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THE STATE PATENT BUREAU OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA ANNUAL REVIEW OF YEAR 2011

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Abbreviations:

SPB – State Patent Bureau
MJ – Ministry of Justice
LTL – Lithuanian Technical Library
EPO – European Patent Organization
EPO – European Patent Office
WIPO – World Intellectual Property Organization
WTO – World Trade Organization
OHIM – Office for Harmonization of the Internal Market of European Union
PCT – Patent Cooperation Treaty
EPK – European Patent Convention

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ANNUAL REVIEW OF YEAR 2011

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Introduction



Rimvydas Naujokas

"Human genius is the source of all works of art and invention. These works are the guarantee of a life worthy of men. It is the duty of the state to ensure with diligence the protection of the arts and inventions."

text by Arpad Bogsch
WIPO Director General (1973-1997)

In year 2011 we have celebrated twenty year anniversary of the national patent office – the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania (SPB). Many things have been achieved during the two decades of existence of the restored industrial property protection system: four registers for industrial property were established, all legal acts for intellectual property protection were enacted, the main international treaties were ratified. Free databases of Lithuanian patents, European patents in effect, trademarks, designs became available to the applicants, scientists, students, business community. There are 6 thousand patents, 60 thousand trademarks and around 1,5 thousand registered designs, also around 800 thousand Community trademarks and 487 thousand Community

designs in effect in Lithuania. Today as many patents for inventions come into effect in Lithuania in one year, as in twenty years between the two World Wars.

Strategic objective – blending into the unified European patent system – has already been achieved.

A solid industrial property protection system was created in Lithuania, which is adequate to norms and traditions shaped in the states of European Union.

Since year 2011 the State Patent Bureau has started implementing a program of the Ministry of Justice "Services to residents and businesses", aiming to achieve a strategic objective – increase the efficiency of legal institutions and their services, as well as their convenience to users.

In year 2011 the State Patent Bureau, while implementing its functions, paid much attention to these underlying areas of activity:

- developing national industrial property protection system;
- ensuring efficient dissemination of industrial property information as well as educating public, business and government agencies in the area of industrial property;
- making the services of SPB available electronically.

After adopting the new wording of the Patent Law in 2010, the implementing legal acts of the Patent Law were drafted in 2011.

Year 2011 were declared by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) as the year of design, and that is clearly apparent in the statistics of the SPB activities. There were almost twice as much applications for design registration filed in comparison with year 2010.

In year 2011 the SPB implemented measures foreseen in Plan on public education measures and Plan on patent information dissemination measures, seeking to contribute to implementation of Lithuania's Innovation Strategy for years 2010 – 2020.

In year 2012 the State Patent Bureau will particularly address following activities:

- developing electronic services in the area of patents and trademarks;
- educating businesses and institutions in the area of industrial property protection;
- ensuring representation of Lithuania's interests in EU and international institutions.

Finishing this introduction, I would like to thank all employees of the State Patent Bureau, and all institutions that cooperated with the State Patent Bureau during the twenty years of its activity.

Director Rimvydas Naujokas

Twenty Years of the State Patent Bureau

Year 2011 was significant and important for the State Patent Bureau (SPB). Patent Law Treaty was ratified on March 17. On April 12 twenty year anniversary of the SPB was commemorated by all Lithuanian inventors, owners and protectors of industrial property, creators and owners of design and trademarks. And the new wording of the Patent Law comes into force in 2012.

Twenty years is a long period of time for an office. During this time the State Patent Bureau grew, expanded, more functions appeared. Today the organizational structure of the State Patent Bureau consists of 8 independent divisions: Law and International Affairs, Inventions, Trademarks and Designs, Applications Receiving and Document Management, Information Technologies, Finance and Strategic Planning, General Affairs and Appeals Division. SPB has 60 employees. SPB has become a solid office, and its work is crowned by sum of successful activities, making a good influence to the development of scientific and creative thought, as well as Lithuania's economic development and growth of competitiveness.

Installation and development of new information systems and electronic technologies has long become one of the main priorities in the process of planning the activities of SPB. Information systems, that were created, now allow exchange of data with databases of intellectual property offices all around the world. Today SPB works actively not only towards the possibility to file patent, trademark and design applications online, but also to use the abilities of this system comprehensively, by receiving and examining requests, appeals and oppositions.

The State Patent Bureau operates actively in international registration systems. In 1992 Lithuania became a member of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in 1994 it joined the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), in 1997 – Trademark Law Treaty, in 1998 – Madrid Protocol Concerning the International Registration of Marks, in 2004 Lithuania became a full member of European Patent Organization (EPO) system, and in 2008 Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs came into effect in Lithuania. The President of the European Patent Office (EPO) B.Battistelli and Deputy Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization Chr.Wichard gave a positive evaluation of the international activities of SPB during the international conference, commemorating the World Intellectual Property Day. Heads and employees of the SPB participate actively in the sessions of WIPO General Assemblies, Nice Union Assembly, Patent Cooperation Treaty Union, Budapest Union Assembly, WIPO Coordination Committees. They are being elected into governing bodies of WIPO, also they manage international projects. Director of the State Patent Bureau Rimvydas Naujokas was elected vice-chair of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Assembly for years 2011 – 2013.

In year 2011 representatives of SPB represented Lithuania in the meetings of Administrative Council of European Patent Organization (EPO), also in meetings of Budget and Finance Committee, where organisational, adminis-

trative and financial matters of EPO activities as well as legal regulation of European patents were discussed. In 2011 Deputy Director of SPB Žilvinas Danys was appointed a member of the Supervisory Board of EPO's European Patent Academy (for 3 year's office).

In year 2011 representatives of SPB participated in the meetings of the governing bodies of the Office for the Harmonization of the Internal Market (Trademarks and Designs) (OHIM) – Administrative Council, Budget Committee, joined Administrative Council and Budget Committee, where the important OHIM's organisational, administrative and financial issues were considered.

In 2011 SPB carried out projects foreseen in international cooperation agreements for implementing measures of public education and making SPB services available electronically, by closely cooperating with international and European Union organizations – EPO, OHIM and WIPO.

"Patents are valuable both economically and commercially. The rights that they confer may stimulate development of the whole branch of economy; however, they can also become an obstacle that restricts competition. Therefore the law foresees some safety measures to ensure, that the government or the court, when the distortion of competition is noticed, would have a possibility to react and make decisions allowing the public to make use of certain technologies. On one hand, legal regulation of inventions is a part of the state's economic policy, however, business interests have a very big influence. Business is becoming global, as goods and services may be exported to several countries at the same time, therefore unitary and efficient mechanism for enforcement of rights is pursued. Business participants can see which invention could be valuable, what could and could not be patented, and they try to influence patent law, although indirectly, by putting forward their proposals. On the other hand, there is international practice that determines the evolution of patent law. Movement of goods and services is now basically free in European Union – as the borders of the states have disappeared. "All legal environment is guided by this interest" – says Deputy Director of the SPB Žilvinas Danys.

It is a symbolic coincidence that on the eve of the twentieth anniversary of the Bureau, in December of year 2010, new wording of Patent Law was adopted, being the third in the history of Lithuania (the first was adopted in year 1928). It aims to supplement and adapt the requirements of separate articles of the Patent Law of 1994, considering the provisions of Patent Law Treaty, that have to be implemented in national law as the state becomes a member of the Patent Law Treaty. The law ratifying the Patent Law Treaty came into force in Lithuania on July 1 of this year. The most important novelty of the Patent Law Treaty concerns unification of procedural requirements of the national law provisions. The objective is to avoid situations where failure to follow different procedural requirements causes the loss of rights related to patent application or patent, and also to reduce the costs of patenting. Patent Law Treaty was drafted considering the rules for filing and examination of international applications, defined by Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), that regulates procedural issues of filing and examination of international application. Patent Law Treaty does not regulate issues concerning substantive patent law, i.e., novelty of the invention, inventive step, etc. Considering changing legal, economic and social conditions, new wording of Patent Law aims to regulate legal relations, concerning legal protection of inventions, also to change the procedure of patenting inventions and the actions thereof, thus facilitating the conditions for patent

applicants. Therefore the new wording of the Patent Law, which comes into force in the beginning of year 2012, contains many novelties, which are useful to inventors.

Several can be mentioned. Conditions for granting a filing date to a patent application, as well as the requirements for compulsory representation are simplified, i.e., patent attorney must represent persons, that do not have a permanent residence, registered branch or agency in Lithuania, or in another state of European Economic Area, or a member state of European Patent Convention, only in the cases provided by the law. That means that the person himself may file an application, pay the fee, and receive an approval or notice, concerning those actions, from SPB. The law foresees the possibility to correct or add information in the request for priority, also to restore the priority right. This provision is applied when the applicant is late to provide the request for priority, or does not provide the certified copy of prior application in time. This will facilitate the procedure of examining the application, as the applicant, who has not followed the terms, will be able to secure the right of priority.

Completely new provision is provided, concerning the restoration of application or patent related rights of the applicant or a patent owner, which allows securing the filing date, if the term provided in the law had been omitted due to objective reasons, and rights to application had been lost. The belief is that the implementation of the law will have a positive impact on business and its development, as business entities will have better conditions to protect the results of their intellectual activities in Lithuania. This will reduce the administrative burden for the business, and will be a step forward improving national patent law.

The survey on the users' satisfaction with the services provided by SPB was carried out for the first time, after twenty years from the start of the SPB; it reached the positive result of 98 %.

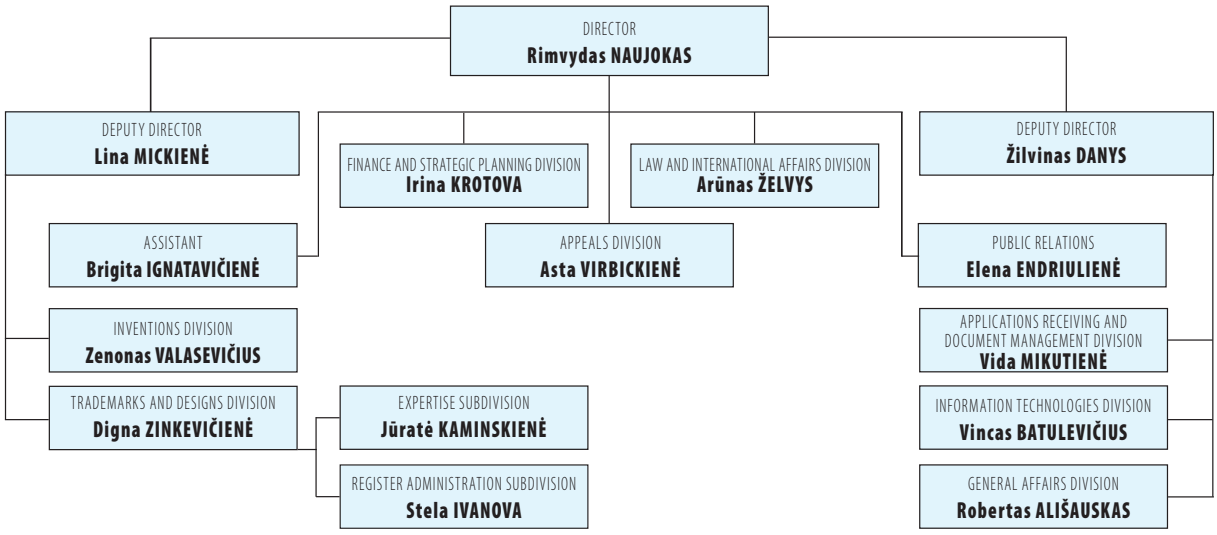
SPB's Organizational Structure and Human Resources

On January 1 of 2011, 59 positions at the SPB were approved, 40 positions among them were of civil servants, and 20 positions of employees employed under the employment contracts. During the year a number of approved positions was changed on April 26, 2011, by establishing a position of an employee working under the employment contract, which was not attributed to any division. The total number of positions on April 26, 2011 was 60 positions, and it remained unchanged until the end of the year.

In 2011 4 new employees were employed: 3 employees under the employment contracts and 1 acting civil servant, 2 employees were dismissed (1 civil servant and 1 employee working under the employment contract).

Personnel of SPB are divided by these groups of age: 18-30 years of age – 9; 31- 40 years of age – 6; 41-50 years of age – 17; 51-65 years of age – 25 and over 65 years of age – 3 employees. The mean age of the SPB employees in year 2011 was 49 years of age (the mean age in 2010 was 48).In year 2011 47 women (78.3 %) and 13 men (21.7 %) were employed at the SPB. The proportion of managers of SPB and of SPB divisions is balanced, that is 5 women (45%) and 6 men (55%). The bigger part of the SPB employees – 45 employees (75 %) – have high university education.

Due to specific activities of SPB, much attention was paid in 2011 to training and improving of employees' qualifications. Employees of SPB participated in various training events, in institutions both in Lithuania and abroad (seminars organised by European Patent Academy, WIPO, OHIM). In year 2011, 36 employees of the SPB participated in trainings, out of that number 17 participated in trainings organised by European Patent Academy, OHIM and WIPO.



Inventions

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

Since the establishment of the State Patent Bureau till December 31 of 2011, 2,927 patent applications have been filed with the SPB under the national route. Within this period 2,320 national patents have been granted, 477 of those patents were in effect on December 31, 2011.

Since April of 1991 till December 31 of 2011, 541 international patent applications have proceeded to the national level (by international route). Within this period 480 patents were granted based on these applications, 148 of those patents were in effect on December 31, 2011.

204 transfers of rights, 97 licence agreements and 269 changes of patent data were entered in the patent register of the Republic of Lithuania.

8,573 European patents came into effect in Lithuania by December 31, 2011, under the Extension Agreement between European Patent Organisation and Lithuanian Government (which was in force from July 5, 1994 until December 1, 2004) and European Patent Convention (in force since December 1, 2004) (regional route); 5,548 of those patents were in effect on December 31, 2011.

By December 31 of 2011, 351 transfers of rights, 12 licence agreements and 781 changes of patent data were entered into the database of European patents that came into effect in the Republic of Lithuania.

In 2011, 103 national patent applications were filed with the State Patent Bureau, 93 of those were filed by Lithuanian applicants. Conventional priority was requested for 10 patent applications.

In 2011 5 international applications proceeded to the national level, all of them had priority(-ies) of earlier application(-s).

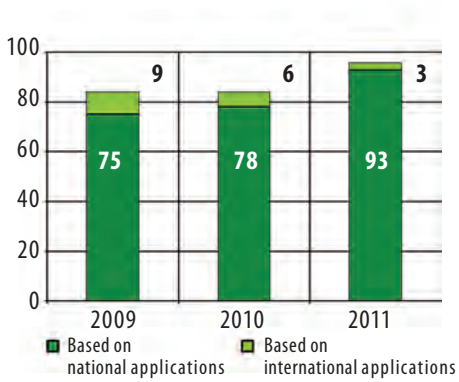
In 2011 14 international applications were filed with SPB as receiving office.

In 2011 13 applications for supplementary protection certificates were filed.

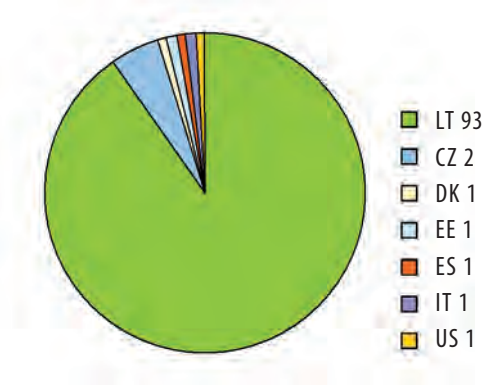
Patents that came into effect in Lithuania in 2011

Patents that came into effect in the Republic of Lithuania in year 2011	Number	Patent owners from Lithuania	Share of patents granted to owners from Lithuania %
Granted by SPB	96	85	88,5
Granted by EPO	1125	-	-
Total:	1221	85	6,9

Filing of patent applications in years 2009 – 2011



Distribution of national applications by states in year 2011



Number of patent applications filed by applicants of the Republic of Lithuania in years 2009 – 2011

Rise of number of patent applications filed by legal entities is noticeable in years 2009 – 2011, however the number of patent applications filed by natural persons dropped by 26 % in 2011.

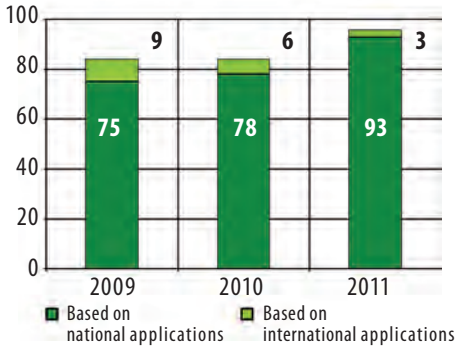
Applicants	Number of Applications		
	2009	2010	2011
Legal entitie	39	44	46
Natural persons	52	64	47
Total of legal entities and natural persons	91	108	93

Lithuanian institutions/companies that filed applications in year 2011

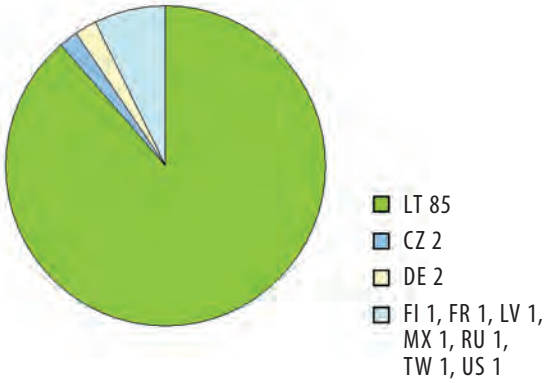
In 2011 Lithuanian institutions of science and research filed 28 patent applications, that constitutes 60 % of all patent applications filed by Lithuanian legal entities.

No	Applicants	Number of applications
1.	Vilnius Gediminas Technical University	13
2.	Kaunas University of Technology	7
3.	National Research Institute for Physical Science and Technology Center	3
4.	AB „VILKYŠKIŲ PIENINĖ“	2
5.	UAB „Precizika – MET SC“	2
6.	Vilnius University	2
7.	AB „Lietuvos geležinkeliai“ Centre of Diagnostics	1
8.	Lithuanian Institute of Energy	1
9.	UAB „AKVATERA“	1
10.	UAB „Alternatyvi energija“	1
11.	UAB „ANTROCELAST LT“	1
12.	UAB „ARGO EKSPRESAS“	1
13.	UAB „ARVI“ irko	1
14.	UAB „EKSPLA“	1
15.	UAB „Elektromotus“	1
16.	UAB „Raminora“	1
17.	UAB „ROKIŠKIO PRAGIEDRULIAI“	1
18.	UAB „SLENGIAI“	1
19.	UAB „Terra“	1
20.	UAB „VAIVORA“	1
21.	UAB „AKVASERVIS“	1
22.	Šiauliai University	1
23.	Vilnius University Institute of Oncology	1

Grant of patents in years 2010 – 2011



Patents granted in year 2011 by states of patent owners



Number of patents granted in year 2011 by IPC branches

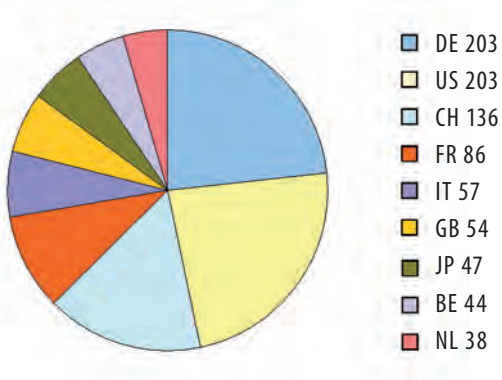
Branches of IPC		Lithuania	Foreign state (state code and number of patents)	Total
Human necessities	A	21	LV 1, FR 1, TW 1	24
Performing operations; transporting	B	8	DE 1, US 1	10
Chemistry; metallurgy	C	13	CZ 1	14
Textiles; paper	D	1	-	1
Fixed construction	E	5	CZ 1, FI 1	7
Mechanical engineering; lighting; heating; weapons; blasting engines or pumps	F	19	RU 1	20
Physics	G	15	DE 1, MX 1	17
Electricity	H	3	-	3
Total		85	11	96

EUROPEAN PATENTS

In 2011 SPB received 2 European patent applications as a receiving office.

In 2011, 1,125 European patents granted by European Patent Office (EPO) came into effect in the Republic of Lithuania, 965 of them were granted under the European Patent Convention (EPC).

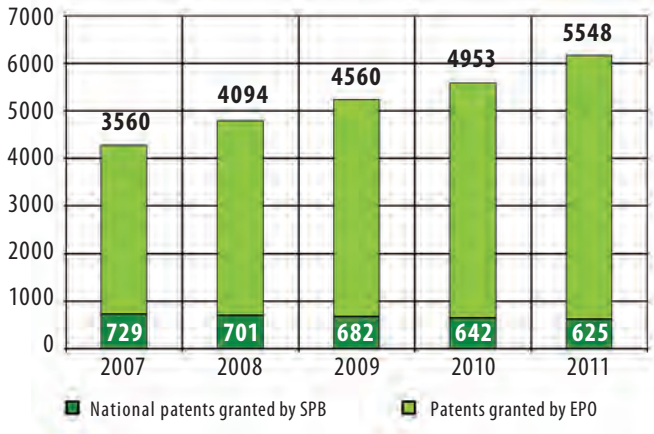
European patents that came into effect in year 2011 by states of patent owners



Number of European patents that came into effect in the Republic of Lithuania in year 2011 by IPC branches

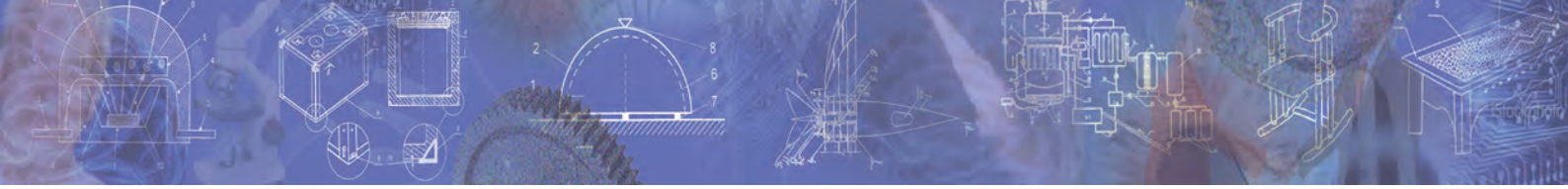
Branches of IPC		State code and number of patents	Total
Human necessities	A	US 75, CH 72, DE 49, FR 27, JP 18, GB 13, BE 12, IT 11, ES 10, SE 10, LU 9, NL 9, DK 7, IE 5, AT 3, KR 3, RU 3, CA 2, GR 2, HU 2, IL 2, IN 2, LV 2, MY 2, NO 2, PL 2, AN 1, AR 1, AU 1, BM 1, EE 1, FI 1, PR 1, SG 1, SI 1, UA 1, VG 1	365
Performing operations; transporting	B	DE 42, IT 10, NL 9, BE 8, CH 8, FR 8, DK 7, GB 6, FI 6, SE 4, AT 3, ES 3, US 3, CZ 2, JP 2, NO 2, CA 1, CY 1, HU 1, MY 1, PL 1	128
Chemistry; metallurgy	C	US 108, DE 62, CH 44, FR 39, GB 27, IT 24, JP 24, BE 17, SE 16, DK 15, IE 11, ES 8, NL 7, HU 6, AT 5, LU 5, IL 4, NO 4, AU 3, IN 3, CN 2, KR 2, LV 2, PR 2, PT 2, CA 1, CU 1, CZ 1, LI 1, MA 1, NZ 1, PL 1, SG 1, TW 1	451
Textiles; paper	D	DE 2, IT 2, CH 1, FI 1, FR 1, JP 1, NL 1, US 1	10
Fixed construction	E	DE 15, AT 5, NL 4, BE 3, FI 3, CH 2, ES 2, DK 1, GB 1, FR 1, IT 1, PL 1, SE 1, US 1	41
Mechanical engineering; lighting; heating; weapons; blasting engines or pumps	F	DE 17, CH 5, GB 5, IT 5, US 4, BE 3, NL 3, FR 2, NO 2, AT 1, DK 1, HU 1, IE 1, SE 1	51
Physics	G	US 9, DE 7, FR 6, CH 3, IT 3, NL 3, AT 1, AU 1, BE 1, CY 1, DK 1, GB 1, GR 1, IL 1, NO 1, SE 1	41
Electricity	H	DE 9, CN 5, SE 5, FI 2, FR 2, JP 2, NL 2, US 2, AT 1, CH 1, DK 1, GB 1, IE 1, IN 1, IT 1, KR 1, MY 1	38
Total		DE 203, US 203, CH 136, FR 86, IT 57, GB 54, JP 47, BE 44, NL 38, SE 38, DK 33, ES 23, AT 19, IE 18, LU 14, FI 13, NO 11, HU 10, CN 7, IL 7, IN 6, KR 6, AU 5, PL 5, CA 4, LV 4, MY 4, CZ 3, GR 3, PR 3, RU 3, CY 2, PT 2, SG 2, AN 1, AR 1, BM 1, CU 1, EE 1, LI 1, MA 1, NZ 1, SI 1, TW 1, UA 1, VG 1	1125

Patents in effect in the end of year 2011



In year 2011, 65 transfer agreements were registered; 59 of those were registered for European patents.

In year 2011, 3 licence agreements were registered; out of that number 1 licence agreement was concerning a European patent.



Topographies of Semiconductor products

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

No applications for registration of semiconductor products applications have been filed since the Law on Legal Protection of Topographies of Semiconductor Products came into effect.

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, by filing applications directly with the SPB (national route), starting 15 November 1997 – under the Protocol of 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 route), and from 1 May 2004 – under the EU Council Regulation Concerning the Community Trade Mark of 20 December 1993 according to which any trademark, registered as a Community trademark with the EU Office for Harmonization for the Internal Market (OHIM) is protected in Lithuania.

Since the day of establishment of the State Patent Bureau until 31 December 2011 the SPB received 64,307 applications for registration of a mark in the national way. 52,966 trademarks have been registered in the Register of Trademarks of the Republic of Lithuania within this period, 36,825 of them were valid registrations; 26,369 changes in the Register, 9,907 transfers of rights and 1,054 license agreements, 1,487 marks given as security (withdrawals of security) and 274 seizures (withdrawals of seizures) have been made.

Since 1997 50,330 notifications regarding the extension of the protection of international trademarks registrations in Lithuania have been received from the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO); 47,169 decisions were adopted to grant the protection after an examination.

In the end of 2011 79,511 registrations of trademarks, applications for which have been filed in the national and international ways and 792,625 Community trademarks, registered at the Register of Community trademarks of the EU, were in effect in Lithuania.

Trademark applications, filed in the Republic of Lithuania in years 2009 – 2011

Year	Number of trademark applications filed with the SPB in the national way	Number of notifications of extending protection of international registration to Lithuania	Total
2009	2108	2472	4580
2010	2240	2032	4272
2011	2287	2137	4424

Trademark registrations in the Republic of Lithuania in years 2009 – 2011

Year	National trademark registrations	International registrations of trademarks that have been granted protection in Lithuania	Total
2009	2777	3933	6710
2010	1585	2805	4390
2011	1560	2356	3916

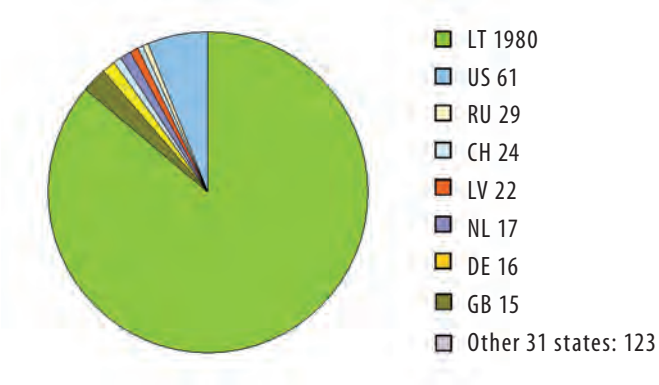
Protection of trademarks in the Republic of Lithuania in the national route

In year 2011 2,287 trademark applications were filed with the SPB, among them:

1,980 (86,6%) of the Lithuanian applicants

307 (13,4%) of the foreign applicants.

Breakdown of the applications by origin



In year 2011 the highest number of applications was filed for the following classes under International Classification of Goods and Services:

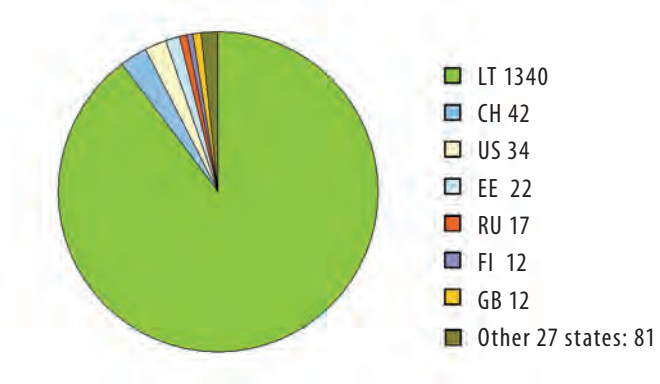
Class	Title of the class	Number	%
29	Meat, fish, poultry and game; meat extracts; preserved, frozen, dried and cooked fruit and vegetables; jellies, jams, compotes; eggs, milk and milk products; edible oils and fats.	219	5,6
30	Coffee, tea, cacao and artificial coffee; rice, tapioca and sago; flour and preparations made from cereals; bread, pastry and confectionary; ices; sugar, honey, treacle; yeast, baking-powder; salt; mustard; vinegar, sauces (condiments); spices; ice.	238	6
35	Advertising; business management; business administration; office functions.	595	15,1
41	Education; providing of training; entertainment; sporting and cultural activities.	397	10,1
43	Services for providing food and drinks; temporary accommodation.	235	6

1,560 trademarks were registered in year 2011, among them:

1,340 (86%) of the Lithuanian applicants

220 (14%) of the foreign applicants.

Breakdown of registrations by countries of origin



In 2011 12 trademarks were registered, the applications of which were filed with request claiming the conventional priority.

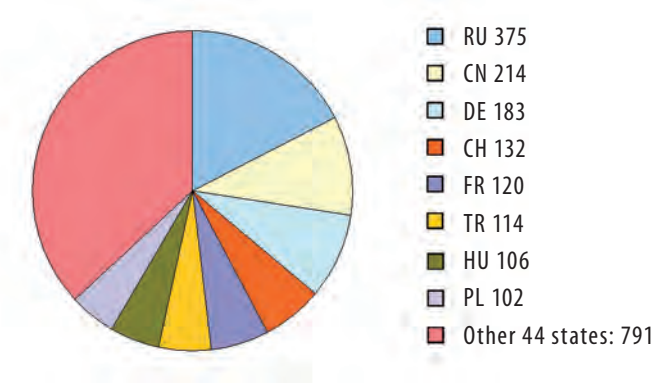
In 2011 562 transfers of rights and 124 license agreements 1,536 changes in the Register, 911 renewals, 279 securities of mark rights (withdrawals of securities) and 46 seizures (withdrawals of seizures), were entered into the Register of the Trademarks of the Republic of Lithuania, 1,412 registrations were cancelled, 1,344 registrations among them were cancelled in the absence of the renewal.

In 2011 1,840 searches were conducted under the Article 38 of the Council Regulation (EC) No. 207/2009 of 26 February 2009 on the Community Trademark (Codified version) by request of the OHIM, also the SPB has received and passed 3 applications for Community trademark registration to OHIM.

Protection of trademarks under the Protocol of Madrid Agreement on International Registration of Marks

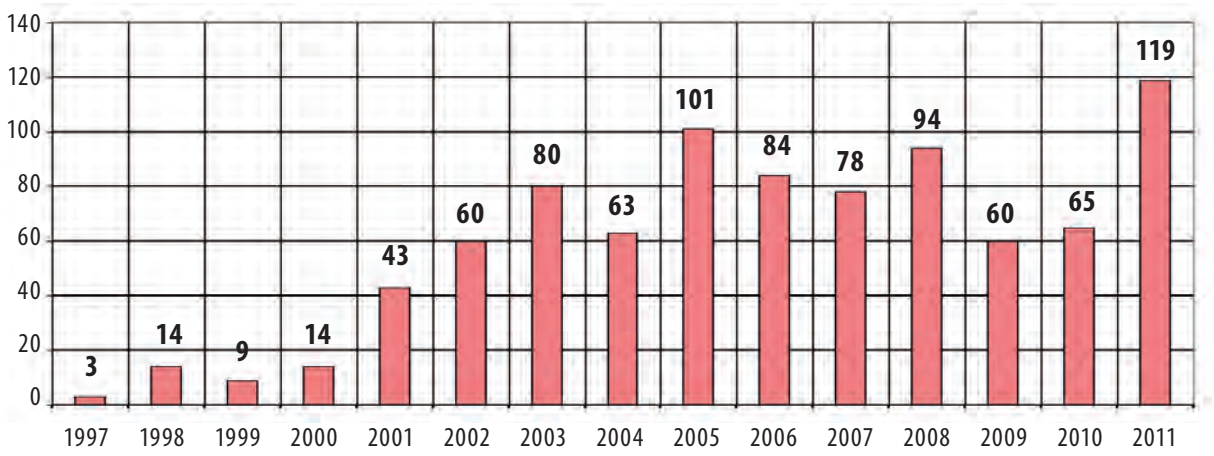
In year 2011 2,137 notifications of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) were received regarding extension of the protection of international registration of marks in Lithuania. The SPB adopted 2,356 decisions to grant protection to international registration of marks.

Breakdown of international registrations extended to the Republic of Lithuania in year 2011 by the states of mark owners



Lithuanian applicants filed 887 international applications from year 1997 until the end of 2011 using the opportunity of acquire protection of trademarks in other countries granted by a membership of Lithuania in the Madrid protocol. 828 trademarks of Lithuanian applicants have been registered in the International Trademark Register.

Number of international applications filed under the Madrid Protocol by Lithuanian applicants



Breakdown of international applications filed in years 2009 – 2011 by classes of the International Classification for Goods and Services

Clases	Applications in 2009		Applications in 2010		Applications in 2011	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
1	1	1.09	4	3.51	0	0.00
2	0	0.00	1	0.88	0	0.00
3	1	1.09	1	0.88	12	4.40
4	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
5	2	2.17	4	3.51	16	5.86
6	0	0.00	1	0.88	0	0.00
7	0	0.00	2	1.75	0	0.00
8	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
9	1	1.09	9	7.89	9	3.30
10	0	0.00	2	1.75	2	0.73
11	0	0.00	4	3.51	3	1.10
12	1	1.09	2	1.75	2	0.73
13	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
14	1	1.09	1	0.88	3	1.10
15	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
16	2	2.17	4	3.51	5	1.83
17	4	4.35	2	1.75	1	0.37
18	0	0.00	2	1.75	4	1.47
19	2	2.17	3	2.63	0	0.00
20	0	0.00	0	0.00	5	1.83
21	0	0.00	2	1.75	4	1.47
22	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	0.73
23	1	1.09	0	0.00	0	0.00
24	1	1.09	1	0.88	9	3.30
25	2	2.17	3	2.63	19	6.96
26	1	1.09	0	0.00	3	1.10
27	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
28	0	0.00	1	0.88	7	2.56
29	14	15.22	18	15.79	34	12.45
30	20	21.74	10	8.77	35	12.82
31	4	4.35	3	2.63	9	3.30
32	15	16.30	4	3.51	15	5.49
33	4	4.35	2	1.75	5	1.83
34	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	1.10
35	7	7.61	13	11.40	29	10.62
36	3	3.26	1	0.88	5	1.83
37	1	1.09	3	2.63	1	0.37
38	1	1.09	0	0.00	1	0.37
39	0	0.00	2	1.75	6	2.20
40	0	0.00	1	0.88	0	0.00
41	1	1.09	1	0.88	5	1.83
42	1	1.09	1	0.88	8	2.93
43	1	1.09	1	0.88	7	2.56
44	0	0.00	5	4.39	4	1.47
45	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00

Community trademarks

Community trademark protection by Lithuanian applicants in years 2009 – 2011

Year	Applications for Community trademark registration	Community trademark registrations
2009	115	77
2010	104	131
2011	140	105

Application for trademark "CIGNON", filed by Lithuanian entity UAB „Valentis", became a one-millionth Community trademark application



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 route); under the Council Regulation of 12 December 2001 on the Community Design, under which a Community design registered with the EU Office for Harmonization of the Internal Market (OHIM) is protected in Lithuania from 1 May 2004 (regional route). Since 26 September 2008, after Lithuania joined the Geneva act of the Hague Agreement on International Registration of Industrial Design, registration of international design may be extended to Lithuania (international route).

Since the establishment of the State Patent Bureau until 31 December 2011, the SPB received 1,716 applications for registration of design in the national route. 1,486 design registrations have been registered in the Design register of the Republic of Lithuania, 335 registrations among them are in effect.

Since 2008 98 notifications of the extension of the protection of international registrations in Lithuania have been received from the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO); having performed the examination, 90 decisions were adopted to grant the protection.

In the end of 2011 1,516 design registrations, applications for which were filed by national and international route, were in effect in Lithuania, also 489,905 Community designs, were registered in EU Community design register.

Filing of design applications in the Republic of Lithuania in years 2009 – 2011

Year	Number of design applications filed with the SPB by the national route	Number of notifications received on international registration of designs extended to Lithuania	Total
2009	29	12	41
2010	22	29	51
2011	39	56	95

Design registrations in the Republic of Lithuania in years 2009 – 2011

Year	National design registrations (including renewals)	International design registrations that have been granted protection in Lithuania	Total
2009	79	11	90
2010	46	27	73
2011	64	52	116

Number of designs, protection for which was requested in years 2009 – 2011

Year	Designs applied by national route	Designs extended by international route	Total
2009	64	47	111
2010	32	160	192
2011	61	562	623

Designs have been granted protection in the Republic of Lithuania in years 2009 – 2011

Year	Registered national designs	Registered international designs	Total
2009	91	44	135
2010	35	132	167
2011	57	558	615

Applicants of the Republic of Lithuania who filed applications in years 2009 – 2011

Applicants	Number of applications		
	2009	2010	2011
Legal entities	15	12	21
Natural persons	22	8	18
Total	37	20	39

The number of applications filed by legal entities and by natural persons increased by 175% and 225% respectively in 2011, compared with year 2010.

Protection of designs in the Republic of Lithuania in the national route

In year 2011 39 applications (61 design) were filed with SPB, all of them were filed by Lithuanian applicants (100 %) .

Breakdown of design applications according to the international Locarno classification:

The Lithuanian applicants have filed design applications in the following areas: packages and containers for transportation and storage of goods (class 9) – 5; sales and advertising systems, marks (class 20) – 5; games, toys, tents and sports goods (class 21) – 3, food products (class 1) - 2 , articles of clothing and haberdashery (class 2) – 2; furniture (class 6) – 2, musical instruments (class 17) – 2, clocks and watches and other measuring instruments, checking and signaling instruments (class 10) – 1, vehicles, apparatus for locomotion by land, air or waterequipment for production (class 12) – 1, recording, communication or information retrieval equipment(class 14) – 1, distribution or transformation of electricity (class 13) – 1, fluid distribution equipment, sanitary, heating, ventilation and air-conditioning equipment, solid fuel (class 23) – 1, lighting apparatus (class 26) – 1, articles for the care and handling of animals (class 30) – 1.

In year 2011 28 design registrations (57 designs) were registered in SPB, among them:

27 (96%) of Lithuanian applicants;

1 (4%) of foreign applicants.

Breakdown of registrations by the owner states of the design

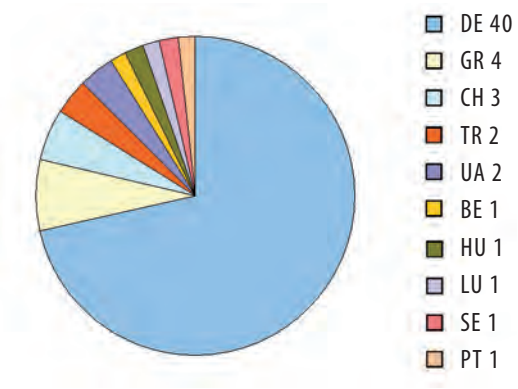


In year 2011 3 agreements on transfer of rights, 13 changes in the Register, renewal of 36 designs were made in the Design Register of the Republic of Lithuania; 28 registrations were cancelled.

Protection of designs under the Geneva act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Design

In year 2011 56 notifications of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) concerning extension of protection of international registrations of the design in Lithuania were received. The SPB adopted 52 decisions to grant protection to international registrations of design.

Breakdown of international registrations extended to the Republic of Lithuania in year 2011 by the states of design owners



International registrations extended in the following areas: means of transport or hoisting (class 12) – 19, lighting apparatus (class 26) – 17; packages and containers for transportation or handling of goods (class 9) – 7; equipment for production, distribution or transformation of electricity (class 13) – 3; furniture (class 6) – 2, building units and construction elements (class 25) – 2, articles of clothing and haberdashery (class 2) – 1, medical and laboratory equipment (class 24) – 1; graphic symbols and logos, surface patterns, ornamentation (class 32) – 1.

Community design

Community design protection by Lithuanian applicants in years 2009 – 2011

Year	Applications for Community design registration	Community design registrations
2009	20	17
2010	35	33
2011	31	35

Appeals, Oppositions

The objective of operations of the Appeals Division of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania is to review the SPB experts resolutions, passed following the procedure defined by legislation after examination of a patent application, an application for a supplementary protection certificate, an application for registration of a topography, a design, or a trademark, that are appealed by the applicants, and also to protect the infringed rights intellectual property rights of interested persons.

Appeals and oppositions are usually examined by 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.

The beginning of the activity of the Appeals Division starts with year 1994: on May 19, 1994 the first opposition concerning national trademark registration was filed, and on September 21, 1994 the first decision of Appeals Division was adopted. During this whole period 175 appeals and 2,771 oppositions were received. By the end of year 2011 Appeals Division has adopted more than 1,400 decisions.

Making a review of the statistical data of year 2011 it should be noted that 121 oppositions and 14 appeals were filed with the Appeals Division:

- 72 oppositions regarding national registration of trademarks;
- 48 oppositions regarding international registration of trademarks under the Madrid protocol;
- 1 opposition regarding registration of design;
- 2 appeals regarding patent application;
- 8 appeals regarding national application of trademark;
- 4 appeals regarding international registration of mark.

Under the respective provisions of Regulations for Examination of Appeals and Oppositions, the Appeals Division refused to accept 1 opposition regarding a national registration of trademarks, 1 – regarding an international registration of trademarks and 2 appeals regarding patent application.

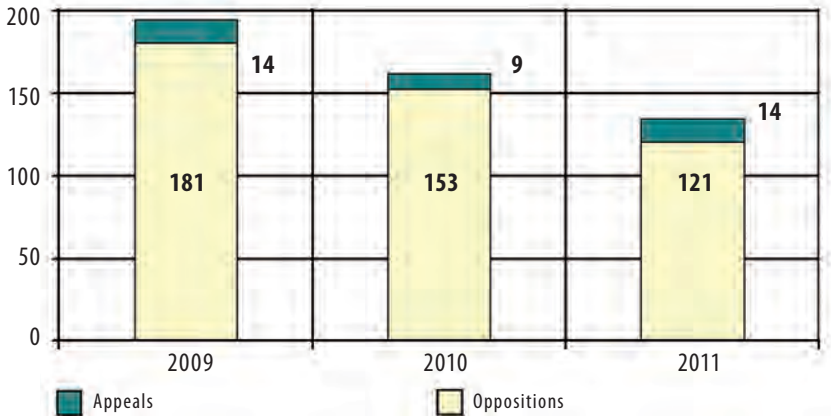
Number of appeals and oppositions received in years 2009-2011:

In year 2009 – 14 appeals and 181 opposition,

In year 2010 – 9 appeals and 153 oppositions,

In year 2011 – 14 appeals and 121 opposition.

In comparison with year 2010 there were 56 % more appeals received, however the number of oppositions received declined by 21%.



In year 2011 the Appeals Division adopted 109 decisions after examination of:

- 14 appeals (10 regarding national application of trademarks and 4 regarding international registration of trademarks);

- 103 oppositions (69 oppositions regarding national registration of trademarks, 34 regarding international registration of trademarks).

In comparison with year 2010 the number of appeals examined increased by 56 %, the number of oppositions declined insignificantly – by 8 %.

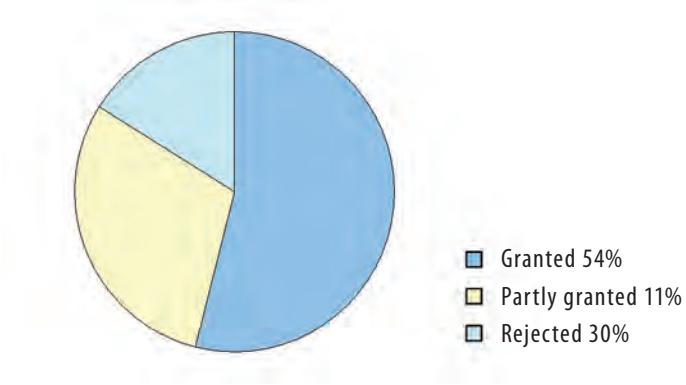
By decisions adopted:

- In 58 cases oppositions were granted;

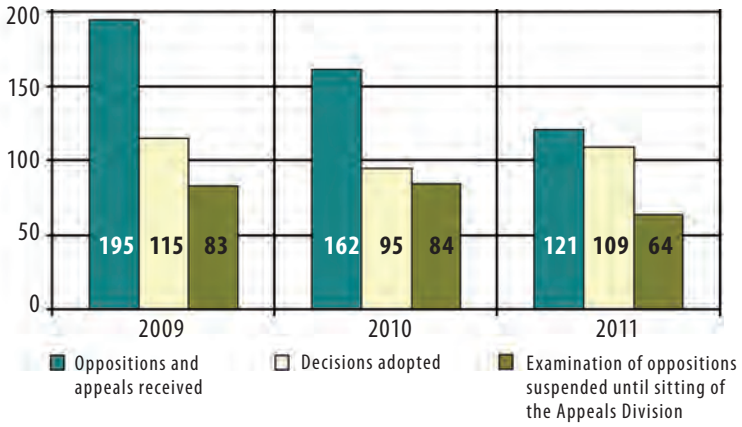
- In 33 cases oppositions were rejected;

- In 10 cases oppositions were partly granted.

9 appeals were rejected as ungrounded, 2 were partly granted, and 3 appeals were fully granted regarding the decisions of SPB examiners to reject an application for registration of trademarks or to grant protection to international registration of a trademark.



Generalized data of the Appeals Division in years 2009 – 2011:

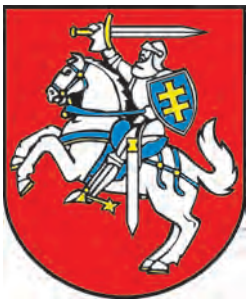


Parties of the dispute use an option for peaceful dispute resolution after filing an opposition; the examination of such oppositions in the Appeals Division is discontinued. In year 2011 this number was up to 64 oppositions: examination of 50 oppositions regarding national registration of trademarks, 13 oppositions regarding international registration of trademarks, 1 opposition regarding registration of design were discontinued in the Appeals Division.

7 out of 109 decisions made by the Appeals Division in year 2011 were appealed against Vilnius County Court, however none of the court decisions are yet adopted.

Legislation and International Cooperation

Legislation



Implementing the provisions of the new wording of the Patent Law ("Valstybės žinios" 2011, No. 4-127) and firming the implementation of the 591th measure of the Measures for Implementing the Program for years 2008-2012 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania ("Prepare draft legal acts aiming to facilitate the procedures of filing patent applications and granting patents") the SPB drafted a proposal of one Government resolution, also drafted and enacted five decrees of the Director of SPB in year 2011 with objective to facilitate the procedures of filing patent applications and granting patents in the State Patent Bureau:

1. The resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania "Concerning the amendment of the resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of July 19, 2002, No. 1218 "Concerning establishment of the Patent Register of the Republic of Lithuania and approving the regulations of the Patent Register of the Republic of Lithuania", which was approved by the resolution No. 1119 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of September 28, 2011 ("Valstybės žinios", 2011, No. 119-5623).

2. The decree No. 3R-63 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of December 1, 2011 "Concerning the amendment of decree No. 11 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of May 2, 1994 "Concerning filing of patent applications, examination and grant of patents" ("Valstybės žinios", 2011, No. 153-7257).

3. The decree No. 3R-62 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of December 1, 2011 "Concerning the amendment of decree No. 118 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of December 27, 2001 "Concerning grant of supplementary protection certificates" ("Valstybės žinios", 2011, No. 153-7254).

4. The decree No. 3R-64 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of December 1, 2011 "Concerning the amendment of decree No. 118 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of March 28, 2003 "Concerning publication of data from the Patent Register of the Republic of Lithuania and data on extension of European patents in the Republic of Lithuania" ("Valstybės žinios", 2011, No. 153-7258).

5. The decree No. 3R-60 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of December 1, 2011 "Concerning the amendment of decree No. 118 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of April 24, 2006 "Concerning the adoption of the procedure of filing European patent applications and effects of European patents in the Republic of Lithuania" ("Valstybės žinios", 2011, No. 153-7253).

6. The decree No. 3R-61 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of December 1, 2011 "Concerning the amendment of decree No. 3R-26 of the Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania of May 11, 2010 "Concerning the adoption of the forms for the documents issued by the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania" ("Valstybės žinios", 2011, No. 153-7256).

All these legal acts came into effect together with the Patent Law Treaty and the new wording of the Patent Law – on February 3, 2012.

In year 2011 a significant step in providing online services was made – the requirement to submit the document that verifies the payment in original paper form was partly withdrawn; the SPB switched to receiving the data online, when the request to perform an action in the registers is filed and the payment is made via the Interoperability System of the Information Systems of the Public Administration Institutions (VAIISIS). By this shift of practice the SPB goes for the first time in its history to paying the fees and verifying the payment by electronic means, thus making it possible for persons to receive services in a simpler and quicker way. The shift of practice, that provided conditions to reduce administrative burden, happened by adopting the decree No. 3R-41 of the Director of the SPB of August 31, 2011 "Concerning the filing of documents to the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania by electronic means" ("Valstybės žinios", 2011, No. 109-5169), and on the basis of this decree, by adopting the decree No. 3R-42 of the Director of the SPB of September 9, 2011 "Concerning adoption of the technical specification of the system for the filing of documents to the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania by electronic means".

International Cooperation

In 2011 the SPB cooperated actively with the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (trademarks and designs)(OHIM), European Patent Office (EPO), participated in the activities of their organs as well as organs of EU. Bilateral agreements, concluded with these organisations, were implemented successfully. Year 2011 can be characterized as the year of intensive discussions and representation of interests of Lithuania in the bodies of EU regarding development unitary patent and unanimous patent litigation system.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

In year 2011the SPB continued cooperation with one of the specialized international organizations of the United Nations - the World Intellectual Property Organization, which is in charge of shaping policy of the protection of intellectual property on the world scale and administration of many 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. The Director of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania has been elected the vice-chairman of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PTC) Union Assembly.

Employees of the State Patent Bureau attended 13 sessions of WIPO committees, meetings and sessions of working groups and other events organized by WIPO.

In year 2011 the SPB cooperated with WIPO intensively in implementing the bilateral plan for year 2011 conducted between Lithuania and WIPO; an international conference on the issues of intellectual property was organizes, WIPO award was presented to most innovative Lithuanian entity and gold medal to the young inventor of Lithuania; seminar was organized for Lithuanian science and education institutions on the issues of commercialising intellectual property; WIPO publication "Inventing the Future" was translated and adapted.

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)

Convention on Establishment of the World Intellectual Property Organization (Lithuania joined on January 30, 1992, the treaty took effect in Lithuania on April 30, 1992);
Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (Lithuania joined on February 21, 1994, the treaty took effect in Lithuania on May 22, 1994)
Patent Cooperation Treaty (Lithuania joined on April 5, 1994, the treaty took effect in Lithuania on July 5, 1994);
Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (Lithuania joined on November 22, 1996, the treaty took effect in Lithuania on February 22, 1997);
Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Micro- organisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure (Lithuania joined on February 9, 1998, the treaty took effect in Lithuania on May 9, 1998);
Protocol Relating to Madrid Agreement Concerning International Registration of Marks (Lithuania joined on August 15, 1997, the treaty took effect in Lithuania on November 15, 1997);
Trademark Law Treaty (Lithuania joined on October 28, 1994, the treaty took effect in Lithuania on April 27, 1998);
Geneva Act of the Hague Convention on International Registration of Industrial design(Lithuania joined on June 26, 2008, the treaty took effect in Lithuania on September 26, 2008);
Patent Law Treaty (Lithuania joined on November 3, 2011; the treaty took effect in Lithuania on February 3, 2012).
Lithuania has signed one WIPO international treaty – **the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks** – but has not yet joined it (it is planned to join).

European Union (EU)

In year 2011 representatives of the SPB participated actively in the meeting of the working groups, prepared and presented an official position of Lithuania on the matters regarding protection of the industrial property discussed in the EU Council.

In year 2011 representatives of the SPB attended 4 meetings of the Intellectual Property Working Group of the Council of European Union (including patent and trademark subgroups). SPB prepared and coordinated34 positions according to its competence, 4 positions of which were prepared for new EU legal acts, 8 positions for the meetings of Intellectual Property Working Group, 17 positions for COREPER meetings and 5 positions for meetings of the Competition Council.

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

The State Patent Bureau closely collaborates with the Office of Harmonization for the Internal Market (trademarks and designs) (OHIM). 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 of relevant OHIM organizational, administrative and financial matters in year 2011. Experts of the SPB attended 6 technical cooperation meetings of OHIM and representatives of national patent offices regarding the matters concerning trademarks and designs, OHIM and representatives of patent offices liaison meetings, the employees of SPB participated in the trainings organized by OHIM.

Implementing bilateral cooperation agreements with OHIM TMview module was installed, which integrates the data of trademarks registered in the Republic of Lithuania to a unified database of EU member states, and the applicant has a possibility to receive all information concerning registered trademarks in all EU according to a "one window" principle (http://www.tmview.europa.eu). Also SPB in cooperation with OHIM organized two seminars, where possibilities of protecting trademarks and designs in European Union were presented.

European Patent Organization (EPO)

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Under the Convention on the Grant of European Patents (European Patent Convention, EPC), representatives of the SPB represented the Republic of Lithuania in 4 meetings of the Administrative Council of the EPO, 3 meetings of the Budget and Finance Committee, 2 meetings of TOSC Committee, where

organizational, administrative, financial and technical matters of EPO activities and legal regulation of European patents were discussed. In year 2011 Deputy Director of SPB Žilvinas Danys was appointed a member of the Supervisory Board of EPO European Patent Academy (appointed for three-year term of office).

In year 2011 representatives of SPB attended 9 events of EPO of various character, i.e., meeting of committees and working groups of EPO on the matters of patent law, technical collaboration, automatic translation system (ATS), EPTOS, other meetings and official events.

Assessing the needs in development of special professional knowledge in the area of granting patents and using opportunities offered by EPO program in multilateral collaboration, specialists of SPB improved their qualification at 13 EPO seminars.

In year 2011 projects of the national action plan of SPB and EPO for years 2009 – 2011 were further implemented:

6 visits to innovative small and medium enterprises were made and general recommendations on the protection of intellectual property were offered to those enterprises, implementing "IP prediagnosis" project;

In October of 2011 in Gediminas University of Technology Espacenet training on patent information was carried out for the employees of the university, who are responsible for intellectual property information centres, which were established according to the project of the National Action Plan "Deployment of "IP points" in Lithuanian universities". EPO employee, responsible for patent information, visited those IP points and consulted the employees of the university in 2011. In year 2011 these centres also received informational material on industrial property, that was provided by EPO;

Implementing the project "Deployment of "IP points" in Lithuanian universities" 5 information centres of intellectual property were deployed in Kaunas University of Technology in 2011;

Brochures concerning patent information services provided by LTL were published in Lithuanian and English implementing the project "Future of PATLIB centres in Lithuania". Under this project representatives SPB and LTL also participated in conference PATLIB 2011 in Hague (Netherlands) on May 23-25, and in PATINFO exhibition in Kilkenny (Ireland) on October 18-20 of 2011.

Project "Institutional strengthening" is devoted to improving the qualifications of the SPB employees. In 2011 13 employees of the State Patent Bureau participated in 11 seminars of the European Patent Academy. The trainings were concerning specific issues of patent search and examination, procedures of receiving applications, patent information and documentation, financial issues concerning patents, patent management, also projects carried out by SPB in cooperation with EPO;

In year 2011 hardware and software for creating e-learning modules was acquired with financial support of EPO, implementing e-learning project P03 "Building E-learning Capacity at the SPB". Also several modules on patents, created by EPO, were translated into Lithuanian. They will be published in Lithuanian after being processed by relevant software;

Patent Teaching Kit, which is designed for lecturers of intellectual property and other persons interested in novelties of intellectual property protection, was translated and prepared for electronic publication in year 2011;

Descriptions of all Lithuanian patents, patent applications and translations of the claims of European patents, having effect in Lithuania, are published in EPO espacenet and SPB patent databases, having implemented "Epo-Scan" project. Digitised data is also transferred to INPADOC PFS (EPO database of bibliographic data) and PatentScope (WIPO database of international patent applications) databases.

EPO President Benoit Battistelli, on his first official visit in Lithuania on April 12, met the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania Remigijus Šimašius in Vilnius, and discussed issues of cooperation with the State Patent Bureau, possibilities to strengthen this office, also the process of creating a unitary European patent and unified European patent court. Vice-minister of Economy Mindaugas Petrauskas and Director of SPB Rimvydas Naujokas also participated in the meeting. One of the most important issues discussed in the meeting – creation of the system of the unitary European patent, which would have effect in all member states of European Union, and which, as anticipated, would have positive effect to Lithuanian economy.



Review of Cooperation with European Patent Academy

Civil servants and employees of the State Patent Bureau have constantly improved their qualifications and participated in seminars and trainings organized by European Patent Academy. During the year 2011 13 specialists of the State Patent Bureau participated in European Patent Academy seminars on various issues, concerning patent examinations, searches, procedures, documentation, quality, dissemination of information, enforcement of rights, stimulating innovation, also projects implemented by State Patent Bureau together with European Patent Office (EPTOS, e-learning etc.).

In year 2010 employees of SPB participated in 8 seminars, and in 2011 – in 11 seminars organized by European Patent Academy.

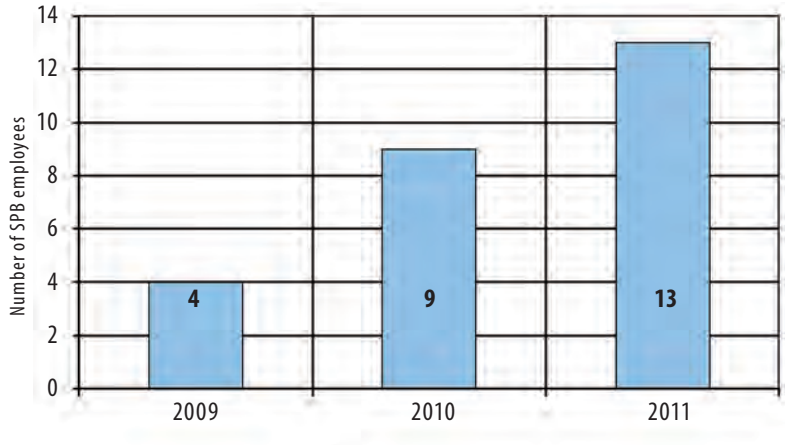
Today employees of the State Patent Bureau (or by its initiative – of other institutions) attend EPA seminars by EPA implementing its activity "Institutional strengthening", implementing bilateral National Action Plan conducted between SPB and EPO; the participation of SPB employees is partly (75 %) financed under the multilateral cooperation program of EPO. Also in year 2011 EPO fully covered the expenses of organising the seminars (lectors, material etc.).

Since year 2006 European Patent Academy organizes trainings for national judges of the member states on litigation in patent cases and enforcement of rights conferred by a patent. Since year 2007 Lithuanian judges, dealing with industrial property cases, from Vilnius County Court, the Court of Appeal of Lithuania, and the Supreme Court of Lithuania, started participating in these trainings.

EPA seeks to support and create trainings devoted to harmonising practice of enforcement of patent rights and solving disputes in Europe, also to creating minimal standards for judges in member states of EPC, as well as promoting cooperation between states. EPA organizes trainings for judges in several formats: 1) study visits to EPO; 2) ad hoc training events in cooperation with other institutions; 3) cycle of seminars "Training for national judges on intellectual property"; 4) Venice forum.

Participation of judges in the trainings of European Patent Academy is fully financed by European Patent Academy. In year 2012 it plans to prepare e-learning programme "Patent litigation A-Z" and organize internships for judges in EPO.

Number of SPB employees participating in EPO seminars



Collaboration with Patent Offices and other International Collaboration

In year 2011 the State Patent Bureau continued collaboration with national patent offices of other countries. A seminar on the protection of intellectual property was organized in cooperation with Russian patent office and Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists for representatives of Lithuanian industry. Employees of SPB visited events organized by patent offices of other countries in Madrid, Oslo, Kosice, London, also in a conference and ceremony for European inventor award of year 2011, organized by Hungary (as a country at the time holding presidency for the EU Council).



Lithuania coordinated meetings of the Heads of Nordic and Baltic countries' patent offices. The spring meeting took place in Vilnius on March 13, 2011, and the autumn meeting took place in the Lithuanian Mission at the UN in Geneva, during General Assemblies of WIPO.



Information and Publishing Activities

The State Patent Bureau, along with its main strategic objective – to ensure efficient legal protection of industrial property objects and create more favourable conditions to legalise industrial property objects (inventions, designs, trademarks, topographies of semiconductor products), also participates successfully in disseminating industrial property information, seeking that the systems, created by scientific institutions, would benefit from exchange of information and the use of knowledge of industrial property information specialists, as well as create conditions for quality creation, protection and the process of application of new technologies. Information is disseminated to the public with help of Lithuanian Technical Library (LTL) and its Patent Information Centre (PIC), according to the Plan on measures for dissemination of industrial property information, and the Plan on measures for educating the public, that are adopted by the Director of SPB.

23 measures were foreseen in the Plan on measures for educating the public, adopted by the Director of SPB for year 2011, 22 of them were implemented by the SPB. The publication "How to Protect Intellectual Property in Exhibitions and Trade Fairs" was not published in 2011, as well as WIPO publication "WIPO Patent Drafting Manual", the translation and publishing of which was postponed until year 2012. All five measures of the Plan on measures for dissemination of industrial property information were implemented in 2011.

21 events organized by SPB or having representatives of SPB making presentations were foreseen in the SPB Action Plan of 2011. After the Plan on educating the public was renewed, there were 30 events calculated in year 2011. All planned events took place.

In 2011 technical cooperation agreement between SPB and OHIM was successfully completed; brochures "How to protect a trademark in European Union?" and "How to protect a design in European Union?" were published implementing this agreement.

SPB organized seminars "How to protect a trademark in European Union"and "How to protect a design in European Union", open-door days in State Patent Bureau and Patent Information Centres of Lithuanian technical library in Klaipėda, Kaunas, Panevėžys, and Šiauliai in year 2011, under a project of technical cooperation agreement between SPB and OHIM. The events were dedicated to introduce Lithuanian public with possibilities of protecting trademarks and designs in European Union.

On January 20, 2011 in Telšiai, by request of UAB "Žemaitijos pienas", SPB specialists made presentations in a seminar "How to protect inventions, trademarks and design" to the employees of the company.

On February 24 a seminar "Protection of intellectual property in Russian Federation" was organized by SPB, Federal Office for Intellectual Property of Russia (ROSPATENT) and Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists. The seminar was dedicated to the issues of registering and enforcing industrial property objects in Russian Federation.

On April 12-13, 2011 international conference "Industrial Property for Competitiveness: EU and Global Experience" took place. It was organized by WIPO and State Patent Bureau. Deputy Director General of WIPO Chr. Wichard, President of EPO B. Battistelli, Vice-president of EPO R. Lutz, Head of Policy Unit of OHIM V. O'Reilly, representatives





of sixteen patent offices of foreign countries arrived in Vilnius. Among them were representatives of Hungary, which at that time held presidency of European Union, also from Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Spain, Latvia, Estonia, Czech Republic, Georgia, even from remote Japan. The conference was attended by more than 160 people.

The conference took place in the light of approaching World intellectual property day, which is commemorated on April 26; Vilnius University was presented with WIPO award "Trophy for Innovative Enterprises" as the most innovative institution. Award for young inventor was presented for the first time in Lithuania by World Intellectual Property Organization. It was received by a docent of Faculty of Environmental Engineering of Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Dr.A.Zagorskis. His scientific research interests - environmental air purification technologies.

During the conference the 20th anniversary of establishment of the State Patent Bureau was celebrated. On this occasion the SPB published a book "Years of success" and a brochure "The State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania: annual review of year 2010".

On April 19-21, 2011 Baltic conference organized by International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property took place, where a representative of SPB made a presentation.

On May 10, 2011 SPB representative made a presentation on SPB activities in a conference-discussion "Intellectual property: means and possibilities of protecting innovative ideas", which was organized by Agency for science, innovations and technology and Lithuania-Israel chamber of commerce.

On May 16, 2011 SPB representative made a presentation in a conference "Criminal sanctions in protecting intellectual property rights in digital environment", organized by US Patent and Trademarks Office and US State Department.

On May 18, 2011 SPB participated in exhibition "Balttechnika 2011", where a seminar "How to protect design in European Union" took place, organized in cooperation with OHIM. The SPB stand was displayed in the exhibition,



representatives of SPB informed visitors of the exhibition about the protection of industrial property objects (inventions, designs, trademarks), as well as about its history, it's present and future in Lithuania and abroad.

On June 21-22, 2011 a representative of SPB participated in events on dissemination of intellectual property information, organized by UAB "Lietuvostyrimųcentras" and IBM.

On October 7 an exhibition "Choose Lithuanian product" took place in Kaunas, where a representative of SPB made a presentation.

On October 10-14 an event of Patent information week PATINFO took place in Lithuanian technical library. The possibility was provided to learn about ways of searching for information on the world's newest inventions, trade-



marks, designs, to get acquainted with services provided by Patent information centre of LTL (searches of patents and trademarks, various consultations), new publications of WIPO, EPO and LTL were presented.

On October 19, 2011 a representative of SPB made a presentation "Review of administration of intellectual property and rights in Lithuania" in two day seminar-training "Management of intellectual property", which was organized by Ministry of Economy with WIPO on October 19-20 for support institutions and representatives of small and medium business entities.

On October 18-20, 2011 representatives of SPB and LTL participated in patent information conference/exhibition "EPOPIC 2011", organized by EPO in Kilkenny (Ireland).

On October 27, 2011 patent information Espacenet training took place in Vilnius Gediminas technical university for the employees of the university, responsible for intellectual property information centres (IP points), that were deployed under the project "Deployment of IP points in Lithuanian universities" of the National Action Plan. EPO employee, responsible for patent information, visited these IP points and consulted the employees of the university in 2011. In year 2011 these information centres also received informational material on industrial property that was provided by EPO.

On November 8, 2011 a national seminar "Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Commercialization in Universities" took place in Vilnius. Seminar was organized by WIPO and SPB. The topics of the seminar covered experience and problems of Lithuanian science and education institutions in creating and commercialising innovative solu-



tions, also international experience in the field of technology transfer and commercialisation of intellectual property.

On November 22-23, 2011 representatives of SPB presented information on electronic services provided by the SPB, in an exhibition "Online services", that was organized by EPO and Spanish patent and trademark office in Madrid (Spain).

On December 8, 2011 a seminar "How to protect trademarks in European Union" took place in Vilnius. It was organized by SPB and OHIM. Topics of the seminar covered novelties of the trademark system in European Union and Lithuania, novelties of judicial practice; the importance of trademark protection in competitive environment was emphasized. The participants were acquainted with electronic services, provided by the SPB to the applicants.

During this seminar the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania Remigijus Šimašius handed a commemorative trophy to the owner of one-millionth Community trademark application -Lithuanian entity UAB "Valentis". The trophy was handed to the Board member of UAB ,, Valentis" Mr Vaidotas Deveikis.

On March 24 in Kaunas, on October 20 in Klaipėda, on October 27 on Panevėžys, on December 14 in Šiauliai"Open-door" days were organized in divisions of Lithuanian technical library.

In year 2011 SPB published five informational publications on the issues concerning the protection of industrial property: OHIM brochures "How to protect a trademark in European Union?" and "How to protect a design in European Union?", a book "Years of success", and a brochure "The State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania: annual review of year 2010". In the second half of the year WIPO publication "Inventing the future" was translated into Lithuanian and adapted.

In year 2011 "Patent teaching kit" for lecturers of intellectual property and other persons, interested in the novelties of intellectual property protection, was translated and prepared for electronic publication.



Popularising protection of industrial property, SPB carried out the measures of the Information dissemination plan in year 2011. Implementing these measures, information on European patents that come into effect and Lithuanian patents is provided monthly to espacenet“ and INPADOC databases. Internet databases of SPB for inventions, trademarks and designs are periodically renewed.

After the project “EpoScan” of the National Action Plan (NAP) for years 2009-2011 was implemented, and the system was successfully introduced, that, together with publication server, ensures the provision of information to users on patents granted in Lithuania, descriptions of all patents of the Republic of Lithuania are published in SPB patent databases, as well as all patent applications and translations of claims of European patents that came into effect in Lithuania. Digitized data is also transferred to databases INPADOC PFS (EPO database of bibliographic data),INPADOC PRS (EPO database of data on legal status) and and PatentScope (WIPO database of international patent applications). In year 2011, 96 descriptions of inventions patented were provided to EPO’s “espacenet” database. 96 patent descriptions were provided to LTL for compilation of patent material.

It is important to mention the modernising of trademark search databases among the most significant activities of SPB in year 2011.

TMview module was introduced in year 2011. This module integrates data of trademarks registered in the Republic of Lithuania to a unified database of EU member states, and an applicant can receive information on trademarks, registered by the states having this module, in one single place (http://www.tmview.europa.eu).

The software of the SPB trademarks database was expanded in year 2011, which allowed to place data on the Community trademarks, having priority in respect of the territory of Lithuania (“seniority” data), into SPB trademarks database.



Information technologies

In year 2011 SPB, in cooperation with European patent office, planned to start installing EPTOS system, which is necessary for transfer of the main services of SPB to electronic environment. EPTOS system consists of separate modules: Online filing module, which enables filing of patent applications by electronic means; Espacenet module, which allows receiving information on bibliographical data of patent applications and descriptions; e-Phoenix module, necessary for storing and managing patent documents; and Soprano module for administration of patent register, managed by SPB. In the end of 2011, the strategic course of European patent organization (EPO) changed, and the decision was made to cut the support of EPO towards improvement and implementation of Soprano and Phoenix modules. After SPB assessed the costs of implementation of these modules, it decided to implement only Online filing and Espacenet modules.

In preparation to implementing EPTOS modules, modular server repository with servers, also other supporting hardware was procured, and electric installation was replaced in the server-roomin year 2011.

Now the infrastructure for EPTOS system – system monitoring means, operating systems for servers, is being implemented; computer network and apparatus Patnet2 for secure connection with EPO is being configured.

New module Espacenet is planned to start operating in the beginning of February, 2012; later Online Filing module for online filing of European and PCT patent applications will be installed.

The main activity of IT Division employees in year 2011 was renewing and monitoring installed computer systems and workstations, also ensuring their impeccable operation. Other important job done – a system for SPB's electronic services was created by IT Division, which allows the applicants not only to file online requests, monitor the process of their administration, but also to pay for services of SPB by means of electronic banking.

The requirements for hardware and software to be purchased were prepared. Preparation of technical specifications for EPTOS hardware took much working time. The result of this work – new EPTOS hardware was procured. Also Patnet, ensuring secure connection with EPO, was installed.

IT Division was responsible for layout and publication of the SPB Official bulletin. Implementation plan of TM view project was being implemented during this year, the programming services were procured and software was installed. Technical requirements for creating software, allowing daily renewal of internet trademark database, were drafted.

In year 2011 a new system Avilys for management of documents was introduced; it has already had modules installed for creation and storing of documents.

Activities concerning processing of data were carried out continually, including weekly importing of EPO data from www.epoline.org, and monthly preparation of EPO patent applications for publication in the bulletin, as well we providing data on inventions, published in SPB Official bulletin, to EPO's Front Office.

CS software for formation of data of international trademarks was integrated into the processes of SPB activities; dates of international trademarks were unified. In addition, IT Division, in cooperation with Trademarks and Designs Division, drafted technical requirements for importing Seniority data into the Trademark register; according to these requirements the software of this register was renewed.

Activities of Patent Information Centre of Lithuanian Technical Library

Lithuanian technical library (LTL)– is a specialized library of national significance, open to the public; its main objectives are: ensuring the needs of users to receive scientific technical information, organizing dissemination of patent information, and creating possibilities to use all information resources of the library. LTL is the country's largest library, accumulating the collection of printings in areas of technology and economics, descriptions of inventions, standards and other normative documents, company registers and catalogues. LTL is the centre of the methodology of the network of technical libraries and inter-library subscription (TBA). The library has its divisions in cities of Kaunas, Klaipėda, and Panevėžys. On January 1, 2012, LTL had a collection of 47.1 million printings and documents (descriptions of inventions constituting the largest part), and 8,200 registered subscriptions. 2.2 million documents were acquired, around 47 thousand readers visited the library, more than 300 thousand exemplars of documents were issued, almost 6 thousand requests were carried out, and more than 200 exhibitions and events were organized in the year 2011.

Documents are issued for the subscribers of the library to take away, and to read in specialised reading rooms (general, patent information, electronic information, foreign literature, bibliography), also in the reading rooms of the branches; documents that are not in possession of LTL are ordered from other libraries of the country and of other countries, via the TBA; services are provided to organizations according to yearly agreements; thematic, factual, revisionary, and informational queries, also consultations on search for information are performed; the users have access to subscription databases and other sources of electronic information; thematic exhibitions, seminars, and other events are being organized in the library; thematic digest "Information and the Library" is published quarterly.

The division of the library Patent information centre (PIC) is a depository library of industrial property documents and patent literature, the centre of patent information services, of the compilation, publishing and distribution of patent documentation in Lithuania. Together with the State Patent Bureau (SPB) and LTL branches, the network of country's PATLIB (patent information) centres is formed, providing patent information and documentation services to the public.

In year 2011 several new services for businesses were established in the PIC, that is the search of companies (patent applicants and owners), monitoring of technologies. Search of companies may be useful for those looking for business partners, seeking to sell a patent, or to acquire a patent licence. Monitoring of technologies is important to those users, who want to monitor the newest inventions in a specific area of technology.

Patent clinics (service of free consultations for inventors on the issues of patenting inventions) are available since year 2007 in LTL in the cities of Vilnius and Kaunas. Consultations are carried out by the patent attorneys of the Republic of Lithuania; in the end of 2011 a patent clinic was also established in the city of Panevėžys division, where the first consultations took place.

The website of PIC registered almost 100 thousand external visits in the year 2011.

Events

In the beginning of the year an exhibition of SPB and LTL took place in Klaipėda University on the development of industrial property protection in the country, which was dedicated to a twenty year anniversary of independence of Lithuania.

On the occasion of the World intellectual property day, on April 26, SPB and LTL signed memoranda of understanding with Vilnius University and Vilnius Pedagogy University (VPU). The parties signing the documents agreed to cooperate in disseminating of industrial property information and education of public on the issues of intellectual property, exchanging the information, scientific knowledge, experience, and printings. The same day an exhibition, dedicated to year of design and 20 year anniversary of SPB, was opened in LTL. Later this exhibition was displayed in Kaunas art academy, Lithuanian university of Educology (former VPU) and Vilnius University.

In the months of March-May, a cycle of events "Enterprise Lithuania" was organized in various cities of the country, where the representatives of SPB and LTL PIC consulted the residents of the regions of the country, who plan to start their own businesses.

In May, the specialists of PIC also participated in the stand of SPB in the exhibition "Balttechnika 2011", which took place in exhibition centre Litexpo in Vilnius.

In September, Chamber of industry and crafts organized seminars on patents and their use in Vilnius and Klaipėda, where a representative of PIC made presentations.

On October 10-14, Patent information week PATINFO2011 took place for the second time; this time it was organized not only in Vilnius, but also expanded to other cities – Kaunas, Klaipėda, Panevėžys.

"Open-door" days, exhibitions, consultations on issues concerning searches, patenting inventions, patenting procedures took place during the Patent information week in Vilnius and regional divisions of LTL, also the visitors were introduced to internet databases, informational publications of WIPO, EPO, LTL. Seminar-consultation "Green" Patent- Clean Lithuania" took place in Vilnius, where new inventions in the area of environmental protection were presented. Consultations on searches for information were also carried out in several faculties of the university in Klaipėda.

In October, representatives of SPB and LTL participated in EPO patent information conference and exhibition in Kilkenny (Ireland), where they presented the stands on SPB's users and dissemination of information.

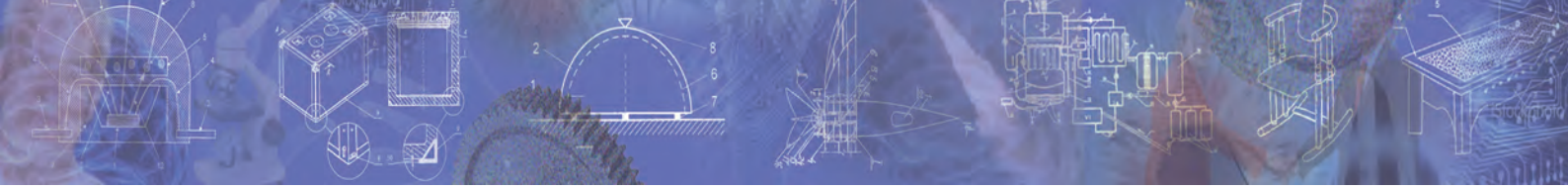
Publishing activities

In March, LTL prepared and published a bibliographic index "Protection of industrial property", which consisted of indications of books, periodical articles, internet material on the issues concerning inventions, trademarks, design, published in the country during twenty years (1991-2010).

In the end of the year LTL and SPB published version, adapted for Lithuanian market, of WIPO publication "Inventing the future", from the series dedicated to small and medium enterprises "Intellectual Property for Business".

LTL Patent information centre prepared and published a brochure "Patent information services in Lithuanian technical library" in Lithuanian and English languages.

Patent information centre quarterly prepares and publishes informational publication "Industrial property protection" for small and medium enterprises, universities, and specialists of industrial property protection.



Statistical Data

REPORT ON REGISTERED EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS

		Year		Rate of change %
		2010	2011	
Inventions	National patents	84	96	14
	European patents that came into force	941	1125	19
	Total	1025	1221	19
Topographies of semiconductor products	National registrations	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0
Trademarks	National registrations	1585	1560	-2
	Protection granted for international registrations extended under the Madrid Protocol	2805	2356	-16
	Iš viso	4390	3916	-11
Designs	National registrations	20	28	40
	Protection granted for international registrations of industrial design extended to the Republic of Lithuania	27	52	93
	Total	47	80	70
Total		5462	5217	-5

REPORT ON FILED APPLICATIONS

			Year		Rate of change %
			2010	2011	
Inventions	National applications	Of Lithuanian applicants	108	93	-14
		Of foreign applicants	4	10	150
	International applications (PCT national level)	Of Lithuanian applicants	0	0	0
		Of foreign applicants	2	5	150
	Extended European patent applications		320	301	-6
	Total		434	409	-6
Topographies of semiconductor products	National applications	Of Lithuanian applicants	0	0	0
		Of foreign applicants	0	0	0
	Total		0	0	0
Trademarks	National applications	Of Lithuanian applicants	1963	1980	1
		Of foreign applicants	277	307	11
	Notifications on international registrations of trademarks extended under the Madrid Protocol		2032	2137	5
	Total		4272	4424	4
Designs	National applications	Of Lithuanian applicants	20	39	95
		Of foreign applicants	2	0	0
	Notifications on international registrations of industrial design extended to the Republic of Lithuania		29	56	93
	Total		51	95	86
Total			4757	4928	4

REPORT ON STATE FEES (thousand litas)

	Year		Rate of change %
	2010	2011	
Inventions	4222,7	4699,9	11
Topographies of semiconductor products	-	-	-
Trademarks	1992,6	1998,8	0,3
Designs	47,6	67,9	43
Total	6262,9	6766,6	8

REPORT ON APPLICATIONS FILED BY LITHUANIAN APPLICANTS FOR REGISTRATION OF PATENTS, TRADEMARKS AND DESIGNS UNDER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND REGULATIONS OF EU COMMUNITY TRADEMARKS AND COMMUNITY DESIGNS

	Year		Rate of change %
	2010	2011	
International applications (PCT)	11	25	127
European patent applications	1 (with the SPB only)	2 (with the SPB only)	100
International applications for trademark registration under Madrid Protocol	65	119	83
Applications for registration of Community trademarks	104	140	35
Applications for registration of Community designs	15	14	-7
International applications for industrial design registration	1	0	0


SPB Vilnius
EPO Munich
WIPO Geneva
OHIM Alicante

LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS VALSTYBINIS PATENTŲ BIURAS '2011
THE STATE PATENT BUREAU OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA '2011


Rimvydas Naujokas


Lina Mickienė


Žilvinas Danys


Irina Krotova


Arūnas Želvys


Eglė Levickienė


Sigita Kim-Taisan


Vida Šalnienė


Jan Beliavski


Ramutė Kirklienė


Digna Zinkevičienė


Asta Virbickienė


Vida Mikutienė


Zenonas Valasevičius


Vincas Batulevičius


Barbara Leščevska


Audronė Jasevičiūtė


Marytė Katkuvienė


Vitalija Dailydkienė


Vydūnas Mikuta


Dovilė Tebelškytė


Valerija Ramunė Talienė


Elena Liolienė


Robertas Ališauskas


Vita Daiva Kušleikaitė


Elena Endriulienė


Gelena Bigon


Kristina Keliuotienė


Rimantas Benetis


Irena Remeikienė


Diana Daugėlienė


Audra Blekaitienė


Stela Ivanova


Jūratė Kaminskienė


Dovilė Bižokienė


Vida Kaušinienė


Nijolė Rimkutė


Martinas Gladyševas


Jadvyga Stankevičienė


Liubov Pronikova

Daiva Pagirytė

Zita Kvajauskienė

Arūnas Kuokštis

Daina Balčiūnienė

Ieva Katinė

Audronė Vaškytė

Edita Rėbždaitė

Laimutė Biekšienė

Jūratė Aniulienė

Nijolė Meilūnaitė

Rasa Barakauskienė

Leokadija Jankauskienė

Asta Gimbickaitė

Laima Žulpienė

Daiva Urbaitytė

Natalja Stulpinaitė

Tolvydas Grincevičius

Gediminas Ruzgys