

Oifig na bPaitinní



The Patents Office

**Seventy Third Annual Report
of the
Controller of Patents,
Designs and Trade Marks
2000**

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH:
ARNA FHOILSIÚ AG OIFIG AN tSOLÁTHAIR
Le ceannach díreach ón
OIFIG DHÍOLTA FOILSEACHÁN RIALTAIS,
TEACH SUN ALLIANCE, SRÁID THEACH LAIGHEAN, BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2,
nó tríd an bpost ó
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INTRODUCTION

I have the honour to submit to the Oireachtas, in accordance with the provisions of Section 103 of the Patents Act, 1992, a Report for the year ended 31 December 2000.

My functions are set out in the Industrial and Commercial Property (Protection) Acts, 1927-1958, the Patents Act, 1992, the Trade Marks Act, 1996; the Statutory Rules made under these Acts; and the European Communities (Supplementary Protection Certificate) Regulations relating to pharmaceutical products and plant protection products. Decisions under these Acts, Rules and Regulations rest with me in my statutory capacity, subject to certain rights of appeal to the High Court.

I also have had certain statutory functions under the Copyright Act, 1963 – mainly consisting of the resolution of disputes regarding the remuneration payable for use of copyright material e.g. public performance of sound recordings. A new copyright act – the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 – will be in force from the beginning of 2001 and will extend considerably my statutory functions in the copyright domain. I will have to deal with references to me of licensing schemes and proposed licensing schemes in relation to various areas subject to copyright and other rights; with references relating to licence terms; with applications for licences where operators of schemes have refused to grant licences and in certain cases where licences are expiring; and with registration of licensing bodies.

In addition, to the foregoing, I make available information about Industrial and Intellectual Property.

Mission and Objectives

The objective of the Patents Office is reflected in its mission statement which is:

“To provide, in the implementation of the relevant legislation, an efficient system of industrial property protection and thus contribute to the promotion of enterprise and technological progress.”

The role of the Patents Office involves the grant of rights in the fields of inventions, trade marks and designs, and the dissemination of relevant knowledge in conjunction with each of these activities. The Patents Office aims to provide business, industry and individual entrepreneurs with an effective system of protection for their industrial property rights. In so doing, the work of the Office ties in with the wider national objectives of supporting and encouraging enterprise and innovation and an effective business environment in Ireland.

The Intellectual Property Unit of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment has responsibility for intellectual property policy and preparation of legislation in this field. The Office furnishes advice in these matters to the Department, including comments on the impact for the work of the Office of proposed changes.

Throughout the remainder of this Report, unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to the 1963 Act means a reference to the Trade Marks Act, 1963; a reference to the 1964 Act means a reference to the Patents Act, 1964; a reference to the 1992 Act means a reference to the Patents Act, 1992 and a reference to the 1996 Act means a reference to the Trade Marks Act, 1996.

GENERAL

Receipts and Expenses

The receipts and expenses for the year amounted to £6,760,197.39/€8,583,680.04 and £3,603,108.13/€4,575,003.59 respectively.

Particulars are given in Appendix B. The corresponding figures for 1999 were £6,430,988.65/€8,165,671.17 and £3,480,247.53/€4,419,002.81.

In 2000, fees received in connection with patents amounted to over £3.7 million/€4.81 million; trade marks accounted for over £2.59 million/€3.29 million; design fees amounted to £71,653/€90,999.

Office - Staff and Structure

In recent annual reports I indicated that the staff complement of the Office had been reduced from 88 to 72 upon the decentralisation of the Office to Kilkenny in July 1998. The number of staff serving as at 31 December 2000 was 75.5 compared to 72 at the end of 1999. This increase in number results from the fact that the staff concerned occupy posts which are supernumerary to the authorised staff complement of the Office

Sanction has been sought by the Office for additional staff to perform the new duties which I will have to discharge upon ratification of the Protocol to the Madrid Agreement on the International registration of trade marks. (Information about the Protocol is given in page 11). Although this is a permanent new area of work I understand that the additional staff to be sanctioned by the Dept. of Finance are to be sanctioned on a supernumerary basis, the position to be reviewed in about 2 years time. During the year I also informed the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment that the

functions allocated to me under the Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000 would require special staff for their discharge and I gave an estimate of the kind and number of staff required; I am awaiting a response in this matter.

A breakdown of the staff serving at the end of the year is given in Appendix A.

Information

Whilst the Office library continues to maintain an extensive paper document collection comprising Irish, European (EP), International (PCT) and British published applications, its electronic database of patent information continues to grow in importance. The library houses an extensive collection of several thousand CD-ROMs containing several of the ESPACE series of disks produced by the European Patent Office (EPO) comprising information on EP, PCT and GB patents, the USAPat series from the US Office, the PAJ series from Japan and the GlobalPat first page series. These disks contain bibliographic data, text-searchable abstracts, allow cross-referencing to EP and PCT patents, and may be accessed directly by visitors to the library.

A computerised patents & trade marks search facility is also available via the new PTOLEMY computer system, whereby details of Irish patent applications and granted patents and pending and registered marks are available for inspection. In addition, it is possible to licence from the Controller the part of the trade mark database consisting of all trade marks (excluding device representations). The library provides a document delivery service to patent and trade mark agents and to members of the public. The library contains many legal and

technical works of interest to inventors and those interested in patents, designs and trade marks.

A network of CD-ROM/EPOQUE workstations linked to a number of high capacity CD-ROM jukeboxes links the library in Kilkenny with the patent information centre in Dublin in such a way that the 2000-plus CD-ROMs and DVDs in the jukeboxes in Kilkenny are accessible by visitors to the Dublin Patent Information centre. The network also allows library staff to access the internal databases of the EPO via an ISDN line so that older patent documents not currently available in the Office can be downloaded and printed on request.

Internet

The Office has launched its updated website with links to the EPO via the Esp@cenet patent search engine, which offers free access to over 30 million patent documents online. By logging on the Office's website (located at www.patentsoffice.ie) it is possible to access directly the largest volume of patent documentation available anywhere on the Internet and to search it via a standardised search interface. The Office website provides detailed information about the Office and its services including dissemination of information on trade marks and designs.

Exhibitions/Seminars

During the course of the year, Office staff were again actively involved in the promotion of intellectual property information through their attendance at a number of exhibitions and seminars. As usual, the Office had a presence at the "Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition" in the RDS in January and sponsored a prize in that competition. In November, the Office gave a lecture to Diploma Students in UCC on the various aspects of Intellectual Property. Staff from the Trade Mark Division attended and participated at seminars and workshops organised by the Office for

Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and at a Round Table Meeting of the European Communities Trade Mark Association (ECTA) to discuss "Non-Traditional Trade Marks". A member of staff delivered a weeklong course to the Cypriot authorities on the Community Trade Mark system. The volume of enquiries received, allied to the sustained growth in the country's economy, suggests that there continues to be an increasing role for the Office in the promotion of information on intellectual property.

Publications

During the year the Office continued to maintain an up to date set of booklets and information packs relating to the various types of intellectual property. These are made available, free of charge, from the two information centres which the Office operates, located in Dublin and Kilkenny.

Service Standards

The Office is committed to providing the best possible service to its customers. The implementation of the new Ptolemy computer system requires a review of the Office's existing customer service standards. This review will seek to align the service standards with newly computerised processes and procedures and will take place during 2001. On completion of the review a new set of customer service standards will be prepared.

Users Council

In May 1997, the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment decided to establish a Patents Office Users Council. The terms of reference given to the Council were:

"To consider and report to the Minister on the administration of industrial property protection by the Patents Office and to advise on

appropriate changes and innovations in the operation of the Office.”

The Council comprises the Controller and representatives of the Association of Patent and Trade Mark Agents, Enterprise Ireland, IBEC and University College, Dublin, and is chaired by a senior official from the Department of Enterprise, Trade, and Employment.

The Council, which met on three occasions in 2000, continues to provide a useful forum for the exchange of views on improving delivery of the Office's services and on domestic and international developments relating to industrial property protection.

New Legislation

In my 1998 Annual Report I referred to the enactment of the Intellectual Property

(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1998 which became law on 7th July, 1998. I outlined, inter alia, the changes brought about by Sections 4 and 5 of that Act relating to the office of Controller and indicated that the provisions of these sections were introduced and enacted while Judicial Review proceedings which I had initiated earlier in 1998 were still pending and that no reference to the existence of these proceedings was contained in the relevant Dail and Seanad debates dealing with the passage of the provisions of Sections 4 and 5. I also indicated that High Court proceedings had been issued concerning the constitutionality of these two sections and that an appeal was pending in the Supreme Court. At the end of 2000, the High Court proceedings and the appeal before the Supreme Court were still pending.

Appendix I lists the enactments and statutory instruments made during the year.

PATENTS

As at 31 December 2000, there were a total of 6,844 pending applications on hand. The bulk of these applications were awaiting the submission of evidence of novelty. While the number of applications on hands has been reduced steadily over the years, the Office has taken steps to further reduce the number by seeking to identify applications with which applicants may no longer wish to proceed.

Applications and Grants

The number of applications for patents received was 1,079, 35 less than in 1999. Following Ireland's ratification of the European Patent Convention in 1992, there was a noticeable reduction in the annual volume of patent applications being filed at the Office. The number of applications being received appears to have stabilised at around 25% of the pre 1992 level. Applications claiming priority under the Paris Convention totalled **357**.

Analyses by country of the applications received and patents granted are given in Appendix C and Appendix D, respectively. The number of applications received from applicants in the State was 925 compared with 996 in 1999.

Figures showing the numbers of patent applications received and patents granted by the office during the past three years are shown in the following Table:

YEAR	APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	PATENTS GRANTED
1998	1,108	594
1999	1,114	320
2000	1,079	456

The background to the reduced patent grant figures over the last number of years is as follows. At the end of 1997 the Office had 10 professional patent examination staff. None of these staff wished to relocate to Kilkenny in connection with the decentralisation there of the Office.

As a consequence, the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment decided that the 10 staff in question should be dispersed and assigned to other duties and new patent examiner staff recruited. At the same time the Department decided following a Business Process Re-engineering exercise, that the complement of examiner staff, post-relocation in Kilkenny, was to be 5. Only one of the new examiner staff had been recruited by the date set for the opening of the Office in Kilkenny and 1 of the 5 has still not been recruited. The drop in patent examiner numbers and the time involved for training-in of the new examiners all meant that output of patent grants would inevitably be affected. However this year sees an improvement in the patents granted figures, as the new staff become more familiar with the work and after the outstanding examiner is recruited and trained, it is expected that the output figure will continue to rise.

Assignments and other miscellaneous matters

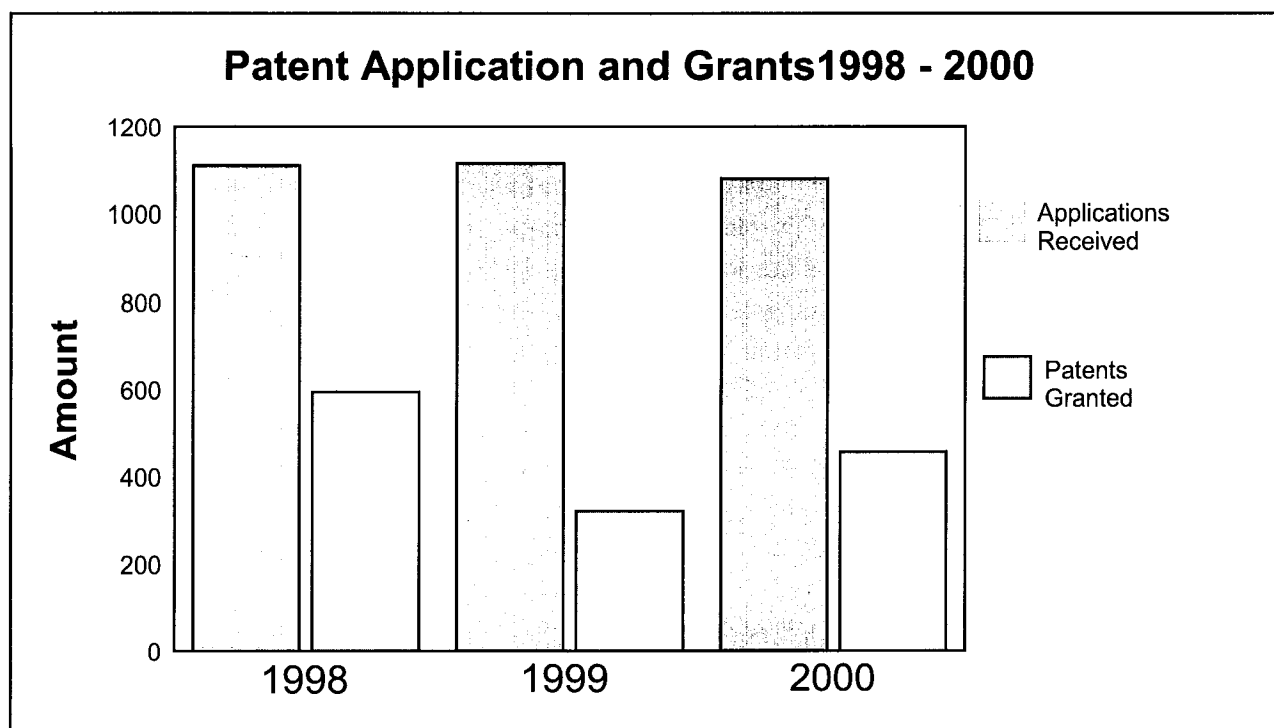
Applications approved under Section 85 of the 1992 Act for registration of assignments, etc. of patent applications, patents and supplementary protection certificates affected a total of 230 patents and patent applications, and one supplementary protection certificate.

The Office acts as a receiving office for European patent applications and for international applications filed under the Patent Co-Operation Treaty (PCT), which was ratified

by Ireland during 1992. The number of international applications received at the Office, as a receiving office under the PCT, was 169. Following completion of the receiving office functions under the PCT, these applications are transmitted to the World Intellectual Property Organisation. The number of European applications filed for onward transmission to the European Patent Office was 213, of which 123 were filed by applicants whose places of residence or

principal places of business were outside the State.

In 2000, the number of European patents designating Ireland was 5,916, compared to 6,968 in 1999. These patents were entered in the National Register of Patents. They have the same legal status in Ireland as if they had been granted by my Office.



European applications designating Ireland (first arising in 1992) are not included in the above chart and amount to:

Year	Filings
1992	11,755
1993	35,762
1994	40,705
1995	44,161
1996	52,755
1997	41,875
1998	61,584
1999	65,708
2000	76,806

The number of applications received in the year 2000 includes 641 applications for short-term patents under Part III of the 1992 Act, which came into force on 1 August 1992. The year 2000 figure for patents granted includes 158 short-term patents.

An analysis of the patents granted as classified according to the Subsections of the International Classification of Patents for Inventions is given in Appendix E.

Revocations

There were two applications to the Controller for revocation of patents pending at the beginning of 2000. One of these applications was withdrawn during the year. In the case of the second patent, the revocation proceedings are in abeyance pending the outcome of an application for amendment of the Patent specification under Section 38 of the Patents Act, 1992, which was advertised at the end of the year. During the year one new application was received, leaving a total of two applications for revocation pending at the end of the year.

Petitions for Extensions of Terms of Patents under the 1964 Act

The six petitions to the High Court for extensions of terms of patents, mentioned as pending in last year's report, were still pending at the end of 2000.

Patents in force

The number of patents in force in Ireland on the 31 December 2000 was 26,844. The number

of patent renewal fees paid was 19,422 of which particulars are given in Appendix F, together with figures from the previous nine reports. Patents that lapsed due to the non-payment of renewal fees numbered 3,751, and 194 expired through effluxion of time.

Restoration of Lapsed Patents

At the end of last year, nine applications for restoration of lapsed patents were pending. Two of these applications have since been withdrawn. Nine applications for restoration were received during the year. A total of four patents were restored in this time, leaving a total of twelve applications for restoration pending at the end of the year.

Requests for Supplementary Protection Certificates

A total of 33 requests for Supplementary Protection Certificates were received during the year under the European Communities (Supplementary Protection Certificates) Regulations, 1992 (medicinal) and 1996 (plant protection products). During the year, 4 certificates were granted (3 medicinal and 1 plant protection). At the end of the year there were 73 requests pending.

Register of Patent Agents

No names were added to or removed from the Register during the year. At the end of the year, there were 30 individuals and five partnerships entered in the Register of Patent Agents.

DESIGNS

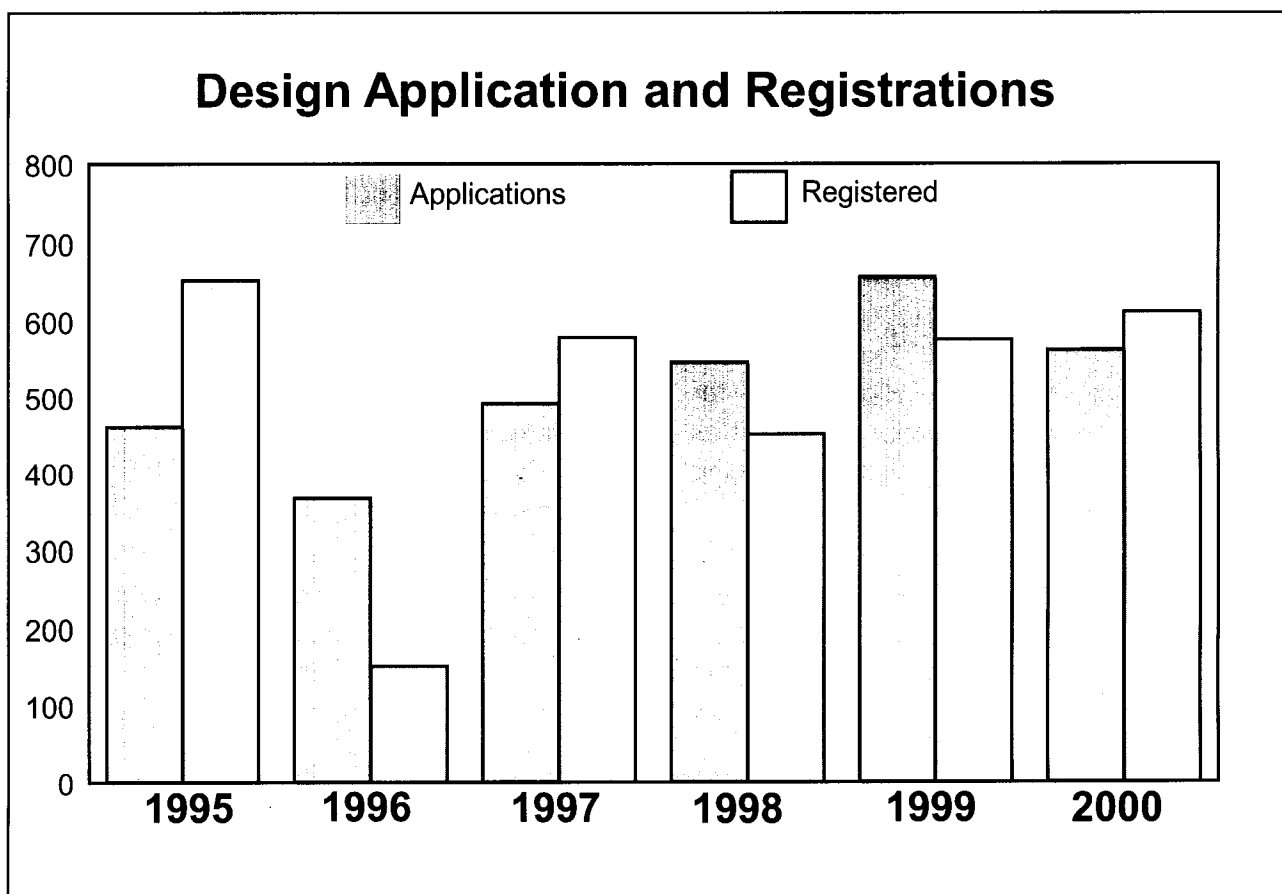
Applications for the registration of designs received during the year totalled 558, being 99 less than in 1999.

An analysis by country of origin of the applications received is given in Appendix C. Applications filed by residents in the State totalled 147 compared with 227 for 1999.

The number of designs registered during the year was 596. Particulars of registration by

Country of origin of proprietor are given in Appendix D. The period of protection was extended for a second period of five years in 234 cases and a third period of five years in 87 cases. 413 registrations lapsed. The total number of designs in force at the end of the year was 3712.

The number of designs registered according to the International Classification of Designs is shown in Appendix H.



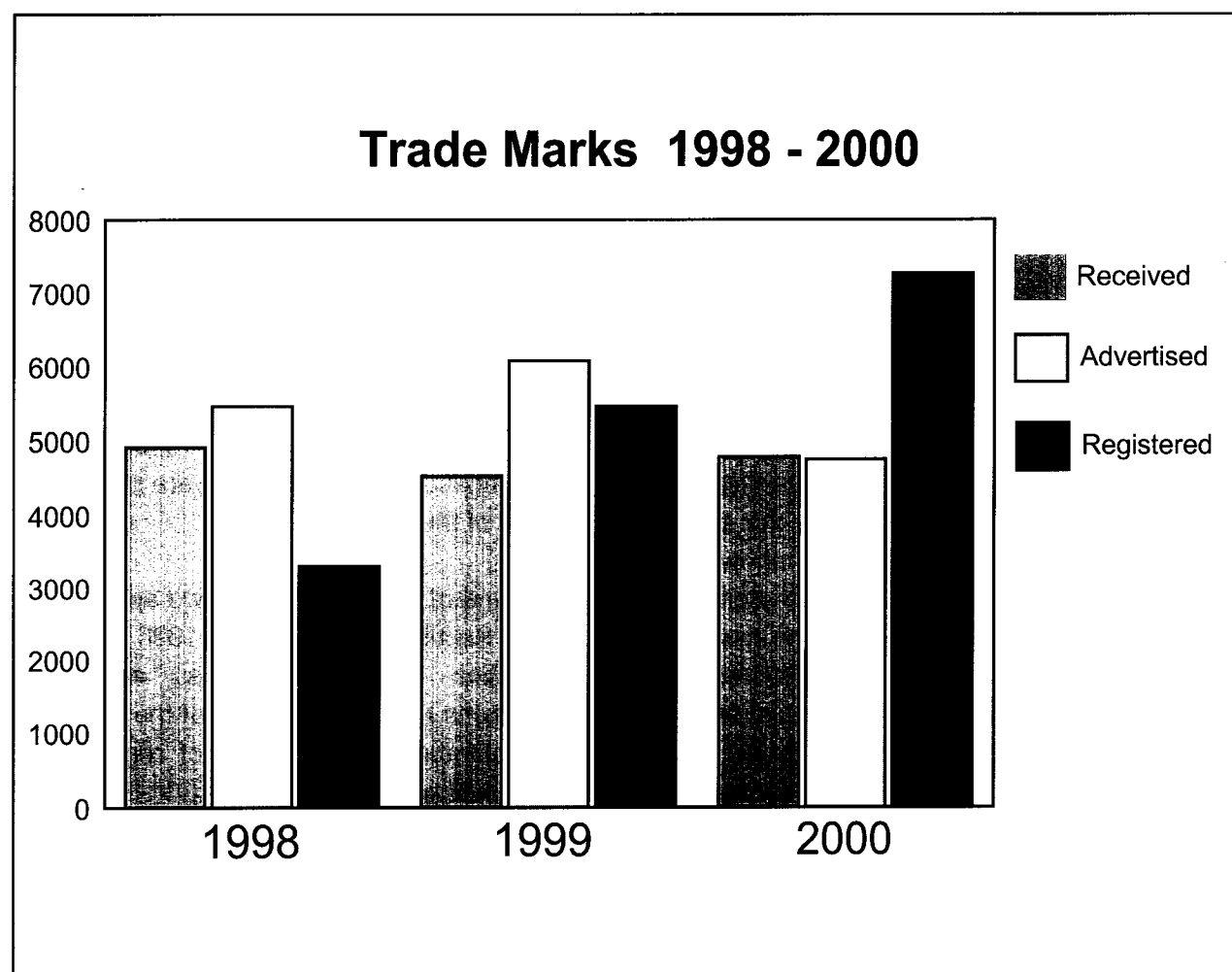
TRADE MARKS

Applications and Registrations

The number of applications for the registration of trade marks received during the year,

together with the number of marks advertised in the Journal and registered, are given in the table below, with comparative figures for the previous two years.

Year ended	Applications		Registered
	Received	Advertised	
1998	4,910	5,460	3,301
1999	4,518	6,077	5,464
2000	4,781	4,742	7,264



The 4,781 trade mark applications received in 2000 includes 1702 applications in respect of services.

During the year under review, almost 3,200 applications were examined. This figure is lower than the corresponding figure for 1999 due to several factors including high staff turnover and on-going development work on IT systems during the year. Accordingly, the length of time between the date of filing of a new application and the initial examination rose from fourteen weeks on average at the end of 1999 to twenty weeks on average at the end of the year.

During the year the Office registered a sound mark for the first time. It also changed its practice in that it began accepting applications for the registration of marks in respect of "retail services", in cases where the specification is properly defined. This change of practice followed the decision of the OHIM Second Board of Appeal in the "GIACOMELLI" case. Other national Patent and Trade Mark Offices in the EU made a similar change in their practice during the year.

Analyses by country of the applications received and trade marks registered are given in Appendix C and Appendix D, respectively. Applications filed by persons resident in the State totalled 1258 compared with 1123 in 1999. Details of the international classification of goods and services into which the trade marks registered in 2000 fall are shown in Appendix G. The number of registrations of trade marks renewed was 4498. The number removed from the Register for non-payment of renewal fees was 2877. Three registrations were restored by order of the Controller. On 31st December 2000, the number of registered trade marks in force was 91,250.

Appeals

Six notices of Appeal to the High Court were filed during 2000 and one notice of Appeal to

the Supreme Court was filed. Of the four notices of Appeal to the High Court pending at the end of 1999, two are still pending at the end of 2000. Therefore, there were eight notices of Appeal to the High Court and one notice of Appeal to the Supreme Court pending at the end of the year.

Oppositions to Registration

There were 318 notifications of opposition pending at the end of 1999. During the year, 265 further notifications were received. Taking into account cases decided during the year, withdrawals of oppositions and withdrawals of certain applications for registration following receipt of notice of opposition, there were 415 notifications of opposition pending at the end of 2000.

Assignments and Transmissions

During the year, 935 persons were entered in the Register as proprietors of trade marks consequent on assignments or transmissions. The number of trade marks affected was 4335.

Matters affecting the Register of Trade Marks

Nine applications under Section 34 of the 1963 Act for removal of registered marks and thirteen applications under Section 40 of the 1963 Act for rectification of the register were pending at the end of the year.

At the end of the year, twenty-two applications under Section 51 of the 1996 Act for Revocation of registrations and five applications under Section 52 of the 1996 Act for Declarations of Invalidity of registrations were pending.

Community Trade Mark Applications

During 2000, a total of 73 Community Trade Mark (C.T.M.) applications were filed through the Office and forwarded to the Office for

Harmonisation in the Internal Market (O.H.I.M), Alicante, Spain. The Office received a £20/€25.39, handling fee in respect of each application.

Searching of Community Trade Mark (CTM) Applications

Under Article 39(3) of Council Regulation No. 40/94 of December 1993 on the Community Trade Mark, the Office may search C.T.M. applications and convey the results of its searches to O.H.I.M. The Office had to suspend searching the C.T.M. applications on the 7 January 1999 in order to give priority to the work involved in searching and examining national applications. The reasons for this suspension were outlined in my report for 1999. The problems which gave rise to the suspension continued during the current year and so, during the year, performance of this work remained suspended.

I indicated in my Report last year that the Office was pursuing with the Department's IT Unit, IT-based solutions to assist in the performance of this work. An enhanced version of our computerised search system, which will facilitate the Office in re-commencing this C.T.M. work, was received in December 2000. Following testing and the allocation of some additional searcher staff for this work, it is expected that C.T.M. search work will recommence early in 2001.

Conversion of Community Trade Mark Applications

The introduction of the Trade Marks Act, 1996 (Community Trade Marks) Regulations, 2000 (S.I. No. 229 of 2000) requires me to decide on the admissibility of applications to me to convert certain Community Trade Marks or Community Trade Mark applications into Irish national trade mark applications for processing as normal national applications.

At the commencement date, 20th July 2000, we had received 101 of these conversion applications in anticipation of the entry into force of the Statutory Instrument and a further 64 have since been filed. We are currently processing these. This category of application constitutes a new block of work for the Office.

Protocol relating to the Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks

The Madrid Protocol is an international agreement under the aegis of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). It was adopted in 1989, Ireland being one of the original signatories. It came into operation on 1 April 1996 but has not yet been ratified by Ireland. There are now 49 Contracting States including all other Member States of the EU.

The purpose of the Protocol was to make the international trade mark registration system established under the original Madrid Agreement more attractive by laying down a regime with certain new features which would induce a greater number of countries to become party to the system. Up to then countries such as the U.S.A., U.K., Ireland and Denmark had not been parties to the international registration system. The Protocol, like the basic Madrid Agreement, permits trade mark proprietors to make, through their national trade mark offices, a single application to W.I.P.O. in which they can seek protection for their marks in any or all countries party to the Protocol. This saves an applicant much of the considerable extra expense and administrative burden of applying for registration individually in each of the countries concerned. The marks are registered in the International Register kept by the W.I.P.O.

I understand that it is intended to ratify the Protocol in May, 2001. This means the Protocol would take effect in August, 2001. In preparation for implementing the Protocol system the Office is working closely with the

developers of the Ptolemy computer system to develop a new module that will perform certain administrative functions arising under the system. In this respect, the Office has completed its specification of the IT system requirements and the software development company has indicated that they expect to deliver a system for testing and implementation by end July, 2001. As I mentioned earlier in this report the Office also sought sanction for additional staff to cater for the workload that will arise in this area. Given the considerable work involved in developing the IT system and the requirement to train new staff, it seems to the Office that the target of August, 2001 for entry into effect of the system in Ireland may be ambitious. Another requirement which must be met before the system enters into effect is the making of Ministerial Regulations under the Trade Marks Act, 1996 and their approval by the Oireachtas. During the year the Office collaborated intensively with the Department of

Enterprise, Trade & Employment in the drafting of these Regulations

Licences/Registered Users

During the year, 73 applications under Section 29 of the 1996 Act were dealt with, leaving 117 applications pending at the end of the year.

Of the applications under the 1963 Act to register registered users of marks, which were pending on 1st July, 1996, 108 such applications were pending at the end of the year.

Register of Trade Mark Agents

At the end of the year under review, there were 120 individuals and 6 partnerships entered on the Register.

COPYRIGHT

Disputes Referred under Section 31 of the Copyright Act, 1963

Under this Section, disputes between persons using sound recordings in public, and the owner of the copyright subsisting in the recordings, regarding the equitable remuneration payable to the copyright owner, may be referred to me for determination. In the period September 1989 to December 1995, 62 references were made by establishments using sound recordings.

Following lengthy legal proceedings before the High Court and Supreme Court, which I outlined in last years report, I was able to appoint an arbitrator, who was agreed upon by the copyright licensing body and the legal representative of the establishments involved in the references. The arbitrator was appointed on 15 July, 1996 and his award was originally expected before the end of June 1998. However, the matter was still pending at the end of 2000.

New Copyright Legislation

The Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000 was signed into law in July, 2000. By Ministerial Order of 13 December, 2000, the commencement date for the Act was set for 1 January, 2001. This Act effects a comprehensive reform of Irish copyright law. It brings Ireland into full compliance with its obligations under international intellectual property law, and transposes into Irish law a number of European Union directives in the area of copyright and related rights. Among the notable features of the Act are the provision, for the first time in Irish law, of comprehensive protection for performers' rights and rights in performances, and the enactment of a new scheme of statutory protection for databases. I mentioned earlier in this report some of the functions which the Act assigns to me, for the discharge of which I have sought new staff.

INTERNATIONAL MATTERS

European Patent Organisation

During 2000 the Office continued to participate in the work of the major decision making organ of the European Patent Organisation, (E.P.O.) viz. The Administrative Council, and in the activities of a number of its subsidiary committees and working parties.

My term as Chairman of the Administrative Council of the EPO concluded with a meeting of the Council which took place in Dublin in February 2000. At this meeting the Council decided to convene a Diplomatic Conference to revise the European Patent Convention (EPC). This Conference was held in Munich between 20 and 29 November 2000 and had as its aim the modernisation and updating of elements of the European patent system in light of experience since the inception of the EPC, some 30 years ago. Amongst the changes in the Convention which were adopted by the Conference were

- provisions enabling the Administrative Council to amend certain provisions of the Convention (including those concerning patentability of inventions and certain procedural and appeals provisions) subject to specified conditions, to bring them into line with E.U. legislation and international treaties on patents. This was considered to be a less cumbersome procedure than the holding of regular Diplomatic Conferences.
- a provision stipulating that conferences at ministerial level be held at intervals of 5 years.
- the introduction of a centralised post-grant procedure before the EPO which would allow proprietors of European patents the option of limiting the protection afforded by their patents, thereby obviating the need to go through

limitation proceedings before each national patent office.

- in the interest of streamlining the European grant procedure the Conference adopted amendments providing for search and examination to be brought together. Up until now, search and examination have generally been spread over a number of different EPO locations and carried out separately by different patent examiners. Progress in IT services and particularly in the electronic storage and retrieval of documentation has meant that there is no longer any need to separate the two tasks.
- the Conference also adopted provisions to create the legal basis for special agreements between the contracting states concerning the translation of European patents and the introduction, should it be considered desirable, of a Common European Patent Court.

In my 1999 report, I referred to the commencement of the development of *epoline*® which is the Internet based process by which the EPO aims to improve both the efficiency of the European Patent Office and its service to the intellectual property community by providing a secure and integrated environment for electronic communication between the EPO and patent applicants, their representatives and the national patent offices of the European Patent Convention (EPC) contracting states.

Five priorities for the initial development under *epoline*® have been identified:

- Online Filing
- Online File Inspection
- Search Report Dispatch

- Fee Payment and Management of Deposit Account
- Electronic Exchange of Priority Documents

During 2000 work on the online filing project had advanced to the point where the first Online Filing of a European Patent Application to the EPO, via the Internet took place on 8 December 2000. My Office hopes to be able to take advantage of the work carried out by the EPO in the context of developing its own e-business strategy.

Inter-Governmental Conference

A follow-up intergovernmental conference (IGC) to that held in Paris in June 1999, was held in London in October 2000. During this IGC the following actions were taken :

- The working party on cost reduction (established under the 1999 IGC) presented an optional agreement on the application of Article 65 of the European Patent Convention the object of which is to reduce translation costs for applicants by as much as 50%. Under this agreement, signatory states whose official language is one of the 3 official languages of the European Patent Office (English, French and German) would not require any post-grant translation of the patent specification. The remaining signatory states would nominate one official language of the EPO in which the description in the specification would have to be made available; and only the claims would have to be translated into the language of each designated signatory state. In all cases, signatory states would be entitled to require a full translation in the event of enforcement of the patent. Entry into force of the agreement is subject to ratification by at least 8 contracting states of the European Patent Convention including the 3 in which the highest number of European patents took effect in 1999 viz. France, Germany and the UK. 8 EPC contracting states including 2 (Germany, UK) of the 3 which must sign for the agreement to

come into effect, did so at the IGC. Ireland has not yet signed the agreement and the question of our becoming party to it is under consideration.

- Regarding harmonisation of European patent litigation, it was recommended that contracting states render it possible, if necessary, for an arbitration body to examine the validity of a patent in the event of arbitration on the infringement of the patent, and to accept this arbitration subject to certain conditions. It was agreed that a sub-committee of the working party on litigation (established under the 1999 IGC) would produce a draft agreement on the settlement of litigation. The working party on litigation was mandated to consider the sub-committee's draft and to submit to Governments, by end-2001, an optional agreement on post-grant litigation.

European Union

The EU Commission adopted and published in August 2000 a proposal for a Council Regulation on the Community Patent. The draft Regulation, based on Article 308 of the EC Treaty, provides for the creation of a unitary patent covering the entire territory of the Community. It is intended that the European Patent Office, which already grants patents under the European Patent Convention, will be the agency for granting Community patents. The Community patent system will co-exist with existing European and national systems. It is proposed that costs will be reduced by not requiring translation of the Community patent once it has been granted in 1 of the 3 official languages of the European Patent Office. In addition, it is proposed that a new centralised judicial system specialising in patent matters will be set up within the framework of the European Court of Justice to deal with questions relating to validity and infringement of the Community patent.

Discussions on the Commission's proposed Directive approximating the legal arrangements for the protection of inventions by utility model

were suspended in March 2000 until further notice, owing to disagreement among Member States on fundamental aspects of the proposal.

Ireland transposed Directive 98/44/EC of the European Parliament and the Commission on the Legal Protection of Biotechnological Inventions (the "Biotech Directive") by the due date i.e. 30 July 2000. The Directive aims to clarify and harmonise legal provisions in the Member States indicating what is and what is not patentable with regard to biotechnology inventions.

The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)

Representatives from 150 countries, including Ireland, attended a diplomatic conference in

Geneva in May/June which adopted the new Patent Law Treaty (PLT) which will come into force once it has been ratified by 10 WIPO member states. The purpose of the treaty is to harmonise the formal requirements for patent applications set by national and regional patent offices, and to streamline the procedures for obtaining and maintaining a patent. The treaty sets out global rules for patent offices on issues such as obtaining a filing date for patent applications, electronic filing, representation of patent applicants, conditions for extension of time limits, and restoration of rights and priority claims. The issue of Ireland's becoming party to the treaty is under consideration.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Responsibility for the provision of IT services at the Office, and the funding of the expenditure involved, rests with the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

The first task for the Office's IT Unit in 2000 was to ensure the smooth rollover into the new millennium of all computer applications and office automation tools. I am happy to report the Office did not experience any difficulties as a result of the date change to the Year 2000.

The live implementation of the Office's new Trade Mark and Patent administration system (Ptolemy) in December 1999, required that during 2000 substantial effort and resources would be targeted at refining and enhancing the system. Numerous changes were implemented during the year and a major upgrade - Ptolemy Version II, is scheduled for delivery in early 2001.

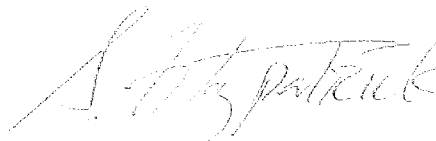
Other significant projects under development during 2000 included a Community Trade Mark (CTM) Search System and a total revamp of the Ptolemy Public Search System. The CTM System will enable the Office to resume searching of CTM applications thereby earning

substantial additional income; the Public Search System allows the visiting public and dial-in users to access the Office's databases for viewing of registers and searching.

The Office's web-site was launched during the year and provides extensive information on all aspects of Intellectual Property.

Preparatory work was also started on a number of E-Commerce initiatives. Submissions have been made to the Department of Finance for the necessary funding and staff to enable these projects to proceed.

These recent developments and planned initiatives will ensure that the Office continues to provide it's customers and the general public with the most up-to-date and efficient facilities and services.



**S. FITZPATRICK,
CONTROLLER.**

Dated this 16th day of May, 2001.

APPENDIX A

STAFF SERVING AT 31 DECEMBER 2000

Number	Staff
1	Controller
2	Assistant Principal
1	Senior Patent Examiner
7	Higher Executive Officer
1	HEO/Systems Analyst
3	Patent Examiner
20	Executive Officer
5	Staff Officer
34.5	Clerical Officer (including 1 temporary CO)
1	Services Officer
75.5	

APPENDIX A (contd.)

STAFF SERVING AT 31st DECEMBER 2000

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

1 Assistant Principal

**Finance & Customer
Services**
1 H.E.O.

Finance
1 E.O.
1 C.O.

Dublin Information Centre
1 S.O.
3 C.O.

Kilkenny Information Centre
1 S.O.
1 C.O.

Post & Applications
4 C.O.

Office Services
1 E.O.
3 C.O.
1 Services Officer

Grants & Registration
1 H.E.O.

Patents
1 E.O.
5 C.O.

Trade Marks
1 E.O.
5 C.O.
1 C.O. (temp)

Maintenance
1 H.E.O.

Patents
1 E.O.
2 S.O.
3.5 C.O.

Trade Marks
1 S.O.
4 C.O.

TRAINING

1 E.O.

APPENDIX A (contd.)

PATENT EXAMINATION DIVISION

1 Senior Examiner

3 Examiner

TRADE MARKS EXAMINATION DIVISION

1 Assistant Principal

1 H.E.O.
Senior Examiner

1 H.E.O.
Senior Examiner

1 H.E.O.
Senior Examiner

1 H.E.O.

5 E.O.
Examiner

5 E.O.
Examiner

1 E.O.
Examiner
(Trademark Support
Unit)

Opposition
1 E.O.
1 C.O.

Search
2 C.O.

Madrid Protocol
Pre-ratification
preparatory work
1 E.O.

I.T. UNIT

1 H.E.O. Systems Analyst

1 E.O.

1 C.O.

APPENDIX B

RECEIPTS

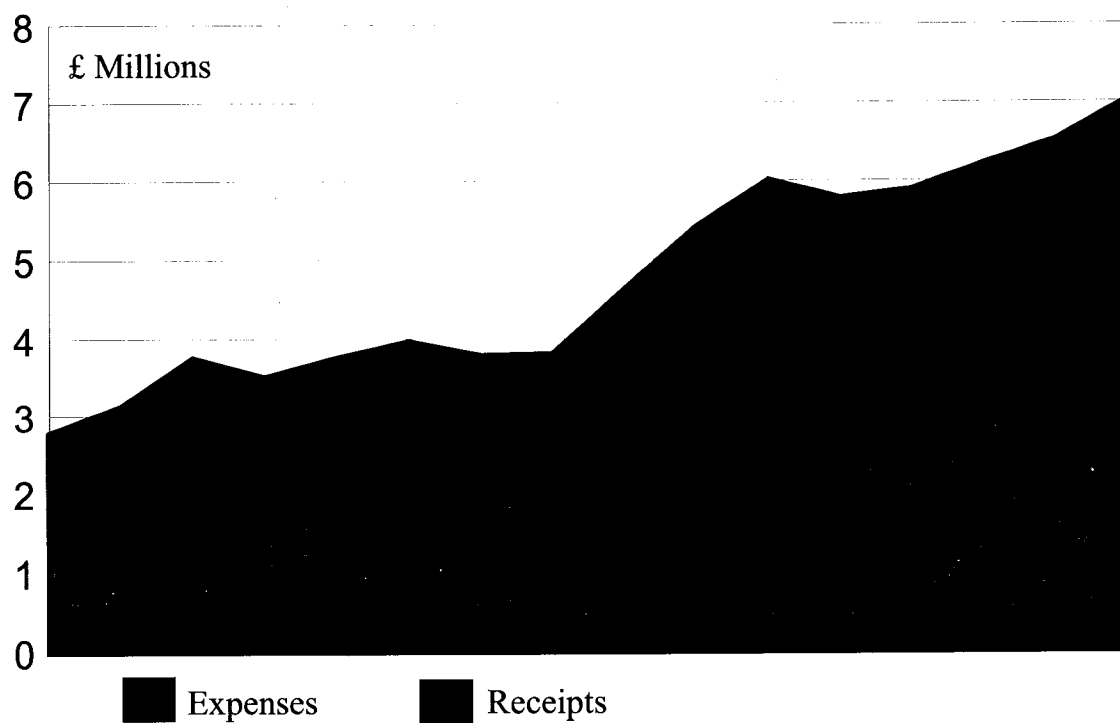
	£	€
Patent Fees	3,794,864.65	4,818,484.15
Design Fees	71,653.32	90,980.95
Trade Mark Fees	2,591,400.71	3,290,400.16
Registration of Patent Agents	4,400.00	5,586.85
Registration of Trade Mark Agents	30,892.87	39,225.85
Sales of Stationery Office Publications	11,564.70	14,684.14
SPC Applications	2,175.00	2,761.68
PCT Search Fees received for transfer to EPO, Munich	115,937.67	147,210.47
PCT Basic and Designation Fees received for transfer to WIPO, Geneva	137,308.47	174,345.79
Total	6,760,197.39	8,583,680.04

EXPENSES

	£	€
Salaries	1,517,977.88	1,927,434.32
Superannuation Charges	58,577.43	74,377.99
Cost of services rendered by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment	47,874.02	60,787.47
Printing, Binding, etc.	54,872.15	69,673.26
Telephones	44,264.76	56,204.65
Postal Services	7,285.80	9,251.06
Refunds made in respect of Patents and Trade Mark fees paid in error	55,887.41	70,962.37
Subscriptions to Industrial Property Unions	435,425.08	552,875.80
Expenses of Representation at International Meetings and Travelling	41,413.70	52,584.55
Law Reporting and Legal Costs	26,537.42	33,695.59
Maintenance of Buildings, Rents, Rates, Heating, Furniture, etc.	53,642.49	68,111.91
Office Machinery, Computer Equipment, Stationary, etc.	512,466.85	650,698.67
Miscellaneous Payments	1,628.75	2,068.09
PCT Search Fees transferred to EPO, Munich	115,937.61	147,210.40
PCT Basic and Designation Fees transferred to WIPO, Geneva	137,308.47	174,345.79
Proportion of Renewal Fees for European Patents transferred to EPO	492,008.31	624,721.69
Total	3,603,108.13	4,575,003.59

APPENDIX B (contd.)

Receipts & Expenses 1985 - 2000



APPENDIX C

APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF APPLICANT

COUNTRY	PATENTS		TRADE MARKS		DESIGNS	
	No. of Applications	Percentage of total No.	No. of Applications	Percentage of total No.	No. of Applications	Percentage of total No.
REP. OF IRELAND	925	85.73	1258	26.31	147	26.34
ANDORRA			1	0.02		
ARGENTINA			4	0.08		
AUSTRALIA	4	0.37	24	0.50	5	0.90
AUSTRIA			22	0.46		
BAHAMAS			1	0.02	1	0.18
BELGIUM	2	0.19	40	0.84	9	1.61
BERMUDA			5	0.10		
BRAZIL			2	0.04		
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS			1	0.02	5	0.90
CAYMEN ISLANDS			2	0.04		
CANADA	1	0.09	22	0.46		
CHILE			43	0.08		
CHINA			5	0.10		
CROATIA			1	0.02		
CYPRUS	3	0.28	3	0.06		
CZECH REP.			12	0.25		
DENMARK			10	0.21		
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC			1	0.02		
ESTONIA					1	0.18
FINLAND	2	0.19	7	0.15	6	1.08
FRANCE	8	0.74	451	9.43	31	5.56
GERMANY	3	0.28	572	11.96	70	12.54
GIBRALTAR	1	0.09				
HONG KONG			6	0.13	3	0.54
ICELAND	1	0.09	6	0.13		
INDIA	5	0.46	1	0.02		
ISRAEL	2	0.19			1	0.18
ITALY	1	0.09	86	1.80	12	2.33
JAPAN	4	0.37	67	1.40	5	0.90
KOREA (Republic)			10	0.21		

APPENDIX C (contd.)

APPLICATIONS ACCORDING TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF APPLICANT

COUNTRY	PATENTS		TRADE MARKS		DESIGNS	
	No. of Applications	Percentage of total No.	No. of Applications	Percentage of total No.	No. of Applications	Percentage of total No.
LIECHTENSTEIN			1	0.02	1	0.18
LUXEMBOURG			41	0.86	3	0.54
MALAYSIA			2	0.04		
MEXICO			2	0.04		
MONACO			3	0.06		
NETHERLANDS	2	0.19	215	4.50	26	4.66
NETHERLANDS ANTILLES			1	0.02		
NEW ZEALAND			7	0.15	1	0.18
NORWAY			25	0.52		
PAKISTAN			1	0.02	5	0.90
POLAND			8	0.17		
PORTUGAL			12	0.25		
PUERTO RICO			3	0.06		
RUSSIAN FEDERATION			4	0.08		
SIERRA LEONE			1	0.02		
SINGAPORE	1	0.09	5	0.10		
SLOVENIA			4	0.08		
SOUTH AFRICA			15	0.31		
SPAIN	3	0.28	30	0.63	12	2.15
SWEDEN	1	0.09	43	0.90	11	1.97
SWITZERLAND	3	0.28	306	6.40	2	0.36
SYRIA	2	0.19				
TAIWAN			2	0.04		
THAILAND			2	0.04		
TURKS & CAICOS ISLDS			1	0.02		
TURKEY			4	0.08	8	1.43
UKRAINE			1	0.02		
UNITED KINGDOM	59	5.47	654	13.68	61	10.93
USA	43	3.99	762	15.94	131	23.66
VIETNAM			1	0.02		
WEST INDIES	3	0.28	1	0.02	3	0.54
TOTAL	1079	100	4781	100	558	100

APPENDIX D

PATENTS GRANTED AND DESIGNS AND TRADEMARKS REGISTERED ACCORDING TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF PATENTEE OR PROPRIETOR

COUNTRY	PATENTS		TRADE MARKS		DESIGNS	
	No. Granted	Percentage of Total No.	No. Registered	Percentage of Total No.	No. Registered	Percentage of Total No.
REP. OF IRELAND	221	48.46	1371	18.87	194	32.55
ANDORRA			1	0.01		
ANTILLES (Netherlands)			17	0.23	2	0.34
ARGENTINA			5	0.07		
AUSTRALIA	3	.66	29	0.40	8	1.34
AUSTRIA			16	0.22		
BAHAMAS			5	0.07		
BARBADOS			3	0.04		
BELGIUM	2	.44	76	1.05	5	0.84
BELIZE			1	0.01		
BERMUDA			8	0.11		
BRAZIL			6	0.08	2	0.34
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLS.			3	0.04		
BULGARIA			1	0.01		
CANADA	3	.66	40	0.55	1	0.17
CAYMAN ISLS.			3	0.04		
CENTRAL AFRICAN REP.			1	0.01		
CHILE			13	0.18		
CHINA			17	0.23		
COLOMBIA			1	0.01		
CUBA			2	0.03		
CYPRUS			1	0.01		
ESTONIA				0.00	1	0.17
CZECH REP.	1	.22	3	0.04		
DENMARK	3	.66	41	0.56	1	0.17
DOMINICAN REP.			4	0.06		
FINLAND	1	.22	11	0.15	3	0.50
FRANCE	7	1.54	797	10.97	30	5.03
GERMANY	23	5.04	1109	15.27	66	11.07
GIBRALTAR			5	0.07		
GREECE			2	0.03		
HONG KONG			7	0.10	1	0.17
HUNGARY			6	0.08		
ICELAND			1	0.01		

APPENDIX D (contd.)

PATENTS GRANTED AND DESIGNS AND TRADEMARKS REGISTERED ACCORDING TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF PATENTEE OR PROPRIETOR

COUNTRY	PATENTS		TRADE MARKS		DESIGN	
	No. Granted	Percentage of Total No.	No. Registered	Percentage of Total No.	No. Registered	Percentage of Total No.
INDIA			5	0.07		
INDONESIA			1	0.01		
ISRAEL			5	0.07	1	0.17
ITALY	8	1.75	98	1.35	15	2.52
JAPAN	7	1.54	113	1.56	10	1.68
KOREA (Democratic Peoples Republic of)			2	0.03		
REPUBLIC OF KOREA			15	0.21		
LIECHTENSTEIN			15	0.21	1	0.17
LUXEMBOURG	2	.44	41	0.56	1	0.17
MALAYSIA			1	0.01		
MAURITIUS			2	0.03		
MEXICO			5	0.07		
MONACO			13	0.18		
NETHERLANDS	6	1.32	257	3.54	36	6.04
NEW ZEALAND					1	0.17
NORWAY			31	0.43	1	0.17
POLAND			1	0.01	5	0.84
PORTUGAL			23	0.32		
PUERTO RICO			7	0.10		
RUSSIAN FED.			2	0.03		
SINGAPORE			1	0.01		
SLOVENIA			3	0.04		
SOUTH AFRICA			22	0.30		
SPAIN	1	.22	68	0.94	3	0.50
SWEDEN	4	.88	82	1.13	25	4.19
SWITZERLAND	11	2.41	355	4.89	3	0.50
TAIWAN			1	0.01		
TURKEY			9	0.12		
UNITED KINGDOM	28	6.14	1273	17.52	68	11.41
USA	123	26.97	1206	16.60	112	18.79
VENEZUELA			1	0.01		
WEST INDIES	2	.44				
TOTAL:	456	100	7264	100	596	100.00

COMMENTARY ON THE PATENTS STATISTICS IN APPENDICES C & D

Appendix C indicates that applications for patents from applicants within the state accounted for 85.73% of the total applications for patents received during the year. As regards patents granted during the year, Appendix D indicates that grants to applicants within the state accounted for 48.46% of the total grants. These figures, taken in isolation, might tend to suggest that the level of innovative activity within the State is significantly greater than in any of the other countries listed in the Appendices. While the figures show precisely the outcome for 2000 in relation to applications received and patents granted, they should not be taken in isolation. To put them into the appropriate context it is necessary to recall that Ireland is a contracting party to the European Patent Convention and, under that convention, applications are made annually directly to the European Patent Office designating Ireland and patents are granted annually by the European Patent Office with effect in Ireland (the same effect as if they had been granted by my Office). Accordingly, when

account is taken of the Patent grants by the European Patent Office effective in the state in 2000, the following picture emerges:

Patents granted in 2000 having effect in the State

Granted by the Office	456
Granted by the EPO	<u>5916</u>
Total grants	6372

Percentage of total grants accounted for by applicants from within the State: 4%

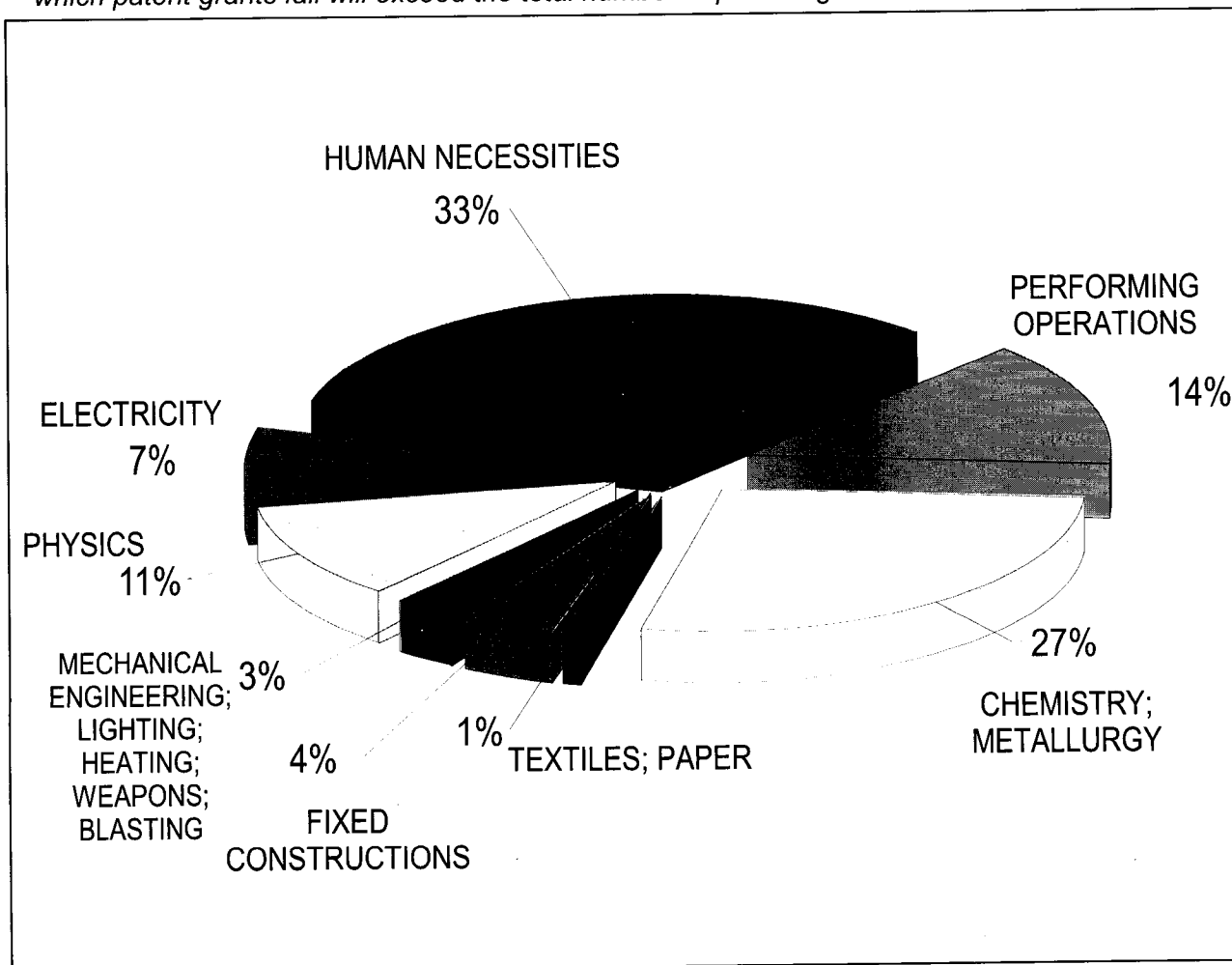
This situation is more akin to that which obtained in the years immediately preceding Irelands ratification of the European Patent Convention (which took effect from 1st August 1992.). At that time, applicants within the State accounted for some 3½% - 4½% of the total annual patents granted by the Office.

APPENDIX E

CLASSIFICATION OF PATENTS GRANTED BY THE OFFICE IN YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000 ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION	No of grants in Classification *
A. HUMAN NECESSITIES	203
B. PERFORMING OPERATIONS	92
C. CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY	175
D. TEXTILES; PAPER	5
E. FIXED CONSTRUCTIONS	26
F. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING; LIGHTING; HEATING; WEAPONS; BLASTING	22
G. PHYSICS	72
H. ELECTRICITY	44

* Because it is possible that an invention can have multiple uses, the number of classifications into which patent grants fall will exceed the total number of patents granted



APPENDIX F

RENEWAL FEES PAID TO KEEP PATENTS IN FORCE FOR YEARS 1991 TO 2000

Year Ending 31st December										
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
3rd year *	—	41	1,241	1,924	3,463	1,803	1,520	293	232	751
4th year *	—	41	1,238	1,882	3,424	2,142	2,019	848	486	962
5th yer	855	684	1,296	1,874	3,097	2,026	2,955	1,924	1,218	1,906
6th year	853	683	1,296	1,831	2,635	1,606	2,253	2,644	1,840	2,972
7th year	861	668	1,303	1,698	1,817	1,560	1,550	1,726	1,847	3,454
8th year	848	666	1,384	1,188	1,362	1,280	1,446	1,140	637	3,488
9th year	982	643	1,254	756	1,032	1,143	1,216	1,171	639	1,951
10th year	945	944	885	641	879	880	1,052	994	667	1,105
11th year	731	856	765	565	742	769	814	915	563	1,078
12th year	648	684	643	490	666	678	696	725	550	910
13th year	522	589	520	420	579	602	627	623	408	821
14th year	437	448	447	321	503	504	555	550	357	647
15th year	371	416	370	288	370	439	466	495	275	531
16th year	328	321	295	239	312	319	413	411	271	473
17th year*	—	113	248	169	281	281	300	362	239	413
18th year**	—	—	93	165	221	246	247	270	198	348
19th year***	—	—	—	55	185	183	220	217	151	290
20th year****	—	—	—	—	64	158	164	185	114	207
	8,381	7,797	13,269	14,506	21,632	16,619	18,513	15,493	10,746	22,307

* Patent renewal fees not payable in respect of 3rd, 4th and 17th years prior to 1 August 1992.

** Patent renewal fees not payable in respect of 18th year prior to 1 August 1993.

*** Patent renewal fees not payable in respect of 19th year prior to 1 August 1994.

**** Patent renewal fees not payable in respect of 20th year prior to 1 August 1995.

APPENDIX G

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF GOODS AND SERVICES INTO WHICH MARKS REGISTERED IN 2000 FALL

Class	Classification of Goods	No of marks in classification
01	Chemical Products, etc.	233
02	Paints, etc.	109
03	Bleaching Preparations, etc.	741
04	Industrial Oils, etc.	40
05	Pharmaceutical Substances, etc.	901
06	Unwrought and Partly Wrought Common Metals and their Alloys	108
07	Machines and Machine Tools, etc.	107
08	Hand Tools and Instruments, Cutlery, etc.	25
09	Scientific Apparatus and Instruments, etc.	727
10	Surgical Instruments, etc.	162
11	Installations for Lighting, etc.	76
12	Vehicles; Apparatus for Locomotion by Land, Air or Water	206
13	Firearms, Ammunition and Projectiles; Explosive Substances; Fireworks	9
14	Precious Metals and their Alloys, etc.	87
15	Musical Instruments (other than talking machines and wireless apparatus)	2
16	Paper, etc.	291
17	Gutta Percha, India Rubber, etc.	38
18	Leather, etc.	70
19	Building Materials, etc.	55
20	Furniture, etc.	49
21	Small Domestic Utensils, etc.	45
22	Ropes, etc.	3
23	Yarns, Threads	6
24	Tissues (piece goods), etc.	21
25	Clothing, including Boots, Shoes and Slippers	268
26	Lace and Embroidery, etc.	3
27	Carpets, etc.	8
28	Games, etc.	62
29	Meat, Fish, Poultry and Game, etc.	373
30	Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, Sugar, Rice, etc.	390
31	Agricultural Products, etc.	79
32	Beer, etc.	113
33	Wines, Spirits and Liqueurs	132
34	Tobacco, etc.	82
35	Advertising, Business Management, etc.	203
36	Insurance, Financial Affairs, etc.	194
37	Building Construction, Repair, Installation Services.	48
38	Telecommunications	53
39	Transport, Packaging and Storage of Goods, etc.	96
40	Treatment of Materials	20
41	Education, Entertainment, etc.	118
42	Providing of Food & Drink, Legal Services, Services that cannot be Classified in Other Classes	137

APPENDIX H

DESIGNS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2000 LISTED ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION

Class	Classification	Designs Registered
01	Foodstuffs	17
02	Articles of Clothing and Haberdashery	17
03	Travel Goods, Cases, Parasols and Personal Belongings, not elsewhere specified	14
04	Brushware	11
05	Textile Piecegood Articles, Artificial and Natural Sheet Material	6
06	Furnishings	46
07	Household Goods, not elsewhere specified	30
08	Tools and Hardware	25
09	Packages and Containers for the Transport or Handling of Goods	89
10	Clocks and Watches and other Measuring Instruments, Checking and Signalling Instruments	7
11	Articles of Adornment	39
12	Means of Transport or Hoisting	19
13	Equipment for Production, Distribution or Transformation of Electricity	26
14	Recording, Communication or Information Retrieval Equipment	56
15	Machines, not elsewhere specified	6
16	Photographic, Cinematographic and Optical Apparatus	1
17	Musical Instruments	0
18	Printing and Office Machinery	0
19	Stationery and Office Equipment, Artists' and Teaching Materials	23
20	Sales and Advertising Equipment, Signs	13
21	Games, Toys, Tents and Sports Goods	22
22	Arms, Pyrotechnic Articles, Articles for Hunting, Fishing and Pest Killing	0
23	Fluid Distribution Equipment, Sanitary, Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning Equipment, Solid Fuel	49
24	Medical and Laboratory Equipment	21
25	Building Units and Construction Elements	20
26	Lighting Apparatus	16
27	Tobacco and Smokers' Supplies	3
28	Pharmaceutical Products and Cosmetic Products, Toilet Articles and Apparatus	12
29	Devices and Equipment Against Fire Hazards, for Accident Prevention and for Rescue	0
30	Articles for the Care and Handling of Animals	1
31	Machines and Appliances for Preparing Food or Drink, not elsewhere specified	3
99	Miscellaneous	4
	TOTAL	596

APPENDIX I

ENACTMENTS AND STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Statutory Instruments

Trade Marks

Trade Marks Act, 1996 (Residence of Trade Mark Agents) Regulations, 2000 (S.I. No. 34 of 2000).

Trade Marks Act, 1996 (Community Trade Mark) Regulations, 2000 (S.I. No. 229 of 2000).

Patents

European Communities (Legal Protection of Biotechnological Inventions) Regulations 2000 (S.I. No. 247 of 2000.)

This instrument implements in Irish law the provisions of EU Directive 98/44/EC on the Legal Protection of Biotechnological inventions.

Copyright

The Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000. (The Act, excepting only sections 98, 198, 199 and 247 enters into force on and from 1st January, 2001).

S.I. No. 404 of 2000

Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000 (Commencement) Order, 2000.

S.I. No. 405 of 2000

Copyright and Related Rights (Recording of Broadcasts and Cable Programmes for Archival Purposes) (Designated Bodies and Classes) Order, 2000.

S.I. No. 406 of 2000

Copyright and Related Rights (Provision of Modified Works) (Designated Bodies) Order, 2000.

S.I. No. 407 of 2000

Copyright and Related Rights (Recording for Purposes of Time-Shifting) Order, 2000.

S.I. No. 408 of 2000

Copyright and Related Rights (Works of Folklore) (Designated Bodies) Order, 2000.

S.I. No. 409 of 2000

Copyright and Related Rights (Educational Establishments and Establishments to Which Members of the Public have Access) Order, 2000

S.I. No. 410 of 2000

Copyright and Related Rights (Educational Establishments) Order, 2000.

S.I. No. 411 of 2000

Copyright and Related Rights (Material Open to Public Inspection) (International Organisations) Order, 2000

S.I. No. 427 of 2000

Copyright and Related Rights (Librarians and Archivists) (Copying of Protected Material) Regulations, 2000.

