

Industrial property information constitutes the latest technological information as well as information indicating the scope of a right. Active utilization of this information is important in corporate R&D strategy and investment activities in the commercialization phases.

For this purpose, the JPO inaugurated the "Industrial Property Digital Library (IPDL)" service on its website in March 1999 to facilitate the use of industrial property information.

(JPO website URL: <http://www.jpo.go.jp/index.htm>)

By using the IPDL service, any party may search for gazettes and other documentation pertaining to patents, utility models, designs and trademarks that have been issued since 1885 using document numbers or classifications. The service also provides related information such as the status of applications, registration or appeal/trial procedures, laws and guidelines. All information is available free of charge.

A search service for beginners regarding information on patents, utility models and trademarks was inaugurated in March 2000. In addition to the existing PAJ (Patent Abstracts of Japan) service, automatic Japanese to English translation of patent application publications has been provided.

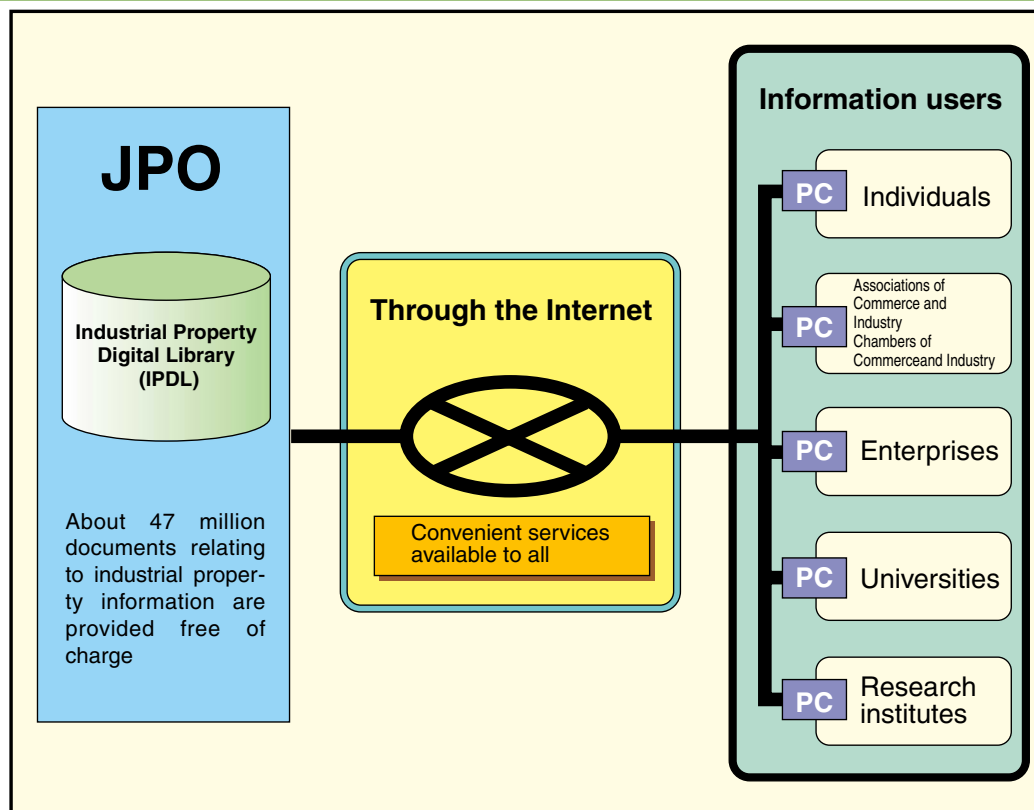
Furthermore, in March 2001, an English version of FI/F-term search was inaugurated.

The IPDL service will encourage utilization of industrial property information by enabling understanding of the application trends and technological development trends of competitors, preventing overlapping investment and averting unnecessary disputes when deciding the design or the name of a product.

There are about 2 million hits to the IPDL every month. Patent & utility model searches were the most popular, accounting for about 55% of hits, followed by trademark search (24%) and search for beginners (11%).

Property Digital Library

IPDL outline



IPDL Serch Total/month

