QUESTIONNAIRE CONCERNING FORMATS CURRENTLY IN USE BY INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICES FOR FIGURATIVE ELEMENTS OF MARKS

INTRODUCTION

1. This questionnaire aims at collecting information from Industrial Property Offices (IPOs) on formats currently in use for figurative elements of marks. The next steps would be to analyze the different standards/techniques applied by the IPOs of the various Member States and by regional organizations and to determine the feasibility of establishing a WIPO recommendation on how figurative elements of marks should be captured in electronic form.

2. The proposal to develop a WIPO recommendation on the above-mentioned subject matter was made in view of the fact that, with the entry into force of the Madrid Protocol and the ensuring internationalization of trademark data exchange, standards are needed to guarantee the exchange of highly standardized data in impeccable quality.
(See Task No. 20 of the SCIT Task List and document SCIT/SDWG/1/2).

Question 1:   Does your Office process electronically the figurative elements of marks?

Yes   **X**

No   …….

Question 2:   Does your Office have a legal basis for the electronic processing (including electronic storage and/or exchange) of figurative elements of marks?
(If "Yes," please specify the national law, regional regulation, etc.)

Yes   **Art. 7a Markenschutz Verordnung (MSchV)**

No   …….

Question 3:   Which format is your Office currently using for the capturing, presentation and exchange of figurative elements of marks?

(a) For scanning :
Please indicate: image format (TIFF, JPG, GIF, PNG, CCITT…Please specify the version, e.g., TIFF Group 4), image resolution (in dots per inch), image color management techniques (i.e., description of techniques applied to ensure reliable color reproduction).

   (i)   Bilevel or grayscale:: **TIFF, 300dpi**

   (ii)   Colour: **no colour scanning**

(b) For publishing :
Please indicate: image format (TIFF, JPG, GIF, PNG, CCITT…Please specify the version, e.g., TIFF Group 4), image resolution (in dots per inch), image color management techniques (i.e., description of techniques applied to ensure reliable color reproduction).

   (i)   Bilevel or grayscale:: **TIFF, 300dpi**

   (ii)   Colour: **no colour publishing**

(c) For displaying :
Please indicate: image format (TIFF, JPG, GIF, PNG, CCITT…Please specify the version, e.g., TIFF Group 4), image resolution (in dots per inch), image color management techniques (i.e., description of techniques applied to ensure reliable color reproduction).

      (i)   Bilevel or grayscale::   **TIFF, in the original image resolution**

      (ii)   Colour :   **officially no colour displaying, some JPEG in colour without special ICM techniques**

(d) For other purpose (please specify) : …………
Please indicate: image format (TIFF, JPG, GIF, PNG, CCITT…Please specify the version, e.g., TIFF Group 4), image resolution (in dots per inch), image color management techniques (i.e., description of techniques applied to ensure reliable color reproduction).

      (i)   Bilevel or grayscale::   …………

      (ii)   Colour :   …………..

Question 4:   Indicate how the images of figurative elements of marks are displayed. (e.g., expandable thumbnails, thumbnails only, full screen image).

    (a) Expandable thumbnails   …………

    (b) Thumbnails only   …………

    (c) Full screen image   …………

    (d) Other (please specify):   **original image-size (max. 8cm x 8 cm)**

Question 5:   Who carries out the electronic capture?

     (a)   Applicant

     (b)   **Your Office** (if so, what are the dimensions in which the images of figurative elements of marks have to be submitted?)
max. size of image: 8cm x 8 cm
grayscales have to be screened (newspaper-screen 28 or coarser) or hatched

     (c)   Other (please specify):

Question 6:   How is your Office ensuring the quality of mark images taking into account the various quality levels ?

enhancing scans by use of various scan-software tools (e.g. sharpness, contrast)
low quality images have to be replaced by the applicant

Question 7:   How many mark images are stored with the above-indicated format(s) in your Office's computer system(s)?
(Please specify breakdown by format.)

Totally in system: **approx. 322'000**
TIFF :   **approx. 61'000**
JPEG: **approx. 261'000**

Question 8:   Which option does your Office prefer for the elaboration of a WIPO recommendation on the electronic processing of figurative elements of marks:

(a)   the determination and application of a new format?

Yes   ……...

No   ……...

(b)   the use of freely available non-proprietary standards?

Yes   ……...

No   ……...

(c)   the use of a proprietary de-facto standard (i.e., TIFF)?

Yes   **X**

No   ………

Further comments/remarks:

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[End of Questionnaire]

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