Infrastructure for Patent Information Utilization

January 2015

The Korean Intellectual Property Office
1. PI Policy and Afterwards

2. KIPO’s Activities
   1. What to Share: intermediate documents, legal Status, citation
   2. How to Share: in bulk, via API or LOD
   3. How to Support Utilization: Applicant Name Standardization

3. Next Steps
1. PI Policy and Afterwards

- **(PI Policy)** The IP5 Offices adopted the Patent Information (PI) policy in order to facilitate the efficient use of patent information by the general public. They also agreed to disseminate patent information in XML, including bibliographic data and English abstracts, beginning on July 1, 2014.

- **(Users’ needs)** Examination and trial information created during the Offices’ internal processing, as well as legal status information containing patent right histories that extend all the way from registration to expiry, are precious to private companies in terms of helping them establish their own Intellectual Property (IP) strategies.

- **(KIPO’s efforts)** That is why KIPO has continuously endeavored to provide better patent information to individuals and companies, and in formats that are more and more convenient for them to use.
(What Information to Share) KIPO currently provides the general public with high value-added information created during its administrative procedures, as well as data submitted by applicants. This data is provided in text format so that it can be easily used.

- **Intermediate documents** are created during the examination process for determining the existence of innovative step, novelty, and industrial applicability among patent applications, and they are used for understanding the core elements of the technologies involved. Written opinions and decisions of rejection are to be made publically available in 2015 via KIPRISPlus.

- **Legal status information** pertains to the status of IP rights (e.g., the granting or termination of rights) and is useful for establishing IP strategies and preventing patent disputes. This information is currently made available through KIPRISPlus, both in bulk or via API.

- **Citation information** is the main method for connecting applications to related technologies. Citation information is also useful for analyzing the patent portfolios of a company and its competitors. This citation information currently made available through KIPRISPlus, both in bulk or via API.
(How to Share) KIPO has three modes for providing the general public with its IP information: in bulk, or via API or LOD. Bulk data is not altered after its original creation, so it can be easily provided and is commonly used worldwide. However, it might differ somewhat from real-time data, which is why KIPO provides its customers with a data retrieval API that can be linked with their own patent management system.

Whenever data is made available in bulk or via API, users are completely responsible for the utilization of this data. However, it is often difficult for individual applicants or small and medium-sized enterprises to produce high value-added information by linking together a variety of data (for example, linking academic data with patent information). This is why KIPO strives to provide more interoperable raw data that complies with the LOD (Linked Open Data) standard and can be connected to other LODs.
<Comparison of How Users Access Published Data>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bulk data</th>
<th>API</th>
<th>LOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Users must save data to their own storage devices. Linkage with other types of data will not be done automatically.</td>
<td>Users are required to adapt the API to their own system and then frequently revise the API. In order to link with other types of data, users need to develop additional functionalities.</td>
<td>On the Web, users can query data that can be automatically connected to other types of data.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. KIPO’s Activities : How to Support Utilization (1)

- (How to Support Utilization) **Applicant Name Standardization reduces Patent Information search confusion caused when applicants use multiple versions of their names**
  - KIPO Completed the standardization of applicant names for applications and disseminated the relevant DB to the public
  - In the past, SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD. reserved 23 applicant names through KIPO, including SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD., SAMSUNG INDUSTRY ELECTRONICS CO., LTD., etc., before Applicant Name Standardization was completed.
2. KIPO’s Activities : How to Support Utilization (2)

- **(Management of Applicant Information)** Whenever an applicant sends an office an information correction request, the information can automatically be shared and updated throughout all the systems of the IP5 Offices.
  
  - A single request for correction can simultaneously alter the relevant information in all IP5 Offices.

1. Make a request for correction
2. Update applicant information
3. Connection among IP5 Offices
4. Update applicant information
5. Notify of the completion of correction
   
   The Other IP5 Offices
Patent information should be provided in a manner that makes it easier for industry to use.

Infrastructure for Patent Information Utilization

- **(What to Share)** intermediate documents, legal status information, and citation information
- **(How to Share)** in text format, in bulk, and via API or LOD
- **(How to Support Utilization)** Standardized Applicant Name, Applicant Information Management
Thank You