

W&B IP Newsletter



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Patent

Statistics Reveal that China's Strengthening Its Patent Reserves in the Emerging Technologies

According to the latest statistics, by the end of June 2022, the Top 3 technical fields with the largest numbers of valid invention patents in China are computer technology, measurement and digital communication, accounting for 9.4%, 7.6% and 6.8% of the total respectively. The Top 3 technical fields with the highest growth rates are information technology management method, computer technology and medical technology, reaching the annual growth rates at 78.5%, 32.3% and 27.1% respectively.

Also, according to Director of the Office of Strategic Planning of China's National Intellectual Property Office, by the end of 2021, the number of valid invention patents within the core industries of China's digital economy reached 977,000, equaling to 2.8 times the number in the year 2016, and accounting for 35.2% of the current total number of valid invention patents in China.

China has been presenting a healthy development in its core industries of digital economy. Taking artificial intelligence as an example, in 2021, the number of AI-related invention patents granted to Chinese applicants at the world's Key IP5 (i.e. the intellectual property offices of P.R. China, the US, the EPC states, Japan and Republic of Korea) reached 57,000, which equaled to 5.1 times the number in the year 2016 and reached an average annual growth rate at 38.5% since 2016. In addition, according to the recent report published by the German Patent and Trademark Office, in digitization-related technical fields such as digital communication, the number of published patent applications filed by Chinese applicants in Germany in 2021 presented a remarkable increase with respect to the number in 2020, consolidating China's leading position in that respect.

(Source: China Intellectual Property News)

CNIPA Publishes Data on Patent Exploitation License Contracts

On July 27, the Office of the China National Intellectual Property Administration ("CNIPA") issued the *Circular on Publishing Data on Patent Exploitation License Contracts Filed in 2021 and the Past Five Years* (the "Circular").

The *Circular* publishes the relevant data on patent license fees for 2021 and from 2017 to 2021, requiring further promotion and use of data to provide data reference for intellectual property licensing, evaluation and pricing in transactions, and determination of the amount of infringement compensation. The attached "Statistical Data on Patent Exploitation License in 2021" collects key information such as payment method, transaction amount, and commission rate specified in the contracts, including a total of 4,271 contracts, involving 16,125 patents. It covers national economic industries such as manufacturing, scientific research and technical services, and construction. Taking the manufacturing as an example, the total number of contracts is 1,623, the average license period is 3.8 years, and the average annual contract value is CNY 779,000.

(Source: China National Intellectual Property Administration)

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CNIPA Publishes China Intellectual Property Statistical Yearbook 2021

Recently, the CNIPA's Strategy and Development Planning Department published through the CNIPA's official website the *China Intellectual Property Statistical Yearbook 2021* (hereinafter the "Yearbook"). The Yearbook includes statistical data of patents, trademarks, geographic indications, and integrated circuit layout designs in 2021, as well as the related historic statistics. The Yearbook can function as an essential reference for understanding and decoding the development of intellectual property business, the ability of creation and innovation in provinces, regions and technological fields, and the status of non-resident patent distribution, as well as for forecasting the evolution of science and technology in China.

We extract some of the statistical data and analytical content from the Yearbook and provide them below for our readers' kind reference.

Part I: Statistics on Patent Applications

1-1 Patent Applications, Patent Grants and Patents in Force of
Three Kinds Originated from Home and Abroad (2021)

| | | Invention | | Utility Model | | Industrial Design | |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------|-------|---------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| | | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % |
| Total | Application | 1585663 | 30.2% | 2852219 | 54.4% | 805710 | 15.4% |
| | Grant | 695946 | 15.1% | 3119990 | 67.8% | 785521 | 17.1% |
| | In Force* | 3596901 | 23.3% | 9243443 | 59.9% | 2580532 | 16.7% |
| Domestic | Application | 1427845 | 28.2% | 2845318 | 56.2% | 787149 | 15.6% |
| | Grant | 585910 | 13.1% | 3112795 | 69.7% | 768460 | 17.2% |
| | In Force | 2773287 | 19.2% | 9190633 | 63.7% | 2453506 | 17.0% |
| Foreign | Application | 157818 | 86.1% | 6901 | 3.8% | 18561 | 10.1% |
| | Grant | 110036 | 81.9% | 7195 | 5.4% | 17061 | 12.7% |
| | In Force | 823614 | 82.1% | 52810 | 5.3% | 127026 | 12.7% |

*Statistics on patents in force refer to the number of patents which are still in force at the time of data collection, which include patents for invention, utility model and industrial design. Unlike the number of patent applications or grants, the number of patents in force is not flowing data but stocking data.

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1-2 Annual Patent Applications of Three Kinds Originated from Home and Abroad

| | Year | Invention | Utility Model | Industrial Design |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------|
| Total | 1985-2015 | 6357860 | 6625983 | 5269438 |
| | 2016 | 1338503 | 1475977 | 650344 |
| | 2017 | 1381594 | 1687593 | 628658 |
| | 2018 | 1542002 | 2072311 | 708799 |
| | 2019 | 1400661 | 2268190 | 711617 |
| | 2020 | 1497159 | 2926633 | 770362 |
| | 2021 | 1585663 | 2852219 | 805710 |
| | Domestic | 1985-2015 | 4853594 | 6576708 |
| 2016 | | 1204981 | 1468295 | 631949 |
| 2017 | | 1245709 | 1679807 | 610817 |
| 2018 | | 1393815 | 2063860 | 689097 |
| 2019 | | 1243568 | 2259765 | 691771 |
| 2020 | | 1344817 | 2918874 | 752339 |
| 2021 | | 1427845 | 2845318 | 787149 |
| Foreign | | 1985-2015 | 1504266 | 49275 |
| | 2016 | 133522 | 7682 | 18395 |
| | 2017 | 135885 | 7786 | 17841 |
| | 2018 | 148187 | 8451 | 19702 |
| | 2019 | 157093 | 8425 | 19846 |
| | 2020 | 152342 | 7759 | 18023 |
| | 2021 | 157818 | 6901 | 18561 |

Note: In the first section, statistics for 2016 and before refer to those of received patent filings, while statistics for 2017 and after refer to those of patent applications.

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Part II: Statistics on Patent Grants

2-1 Annual Patent Grants of Three Kinds Originated from Home and Abroad

| | Year | Invention | Utility Model | Industrial Design |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-------------------|
| Total | 1985-2015 | 1911203 | 4969336 | 3566350 |
| | 2016 | 404208 | 903420 | 446135 |
| | 2017 | 420144 | 973294 | 442996 |
| | 2018 | 432147 | 1479062 | 536251 |
| | 2019 | 452804 | 1582274 | 556529 |
| | 2020 | 530127 | 2377223 | 731918 |
| | 2021 | 695946 | 3119990 | 785521 |
| Domestic | 1985-2015 | 1161979 | 4926214 | 3378158 |
| | 2016 | 302136 | 897035 | 429710 |
| | 2017 | 326970 | 967416 | 426442 |
| | 2018 | 345959 | 1471759 | 517693 |
| | 2019 | 360919 | 1574205 | 539282 |
| | 2020 | 440691 | 2368651 | 711559 |
| | 2021 | 585910 | 3112795 | 768460 |
| Foreign | 1985-2015 | 749224 | 43122 | 188192 |
| | 2016 | 102072 | 6385 | 16425 |
| | 2017 | 93174 | 5878 | 16554 |
| | 2018 | 86188 | 7303 | 18558 |
| | 2019 | 91885 | 8069 | 17247 |
| | 2020 | 89436 | 8572 | 20359 |
| | 2021 | 110036 | 7195 | 17061 |

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Part III: Statistics on Patents in Force

3-1 Patents in Force of Three Kinds Originated from Home and Abroad

| | Year | Invention | Utility Model | Industrial Design |
|-----------------|------|-----------|---------------|-------------------|
| Total | 2016 | 1772203 | 3154485 | 1358550 |
| | 2017 | 2085367 | 3603187 | 1459054 |
| | 2018 | 2366314 | 4403658 | 1610616 |
| | 2019 | 2670784 | 5262039 | 1789671 |
| | 2020 | 3057844 | 6947697 | 2187356 |
| | 2021 | 3596901 | 9243443 | 2580532 |
| Domestic | 2016 | 1158203 | 3118410 | 1250570 |
| | 2017 | 1413911 | 3563389 | 1346915 |
| | 2018 | 1662269 | 4359926 | 1495596 |
| | 2019 | 1926122 | 5214362 | 1671586 |
| | 2020 | 2279123 | 6895886 | 2061859 |
| | 2021 | 2773287 | 9190633 | 2453506 |
| Foreign | 2016 | 614000 | 36075 | 107980 |
| | 2017 | 671456 | 39798 | 112139 |
| | 2018 | 704045 | 43732 | 115020 |
| | 2019 | 744662 | 47677 | 118085 |
| | 2020 | 778721 | 51811 | 125497 |
| | 2021 | 823614 | 52810 | 127026 |

Note: Statistics on patents in force refer to the number of patents which are still in force and valid at the time of data collection, which include patents for invention, utility model and industrial design. Unlike the number of patent applications or grants, the number of patents in force is not flowing data but stocking data.

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Part VII: Statistics on Trademark Applications, Registrations and Trademarks in Force

7-1 Annual Trademark Applications and Registration Originated from Home and Abroad

| | Year | Application Number | Registration Number |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Total | 1979-2015 | 18402743 | 12253903 |
| | 2016 | 3691365 | 2254945 |
| | 2017 | 5748175 | 2792072 |
| | 2018 | 7370709 | 5007395 |
| | 2019 | 7837441 | 6405840 |
| | 2020 | 9347568 | 5760652 |
| | 2021 | 9450507 | 7738947 |
| Domestic | 1979-2015 | 16583131 | 10866578 |
| | 2016 | 3526827 | 2119032 |
| | 2017 | 5538980 | 2656039 |
| | 2018 | 7127032 | 4796851 |
| | 2019 | 7582356 | 6177791 |
| | 2020 | 9116454 | 5576545 |
| | 2021 | 9192675 | 7545358 |
| Foreign | 1979-2015 | 1819612 | 1387325 |
| | 2016 | 164538 | 135913 |
| | 2017 | 209195 | 136033 |
| | 2018 | 243677 | 210544 |
| | 2019 | 255085 | 228049 |
| | 2020 | 231114 | 184107 |
| | 2021 | 257832 | 193589 |

(Source: CNIPA's official website)