STANDARD ST.10/C

DECEMBER 2005 CHANGES

STANDARD ST.10/C

PRESENTATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA COMPONENTS

Editorial Note prepared by the International Bureau

The Standard and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT) adopted the revisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Standard ST.10/C at its fifth session on November 11, 2004. These revisions incorporate changes made necessary by the IPC reform initiative.

Industrial property offices are asked to implement the new versions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Standard ST.10/C for all patent documents with a publication date from January 1, 2006, onwards. For patent documents published prior to that date, the previous text of paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Standard should continue to be used.

The previous versions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Standard ST.10/C, valid until December 31, 2005, are reproduced in the Annex to the new Standard ST.10/C.

STANDARD ST.10/C

PRESENTATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA COMPONENTS

Revision adopted by the SCIT Standards and Documentation Working Group
at its fifth session on November 11, 2004

PRESENTATION OF DATES

1.   For the representation of calendar dates according to the Gregorian calendar, which are printed or displayed in industrial property documents, in entries in official gazettes or in electronic records, WIPO Standard ST.2 is applicable.

PRESENTATION OF CLASSIFICATION SYMBOLS

2.   The recommended abbreviation of the International Patent Classification is "Int.Cl.". The current version indicator of the core level (year) has to be placed in round brackets after the abbreviation "Int.Cl.", if the document is classified, at least partly, using the core level. Most offices will classify a given document only in one level, i.e. only in the advanced level or only in the core level (see examples 3a and 3b).

The recommended presentation of classification symbols in printed or formatted display form is as follows:

–   classification symbols are presented in a tabular form, in such a manner as to facilitate machine transcription;

–   when classifying using the core level classification, IPC symbols are printed or displayed in regular font style, and when classifying using the advanced level classification, IPC symbols are printed or displayed in italics;

–   the invention information symbols are printed or displayed in bold font style and the non-invention information symbols in regular;

–   when classifying using the advanced level classification, the version indicator for each IPC symbol, indicating when this symbol was created or substantially revised at the advanced level (year, month), is placed in round brackets after each IPC symbol.

3.   Sample representations of IPC classification symbols and indicators are given below for the same document when classified using the advanced level, the core level or both the advanced level and the core level.

(a)   When classified in the advanced level:

Int. Cl.
B28B 5/00 (2006.01)
B28B 1/29 (2007.04)
H05B 3/18 (2008.07)

Where: ***B28B 5/00***   indicates invention information (bold font style) classified using the advanced level classification (italics font style);

B28B 1/29   indicates invention information (bold font style) classified using the advanced level classification (italics font style);

H05B 3/18   indicates non-invention information (regular font style, i.e., non-bold) classified using the advanced level classification (italics font style).

(b)   When classified in the core level:

> Int. Cl. (2006)
> **B28B 5/00**
> **B28B 1/00**
> H05B 3/10

Where: **B28B 5/00**   indicates invention information (bold font style) classified using the core level classification (regular font style, i.e., non-italics);

B28B 1/00   indicates invention information (bold font style) classified using the core level classification (regular font style, i.e., non-italics);

H05B 3/10   indicates non-invention information (regular font style, i.e., non-bold) classified using the core level classification (regular font style, i.e., non-italics).

(c)   When invention information is classified in the advanced level and non-invention information in the core level:

> Int. Cl. (2006)
> *B28B 5/00* (2006.01)
> *B28B 1/29* (2007.04)
> H05B 3/10

Where: *B28B 5/00*   indicates invention information (bold font style) classified using the advanced level classification (italics font style);

B28B 1/29   indicates invention information (bold font style) classified using the advanced level classification (italics font style);

H05B 3/10   indicates non-invention information (regular font style, i.e., non-bold) classified using the core level classification (regular font style, i.e., non-italics).

IPC symbols are defined in Part 5 of the WIPO *Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation* and in the latest version of the Guide to the IPC.

This presentation is effective beginning with the January 1, 2006, edition of the IPC.[*]

4.   The recommended abbreviation of the International Classification for Industrial Designs is "LOC". According to the recommendation of the Committee of Experts of the Locarno Union, the edition of the Classification should be indicated by an Arabic numeral in parentheses, e.g., LOC (6) Cl. 8-05. Classification symbols should be presented with all elements of a given symbol contained in the same line, preferably in such a manner as to facilitate machine transcription. If the numbers of several classes or subclasses must be indicated for one and the same subject matter, the classes should be separated by semicolons and subclasses by commas (for example, LOC (6) Cl. 8-05, 08; 11-01).

PRESENTATION OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

5.   Experience has shown the need for application numbers to be presented in a clear, unambiguous manner. The considerations given below apply equally to all presentations of application numbers of patent documents whether to the application number accorded to the application filed in the issuing industrial property office or that filed in the priority country or with an organization.

6.   The presentation of the application number should preferably be:

(a)   exactly in the manner used by the country or organization concerned in full, or

(b)   abbreviated to the minimum significant part, enabling the application to be uniquely identified.

7.   When the application number is abbreviated to the minimum significant part (deletion of letters and numerals given by the country or organization concerned for internal or special purposes such as check digits, classification marks, etc.), a need exists for a more uniform presentation thereof, in particular when information presented on the first page of patent documents is composed for printing (e.g., typeset, photocomposed, retyped, etc.). An application number, as represented by the country or organization concerned, may therefore be represented in a more uniform manner using the following rules:

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[*]   See "Editorial Note by the International Bureau" on the cover page.

(a)   if the number contains a full stop, a comma, or perhaps a space, one or more of these characters or spaces may be omitted. One or more of these characters or spaces may be inserted for the sake of legibility;

(b)   if the number contains a slash or a hyphen, these characters must be retained. A hyphen may be replaced by a slash;

(c)   the sequence of characters should be left in its original order, e.g., the digits indicating the year of filing of the application must be printed in their original positions;

(d)   no character or set of characters forming the minimum significant part of the application number, other than those characters mentioned in subparagraphs (a) and (b), above, should be altered, e.g.:

(i)   the year of the Emperor's reign appearing in Japanese application numbers should not be altered according to the Gregorian calendar;

(ii)   no infilling zeros should be removed or added, e.g., 74/0069 should not be printed as 74/69 or 74/00069;

(e)   in the case of a utility model application number, a letter or set of characters may be used by the country or organization concerned for uniquely defining the application. The letter or set of characters should be removed and the letter "U" inserted after the application number, separated by two blank spaces. The words "utility model" may be added in the plain language of the publishing country or organization;

(f)   year designations according to the Gregorian calendar should be represented by four digits;

(g)   in the case of PCT application numbers, the alphanumeric string consisting of the letters "PCT", the two-letter code identifying the receiving office, and the year, is a significant part of the application number and must not be omitted.

For guidance, two tables setting out the form of presentation of application numbers currently used by several countries or organizations, the minimum significant part of the numbers and the recommended presentation in abbreviated form as priority application numbers, are given in the Appendix to this Standard.

IDENTIFICATION OF COUNTRIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES ISSUING OR REGISTERING PATENT DOCUMENTS

8.   Two-letter codes according to WIPO Standard ST.3 should be used when indicating:

(a)   the country, organization or other entity in which a convention priority application was filed;

(b)   the country, organization or other entity that published prior art patent documents; and

(c)   the country, organization or other entity publishing the patent document. The name of the country, organization or other entity publishing the patent document may be given in plain language, in addition to the ST.3 code, if so desired.

USE AND PRESENTATION OF CHECK DIGITS

9.   Check digits are used by several industrial property offices in relation to application numbers or publication numbers for the purposes of internal control. Different systems are in use by different industrial property offices. Most systems give rise to a single control character, either a numeral from "0" to "9" or a letter from "A" to "Z". It is clear that the control character has to be associated with the application number or with the publication number so as to facilitate its control function. However, the control character is not regarded as a significant part of the application number nor as a significant part of the publication number.

10.   In order to avoid confusion, it is recommended that the following rules be applied if industrial property offices wish to print a control character associated with an application number or with a publication number on patent documents or in official gazettes:

(a)   the control character should consist of a single numeral; letters should not be used so as to avoid confusion with WIPO Standard ST.16;

(b)   the control character should be printed immediately after the application number or publication number to which it refers but separated therefrom by a full stop or by a hyphen and preferably in a type font different from that used in the number to which it refers;

(c)   industrial property offices publishing control characters associated with application numbers or with publication numbers should publish in their official gazette information explaining their use, repeated at intervals of less than one year.

PRESENTATION OF PRIORITY APPLICATION NUMBERS

11.   Priority application numbers are provided to applicants by industrial property offices in the notifications of the first filing and in the certificates of priority under the Paris Convention. Priority application numbers are then cited by applicants when filing a subsequent application for the same or related subject matter before a subsequent industrial property office in accordance with the Paris Convention. The priority application number can then be used by industrial property offices to link all related patent document "families" together in databases and computerized search systems. This ability to create patent families is tremendously valuable to industrial property offices for examination purposes, for example, when a better date of filing is needed during the prosecution of a later unrelated application. Patent families also permit patent examiners to review previously published patent documents in a preferred language, if available. Patent families can help offices save significant classification resources (financial, staffing, etc.) by allowing industrial property offices to use the classifications of one patent family member for all members of the patent family.

These and other uses of patent families make the accurate recording of the priority application number by applicants a critical concern of all industrial property offices. Even small deviations from the correct priority application number format can cause patent documents to not be collected into a patent family. Correction of errors in priority data cause huge expense for industrial property offices. Therefore, it is critical that the provisions of this section of the standard be implemented by industrial property offices as soon as possible.

12.   (a)   In order to improve the quality of patent family data and to avoid confusion in the presentation of priority application numbers, the following recommendations are made:

Industrial property offices (IPOs) should always provide priority application number complying with "Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number" given in the Appendix to the Standard ST.10/C when presenting the application number of a patent document in the notification of the first filing and in the certificate of priority. The "Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number" should be presented with the Standard ST.3 code (preferably in a specified line or column along with the title "The country code (in case of the international organization, 'The organization code') and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is") to be easily recognized as priority number by other IPOs and applicants.

Example of presentation of "Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number":

  (i)   in case of the country:

> The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for
> filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is JP2000-001234

  (ii) in case of the international organization:

> The organization code and number of your priority application, to be
> used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is EP79100953

(b)   Industrial property offices should encourage and facilitate the compliance by applicants of paragraph 12(a) of the Standard ST.10/C when providing the priority application number in subsequent filings.

[Appendix follows]

APPENDIX

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
AM **ARMENIA**	P20020142	P20020142	20020142	P = letter code characterizing a patent application number. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application.
	U20020140	U20020140	20020140 U	U = letter code characterizing a utility model application number. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application.
AR **ARGENTINA**				Numbering system used for applications filed starting November 1, 1995.
	P950103456	P950103456	P950103456	P = letter code characterizing a patent application number. The first two digits indicate the last two digits of the year of filing of the application (ex.: 95 for the year 1995). The third and fourth digits indicate the receiving office code (ex.: 01). The last five digits represent an annual serial number assigned to the application.
	M950103456	M950103456	M950103456	M = letter code characterizing a utility model application number. The first two digits indicate the last two digits of the year of filing of the application (ex.: 95 for the year 1995). The third and fourth digits indicate the receiving office code (ex.: 01). The last five digits represent an annual series number assigned to the application.
AT **AUSTRIA**	A 1234/95 (old numbering system used until December 1999)	A 1234/95	1234/95	
	GM 123/95 (old numbering system used until December 1999)	GM 123/95	123/95 U	

Appendix, page 2

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
AT (cont'd)	A 733/2003 (new numbering system commencing on January 1, 2000)	A 733/2003	A 733/2003	A = letter code characterizing a patent application number.
				GM = letter code characterizing a utility model application number.
	GM158/2003 (new numbering system commencing on January 1, 2000)	GM158/2003	GM158/2003	An annual number sequence in ascending order starting with 1 is used both for patent applications and utility model applications.
AU **AUSTRALIA**	2002901123 (new numbering system commencing on July 05, 2002)	2002901123	2002901123	Provisional applications are given a 10-figure application number. The first four digits indicate the year of filing. The fifth digit "9" indicates that the filing is that of a provisional patent application. Digits in positions 6 to 10 are the allocated application number in the range 00000-99999.
	2002200345 (new numbering system commencing on July 05, 2002)	2002200345	2002200345	Standard applications are given a 10-figure application number. The first four digits indicate the year of filing. The fifth digit is in the range of "2-7" and indicates that the filing is that of a standard patent application. Digits in positions 6 to 10 are the allocated application number in the range 00000-99999.
	2001100123 (new numbering system commencing on May 24, 2001)	2001100123	2001100123	Innovation applications are given a 10-figure application number. The first four digits indicate the year of filing. The fifth digit "1" indicates that the filing is that of an innovation patent application. Digits in positions 6 to 10 are the allocated application number in the range 00000-99999.

Appendix, page 3

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
AZ AZERBAIJAN	92/123456	92/123456	92/123456	Numbering system used from 1992 to 1999. The first two numbers before the slash indicate the year of filing of the application.
	a 2002 0001	a 2002 0001	a 2002 0001	a – letter code characterizing a patent application number. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application.
	u 2002 0001	u 2002 0001	u 2002 0001	u – letter code characterizing a utility model application number. The numbering system was introduced on January 1, 2000.
BE BELGIUM	9200547	9200547	9200547	Numbering system used for all applications filed between January 1, 1987, and December 31, 1999.

Continuous numbering system according to the filing date; the first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. |
| | 2000/0624 | 2000/0624 | 2000/0624 | Numbering system used for all applications filed since January 10, 2000.

The first four digits indicate the year according to the Gregorian calendar. The last four digits are issued in ascending order based on the filing date of the application. |
BR BRAZIL	10432/72 (old numbering system)	10432/72	10432/72	Numbering system used from 1972 to 1975.
	PI 8300014–3 (new numbering system)	8300014	8300014	Numbering system introduced in 1975. The letters preceding the number denote the type of industrial property right:
	MU 6100132–2	6100132	6100132 U	PI = invention; MU = utility model.

Appendix, page 4

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
BR (cont'd)				The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application and the type of industrial property right. The first digit denotes the number of the decade minus a control digit which is different for various kinds of documents, e.g., for PI-0, MU-2. Digits in positions 3 to 7 denote the serial number of the application given by the Brazilian Office. The digit in the last position is an error control digit.
BY **BELARUS**	961234 (old numbering system) a 20031234 u 20031234 (new numbering system)	961234 a 20031234 u 20031234	961234 a 20031234 u 20031234	Numbering system for patent applications. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. Used until the end of 1997. Numbering system as of January 1, 1998. a = letter code indicating a patent application. u = letter code indicating a utility model application. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application. The last four digits indicate the serial number of the application.
CH **SWITZERLAND**	01234/96–2	1234/96	1234/96	The two digits after the slash indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The figure after the dash is a check digit.
CN **CHINA**	98 1 01234 (old numbering system)	98 1 01234	98 1 01234	Numbering system of eight digits for patent applications used from April 1, 1985, to September 30, 2003. The first two digits (from left to right) indicate the last two numbers of the year (Gregorian calendar) of filing of the application. The third digit denotes the type of patent application. The five digits in positions from 4 to 8 indicate the serial number given to the application and show the relative sequence of the filing of the application.

Appendix, page 5

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
CN (cont'd)	2005 1 0123456 (new numbering system)	2005 1 0123456	2005 1 0123456	New numbering system of 12 digits for patent applications that entered into force on October 1, 2003. The first four digits indicate the year (Gregorian calendar) of filing of the application. The fifth digit denotes the type of patent application. The seven digits in positions from 6 to 12 indicate the serial number given to the application and show the relative sequence of the filing of the application. In position fifth, the type of application is coded: 1 = patent application for invention 2 = patent application for utility model 3 = patent application for design 8 = PCT patent application for invention entering CN national phase 9 = PCT patent application for utility model entering CN national phase.
CS **CZECHOSLOVAKIA**[1]	PV 3628–72	3628–72	3628–72 or 3628/72	PV is an abbreviation meaning "application for protection of an invention".
CU **CUBA**	1/85 (new numbering system)	1/85	1/85	As of 1985 an annual numbering system for applications is used. The two digits following the slash represent the last two digits of the year of filing of the application.
DE **GERMANY**	195 00 002.1	195 00 002	195 00 002	Old numbering system: The numerals in the second and third positions indicate the year of filing. The numerals in the first position indicate the industrial property rights. 1 = national patent applications, PCT applications in the national phase and applications for SPCs (used from 1995 to 2003).

[1]   Ceased to exist on December 31, 1992.

Appendix, page 6

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
DE (cont'd)	295 00 001.5	295 00 001	295 00 001 U	2 = Utility model applications and topographies (used from 1995 to 2003).
	589 00 001.2	589 00 001		5 = Patents granted by the EPO, filed in German (used for applications filed with the EPO as of 1989).
	689 00 001.4	689 00 001		6 = Patents granted by the EPO, filed in English or French (used for applications filed with the EPO as of 1989).
				The last digit in position 9 after the dot is a check digit.
				New numbering system (as of 2004):
				Pos. 1-2: type of IP right
	10 2004 000 001.7	10 2004 000 001	10 2004 000 001	10 = DE patent application.
				11 = PCT patent application in the national phase.
				12 = SPC application
	20 2004 000 001.3	20 2004 000 001	20 2004 000 001 U	20 = Utility models
				21 = Utility models resulting from PCT applications
				22 = topographies
	50 2004 000 001.4	50 2004 000 001		50 = Patents granted by EPO, filed in German
	60 2004 000 001.9	60 2004 000 001		60 = Patents granted by EPO, filed in English or French
				Pos. 3-6: year of filing
				Pos. 7-12: serial number
				Pos. 13: check digit

Appendix, page 7

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
DK **DENMARK**	2986/68 (old numbering system)	2986/68	2986/68	Numbering system for patent applications. The two digits after the slash indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. Used until the end of 1997.
	9500242 (old numbering system)	9500242	9500242 U	Numbering system for utility model applications. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. Used until the end of 1997.
	PA 1998 01234	PA 1998 01234	1998 01234	New numbering system as of 1998 whereby the letters PA indicate a patent application and BA a utility model application. The numerals in the third to sixth positions represent the year of filing of the application and the last five numerals represent a serial number assigned to the application.
	BA 1998 00123	BA 1998 00123	1998 00123 U	
				The letter codes PA and BA do not appear on the first pages of the published documents.
EC **ECUADOR**	SP 94–1046	94–1046	94–1046 or 94/1046	The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the patent or utility model application.
	SMU.94–033	SMU.94–033	94–033 U	
EE **ESTONIA**				Numbering system introduced in 1994.
	P 200300001	200300001	200300001	P = letter code indicating a patent application number.
	U 200300001	200300001	200300001 U	U = letter code indicating utility model application number.
				The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application. Digits in positions 5 to 9 denote the serial number of the application given by the receiving office.
EG **EGYPT**	541/88 (old numbering system)	541/88	541/88	Numbering system used for patent applications. The two digits after the slash represent the last two digits of the year of filing of the application.
	1996010001 (new numbering system)	1996010001	1996010001	In the new numbering system, the year and month of filing of the application are indicated in positions 1 to 6 (e.g., January 1996 in the sample). Digits in positions 7 to 10 denote the serial number of the application.

Appendix, page 8

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
EP **EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE**	79100953.3	79100953	79100953	The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The third and fourth digits denote the place of filing. Digits in positions 5 to 8 denote the serial number of the application given by the receiving office. The digit in the last position is an error check digit.
ES **SPAIN**	P 8802029 (0) (numbering system used until the year 2000)	8802029	8802029	This application numbering system for patents and utility models was introduced in 1986. The letters P and U denote the type of industrial property right: P = patent for invention, U = utility model. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The digit in parentheses is used for computer control.
	U 8900627 (5) (numbering system used until the year 2000)	8900627	8900627 U	
	P 200100123 (1)	200100123	200100123	Since the year 2000, the first four digits represent the year of filing of the application.
	U 200100123 (1)	200100123	200100123 U	
	P 200150001 (7)	200150001	200150001	Since the year 2000, for national applications for both patents and utility models filed for the entry into the national phase of a PCT international application. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application and the fifth digit is always a 5.
	U 200150001 (7)	200150001	200150001 U	
FI **FINLAND**	3032/73 (old numbering system)	3032/73	3032/73	Old numbering system
	834567 (old numbering system)	834567	834567	Numbering system introduced on January 1, 1975. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application.
	20031234 (new numbering system)	20031234	20031234	New numbering system introduced on July 25, 1999. The first four digits indicate the number of the year of filing of the application.
	U951234 (old numbering system)	951234	951234 U	Utility models: the first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application.

Appendix, page 9

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
FI (cont'd)	U20031234 (new numbering system)	20031234	20031234 U	Utility model: New numbering system introduced on July 25, 1999. The first four digits indicate the number of the year of filing of the application.
FR **FRANCE**	73.19342	73.19342	73.19342	Old style of presentation. Numbering system introduced for patent applications filed as of January 1969.
	96 11800	96 11800	96 11800	Deletion of the intermediary full stop from this number onwards. The number is composed of the last two figures of the year followed by a five-figure serial number (annual series). This number is the "national registration number" allocated upon filing of an application which then also constitutes the number of the granted patent. *Note*: in the databases, the space after the year digits is deleted.
GB **UNITED KINGDOM**	41352/70 (old Act numbering system)	41352/70	41352/70	Numbering system according to the old 1949 Patents Act. The last two digits of the number represent the year of filing of the application.
	8015674 (new Act numbering system)	8015674	8015674	New numbering system introduced according to the new 1977 Patents Act. The first two digits of the number represent the last two digits of the year of filing of the application.
	8912345.1 (new Act numbering system with check digit)	8912345	8912345.1	An internal validation check digit was introduced in 1988 to the new numbering system.

Appendix, page 10

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
GR **GREECE**	960100177 960200188	960100177 960200188	960100177 960200188 U	Numbering system introduced on January 1, 1988. The first two digits of the number represent the last two digits of the year of filing of the application. In positions 3 and 4, the type of industrial property right is coded: 01 = patent application, 02 = utility model application. The last five digits represent the serial number of the application. From 1985 to 1987, a different annual numbering system was used (two digits to denote the year of filing and four digits for the serial number).
HR **CROATIA**	P 930084 A	P 930084 A	P 930084 A	Numbering system introduced in 1992. The first letter indicates the type of industrial property right (P means patent application). The first two digits are the last two digits of the year of filing of the application. The last four digits denote the serial number of the application. The letter A stands for indication of the application. Numbering system introduced on January 1, 2000.
	P 20000084 A	P 20000084 A	P 20000084 A	In the first two positions, the letters indicate the type of industrial property right (P means application for patent or consensual patent). The first four digits are the year of filing of the application. The last four digits denote the serial number of the application. The letter A stands for indication of the application.

Appendix, page 11

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
HU **HUNGARY**	39 55/81 (old numbering system)	39 55/81	39 55/81	Numbering system introduced in 1980. The last two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application.
				New numbering system introduced in 1992.
	P 9300684 (new numbering system)	P 9300684	9300684	P = letter code characterizing a patent application as well as an application for a plant patent.
	U 9300266 (new numbering system)	U 9300266	9300266 U	U = letter code characterizing a utility model application. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application.
ID **INDONESIA**	P00200300001	P00200300001		P = letter code characterizing a patent application number. The first two digits indicate the code of the branch office; the second four digits indicate the year of filing of the application.
	S00200300001	S00200300001		S = letter code characterizing a Simple Patent application.
	W00200300001	W00200300001		W = letter code characterizing a PCT application (DO).
IE **IRELAND**	1152/69	1152/69	1152/69	Numbering system used until the end of 1991.
	920002	920002	920002	Numbering system applied from January 1, 1992, to December 31, 1999. The first two digits of the number represent the last two digits of the year of filing of the application and the remaining digits constitute a rising annual series with leading zeros.
	S922656	S922656	S922656	Short-term applications are distinguished from standard applications by prefixing their numbers with the letter "S". This applies to all such applications since their introduction on August 1, 1992.
	2000/0123 (new numbering system)	2000/0123	2000/0123	Numbering system introduced on January 1, 2000. The first four digits of the number represent the year of filing of the application and the last four digits constitute a rising annual series with leading zeros.
	S2001/0311	S2001/0311	S2001/0311	This new system also applies to short-term applications; i.e., with the addition of the prefix "S".

Appendix, page 12

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
IN **INDIA**	643/58	643/58	643/58	–
IT **ITALY**	19001 A/73	19001 A/73	19001/73	A = letter code characterizing a patent application.
	20401 B/73 (until December 31, 1990)	20401 B/73	20401/73 U	B = letter code characterizing a utility model application. Patent applications and utility model applications are numbered in parallel series. The letter is essential for identifying the applications. Each year a block of application numbers was allotted to each of the 93 provincial bureaus (UPICA) where patent applications can be filed. In 1973, 90,000 numbers were distributed for patent applications whereas a total of 30,000 applications was expected to be filed, and 70,000 numbers were distributed for utility model applications. As a result the number series contains about 100 gaps.
	MI91A000231 MI94U000225 (as of January 1,1991)	MI91A0231 MI94U0225	MI91A0231 MI940225 U	MI = two-letter code of the Provincial Office for Industry, Commerce and Handicraft *(Ufficio Provinciale Industria, Commercio e Artigianato—UPICA)* where the application was filed (e.g., MI stands for Milan). 91 and 94 = last two digits of the year of filing of the application. A = letter code characterizing a patent application and U a utility model application. (C = trademark application, O = ornamental model or multiple filing.) 000231 and 000225 = current numbers. Each UPICA starts its own annual numbering series for each kind of application every year with the number 1; there are about 100 numbering series for patent applications, and both the application code and the UPICA code are essential for correct identification.

Appendix, page 13

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
JP **JAPAN**	特願昭46–69807	46–69807	46–69807 or 46/69807	The first two symbols characterize a patent application. The third symbol relates to the Emperor's reign. The first two digits (before the dash) indicate the year of the Emperor's reign in which the application was filed. Number 46 refers to the SHOWA era and indicates the year 1971.
	特願平 3–180893	3–180893	3–180893 or 3/180893	The second example shows a patent application filed under the HEISEI era, which started in 1989, and indicates, with the figure 3, the filing year 1991.
	実願平 5–55143	5–55143	5–55143 U or 5/55143 U	The first two symbols characterize a utility model application. The third symbol relates to the Emperor's reign. The first digit (before the dash) indicates the year of the Emperor's reign in which the application was filed. Digit 5 refers to the HEISEI era and indicates the year 1993.
	特願 2000–312828	2000–312828	2000–312828 or 2000/312828	The first two symbols characterize a patent application. The first four digits (before the hyphen) indicate the year of filing of the patent application. New numbering system was introduced on January 1, 2000.
	実願 2001–8488	2001–8488	2001–8488 U or 2001/8488 U	The first two symbols characterize a utility model application. The first four digits (before the hyphen) indicate the year of filing of the utility model application. New numbering system was introduced on January 1, 2000.
KE **KENYA**	KE/P/92/00065 KE/UM/93/00001	92/00065 93/00001	92/00065 93/00001	Application numbers for patents and utility models consist of the country code, a slash, letter P indicating that it is an application for a patent (or letters UM indicating that it is an application for a utility model certificate), a slash, a two-digit indication of the year in which the application was first filed in Kenya, a slash and a five-digit number allotted in sequential order.

Appendix, page 14

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
KG **KYRGYZSTAN**	950012.1 950009.2 (old numbering system)	950012.1 950009.2	950012 950009 U	Old numbering system used until the end of 1999.
	20030016.1 20030003.2 (new numbering system)	20030016.1 20030003.2	20030016 20030003 U	New numbering system used as of January 1, 2000. The first four digits indicate the application year. The next four digits indicate the serial number of the application. The figure after the dot, indicates the type of industrial property right (1 = invention patent, 2 = utility model).
KP **DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA**	03-1234 (numbering system until the end of 2003)	03-1234	03-1234	The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The four digits following the dash indicate the serial number of the application. The first digit indicates the type of industrial property right:
	1-04-012345			1 = patent;
	2-04-012345			2 = utility model.
	(new numbering system as of January 2004)			The two digits following the second dash indicate the serial number of the application.
KR **REPUBLIC OF KOREA**	특허 95–012345 (old numbering system) or 특 1995–012345	95–012345	95–012345	Old numbering system used until the end of 1998. The two Korean letters denote the type of industrial property right: 특허 = patent 실용 = utility model The two digits before the dash represent the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The last six digits indicate the serial number of the application.
	특허 95–701234 or 특 1995 –701234	95–701234	95–701234	The numeral 7 following the dash indicates a PCT application.

Appendix, page 15

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
KR (cont'd)	실용 95–012345 or 실 1995–012345	95–012345	95–012345 U	실용 is a Korean letter indicating a utility model. The letter code U also represents a utility model.
	실용 95–701234 or 실 1995–701234	95–701234	95–701234 U	The numeral 7 following the dash indicates a PCT application.
	10–2002–0123456 (new numbering system)	10–2002–0123456	10–2002–0123456	Numbering system introduced on January 1, 1999. The first two digits indicate the type of industrial property right: 10 = patent; 20 = utility model; 30 = industrial design; 40 to 75 = trademark. The four digits following the first dash indicate the year of the patent application and the last seven digits indicate the serial number of the application.
	10–2002–7012345	10–2002–7012345	10–2002–7012345	The numeral 7 following the second dash indicates a PCT application.
	20–2002–0123456	20–2002–0123456	20–2002–0123456	The first two digits "20" indicate a utility model.
	20–2002–7012345	20–2002–7012345	20–2002–7012345	The numeral 7 following the second dash indicates a PCT application.
KZ **KAZAKHSTAN**	951117.1 95025.2	951117.1 95025.2	951117 95025 U	The first two digits designate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The group of digits following the year of filing of the application and comprising three or four digits represents the sequential number of the application for a utility model or an invention. The digit after the full stop is a control digit which indicates the type of industrial property right: 1 = patent for invention, 2 = utility model.
	2002/016.2	2002/016	2002/016 U	The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application. The digit after the full stop is a control digit which indicates the type of industrial property right. "2" means utility model application.

Appendix, page 16

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
LS **LESOTHO**	LS/P/03/00001 LS/UM/02/00001	03/00001 02/00001	03/00001 02/00001	Application numbers for patents and utility models consist of: the country code; a slash; letter P indicating that it is a patent application, or UM indicating that it is a utility model certificate application; a slash; a two-digit indication of the year in which the application was first filed in Lesotho; a slash; and a five-digit number allotted in sequential order.
LT **LITHUANIA**	95–014 2000 061	95–014 2000 061	95–014 2000 061	Numbering system introduced on January 1, 1995. The first two digits (before the dash) indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the patent application. Numbering system introduced on January 1, 2000. The first four digits (before the space) indicate the year of filing the patent application.
MD **REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**	94–0287 (until December 31, 1999) a 2001 0147 (as of January 1, 2000) u 20010058 (as of January 1, 2000)	94–0287 a 2001 0147 u 2001 0058	94–0287 2001 0147 2001 0058 U	The first two digits (before the dash) indicate the year of filing of the patent application. The four digits following the dash denote the serial number of the application. a – letter code characterizing a patent application u – letter code characterizing a utility model application Patent applications and utility model applications are numbered in parallel series each starting its own annual numbering series every year with number 1. The letter is essential for identifying the applications. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application. The next four digits after the space indicate the serial number of the application.

Appendix, page 17

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
MG **MADAGASCAR**	94001 2000/001	94001 2000/001	94001 2000/01	Numbering system used from 1994 to 1999. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application followed by a three-digit number allotted in sequential order. Numbering system introduced in January 2000. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application followed by a three-digit number allotted in sequential order.
MK **THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**	Π 104/93	Π 104/93	104/93	The letter code preceding the number denotes the type of industrial property right (Π = patent for invention, as well as plant patent). The figure before the slash represents the serial number. The last two digits indicate the year of filing of the application.
MX **MEXICO**	GT/a/2003/000001 GT/f/2003/001234 GT/t/2003/000321 GT/u/2003/123456 JL/a/2003/000001 JL/f/2003/001234 JL/t/2003/000321 JL/u/2003/123456 NL/a/2003/000001 NL/f/2003/001234 NL/t/2003/000321 NL/u/2003/123456 PA/a/2003/000001 PA/f/2003/001234 PA/t/2003/000321 PA/u/2003/123456 YU/a/2003/000001 YU/f/2003/001234 YU/t/2003/000321 YU/u/2003/123456	GT/a/2003/000001 GT/f/2003/001234 GT/t/2003/000321 GT/u/2003/123456 JL/a/2003/000001 JL/f/2003/001234 JL/t/2003/000321 JL/u/2003/123456 NL/a/2003/000001 NL/f/2003/001234 NL/t/2003/000321 NL/u/2003/123456 PA/a/2003/000001 PA/f/2003/001234 PA/t/2003/000321 PA/u/2003/123456 YU/a/2003/000001 YU/f/2003/001234 YU/t/2003/000321 YU/u/2003/123456	GT/a/2003/000001 GT/f/2003/001234 GT/t/2003/000321 GT/u/2003/123456 JL/a/2003/000001 JL/f/2003/001234 JL/t/2003/000321 JL/u/2003/123456 NL/a/2003/000001 NL/f/2003/001234 NL/t/2003/000321 NL/u/2003/123456 PA/a/2003/000001 PA/f/2003/001234 PA/t/2003/000321 PA/u/2003/123456 YU/a/2003/000001 YU/f/2003/001234 YU/t/2003/000321 YU/u/2003/123456	Numbering system introduced on January 1, 2000. The old numbering systems were changed to be compliant with the new numbering scheme. The application number is composed of four elements, which represent the minimum significant part of the application number, as described below: 1. Two alphanumeric characters in capital letters to indicate the receiving office of the application: "GT" for the Regional Office of Zona Bajío (León, Guanajuato); "JL" for the Regional Office of Zona Occidente (Zapopan, Jalisco); "NL" for the Regional Office of Zona Norte (Monterrey, Nuevo León); "PA" for the Central Office (México, Federal District); "YU" for the regional Office of Zona Sureste (Mérida, Yucatán).

Appendix, page 18

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
MX (cont'd)				2. One alphanumeric character in lower case letter to indicate the type of industrial property right application: "a" for patent applications; "f" for industrial design or model applications; "t" for applications for layout-designs (topographies) of integrated circuits; "u" for utility model applications. 3. Four digits to indicate, in compliance with the Gregorian calendar, the year of filing of the application; Examples: 1991, 1999, 2001, 2003 4. Six digits to indicate a sequential number identifying a single application. This sequential number is fixed in length and may be completed by leading zeros, if necessary. Examples: 123456, 000001, 004321. The total number of alphanumeric characters is 13. To facilitate the legibility of the application number, when it is printed, the four elements described above are separated by a slash "/".
NL **NETHERLANDS**	7015038 (old numbering system)	7015038	7015038	The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. New numbering system introduced on April 1, 1995 (see Table II).
NO **NORWAY**	1748/70 (old numbering system)	1748/70	1748/70	The last two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application.
	740001 (new old numbering system)	740001	740001	New numbering system introduced on January 1, 1974. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. Used until June 1998.

Appendix, page 19

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
NO (cont'd)	19985850	19985850	19985850	New numbering system for patent applications introduced in June 1998. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application. The next four digits indicate the serial number of the application. At the same time, all older application numbers were changed from two to four digits representing the year of filing. The NO Office does not have utility models.
OA **AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (OAPI)**	1 2005 01234 2 2005 01234 (new numbering system)	1 2005 01234 2 2005 01234	1 2005 01234 2 2005 01234	Numbering system for patent and utility model applications used from January 1, 2000. The first digit denotes the type of application. The four digits in positions from 2 to 5 indicate the year of filing of the application. The five digits in positions from 6 to 10 indicate the serial number given to the application. In the first position, the type of application is coded: 1 = patent application 2 = utility model application.
PH **PHILIPPINES**	1-1998-00001 1-1999-500001 (PCT) 2-1998-00001 2-1999-500001 (PCT) 3-1998-00001	1-1998-00001 1-1998-00001 2-1998-00001 2-1999-500001 3-1998-00001	1-1998-0001 1-1998-00001 2-1998-00001 2-1999-500001 3-1998-00001	New numbering system starting on January 6, 1998. The first digit of the application number is the File Code indicating the following types of application: 1 – patent (invention) 2 – utility model 3 – industrial design The four digits following the first dash indicate the year of filing. The last five digits indicate the application number. The number 5 following the second dash indicates a PCT application. For each filing year, the application number series for each type of application starts with number 0001 or 500001. Old numbering system for applications from 1948 to 1998: see Table II.

Appendix, page 20

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
PK **PAKISTAN**	10131/65	1031/65	1031/65	–
RO **ROMANIA**	92–0884	92–0884	92–0884	Numbering system introduced on January 21, 1992. The first two digits represent the last two digits of the year of filing of the application. The digits after the dash constitute a rising serial number with leading zeros.
RU **RUSSIAN FEDERATION**	92005240 (old numbering system)	92005240	92005240	Numbering system used from 1992 to 1995. The first two digits of the number indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application.
	95103445 (old numbering system)	95103445	95103445	Numbering system used from1995 to 1999. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The third digit indicates the type of industrial property right: 1 – 4 = invention and utility model.
	2001111546 (new numbering system)	2001111546	2001111546	New format applied from January 1, 2000. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application. The fifth digit indicates the type of industrial property right: 1 - 4 = invention and utility model.
SE **SWEDEN**	16414/70 (old numbering system)	16414/70	16414/70	–
	7300001–0 (new numbering system)	7300001	7300001	New numbering system introduced on January 1, 1973. However, some applications filed before 1973 have been renumbered according to the new numbering system, i.e., the number 16414/70 has become 7016414–8. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The digit after the dash is used for computer control.

Appendix, page 21

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
SI **SLOVENIA**	9300393 (old numbering system)	9300393	9300393	The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The third digit indicates the type of industrial property right and place of filing: 0-4 = patents and short-term patents. The last four digits indicate the serial number of the application.
	200100001 (new numbering system)	200100001	200100001	New numbering system introduced as of January 1, 2000. The first four digits indicate the year of filing of the application. The fifth digit indicates the type of industrial property right and place of filing: 0-4 = patents and short-term patents, 5-6 = industrial designs, 7-8 = trademarks. The last four digits indicate the serial number of the application.
SK **SLOVAKIA**	PV 1234-95	1234-95	1234-95	Numbering system used until the end of 1999. PV is an abbreviation of "invention application". The digits before the hyphen indicate the serial number of the application and the two digits after the hyphen indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application.
	PV 1234-2000	1234-2000	1234-2000	Numbering system used from January 1, 2000 to November 10, 2001. PV is an abbreviation of "invention application". The digits before the hyphen indicate the serial number of the application and the four-digit number after the hyphen indicates the year of filing of the application.
	PP 1234-2003	1234-2003	1234-2003	Current numbering system as of November 11, 2001. PP is an abbreviation of "patent application" (the term was introduced according to the new Patents Act No. 435/2001). The digits before the hyphen indicate the serial number of the application and the four-digit number after the hyphen indicates the year of filing of the application.

Appendix, page 22

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
SK (cont'd)	PÚV 123-95	123-95	123-95 U	Numbering system used until the end of 1999. PÚV is an abbreviation of "utility model application". The digits before the hyphen indicate the serial number of the application and the two digits after the hyphen indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application.
	PÚV 123-2000	123-2000	123-2000 U	Current numbering system as of January 1, 2000. PÚV is an abbreviation of "utility model application". The digits before the hyphen indicate the serial number of the application and the four-digit number after the hyphen indicates the year of filing of the application.
TJ **TAJIKISTAN**	96000375	96000375	96000375	Patent application.
	9600001	9600001	9600001 U	Utility model application. The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. Digits in positions 3 to 8 denote the serial number of the application. The numbering system was introduced in 1993.
TM **TURKMENISTAN**	07/100895N	07/100895	07/100895	New numbering system introduced on January 1, 1997. The figure before the slash indicates the year of filing of the application (07 means 1997). The numeral after the slash denotes the type of industrial property right (1 = patent for invention). The last three numerals represent the serial number of the application. The digits in positions 2 and 3, after the slash, are not yet used by the TM Office. The letter N is used to denote applications filed by non-residents.

Appendix, page 23

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
TR **TURKEY**	a 97/00012 u 97/00013	97/00012 97/00013	a 1997 00012 u 1997 00013	a = letter code characterizing a patent application. u = letter code characterizing a utility model application. The first two digits before the slash indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing the patent or utility model application before 1998 and the last five digits after the slash indicate the serial number of the application.
	a 2003/00012 u 2003/00013	2003/00012 2003/00013	a 2003 00012 u 2003 00013	The new numbering system was introduced on January 1, 1998. The first four digits before the slash indicate the year of filing of the patent or utility model application and the last five digits after the slash indicate the serial number of the application.
TT **TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**	164 of 1971 (old numbering system)	164 of 1971	164/1971 or 164/71	Numbering system for patent applications prior to 1996.
	960010	960010	960010	Numbering system for patent applications introduced as of 1996.
UA **UKRAINE**	94051272 (old numbering system)	94051272	94051272	Numbering system used from 1992 to 1999. The first two digits of the number indicate the last two figures of the year, the subsequent two digits indicate the month of filing of the application, and the last four digits represent the annual serial number.
	2000020923 (new numbering system)	2000020923	2000020923	Numbering system introduced on January 1, 2000. The first four digits of the number indicate the numbers of the year, the subsequent 5th and 6th digits indicate the month, and the last four digits represent the annual serial number.

Appendix, page 24

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
UZ **UZBEKISTAN**	IHAP9200019.1 IHDP9200014.1 FMGU9500009.1	IH9200019 IH9200014 FM9500009	9200019 9200014 9500009 U	Patent application. Application for a preliminary patent. Utility model application. The first two letters indicate the type of industrial property right followed by two letters denoting the type of protection document (IH = patent for invention, FM = utility model, AP = patent, DP = preliminary patent, GU = utility model certificate). The first two digits denote the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. The five digits following the year indicator represent the serial number. The digit after the full stop indicates the examination division.
VE **VENEZUELA**	12122–68	12122–68	12122–68 or 12122/68	–
WO **WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**	PCT/DE79/00016 PCT/IB94/00041 (numbers quoted before January 1, 2004) PCT/DE1979/000016 PCT/IB1994/000041 (numbers quoted as from January 1, 2004) PCT/CA2004/123456 (numbers allocated as from January 1, 2004)	PCT/DE79/00016 PCT/IB94/00041 (numbers quoted before January 1, 2004) PCT/DE1979/000016 PCT/IB1994/000041 (numbers quoted as from January 1, 2004) PCT/CA2004/123456 (numbers allocated as from January 1, 2004)	PCT/DE79/00016 PCT/IB94/00041 (numbers quoted before January 1, 2004) PCT/DE1979/000016 PCT/IB1994/000041 (numbers quoted as from January 1, 2004) PCT/CA2004/123456 (numbers allocated as from January 1, 2004)	The same form should be used, if the PCT application number is cited under INID codes (86) and (30), according to the date on which the citation is made (i.e., respectively, before or as from January 1, 2004).
YU[(2)] **SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO**	P1135/66	1135/66	1135/66	–

[(2)]   The two-letter country code "YU" is used for Serbia and Montenegro, formerly "Yugoslavia," until the ISO 3166/MA has taken a final decision and the Standards and Documentation Working Group of the Standing Committee on Information Technology reaches a decision concerning the two-letter code to represent Serbia and Montenegro in Standard ST.3.

Appendix, page 25

TABLE I   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING ANNUAL SERIES OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
ZA **SOUTH AFRICA**	70/4865	70/4865	70/4865	–
ZM **ZAMBIA**	142/70	142/70	142/70	–
ZW **ZIMBABWE**	10/84	10/84	10/84	–

[Table II follows]

Appendix, page 27

TABLE II   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING OTHER THAN ANNUAL NUMBERING SYSTEMS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
AR **ARGENTINA**	231790	231790	231790	Old numbering system used for applications filed up to October 31, 1995.
AU **AUSTRALIA**	59195/69 (old numbering system, up to July 04, 2002)	59195/69	59195/69	Long series spread over several years.
	PA0001 (old numbering system, up to July 04, 2002)	PA0001	PA0001	Provisional applications lodged after January 1, 1970, were numbered PA0001 to PA9999, PB0001 to PB9999, etc.
BE **BELGIUM**	96469 (old numbering system, up to December 31, 1986)	96469	96469	Application numbers not present in published patent documents or in official gazettes. Basis of numbering system: 10 parallel series of numbers (nine provincial bureaus plus filing by post) which are not otherwise specified. Starting date of provincial series is 1854, of "Filing by post" series 1965. Numbering system used from 1974 to 1986, according to which each of the 10 parallel series of numbers is identified by a numeral (0 to 9) appearing in a patent application number as the first digit and allowing unique identification of the application.
BG **BULGARIA**	100116	100116	100116	Common continuous numbering system for applications for patents for inventions and for utility models (as of June 1, 1993).
	183	183	183	Common continuous numbering system for applications for plant varieties and animal breeds (as of January 4, 1997).
BR **BRAZIL**	222986 (old numbering system)	222986	222986	Numbering system prior to 1972. (See an example of new numbering system in Table I.)

Appendix, page 27

TABLE II   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING OTHER THAN ANNUAL NUMBERING SYSTEMS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
CA **CANADA**	103828 (old numbering system)	103828	103828	Numbering system for patent applications filed prior to October 1, 1989. The old numbering system comprised two series of application numbers. The first series started in 1869 and the second on September 13, 1967.
				The starting number of the first series was 1 and the last number of the first series was 999,999. The starting number of the second series was 1. The second series of the old numbering system is still continuing.
	2103828 (current numbering system)	2103828	2103828	Numbering system for patent applications filed on or after October 1, 1989. The starting number of the current numbering system is 2000001.
CO **COLOMBIA**	126050	126050	126050	–
CU **CUBA**	33384 (old numbering system)	33384	33384	Until the year 1984, a continuous numbering system was used for patent applications. The numbers were assigned in ascending order to the applications filed. New numbering system as of 1985 (see Table I).
DE **GERMANY** (documents published by the former DD Office)	AP 84 C/137 355 WP 35 B/147 203 (old numbering system based on the national patent classification)	137 355 147 203	137 355 147 203	AP = *Ausschliessungspatent* WP = *Wirtschaftspatent* The other symbols before the slash are classification symbols.
	AP C 07 C/166 692 WP H 04 C/174 347 (old numbering system based on the IPC)	166 692 174 347	166 692 174 347	A single numbering series covers both AP and WP applications. The symbols before the slash may be changed due to the examination process.
	AP C07D / 2273 773 WP E21C/ 2269 623 (new numbering system as of 1981)	2273 773 2269 623	2273 773 2269 623	The last digit of the application number in the new numbering system denotes a check number for electronic data processing.

Appendix, page 28

TABLE II   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING OTHER THAN ANNUAL NUMBERING SYSTEMS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
ES **SPAIN**	406952 (old numbering system, up to 1986)	406952	406952	Patent application number (application filed in 1972).
	185284 (old numbering system, up to 1986)	185284	185284 U	Utility model application number (application filed in 1972). Until 1986, patent and utility model applications were numbered in two parallel series. No specific indication for the type of industrial property right appears in the application number. Starting date of patent application numbering system: 1878. Last patent application number using this system: 557879. Starting date of utility model application numbering system: 1929. Last utility model application number using this system: 420817. New numbering system for applications as of 1986: see Table I.
GE **GEORGIA**	000288	000288	000288	Patent application.
	000185	000185	000185	Utility model application.
GR **GREECE**	44114 (old numbering system)	44114	44114	Numbering system used until the end of 1984. New numbering system as of 1985: see Table I.
HU **HUNGARY**	OE 107 (old numbering system)	OE 107	OE 107	Old numbering system was used until the end of 1979. The letters preceding the number are the first letter and first following vowel of the applicant's name. There is a separate numbering series for each pair of letters. The letters are essential for identifying the application.
IL **ISRAEL**	53125	53125	53125	–

Appendix, page 29

TABLE II   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING OTHER THAN ANNUAL NUMBERING SYSTEMS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
LT **LITHUANIA**	IP 2029 (old numbering system)	IP 2029	IP 2029	IP is an abbreviation meaning "application for protection of an invention".
	RP 346 (old numbering system)	RP 346	RP 346	RP is an abbreviation meaning "application for re-registration of a patent". Numbering system used from 1992 to 1995. New numbering system for applications (as of 1995): see Table I.
LU **LUXEMBOURG**	60093	60093	60093	–
MC **MONACO**	PV 908	908	908	The letters PV stand for *Procès-verbal*.
MD **REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**	0187 (until December 31, 1999)	0187	0187 U	Utility model application. New numbering system introduced on January 1, 2000: See Table I.
MN **MONGOLIA**	955	955	955	Application for a patent for invention. No indication as to the type of industrial property right concerned.
MT **MALTA**	1901	1901	1901	The numbering system for patents is consecutive and continues from one year to another. Utility models are not filed.
NL **NETHERLANDS**	1000123	1000123	1000123	On April 1, 1995, a new patent act came into force. The new numbering system for applications and patents consists of a continuous series beginning with 1000001.
NZ **NEW ZEALAND**	201732	201732	201732	–

Appendix, page 30

TABLE II   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING OTHER THAN ANNUAL NUMBERING SYSTEMS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks
OA **AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION**	52118 051/SN	52118 051/SN	52118 051/SN	Number assigned to the application filed according to direct filing procedure. Number assigned to the application filed according to indirect filing procedure. The two last letters denote the ST.3 code of the country of origin.
PH **PHILIPPINES**	40155 UM-672 D-632 or D-00632 (old numbering system)	40155 UM-672 D-632	40155 UM-672 D-632	Separate, continuous old numbering system for invention, utility model and industrial design patent applications starting (since 1948) from application numbers 1, UM-1 and D-1, respectively, prior to January 6, 1998. New numbering system for applications starting January 5, 1998: see Table I.
PL **POLAND**	P 214461 W 36746	214461 36746	214461 36746 U	Patent application. Utility model application.
PT **PORTUGAL**	52555 5607	52555 5607	52555 5607 U	Patent application. Utility model application.
RO **ROMANIA**	145006 (old numbering system)	145006	145006	Numbering system used until January 1992. For new numbering system, see Table I.
SU **SOVIET UNION** (former)	1397205/30–15	1397205	1397205	The numbers following the slash denote the examination division and a processing number. This numbering system was valid up to October 14, 1992.
TM **TURKMENISTAN**	956 (old numbering system)	956	956	Numbering system used before 1997. For new numbering system, see Table I.
TT **TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**	42 (old numbering system)	42	42	Numbering system for patent applications used prior to the year 1904.

Appendix, page 31

TABLE II   COUNTRIES OR ORGANIZATIONS HAVING OTHER THAN ANNUAL NUMBERING SYSTEMS

Country or Organization	Example of Application Number	Minimum Significant Part of a Number	Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number	Remarks

US
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
	09/123,456	09/123456	09/123,456	The first two numbers of the application number are the Series Code. To uniquely identify a US application the Series Code must be provided. If it is not known, it can usually be determined based on the date the application was filed by using the table below*:
				
				Applications for patents for invention, design patents (prior to October 1, 1992) and plant patents
				
				New series started Series Code
				
				    January 1, 1915 01
				            1935 02
				            1948 03
				            1960 04
				            1970 05
				            1979 06
				            1987 07
				            1993 08
				December 30, 1997 09
				December 5, 2001 10
				
				Ex Parte Reexamination patent applications
				       July 1, 1981 90
				
				Inter Partes Reexamination patent applications
				      February 1, 2001 95
				
				Design patent applications
				      October 1, 1992 29
				
				Provisional applications
				      June 8, 1995 60
				
				* Please note, however, there are some applications for which the Serial Number and filing date may not fall within the time periods indicated above.
				
				Series Codes were not provided prior to 1915. To be uniquely identified, the filing date must also be provided in addition to the application number.

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

PREVIOUS VERSION OF STANDARD ST.10/C

PRESENTATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA COMPONENTS

*Revision adopted by the PCIPI Executive Coordination Committee
at its twenty-first session on November 21, 1997*

PRESENTATION OF DATES

1.   For the representation of calendar dates according to the Gregorian calendar, which are printed or displayed in industrial property documents, in entries in official gazettes or in electronic records, WIPO Standard ST.2 is applicable.

PRESENTATION OF CLASSIFICATION UNITS

2.   Classification units should be presented with all elements of a given unit contained in the same line, preferably in such a manner as to facilitate machine transcription.

3.   The recommended abbreviation of the International Patent Classification is "Int.Cl.". The relevant edition should be indicated as a superscript, e.g., Int.Cl.[6] in the case of the sixth edition.

4.   The recommended abbreviation of the International Classification for Industrial Designs is "LOC". According to the recommendation of the Committee of Experts of the Locarno Union, the edition of the Classification should be indicated by an Arabic numeral in parentheses, e.g., LOC (6) Cl. 8-05. The subclass number must always contain two digits; for the subclasses, therefore, the numbers 1 to 9 should be preceded by a 0; the class number should be separated from the subclass number by a dash. If the numbers of several classes or subclasses must be indicated for one and the same subject matter, the classes should be separated by semicolons and subclasses by commas (for example, LOC (6) Cl. 8-05, 08; 11-01).

PRESENTATION OF APPLICATION NUMBERS

5.   Experience has shown the need for application numbers to be presented in a clear, unambiguous manner, particularly since application numbers as presented on patent documents are frequently the sole method of identifying all members of a patent family. The considerations given below apply equally to all presentations of application numbers of patent documents whether to the application number accorded to the application filed in the issuing industrial property office or that filed in the priority country or with an organization.

6.   The presentation of the application number should preferably be:

        (a)   exactly in the manner used by the country or organization concerned in full, or

        (b)   abbreviated to the minimum significant part, enabling the application to be uniquely identified.

7.   When the application number is abbreviated to the minimum significant part (deletion of letters and numerals given by the country or organization concerned for internal or special purposes such as check digits, classification marks, etc.), a need exists for a more uniform presentation thereof, in particular when information presented on the first page of patent documents is composed for printing (e.g., typeset, photocomposed, retyped, etc.). An application number, as represented by the country or organization concerned, may therefore be represented in a more uniform manner using the following rules:

        (a)   if the number contains a full stop, a comma, or perhaps a space, one or more of these characters or spaces may be omitted. One or more of these characters or spaces may be inserted for the sake of legibility;

        (b)   if the number contains a slash or a hyphen, these characters must be retained. A hyphen may be replaced by a slash;

        (c)   the sequence of characters should be left in its original order, e.g., the digits indicating the year of filing of the application must be printed in their original positions;

(d)   no character or set of characters forming the minimum significant part of the application number, other than those characters mentioned in subparagraphs (a) and (b), above, should be altered, e.g.:

(i)   the year of the Emperor's reign appearing in Japanese application numbers should not be altered according to the Gregorian calendar;

(ii)   no infilling zeros should be removed or added, e.g., 74/0069 should not be printed as 74/69 or 74/00069;

(e)   in the case of a utility model application number, a letter or set of characters may be used by the country or organization concerned for uniquely defining the application. The letter or set of characters should be removed and the letter "U" inserted after the application number, separated by two blank spaces. The words "utility model" may be added in the plain language of the publishing country or organization;

(f)   year designations according to the Gregorian calendar should be represented by four digits;

(g)   in the case of PCT application numbers, the alphanumeric string consisting of the letters "PCT," the two-letter code identifying the receiving office, and the year, is a significant part of the application number and must not be omitted.

For guidance, two tables setting out the form of presentation of application numbers currently used by several countries or organizations, the minimum significant part of the numbers and the recommended presentation in abbreviated form as priority application numbers, are given in the Appendix to this Standard.

IDENTIFICATION OF COUNTRIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES ISSUING OR REGISTERING PATENT DOCUMENTS

8.   Two-letter codes according to WIPO Standard ST.3 should be used when indicating:

(a)   the country, organization or other entity in which a convention priority application was filed;

(b)   the country, organization or other entity that published prior art patent documents; and

(c)   the country, organization or other entity publishing the patent document. The name of the country, organization or other entity publishing the patent document may be given in plain language, in addition to the ST.3 code, if so desired.

USE AND PRESENTATION OF CHECK DIGITS

9.   Check digits are used by several industrial property offices in relation to application numbers or publication numbers for the purposes of internal control. Different systems are in use by different industrial property offices. Most systems give rise to a single control character, either a numeral from "0" to "9" or a letter from "A" to "Z". It is clear that the control character has to be associated with the application number or with the publication number so as to facilitate its control function. However, the control character is not regarded as a significant part of the application number nor as a significant part of the publication number.

10.   In order to avoid confusion, it is recommended that the following rules be applied if industrial property offices wish to print a control character associated with an application number or with a publication number on patent documents or in official gazettes:

(a)   the control character should consist of a single numeral; letters should not be used so as to avoid confusion with WIPO Standard ST.16;

(b)   the control character should be printed immediately after the application number or publication number to which it refers but separated therefrom by a full stop or by a hyphen and preferably in a type font different from that used in the number to which it refers;

Annex, page 5

(c)   industrial property offices publishing control characters associated with application numbers or with publication numbers should publish in their official gazette information explaining their use, repeated at intervals of less than one year.

FURTHER OBSERVATIONS

11.   It is desirable that this Standard be implemented by industrial property offices at the latest as of January 1, 2000.

[End of Annex – WIPO Standard ST.10/D follows]