization of the structure in year 2009.

Staff turnover of the SPB was very slight in year 2010: the SPB employed 2 new employees (1 government official and 1 employee employed under the employment contract). 2 employees were dismissed (1 government official and 1 employee employed under the employment contract). Thus, at the end of year 2010, 58 employees formed human resources of the SPB - 39 public officials and 19 employed under the employment contract. In year 2010 45 women were employed at the SPB (77.6 %) and 13 men (22.4 %). The proportion of the SPB employees and employees, who are managers of divisions, is balanced, that is 5 women (45%) and 6 men (55%).

Staff of the SPB may be grouped according to the age to the following age groups: 18-30 years of age – 9; 31- 40 years of age – 5; 41-50 years of age – 17; 51-65 years of age – 26 and over 65 years of age – 1. The mean age of the SPB employees in year 2010 was 48 years of age and stayed very similar to the one in year 2009, i.e., 47 years of age.

Due to specific activities of the SPB most employees, i.e., 44 (76%) have high university education.

Employees' training and professional development have been organized to the employees in order to improve administrative skills of the SPB following the training plan approved by the Director of SPB for training SPB public officials and employees employed under employment contracts. In year 2010 40 employees of the SPB developed their professional skills at 61st training.



INVENTIONS

There are three ways to obtain patent protection in the Republic of Lithuania: filing an application directly with the State Patent Bureau (national way), under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) and under the European Patent Convention (Euro and Euro – EPC applications).

Patents that came into effect in the Republic of Lithuania in year 2010	Number	Number of patents granted to owners from Lithuania	Share of patents granted to owners from Lithuania %
Granted by SPB	84	71	84,52
Granted by EPO	941	1	0,11
Total	1025	72	7,02

Since the establishment date of the State Patent Bureau till 31 December 2010 3,352 patent applications have been filed with the SPB, among them 2,818 national applications and 534 PCT applications that have entered the national phase. Within this period 2,704 patents have been granted, 222 changes in patents, 234 agreements on assignment of rights and 95 licence agreements have been registered.

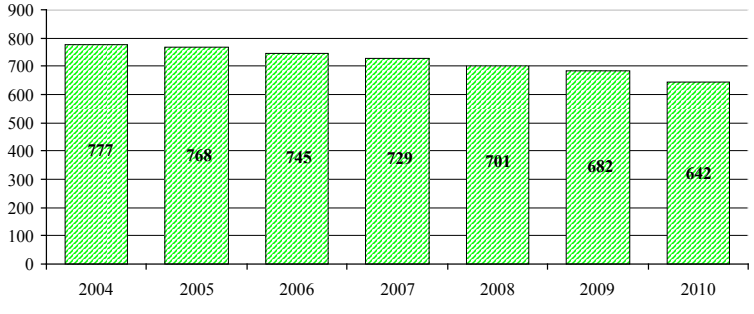
Number of patent applications filed in the Republic of Lithuania in years 1994 and 2004-2010

Year	Number of national patent applications	Number of PCT applications that have entered the national phase	Total
1994	291	-	291
2004	79	35	114
2005	78	37	115
2006	75	24	99
2007	73	9	82
2008	99	6	105
2009	98	9	107
2010	112	2	114

Number of patents granted in the Republic of Lithuania in years 1994 and 2004-2010

Year	Number of patents under national applications	Number of patents granted under PCT applications	Total
1994	45	-	45
2004	66	32	98
2005	84	32	116
2006	66	23	89
2007	50	19	69
2008	67	8	75
2009	75	9	84
2010	78	6	84

National patents that have been in effect at the end of the year



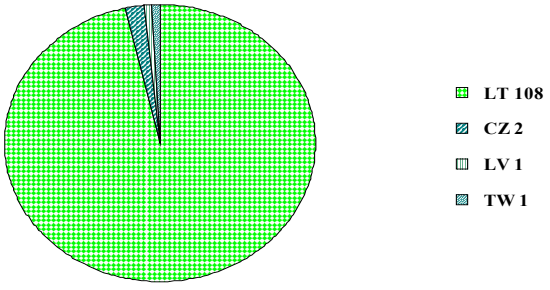
In year 2010 112 national patent applications were filed with the State Patent Bureau, among them 108 patent applications filed by Lithuanian applicants. 5 patent applications claimed for conventional priority.

In year 2010 2 international applications entered the national phase, both with priority of the previously filed applications.

In year 2010 the SPB as a receiving service, received 3 international applications.

In year 2010 13 applications were filed for obtaining a supplementary protection certificate.

Distribution of national applications by states in year 2010



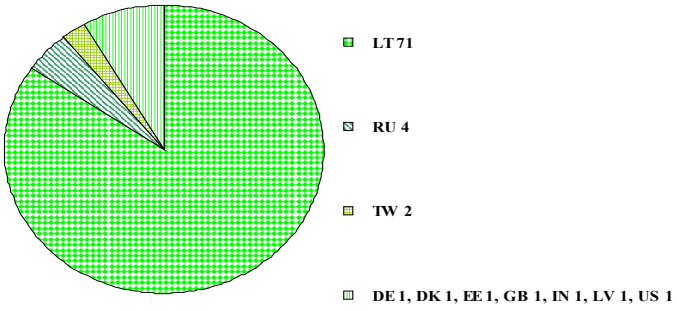
Number of patent applications filed by applications of the Republic of Lithuania in years 2009-2010

Applicants	Number of applications	
	2009	2010
Legal entities	39	44
Natural persons	52	64
Total of legal entities and natural persons	91	108

Lithuanian institutions/companies that filed applications in year 2010

No	Applicants	Number of applications
1.	Vilnius Gediminas Technical University	11
2.	Kaunas University of Technology	5
3.	National Research Institute for Physical Science and Technology Center	3
4.	Institute of Biotechnology	2
5.	PRECIZIKA METROLOGY	2
6.	UAB „BALTIC ORTHOSERVICE“	2
7.	Public establishment “Grunto valymo technologijos“	2
8.	AB AXIS INDUSTRIES	1
9.	UAB „EKOSTAT“	1
10.	UAB „KASKO GROUP“	1
11.	UAB „LAIFA“	1
12.	UAB „LASER STENCIL EUROPE“	1
13.	UAB „Lietuviškas salyklas“	1
14.	UAB „Mediafon“	1
15.	UAB „NAUJASIS NEVĖŽIS“	1
16.	UAB „NAUJAUSIŲ TECHNOLOGIJŲ CENTRAS“	1
17.	UAB „New Energy Group“	1
18.	UAB „Raminora“	1
19.	UAB „VIP SALDUMYNAI“	1
20.	UAB „ŽEMDIRBIŲ KONSULTACIJOS“	1
21.	UAB PROFARMA	1
22.	Vilnius University	1
23.	Private company of Vladas Bložė	1
24.	Vytautas Magnum University	1

Patents granted in year 2010 by states of patent owners



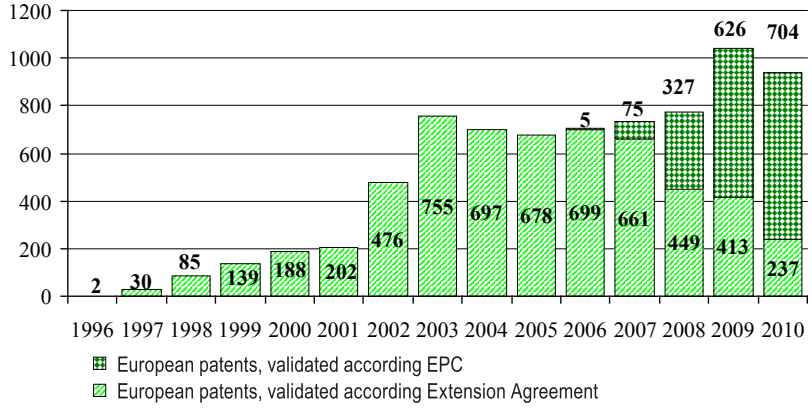
Number of patents granted in year 2010 by IPC branches

Branches of IPC		Lithuania	Foreign state (state code and number of patents)	Total
Satisfaction of human needs	A	17	RU 2, IN 1, LV 1	21
Various technological processes; transport	B	5	DE 1, EE 1, GB 1, RU 1, TW 1	10
Chemistry: metallurgy	C	7	-	7
Textile; paper	D	-	-	-
Construction; mining	E	11	-	11
Mechanics; illumination; heating; armaments; explosion works	F	13	GB 1	14
Physics	G	7	RU 1, TW 1, US 1	10
Electricity	H	11	-	11
Total		71	13	84

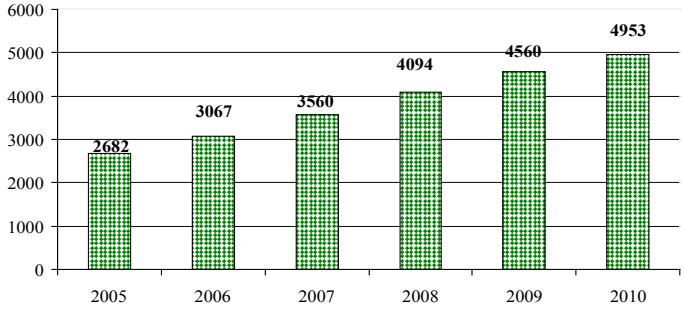
European patents

From 5 July 1995, the effective date of Agreement on European patent validity extension between the Republic of Lithuania and European Patent Office (EPO) until 31 December 2010 5,711 European patents came into effect in Lithuania. Since 1 December 2004 when the Republic of Lithuania joined the European Patent Convention (EPC) to 31 December 2010 1,737 European patents came into effect in Lithuania under EPC, 7,448 European patents in total. 630 changes in European patents have been made, 292 agreements on assignment of rights and 11 licence agreements have been signed.

European patents that came into effect in the Republic of Lithuania in years 1996-2010



European patents that have been in effect at the end of the year

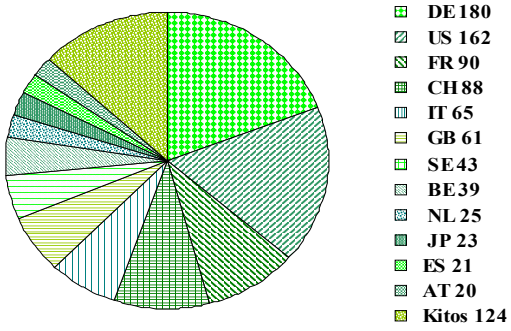


In year 2010 941 European patents came into effect in the Republic of Lithuania granted by the European Patent Office (EPO), 704 among them have been granted under the European Patent Convention (EPC).

In year 2010 42 assignment agreements were registered, 38 assignment agreements among them for European patents.

In year 2010 2 licence agreements were registered, 1 of them was signed for the European patent.

European patents that came into effect in year 2010 by states of patent owners



Number of European patents that came into effect in the Republic of Lithuania in year 2010 by IPC branches

Branches of IPC		Foreign state (state code and number of patents)	Total
Satisfaction of human needs	A	US 50, CH 46, DE 45, IT 26, FR 21, GB 19, BE 11, ES 11, JP 11, LU 9, NL 8, SE 8, AT 5, DK 5, IN 3, FI 3, IE 2, IL 2, NO 2, RU 2, SI 2, BB 1, BM 1, CY 1, GR 1, HK 1, HU 1, PR 1, PT 1, RU 1	300
Various technological processes; transport	B	DE 28, CH 10, IT 8, FR 8, NL 8, SE 6, US 6, AT 5, ES 5, GB 4, FI 4, DK 3, AI 2, BE 1, BY 1, GR 1, IE 1, IL 1, IN 1, PL 1, TR 1	105
Chemistry: metallurgy	C	US 104, DE 66, FR 51, GB 29, CH 24, IT 19, SE 18, BE 17, JP 11, DK 9, IE 7, HU 6, ES 5, IN 5, NL 5, CA 4, LU 4, FI 3, IL 3, AT 2, CZ 2, PT 2, LV 1, PL 1, RU 1, SG 1, SI 1, TW 1	402
Textile; paper	D	NL 2, IT 1, FR 1	4
Construction; mining	E	DE 12, AT 6, FI 6, BE 4, IT 4, SE 2, CA 1, FR 1, IE 1, LU 1, NL 1	39
Mechanics; illumination; heating; armaments; explosion works	F	DE 7, CH 4, DK 2, FR 2, GB 2, IT 2, AT 1, BE 1, NL 1, RO 1, RU 1, SE 1	25
Physics	G	DE 8, BE 4, FR 4, GB 4, CH 3, IT 2, US 2, AT 1, IL 1, JP 1, SE 1	31
Electricity	H	DE 14, SE 7, GB 3, IT 3, FR 2, BE 1, CH 1, FI 1, LT 1, LI 1, RU 1	35
Total		DE 180, US 162, FR 90, CH 88, IT 65, GB 61, SE 43, BE 39, NL 25, JP 23, ES 21, AT 20, DK 19, FI 17, LU 14, IE 11, IN 9, HU 7, IL 7, CA 5, RU 5, PT 3, SI 3, AI 2, CZ 2, GR 2, NO 2, PL 2, TR 2, BB 1, BM 1, BY 1, CY 1, HK 1, LI 1, LT 1, LV 1, PR 1, RO 1, SG 1, TW 1	941

TOPOGRAPHIES OF SEMICONDUCTOR PRODUCTS

Legal protection of topographies of semiconductor products in the Republic of Lithuania may be obtained pursuant to the Law on the Legal Protection of Topographies of Semiconductor Products, which came into effect from 1 December 1998 by filing applications directly with the SPB.

Starting with the date when the Law on the Legal Protection of Topographies of Semiconductor Products came into effect no applications for registration of topographies of semiconductor products have been filed..

TRADEMARKS

There are three ways to get exclusive rights to a trademark in the Republic of Lithuania: under the Trademark Law of the Republic of Lithuania filing applications directly with the SPB (national way), from 15 November 1997 under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, according to which, the protection, provided by the international trademark registration, is extended to the Republic of Lithuania (international way) and from 01 May 2004 under the Council Regulation (EC) No. 40/94 of 20 December 1993 on the Community trade mark (amended by Council Regulation (EC) No. 207/2009 of 26 February 2009 on the Community trade mark (codified version)) under which any trademark, registered as a Community trade mark with the EU Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (trademarks and designs) (OHIM) is protected in Lithuania.

Since the day of establishment of the State Patent Bureau until 31 December 2010 the SPB received 62,020 applications for registration of a mark in the national way. 51,406 trademarks have been registered in the Register of Trademarks of the Republic of Lithuania within this period; 36,878 of them were valid registrations, 24,833 changes in the register, 9,345 assignment of rights and 930 license agreements, 1,208 pledging of the marks (withdrawals of pledging) and 228 attachment of the registrations (withdrawals of attachment of the registrations).

Since 1997 50,290 notifications regarding the extension of the international protection of registrations in Lithuania have been received from the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO); having performed the examination, 47,169 decisions were adopted to grant protection.

At the end of 2010 79,511 registrations of trademarks, applications for which have been filed in the national and international ways and 690,725 Community trademarks registered at the EU Register of Community trademarks were in effect in Lithuania.

Number of trademarks filed in the Republic of Lithuania in years 1993, 1997, 2004 – 2010

Year	Number of trademark applications filed with the SPB in the national way	Number of notifications received about international registration of trademarks extended to Lithuania	Total
1993	11334	-	11334
1997	4098	47	4145
2004	2669	4870	7539
2005	2250	4022	6272
2006	2458	4008	6466
2007	2649	3702	6351
2008	2812	3648	6460
2009	2108	2472	4580
2010	2240	2032	4272

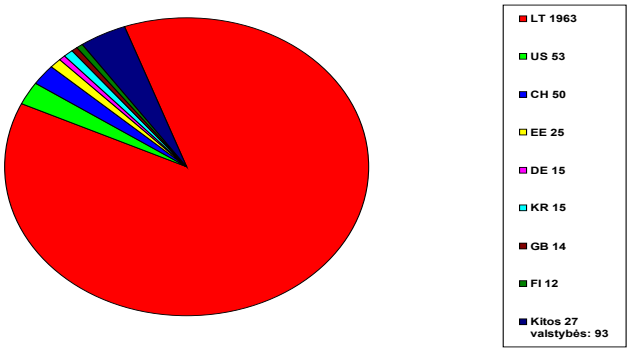
Registration of exclusive rights to trademarks in the Republic of Lithuania in years 1993, 1997 and 2004 – 2010

Year	Number of national trademark registrations	Number of international registrations of trademarks that have been granted protection in Lithuania	Total
1993	3157	-	3157
1997	2280	2	2282
2004	1502	4684	6186
2005	1787	4559	6346
2006	2922	4110	7032
2007	2700	4100	6800
2008	2432	3902	6334
2009	2777	3933	6710
2010	1585	2805	4390

Protection of trademarks in the Republic of Lithuania granted in the national way

In year 2010 2,240 trademark applications were filed with the SPB, among them:
1,963 (87.6%) of the Lithuanian applicants; 277 (12.4%) of the foreign applicants

Distribution of applications by the applicant states

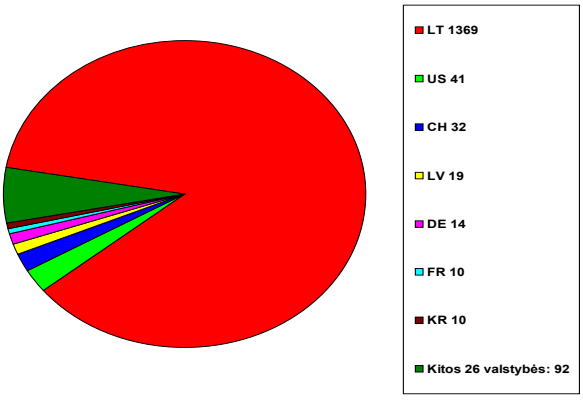


Under International Classification of Goods and Services the biggest number of applications was filed for the following classes in year 2010:

Class	Title of the class	Number	%
29	Meat, fish, poultry and game; meat extracts; marinated, frozen, dried, cooked and fried fruit and vegetables; jellies, jams, stewed fruit; eggs, milk and dairy products; food oils and grease.	163	4,5
30	Coffee, tea, cacao, sugar, rice, tapioca, sago, coffee substitutes; flour and products from grain, bread, cakes and confectionary, ice-cream; honey, syrup; yeast, baking powder; salt, mustard; vinegar, dressings; seasonings; ice.	190	5,3
35	Advertising; business management; business administration; enterprise operations.	633	15,9
41	Education; teaching; entertainment; sport and cultural activities.	368	10,3
43	Catering services of drinks and food; temporary accommodation.	189	5,3

In year 2010 1,585 trademarks were registered, among them:
1,369 (86%) of the Lithuanian applicants; 216 (14%) of the foreign applicants.

Distribution of applications by the states of the trademark owners



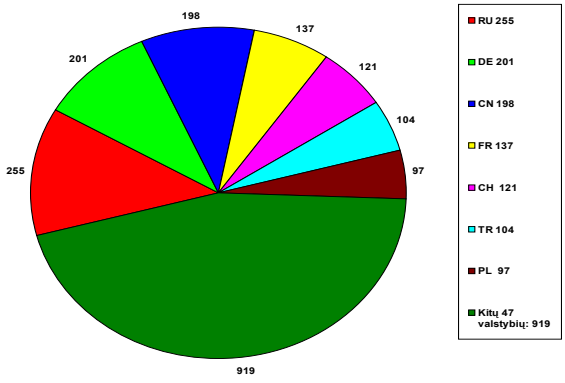
In year 2010 13 trademarks were registered, the applications of which were filed asking for grant of the conventional priority.

In year 2010 568 assignments of rights and 43 license agreements were entered into the Register of Trademarks of the Republic of Lithuania, 1,798 changes in the Register, 933 extensions of registration time, 263 pledging of the marks (withdrawals of pledging) and 89 attachment of the registrations (withdrawals of attachment), 11,239 registrations were cancelled, 1,159 registrations among them were cancelled without extension of the effective time of the registration.
In year 2010 2,393 searches were conducted for the EU Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market under the Article 38 of the Council regulation (EC) No. 207/2009 of 26 February 2009 on the Community trade mark (codified version) under requirements of OHIM, and the SPB received and passed 3 Community trademark applications to OHIM.

Protection of trademarks under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks

In year 2010 2,032 notifications of the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) were received regarding extension of the protection of international registration of marks in Lithuania. The SPB adopted 2,805 decisions to grant protection to international registration of marks.

Distribution of international registrations extended to the Republic of Lithuania in year 2010 by the states of mark owners



Lithuanian applicants filed 768 international applications from year 1997 to the end of 2010 using the opportunity of acquire protection of trademarks in other countries granted by a membership of Lithuania in the Madrid protocol. 740 trademarks of Lithuanian applicants have been registered at the International Trademark Register.

Number of international applications filed under the Madrid Protocol



DESIGN

There are three ways to get exclusive rights to a design in Lithuania: under the Design Law of the Republic of Lithuania by filing an application directly with the SPB (national way); under the Council Regulation (EC) No. 6/2002 of 12 December 2001 on Community Designs, under which a Community design registered with the EU Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (trademarks and designs) (OHIM) is protected in Lithuania from 1 May 2004 (regional way) and registration of international design may be extended to Lithuania after Lithuania joined the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs since 26 September 2008 (international way).

Since the day of establishment of the State Patent Bureau until 31 December 2010, the SPB received 1,6677 applications for registration of designs in the national way. 1,458 registrations of designs have been registered at the Register of Design of the Republic of Lithuania, 352 registrations among them have been in effect.

Since 2008 42 notifications regarding the extension of the international protection of registrations in Lithuania have been received from the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO); having performed the examination, 38 decisions were adopted to grant the protection.

At the end of 2010 901 registrations of design, applications for which have been filed in the national and international ways and 441,966 Community designs registered at the EU Register of Community designs were in effect in Lithuania.

Number of designs filed in the Republic of Lithuania in years 1995 and 2004 – 2010

Year	Number of design applications filed with the SPB at the national way	Number of notifications received on the international registration of designs extended to Lithuania	Total
1995	85	-	85
2004	64	-	64
2005	30	-	30
2006	32	-	32
2007	27	-	27
2008	44	1	45
2009	29	12	41
2010	22	29	51

Registration of exclusive rights to design in the Republic of Lithuania in years 1995 and 2004 – 2010

Year	Number of design registrations (including renewals)	Number of international registrations of trademarks that have been granted protection in Lithuania	Total
1995	66		66
2004	128	-	128
2005	60	-	60
2006	84	-	84
2007	69	-	69
2008	91	-	91
2009	79	11	90
2010	46	27	73

Number of design applications filed in the Republic of Lithuania in national and international way for grant of protection in years 2004-2010

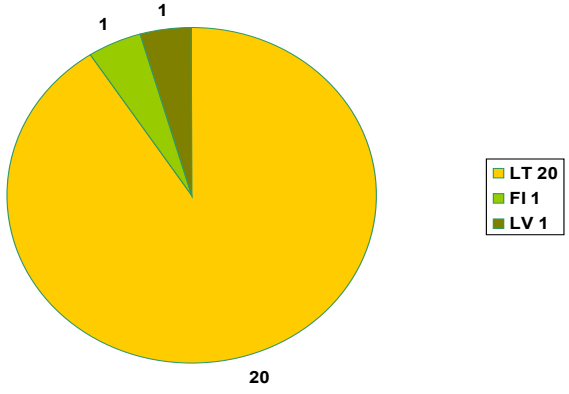
Year	Number of design applications filed in the national way	Number of extended designs in the international way	Total
2004	209	-	209
2005	107	-	107
2006	53	-	53
2007	50	-	50
2008	79	2	81
2009	64	47	111
2010	32	160	192

Designs that were granted protection in the Republic of Lithuania in years 2004 – 2010

Year	Number of registered national designs	Number of registered international designs	Total
2004	220	-	220
2005	67	-	67
2006	124	-	124
2007	36	-	36
2008	65	-	65
2009	91	44	135
2010	35	132	167

In year 2010 22 design applications (32 designs) were filed with the SPB, among them:
20 (91%) of the Lithuanian applicants; 2 (9%) of the foreign applicants.

Distribution of applications by states in year 2010



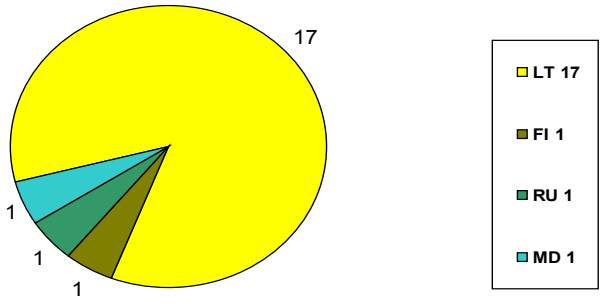
Distribution of design applications according to the international Locarno classification:
The foreign applicants have filed design applications in the following areas:
tools and hardware (class 8) – 1; recording, communication or information retrieval equipment (class 14) – 1. The Lithuanian applicants have filed design applications in the following areas: packages and containers for the transport or handling of goods (class 9) – 5; games, toys, tents and sports goods (class 21) – 4, sales and advertising equipment, signs (class 20) – 4, articles of clothing and haberdashery (class 2) – 2; fluid distribution equipment, sanitary, heating, ventilation and air-conditioning equipment, solid fuel (class 23) – 1; machines, not elsewhere specified (class 15) – 1; equipment for production, distribution or transformation of electricity (class 13) – 1; furnishing (class 6) – 1, foodstuffs (class 1) - 1.

Number of applicants of the Republic of Lithuania who filled design applications in years 2009 - 2010

Applicants	Number of applications	
	2009	2010
Legal entities	15	12
Natural entities	22	8
Total number of legal and natural entities	37	20

In year 2010 220 designs (35 designs) were registered at the SPB, among them:
17 (85%) of the Lithuanian applicants;
3 (15%) of the foreign applicants.

Distribution of registrations by the owner states of the design in year 2010



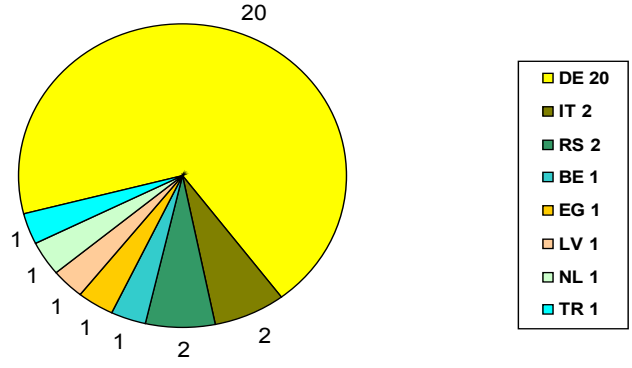
In year 2010 4 agreements on assignment of rights were registered at the Register of Design of the Republic of Lithuania, 8 changes in the register, 26 registrations of the design were renewed and 40 registrations were cancelled.

The SPB received and passed to OHIM 1 Community design application.

Protection of designs under the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs

In year 2010 29 notifications of the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) concerning extension of protection of international registration of the design in Lithuania were received. The SPB adopted 27 decisions to grant protection to international registrations of design.

Distribution of international registrations extended to the Republic of Lithuania in year 2010 by the states of design owners



International registrations extended in the following areas:

Means of transport or hoisting (class 12) – 11, lighting apparatus (class 26) – 8; packages and containers for transport or handling of goods (class 9) – 3; equipment for production, distribution or transformation of electricity (class 13) – 2; medical and laboratory equipment (class 24) – 1; stationery and office equipment, artists' and teaching materials (class 19) – 1; printing and office machinery (class 18) – 1; photographic, cinematographic and optical apparatus (class 16) – 1; articles of clothing and haberdashery (class 2) – 1.

APPEALS AND OPPOSITIONS

The objective of operations of the Appeals Division of the State Patent Bureau is to review the SPB experts decisions, passed after examination of a patent application, an application to obtain a supplementary protection certificate, an application for registration a topography, a design, or a trademark, about which the applicants have expressed complaints following the procedure defined by legislation and to protect the rights of persons interested in intellectual property objects.

From 1 January 2010 was introduced a new version of Regulations on the Examination of Appeals and Oppositions No. AP/01/2005. Under these regulations appeals and oppositions are usually examined in the proceedings of a written procedure, the oral procedure is applied only in exceptional cases when the dispute is very complicated or is significant to formation of the practice of Appeals Division.

Making a review of the statistical data of year 2010 it should be noted that 153 oppositions and 9 appeals were lodged with the Appeals Division in year 2010, namely:

- 107 oppositions in regards to national registration of trademarks;
- 45 oppositions in regards to international registration of trademarks under the Madrid protocol;
- 1 opposition in regards to registration of design;
- 8 appeals in regards to national application of a trademark;
- 1 appeal in regards to international registration of marks.

Number of received oppositions and appeals in years 2004-2010:

In year 2004 – 8 appeals and 148 oppositions;
In year 2005 – 8 appeals and 133 oppositions;
In year 2006 – 9 appeals and 187 oppositions:
In year 2007– 10 appeals and 265 oppositions,
In year 2008 – 13 appeals and 197 oppositions,
In year 2009 – 14 appeals and 181 oppositions,
In year 2010 – 9 appeals and 153 oppositions.

In year 2010 the Appeals Division adopted 95 decisions after examination of:

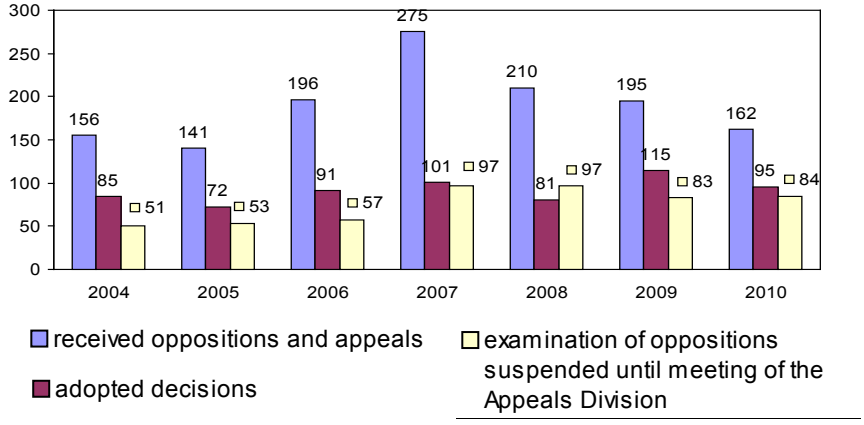
- 8 appeals (7 in regards to national trademark application and 1 in regards to grant of a supplementary protection certificate);
- 94 oppositions (63 oppositions in regards to national registration of trademarks, 31 in regards to international registration of marks and 2 in regards to registration of design).

By adopted decisions:

- In 54 cases oppositions were granted;
- In 30 cases oppositions were rejected;
- In 11 cases oppositions were partly granted.

5 considered appeals against findings of the SPB experts for rejection of an application for registration of a trademark and 1 appeal in regards to grant of a supplementary certificate were rejected, 2 appeals in regards to findings of the SPB experts for rejection of an application for registration of a trademark were granted.

Generalized data of the Appeals Division in years 2004-2010:



Parties of the dispute actively use an option for amicable dispute resolution after filing an opposition and the examination of such oppositions are discontinued at the Appeals Division. In year 2010 the number of oppositions was 84: at the Appeals Division were discontinued examinations of 68 oppositions in regards to the national registration of marks, 14 oppositions in regards to registration of design and 1 appeal in regards to the national registration of the trademark.

Of 95 decisions adopted by the Appeals Division in year 2010, 8 of them were appealed against Vilnius County Court. It should be noted that up to now Vilnius County Court has already examined 2 civil cases of the abovementioned number and in both cases decisions of the Appeals Division have been recognized as grounded and legitimate.

On 2 September 2010 the Court of Justice of the European Union adopted favourable to the SPB decision in case No. C-66/09 Kirin Amgen Inc. v. The State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania, which confirmed the legitimacy of the decision of the Appeals Division of the SPB in regards to grant of a supplementary protection certificate.

LEGISLATION AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



Legislation

The year 2010 was very intense and responsible to SPB in the area of legislation and international cooperation. In year 2010 the SPB prepared proposals for laws, which tried to reduce administrative burden to a small and medium-size business, simplify and improve registration procedures for industrial property objects. In year 2010 the patent law reform was finished, which lasted for over 4 years, the result of which is Patent Law Amendment Act of a new version adopted on 23 December 2010.

Pursuing the implementation tool 192 of the program for years 2008-2012 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania ("To prepare draft amendment to the Trademark Law of the Republic of Lithuania, Design Law of the Republic of Lithuania, Law on the Legal Protection of Topographies of Semiconductor Products of the Republic of Lithuania – to refuse mandatory registration of licence agreements and registration of licence agreements as a condition for the licence agreement to come into force in regards to third parties") and tool 592 ("To prepare draft Law in order to modernize registration procedures of trademarks"), draft amendment to articles 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 23, 25, 26, 27, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 43, 44 and 47 of the Trademark Law of the Republic of Lithuania, draft of the eighth paragraph and draft of the amendment to the annex of the law, draft of the supplement with article 231 were prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania.

Pursuing the implementation tool 192 of the program for years 2008-2012 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania draft amendment to articles 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31, 32, 334, 35, 40 and 41 of the Design Law of the Republic of Lithuania and supplemented law and amendments to articles 10, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18 and 19 of the Semiconductor Product Topographies Law and draft supplement with article 151 were prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania.

Pursuing the implementation tool 546 of the program for years 2008-2012 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania ("To prepare draft amendment to Law on Fees for the Registration of Industrial Property Objects of the Republic of Lithuania, which would anticipate lower charges for registration of industrial property objects, particularly promoting small and medium-size business, education establishments to register industrial property objects") and tool 28 of the National Lisbon strategy implementation program of year 2008-2010 (Official Gazette, 2008, No. 124-4718) („To improve policy of fees for registration of industrial property") a draft amendments to articles 5 and 6 of the Law on Fees for the Registration of Industrial Property Objects of the Republic of Lithuania, amendments to supplements 1, 2, 3 and 4 and supplementation with article 91 were prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania.

In year 2009 pursuing the implementation tool 591 of the program for years 2008-2012 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and with reference to implementation of provisions of the Patent Law Treaty in the national law, the State Patent Bureau prepared draft Law on Patent Law Treaty ratification, draft amendment to the Patent Law Amendment Act (new version) and draft Law on Fees for the Registration of Industrial Property Objects amendment of Appendix 1 and supplement law. On 23 December 2010 Patent Law Amendment Act (new version) and Law on Fees for the Registration of Industrial Property Objects amendment of Appendix 1 and supplement law were adopted at the Seimas (corresponding number of laws No. XI-1261 and No. XI-1262, announced in the Official Gazette, 2010, No. 4-127 and No. 4-128). Effective date of these laws is subject to effective date of the Patent Law Treaty in Lithuania (a draft No. XP-3333(2) of the law on ratification of the treaty has been submitted to Seimas).

International Cooperation

In year 2010 the SPB proceeded active cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (trademarks and designs) (OHIM), and European Patent Office (EPO) and took part in operations of these bodies of the European Union. Year 2010 can be characterized as the year of intensive discussions and representation of interests of Lithuania in the bodies of EU in regards to development of EU patent and unanimous patent litigation system, successful performance of bilateral agreements and the first lawsuit in the practice of Lithuanian courts in respect to refusal to grant a supplementary protection certificate at the Court of Justice, where a decision favourable to the SPB was adopted.

WIPO
WORLD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

In year 2010 we preceded active cooperation with one of the specialized international organizations of the United Nations – the World Intellectual Property Organization, which is charge of policy formation of the protection of intellectual property on the global scale and administration of most international conventions in the area of protection of industrial property.

Same as each year since 1992, when Lithuania became a member of WIPO, our state has

been represented at the WIPO General Assembly, the Paris Union Assembly, the Nice Union Assembly, the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PTC) Union Assembly, the Madrid Union Assembly, the Budapest Union Assembly and meetings of WIPO Coordination Committees (we participated in 2 meetings of WIPO governing bodies). The head of the State Patent Bureau has been elected the vice-chairman of the Hague Union Assembly.

Employees of the State Patent Bureau attended 11 sessions of WIPO committees, meetings and conferences of workgroups and other events organized by WIPO.

Participation of the Republic of Lithuania in multilateral international conventions in the area of protection of industrial property administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AND THE DATE WHEN LITHUANIA JOINED IT

Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization

30 January 1992

Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (1967 Edition of the Stockholm Act)

21st February 1994

Patent Cooperation Treaty

5 April 1994

Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks

22 November 1996

Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure

9 February 1998

Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks

15 August 1997

Trademark Law Treaty, came into effect on 27 April 1998

Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs

26 September 2008.



European Union (EU)

In year 2010 representatives of the SPB actively attended meetings of the European Union workgroups, prepared and presented an official opinion of Lithuania on the matters discussed in Brussels on protection of industrial property.

In year 2010 representatives of the SPB attended 8 meetings of the European Union Council Intellectual Property workgroup (including patent and trademark subgroups). At the competence of the SPB it prepared and harmonized 19 positions, 7 positions of which were prepared for the meetings of Intellectual property workgroup, 6 positions for COREPER meetings and 6 positions for meetings of the Competitiveness Council.

The year 2010 was significant since representatives of the SPB participated in the Court of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania (Luxemburg) in trial of the case No. C-66/09 Kirin Amgen Inc. v. The State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania. The decision favourable to the SPB was adopted in the case.



Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (trademarks and designs) (OHIM)

The State Patent Bureau closely cooperates with the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (trademarks and designs). As provided by the Council Regulation (EC) No. 207/2009 of 29 February 2009 on the Community trade mark (codified version), representatives of the SPB represented the Republic of Lithuania at 6 sessions of the administrative bodies of the OHIM, namely Administrative Council, Budget Committee, joint meetings of the Administrative Council and Budget Committee in discussion on relevant OHIM organizational, administrative and financial matters in year 2010. Experts of the SPB attended 6 technical cooperation meetings of OHIM and representatives of national patent offices, OHIM and representatives of patent offices' interaction meetings on the matters of design, and other trainings in year 2010.



European Patent Organization (EPO)

Under the Convention on the Grant of European Patent (European Patent Convention), representatives of the SPB represented the Republic of Lithuania in 6 meetings of the EPO Administrative Council and 2 meetings of the Budget and Finance Committee where organizational, administrative and financial matters of EPO activities and legal regulation of European Union patents were discussed in year 2010. The member of EPO Administrative Council Rimvydas Naujokas was a member of the Supervisory Board of EPO European Patent Academy (appointed for three-year term) in year 2010.

In year 2010 representatives of SPB attended 15 EPO events of various character, i.e., committees and workgroups of EPO on the matters of patent law, technical cooperation, meetings of TOSC, EPTOS and etc. and also topic events.

Making assessment of the needs in development of special professional knowledge in the area of granting patents and using opportunities offered by EPO program in multilateral cooperation, specialists of SPB improved their qualification at 8 seminars and practical trainings organized by the EPO European Patent Academy in year 2010. In year 2010 national activities plan NAP 2009 – 2011 of the cooperation between the SPB and EPO was implemented.

Cooperation with Patent Offices and other International Cooperation

In year 2010 the State Patent Bureau continued cooperation with state patent offices of the neighbouring countries of the Baltic region – at the invitation of the Finnish Patent Office the SPB attended the meeting of managers of patent offices of the Nordic and Baltic states. Employees of the SPB went on business visits to Georgian Patent Office, Latvian Patent Office, at the forum organized by the Spanish Patent Office, international symposium in Krakow (Poland), 2 conferences organized by Belgium (as EU Presidency state) on the matters of patent policy and protection of intellectual property rights (the SPB attended 8 events organized by foreign patent offices or other national institutions in total).

PATENT INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Patent information is one of the constitutive parts of the legal protection of industrial property objects (inventions, designs, marks, topographies of semiconductor products). The State Patent Bureau performs registration of industrial property objects and publishes the data on the submitted objects, the applicant obtains legal protection of the object and exclusive right to use it and the society has a possibility to access a sufficient amount of information on the registered object. Besides, patent information is the basic element of scientific-technical information, the users of which primarily are potential developers of new industrial property objects that are legally protected. Thus, national patent information is the instrument of free exchange of information among states, which enables each country to become a user of the global patent information fund.

The Official Bulletin "Inventions. Designs. Trademarks" published monthly by the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania is the original source of patent information in the Republic of Lithuania, which publishes data of the registers administered by the SPB. Other original sources of patent information are descriptions of inventions.

After restoration of the Independence of Lithuania in 1918, the Gazette "Government Gazette" published by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania was the primary source of patent information, which published information on patents granted in Lithuania in years 1928-1940 (in year 1940 this information was published in the supplement to the "Government Gazette").

After restoration of Independence of Lithuania in year 1990, the first volume of the Official Lithuanian Bulletin "Inventions. Industrial Designs. Trademarks and Service Marks. Firm Names" was published on 15 October 1992. 2 volumes of the Bulletin were published in this year. In year 1993 4 volumes of the Bulletin were published and since year 1995 the Bulletin has published on a regular basis. The Official Bulletin of the SPB has been designed, published and distributed by the Lithuanian Technical Library. 12 volumes of the Official Bulletin are printed each year. Since November 1997 the Bulletin has been published on the Internet in an electronic format. Since year 2005 publications of the Official Bulletin of the SPB have been stored on the website of the SPB (http://www.vpb.gov.lt/) in Adobe ®PDF format.

Since 1 July 2009 the Official Bulletin of the SPB "Inventions. Designs. Trademarks" has been published only in an electronic format and the source of the Official Bulletin is the Internet website of the SPB www.vpb.gov.lt.

The second source of patent information is bibliographic, abstract, application and patent description databases. Earlier patent descriptions have been designed and printed on paper at the Lithuanian Technical Library and simultaneously the fund of patent descriptions has been collected at the Inventions Division of the SPB. From year 1996 when the Inventions Division was equipped with proper copying equipment, patent descriptions have been copied and multiplied in the Inventions Division and a few prepared copies have been given to the LTL. From year 1994 the SPB started communicating bibliographic information on patents to the European Patent Office, which have been entered into the database EPIDOS-INPADOC of patent analogues. From May 1995 data on patent applications and patent bibliography and legal status have been submitted with the EPO every month on a regular basis. The same year the SPB participated in conventions in regards to publication of patent descriptions of the East and Central Europe patent offices on compact disks and to this end necessary information has been communicated to the company ARCANUM Informatics Ltd. in Hungary. At the same time ARCANUM Informatics Ltd. published scanned patent descriptions in the database of the EPO espac@net. From year 1996 patent descriptions have been recorded to ESPACE-PRECES compact disks. ESPACE-PRECES compact disks hold recorded patent descriptions of Lithuania from No. 3001 to 5625. The last disk holding description of the patent No. 5625 was released in year 2009.

From year 1993 computer databases of the SPB were operating, which held bibliographic data on all patents, industrial designs and trademarks and also legal status data, including name of the holder or applicant, changes in addresses, licence or assignment agreements. Data for the Official Bulletin, EPIDOs-INPADOC, PRECES, COMPU-MARK has been output in certain formats from all databases and also statistical data for the publication "Statistics of Industrial Property" of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). From year 1995 bibliographic data on trademarks and firm names has been communicated to the company TOMPSON/COMPU-MARK in Belgium every month.

From September 2002 a database of the Register of Trademarks has been published on the website of the SPB. From year 2006 databases of the national patents and European patents that came into effect in Lithuania have also been published on the website of the SPB. From year 2007 a database of the Register of Design has been published on the website of the SPB too. From year 2009 patent descriptions of all granted national patents have been moved to the electronic database. It is planned to publish descriptions of patent applications in an electronic database next year.

The State Patent Bureau alongside registration practice of industrial property objects (inventions, designs, trademarks, topographies of semiconductor products) takes a more active role in dispersion of information on industrial property, realizes tools of education to the general public on the matters of industrial property, seeks that the established productivity system of scientific institutions gets surplus value from exchange of information, exploiting the knowledge of professionals in industrial property information, establishes all necessary conditions for the process of development of the advanced technologies and the protection process and application of technologies. Conveyance of information of the general public is pursued according to plans of dispersion of information on industrial property and education tools for the general public approved by Order of director of the SPB, involving Lithuanian Technical Library and Patent Information Centres (PIC).

Applications Receiving and Document Management Division has been performing One Stop functions from year 1997 already in acceptance of applications, personal requests, complaints, in sending or handing replies to persons, certificates, documents of industrial property, providing information on the matters of registration procedures of industrial property objects directly, by phone, on the website of the SPB "Questions – Answers" and by e-mail. In year 2010 342 questions were answered in the section of the website of the SPB "Questions – Answers", 243 questions by e-mail, about 4,700 personal questions by the information phone line. About 4 thousand clients visited One Stop Customer Service Division. Over 28 thousand replies, certificates, documents of industrial property were handed or sent by mail.

Realizing the education plan of the general public an article has been prepared for publication in the magazine „Mokslas ir technika" ("Science and technology"), results of the sociological survey (questionnaire survey), which reflect possibilities of part of the general public, which is informed on protection of the industrial property, was published on the website of the SPB. In collaboration between the SPB and OHIM information prospects "What Should we Know about Community Trademarks" and "What

Should we Know about Community Design" and also sets of laws such as "EU, Lithuania and International Law. Court Practice of the EU Court of Justice and Lithuanian Courts in the Area of Trademarks" and "EU, Lithuania and International Law . Court Practice of the EU Court of Justice and Lithuanian Courts in the Area of Design", information booklets such as "How to Protect a Trademark in the EU" and "How to Protect a Design in the EU" have been prepared and published.

At the end of the year 2010 in collaboration between the SPB and LTL were published three publications of WIPO abridged for the market of Lithuania on design, trademarks and usage of intellectual property in textile enterprises – "Looking Good", "Making a Mark" and "A Stitch in Time".

In year 2010 the SPB organized seminars, attended exhibitions and other events, namely:

In February 2010 the SPB organized a seminar "How to Protect Trademarks and Designs in the European Union" in the premises of the LTL. Branches of LTL in Kaunas, Klaipėda and Panevėžys had open days organized by PIC of the TLT, during which SPB's specialists informed on possibilities how to protect marks and designs in the European Union.

On 26 April 2010, commemorating the World Intellectual Property day for the tenth time, a non-profit organization IPR-help of the Council of the European Union together with the SPB organized a seminar "How to Protect Intellectual Property and Feel Safe in EU and Global Markets" in the premises of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania. The seminar was designated for developers and users of intellectual property objects, small and medium-size enterprises in particular. At the same time an exhibition called "Protection of Intellectual Property after Restoration of Independence" was arranged, people were invited to an open day in the premises of the SPB. Later this exhibition was held at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (VGTU), Kaunas University of Technology (KTU) and Klaipėda University and the branch of LTL in Kaunas. One more exhibition of the SPB and LTL was held at Šiauliai University.

In May 2010 the SPB attended an exhibition „Balttechnika 2010" and events of the Entrepreneurship week, which took place at the Lithuanian exhibition center LITEXPO. PIC specialists represented at the stands of the SPB.

In September 2010 the SPB and WIPO organized a seminar "The Role of Patent Information and Use of Technologies in Promotion of Innovations" in Palanga. Representatives of PIC made two reports in this seminar.

In November 2010 the SPB and WIPO organized a regional training seminar for judges. Judges from Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland and Poland attended the seminar.

PATENT INFORMATION CENTER OF LITHUANIAN TECHNICAL LIBRARY

Lithuanian Technical Library (LTL) has a very important role in collecting, preserving and disseminating patent information. LTL is a public specialized library of the national authority, the main goal of which is to secure needs of users for obtaining scientific technical information, organize dispersion of information and make access to all information resources of the library. LTL is the biggest library of the state that accumulates publications in the area of technology and economy, descriptions of inventions, standards and other normative documents, registers of firms and catalogues. LTL is the centre of methodology of the chain of state technical libraries and inter-library subscription (ILS). The library has its branches in Kaunas, Klaipėda and Panevėžys. On 1 January 2011 LTL had the fund, which comprised 45,8 million publications and documents (mostly, descriptions of inventions) and 8,200 registered subscribers. In year 2010 over 46 thousand readers visited the library, over 6 thousand requests were fulfilled, 200 exhibitions and events were arranged.

LTL offers the following services: documents to subscribers of the library are given to take home (subscribers) and for reading in specialized (common, patent information, electronic information, foreign literature and bibliography) and branch reading-rooms; documents that are no available at the LTL are ordered to the readers from other libraries of the state and foreign countries through inter-library subscription (ILS); organizations are serviced pursuant to annual agreements; thematic, factographic, specified and information requests are fulfilled, advice on the matters of the information request is given; users have access to the subscribed databases and other sources of electronic information; the library holds thematic exhibitions, seminars and other events; once a quarter a thematic collection "Information and library" is published.

Subdivision of the library Patent Information Center (PIC) is a deposit library of industrial property documents and patent literature, the centre for provision of patent information services, gathering of patent documentation, publishing and distribution centre in Lithuania. Together with the State Patent Bureau (SPB) and branches of LTL, a chain of state PATLIB (patent information) centres, which provide information and documentation services to the general public has been formed. PIC also prepares and publishes an information publication "Protection of Industrial Property", printed once a quarter.

In year 2010 PIC started selection of the invention of the month, which might become a commercially prospective and useful to the society patented invention/patent application in order to popularize inventions of the Lithuanian inventors and patent protection system. Information on the invention is spread on various science and technology portals.

In June 2010 LTL subscribed an information product Global Patent Index (GPI), which helps to access bibliographic database DOCDB of patents of the European Patent Office (EPO). GPI is an effective tool to access patent information in over 80 patent offices of the world.

At the end of the year the library obtained computer and office equipment under the project of cooperation actions plan between the SPB and EPO, which is meant to improve infrastructure of PATLIB centres. The equipment will allow providing better services to users – to carry out printing, copying and scanning functions, present information to customers in various media.

From year 2007 patent clinics – free service of consultations to inventors on the matters of patenting inventions have been operating in Vilnius and Kaunas. Patent attorneys of Lithuania provide consultations.

In year 2010 over 100 thousand virtual visits were registered on the Internet website of PIC.

The SPB and LTL have collaborated officially with three universities – Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (VGTU), Kaunas University of Technology (KTU) and Šiauliai University from year 2008.

In June 2010 a joint project of the SPB and LTL "Preliminary Diagnosis of the Industrial Property" was introduced for the first time to the public in Vilnius, Saulėtekis valley. , pursued with support of the European Patent Office. The objective of the project is to improve level of knowledge about use of industrial property (IP) in enterprises, provision of recommendations on IP protection actions and organization.

On 11-15 October Patent information week ATINFO2010 was held for the first time in the country, during which an open day at LTL was arranged, consultations on the matters of information search and patenting of inventions were given, visitors were introduced with internet databases, information publications of PIC, also lectures on inventions, projects realized by LTL were introduced.

STATISTICAL DATA

REPORT ON THE FILED APPLICATIONS

			Year		Comparision in % 2010/2009
			2009	2010	
Inventions	National applications	Lithuanian applicants	91	108	119
		Foreign applicants	7	4	57
	International applications (PCT national phase entries)	Lithuanian applicants	0	0	0
		Foreign applicants	9	2	22
	Extended European patent applications		197	320	162
	Total		304	434	143
Topographies of semiconductor products	National applications	Lithuanian applicants	0	0	0
		Foreign applicants	0	0	0
	Total		0	0	0
Trademarks	National applications	Lithuanian applicants	1833	1963	107
		Foreign applicants	275	277	101
	Notifications on the international trademarks registrations extended under Madrid protocol		2472	2032	82
	Total		4580	4272	93
Designs	National applications	Lithuanian applicants	25	20	80
		Foreign applicants	4	2	50
	Notifications on the international registration of industrial designs extended to the Republic of Lithuania		12	29	242
	Total		41	51	124
	Total		**4925**	**4757**	**97**

REPORT ON REGISTERED EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS

		Year		Comparison in % 2010/2009
		2009	2010	
Inventions	National patents	84	84	100
	Came into force European patents	1039	941	91
	Total	1123	1025	91
Topographies of semiconductor products	National registrations	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0
Trademarks	National registrations	2777	1585	57
	Granting the protection for extended iternational registrations under Madrid protocol	3933	2805	71
	Total	6710	4390	65
Designs	National registrations	33	20	61
	Granting the protection for international registration of industrial designs extended to the Republic of Lithuania	11	27	245
	Total	44	47	107
Total		**7877**	**5462**	**69**

REPORT ON THE APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS, TRADE MARKS AND DESIGNS FROM LITHUANIAN APPLICANTS FILED UNDER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND EU REGULATIONS

	Year		Comparison in % 2010/2009
	2009	2010	
International patent applications (PCT)	23	10	43
European patent applications (EPC)	13	4	31
International applications for registering trade marks under Madrid protocol	60	65	108
Applications for registering Community trade mark	114	94	82
Applications for registering Community design	9	15	167
International applications for registering industrial design	1	1	100

STATE FEES REPORT (in thousand Litas)

	Year		Comparison in % 2010/2009
	2009	2010	
Inventions	3969,1	4222,7	106
Topographies of semiconductor products	-	-	-
Trademarks	2398,2	1992,6	83
Designs	71,9	47,6	66
Total	**6439,2**	**6262,9**	**97**