

WIPO



SCIT/SDWG/4/11

ORIGINAL: English

DATE: November 25, 2003

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES STANDARDS AND DOCUMENTATION WORKING GROUP

Fourth Session
Geneva, January 26 to 30, 2004

PROGRESS REPORT ON TASK No. 24
ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORTS (ATRs) MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Document prepared by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. In the Standards and Documentation Working Group Task List, Task No. 24 is related to the collection and publication of Annual Technical Reports (ATRs) on Patent, Trademark and Industrial Design Information Activities (ATR/PI, ATR/TM, ATR/ID) of the SCIT Members.
2. The SCIT/ATR website allows access to the ATRs for the period 1998-2002. In 2001, the Secretariat started collecting ATR information through an electronic report form in order to reduce the workload for industrial property offices (IPOs) and WIPO in the preparation and processing of ATRs. In 2002, a test exercise for a new Annual Technical Report Management System was carried out with the collaboration of the Offices of Canada, Hungary, Lithuania and Spain. Based on the feedback received from these Offices, the ATR Management System was further developed and was released in 2003. To this effect, on July 9, 2003, a circular was issued to all IPOs inviting them to submit their 2002 ATRs on-line using the new system. The circular contained instructions for requesting username and password combinations to the system and guidelines for submitting the data.

3. In July, with the launch of the ATR Management System, the International Bureau (IB) also re-designed the SCIT/ATR Home Page at <http://www.wipo.int/scit>, and set up two electronic mailboxes, ATRaccess.mail@wipo.int and ATRmail@wipo.int, to assist users in creating user accounts and to answer questions concerning the use of the system, respectively.

4. The deadline for submission of the ATRs was September 15, 2003. By November 10, 2003, the International Bureau created 143 access accounts for the ATR Management System, 58 of which were for patents, 41 for trademarks and 44 for industrial designs. The IB received through the ATR Management System: 29 ATR submissions for patents (from AM, AR, AT, BG, CH, CZ, EC, EE, GB, HU, IE, IL, KE, KG, KR, LT, MD, MG, MK, MW, RU, SE, SK, TR, TT, UA, US, UY and YU); 28 ATR submissions for trademarks (from AM, AR, AT, AU, BG, CA, CH, CZ, EE, GB, HU, IL, KG, KR, LT, LV, MD, MG, MK, MW, RU, SI, SK, TR, UA, US, UY and YU), and 31 ATR submissions for industrial designs (from AM, AR, AT, BG, CA, CH, CZ, EC, EE, GB, HU, IL, KE, KG, KR, LT, LV, MD, MG, MK, MW, RU, SE, SI, SK, TR, TT, UA, US, UY and YU). A total of 88 ATRs were submitted for publication for the year 2002, 82 of which were submitted via the ATR Management System. These reports can now be accessed via the SCIT/ATR Home Page.

5. The ATR Management System is a joint project of both the Intellectual Property Office Automation Division (IPOA) and the Standards and Documentation Service (SDS). Future developments of the system such as search functionality across ATR reports are foreseen and will be dependent on users' feedback and resource availability.

6. The SDWG is invited to note the contents of this Report and provide feedback on the ATR Management System.

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