

Superintendencia de Industria y Comercio



Regional Seminar for Certain Latin American and Caribbean Countries on the Implementation and Use of Several Patent-Related Flexibilities

Topic 15: Impact of National Exhaustion of Rights on the Economy

**Bogota, Colombia
February 6 to 8, 2012**

Exhaustion of Patent Rights: Trinidad and Tobago



Trinidad and Tobago's Economy

- Oil and Gas main export
- Organic chemicals
- Gross Domestic Product USD 23.9 Billion (2008)
- Exports USD 15.85 billion (2008)
- Population 1,337,684 (2008)

Trinidad and Tobago's Economy

- Has a reputation as an excellent investment site for international business
- Leading Caribbean producer of oil and gas.
- Expanding business areas such as Tourism and Agriculture
- Has one of the largest Gross Domestic Products in the Caribbean

Location and Language

- Trinidad and Tobago lies in the Caribbean Sea off the northeast coast of Venezuela
- Mother tongue: English

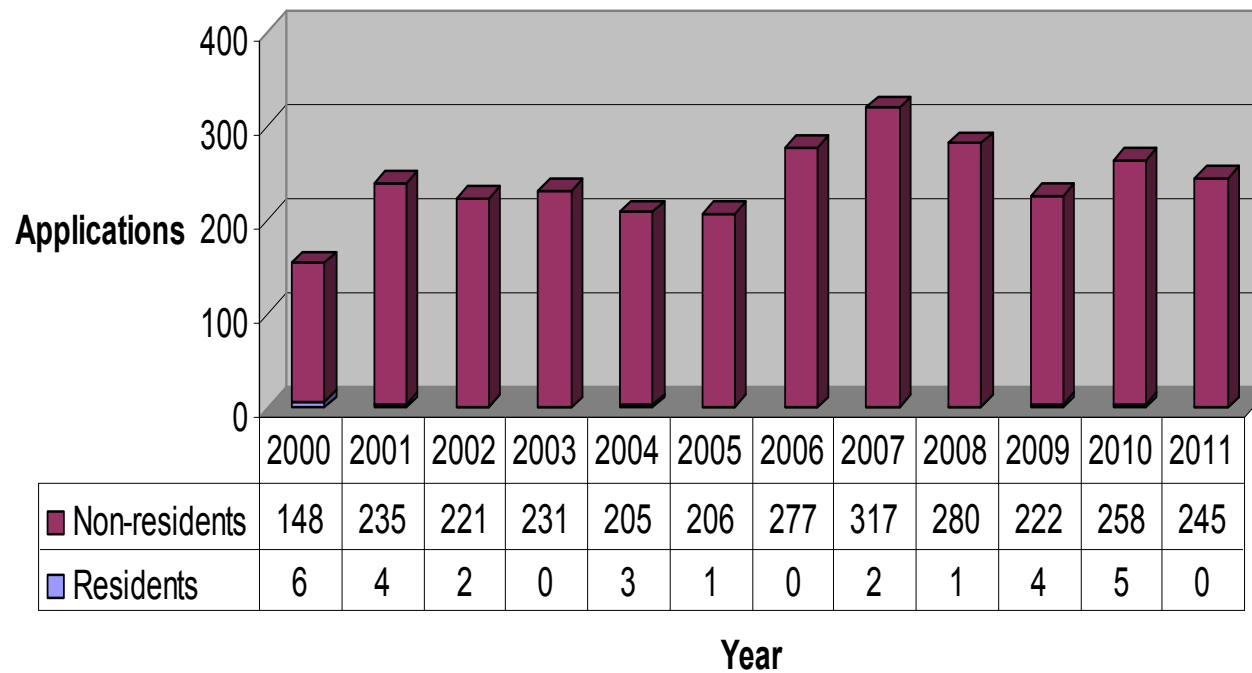
Legislation

- “The rights conferred by a patent shall not extend to acts in respect of articles which have been put on the market in Trinidad and Tobago by the owner of the patent or with his consent”

Patents Act of Trinidad and Tobago 1996

Patent Statistics for Trinidad & Tobago

Patent Applications



Breakdown of Patent Stats

- Predominantly foreign patent applications
- Patent applications fall generally in to oil and gas, organic chemicals and pharmaceuticals

Breakdown of Patent Stats

- Marketing and Demand factors lead to the type of patent exhaustion experienced in Trinidad and Tobago
- Geared to encourage foreign investment

National Exhaustion

- National patent exhaustion is currently employed
- Enforces the use of Intellectual Property
- Promotes investment and innovation

National Exhaustion

- Few cases of national exhaustion cases
- International exhaustion exists in T&T only in the realm of Trademarks

Conclusion

- National exhaustion is well suited for patents in Trinidad and Tobago
- Economical changes can influence a restructuring of the type of exhaustion employed
- Zero cases to report on the subject matter