



II

IPR EXAMINATIONS AND SERVICES

1. Patent Examination
2. Trademark Examination
3. Copyright Affairs

II

IPR EXAMINATIONS AND SERVICES

TIPO remains committed to providing high-quality examination and services, maintaining stable examination timelines for invention patents and trademarks. It has introduced the Accelerated Examination Program for Reexamination (AEPre) for invention patents and an accelerated examination mechanism for trademark applications. In addition, TIPO is actively working to strengthen the copyright licensing market and exploring practical industry responses to copyright issues arising from generative AI, while continuing to address the evolving needs of intellectual property stakeholders.

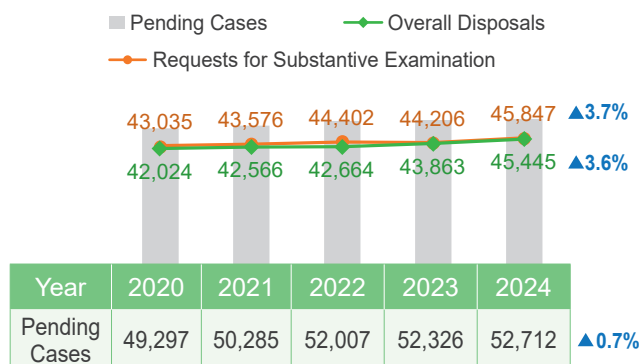
1. Patent Examination

Examination Performance

Through active implementation of various controls and online systems to facilitate examination, TIPO has maintained stable and predictable timelines for examination, with an average first office action pendency of 8.4 months and a disposal pendency for invention patents of 14.2 months in 2024.

◆ Invention Patent Examination

Invention Patent Examination Cases



In 2024, substantive examinations (45,847) increased by 3.7% from 2023, disposals (45,445) increased by 3.6%; and pending applications (52,712) increased by 0.7%.

TIPO maintained a balanced ratio of requests and disposals for substantive examinations of invention patent applications.

Examination Outcomes of Invention Patent Applications

Year		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Item	Cases	30,542	31,833	32,622	33,821	35,485
	Percentage	72.7%	74.8%	76.5%	77.1%	78.1%
Rejection	Cases	10,509	9,945	9,250	9,284	9,095
	Percentage	25.0%	23.4%	21.7%	21.2%	20.0%
Others (including withdrawals and not accepted)	Cases	973	788	792	758	865
	Percentage	2.3%	1.8%	1.8%	1.7%	1.9%

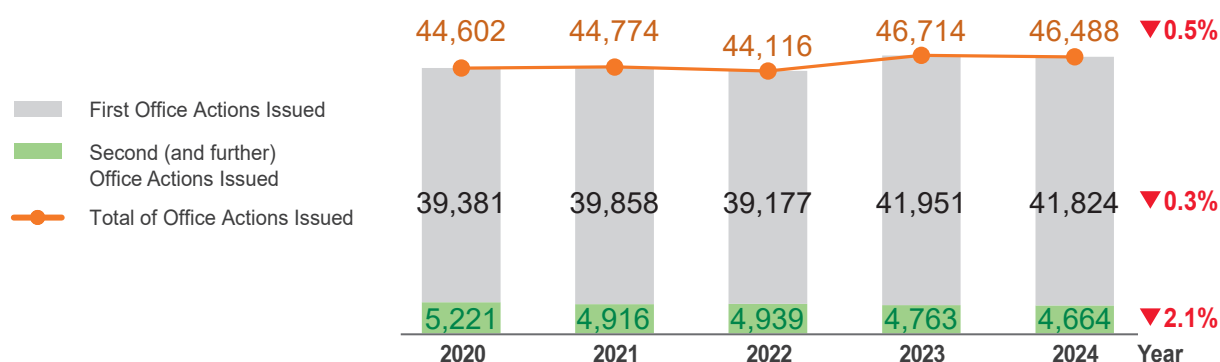
Note: 1. Percentage is calculated by dividing the number of allowances, rejections, and others by the number of overall disposals.

2. Overall disposals include allowances, rejections, and others (including withdrawals and not accepted).

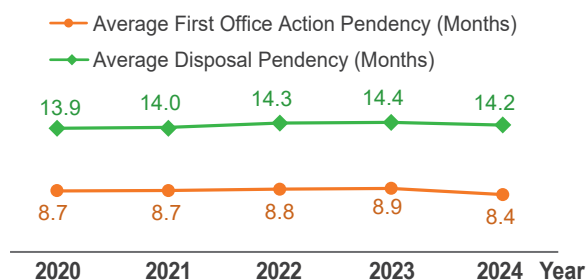
Examination outcomes in 2024 included 35,485 allowances (78.1% of overall disposals), 9,095 rejections (20.0%), and 865 others instances of other outcomes (1.9%), including withdrawals and not accepted.

Number of Office Actions for Invention Patent Examination

In 2024, office actions for invention patent applications (46,488) decreased by 0.5% from 2023. Of these, 41,824 were first office actions, and 4,664 were second (and further) office actions. TIPO also issued 73 final office actions.



Pendency for Processing Examination of Invention Patent Applications



The average first office action pendency for invention patents in 2024 was 8.4 months, and the average disposal pendency was 14.2 months – both within the bounds of reasonable processing times.

Note: 1. "Average First Office Action Pendency" refers to the average time it takes to process a request for substantive examination from the time it is filed to the time of issuing a first office action.

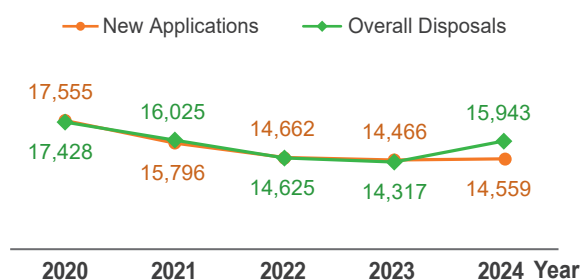
2. "Average Disposal Pendency" refers to the average time it takes to process a request for substantive examination from the time it is filed to the time a decision is issued.

3. Each figure refers to the average pendency as of the end of the indicated year.

◆ Utility Model Patent Examination

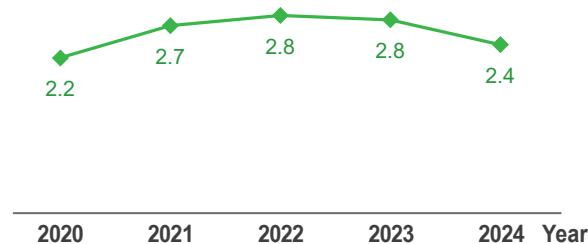
In 2024, the number of disposals of utility model patent applications stood at 15,943. The average disposal pendency for utility model patents was 2.4 months, allowing applicants to obtain utility model patents quickly.

Utility Model Patent Examination Cases



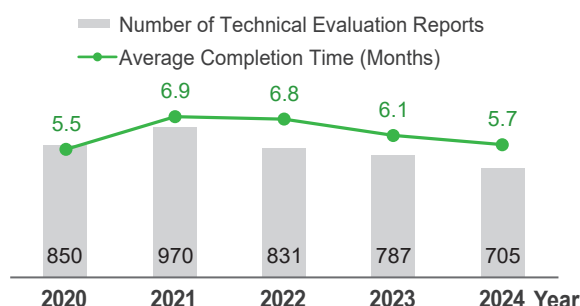
Note: Overall disposals include allowances, rejections, and others (including withdrawals and not accepted).

Average Disposal Pendency for Utility Model Patent Applications (Months)



Note: Each figure refers to the average pendency as of the end of the indicated year.

Number of Technical Evaluation Reports/ Average Completion Time



In 2024, 705 technical evaluation reports were completed for utility model patents, and the average completion time was 5.7 months.

◆ Design Patent Examination

Examination Outcomes of Design Patent Applications

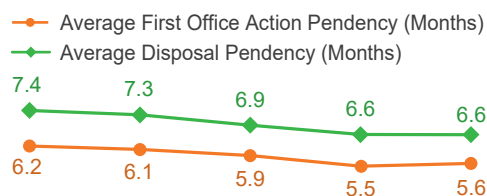
Year		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Item	Cases	7,164	7,304	6,564	6,268	6,609
	Percentage	84.4%	86.7%	88.7%	87.5%	88.1%
Rejection	Cases	989	760	582	635	583
	Percentage	11.6%	9.0%	7.9%	8.9%	7.8%
Others (including withdrawals and not accepted)	Cases	338	361	254	262	310
	Percentage	4.0%	4.3%	3.4%	3.6%	4.1%

Note: 1. Percentage is calculated by dividing the number of allowances, rejections, and others by the number of overall disposals.

2. Overall disposals include allowances, rejections, and others (including withdrawals and not accepted).

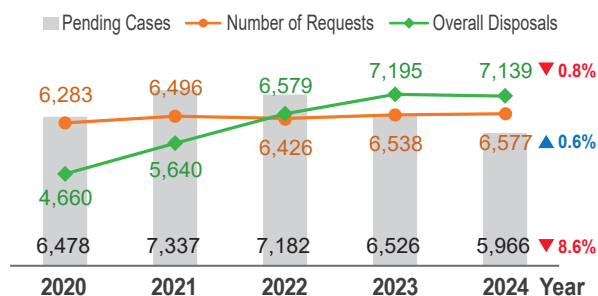
In 2024, the examination outcomes for design patents included 6,609 allowances (88.1% of 7,502 overall disposals), 583 rejections (7.8%), and 310 others (4.1%).

Pendency for Processing Examination of Design Patent Applications



The average first office action pendency for design patents in 2024 was 5.6 months, and the average disposal pendency was 6.6 months – both within the bounds of reasonable processing times.

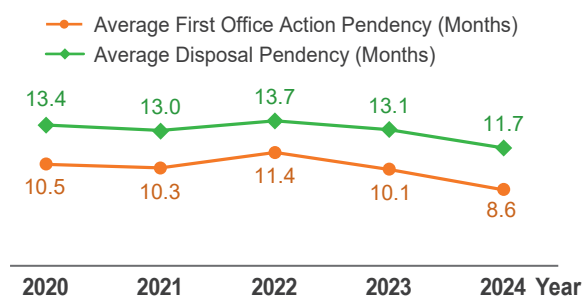
◆ Invention Patent Reexamination Invention Patent Reexamination Cases



Requests for invention patent reexamination in 2022, 2023, and 2024 were 6,426, 6,538, and 6,577 respectively. Compared to 2023, reexaminations requests increased by 0.6%. The number of reexamination disposals was 6,579, 7,195, and 7,139 within the same period, showing a slight decrease of 0.8%.

Compared to 2023, pending reexaminations (5,966) decreased by 8.6%.

Pendency for Processing Reexamination of Invention Patent Applications

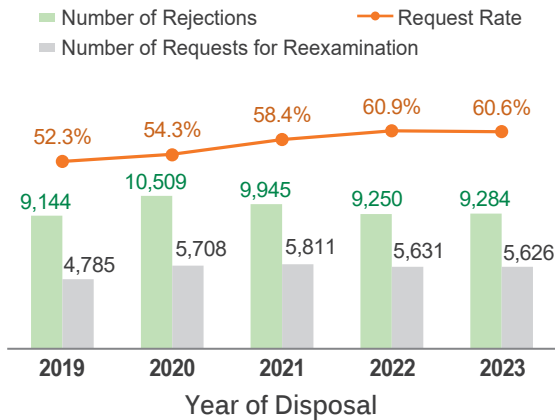


In 2024, both the average first office action pendency and disposal pendency for invention patent reexaminations remained stable at 8.6 months and 11.7 months respectively, which was significantly shortened.

Note: 1. "Average First Office Action Pendency" refers to the average time it takes to process a reexamination request from the time it is filed to the time of issuing a first office action.

2. "Average Disposal Pendency" refers to the average time it takes to process a reexamination request from the time it is filed to the time of rendering a written decision.

Request Rate for Invention Patent Reexamination



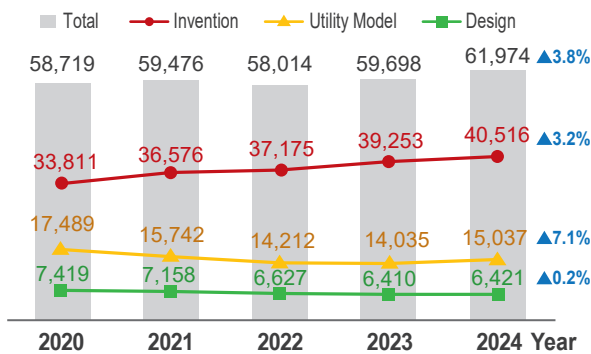
In 2023, 9,284 examinations were rejected, and the request rate for reexamination was 60.6%. According to data since 2020, the percentage of reexamination requests has increased until 2023 and then stabilized.

Note: 1. "Request Rate" is calculated by dividing the number of requests for reexamination by the number of rejections based on the year of disposal, not the year the request was filed.

2. Applicants may request reexamination within two months after the date on which the rejection is served. As such, the latest figures may be unavailable by the publication of this report, and figures from the past year are used.

Patent Grants

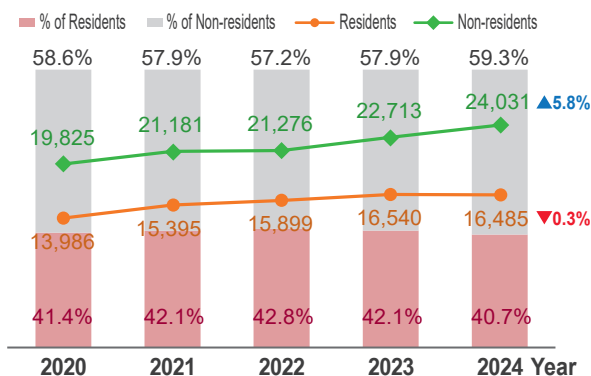
Types of Patent Grants



In 2024, a total of 61,974 patents were granted, marking a 3.8% year-over-year increase. This included 40,516 invention patents (up 3.2%), 15,037 utility model patents (up 7.1%), and 6,421 design patents (up 0.2%).

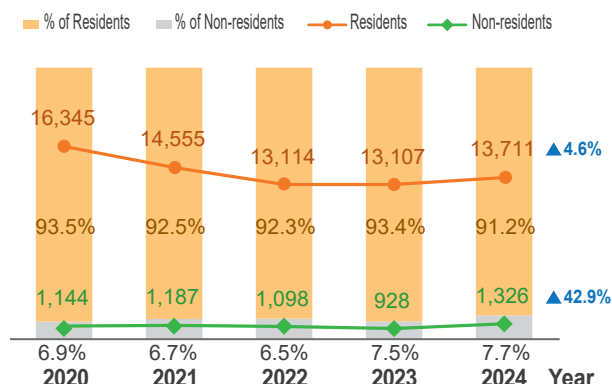
Over the past five years, invention patent grants have grown steadily, while utility model and design patents have rebounded from previous declines.

Trends in Invention Patent Grants



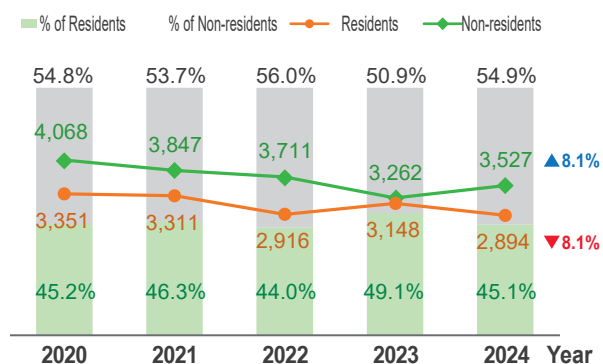
By nationality, 16,485 invention patents were granted to domestic applicants in 2024, a slight decrease of 0.3%, while 24,031 were granted to foreign applicants, an increase of 5.8%. The share between domestic and foreign applications remained roughly 40% to 60%, respectively.

Trends in Utility Model Patent Grants



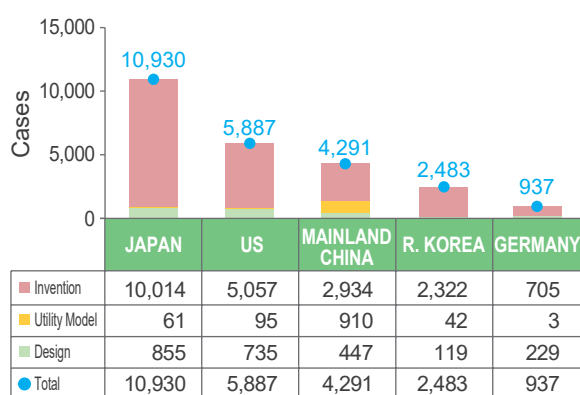
For utility model patents in 2024, 13,711 grants were issued to domestic applicants (up 4.6%), while 1,326 were granted to foreign applicants (up 42.9%). Domestic applicants accounted for approximately 91% of all granted utility model patents.

Trends in Design Patent Grants



For design patents in 2024, 2,894 grants were issued to domestic applicants, a decrease of 8.1%, while 3,527 were granted to foreign applicants, an increase of 8.1%. Domestic applicants accounted for around 45% of all design patent grants.

Top 5 Countries (Regions) Receiving Patent Grants from Taiwan in 2024

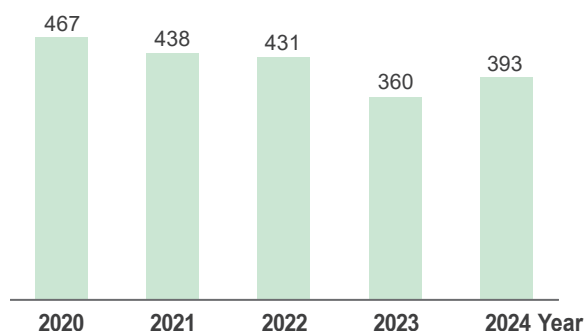


In terms of total patents granted in Taiwan in 2024, the top five countries/regions were: Japan (10,930), US (5,887), and mainland China (4,291).

By patent type, Japan led in invention patents with 10,014 grants, mainland China led in utility model patents with 910, and Japan also topped design patents with 855 grants.

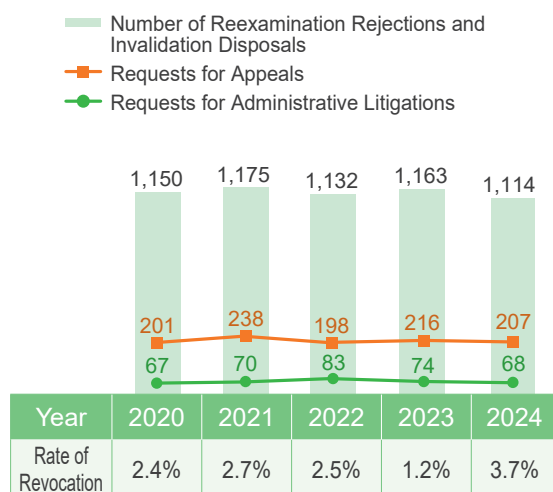
Invalidation and Administrative Remedy

Requests for Invalidation



The number of invalidation requests from 2022 to 2024 was 431, 360, and 393 respectively.

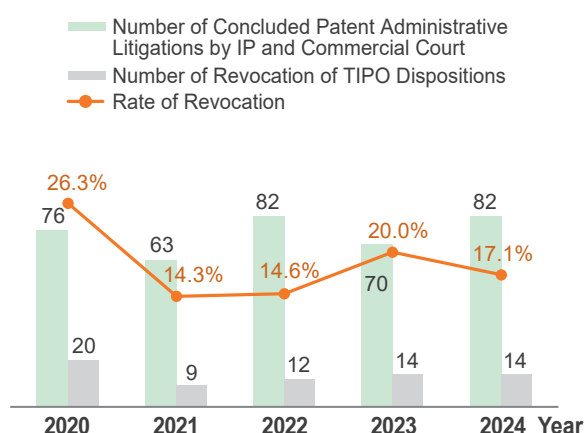
Requests for Administrative Remedy



Between 2022 and 2024, there was a total of 3,409 (1,132, 1,163, and 1,114 cases, respectively) reexamination rejections and invalidation disposals. In the same period, 621 appeals (198, 216, and 207 cases, respectively) and 225 administrative litigation requests (83, 74, and 68 cases, respectively) were filed against TIPO's original dispositions.

Of the requests for appeals between 2022 and 2024, the Ministry of Economic Affairs revoked 2.5%, 1.2%, and 3.7% of TIPO's original dispositions.

Rate of Revocation of TIPO Dispositions



225 administrative litigation requests were filed in the same period (83, 74, and 68, respectively, between 2022 and 2024). The IP and Commercial Court concluded 82, 70, and 82 administrative litigation cases in those years respectively, and revoked 12, 14, and 14 TIPO dispositions — including cases where the plaintiff fully or partially prevailed. The rate of revocation in 2024 was 17.1%, with 10 cases (12.2%) ruled in favor of the plaintiff and 4 cases (4.9%) resulting in partial judgments. Most revocations stemmed from the IP and Commercial Court's differing interpretation of TIPO's assessment of inventive step, determinations regarding patent term extension, and issues related to the admissibility of new evidence under Article 33 of the Intellectual Property Case Adjudication Act.

Patent Examination in Multiple Measures

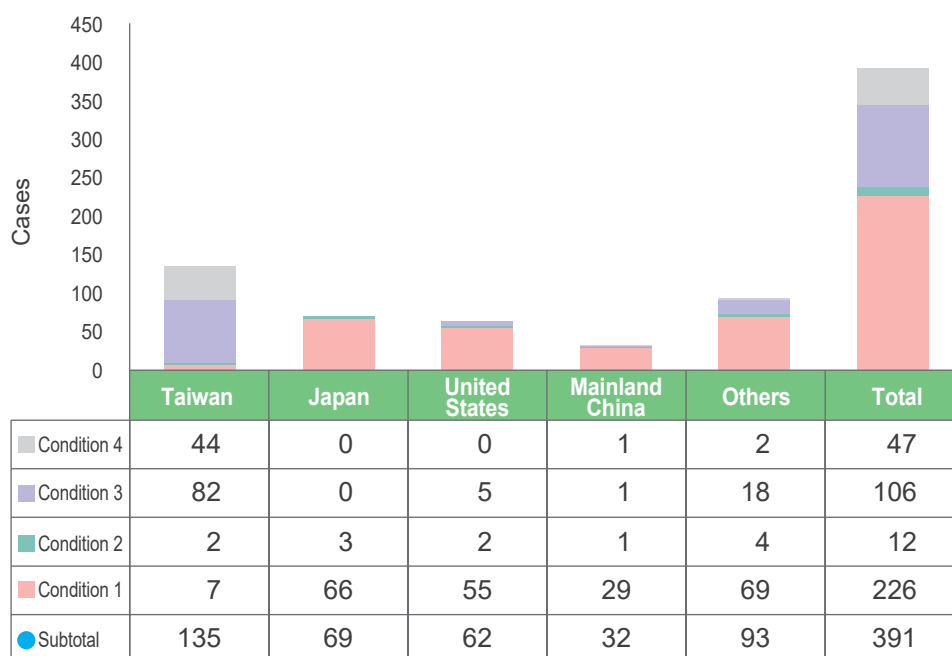
TIPO employs various measures to help applicants develop their patent portfolios. In addition to accelerating patent examinations, applicants may also choose to defer substantive examination and/or publication of approved patents, allowing for greater flexibility in their filing strategies, patent portfolio development, and/or patent commercialization timelines.

◆ Accelerated Examination Program (AEP)

A total of 391 AEP requests were filed in 2024. Of these, 226 requests were filed under Condition 1 (when the corresponding foreign application has been granted via substantive examination by a foreign patent authority), accounting for the majority of total AEP requests. Requests filed under Condition 3 (when the invention patent application is essential to commercial exploitation) ranked second, accounting for 106 requests.

The majority of requests (135) were submitted by domestic applicants, with most citing Condition 3, followed by Condition 4 (related to green technology). Among foreign applicants, Japan led with 69 requests, followed by the United States (62).

AEP requests by Nationality



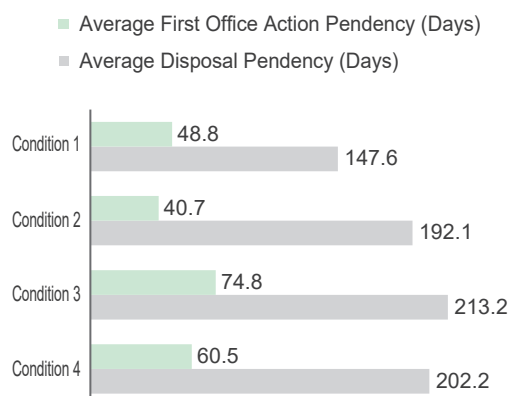
Note: Condition 1 is when the application's corresponding foreign application has been granted under substantive examination by a foreign patent authority;

Condition 2 is when the EPO, JPO or USPTO has issued an office action and a search report during substantive examination but has yet to allow the application's corresponding foreign application;

Condition 3 is when the invention patent application is essential to commercial exploitation;

Condition 4 is when the invention is related to green technology.

Pendency for Processing AEP Requests










As of the end of 2024, the average first office action pendency was between 41 and 75 days, and the average disposal pendency was between 148 and 213 days.

Note: 1. "Average first office action pendency" refers to the average time from the time document requirements are met to the time a first office action is issued. The said pendency is calculated on the basis of office actions first issued or disposed in 2024.

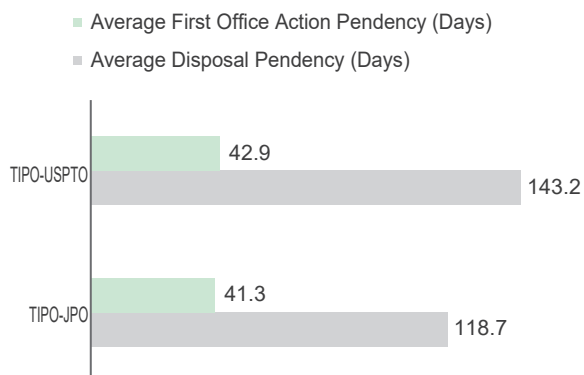
2. "Average disposal pendency" refers to the average time from the time document requirements are met to the time a final decision is issued. The said pendency is calculated based on disposals made in 2024.

◆ Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program

TIPO is currently partnering with USPTO, JPO, SPTO, KIPO, PPO, and CIPO on the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program. Patents applications filed under the TIPO-USPTO (466) and TIPO-JPO (453) PPH programs accounted for the majority of total PPH applications (944) in 2024.

PPH Program	Nationality of Applicants								Total
	 Taiwan	 United States	 Japan	 Spain	 R. of Korea	 Poland	 Canada	Others	
TIPO-USPTO	23	306	12	0	52	0	8	65	466
TIPO-JPO	0	3	434	0	0	0	0	16	453
TIPO-SPTO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TIPO-KIPO	0	0	1	0	23	0	0	0	24
TIPO-PPO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TIPO-CIPO	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	23	309	448	0	75	0	8	81	944

Pendency for Processing PPH Requests



As of the end of 2024, the average first office action pendency for patents filed under the TIPO-USPTO and the TIPO-JPO PPH programs was 43 and 41 days respectively, and the average disposal pendency was 143 and 119 days respectively.

Note: 1. "Average first office action pendency" refers to the average time from the time document requirements are met to the time a first office action is issued. The said pendency is calculated based on office actions first issued or disposed in 2024.

2. "Average disposal pendency" refers to the average time from the time document requirements are met to the time a final decision is issued. The said pendency is calculated based on disposals made in 2024.

◆ TW-Support Using the PPH Agreement (TW-SUPA) Examination Program

The TW-Support Using the PPH Agreement (TW-SUPA) Examination Program was launched on March 1, 2012, allowing applicants to request fast-tracking for invention patent applications within six months corresponding foreign application. This program has greatly increased the efficiency by which TIPO shares examination information with its global counterparts, and enables applicants to fast-track overseas patent applications in key technologies with TIPO's examination results.

Thanks to the well-executed Patent Backlog Reduction Project, only 22 TW-SUPA requests were filed in 2024. The average first office action pendency and the average disposal pendency were 0.93 and 4.0 months respectively.

◆ Positive Patent Examination Pilot Program for Startups

To help startup industries quickly develop patent portfolios and assess the likelihood of securing invention patents, TIPO launched the Positive Patent Examination Pilot Program for Startups in January 2021. The program received 66 eligibility applications from a total of 42 startups in 2024. The average processing time for applications was 70.3 days.



Positive Patent Examination Pilot Program for Startups

<https://www.tipo.gov.tw/tw/cp-85-985701-34055-1.html>

◆ Patent Search

The Patent Search Center (PSC) assists TIPO in conducting prior art search for invention patent applications. In 2024, 65 professional search personnel compiled 9,440 patent search reports, effectively enhancing the efficiency of patent examinations.

The Patent Search Center continues to provide patent search and analysis services to promote the development and application of intellectual property across industry, government, academia, and research institutions. These services help clients enhance the value of technological research and development, manage and utilize patent resources more effectively, and support industrial innovation and competitiveness.

◆ Deferral of Patent Examination

As factors like applicants' filing strategies, patent portfolios, and timeline for patent commercialization may differ case by case, TIPO began accepting requests for deferral of invention patent substantive examination on April 1, 2015. As of the end of 2024, TIPO accepted a total of 1,646 deferral requests.

Since July 1, 2018, TIPO has accepted requests to defer substantive examination of design patent applications. Applicants may request deferral within one year from the filing date or, if priority is claimed, from the priority date. As of the end of August, 2023, a total of 565 deferral requests have been submitted.

Starting from September 1, 2023, the deferred examination period for design patent applications claiming priority has been amended to within one year from the filing date. As of the end of 2024, a total of 399 deferral requests were received.

◆ Industry Collaborative Patent Interview Pilot Program

The Industry Collaborative Patent Interview Pilot Program has been implemented on a trial basis for two years since January 3, 2023. The program helps patent examiners rapidly understand the technical content of forward-looking technology patent applications, improving examination efficiency and quality. It also addresses applicants' needs for accelerated patent grants to support their patent portfolio strategies.

As of the end of 2024, a total of seven industry-collaborative interviews have been conducted. Among them, five sessions - covering six invention patent applications - were completed and had examination results issued. The average processing time was 10.5 days, with most cases involving semiconductor-related technologies.

◆ New System for Telephone Communication with External Examiners and Remote Video Interview

On September 1, 2024, TIPO introduced the Optimization Program for Telephone Communication and Remote Video Interviews with External Examiners on a pilot basis. Invention patent applicants can now use TIPO's three-way conference call system for real-time communication and exchange of opinions with their representative, the external examiner, and TIPO examiners. For more complex cases or those requiring demonstrations, a remote video interview can also be arranged, allowing direct interaction with the external examiner and TIPO examiners. This initiative is designed to enhance the quality of patent applications and improve the efficiency of the examination process. An FAQ on Telephone Communication and Interview Procedures for Invention Patent Examination has been published on TIPO website for public reference.

◆ Accelerated Examination Program for Reexamination (AEPRé) Program

To expedite invention patent reexamination cases and reduce the workload for TIPO by allowing preliminary examination opinions to carry over, the Accelerated Examination Program for Reexamination of Invention Patents (AEPRé) was launched on September 1, 2024.

In cases where the final rejection decision in substantive examination applies only to certain claims, and at least one claim remains allowable, the applicant may amend the application by deleting the rejected claims and converting the allowable dependent claims into independent claims. If the amended claims fall within the scope deemed allowable during substantive examination, the applicant may submit an AEPRé request. Under this program, a reexamination opinion or decision will be issued within six months.

As of the end of 2024, a total of 14 cases had been accepted under AEPR_e, with 10 cases having received examination results. On average, it took only 15 days from submission of the AEPR_e request to issuance of a reexamination opinion or decision.

Optimizing Patent Examination Quality

Enhancing examination quality has long been a key focus of TIPO's operations. Ongoing efforts include refining examination guidelines, reviewing cases, establishing an online feedback mechanism, and strengthening the professional competencies of examiners. These initiatives aim to standardize decision-making criteria and further improve the quality of patent examinations.

◆ Collaborative Examination Program for Reexamination of Emerging Technology Patents

With the rapid development of emerging technologies such as AI, the technical complexity of emerging technology patents is increasing year by year. In response, TIPO launched the Collaborative Examination Program on January 1, 2024.

By assigning two examiners with complementary technical backgrounds to collaboratively conduct search and examination, this program enhances the efficiency of invention patent reexamination and ensures the consistency and accuracy of examination results.

As of the end of 2024, a total of 50 applications had undergone collaborative examination, including 9 in the field of human necessities, 19 in electronics and information technology, 12 in mechanical and civil engineering, and 10 in pharmaceutical and chemicals.

◆ Patent Examination Quality Review Mechanism

In 2024, TIPO reviewed 1,037 invention and 270 design patent applications, accounting for 2.4 % and 3.8% respectively of all first office action decisions for those patent types. In addition, 120 invention patent reexamination cases were reviewed. The reviews indicated that patent examination quality was well-maintained. TIPO holds meetings for patent examination twice a year to analyze review results and identify common defects. The results serve as reference for future examiner training.

◆ Communication Platform for Examination-Related Technical Fields

To increase consistency between examination and reexamination outcomes, TIPO established a communication platform to facilitate the exchange of opinions across different examination departments. By providing example cases from different technical fields, discussions are held to build consensus on patentability requirements. In 2024, the technical fields included machinery, electronics and electrical engineering, computer science, and biomedicine. Topics discussed included the interpretation of the scope of the content disclosed as filed, eligibility of citations, allowability of amendment, and issues related to patent term extension.

◆ New Hearing Procedure for Patent Invalidation Cases

The new hearing procedure for patent invalidation cases came into effect on June 11, 2024, and the highlights include:

- (1) Strengthening the role of preparatory hearings: Reduces wait time caused by the issuance of official clarification letters
- (2) Appropriate disclosure of the basis for examination decisions: Helps facilitates smoother follow-up reviews
- (3) Introduction of video hearings: Facilitates client participation
- (4) Simplifying hearing records: Improves the hearing process by using technology to support real-time recording
- (5) Clarifying the effect of absentee hearings: If one party is absent and certain conditions are met, the hearing may proceed as one-party hearing in accordance with applicable rules

◆ Review and Analysis of Revoked Invalidation and Reexamination Cases

Every year, TIPO reviews and analyzes invalidation and reexamination cases revoked by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the IP and Commercial Court. Important cases are selected for study, and TIPO also conducts case study sessions on the dismissal of patent administrative litigations. These cases are incorporated into analysis reports and compiled into the Compilation of Patent Administrative Litigation Cases Studies for future reference to make quality improvements.

◆ Training Professional Patent Examiners

TIPO is dedicated to furnishing our examiners with the requisite technological knowledge to grasp new trends in industries and technologies, resolve practical issues during the examination process, and improve examination quality.

As such, TIPO organizes basic training for new examiners and helps them transition to subsequent training in search techniques and examination skills. Additionally, TIPO also offers multi-level professional training for examiners, covering topics such as updates to the patent examination guidelines and their application, patent examination case studies, and analyses of patent administrative litigation revocation cases.

Furthermore, in August, TIPO organized a professional seminar for part-time patent examiners. The seminar covered topics such as prior art search practices and evaluation of invention patentability.

TIPO also occasionally invites domestic experts to give lectures on specific industry topics such as "Semiconductor Water Conservation," "Autonomous Driving Image Recognition," and "6G Communication."



Case studies of patent examination



Outstanding Examiner Award Ceremony

2.Trademark Examination

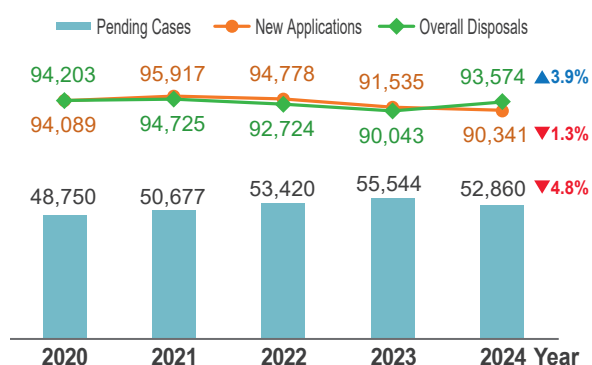
Since 2015, the number of trademark applications by class has exceeded 100,000 annually. From 2018 to 2020, filings remained above 110,000 for three consecutive years and surpassed 120,000 in 2021 and 2022. The number dropped to 115,000 in 2023 and declined further to 113,000 in 2024. To improve examination efficiency, TIPO introduced the Fast-Track Trademark Examination Program pilot in May 2020, supplemented by an online time-control system. In 2024, the average first action pendency was approximately 6.1 months.

Examination Performance

After eight consecutive years of growth, the number of trademark applications began to decline in 2022, with the rate of decline slowing in 2024. Despite a continued shortage of manpower, the Trademark Division reallocated personnel and strengthened training for new staff, enabling dispositions to reach 117,000 classes, and slightly reducing the backlog in pending cases.

◆ Status of Trademark Examinations

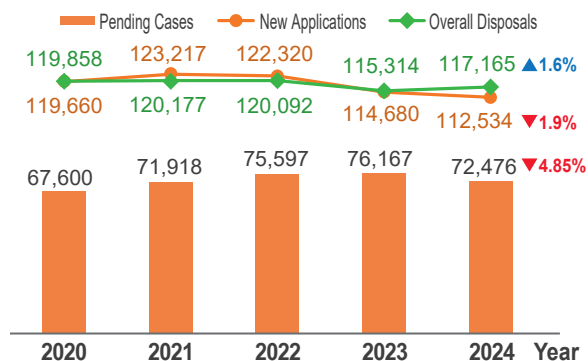
Trademark Application Examinations (by Case)



Note: "Overall Disposals" include approvals, rejections, and others. "Pending Cases" refers to pending applications as of December 31 of each year.

In 2024, TIPO received 90,341 trademark applications (by cases), down by 1.3% from 2023 (91,535). A total of 93,574 cases were disposed, up by 3.9% from 2023 (90,043). The number of pending cases dropped to 52,860, down by 4.8% from 2023 (55,544).

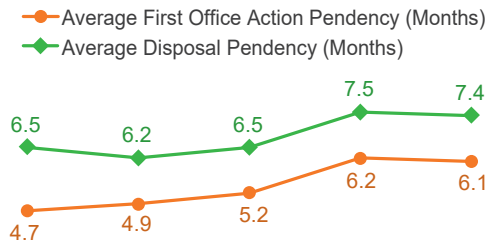
Trademark Application Examinations (by Class)



Note: "Overall Disposals" include approvals, rejections, and others. "Pending Cases" refers to pending applications (by class) as of December 31 of each year.

In 2024, TIPO received 112,534 trademark applications (by class), down by 1.9% from 2023 (114,680). A total of 117,165 classes were disposed, up by 1.6% from 2023 (115,314). There were 72,476 pending classes, down by 4.85% from 2023 (76,167).

Pendency for Processing Trademark Applications



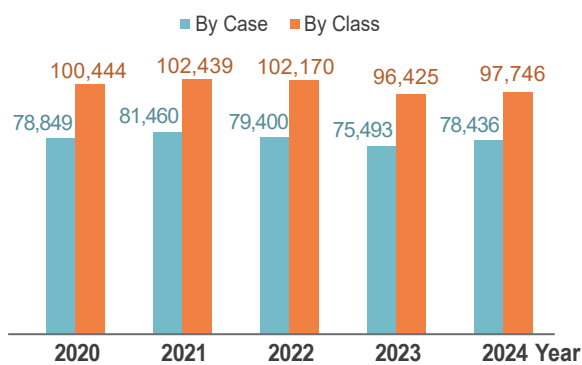
With the growing number of applications in recent years, TIPO has readjusted manpower to support and improve performance. The average first office action pendency was 6.1 months, and the average disposal pendency was 7.4 months.

2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 Year

Note: "Average First Office Action Pendency" refers to the average time it takes to process an application from the time of filing to the time of issuing a first office action.

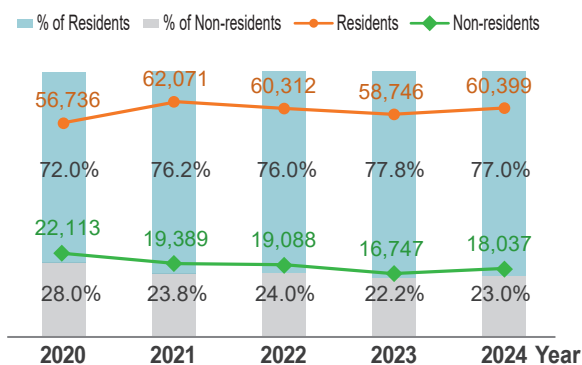
Trademark Registrations

Trademark Registrations (by Case/ by Class)



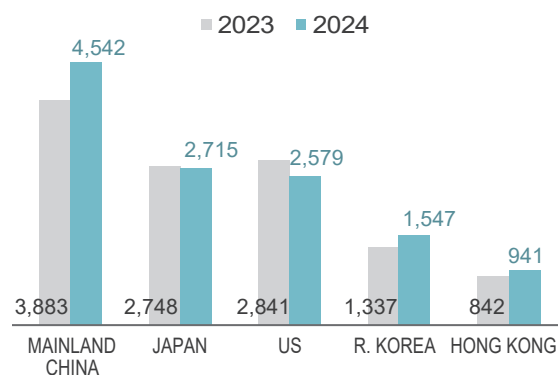
In 2024, a total of 78,436 trademarks were registered with TIPO, covering 97,746 classes. Both the numbers and classes showed an increase compared to 2023.

Trends in Trademark Registrations (by Case)



Of these, domestic applicants registered 60,399 trademarks, and foreign applicants registered 18,037 in 2024 – both figures rose year over year. Domestic applicants accounted for approximately 77% of all published trademark registrations.

Trademark Registrations of Top Five Countries (Regions) (by Case)



In 2024, the top five sources of foreign trademark registrations were mainland China (4,542 cases), followed by Japan (2,715), US (2,579), R. Korea (1,547), and Hong Kong (941).

Registration of Non-traditional Trademarks

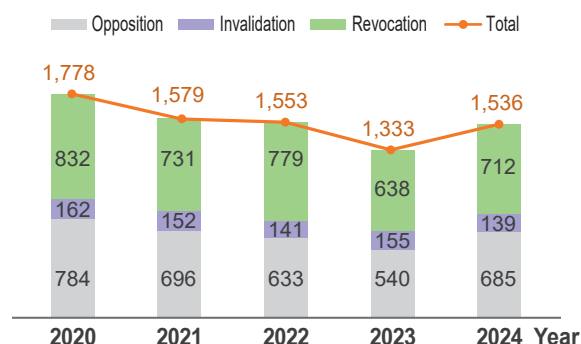
Unit: Case

Type \ Year	2022	2023	2024
3D	46	35	37
Sound	5	1	0
Color	0	1	0
Hologram	0	0	0
Motion	1	1	1
Others	16	4	3
Total	68	42	41

In 2024, a total of 41 non-traditional trademarks were registered, with 3D trademarks (37) being the most common.

Disputes and Administrative Remedy

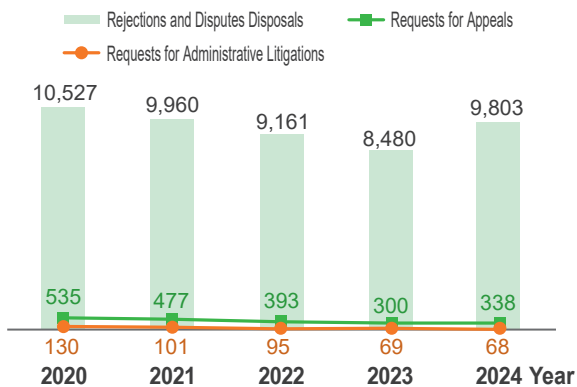
Trademark Disputes



Note: Trademark dispute requests include oppositions, invalidations, and revocations.

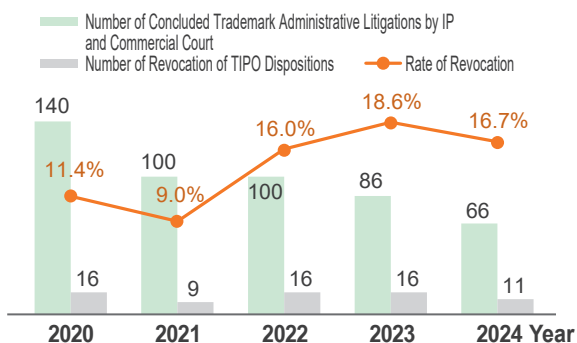
In 2024, 1,536 cases of trademark disputes were received, up by 203 from 2023 (1,333). These included 685 oppositions (up by 145), 139 invalidations (down by 16), and 712 revocations (up by 74).

Requests for Administrative Remedy



In 2024, TIPO issued 9,803 decisions on trademark rejections and disputes. Of these, 338 appeals were appealed to the Ministry of Economic Affairs, representing an appeal rate of 3.45%, down slightly from 2023 (3.54%). The number of administrative litigation cases filed with the IP and Commercial Court also declined slightly to 68, compared to 69 in 2023.

Rate of Revocation of TIPO Dispositions



In 2024, the IP and Commercial Court concluded 66 administrative litigation cases. Among these, 11 resulted in revocation of TIPO's original decisions - including full and partial victories for plaintiffs - yielding a revocation rate of 16.7%, down by 1.9% from 2023.

Trademark Examination in Multiple Measures

◆ Trademark Accelerated Examination

Accelerated examination for trademark registration applications was introduced on May 1, 2024. At the end of the first year, 131 applications had been accepted. For applications meeting the eligibility criteria, the average pendency from acceptance to issuance of the first office action was just 3.5 days. This mechanism supported industries in building their trademark portfolios and further enhanced the overall effectiveness of accelerated examination.

◆ Trademark Fast-track Examination

In 2024, 71.5% of trademark applications qualified for fast-track examination, significantly reducing the time for formality amendments. The average pendency to first office action for fast-track applications was 2.05 months shorter than that for regular cases, which was mutually beneficial for both applicants and TIPO.

Optimizing Trademark Examination Quality

TIPO spares no effort in pushing for the following measures to increase the number of trademark disposals and improve examination quality:

◆ Trademark Examination Quality Review Mechanism

In 2024, TIPO increased the percentage of pre-disposal sampling, reviewing 7,057 cases (7.54% of all cases). Substantive deficiencies were found in 1.98% of reviewed cases. Issues involving examination principles were communicated through examination workshops and incorporated into training programs to build consensus on examinations standards. Relevant cases were also compiled as references for future updates to the examination guidelines.

◆ Proposing Disputable Questions regarding Trademark Examination

To expedite the clarification of ambiguities regarding individual trademark examination cases, TIPO implemented the Measure of Proposing Disputable Questions regarding Trademark Examination, which facilitates faster case clarification and flexible discussion for similar cases in the future. Four such proposals were processed in 2024.

◆ Trademark Examination Workshops

To enhance examination consistency and strengthen the professional competencies of trademark examiners, TIPO organized three trademark examination workshops in 2024. Key topics included: findings from quality review sampling; highlights of the revised classification of goods and services; and explanations of examination principles concerning greenwashing-related trademarks and the determination of priority claim scope.

In addition, participants were provided with information on the Analysis of Taiwan's Green Trademarks Industry Layout, the latest version of the Article-by-Article Interpretation of the Trademark Act, as well as new measures such as enhanced e-filing system functions, and the updated Trademark Search System available on TIPO's website. These efforts aim to further improve the quality and consistency of trademark examinations.

◆ New Procedures on Trademark Dispute Hearings

In order to provide a more professional and efficient hearing process, key provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act and the Regulations Governing Court's Handling of Remote Interrogation in Intellectual Property Case, such as procedural review, preparatory hearings, oral hearings, remote oral hearings and the transparency of legal reasoning, have been incorporated into the Operational Directions on Hearings for Trademark Dispute Cases. These changes aim to streamline trademark dispute resolutions while ensuring the simplified relief process and compliance with time limits. Additionally, to enhance the fairness and objectivity of the hearing process, all trademark dispute cases must now be reviewed by a panel of at least three appointed examiners, ensuring fair, objective, and quick resolutions.

◆ Review and Analysis of Revoked Dispositions

In response to dispositions of dispute and rejection cases revoked by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the IP and Commercial Court in 2023, TIPO reviewed and analyzed each instance in accordance with the grounds of revocation to implement relevant internal training.

◆ Training Professional Trademark Examiners

To enhance the training of assistant trademark examiners, senior examiners from TIPO were invited to instruct specialized courses. The training covers the following topics: introduction of examination resources, definitions and classification standards for goods and services, examination guidelines, trademark search skills and the Article-by-Article Interpretation of the Trademark Act. The

comprehensive training aims to deepen examiners' understanding of the trademark examination procedures and legal framework, while improving their overall professional expertise.

TIPO invited domestic experts to deliver special lectures titled: "Customs Anti-Smuggling Regulations and Practices" and the "Analysis and Suggestions on the Use of Geographical Marks in Taiwan." Additionally, an English reading club was organized for the Trademark Division, where participants studied the English version of the Enforcement Rules of the Trademark Act and discussed practical issues related to the application of the Rules. These efforts aim to enhance the professional knowledge and practical skills of new trademark personnel, and thereby improving the quantity and quality of examination.



Outstanding Examiner Award Ceremony

3. Copyright Affairs

In 2024, TIPO held the Seminar on Practical Strategies for Addressing Copyright Issues in Generative AI and continued to strengthen measures to curb online piracy. TIPO also reviewed royalty rates for collective management, including those for the Music Copyright Society of Chinese Taipei (MÜST) related to blanket license royalty rates for streaming-over the top (OTT) services, and the Taiwan Music Collective Management Association (TMCA)'s blanket license royalty rates for broadcasting on satellite television (TV) stations. In addition, TIPO optimized the online music search platform, promoted its use to the public, and worked on improving the copyright licensing market.

Collective Management Organization Affairs

◆ Royalty Rate Review

TIPO conducted five royalty rate reviews in 2024, four of which are still under review, and one not accepted.

◆ Optimizing the Online Music Search Platform

The online music search platform allows the public to search for song-related information. TIPO also completed the update, correction, and integration of works managed by CMOs to increase the accuracy of data mapping and transparency in licensing. Additionally, TIPO organized briefing sessions for broadcasters, television stations, and other operators to promote usage and increase user adoption.

Cracking Down on Online Piracy

In order to curb online piracy, TIPO continues to track the progress of the voluntary agreement titled "Follow the Money" between copyright owners and advertising agency groups. In 2024, the Taiwan Intellectual Property Alliance (TIPA) updated the list of infringing websites six times, while the IWL Taiwan Intellectual Property Rights Defense Alliance updated its list once. Advertising agency groups are following the lists and refrain from placing advertisements on infringing websites.

IP Affairs Seminars and Meetings

◆ Practical Strategies for Addressing Copyright Issues in Generative AI

On July 5, TIPO hosted the Seminar on Practical Strategies for Addressing Copyright Issues in Generative AI, inviting copyright experts, scholars, and AI industry representatives as speakers to explore domestic and international industry practices related to AI and copyright issues and to promote public dialogue. Over 200 participants from industry, government, and academia attended the event.

On November 25, TIPO convened a meeting with its copyright law and technology advisors, along with representatives from relevant ministries, to discuss legal and regulatory approaches for copyright issues related to generative AI models. As no country has yet amended its copyright laws specifically for generative AI, TIPO will continue to monitor international policy developments and judicial rulings.

◆ Seminar on Accounting and Financial Statements for CMOs

On August 29, TIPO invited CMOs to a seminar where professional accountants were invited to talk about "Principles of Accounting and Financial Statement Processing for Non-Profit Organizations" and explain common deficiencies found in the financial audits of various CMOs. Participants also exchanged views on related financial issues to enhance their financial management capabilities of CMOs.

◆ CMO Meeting for Security and Management of Personal Data Files

On April 15, TIPO invited CMOs to discuss personal data protection measures, administrative inspection procedures, data security concepts, and on-site audit processes. The Taiwan Recording Copyright Owners Association (ARCO) was also invited to share its experience with on-site audits. To further strengthen implementation of personal data security among CMOs, TIPO also conducted an administrative inspection for personal data protection on September 10 at the Music Copyright Society of Chinese Taipei (MÜST).

◆ Meeting on the Implementation of Joint Royalty Rate and Single-Window Licensing Mechanism for Karaoke Machines Used in Public Performance

On March 28, TIPO held a meeting with three CMOs managing musical works to discuss the implementation of joint royalty rate and a single-window licensing mechanism for karaoke machines used in public performance. The meeting aimed to review the current operational practices, explore feasible strategies for improving the effectiveness of profit-based joint royalty rate collection, and enhance public outreach efforts.

Processing of Copyright Requests

In 2024, TIPO completed seven requests for authorization to exploit orphan works. One request – concerning a musical work – was rejected, while six were approved, covering 32 musical works and two audiovisual works. Additionally, TIPO completed one case of copyright pledge registration.

Copyright Training for TIPO Staff

TIPO organized eight professional training workshops for its staff, covering copyright law and practice, information-sharing on domestic and international copyright and CMO systems, English reading groups, and practical workshops on technology applications in the music industry.