

2025 Policy Outcomes

2025年の施策成果

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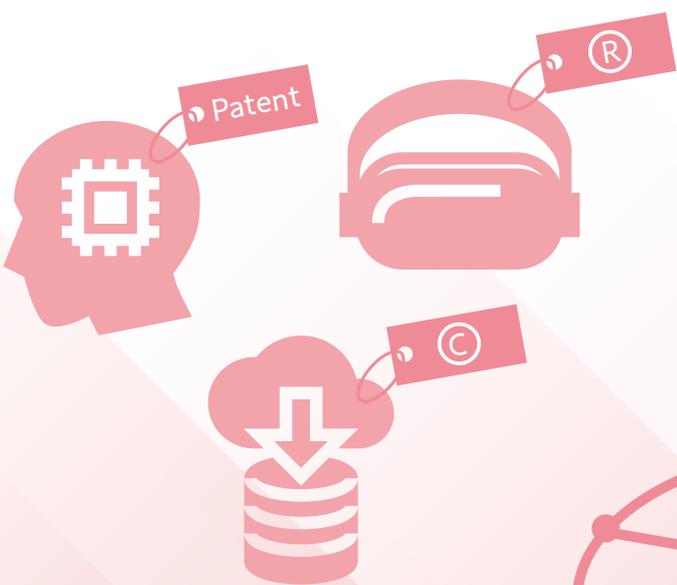
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Examinations/Trials and Appeals 審査・審判

1 Patents / 特許

The JPO's basic principle is to implement various support measures for the creation of innovation, based on the world's fastest and utmost quality patent examinations. Under this principle, the JPO is steadily implementing policies that focus on maintaining speed by enhancing the resilience of patent examination, further improving quality, supporting the creation of innovation in response to environmental changes, and promoting intellectual property (IP) diplomacy.

1 Examination Performance

To accelerate the intellectual creation cycle, comprised of intellectual creation, establishment of rights, and utilization of rights, the JPO speeded up examination and shortened total pendency. [Figure 2-1-1] [Figure 2-1-2]

2 Initiatives to Speed up Examinations

(i) Securing the Necessary Number of Examiners

In order to maintain and strengthen the patent examination system, the JPO is working to secure the necessary number of patent examiners, including fixed-term examiners.

- For FY2025, the JPO secured a capacity of 1,668 examiners (including fixed-term examiners).

(ii) Outsourcing Prior Art Searches

By outsourcing prior art searches to registered search organizations, the JPO promotes the speeding up of examinations and improves examination quality through utilization of the private sector.

- As of November 2025, there were 9 registered search organizations.
- In FY2025, approx. 120 thousand searches were outsourced, all of which involved searching patent documents in Japanese. Some also included searching patent documents in English (approx. 92 thousand), in Chinese or Korean (approx. 28 thousand in total), and in German (approx. 4 thousand).

特許庁は、世界最速・最高品質の特許審査を基礎としたイノベーションの創出に向けた各種支援策を講ずることを基本方針として、特許審査のレジリエンス向上による迅速性の維持、質の更なる向上、環境変化に対応したイノベーションの創出支援、知財外交の推進を中心とする施策を着実に実施している。

1 審査実績

知的創造、権利設定、権利活用の知的創造サイクルを加速するために、審査を迅速化し、権利化までの期間を短縮した。
[2-1-1図] [2-1-2図]

2 審査の迅速化に関する取組

(i) 審査官の確保

特許審査体制の整備・強化のため、任期付審査官を含め、必要な審査官の確保に努めている。

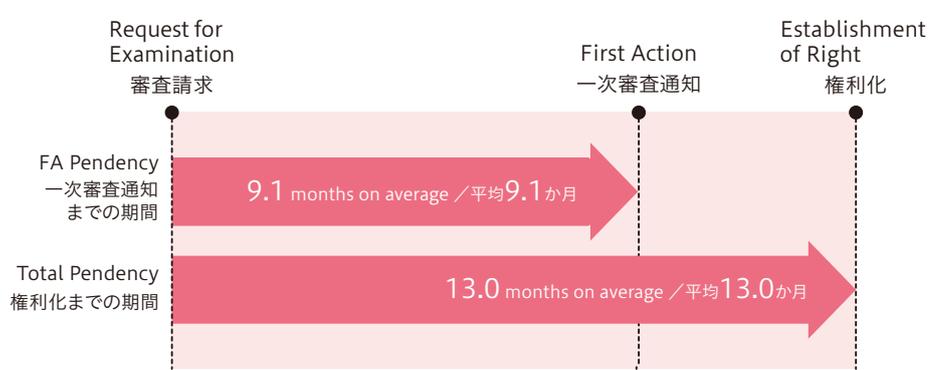
- 2025年度は、審査官1,668名（任期付審査官を含む。）の定員を確保。

(ii) 先行技術文献調査の外注

審査官が行う先行技術文献調査を登録調査機関へ外注し、民間活力の利用による審査の迅速化と品質向上を図っている。

- 登録調査機関の数は、2025年11月時点で9機関。
- 2025年度の発注件数は約12.0万件で、全案件において日本語特許文献調査を実施。さらに、一部の案件においては、英語特許文献調査（約9.2万件）、中国語及び韓国語特許文献調査（約2.8万件）、独語特許文献調査（約4千件）も実施。

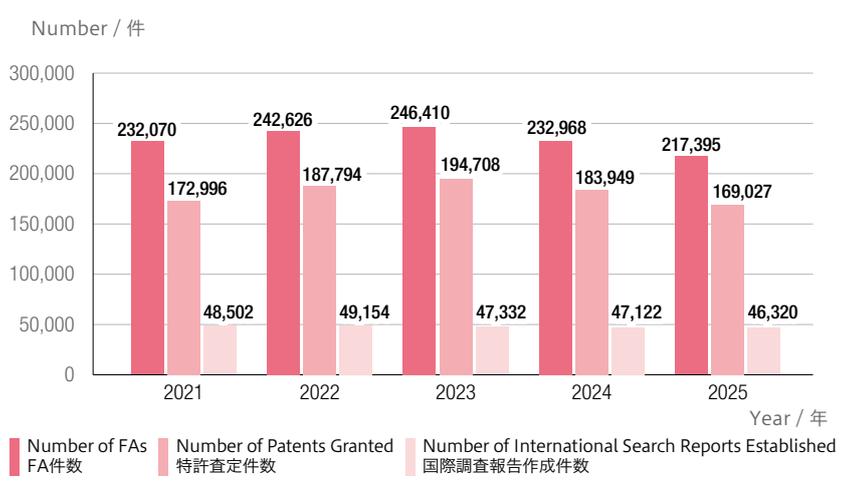
Figure 2-1-1 FA Pendency and Total Pendency for Patent Examinations in FY2024
 2024年度における特許審査のFA期間及び権利化までの期間



Note: ・ The first action pendency (FA pendency) is the period from the date of examination request until the JPO sends the first notice of examination results to the applicant, etc. (for the most part, either a notice of patent grant or a notice of reasons for refusal).
 ・ The total pendency (also called the “standard pendency”) is the period from the date of examination request to withdrawal or abandonment or until a final disposition (excluding cases where the JPO requests an applicant to respond to the second notice of reasons for refusal due to the amendments submitted by the applicant, and where the applicant performs procedures they are allowed to use, such as requests to the JPO for extension of the period of response and for an accelerated examination).

備考: ・ 一次審査通知までの期間 (FA 期間) は、審査請求日から審査官による審査結果の最初の通知 (主に特許査定又は拒絶理由通知書) が出願人等へ発送されるまでの期間。
 ・ 権利化までの期間 (「標準審査期間」ともいう。) は、審査請求日から取下げ・放棄又は最終処分を受けるまでの期間 (出願人が補正等を行うことに起因して特許庁から再度の応答等を出願人に求めるような場合や、特許庁に応答期間の延長や早期の審査を求める場合等の、出願人に認められている手続を利用した場合を除く)。

Figure 2-1-2 Number of Patent Examination FAs, Number of Patents Granted, and Number of International Search Reports Established / 特許審査のFA件数、特許査定件数及び国際調査報告作成件数



(Year / 年)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of FAs FA 件数	232,070	242,626	246,410	232,968	217,395
Number of Patents Granted 特許査定件数	172,996	187,794	194,708	183,949	169,027
Number of International Search Reports Established 国際調査報告作成件数	48,502	49,154	47,332	47,122	46,320

Note: • The number of first actions in patent examinations is the number of first notices of examination results (for the most part, either a notice of patent grant or a notice of reasons for refusal) issued by examiners to applicants, etc.
 • The number of patents granted excludes the number of patents granted after a request for appeals against an examiner's decision of refusal was filed (including patents granted through reconsideration by examiners before appeal proceedings).
 • The number of international search reports established is the number by year of issuance of international search reports prepared and issued by the JPO as the International Searching Authority (ISA) under the PCT (the number of international search reports includes that of "decisions of not preparing an international search report").

備考: • FA 件数は、審査官による審査結果の最初の通知（主に特許査定又は拒絶理由通知書）が出願人等へ発送された件数。
 • 特許査定件数は、拒絶査定不服審判請求以降（前置審査を含む）の特許された案件は含まれない件数。
 • 国際調査報告作成件数は、PCTの国際調査機関として日本国特許庁が作成・発送した国際調査報告の発送年別件数（国際調査報告には、「国際調査報告を作成しない決定」が含まれる。）。

3 Accelerated Examination and Super-Accelerated Examination

Under certain conditions, the JPO offers accelerated examinations and super-accelerated examinations that, upon the request of an applicant, expedite the commencement of an examination. [Figure 2-1-3] [Figure 2-1-4]

(i) Accelerated Examination*1

- The accelerated examination system may be applied for patent applications, including those that are also filed in one or more other countries and by small and medium-sized enterprises.
- In 2025, first action pendency from request for accelerated examination was 2.3 months on average.

(ii) Super-Accelerated Examination*2

- The JPO is running pilot programs for a super-accelerated examination system for applications of higher importance, including applications for inventions that have already been put into practice and are filed in one or more other countries.

3 早期審査・スーパー早期審査

一定の要件の下で、出願人からの申出を受けて審査の着手時期を通常に比べて早める早期審査及びスーパー早期審査を実施している。[2-1-3図] [2-1-4図]

(i) 早期審査*1

- 特許出願に関する早期審査の対象は、外国にも出願している出願、中小企業の出願など。
- 2025年の、早期審査の申出から一次審査通知までの期間は平均2.3か月。

(ii) スーパー早期審査*2

- 既に実施している発明に係る出願かつ外国にも出願している出願などの、より重要度の高い出願を対象としてスーパー早期審査を試行。
- 申出から原則1か月以内（DO出願*3については原則2か月以内）に一次審査結果を通知*4。

*1  English
<https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/shinsa/jp-soki/index.html>

 日本語
<https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/patent/shinsa/soki/v3souki.html>

*2  English
https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/shinsa/jp-super_soki/index.html

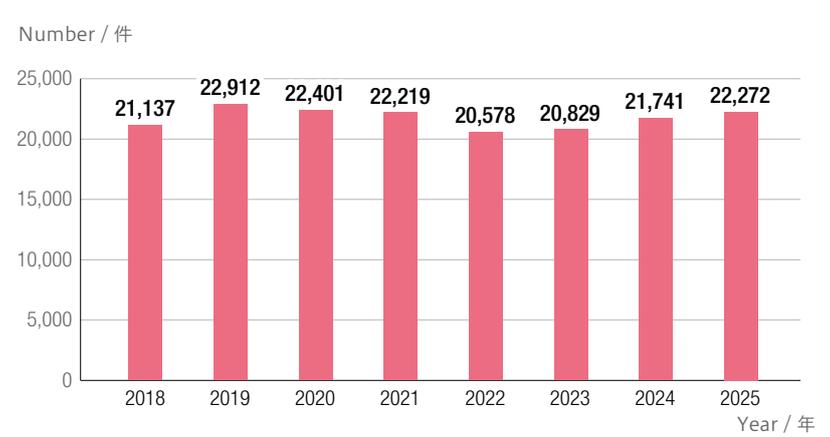
 日本語
https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/patent/shinsa/soki/super_souki.html

*3 Applications that have entered the national phase after international application. 国際出願後、国内段階に移行した出願。

*4  日本語
<https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/laws/rule/guideline/patent/document/index/supersoukinsula.pdf>

- First action is issued within one month from the request, in principle (within two months, in principle, in the case of DO applications*3).*4
- First action pendency from request for super-accelerated examination was 0.9 months on average (1.7 months for DO applications).
- スーパー早期審査の申出から一次審査通知までの期間は平均0.9か月（DO出願については平均1.7か月）。

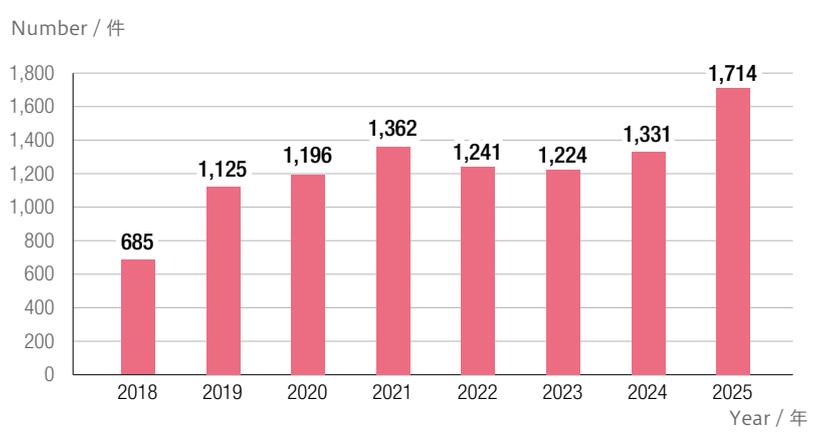
Figure 2-1-3 Number of Requests for Accelerated Examinations for Patent / 特許早期審査の申出件数



Note: •The number of requests for accelerated examinations is the number of “Written Explanation of Circumstances Concerning Accelerated Examination” that were submitted.

備考：•早期審査の申出件数は、「早期審査に関する事情説明書」が提出された件数。

Figure 2-1-4 Number of Requests for Super Accelerated Examinations for Patent / 特許スーパー早期審査の申出件数



Note: •The number of requests for super accelerated examinations is the number of “Written Explanation of Circumstances Concerning Accelerated Examination” that were submitted requesting for super accelerated examination.

備考：•スーパー早期審査の申出件数は、スーパー早期審査を希望する旨が記載された「早期審査に関する事情説明書」が提出された件数。

4 Quality Management Initiatives

Under the “Quality Policy on Patent Examination”, which constitutes the JPO’s fundamental principles of quality management, and the “Quality Management Manual for Patent Examination”, which documents quality management and its implementation system, the JPO engages in initiatives for realizing utmost quality patent examinations in the world.*5

(i) Quality Assurance

- Before sending applicants and agents any decisions and notices, etc. prepared by examiners, managers of examination offices check their substantive and formal aspects for all cases.
- Examiners consult with managers and other examiners in order to share search know-how and knowledge, etc. to conduct swift and accurate patent examinations while improving the consistency of searches and judgement among examiners.

(ii) Quality Verification

- Some of decisions and notices, etc. prepared by examiners are randomly chosen, and audited by quality management officers to check compliance and validity in terms of content and format before sending official documents to applicants and agents.
- In order to ascertain various user needs, the JPO conducts interviews at informal meetings with businesses, accepts information provided in relation to individual cases, and implements user satisfaction surveys. [Figure 2-1-5]

(iii) External Evaluation of Quality Management

- In August 2014, the JPO established the Subcommittee on Examination Quality Management, which consists of external experts, under the Intellectual Property Committee of the Industrial Structure Council of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. The JPO implements initiatives for the quality management of patent examinations based on reports by this subcommittee, which convenes every fiscal year.

4 品質管理に関する取組

特許審査の品質管理の基本原則となる「特許審査に関する品質ポリシー」と、品質管理及びその実施体制について文書化した「特許審査の品質管理に関するマニュアル」の下、世界最高品質の特許審査の実現に向けた取組を行っている*5。

(i) 品質保証

- 審査官による処分等の判断及びその結果として作成される起案書について、出願人・代理人への発送前に、審査室の管理職が実体面・形式面にわたり全件チェック。
- サーチノウハウ、知識等を共有化し、審査官の間のサーチや判断の均質性を図りつつ、迅速・的確な特許審査を行うため、審査官は管理職や他の審査官との協議を実施。

(ii) 品質検証

- 審査官による処分等の判断及びその結果として作成される起案書について、出願人・代理人への発送前にサンプル抽出し、品質管理官がその適否を監査。
- 様々なユーザーニーズを把握するため、企業等との意見交換会、個別案件に関する意見受付、ユーザー評価調査を実施。[2-1-5図]

(iii) 品質管理に対する外部評価

- 2014年8月から産業構造審議会知的財産分科会の下に、外部有識者からなる審査品質管理小委員会を設置。毎年度、当該小委員会を開催し、その報告を踏まえ、特許審査の品質管理における取組を実施。

*5



English

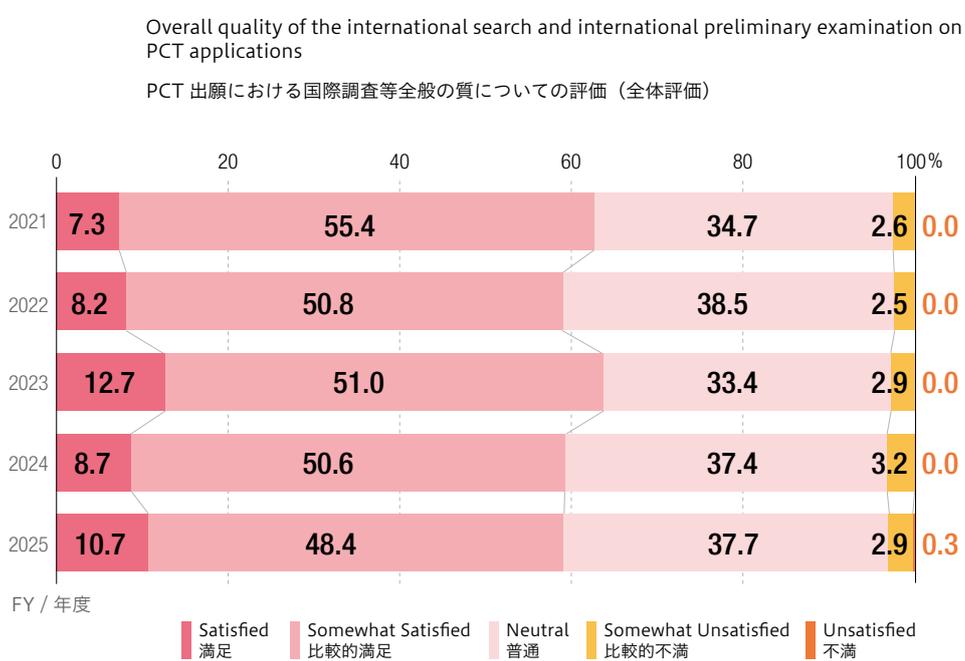
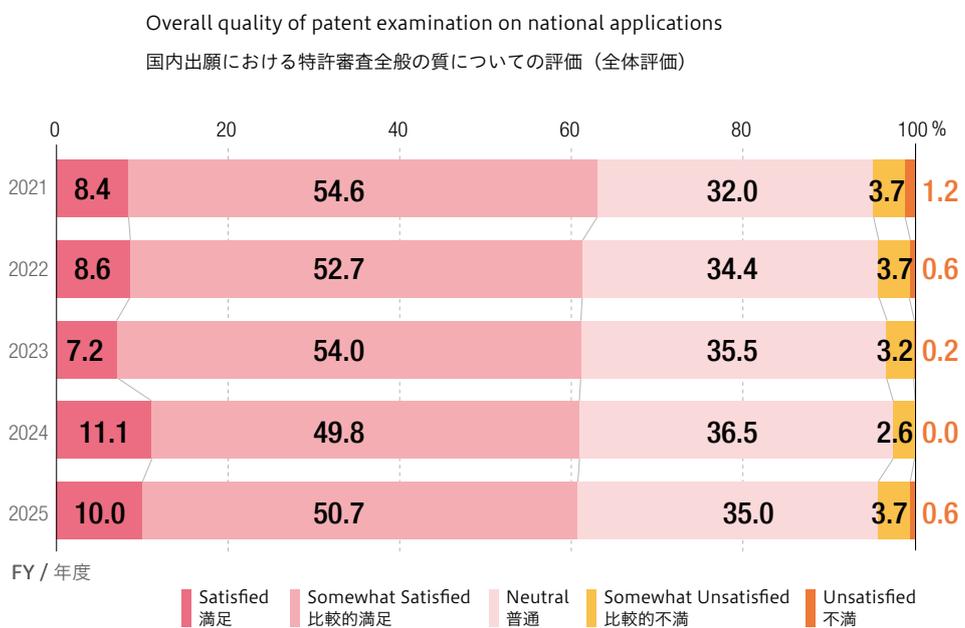
<https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/introduction/hinshitu/shinsa/tokkyo/index.html>



日本語

<https://www.jpo.go.jp/introduction/hinshitu/shinsa/tokkyo/index.html>

Figure 2-1-5 Results of User Satisfaction Survey on Patent Examination Quality
特許審査の質についてのユーザー評価調査の結果



Source: ・JPO, “Report on FY2025 Annual User Satisfaction Survey on Patent Examination Quality” (September 2025)

資料 ・特許庁「令和7年度特許審査の質についてのユーザー評価調査報告書」(2025年9月)

5 Initiatives for AI-related Inventions

(i) Research on the Approach to Invention Protection Considering Advancements in AI Technology^{*6}

Full-length and abridged versions of the results of a FY2024 commissioned research titled “Research on the Approach to Invention Protection Considering Advancements in AI Technology” were published in April 2025. The research examined mainly the following.

- The current impact and future predictions of AI technology utilized in the invention creation process
- Analysis of the challenges and strategies related to the protection of inventions based on an understanding of the above

6 System for Non-disclosure of Patent Applications

- In July 2025, the JPO and the Cabinet Office published the “Implementation Status of the System for Non-disclosure of Patent Applications in FY2024”.^{*7} Following a primary review by the JPO, 90 patent applications were submitted to the Cabinet Office for a security review, 0 patent applications fell under a security designation by the Cabinet Office, and 1,305 patent applications sought a prior confirmation from the Commissioner of the JPO as to whether or not the foreign application is prohibited.

5 AI 関連発明に関する取組

(i) AI技術の進展を踏まえた発明の保護の在り方に関する調査研究^{*6}

2025年4月、2024年度の委託調査研究として実施した「AI技術の進展を踏まえた発明の保護の在り方に関する調査研究」の調査結果について、全体版と要約版を公表。主な調査内容は以下のとおり。

- 発明創作過程において用いられるAI技術の現時点の影響及び将来の予測
- これらを踏まえた発明の保護の在り方に関する課題と対応策の分析

6 特許出願非公開制度

- 2025年7月、特許庁は、内閣府とともに、「2024年度 特許出願の非公開に関する制度における実施状況」^{*7}を公表。特許庁の第一次審査を経て、内閣府において保全審査に付された件数は90件、内閣府において保全指定をした件数は0件、特許庁長官に外国出願禁止の対象であるか否か事前確認の求めがあった件数は1,305件。

*6



English

https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/laws/rule/guideline/patent/ai_jirei_e.html#report



日本語

https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/laws/rule/guideline/patent/ai_jirei.html#report

*7



日本語

https://www.cao.go.jp/keizai_anzen_hosho/suishinhou/patent/doc/patent_jisshijoukyou.pdf

7 Examination Measures for Addressing Various User Needs

(i) Interviews*8

The JPO conducts interviews to facilitate communication between examiners and applicants, etc. In response to the needs of applicants and agents, etc. in remote areas, the JPO not only conducts interviews in the JPO's building, but also conducts on-site interviews and online interviews.*9 Interviews may also be conducted with some of the participants participating online. The ratio of online interviews in 2025 was 40%.

- In 2025, there were 2,159 interviews (of these, 113 were conducted on-site, and 872 were conducted online).

(ii) Collective Examinations for IP Portfolio Supporting Business Strategy*10

The Collective Examinations for IP Portfolio Supporting Business Strategy (CEIP) is a measure that supports the acquisition of rights in time with business development, with examiners for multiple applications related to the business (patent, design, and trademark applications) coordinating with each other to conduct their respective examinations. [Figure 2-1-6]

- In 2025, there were 19 applications.
- Of these, there were 215 patent applications, 0 applications for design registration, and 0 applications for trademark registration.

7 多様なユーザーニーズに対応するための審査施策

(i) 面接*8

審査官と出願人等との間において、円滑に意思疎通を図ることを目的として、面接を実施している。遠隔地の出願人や代理人等のニーズに応え、特許庁庁舎で実施する面接の他、出張面接やオンライン面接*9も実施している。一部の参加者のみオンラインで参加して、面接を実施することも可能である。2025年におけるオンライン面接比率は40%。

- 2025年の実績は2,159件（内、出張面接113件、オンライン面接872件）。

(ii) 事業戦略対応まとめ審査*10

事業戦略対応まとめ審査は、事業に関連する複数の出願（特許・意匠・商標）を対象として、各分野の審査官が連携しながら審査を行い、事業展開に合わせたタイミングでの権利化を支援する施策である。[2-1-6図]

- 2025年の申請実績は19件。
- 対象とされた特許出願は215件、意匠出願は0件、商標は0件。

*8



English
<https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/shinsa/junkai.html>



日本語
<https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/patent/shinsa/mensetu/junkai.html>

*9



日本語
https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/patent/shinsa/mensetu/telesys_mensetu.html

*10

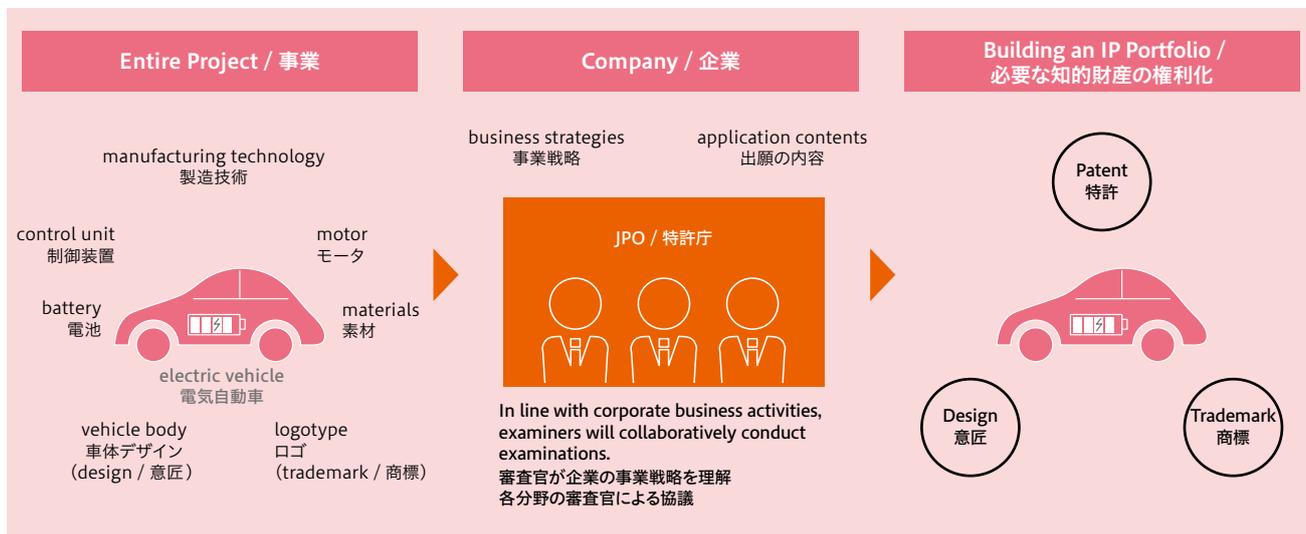


English
https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/shinsa/matome_sinsa.html



日本語
https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/patent/shinsa/general/matome_sinsa.html

Figure 2-1-6 Collective Examinations for IP Portfolio Supporting Business Strategy / 事業戦略対応まとめ審査



(iii) Suspension of Examination of a Divisional Application While the Original Application Is Pending Trial*11

Since April 2023, Article 54 (1) of the Patent Act has been applied to divisional applications which have been filed in conjunction with a request for an appeal against an examiner's decision of refusal of the original application. The examination of such divisional applications will be suspended until either the result of the reconsideration by examiners before appeal proceedings or the appeal decision of the original application becomes known. For the applicant, being able to consider how to proceed with the divisional application based on either result is expected to lead to a more efficient and effective filing strategy.

In addition, since April 2024, the examination of a divisional application may be resumed before the end of the suspension period based on the applicant's request.

- The number of suspended examinations in 2025 was 3,668.

(iii) 原出願が審判係属中の分割出願に対する審査中止の運用*11

2023年4月から、分割出願のうち、原出願の拒絶査定後、拒絶査定不服審判請求にあわせて出願されたものであって、申請がされた案件について、特許法第54条第1項を適用し、原出願の前置審査又は審判の結果が判明するまで当該分割出願の審査を中止する運用を開始している。出願人にとって、原出願の前置審査又は審判の結果を踏まえて分割出願の対応を検討できることは、より効率的かつ効果的な出願戦略の構築につながると期待されている。

また、2024年4月から、審査中止期間の終了前に、出願人側からの申請に基づき分割出願の審査を再開できる運用を開始した。

- 2025年に審査を中止した件数は3,668件。

*11



English

https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/patent/shinsa/bunkatu-shutugan_chushi.html



日本語

https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/patent/shinsa/general/bunkatu-shutugan_chushi.html

8 Improvement of Foundation for Prior Art Searches

Prior art searches are one of the important pillars for maintaining and improving examination quality, and a constant improvement of the foundation for prior art searches for both patent documents and non-patent literature is therefore crucial.

(i) Initiatives Related to Machine Translation Texts

- On the retrieval system for patents and utility models used by examiners, the JPO continues to accumulate full text Japanese machine translations of US, EP, and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) patent documents in English, as well as CN and KR patent documents, in order to retrieve and screen documents in Japanese.

(ii) Initiatives Related to the Development of Patent Classifications and Other Search Indices

- The JPO attended the IPC Union - Committee of Experts (56th session) and contributed to determining the procedures for revising the International Patent Classification (IPC), IPC revision projects, the Guide to the IPC, etc. (February 2025, hybrid).
- As part of improving the foundation for prior art searches, the JPO discussed revising the IPC for approx. 100 technical areas, with aims such as introducing superior classification entries among the File Index (FI)^{*12} and F-term^{*13} to the IPC (28th and 29th sessions of the IP5 Working Group 1-Working Group on Classification [March 2025, Seoul and online, and September 2025, online], 53rd and 54th sessions of the IPC Union - IPC Revision Working Group [May 2025, WIPO and online, and October 2025, WIPO and online]).
- Under the principle that FI must be compliant with the latest IPC, in FY2025, the JPO amended the FI scheme for approx. 730 main groups and conducted F-term maintenance for 23 themes in order to search efficiently for Japanese and foreign patent documents.
- AI is used to automatically assign FI and F-term to foreign patent documents. Both Japanese and foreign patent documents may be searched at once using common patent classifications.

*12 An original patent classification system that is a subdivision of the IPC governed by the JPO.
IPCを細展開した日本国特許庁独自の分類。

8 先行技術文献調査のための基盤整備

先行技術文献調査は、審査の質の維持・向上のための重要な柱の一つであり、そのための基盤を特許文献・非特許文献ともに恒常的に整備することが重要である。

(i) 機械翻訳文に関する取組

- 審査官が利用する特実検索システムにおいては、米国、欧州及び世界知的所有権機関（WIPO）の英語特許文献、中韓の特許文献について、日本語での検索及びスクリーニングのための全文日本語機械翻訳文を継続して蓄積。

(ii) 特許分類等検索インデックスの整備に関する取組

- 第56回IPC同盟専門家委員会に参加し、IPC(国際特許分類)改正手続やIPC改正プロジェクト、IPC指針などの決定に貢献（2025年2月、ハイブリッド）。
- 基盤整備の一環として、File Index (FI)^{*12}、Fターム^{*13}のうち優れた分類項目をIPC化することなどを目的に、IPC改正について約100の技術分野で議論【五庁分類作業部会 [第28回（2025年3月、ソウル及びオンライン）、第29回（2025年9月、オンライン）]、IPCリビジョン作業部会 [第53回（2025年5月、WIPO及びオンライン）、第54回（2025年10月、WIPO及びオンライン）]】。
- 日本及び外国の特許文献を効率よく検索するため、FIを最新版のIPCに準拠させることを原則として、2025年度は、約730メイングループのFI分類表を改正し、23テーマのFタームメンテナンスを実施。
- AIを活用して外国特許文献にFI、Fタームを機械的に付与。共通の特許分類を用いて日本及び外国の特許文献を一括検索可能に。
- 生成AI技術を活用して、試行的に一部の技術テーマについて、新たな検索インデックスを自動的に生成し、かつ、生成した検索インデックスを自動的に付与する取組を実施。

*13 An original classification the JPO expanded to various technical aspects (e.g., purpose, use, structure, material, manufacturing method, processing and operational method, and means of control) by technical scope (theme).
技術範囲（テーマ）ごとに種々の技術的観点（目的、用途、構造、材料、製法、処理操作方法、制御手段等）を展開した日本国特許庁独自の分類。

Chapter 1 第1章

- The JPO tested the use of generative AI technology to automatically generate new search indices for selected technical themes and to automatically assign the generated search indices.



Group photo from the 54th session of the IPC Revision Working Group (Photo: WIPO)

第 54 回 IPC リビジョン作業部会の集合写真（写真提供：WIPO）

2 Designs / 意匠

The JPO implements a variety of initiatives, including accelerated examinations and quality management, in order to appropriately protect designs, improve convenience for users, and strengthen the competitiveness of Japan's companies.

特許庁では、適切な意匠の保護、ユーザーの利便性向上、我が国企業の競争力強化のため、早期審査、品質管理などの種々の取組を実施している。

1 Examination Performance

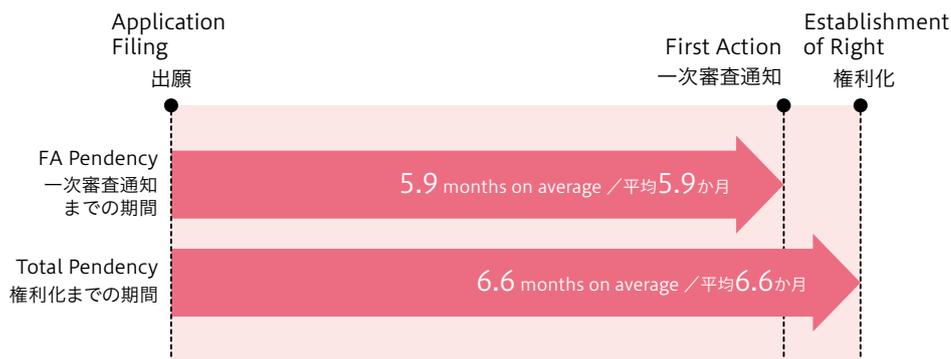
The JPO is working to make examinations more efficient in order to protect designs promptly and appropriately.

[Figure 2-1-7] [Figure 2-1-8]

1 審査実績

意匠を迅速かつ適切に保護すべく、審査の効率化を進めている。[2-1-7図] [2-1-8図]

Figure 2-1-7 FA Pendency and Total Pendency for Design Examinations in FY2024
2024年度における意匠審査のFA期間及び権利化までの期間

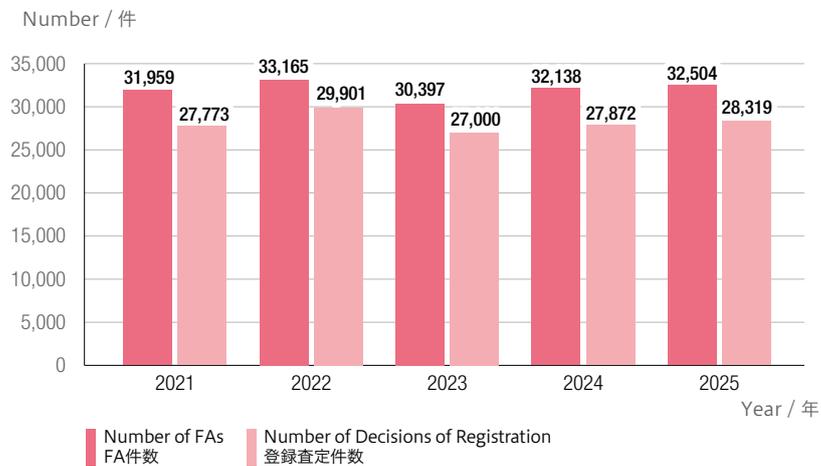


- Note:
- Excluding international applications filed to register designs under the Hague Agreement and applications for graphic image, building and interior designs, which are newly eligible for protection under the revised Design Act of 2019.
 - The first action pendency (FA pendency) is the period from the application filing until the JPO sends the first notice of examination results to the applicant, etc. (for the most part, either a decision of registration or a notice of reasons for refusal).
 - The total pendency (also called the "standard pendency") is the period from the application filing to the establishment of right (excluding cases in which applicants are required to respond to the second notices from the JPO for amendments submitted by the applicants within a certain period of time).

- 備考:
- 国際意匠登録出願、及び令和元年改正意匠法により新たに保護対象となった建築物及び画像に係る意匠並びに内装の意匠等に係る出願の場合を除く。
 - 一次審査通知までの期間（FA 期間）は、出願から審査官による審査結果の最初の通知（主に登録査定又は拒絶理由通知書）が出願人等へ発送されるまでの期間。
 - 権利化までの期間（「標準審査期間」ともいう。）は、出願から権利化までの期間（出願人が制度上認められている期間を使い補正等を行うことによって、特許庁から再度の応答を求められる場合等を除く。）。

Chapter 1 第1章

Figure 2-1-8 Number of FAs and Decisions of Registration for Design Examinations / 意匠審査の FA 件数及び登録査定件数



(Year / 年)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of FAs FA 件数	31,959	33,165	30,397	32,138	32,504
Number of Decisions of Registration 登録査定件数	27,773	29,901	27,000	27,872	28,319

Note: ・ The number of first actions is the number of first notices of examination results sent by examiners to applicants, etc. (for the most part, either a decision of registration or notices of reasons for refusal).

備考: ・ FA 件数は、審査官による審査結果の最初の通知（主に登録査定又は拒絶理由通知書）が出願人等へ発送された件数。

2 Accelerated Examination*14

Under certain conditions, the JPO offers accelerated examinations that, upon the request of an applicant, expedite the commencement of an examination. [Figure 2-1-9]

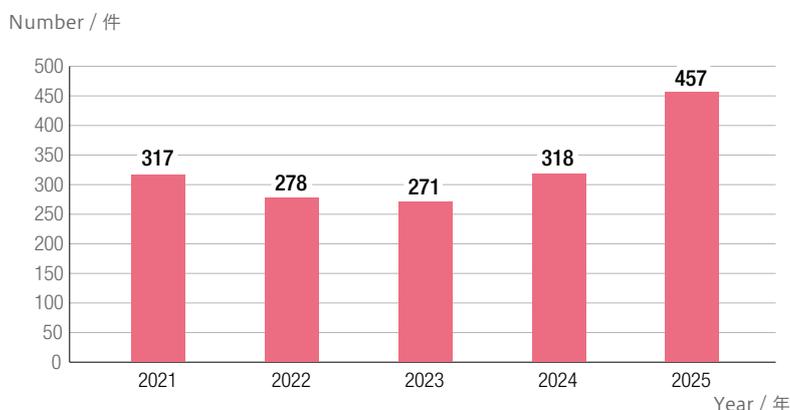
- The accelerated examination may be applied under the following conditions: (i) applications for design registration related to implementations with an urgent need for registration; (ii) applications for design registration that are concurrently filed in one or more other countries; or (iii) applications for design registration by businesses, etc. that have suffered earthquake damage.
- In the case of accelerated examinations in response to counterfeit goods in (i) above, first action is issued within one month from request, in principle. In 2025, there were 457 requests.
- In 2025, first action pendency from request for accelerated examination was 2.0 months on average.

2 早期審査*14

一定の要件の下で、出願人からの申出を受けて審査の着手時期を通常に比べて早める早期審査を実施している。[2-1-9図]

- 早期審査の対象は、(i) 権利化について緊急性を要する実施関連の意匠登録出願、(ii) 外国にも出願している意匠登録出願、(iii) 震災による被害を受けた企業等の意匠登録出願。
- 上記(i)のうち、模倣品対応のための早期審査については、申出から原則1か月以内に一次審査結果を通知する運用を実施。2025年の申出実績は457件。
- 2025年は、早期審査の申出から一次審査通知までの期間は平均2.0か月。

Figure 2-1-9 Number of Requests for Accelerated Examinations for Design / 意匠早期審査の申出件数



Note: • The number of requests for accelerated examinations is the number of “Written Explanation of Circumstances Concerning Accelerated Examination” that were submitted.

備考: • 早期審査の申出件数は、「早期審査に関する事情説明書」が提出された案件数。

*14



English

https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/design/shinsa/soki-isyou_soukisinri.html



日本語

https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/design/shinsa/soki/isyou_soukisinri.html

3 Quality Management Initiatives

Under the “Quality Policy on Design Examination”, which constitutes the JPO’s fundamental principles of quality management, and the “Quality Management Manual for Design Examination”, which documents quality management and its implementation system, the JPO has been engaging in the following initiatives in order to realize the utmost quality of design examinations in the world.*15

(i) Quality Assurance

- Before sending applicants and agents any decisions and notices, etc. prepared by examiners, managers of examination offices check their substantive and formal aspects for all cases.
- Examiners consult with managers or other examiners in order to share search know-how and knowledge, etc. to curb search and decision discrepancies among examiners.

(ii) Quality Verification

- Decisions and notices, etc. prepared by examiners are audited by quality management officers to check compliance and validity in terms of content and format before sending official documents to applicants and agents.
- In order to ascertain various user needs, the JPO conducts interviews at informal meetings with businesses, accepts information provided in relation to individual cases, and implements user satisfaction surveys. [Figure 2-1-10]

(iii) External Evaluation of Quality Management

- In August 2014, the JPO established the Subcommittee on Examination Quality Management, which consists of external experts, under the Intellectual Property Committee of the Industrial Structure Council of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. The JPO implements initiatives for the quality management of design examinations based on reports by this subcommittee, which convenes every fiscal year.

3 品質管理に関する取組

品質管理の基本原則となる「意匠審査に関する品質ポリシー」、及び、品質管理及びその実施体制について文書化した「意匠審査の品質管理に関するマニュアル」の下、世界最高品質の意匠審査の実現に向けて以下の取組を行っている*15。

(i) 品質保証

- 審査官による処分等の判断及びその結果として作成される起案書について、出願人・代理人に発送される前に、審査室の管理職が実体面・形式面にわたり全件チェック。
- サーチノウハウ、知識等を共有化し、審査官の間のサーチや判断の相違を抑制するため、審査官は管理職又は他の審査官と協議を実施。

(ii) 品質検証

- 審査官による処分等の判断及びその結果として作成される起案書の適否について、品質管理官が起案書発送前に監査を実施。
- 様々なユーザーニーズを把握するため、企業との意見交換会、個別案件に関する意見受付、ユーザー評価調査を実施。
[2-1-10図]

(iii) 品質管理に対する外部評価

- 2014年8月から産業構造審議会知的財産分科会の下に、外部有識者からなる審査品質管理小委員会を設置。毎年度、当該小委員会を開催し、その報告を踏まえ、意匠審査の品質管理における取組を実施。

*15



English

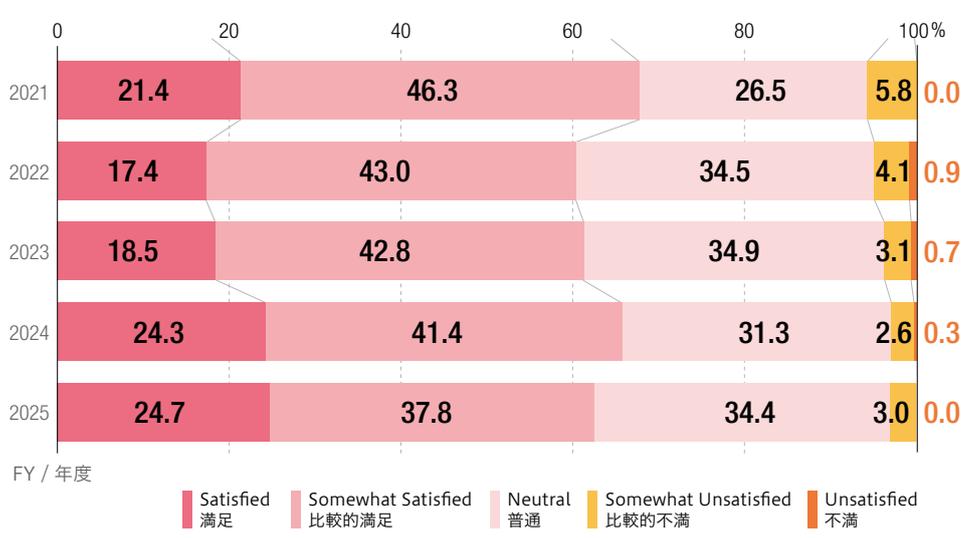
<https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/introduction/hinshitu/shinsa/isho/index.html>



日本語

<https://www.jpo.go.jp/introduction/hinshitu/shinsa/isho/index.html>

Figure 2-1-10 Results of User Satisfaction Survey on Quality of Design Examinations
意匠審査の質についてのユーザー評価調査の結果



Source: ・ JPO, “Report on FY2025 Annual User Satisfaction Survey on Design Examination Quality” (September 2025)

資料 ・ 特許庁「令和7年度意匠審査の質についてのユーザー評価調査報告書」(2025年9月)

4 Interviews*16

The JPO conducts interviews to facilitate communication between examiners and applicants, etc. In response to the needs of applicants and agents, etc. in remote areas, the JPO not only conducts interviews in the JPO’s building, but also conducts on-site interviews and online interviews.*17 Interviews may also be conducted with some of the participants participating online.

- ・ In 2025, there were 161 interviews (of these, 24 were conducted on-site, and 26 were conducted online).

4 面接*16

審査官と出願人等との間において、円滑に意思疎通を図ることを目的として、面接を実施している。遠隔地の出願人や代理人などのニーズに応え、特許庁庁舎で実施する面接の他、出張面接やオンライン面接*17も実施している。一部の参加者のみオンラインで参加し、面接を実施することも可能。

- ・ 2025年の実績は161件（内、出張面接24件、オンライン面接26件）。

*16  日本語
https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/laws/rule/guideline/design/mensetu_guide_isyou.html

*17  日本語
https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/design/shinsa/general/tv_ishome.html

5 Improvement of Foundation for Prior Design Searches

Prior design searches are one of the important pillars for maintaining and improving examination quality, and a constant improvement of the foundation for prior design searches is therefore crucial.

- To assess the novelty and creativity of designs during examinations, new design information is extracted from Japanese and foreign design bulletins, magazines, catalogs, and the internet, which is digitized and made available as publicly known design information.
- Especially in recent years, emphasis has been placed on enhancing materials in new protection areas, such as graphic images, buildings, and interiors. In addition, the JPO has made improvements to Japanese design classifications and classification definition cards, which are effective search keys for conducting swift and accurate prior design searches.
- Since 2024, AI technology has been partially used to increase the efficiency of Japanese design classification assignments to foreign design bulletins that will become publicly known design information.

6 Research on the Protection of Designs Created Using Generative AI Under Design Law^{*18}

- The results of the “Research on the Protection of Designs Created Using Generative AI Under Design Law” were published in April 2025. The purpose of this research was to use the results as basic data for considering the protection of designs created using generative AI under the Design Act.

5 先行意匠調査のための基盤整備

先行意匠調査は、審査の質の維持・向上のための重要な柱の一つであり、そのための基盤を恒常的に整備することが重要である。

- 意匠審査における新規性及び創作性の判断のため、国内外の意匠公報、雑誌、カタログ、インターネットなどから新規な意匠の情報を抽出して電子化し、意匠公知資料として整備。
- 特に近年は、新保護領域である画像、建築物及び内装の資料整備に注力。また、迅速・的確な先行意匠調査のための有効な検索キーである日本意匠分類や、分類定義カードのメンテナンスを実施。
- 2024年以降は、意匠公知資料化する外国意匠公報への日本意匠分類の付与効率を高めるため、AI技術を活用した分類付与を部分的に実施。

6 生成 AI を利用したデザイン創作の意匠法上の保護の在り方に関する調査研究^{*18}

- 2025年4月、生成AIを利用して創作されたデザインの意匠法上の保護の在り方を検討する基礎資料とすることを目的として実施した「生成AIを利用したデザイン創作の意匠法上の保護の在り方に関する調査研究」の調査結果を公表。

*18



日本語

https://www.jpo.go.jp/resources/report/sonota/document/zaisanken-seidomondai/2024_05_zentai.pdf

3 Trademarks / 商標

The JPO has been implementing various initiatives including accelerated examinations, quality management, a study on trademark systems and operations, and protection of regional collective trademarks, in order to appropriately protect trademarks and improve convenience for users.

特許庁では、適切な商標の保護やユーザーの利便性向上のため、早期審査、品質管理、商標制度・運用に関する調査研究、地域団体商標の保護などの種々の取組を実施している。

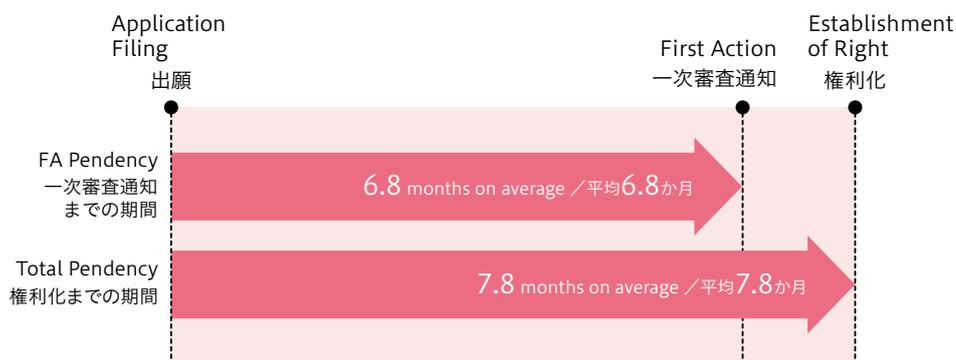
1 Examination Performance

In order to promptly and appropriately protect trademarks, the JPO is working to make examinations more efficient. [Figure 2-1-11] [Figure 2-1-12]

1 審査実績

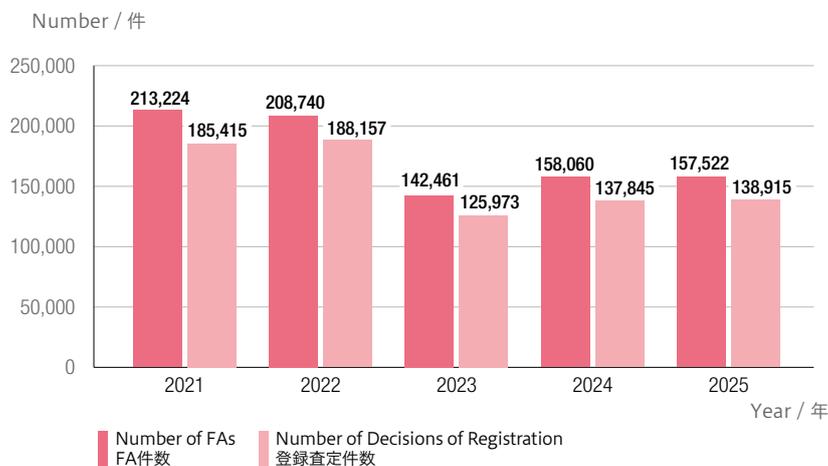
商標を迅速かつ適切に保護すべく、審査の効率化を進めている。[2-1-11図] [2-1-12図]

Figure 2-1-11 FA Pendency and Total Pendency for Trademark Examinations in FY2024
 2024年度における商標審査のFA期間及び権利化までの期間



- Note:
- The first action pendency (FA pendency) is the period from the application filing until the JPO sends the first notice of examination results to the applicant, etc. (for the most part, either a decision of registration or a notice of reasons for refusal) (excluding applications related to non-traditional trademarks and regional collective trademarks).
 - The total pendency is the period from the application filing to the registration (excluding applications related to non-traditional trademarks and regional collective trademarks, as well as cases such as where applicants are required to respond to the second notices from the JPO for amendments submitted by the applicants within a certain period of time).
- 備考:
- 一次審査通知までの期間 (FA 期間) は、出願から審査官による審査結果の最初の通知 (主に登録査定又は拒絶理由通知書) が出願人等へ発送されるまでの期間 (新しいタイプの商標及び地域団体商標に係る出願を除く。)
 - 権利化までの期間は、出願から最終処分までの期間 (新しいタイプの商標及び地域団体商標に係る出願を除く。また、出願人が制度上認められている期間を使い補正等を行うことによって、特許庁から再度の応答を求められる場合等を除く。)

Figure 2-1-12 Number of FAs and Decisions of Registration for Trademark Examinations / 商標審査のFA件数及び登録査定件数



(Year / 年)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of FAs / FA件数	213,224	208,740	142,461	158,060	157,522
Number of Decisions of Registration / 登録査定件数	185,415	188,157	125,973	137,845	138,915

Note: ・ The number of first actions is the number of first notices of examination results sent by examiners to applicants, etc. (for the most part, either a decision of registration or notices of reasons for refusal).

備考: ・ FA件数は、審査官による審査結果の最初の通知（主に登録査定又は拒絶理由通知書）が出願人等へ発送された件数。

2 Accelerated Examination ^{*19}

Under certain conditions, the JPO offers accelerated examinations that, upon the request of an applicant, expedite the commencement of an examination. [Figure 2-1-13]

- ・ In 2025, first action pendency from request for accelerated examination was 1.9 months on average.

2 早期審査 ^{*19}

一定の要件の下で、出願人からの申出を受けて審査の着手時期を通常に比べて早める早期審査を実施している。[2-1-13図]

- ・ 2025年は、早期審査の申出から一次審査結果の通知までの期間は平均1.9か月。

*19



English

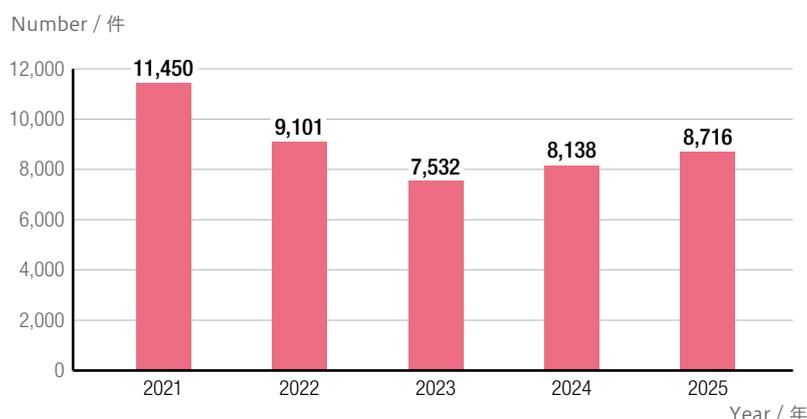
https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/trademark/shinsa/outline_accelerated_trademark.html



日本語

<https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/trademark/shinsa/soki/shkouhou.html>

Figure 2-1-13 Number of Requests for Accelerated Examinations for Trademark / 商標早期審査の申出件数



Note: • The number of requests for accelerated examinations is the number of applications for which “Written Explanation of Circumstances Concerning Accelerated Examination” was submitted.

備考: • 早期審査の申出件数は、「早期審査に関する事情説明書」が提出された出願の件数。

3 Quality Management Initiatives

Under the “Quality Policy on Trademark Examination”, which constitutes the JPO’s fundamental principles of quality management, and the “Quality Management Manual for Trademark Examination”, which documents quality management and its implementation system, the JPO has been engaging in the following initiatives in order to maintain and improve the quality of trademark examinations*20.

(i) Quality Assurance

- Before sending applicants and agents any decisions and notices, etc. prepared by examiners, managers of examination offices check their substantive and formal aspects for all cases.
- Examiners consult with managers and other examiners in order to share search know-how and knowledge, etc. to conduct swift and accurate trademark examinations while improving the consistency of judgements made by examiners.

3 品質管理に関する取組

品質管理の基本原則となる「商標審査に関する品質ポリシー」、及び、品質管理及びその実施体制について文書化した「商標審査の品質管理に関するマニュアル」の下、商標審査の質の維持・向上を図るため、以下の取組を行っている*20。

(i) 品質保証

- 審査官による処分等の判断及びその結果として作成される起案書について、出願人・代理人に発送される前に、審査室の管理職が実体面・形式面にわたり全件チェック。
- サーチノウハウ、知識などを共有化し、審査官の判断の均質化を図りつつ、迅速・的確な商標審査を行うため、審査官は管理職又は他の審査官と協議を実施。

*20



English
<https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/introduction/hinshitu/shinsa/shohyo/index.html>



日本語
<https://www.jpo.go.jp/introduction/hinshitu/shinsa/shohyo/index.html>

(ii) Quality Verification

- Decisions and notices, etc. prepared by examiners are audited by quality management officers to check compliance and validity in terms of content and format before sending official documents to applicants and agents.
- In order to ascertain various user needs, the JPO conducts interviews at informal meetings with businesses, accepts information provided in relation to individual cases, and implements user satisfaction surveys. [Figure 2-1-14]

(iii) External Evaluation of Quality Management

- In August 2014, the JPO established the Subcommittee on Examination Quality Management, which consists of external experts, under the Intellectual Property Committee of the Industrial Structure Council of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and has been implementing initiatives for the quality management of trademark examinations, based on reports by this subcommittee.

(ii) 品質検証

- 審査官による処分等の判断及びその結果として作成される起案書の適否について、品質管理官が起案書発送前に監査を実施。
- 様々なユーザーニーズを把握するため、企業との意見交換会、個別案件に関する意見受付、ユーザー評価調査を実施。
[2-1-14図]

(iii) 品質管理に対する外部評価

- 2014年8月より産業構造審議会知的財産分科会の下に、外部有識者からなる審査品質管理小委員会を設置しており、当該小委員会の報告を踏まえ、商標審査の品質管理における取組を実施。

Figure 2-1-14 Results of User Satisfaction Survey on Trademark Examination Quality
商標審査の質についてのユーザー評価調査の結果



4 Study on Trademark Systems and Operations in Various Countries

The results of the FY2024 JPO's Comparative Study on Industrial Property Right Systems in Various Countries titled “Research Study on Trademark Systems and Operations in Various Countries and Regions” were published in April 2025.*21 The purpose of this research study was to investigate the details of trademark systems that could be introduced or reviewed in Japan and their operations in other countries, and to use the results of such investigation as basic data for considering whether or not a review of the system and operations in Japan is necessary. Specifically, the study surveyed and examined laws, regulations, and operations in various countries and conducted a questionnaire survey in Japan and interview surveys in Japan and abroad, regarding the following themes.

(i) Partial Refusal System

In Japan, if the reasons for refusal in a trademark examination are issued against only some designated goods or services, the entire application is rejected unless the reasons for refusal are resolved by amendments or other means. By contrast, some countries and regions have adopted a “partial refusal system” under which, if the reasons for refusal are not resolved, only the designated goods or services concerned are refused, while registration is granted for the designated goods or services that can be protected.

Against this backdrop, the details of the systems and operations in various countries and regions, as well as the need for introducing the partial refusal system in Japan were investigated.

4 各国の商標制度・運用に関する調査研究

商標に係る制度のうち、我が国での導入や見直しを検討課題となり得る制度及びそれらに係る諸外国における運用の詳細を調査し、我が国における制度・運用見直しの要否検討の基礎資料とするため、2024年度産業財産権制度各国比較調査研究事業として実施した「各国・地域の商標制度・運用に関する調査研究」の調査結果を2025年4月に公表*21。具体的には、以下の論点を調査の対象として、諸外国の法令・運用等を調査・整理するとともに、国内質問票調査及び国内外ヒアリング調査を実施。

(i) 部分拒絶制度

我が国では、商標審査での拒絶理由が一部の指定商品等のみを対象とする場合、補正等により拒絶理由が解消されなければ、出願全体が拒絶となる。一方、拒絶理由が解消されない場合、対象となっている指定商品等のみを拒絶し、保護を認容できる指定商品等については登録を認める「部分拒絶制度」を採用している国・地域も存在する。

そこで、各国・地域での制度・運用の詳細や、我が国での導入ニーズについて調査を実施。

*21



日本語 全体版

https://www.jpo.go.jp/resources/report/takoku/document/zaisanken_kouhyou/2024_04.pdf



日本語 要約版

https://www.jpo.go.jp/resources/report/takoku/document/zaisanken_kouhyou/2024_04-summary.pdf

(ii) Smell and Other Non-Traditional Trademarks and Applications Using Non-graphical Methods

In Japan, the following non-traditional trademarks are not eligible for protection: smell/olfactory marks, touch/tactile marks, and taste/gustatory marks (“Smell and Other Non-Traditional Trademarks”).

Following amendments to the Regulations Under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, it has become possible to file international registration applications for marks, such as sound marks, motion marks, or combinations thereof, by attaching representations of marks expressed by non-graphical methods, including audio or video file (“Applications Using Non-graphical Methods”). However, whether such marks are eligible for protection shall be determined by domestic law. In Japan, these marks are not eligible for protection.

Against this backdrop, the systems and operations in various countries concerning Smell and Other Non-Traditional Trademarks and Applications Using Non-graphical Methods, as well as the need for revising Japan’s system and operations were investigated.

(ii) におい等非伝統的商標と非グラフィカルな手法による出願

我が国では、非伝統的商標のうち「におい商標」「触覚商標」「味覚商標」（以下「におい等非伝統的商標」）は、保護対象ではない。

また、「標章の国際登録に関するマドリッド協定規則」の改正により、国際登録出願においては、音商標、動き商標又はこれらの組み合わせ等を、音声ファイルや動画ファイルといった、非グラフィカルな手法により表された標章として願書に添付した出願（以下「非グラフィカルな手法による出願」）が可能となったが、こうした標章を保護対象とするかは国内法によることになっており、我が国ではこれらの標章は保護対象ではない。

そこで、におい等非伝統的商標や非グラフィカルな手法による出願に関する各国における制度・運用の実態や、我が国における制度・運用の改正ニーズについて調査を実施。

5 Regional Collective Trademarks

The regional collective trademark system was introduced in April 2006 in order to more appropriately protect, as trademarks, regional brands that combine the name of a region and the name of the goods (or services)^{*22} Prior to the introduction of this system, trademarks comprised of “region name + goods (services) name” were not approved for registration unless they already possessed nationwide recognition. However, with this system, such trademarks can be now registered as long as there is recognition by consumers to a certain extent. [Figure 2-1-15]

- As of the end of December 2025, there were 1,383 applications filed, and 791^{*23} registrations were valid.

(i) The Logo Mark of Regional Collective Trademarks

“The Logo Mark of Regional Collective Trademarks”, which identifies that a local specialty is registered with the JPO as a regional collective trademark, was established with the aim of promoting the regional collective trademark system and enhancing the brand power of regional collective trademark products (services). In principle, only associations that own regional collective trademarks, the members of the associations, and those who have been licensed by associations to use regional collective trademarks may use the logo. The logo helps to differentiate products (services) from those of third parties. In addition, the logo is expected to help prevent trademark infringement by third parties by using it on product packaging, printed materials, and at events as a tool to publicize registration with the JPO as a regional brand. [Figure 2-1-16]

- As of the end of December 2025, 274 associations were using the logo.

5 地域団体商標

地域団体商標制度とは、地域名と商品（サービス）名を組み合わせた地域ブランドを、商標権としてより適切に保護するために、2006年4月に導入された制度である^{*22}。「地域名＋商品（サービス）名」で構成される商標は、制度導入前は全国的な知名度がなければ登録が認められなかったが、制度導入後は一定範囲の需要者に認識されていれば登録可能となった。[2-1-15図]

- 2025年12月までに1,383件が出願され、791件^{*23}が有効に登録されている。

(i) 地域団体商標マーク

「地域団体商標マーク」は、地域の名物が地域団体商標として特許庁に登録されていることを示す証で、地域団体商標制度の普及と地域団体商標産品（サービス）のブランド力向上を目的として策定した。原則、地域団体商標を保有する団体、団体の構成員及び団体から地域団体商標の使用許諾を受けた者のみが使用できる。マークの有無による、第三者産品（サービス）との差別化に役立つとともに、商品のパッケージや印刷物、イベントの際などに、地域ブランドとして特許庁に登録されていることをPRするツールとして活用することで、第三者による商標権侵害を未然に防止する効果が期待される。[2-1-16図]

- 2025年12月までに274の団体が活用。

*22



English

<https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/trademark/gaiyo/chidan/index.html>



日本語

<https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/trademark/gaiyo/chidan/index.html>

*23

Registration numbers by region are 44 for Hokkaido, 63 for the Tohoku region, 132 for the Kanto-Koshinetsu region, 71 for the Hokuriku region, 104 for the Tokai region, 171 for the Kinki region, 51 for the Chugoku region, 34 for the Shikoku region, 102 for the Kyushu region, and 18 for the Okinawa region, along with 3 for overseas countries (registrations spanning multiple regions are counted as one in each region).

登録件数を地域別に見ると、北海道44件、東北63件、関東・甲信越132件、北陸71件、東海104件、近畿171件、中国51件、四国34件、九州102件、沖縄18件に加えて、外国からの出願も3件登録されている（複数地域に跨がるものはそれぞれカウント）。

(ii) Dissemination and Awareness Raising

To further promote the regional collective trademark system, the JPO has held “Discover Charms! Regional Brand Festa”^{*24} since 2025. This event sells products registered in the regional collective trademark system, with a particular aim of increasing its awareness among general consumers. In February 2025, the festa was held at an event space in Tokyo Station for rights holders from areas affected by the 2024 Noto Peninsula Earthquake (Toyama, Ishikawa, and Fukui Prefectures). In August, October, and December, it was held at a venue near Omiya Station for rights holders from across Japan.

(ii) 普及啓発

地域団体商標制度の更なる普及を図るため、2025年から「魅力発見！地域ブランドフェスタ^{*24}」を開催。本事業は、地域団体商標に登録されている産品を対象とする販売会であり、特に一般消費者における制度の認知度向上を目的としている。2025年2月には令和6年能登半島地震の被災地（富山県、石川県、福井県）の権利者を対象に東京駅構内のイベントスペースで、8月、10月、12月には全国の権利者を対象として大宮駅近くの会場で実施。

Figure 2-1-15 Regional Collective Trademark Composition / 地域団体商標の構成

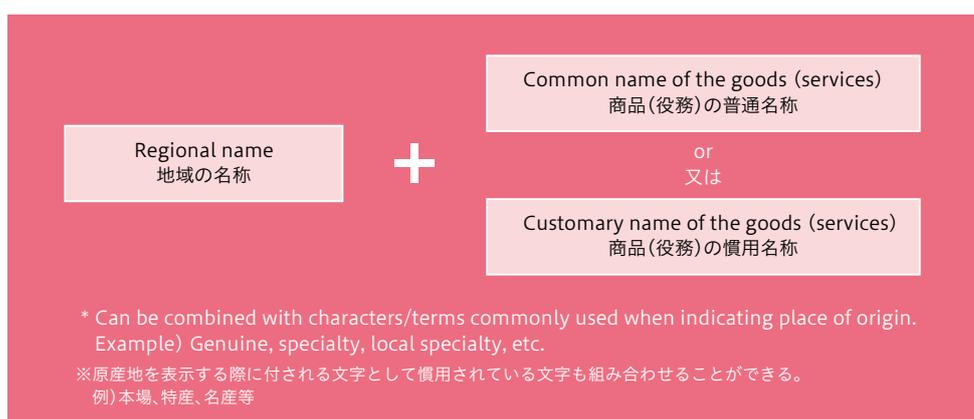


Figure 2-1-16 The Logo Mark of Regional Collective Trademarks / 地域団体商標マーク



*24



日本語

<https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/trademark/gaiyo/chidan/brand-festa/index.html>

4 Trials and Appeals / 審判

1 Performance of Trials and Appeals

The status of the proceedings in 2025 is as shown in Figure 2-1-17. [Figure 2-1-17]

- Trial for invalidation, trial for correction, trial for rescission, and opposition are prioritized over ex-parte appeal cases in principle for early dispute resolution.
- The JPO gives priority to and conducts accelerated appeal proceedings for appeal against an examiner's decision of refusal cases upon application when the cases satisfy the specific requirements. In 2025, the number of applications for accelerated appeal proceeding*25 was 158 for patents, 1 for designs, and 23 for trademarks. The average pendency*26 was 3.7 months for patents, 3.7 months for designs, and 3.7 months for trademarks.

1 審判実績

2025年の審理の状況は、2-1-17図のとおり。[2-1-17図]

- 無効審判、訂正審判、取消審判及び異議申立てについては、紛争の早期解決を図るため、原則として査定系の審判事件より優先的に着手。
- 拒絶査定不服審判事件について、特定の要件を満たす場合、申請により審理を優先的に行う早期審理を実施。2025年における早期審理の申請件数*25 は特許で158件、意匠で1件、商標で23件であり、審理期間*26 は特許で平均3.7か月、意匠で平均3.7か月、商標で平均3.7か月。

*25 The number of cases where the “Written Explanation of Circumstances Concerning Accelerated Appeal Proceedings” was submitted and the cases were transferred to the board in charge. When the cases that were not transferred to the board in charge (including cases that involve decision to grant a patent upon reconsideration by examiner before appeal proceedings) are included, the number of applications for accelerated appeal proceedings made in 2025 was 237 for patents, 1 for designs, and 28 for trademarks.

「早期審理に関する事情説明書」が提出され部門移管された件数。部門移管されなかった件数（前置登録された事件等）を含めると、2025年における早期審理の申請件数は、特許が237件、意匠が1件、商標が28件。

*26 In the cases that are subject to accelerated appeal proceedings, the average pendency is an average Calendar Year (CY) period from the date it becomes ready to conduct proceedings after an application is filed, to the date an appeal decision is dispatched.

早期審理の対象となった事件について、申請がなされ審理可能となつてから審決が発送されるまでの期間の暦年平均。

Chapter 1 第1章

Figure 2-1-17 Status of Proceedings in 2025 / 2025 年審理の状況

	Appeal against an examiner's decision of refusal 拒絶査定不服審判		Invalidation trial 無効審判		Trial for correction 訂正審判		Opposition 異議申立て		Trial for rescission 取消審判	
	Number of dispositions 処理件数	Pendency 審理期間	Number of dispositions 処理件数	Pendency 審理期間	Number of dispositions 処理件数	Pendency 審理期間	Number of dispositions 処理件数	Pendency 審理期間	Number of dispositions 処理件数	Pendency 審理期間
Patents & Utility Models 特許・実用新案	8,932	15.1	133	13.9	166	3.5	1,229	8.3	-	-
Designs 意匠	395	8.0	5	14.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trademarks 商標	1,099	10.0	86	13.4	-	-	284	9.1	1,058	8.2

- Note:
- The number of dispositions (excluding oppositions) is the total number of requests granted (including requests partly granted), requests not granted (including dismissals), and withdrawals/abandonments. The number of dispositions (oppositions) is counted by opposed patent.
 - Pendency is the average processing period (in months) in CY from the date a request is filed (*1), to the date a trial/appeal decision is dispatched (*2), to the date a withdrawal or abandonment is finalized and concluded, or to the date a dismissal is dispatched.
 - (*1) The date a request is filed for opposition is the date an opposition is requested. The date for cases concerning "reconsiderations by examiners as one of appeal proceedings" in "appeal against examiner's decision of refusal" is the date it becomes ready to conduct proceedings (the date the case has been transferred to the board in charge).
 - (*2) In patent opposition cases, if a "notification of reasons for revocation" (advance notice of a decision) is to be made, it is the date the notice is dispatched. In trial for patent invalidation cases, if an "advance notice of a trial decision" is to be made, it is the date the notice is dispatched.
 - Only trial for invalidation is recorded for utility models.

- 備考:
- 処理件数（異議申立てを除く）は、請求成立（含一部成立）、請求不成立（含却下）、及び取下げ・放棄の件数の合計。処理件数（異議申立て）は権利単位の件数。
 - 審理期間は、審判請求日（※1）から、審決（又は決定）の発送日（※2）、取下げ・放棄の確定日、又は却下の発送日までの期間の暦年平均。単位は月。
 - （※1）異議申立てについては異議申立日。特許拒絶査定不服審判において前置審査に係る事件については審理可能となった日（部門移管日）。
 - （※2）特許異議の申立てにおいて取消理由通知（決定の予告）を行ったものはその発送日、特許無効審判において審決の予告を行ったものはその発送日。
 - 実用新案は、無効審判についてのみ計上。

2 Improvement of Proceedings

The JPO is implementing the following initiatives in order to further improve proceedings:

(i) Oral Proceedings

- In trials for invalidation and trials for rescission, oral proceedings where the panel and the parties orally assert against each other are proactively utilized in order to accurately grasp and sort out the points of dispute and to increase the parties' acceptance of the results.
- In 2025, 113 oral proceedings (of which 64 [56.6%] were online oral proceedings) were conducted. The JPO compiled materials related to the online oral proceedings launched in October 2021 and has made them available on the JPO website.*27

(ii) Circuit Trials and On-Site Interviews

- When companies, universities, etc. in the local regions are the parties concerned in trial and appeal cases, the panel may visit their regions at their request to conduct circuit trials (oral proceedings conducted for trials for invalidation) or on-site interviews (interviews aimed at facilitating communication on trial and appeal proceedings).
- In 2025, 2 circuit trials and 3 on-site interviews were conducted. Online interviews were conducted if onsite visits were difficult due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

(iii) Trial and Appeal Practitioner Study Group

- The "Trial and Appeal Practitioner Study Group", which gathers together practitioners such as corporate IP personnel, patent attorneys and lawyers, in addition to JPO chief administrative judges and administrative judges, and which studies trial/appeal decisions and court decisions based on actual cases, is convened. Judges of the Intellectual Property High Court and the Tokyo District Court also participate as observers.
- The study group deliberates a total of five themes and five cases related to patents and trademarks and releases a report that consolidates its findings.*28

2 審理の充実

審理を一層充実させるため、以下の取組を実施している。

(i) 口頭審理

- 無効審判や取消審判においては、的確な争点の把握・整理や当事者の納得感の向上のため、合議体と当事者双方が口頭で主張しあう口頭審理を積極的に活用。
- 2025年は、113件の口頭審理（内、オンライン口頭審理64件（56.6%））を実施。2021年10月から開始したオンライン口頭審理について、関係資料をまとめ、特許庁ウェブサイト*27に掲載。

(ii) 巡回審判・出張面接

- 地方の企業・大学などが審判事件の当事者である場合には、当事者の希望に応じて合議体が全国各地に赴き、巡回審判（無効審判の口頭審理）や、出張面接（審理に関して意思疎通を図るための面接）を実施。
- 2025年においては、2件の巡回審判、3件の出張面接を実施。新型コロナウイルス感染症の影響で出張が困難な場合は、オンライン面接を活用。

(iii) 審判実務者研究会

- 審判長・審判官に加えて、企業の知的財産部員、弁理士、弁護士などの実務者が一堂に会して、実例に基づき審決及び判決についての研究を行う「審判実務者研究会」を開催。知的財産高等裁判所及び東京地方裁判所の裁判官もオブザーバー参加。
- 特許及び商標で計5テーマ及び5事例を検討し、その結果を取りまとめた報告書*28を公表。

*27



English

https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/system/trial_appeal/oral_proceedings.html



日本語

https://www.jpo.go.jp/system/trial_appeal/general-koto/online-kankeishiryu.html

*28



English

https://www.jpo.go.jp/e/resources/shingikai/kenkyukai/sinposei_kentoukai.html



日本語

https://www.jpo.go.jp/resources/shingikai/kenkyukai/sinposei_kentoukai.html