

W&B IP Newsletter



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Website: www.watson-band.com.cn

Email: mailip@watson-band.com.cn | mail@watson-band.com.cn

Chinese Maritime Patent Applications Rise Sharply

China Maritime Development Research Society has released its debut Report of National Maritime Innovation Index 2016. The report set the base of the Chinese maritime innovation index at 100 in the year 2001, which increased to 917 by 2015.

Chinese maritime patent applications increased to 4,333 in 2015, a stunning 17-fold increase from only 248 in 2001. Since 2007 the annual growth rate for maritime patents has exceeded 20 percent per year. Invention patents account for 60 percent of this number, reflecting the innovation potential of China's maritime technology.

In summary, the distribution of patent R&D in China is relatively balanced in the maritime sector, and its major contributors are fairly concentrated. China is gradually achieving a global quantity advantage in the maritime sector.

(Via iprdaily.cn)

Statistics on China's Emergence as an Intellectual Property Heavyweight

China is the first country to file over a million invention patent applications in a year, accounting for nearly 40% of the world total. With over a million valid domestic invention patents, China is also third in the world behind only the United States and Japan. China is the most prolific invention patent applicant among the top 25 middle income countries, and it is the largest applicant for patents, trademarks and industrial designs in the world.

2013 to 2016	Quantity Accepted by SIPO		
Applications for invention patents	4,194,000		
Authorizations for invention patents	1,204,000		
Applications for utility model patents	4,364,000		
Applications for design patents	2,444,000		
Applications for PCT patents	125,000		
2013 to 2016	Closing of Patent Examination (Quantity)	Increase During the Past Five Years (Times)	Closing Cycle (Months)
Applications for invention patents	2,363,000	2.5	22 for substantive examination
Applications for utility model patents	4,383,000	3.0	3
Applications for design patents	2,739,000	1.6	3
Re-examination requests	9,0000	2.7	11.9
Invalidation requests	15,000	1.3	5.1
PCT searches completed	135,000	3.1	

Figure 1

As of June 30, 2017	Quantity
Individuals certified by patent agent accreditation	36,721
Patent agents	15,945
Patent agencies	1,651
Newly established patent agencies	143
IP professionals	> 150,000
IP workers	> 500,000
Invention patents owned by Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei districts	230,000
Invention patents covered by provinces and municipalities in the Yangtze River Economic Zone	551,000
IP pilot and demonstration cities	64
Pilot zones for patent guidance	17
Pilot associations for patent guidance	13
Pilot enterprises for patent guidance	115
Multilateral cooperation agreements signed with WIPO and related countries and regions	199
Patent Prosecution Highway (abbreviated as “PPH”) agreements signed with various countries and regions	23
Infringing and counterfeit patent cases investigated by IPR authorities	141,000
Civil IP cases accepted by courts	> 100,000
Volume of patent licenses and filings	31,400
Licensing royalties	20,800,000,000 RMB
Financing amounts for patent pledges	205,700,000,000 RMB
Added value of patent-intensive industries	26,700,000,000,000 RMB

Figure 2

Evaluated and Awarded by SIPO and WIPO	Gold Award	Excellence Award
Patent awards	80	1,819
Design patent awards	20	239

Figure 3

2016 WIPO Report on PCT International Applications

Global Raking for PCT Applications	Enterprise	Quantity
First	ZTE (China)	4,123
Second	Huawei Technologies (China)	3,692

Figure 4

IP Management Model of WIPO Countries (Total of 189)

Model	Country
Centralized management model	183
Unified management model for patents and trademarks	107
Unified management model for patents, trademarks and copyrights	76
Distributed Model for patents, trademarks and copyrights	6 (China, North Korea, Cambodia, Egypt, Greece, Netherlands)

Figure 5

Patent Fee Reduction Measures adjusted to offer more favorable fee reduction policies and institute efficient business incentives.

<i>Patent Fee Reduction Measures</i>	Before adjustment	After adjustment	Remarks
Years of decreasing annual patent fees	Three years	Six years	Applicants submit filing information online; after the implementation, 5,000 Tianjin enterprises saved a total of 40,000,000 RMB in patent fees in the first half of 2017.
Annual income standard for decreasing individual fees	<25,000 RMB	<42,000 RMB	
Reduction Requests for public institutions, social groups, non-profit research institutions, etc.	Certification of financial hardship required	No certification of financial hardship required	
Reduction for single-unit applications	70%	85%	

Figure 6

Via Volume 10, IP Magazine 2017