



IV

DIGITAL AND ACCESSIBLE SERVICES

1. Public Services
2. Digitalizing Examinations
3. Knowledge Sharing

IV DIGITAL AND ACCESSIBLE SERVICES

In 2024, TIPO enhanced its online services by launching a new Design Patent Online Application System, expanding functions of "My Dashboard," adding an online service to change applicant representatives, introducing an AI-based trademark image search, and promoting the development of a new trademark search system and a cloud-based system for IPKM. The upgrades also include expanded online examination services for patents and trademarks, improved features of the patent information search systems, and the publication of important cases and information related to patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets for public use.

1. Public Services

Optimize Electronic Applications

TIPO continues to optimize its electronic application services to enhance user experience, system usability, and process transparency. These improvements help reduce application time and costs, making it easier for users to access relevant information about their applications, thus enhancing public trust and satisfaction.

◆ The New "Design Patent Online Application Service"

To enhance the convenience of filing online patent applications, TIPO developed a new web-based Design Patent Online Application System. This system eliminates the need for standalone software installation – users can access it directly via web browser and across different devices. The system has been publicly available since December 2024.

◆ Expand the "My Dashboard" Feature of "TIPONet Portal"

The Patent and Trademark Case Information section now includes additional functions, such as access to priority documents, e-certificates for patent and trademark, and bulletin information. This centralized portal allows users to efficiently receive and manage their case-related data. The feature has been available to the public since July 2024.

◆ New TIPONet Function for Changing Applicant's Representative

To help patent and trademark applicants manage changes more efficiently and reduce administrative correspondence with TIPO, a new online service was launched via TIPONet on October 15, 2024. Applicants or their patent agents can now log in to TIPONet and select "Applying for a Patent/Changing Online" to update case-related information, including:

- (1) The applicant's representative's name in Chinese and English.
- (2) The address, telephone number, and email address of both the applicants and their patent agent, in Chinese and English.

e-Services

◆ Online Filing

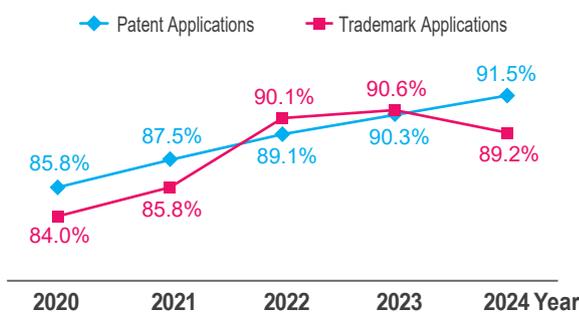
Electronic patent and trademark applications offer round-the-clock (24/7) online services, eliminating the need for printing and mailing paper copies. Furthermore, filing new applications

through the electronic application system qualifies for reduced fees, effectively saving time and costs for applicants.

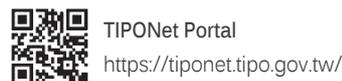
In 2024, Lee and Li Attorneys-at-Law ranked first among attorney offices filing online patent applications (15.29%), followed by Jianq Chyun Intellectual Property Office (8.63%) and TSAI, LEE & CHEN Patent Attorneys & Attorneys at Law (8.06%). For trademarks, Tai E International Patent & Law Office (9.02%) ranked first, followed by Saint Island International Patent & Law Offices (8.30%) and Lee and Li Attorneys-at-Law (6.73%).

The proportion of patents and trademarks filed online in 2024 – representing 91.5% and 89.2% respectively of all applications.

Proportion of Patent and Trademark Filed Online



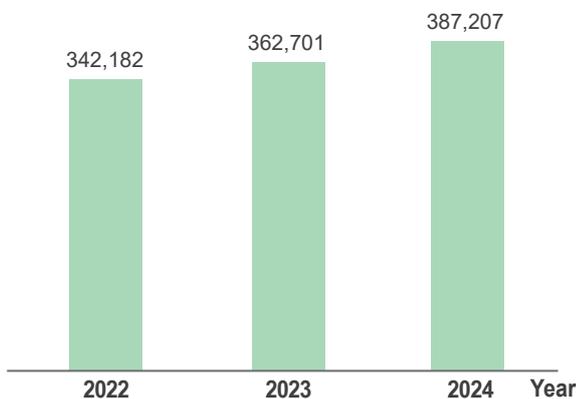
Note: The percentage is calculated by dividing the number of online applications by the overall number of paper and online applications and is based on new applications only.



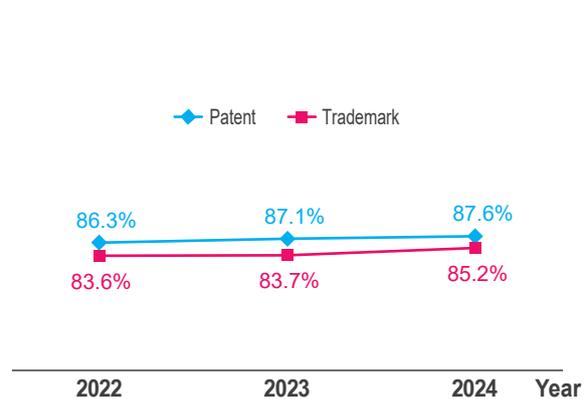
e-Receipt

The number of e-receipts issued grew to 387,000 in 2024, collectively representing 87.6% of all patent receipts issued and 85.2% of trademark receipts issued. E-receipts are an easy method for users to request and download receipts online in lieu of paper receipts, which require additional delivery time.

Usage of e-Receipts



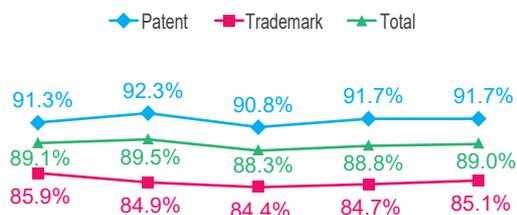
Percentage of e-Receipts Issued



Note: 1. Statistics is based on online payment cases.
 2. The percentage is calculated by dividing the number of e-receipts issued by the total number of receipts issued.

◆ Online Delivery

Percentage of Online Deliveries



Q4,2023 Q1,2024 Q2,2024 Q3,2024 Q4,2024 Quarter

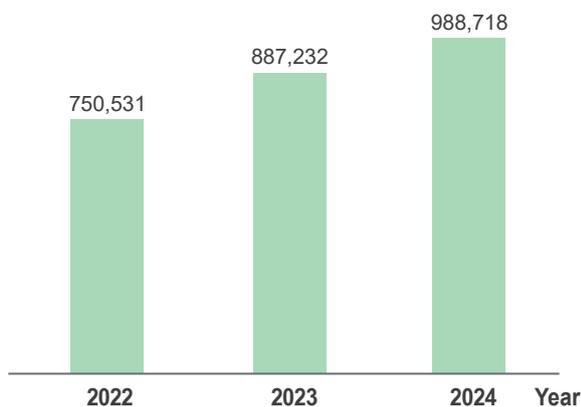
Note: The percentage is calculated by dividing the number of actual online deliveries by the number of documents fit for online delivery.

As for online delivery of patent and trademark documents, this year TIPO delivered a total of 552,348 documents electronically – an increase of 5.3% from 2023. In Q4 2024, the percentage of documents issued via online delivery reached 89.0%.

TIPO’s online service for electronic document delivery is available 24/7, allowing users to immediately regain access to lost documents and flexibly reuse electronic files, thereby facilitating easier preservation and retrieval.

◆ Rights Inquiry

Cumulative Numbers of e-Certificates Issued

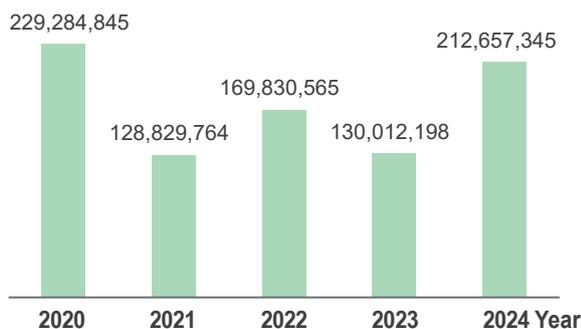


As of the end of 2024, the cumulative number of e-certificates issued by TIPO exceeded 980,000, allowing the public to check online the status of their rights, as well as verify the authenticity of patent and trademark certificates.

 New Inquiry System for Patent and Trademark Rights and Certificates
<https://cloud.tipo.gov.tw/S220/cert/>

◆ Open Data

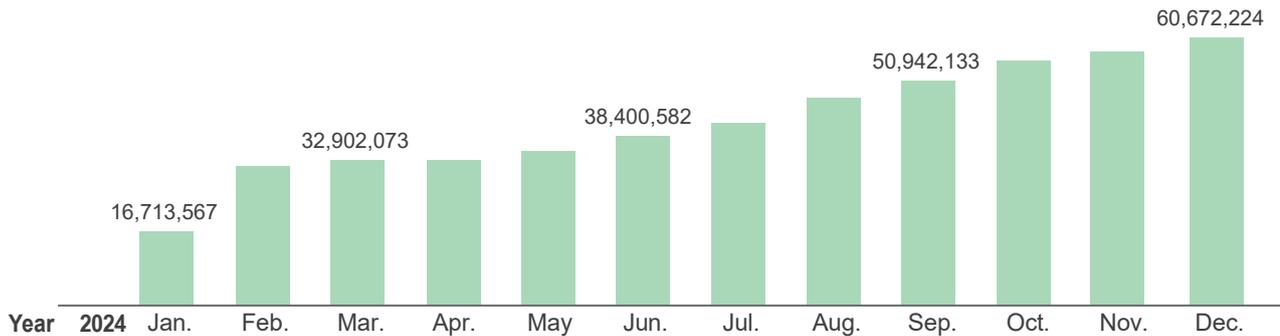
Number of Downloads from the Patent Gazette and Trademark Official Gazette Datasets



To facilitate utilization and analysis of industry data, TIPO has made both datasets for the *Patent Gazette and Trademark Official Gazette* available online for download since 2013. As of the end of 2024, the number of patents, published invention patent applications, and trademark registrations made available online has reached 2.25 million. 2,371 people downloaded over 210 million files from the site in 2024.

TIPO officially opened up its datasets for the *Patent Gazette and Patent Application Publication Gazette* (texts and images) published prior to 2013. 211 people downloaded over 60 million files in 2024.

Accumulated Downloads from the Patent Gazette and Patent Application Publication Gazette Datasets in 2024



Patent and Trademark Open Data Downloads Website
<https://cloud.tipo.gov.tw/S220/opdata>

Digital Services

◆ Global Patent Search System (GPSS)

New patent bibliographic data is continuously added to the Global Patent Search System (GPSS). The database currently provides data on over 167 million patents from 105 countries via access to databases from various IPO offices, including TIPO, IP5, WIPO, and those of several nations in Southeast Asia.

In 2024, TIPO added four new advanced functions to GPSS, including:

- (1) Expanded "Search Criteria Templates" features: Allows users to save search settings based on specific project characteristics. These templates can be quickly recalled for future searches, improving operational efficiency.
- (2) Expanded "Chinese-Japanese-English Search" features: Enables language conversion across Chinese, Japanese, and English, and incorporates the translated results into the search criteria to broaden the diversity of search outcomes.
- (3) The "Download List Case Hyperlinks" features: Adds hyperlinks to publication/patent number in the case download list, allowing users to directly access and quickly view the detailed information of each case.
- (4) The "Manual Classification to Technology Function Matrix Table" feature: Enables manual categorization of cases into the technology-function matrix table, with expanded primary and secondary classifications for technologies and functions. Users can also generate bubble charts and fishbone diagrams based on analysis results.



New services of GPSS



Global Patent Search System (GPSS)
<https://tiponet.tipo.gov.tw/gpss/>

◆ Taiwan Patent Search System (TWPAT)

To provide the public with more comprehensive Taiwan patent information, the synonym expansion feature was completed in 2024. When conducting a simple or advanced search, relevant synonyms are automatically added to the search criteria via the synonym expansion, enhancing the completeness of search results. Additionally, standardized Mandarin Chinese names for company and organizational applicants and patentees have been introduced to facilitate public identification.

The Taiwan Patent Search System (TWPAT) covers published and granted patent data from September 20, 1950 to the present. For searches involving global patent data, please use the Global Patent Search System (GPSS).



New services of TWPAT



Taiwan Patent Search System (TWPAT)
<https://tiponet.tipo.gov.tw/twpat/>

◆ New Trademark Search System

To improve operational convenience and support mobile device browsing, a new Trademark Search System was launched in 2024. The system supports both basic and advanced search methods to meet the needs of different user groups. Additionally, the number of search results has also been increased to 1,000 entries, reducing the need for repeated adjust search conditions for better filtering. The new system has been available to the public since October 2024.



New Trademark Search System



Trademark Search System

<https://cloud.tipo.gov.tw/S282/S282WW1/>

◆ Trademark AI Image Search Feature Made Publicly Available

In order to lower the technical barrier for trademark searches and improve accuracy of search results, TIPO launched the AI-powered trademark image search feature on a trial basis in March 2024. The number of searches (including re-searches) in 2024 reached 58,492.

◆ Trademark Application Metadata Library Open Data

To support value-added applications by external parties, the trademark application metadata library was expanded in 2024. The upgraded library integrates trademark image files and associated metadata, allowing users to access both trademark graphics and related case information simultaneously via embedded text within the image files.

◆ Industrial Patent Knowledge Platform (IPKM)

In 2024, the Industrial Patent Knowledge Platform (IPKM) was migrated to the IP Info Cloud to improve the availability of TIPO's information services. The cloud-based platform now supports cross-device browsing, allowing users to easily access patent documents, expert articles, the latest IP news, national patent systems, and academic resources via desktop, tablet, or mobile phone.



New Industrial Patent Knowledge Platform



Industrial Patent Knowledge Platform (IPKM)

<https://cloud.tipo.gov.tw/S400>

Additional Information on Patent and Trademark Applications

◆ International Patent Classification

Starting from January 21, 2024, invention and utility model patent applications were classified according to the 2023.01 version of the International Patent Classification (IPC). Additionally, the *Patent Gazette* started incorporating the 2023.01 version of the IPC from January 21, 2024, and the *Patent Application Publication Gazette* did so from April 1, 2024.

◆ Patent Annuity Handbook

To enhance public understanding of patent maintenance requirements, TIPO compiled the Patent Annuity Handbook. This handbook addresses key concerns such as payment deadlines, fee amounts, payment methods, and status tracking from a user-centric perspective. It also includes visual guides to improve comprehension, serving as a practical reference for patentees to uphold their rights.

◆ Nice Classification

To align with the International (Nice) Classification of Goods and Services (NCL12-2024), TIPO updated the Taiwan-Japan Concordance of Similar Group Codes (corresponding to NCL12-2024), the Taiwan-Korea Concordance of Similar Group Codes (corresponding to NCL12-2024) and the Cross-Strait Concordance of Similar Group Codes (corresponding to NCL12-2024) in February, March and September of 2024 respectively. Both are made available on TIPO's website to Taiwan residents, as well as applicants from Japan, Korea and Mainland China.

2. Digitalizing Examinations

Patent Examination Digitization

◆ Online Examination for Patent Rights and Certificates

The entire examination efficiency, the entire review process for patent rights, patent certificates, and agents has been digitized. System development was completed, and internal pilot testing was conducted. The full pilot run began in October 2024.

◆ Enhance the Patent Information Retrieval Service

In order to enhance the environment for retrieving prior patent cases, the Global Patent Information Retrieval System was enhanced with the addition of the Japanese full-text publication database. The system now offers prior art retrieval, citation management, and keyword spectrum value-added services, helping to improve both the efficiency and quality of examination.

Trademark Examination Digitization

◆ Trademark Agent Management and Accelerated Examination

The trademark e-Examination system was upgraded to include functionalities for reviewing trademark agent qualifications and case management. The accelerated examination feature was also completed and made available to the public in May 2024. As of the end of 2024, TIPO had received 1,429 trademark agent registration applications, and 131 accelerated examination applications.

◆ Online Examination for the Payment of Trademark Registration Fees

In order to conserve energy and reduce carbon emissions while improving examination efficiency, TIPO transitioned the examination of trademark registration fee payments from paper-based to online processing. The new system was launched in November 2024.

◆ Automatic Classification of Trademark Graphic Paths

A classification model based on convolutional neural network (CNN) architecture was developed to support an automatic recommendation mechanism for classifying trademark graphic paths. The system provides five recommended paths as references for creating and proofreading graphic classifications.

This feature has been fully available for examiners since April 2024, aiming to accelerate the classification process and improve the consistency of classification results.

◆ Completion of Automatic Recommendation for Goods and Services

To reduce the time required for manual judgment and correction during examination, TIPO developed an automatic recommendation system for goods and services using natural language processing (NLP) and historical database analysis. Through a user-friendly interface, the system presents suggested terms for selection. This feature became fully available to examiners in November 2024.

3. Knowledge Sharing

Patent

◆ Compilation of Patent Administrative Litigation Case Studies

TIPO compiled 13 important administrative litigation cases — both those in which TIPO's original disposition was revoked and those in which it was upheld — into to discuss patentability factors such as inventive step, lacking novelty based on legal fiction, admissible evidence, and probative value of evidence. The 2023 Compilation of Patent Administrative Litigation Cases Studies is available electronically on TIPO's website for public reference.

◆ Patent Administrative Rulings

TIPO has asked examiners to draft analytical reports on select patent administrative rulings from the IP and Commercial Court. These are compiled and published bimonthly on TIPO's official website for public reference.



Patent Administrative Rulings

<https://topic.tipo.gov.tw/patents-tw/lp-741-101.html>

◆ Analysis of Recent Disputed Standard Essential Patent Litigation Cases

Using court rulings involving wireless mobile communication technologies, this analysis explores the relationship between patents and technical standards, summarizes relevant judgments and academic literature, and develops a framework for assessing essentiality.

The aim is to enhance awareness of standard essential patents (SEPs) among patent users and reduce the knowledge gap during licensing negotiations, thereby facilitating licensing agreement based on the FRAND (Fair, Reasonable, and Non-Discriminatory) principles.



Analysis of Recent Disputed Standard Essential Patent Litigation Cases
<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/patents-tw/cp-978-985700-63efe-101.html>

◆ Report on Intellectual Property Policy Analysis of Major Standards Development Organizations

This report analyzes the IPR policies of major standards development organizations (SDOs) that govern the licensing of standard essential patents (SEPs) under FRAND principles.

Focusing on the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), the report introduces the evolution of their IP policies, licensing terms, declaration databases, and associated statistics.

It compares disclosure and licensing mechanisms across the three organizations and includes examples of how to complete licensing declaration forms as well as trend analyses, offering practical guidance to stakeholders on SEP licensing and declaration handling.



Report on Intellectual Property Policy Analysis of Major Standards Development Organizations
<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/patents-tw/cp-978-985698-7a4a0-101.html>

◆ Report on Standard Essential Patent (SEP) Dynamics Survey

In recent years, Taiwan's industries have faced increasing challenges in standard essential patent (SEP) licensing, exacerbated by shifts in international SEP policies that impact global competitiveness. To support local industries, TIPO actively monitors global SEP-related developments, collecting public information to conduct dynamic trend analyses and build a knowledge base.

These efforts aim to equip domestic stakeholders with insights into international SEP trends and policy changes, enabling them to quickly adapt to evolving foreign legal and policy environments.



Report on Standard Essential Patent Dynamics Survey, Season 1
<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/cp-85-939420-e7c45-1.html>



Report on Standard Essential Patent Dynamics Survey, Season 2
<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/cp-85-974559-f4c4d-1.html>



Report on Standard Essential Patent Dynamics Survey, Season 3
<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/cp-85-985607-1f5b9-1.html>

Trademark

◆ Article-by-Article Interpretation of the Trademark Act

In response to the implementation of the Trademark Act and its supporting regulations on May 1, 2024, the Article-by-Article Interpretation of the Trademark Act has been revised. The revision includes: Incorporating judicial insights with reference value, particularly regarding the determination of "infringement use"; Clearly stipulating that trademarks containing functional features are not eligible for registration; Clarifying and supplementing judicial interpretations on provisions related to descriptive fair use and nominative fair use, including their meanings and applicable circumstances; Updating the compilation of relevant judgments and examination guidelines.

◆ Constantly Developing and Maintaining Rulings on Well-Known Trademarks

Between July 2023 and June 2024, TIPO compiled 321 well-known trademark cases, as recognized by the MOEA Petitions and Appeals Committee of the Department of Economic Legal Affairs, courts at all levels, the Taiwan Network Information Center (TWNIC), the Fair Trade Commission, and TIPO. The total number of well-known trademarks has now reached 964. TIPO has also analyzed relevant data, such as the distribution of trademark holders, and published the findings on its website for public access.

◆ Constantly Developing and Maintaining the "Net-Zero Emissions Related Certification Mark" Section

TIPO continues to maintain and update the Net-Zero Emissions Related Certificate Mark section. Presented in a concise and easy-to-understand format, this resource helps the public grasp the specific meaning of relevant certificate marks and promotes environmental awareness and the green economy.

◆ Trademark Rulings and Interpretations of Laws Updated

TIPO conducts bi-monthly reviews of civil, criminal, and administrative trademark judgments issued by the IP and Commercial Court. From December 2023 to November 2024, TIPO compiled 37 significant trademark judgements, along with summaries and key point analyses. In addition, TIPO reviewed a total of eight interpretation letters relevant to trademarks laws and regulations. Topics include issues regarding trademark licensing, transfer, and renewal of registration; determining the identity of actual use for registered trademarks; and consent to the trademark registration provided by persons portrayed in the trademark. All compiled information is available on the TIPO website for public reference.

Copyright

◆ Compilation of Copyright Regulations over the Years

The Compilation of Copyright Regulations over the Years is a collection of the amendments made to the Copyright Act across different periods. This edition includes updates to the Copyright Act promulgated in 2016, 2019, and May 4, 2022, providing judicial authorities, academics, experts, and interested parties with a more in-depth understanding.

◆ Know Your Copyrights

In response to the rapid development of digital technologies, TIPO conducted a comprehensive review and update of the content in Know Your Copyrights in 2024. New sections were added to address popular copyright-related topics, including issues concerning the use of messaging platforms such as LINE and set-top boxes.

Trade Secrets

◆ Compilation of Selected Court Rulings on Trade Secret Cases

To keep abreast of the latest judicial practices concerning trade secrets in Taiwan, TIPO selected 22 court rulings of significant reference value, compiling them into the 2023 Compilation of Selected Court Rulings on Trade Secret Cases, which was published on the TIPO website for public reference.



2023 Compilation of Selected Court Rulings on Trade Secret Cases

<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/cp-12-976336-14293-1.html>

◆ Practical Guidelines for Managing Trade Secrets in Academic and Research Institutions

In response to growing industry-academia collaboration, in 2024, the TIPO developed the Practical Guidelines for Managing Trade Secrets in Academic and Research Institutions and published the strategies on the TIPO website's Trade Secrets Section, aiming to help academic and research institutions build management mechanisms.



Practical Guidelines for Managing Trade Secrets in Academic and Research Institutions

<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/cp-9-936626-c366e-1.html>