

Period of examination and appeal/trial examination

Examination (first action period)

	1998	1999	2000
Patents and Utility Models	19months	19months	21months
Designs	18months	13months	9months
Trademarks	17months	10months	11months

Note : The period of first action refers to the period from the date of application or request for examination to the date when the first notice of an examination result (mainly a decision to grant a patent, a decision of registration, or a notification of reason for refusal) is sent by the examiner to the applicant

Against examiner's decision of refusal (first action periods)

	1998	1999	2000
Patents and Utility Models	19months	19months	19months
Designs	36months	32months	27months
Trademarks	29months	10months	19months

Note : The period of first action refers to the period from the date of appeal to the date when the first notice of an appeal/trial examination result (mainly an appeal/trial decision or notice of rejection) is sent by the appeal examiner to the applicant

Oppositions (appeal/trial examination period)

	1998	1999	2000
Patents and Utility Models	10months	11months	11months
Trademarks	6months	8months	7months

Inter-partes trials (appeal/trial examination period)

	1998	1999	2000
Patents and Utility Models	12months	12months	12months
Designs	14months	10months	11months
Trademarks	15months	12months	13months