

History of JPO and Industrial Property Rights System

- 1884 Enactment of Trademark Law (old law)
- 1885 Enactment of **Patent Law (old law)** and establishment of Patent Office with Korekiyo Takahashi as first Commissioner
- 1886 Reorganization of Patent Office (as intra-ministerial bureau of Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce)
- 1888 Enactment of Design Law (old law)
- 1899 Accession to Paris Convention
- 1925 Establishment of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, under which Patent Office placed as extra-ministerial bureau
- 1949 Ministry of International Trade and Industry
- 1959 Revision of Patent/Utility Model/Design/Trademark Laws (Enactment of current laws)
- 1975 Accession to World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- 1978 Accession to Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)
- 1990 Acceptance of electronic applications (global first)
- 1997 Accession to Trademark Law Treaty
- 2000 Accession to Madrid Protocol
- 2005 Establishment of Intellectual Property High Court
- 2006 Start of Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) between Japan and the United States (global first)



Original JPO Bldg.
(Established in 1885)



Korekiyo Takahashi
(First JPO
Commissioner)



Present JPO Bldg
(Completed in 1989)



Panel of ten
Japanese great
inventors
(100th anniversary
project)

The year 2010 marks the 125th anniversary of the patent system in Japan.