



IRISH PATENTS OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT

2015

Foreword



In accordance with the provisions of Section 103 of the Patents Act, 1992, I now have the honour to submit my Report to the Oireachtas for the year ended 31 December 2015, in respect of the execution of my statutory functions under the Patents Act, 1992 (as amended), the Trade Marks Act, 1996 (as amended); the Industrial Designs Act, 2001, the various Statutory Rules and Regulations made under these Acts; and the European Communities (Supplementary Protection Certificate) Regulations. Decisions under these Acts, Rules and Regulations rest with me in my statutory capacity, subject to certain rights of appeal to the High Court.

These statutory functions are concerned with the granting and registration of intellectual property rights in Ireland, specifically patent, trade mark and industrial design rights. I also have certain statutory functions under the Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000, which are mainly concerned with dealing with registration of copyright licensing bodies, references and applications relating to licensing schemes operated by those bodies and the resolution of disputes regarding royalty amounts. I also have competence in relation to the process for according an "orphan" status to a copyright work. My Office also continued to provide assistance and information on the intellectual property system to Irish business and enterprise and also to students and young entrepreneurs and innovators.

Significant progress was made in the reform and development of intellectual property systems in Europe during the course of 2015. In December 2015, the European Commission published the new Trade Mark Directive (EU) 2015/2436 and the new Community Trade Mark Regulation (EU) 2015/2424. The trade mark reform package comprises the biggest change to the legal landscape for European trade marks in over 20 years. The revisions dovetail with ongoing efforts to ensure coexistence and complementarity between the Union and national trade mark systems.

In the area of patent protection in Europe, considerable progress was made on the Unitary Patent with an agreement being reached in December 2015 on legal, financial and administrative rules necessary to implement the Unitary Patent system. The unitary patent is a legal title that will provide uniform protection across 26 EU countries on a one-stop-shop basis. In October, rules of procedure were agreed for the establishment and operation of a Unified Patent Court that will offer a single, specialised patent jurisdiction in Europe.

Both the trade mark and patent packages involve procedural and substantive changes to existing IP protection systems in the EU which are aimed at fostering innovation and economic growth and also making IP systems more accessible and efficient for businesses in terms of lower costs and complexity as well as providing reduced administrative burdens and legal certainty. While these developments will not have an immediate impact on Irish business in the short term, they do signal a need for all export orientated enterprises in Ireland to have regard to these developments when planning and taking decisions on how best to protect and exploit their IP in order to maximise the value of their innovation and creativity at a reasonable cost.

My Office will continue to work with other state agencies such as Enterprise Ireland and the Local Enterprise Offices and with Universities and Institutes of Technology in order to deliver an awareness programme which informs about these developments and aims at encouraging a more informed use and understanding of the IP system, irrespective of the size or the nature of the business or enterprise.

This Report provides information on how my Office has discharged the various statutory functions during 2015. The narrative mentions operational efficiencies and improvements and reports on a range of business friendly e-services and the changes made to the way we deliver some processes and services. The narrative is supported by a range of business statistics which inform about trends and changes in IP.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerard Barrett".

Gerard Barrett

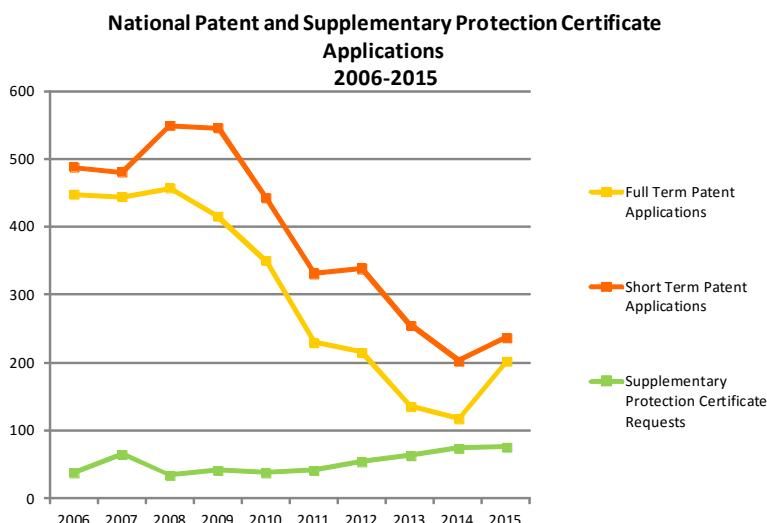
Controller

General Commentary on Trends, Objectives and Activities

Trends

Ireland had the fastest growing economy in the European Union for the second consecutive year in 2015, according to the EU Commission's winter economic forecast; and also had one of the fastest growing economies in the world. The importance of innovation to the Irish economy as a key lever for boosting productivity, growth and jobs, was highlighted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in its Economic Survey of Ireland for 2015. However, the survey noted a slowdown in the GDP growth rate which may be related to a recent slowdown of investment in knowledge-based capital and innovative intellectual property (e.g. patents). The following commentary notes that the effects of the recession in Ireland, which resulted in declines in investment in innovation and in the filing of fewer patent and trade mark applications by Irish firms, is now diminishing and the strong presence of intellectual property intensive IT and pharmaceutical companies as well as significant growth in new sectors such as medical devices may be contributing to the increased number of filings.

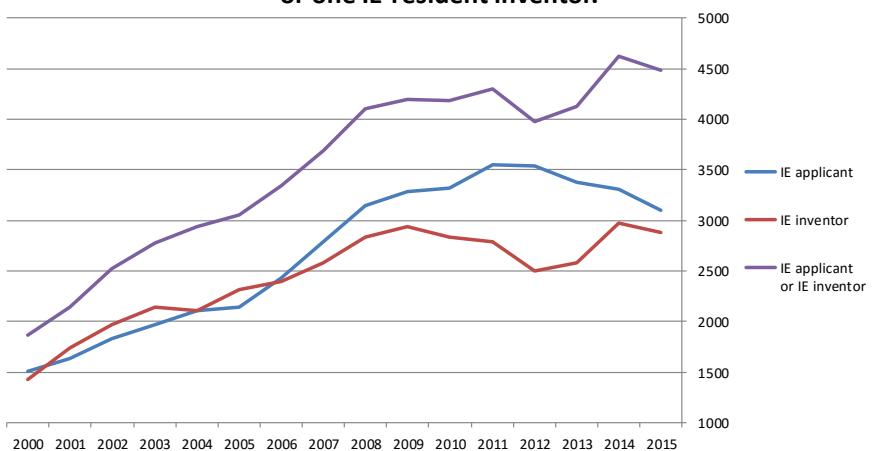
Patents and SPCs



- National full term Patent filings received during 2015 increased sharply by 72% on 2014 (from 118 to 203) while the number of short term patent applications filed also increased by 17% on 2014 (from 203 to 237). After the declines in recent years these increases are encouraging and may in part be indicative of the growth in the economy which patent activity tends to lag behind.
- Applications for Supplementary Protection Certificates (SPCs) were maintained in 2015, with a slight increase from 75 in 2014 to 76 in 2015. SPCs are of considerable importance to the pharmaceutical and medicinal products industry and are a highly valuable IP right.

The number of national patent filings does not properly reflect the extent to which Irish firms and Irish inventors are engaged in innovative activity, which results in patent filings not just in Ireland but also in other countries and through the EPC or PCT systems. In order to provide a broader perspective on Irish-based patenting activity, the below graph shows published patent applications (both foreign and domestic) since 2000 wherein at least one named applicant or one named inventor is resident in Ireland. The graph clearly shows steady growth until 2011, after which the effects of the slowdown in the economy commencing in 2008/2009 began to be felt in the patent sphere. However, it can be seen that filing rates had largely recovered by 2014.

Patent filings involving at least one IE-resident applicant or one IE-resident inventor.



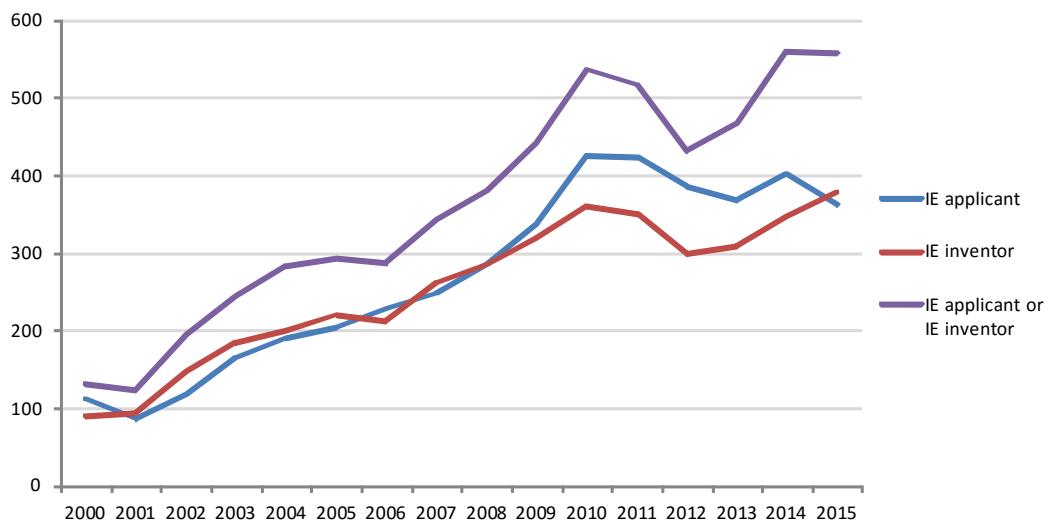
Source: Espacenet - Published patents with [IE] present in applicant or inventor fields.

General Commentary on Trends, Objectives and Activities

Focus on the MedTech sector

In recent years, the MedTech or medical devices sector in Ireland has been recognised as one of the key drivers for industrial growth for the future. According to Enterprise Ireland, 17 of the world's top 25 medical technology companies have invested in Ireland and 60% of Med Tech companies are indigenous SMEs. Ireland is now one of Europe's medical technology "hotspots" and is recognised as a global centre of excellence, employing over 25,000 people in over 100 companies. According to IDA Ireland, the export of medical devices and diagnostic products now represents 8% of Ireland's total merchandise exports. The MedTech industry in Ireland is evolving from being mainly manufacturing-oriented to a more complex industry, increasingly driven by R&D. Over half of the medical technologies companies based in Ireland now have dedicated R&D facilities, developing new and innovative products and services. Evidence, reflected in the graph below, suggests that this change is resulting in more patent filings from Irish resident companies, with Irish inventors conducting R&D in Ireland.

Medtech patent publications by year involving IE resident applicants or inventors.



Source: Espacenet - Published patent families with [IE] indicated in either applicant or inventor fields, and classified according to the CPC under either G01N33/48 and its hierarchical subgroups (the investigation or analysis of biological materials including, for instance, immunoassay techniques), or A61 (medical or veterinary science and hygiene (excluding A61K, P and Q which deal with chemical preparations for pharmaceuticals or cosmetics)).

Filings by Irish resident applicants and Irish resident inventors can be used in order to get a better indicator of indigenous technological activity in the sector and to attempt to reflect the amount of innovative activity being undertaken in Ireland. The data presented in the graph is collated at family level; that is, each invention is counted only once, regardless of how many jurisdictions a patent for that invention might have been filed in.

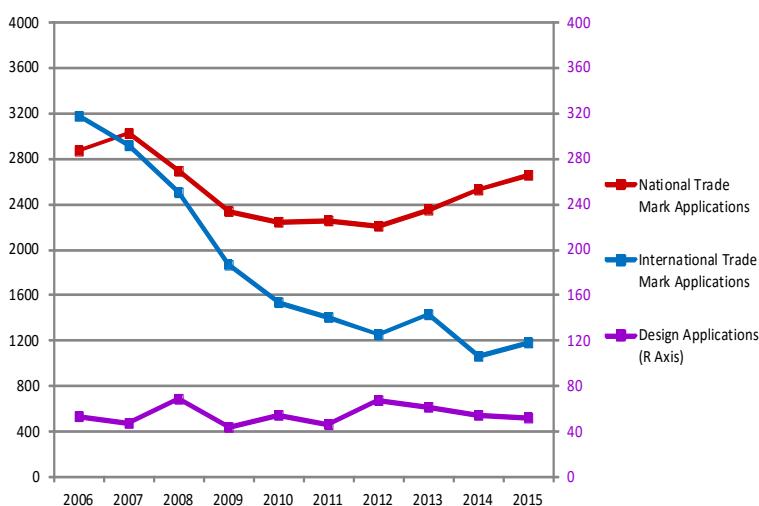
From a relatively low base in 2000 when the sector was in its infancy, the graph shows a steady growth until 2010. The impact of the recession can be seen in the period 2011 to 2013 with a visible recovery and a resumption of innovative activity leading to increased filings thereafter.

General Commentary on Trends, Objectives and Activities

Trade Marks and Designs

The number of national trade mark applications received has continued to increase having been in decline in recent years. This can be attributed to a number of factors including an overall increase in business activity in Ireland arising from the improved economic outlook. This is particularly evident in key areas of the economy such as the pharmaceutical and technological sectors in addition to the more traditional food and drinks sector. A noticeable feature at IP information raising events aimed at business start-ups is the interest in the use of branding and trade marks on the part of locally based business as well as those with an eye on export markets. It is likely that this interest combined with the improvement in the economy and increased exports is reflected in part in the increase in the number of new trade mark applications. A less obvious but nonetheless relevant contributory factor to the increase in applications may be the availability of user friendly online search and e-filing tools developed with the assistance of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) which have made it easy for businesses to track the branding strategies of competitors and also to prevent infringement of existing marks and to file applications.

Trade Mark and Design Applications 2006-2015



- The total number of national trade mark applications received in 2015 showed an encouraging increase of 5% over the 2014 figure (from 2,523 to 2,654). Indeed there has been a discernible increase since 2012 which may be attributable to the continuing growth and development of the economy as businesses manage to escape the negative effects of the recession.
- International applications for marks seeking protection in Ireland also increased by 11.5% by comparison to 2014 (from 1,058 to 1,180).
- Applications for the registration of industrial designs which have been at a very low level since 2003 when the Community Design registration system first came into being, continued to decrease in 2015 (from 54 to 49).

European Union Trade Marks (EUTMs)

The European Union Trade Mark (previously termed a Community Trade Mark) came into effect on 1st April 1996 and gives the proprietor a single registration, which is valid in all 28 EU countries. Filings of European Union Trade Mark (EUTM) applications by Irish resident applicants in 2015 remained relatively unchanged from 2014 with just a 0.8% increase.

EUIPO Trade Mark applications and registrations by Irish resident persons.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
EUTM applications	808	827	1,054	1,033	1,042
EUTM registrations	740	678	840	1,017	946

Source: EUIPO Statistics SSC003.1

General Commentary on Trends, Objectives and Activities

International Trade Marks

The Madrid Protocol is an international system of trade mark registration, which is administered by the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO). The Madrid system offers a trade mark owner the possibility to obtain trade mark protection in several countries by filing a single application. The Madrid system also requires that an international application must be based on a national or EU trade mark application or registration (referred to as the basic application or registration) filed through the Irish Patents Office or the EUIPO which is known as the "Office of Origin". An international mark is equivalent to an application or a registration of the same mark effected directly in each of the countries designated by the applicant. The Madrid system offers a smart business solution for any company seeking to protect and manage its marks in international markets (usually outside the EU) and the extent to which it is used by Irish resident companies can provide a useful indicator of their intent to break into foreign markets and to create new markets for existing and new product ranges.

The International Bureau of WIPO recorded 181 international registrations for holders of marks domiciled in Ireland in 2014. These registrations include 1,297 designations of other Madrid members in which the holders sought to extend protection for their marks. Next a total of 192 additional Madrid members were subsequently designated in already existing international registrations from Ireland in order to extend their original geographic scope of protection to additional Madrid member countries or jurisdictions.

International Registrations via the Madrid System for holders of trade marks domiciled/resident in Ireland^{1,2,3}.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of international registrations	115	146	181	n/a
Designations	898	1,647	1,297	n/a
Subsequent designations	263	144	192	n/a

Source: WIPO Madrid Yearly Review for 2012, 2013 and 2014.

1. Does not include Irish holders of EUTMs which have elected to base their international application on their EUTM.
2. Data for 2015 not available from WIPO.
3. Some historical figures may vary from year to year due to ongoing updating of WIPO statistical databases .

Patents Office Mission and Objectives

The central mission of the Patents Office is:

"To provide an efficient and effective system of industrial property protection that will encourage technological progress and promote enterprise through the implementation by the Office of the relevant legislation."

This is to be achieved through the protection of intellectual property rights in the fields of patents, trade marks and designs and the proactive dissemination of relevant knowledge and information in conjunction with each of these activities.

A new Statement of Strategy for the period 2014-2016 was completed in December 2013. The following commentary and accompanying statistical report considers the activities of the Office in the context of delivering on the six main objectives set out in the Strategy Statement.

These six objectives are seen as central to fulfilling the mission of the Office and maintaining its operational efficiency. The mission and strategy of the Office also ties in with the wider national objectives of supporting and encouraging enterprise and innovation and fostering an effective business environment in Ireland.

Objective 1

Continue to grant patents and register trade marks and designs based on efficient administrative procedures and standards of service (which are in line with those reflecting best international practice and which meets the needs of customers).

The Office continued to deliver its services with increasing efficiency and effectiveness in 2015 with the majority of customer service targets being met to a very satisfactory level. The Office is committed to the delivery of the e-communications programme, a major component of which is e-filing. The Irish Office currently has the facility to accept e-filed trade mark and design applications. A key benefit for users of the system is the assurance they have that any terms that they choose from the approved harmonised classification list contained in TMclass will be accepted by the Office. This has helped to streamline the application process and provide a degree of additional predictability for users. It also assists the examination process leading to quicker decisions on applications for protection. By the end of 2015, 82% of all trade mark applications were received electronically via the Office's website. Paper files are no longer created for trade mark and design applications which are received electronically and a largely paperless process is in place for search and examination which is in line with best international practice.

Design e-filing went live in December 2015 and preliminary work began on the development of an e-filing system for Patent and SPC applications. The provision of online filing systems for trade marks and designs has placed the Office on a par with other Industrial Property Offices in Europe which have been offering their customers an efiling service for many years. Adding the possibility to file patent and SPC applications online will complete the picture and will allow the Office to comply with the Government's requirement that priority be given to making all licensing and authorisation procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis before the end of 2017.

Net receipts accruing to the exchequer in 2015 were €8.386m, an increase of €0.136m or 1.65% on the 2014 figure of €8.25m. The greater proportion of the Office's fee income comes from renewal fees on European Patents. The combined income from patent and trade mark fees showed an increase of €0.16m, or 2.25% over the 2014 figure. The Office's net expenses for 2015 of €2.97m was an increase of €0.21m over the corresponding 2014 figure of €2.76m.

Objective 2

Seek to incorporate new technology in order to improve systems and procedures and service to customers and which will also have regard to the demands of the information society and e-business.

During 2015, staff continued to refine the work processes and technology solutions that underpin its core products and services to provide more efficient service delivery. Our commitment to quality customer service is outlined in our Customer Service Action Plan which is available on our website. 96% is the average level of achievement against target for the 37 customer service targets which establish optimum time limits for carrying out various customer tasks. These are detailed in the “Performance Targets” section of the report.

The Office actively pursues an e-communications programme with the aim of improving service delivery and more efficient processing by combining electronic filing, electronic file processing and electronic communications in a way that will ultimately facilitate the introduction of paperless processing in the Office. The vast majority of Office correspondence is now issued by email and customers are encouraged to correspond by email with the Office, where possible. The Office introduced e-filing of trade mark applications in 2014, design e-filing in 2015 and is currently developing e-filing for patents and SPCs with a go-live date of late 2017.

In line with Government policy to promote the increased use of electronic payments in the public service and throughout the economy, the Office established two new commercial bank accounts which has improved the fee payment options available to its customers. 99% of the Office’s statutory fees are now paid electronically compared to 96% in 2014. In November 2013, the Office introduced a credit card terminal (CCT) to further facilitate the payment of all fees via telephone. The Office is currently working on the introduction of an E-Services project which will provide for online payment of the remaining trade mark and design fees, not currently payable via the Patents Office website. These projects relating to trade marks and designs have been delivered at minimal cost to the State as the Office is in receipt of financial and technical assistance from the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), formerly known as OHIM.

During the year the Office continued to benefit from the assistance of the EUIPO Co-operation Fund which provides assistance to EU National Offices with the development and implementation of web-based tools to support the trade marks and designs life-cycle. These initiatives will compliment other Co-operation Fund assisted and successfully delivered projects including:

TMclass - A database of harmonised classification terms acceptable in all EU Offices including EUIPO

TMView - An online search tool providing free of charge access to the trade mark registers of all EU Offices including EUIPO.

Designview - An online search tool providing free of charge access to the design registers of all EU Offices including EUIPO

TM e-filing - Online filing of trade mark applications incorporating online payment of the application fee.

A project to expand the amount of national patent documents which are electronically archived which commenced in 2013 continued throughout 2015. The aim of the project is to scan all available patent application specification documents from the 1960s to the early 2000s, and to make them available to the public to view on the website. It is estimated that there are approximately 58,000 documents to be scanned. This project will facilitate ease of access to the data for both the public and for staff, as well as reducing the requirement for storage space for paper files. The project continued in 2014 with over 24,000 documents scanned to date. It is estimated that the project will take 4 years to complete. As a cost saving measure and to allow continued access to the documents, the Office decided not to outsource this work and is using its own internal staff resources and equipment.

In relation to improving technological efficiencies, eleven substantive enhancements to the PTOLEMY administration system were developed during the year, all of which were aimed at improving operational efficiency and ensuring the Office’s core business systems remain current. The Office also migrated its servers to a new off-site infrastructure in 2015, with a more modern operating system.

Objective 3

Contribute to the drafting and subsequent implementation of any new IP legislation which creates functions for the Controller.

The regulation of intellectual property rights in Ireland is a vital part of the overall legislative framework that promotes, protects and encourages innovation. It is consistent with best international practice, reflecting the country's commitment to EU Intellectual Property Law and to other international treaties and conventions, such as the European Patent Convention and the various Treaties and Agreements of the World Intellectual Property Organisation. The Intellectual Property Unit (IPU) of the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation has responsibility for intellectual property policy and preparation of legislation in this field. The Patents Office furnishes advice and assistance on these matters, in particular on the impact of proposed legal or regulatory changes on the work of the Office. Matters on which the Office provided input and observations during 2015 were:

- The Trade Marks (Amendment) Rules 2015 S.I. No. 533 of 2015 aligns with amendments made in primary trade marks legislation, in the context of the Intellectual Property (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2014, aimed at facilitating Ireland's accession to the Singapore Treaty. The Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks has the objective to create a modern and dynamic international framework for the harmonisation of administrative trademark registration procedures.
- The European Communities (Patent Agents) Regulations 2015 (S.I. No. 579 of 2015) primarily amends sections 106, 107 and 109 of the Patents Act 1992 thereby removing legal form and shareholding restrictions on patent agents. These Regulations facilitate the registration of EU patent agent partnerships and companies who wish to set up a secondary establishment in Ireland.
- The Register of Patent Agent Rules (S.I. No. 580 of 2015) revokes and replaces the 1992 Register of Patent Agent Rules. These Rules now allow for registration of patent agent partnerships and companies. These Rules facilitate the registration of EU patent agents who wish to set up a secondary establishment in Ireland. The Rules sets out the terms, conditions and fees applicable to patent agents for entry on to the Register.
- The drafting of regulations to implement The European Union (Collective Rights Management) (Directive 2014/26/EU) impose governance requirements on collective management organisations established in the state and, separately, allows them to undertake licensing on a multi-territorial basis throughout the European Union. The governance requirements include an obligation on Irish copyright licensing bodies to provide an annual compliance statement to the Controller.

Objective 4

To increase awareness of intellectual property.

One of the main objectives of the Patents Office is to assist businesses, innovators and entrepreneurs to understand how IP can help them create value from their ideas and to be able to access information on IPRs (Intellectual Property Rights) which will enable them to use, manage and enforce their intellectual property to its fullest potential. The Office has specifically directed its IP awareness programme towards assisting small and micro-enterprises and individual entrepreneurs and innovators. The Office continued with its outreach programme of increasing awareness of intellectual property amongst the general public and directed particularly at the small business start-up sector and students. During 2015, the Office participated in 63 events speaking on IP at "Start your own business" courses run by the Local Enterprise Offices. The Office attended various business advice and enterprise exhibitions throughout the country, including the Design Showcase, All Ireland SME Summit and the National Ploughing Championships. "MeetWest" is a successful business networking event at which Office staff held one-to-one sessions with various businesses. The Patents Office held 68 IP clinics in 2015, which gives an opportunity to the public, inventors, entrepreneurs and business people to discuss with Patents Office staff, matters concerning IP applications they intend to make or have already made to the Office. This approach has been found to be very helpful in providing basic guidance on procedures and forms required for the registration of IP rights, the processes of obtaining IP protection in Ireland or abroad. Assistance in constructing a do-it-yourself search strategy for patents, trade marks or registered designs and accessing and using online patent, trade mark and design databases is also provided.



A significant part of the Office's awareness raising efforts is directed at second level students through involvement with the annual BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition and the annual Student Enterprise Awards. The Office also continued with its sponsorship of an award presented to the student whose project best demonstrates the use of technology in new or improved applications, enhanced efficiencies and novel innovations. The winner of the 2015 Patents Office sponsored prize at the Exhibition was Lauren Murphy (seen right) from Loreto Secondary School Balbriggan for her project "An aid for the rehabilitation of a clenched fist in Multiple Sclerosis".



The Student Enterprise Awards run by the Local Enterprise Boards is the biggest enterprise competition for second level students in Ireland with some 16,000 participants. The National Finals took place in April 2015. The winners of the Intellectual Property awards were Mya Ní Ruiseil, Coláiste Pobail Osraí, Kilkenny (seen left with Damien English TD, Minister for Skills, Research and Innovation, and Simon Gray, President of APTMA) with her project 'Chibi Chick'; Jack Cloney, Ballyhaunis Community School, Co Mayo with 'Sila Lights' and Kate Devaney, Ciara Bourke, Eileen Barry, Katie Clarke and Lauren Cawley from St Marys Convent, Ballina with 'Babe Magnets'. The competition provides an excellent vehicle for the Office to engage with second level student entrepreneurs to promote awareness of IP when developing a business idea and establishing and running a successful enterprise. The SEA workbook has now incorporated a new chapter specifically relating to Intellectual Property, thus reinforcing awareness of IP amongst second level students. The Patents Office will continue its involvement with the Student Enterprise Awards into the future.

Objective 5

Recognise staff as a key asset of the Office and utilise business planning and individual performance management and development in order to improve business performance and processes and enhance organisational effectiveness.

As of 31 December 2015 the Office had 46 authorised posts, one less than in 2014. However when career breaks, work-sharing and other family friendly working arrangements are taken into account, the Office operated with a staffing level of 41.78 full time equivalents during 2015. The number of staff working in the Office has decreased significantly since the Office first decentralised to Kilkenny in 1998. Since 2008, for example, the number of staff has decreased by 27% from 63 to the present level of 46. The Office has sought to meet the demands of high levels of public service with less staff resources and without compromising operational effectiveness through better and more efficient procedures and use of technology.

The Office is committed to ensuring that all staff performance is appraised regularly and that staff reviews are completed in a timely fashion. The Performance Management Development System (PMDS) operated in the Office links to the Offices' annual business plan and affords each member of staff the opportunity to set individual goals, to initiate and deliver change and continue to improve work practices in order to deliver an efficient and high quality service.

In accordance with the PMDS system, a Training Development Plan was drafted which took into account the various training needs which staff had identified in their personal development plans for 2015. Outside of continuing on-the-job training, staff undertook a total of 44.5 training days during 2015. Training was provided in areas such as Financial Procedures in the Civil Service, Personal Development and Writing Skills.

Staff have continued to play a pivotal role in reducing energy consumption within the Office in line with the Public Sector Programme contained in the Government's Energy Efficiency Action Plan. The plan has a target of reducing energy consumption, increasing staff awareness of energy efficiency and monitoring the performance of heating/air conditioning equipment. The energy saving measures put in place by staff have resulted in significant energy consumption savings in the past year (compared with 2008, the benchmark year) and a consequential saving in energy costs.

- Electricity consumption has decreased by 24% in the last 12 months (compared with 2008)
- Fuel consumption has decreased by 10% in the past 12 months (compared with 2008)

I wish to recognise and record my appreciation for the hard work and professionalism of the staff during 2015 and their commitment to maintaining an efficient and effective operational capacity for administering IP in Ireland.

Objective 6

To represent Ireland at international fora.

Patents Office staff represent Ireland on the Administrative Council of the EPO and its various Committees, the Administrative Board and Budget Committee of EUIPO and several of its technical and liaison committees which deal with various issues concerning intellectual property. During 2015, the Office participated in meetings and workshops of the "Select Committee of the Administrative Council" (constituting the group of 25 contracting states within the meaning of Article 142 EPC) for the purposes of deciding on administrative procedures and implementing rules for unitary patent protection.

In addition, staff participate in meetings of governing and technical bodies of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) (which administers both the Patent Co-operation Treaty and arrangements under the Madrid Protocol dealing with international trade mark applications) in addition to a number of international IP treaties.

Both the EPO and the EUIPO offer alternative routes to obtaining IP protection in Europe and the Office's involvement with these organisations is aimed at ensuring that Irish interests are appropriately represented, at keeping abreast of best practice at an international level and to facilitate collaboration with other national and international industrial property offices.

The Office has bilateral co-operation programmes with the EPO and EUIPO under which it receives assistance towards participation in various IP awareness raising events, specialist IP training, ICT projects to facilitate IP data exchanges, the development of tools to provide better access to IP information and the harmonising of practices and procedures. Our participation also facilitates dialogue on the content and structure of co-operation programmes between those organisations and other national IP Offices in Europe which in turn enables the Office to further enhance or develop its customer services in line with best international practice.

International Co-operation



The Office participates in co-operation activities with its international counterparts, the EUIPO (European Union Intellectual Property Office) and the European Patents Office on a number of projects, which are designed to promote harmonisation across national IP offices, and make things easier for users of the patent, trade mark and design systems.

The following are examples of some of the co-operation projects undertaken in 2015.

EUIPO CO-OPERATION & SOFTWARE PACKAGE PROGRAMME

The Convergence Programme of the EUIPO, launched in 2011, links EUIPO with National Offices and User Associations in an effort to reach common ground in areas where IP offices have different practices. It complements the work being done to create common IT tools taking place under the Cooperation Fund. Staff of the Office participate in the Working Groups established for each of the seven convergence projects listed below.

CP1. Harmonisation of trade mark classification practice of goods and services.

CP2. Convergence of Class Headings

CP3. Absolute grounds for refusal for figurative trade marks with purely descriptive words or expressions.

CP4. Scope of protection of trade marks exclusively in black, white and/or shades of grey.

CP5. Relative Grounds – Likelihood of Confusion (Impact of non-distinctive/weak components)

CP6. Convergence on graphic representations of Designs.

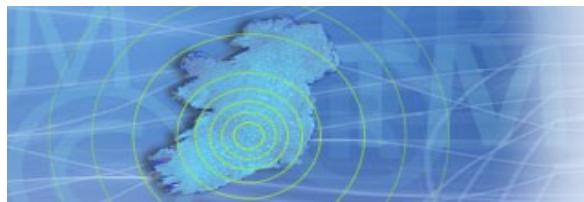
CP7. Harmonisation of Product Indications for Designs

The trade mark projects- CP1 to CP5 inclusive have all now concluded with Common Communications being issued for each of them. It is hoped to complete both Design projects in 2016. The main benefits for users are:

- Clarity and transparency: Shared communication initiatives keep stakeholders informed of advancements in a timely manner, with unified information.
- Quality and usability: effective and efficient access to protection offered by registration systems both at the national and EU level.
- Legal certainty: increased legal certainty due to greater consistency in decisions made at national and EU level.
- Time and cost savings: potential reductions in application processing times and cost savings for both IP offices and applicants
- Implementation and continuity of Common Practices

In cooperation with the EUIPO, the Office will complete work on an e-Services project aimed at expanding the range of trade mark and design fees which can be paid online in 2016. The Office has received support from EUIPO for this project and for maintaining the TMView and Designview tools. In addition, under a bilateral agreement with EUIPO, the Office availed of assistance towards the cost of a range of awareness raising events where information on the Community Trade Mark and Community Design Systems was disseminated.

Office Website and Publications



Patents Office Website

The website (www.patentsoffice.ie) provides a general introduction to intellectual property and specific information about how to protect your ideas as well as including a section on IP for business. Material published on the website includes previous years annual reports, a range of IP information booklets, the Office's current statement of strategy and customer service action plan and all primary and secondary legislation governing the functions of the Patents Office.

The following services are available online:

- View and search the Registers and Databases - search for patents, trade marks, designs
- Access and view the registers of copyright licensing bodies
- Access and view the registers of patent and trade mark agents
- Pay patent, trade mark or design renewal fees online
- Pay patent grant and trade mark registration fees online
- View the decisions of the Controller in trade mark inter-partes cases
- Search and view the Patents Office Journal online
- Online filing of Trade Marks and Designs
- View and search TM View and Design View
- Assistance in selecting trade mark classifications using TMClass

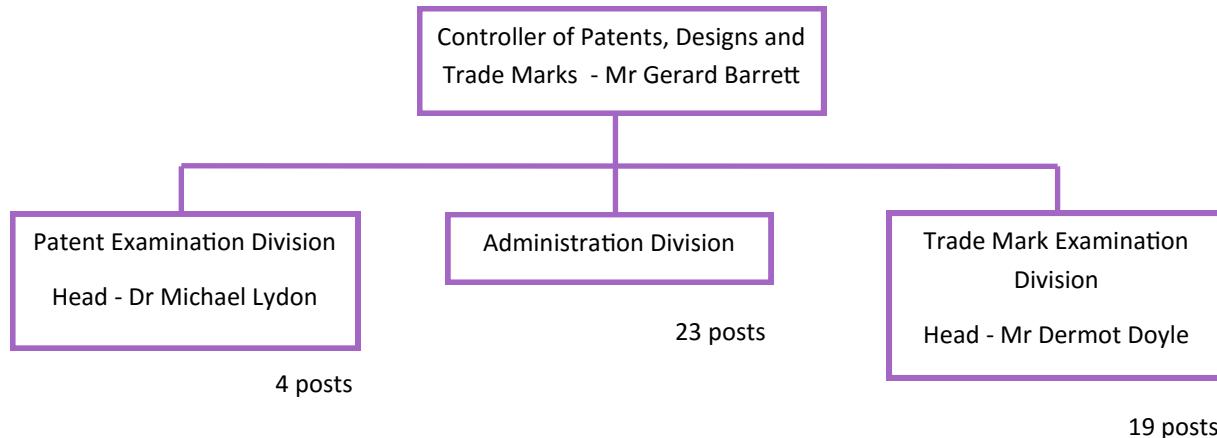
The Office's website continued to be the main vehicle for making information on IP available to the public as well as an efficient means of providing a range of interactive search and fee payment services. The number of visits to the website averaged 73,000 per month or 882,000 per annum in 2015. 50% were new visitors. As in previous years the interactive online register search pages continue to remain the most popular with 754,362 visits in 2015. The current website layout and design was put in place in 2005 and needs improvement. The Office migrated to a new content management system in 2015 and will have the website itself redesigned in 2016 so that it has the attributes and requirements of modern websites in terms of usability, accessibility, functionality, visual presentation and responsiveness and thereby increase customer satisfaction and usage. The Office will also begin using a new website analytics tool in 2016 in order to monitor web traffic on the redesigned site and optimise usage.

The Official Journal

The fortnightly journal is published on the website and each journal issue has a searchable index, along with information on actions relating to patent, trade mark and design applications and registrations. For example, it is possible to view details of accepted trade marks and designs in any journal. The journal also contains details of patents applied for, published and granted including patents granted under the European Patent Convention designating Ireland.

The journal also contains information such as official notices, details of methods of payment of statutory fees and Patents Office opening hours. In 2012, an interactive facility was introduced into the online journal which now allows users access to the Register extract for any particular patent, trade mark or design contained within a journal by clicking on a hyperlink within the journal.

Organisation Structure and Personnel

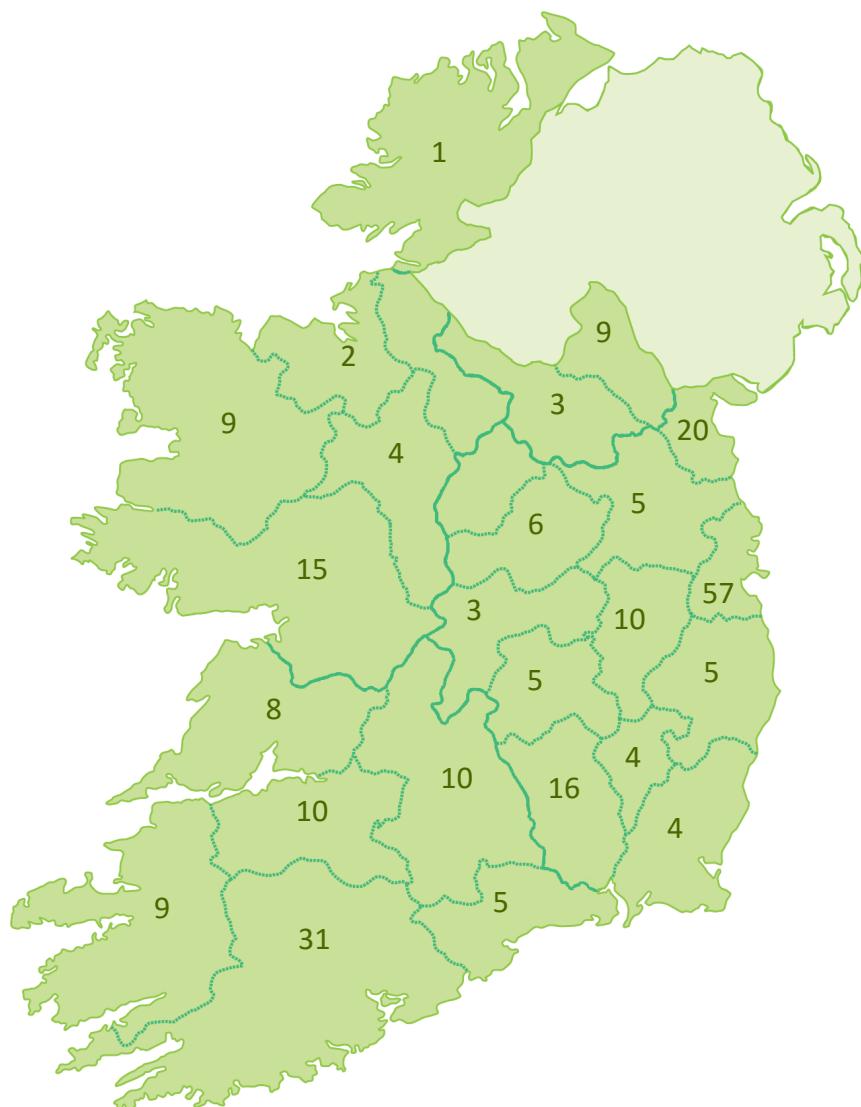


Number of Staff @ 31 December 2015

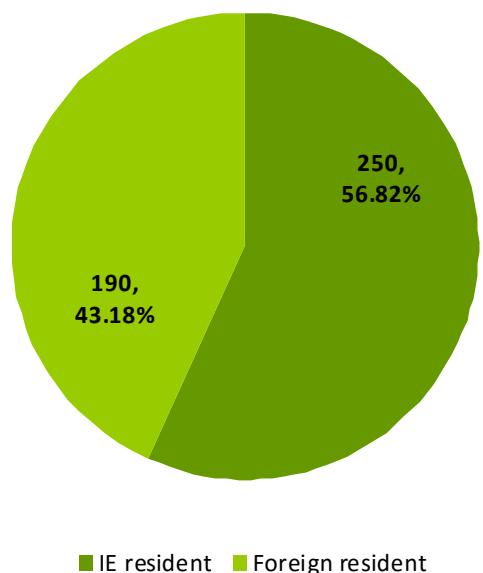
Title	Number
Controller	1
Senior Patent Examiner	1
Assistant Principal	1
Patent Examiner	3
Higher Executive Officer	4
Administrative Officer	1
Executive Officer	18
Staff Officer	1
Clerical Officer	15
Services Officer	1
TOTAL	46

The staff figure of 46 includes 2 Higher Executive Officers, 1 Administrative Officer, 6 Executive Officers and 5 Clerical Officers who availed of a work-sharing scheme, which permits a variety of attendance patterns. Three staff availed of a teleworking scheme, which permits staff to carry out their duties from home for part of the week. The number of full-time equivalent posts in the Office at 31 December 2015 was 41.78. The Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation provides information technology services to the Office. There are four staff members of the Department's IT Unit situated in the Office.

Business Statistics - Patents



National patent applications by country of first applicant.



National patent applications by county in 2015

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED			YEAR	PATENTS GRANTED		
Full Term	Short Term	TOTAL		Full Term	Short Term	TOTAL
135	255	390	2013	116	98	214
118	203	321	2014	69	79	148
203	237	440	2015	48	78	126

As at 31 December 2015, there were a total of 1,236 pending applications on hand. Of these, 218 applications were awaiting the submission of evidence of novelty.

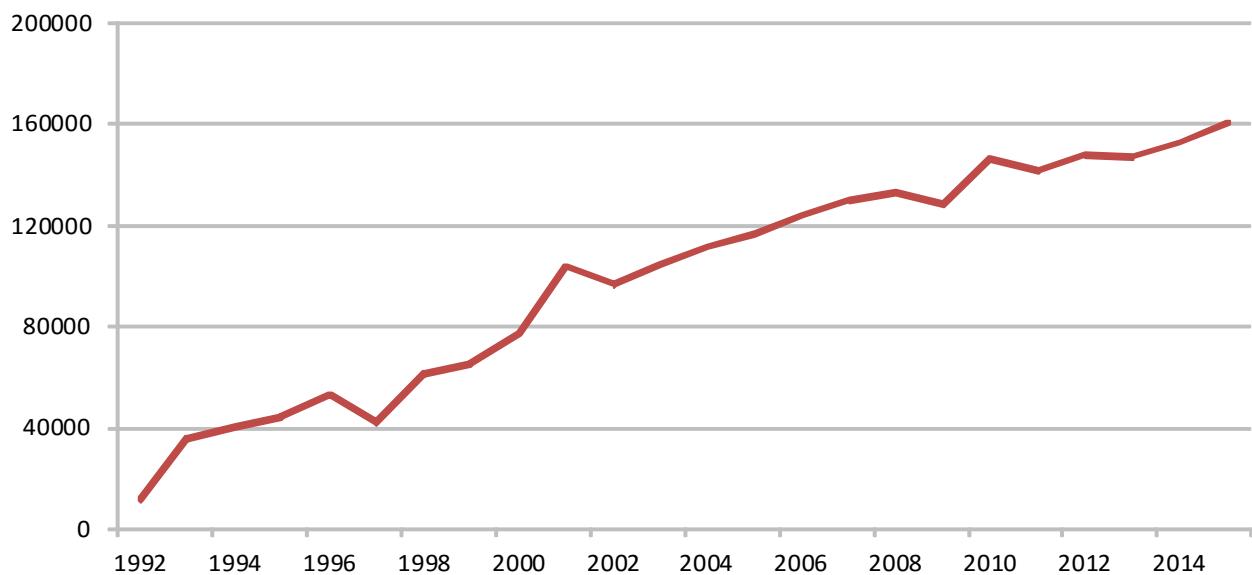
The number of applications received from applicants in the State was 289 compared with 262 in 2014.

European Patent Applications designating Ireland

Year	Filings	Year	Filings	Year	Filings
1992	11,755	2000	76,806	2008	133,248
1993	35,762	2001	103,659	2009	128,378
1994	40,705	2002	96,779	2010	146,726
1995	44,161	2003	104,529	2011	141,373
1996	52,755	2004	111,537	2012	147,551
1997	41,875	2005	117,096	2013	147,487
1998	61,584	2006	123,912	2014	152,400
1999	65,708	2007	129,890	2015	160,028

This table shows the total number of European applications designating Ireland (first arising in 1992). This figure is not included in the total number of patents granted in 2015 having effect in the State. These patents were entered in the national Register of Patents and have the same legal status as if they had been granted by the Office.

European Patent Applications designating Ireland



Patents granted in 2015 having effect in the State

2015	Total	Number of patents granted to Applicants from within the State	% of patents granted to Applicants from within the State
Granted by Office	126	87	69%
Granted by EPO	62,984	289	0.46%
Total Grants	63,110	376	0.60%

Patent Activity

	2013	2014	2015
Patents and patent applications the subject of assignments	833	827	1,188
Patents revoked	0	0	0
Patents surrendered	3	2	1
Patents lapsed	41,337	54,914	55,035
Patents restored/reinstated	18	10	13
Patents renewed	42,242	42,061	42,740
Patents expired	979	959	1,064
Patents in force	110,486	111,109	118,273
Hearings	0	0	0
PCT applications received for transmission to WIPO	26	19	21
European patent applications received for transmission to EPO	1	0	1

Requests for Supplementary Protection Certificates

A total of 76 requests for Supplementary Protection Certificates were received during the year under the European Communities (Supplementary Protection Certificates) Regulations, 1992 (medicinal) and 1996 (plant protection products). During the year, 33 certificates were granted (medicinal and plant protection), none were rejected and 2 requests were withdrawn. At the end of the year there were 216 requests pending.

Register of Patent Agents

At the end of 2015, there were 76 individuals and 6 partnerships entered in the Register of Patent Agents.

CLASSIFICATION OF PATENTS GRANTED BY THE OFFICE IN YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION (IPC)

Note on Patent Classification

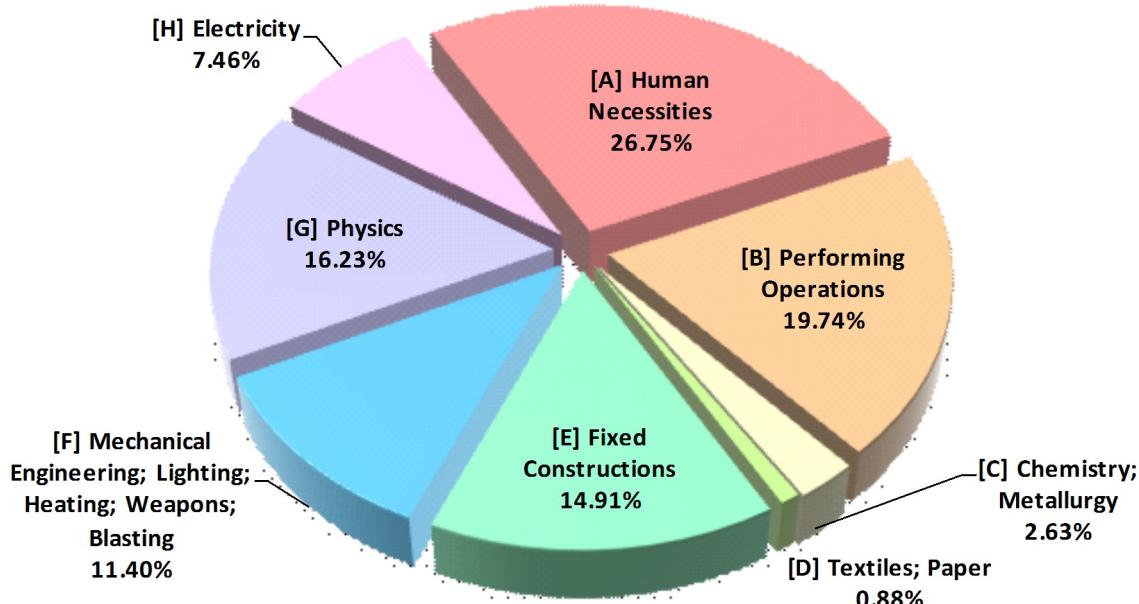
Patents are given classifications based on their technical content. Such classification allows retrieval of patents according to the nature of the inventions revealed therein. The International Patent Classification (IPC) consists of about 70,000 classification symbols divided between 8 basic sections (A to H), relating to different basic kinds of technology. The Classification system is revised constantly to ensure that new and emerging technologies are accommodated therein, with a new edition released yearly, taking effect from 1 January of that year.

A classification code is given for each inventive thing in a patent. A patent may contain two or more inventions as long as they are sufficiently related; for instance, a new chemical compound and its use as a medicine or herbicide, or a new laser and its use in eye surgery or data readers. Accordingly, a patent may need a number of classification symbols to cover the whole of its content. The accompanying table and graph collates the total number of classifications allocated to granted patents in 2015. Each individual classification represents an inventive element disclosed in a patent, so this is akin to a tally of inventiveness. The classifications are grouped by IPC section.

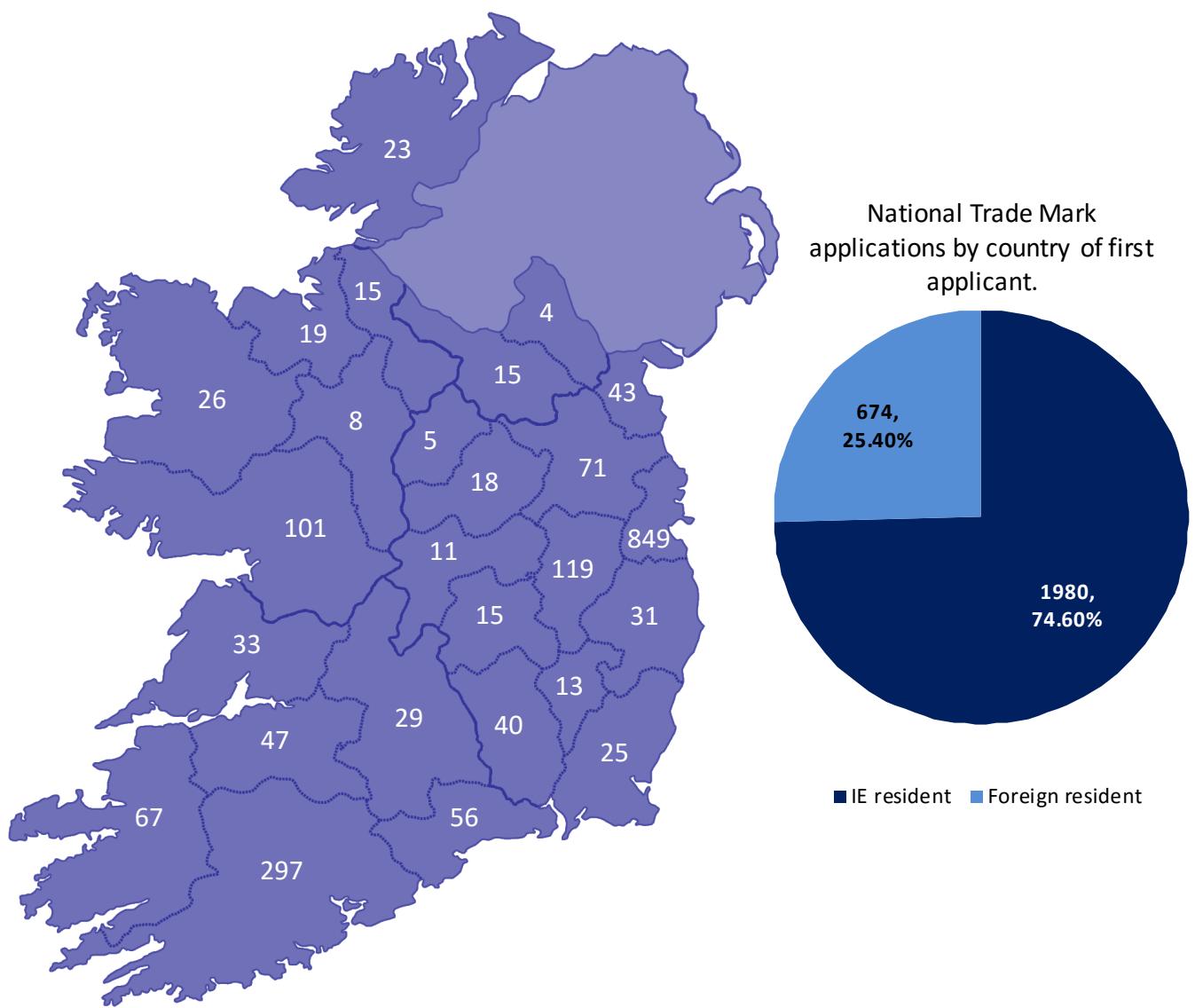
CLASSIFICATION	No of grants*
A. HUMAN NECESSITIES: e.g. Foodstuffs, Health, Personal Articles	61
B. PERFORMING OPERATIONS; TRANSPORTING: e.g. Shaping, printing, vehicle technology.	45
C. CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY	6
D. TEXTILES; PAPER	2
E. FIXED CONSTRUCTIONS: e.g. Building, drilling, mining.	34
F. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING; LIGHTING; HEATING; WEAPONS; BLASTING	26
G. PHYSICS: e.g. Optics, computing, nuclear physics.	37
H. ELECTRICITY: e.g. Electronic circuits, electricity generation and distribution.	17

* Note:- Because it is possible that a granted patent may be classified in more than one technical field, the number of classifications into which these patents fall will exceed the total number of patents granted.

Granted Patent Classifications by IPC section in 2015



Business Statistics - Trade Marks



National Trade Mark applications by county in 2015

National Applications				Year	International Registrations			
Received	Advertised	Opposed	Registered		Received	Advertised	Opposed	Protected
2,354	1,650	32	1,486	2013	1,427	1,103	17	1,075
2,523	2,013	53	1,684	2014	1,058	974	11	1,084
2,654	2,198	72	1,860	2015	1,180	945	5	879

Trade Marks Activity

	2013	2014	2015
Number of trade marks the subject of assignments	1,458	1,229	1,626
Number of licences of trade marks recorded in the register	6	14	40
Trade mark registrations removed for non payment of renewal fees	3,395	1,963	2,018
Trade mark registrations surrendered	7	10	3
Trade mark registrations restored	8	19	4
Trade mark registrations renewed	4,053	3,619	3,387
National trade marks revoked in full and in part	9	5	4
International trade marks revoked in full and in part	3	4	1
National trade marks declared invalid	1	0	0
International trade marks declared invalid	0	0	0
National registered trade marks in force	61,737	61,423	61,266
International trade marks in force	22,988	22,260	21,305
Total trade marks in force	84,725	83,683	82,571

Hearings & Miscellaneous Matters

	2013	2013	2015
Hearings (<i>ex-parte</i>)	6	9	9
Hearings (<i>inter-partes</i>)	12	11	6
Hearings (<i>inter-partes by way of written submission</i>)*	14	8	14
Applications to convert EU Trade Mark applications into national applications	32	28	31
International Trade Mark applications filed and transmitted to WIPO	70	82	83
EU Trade Mark applications filed through the Office and forwarded to EUIPO	0	2	0

* This figure shows the number of inter-partes proceedings that were decided by way of written submissions in lieu of attending at a hearing. This procedure was first introduced in 2012.

Register of Trade Mark Agents

At the end of 2015, there were 211 individuals and 5 partnerships entered on the Register.

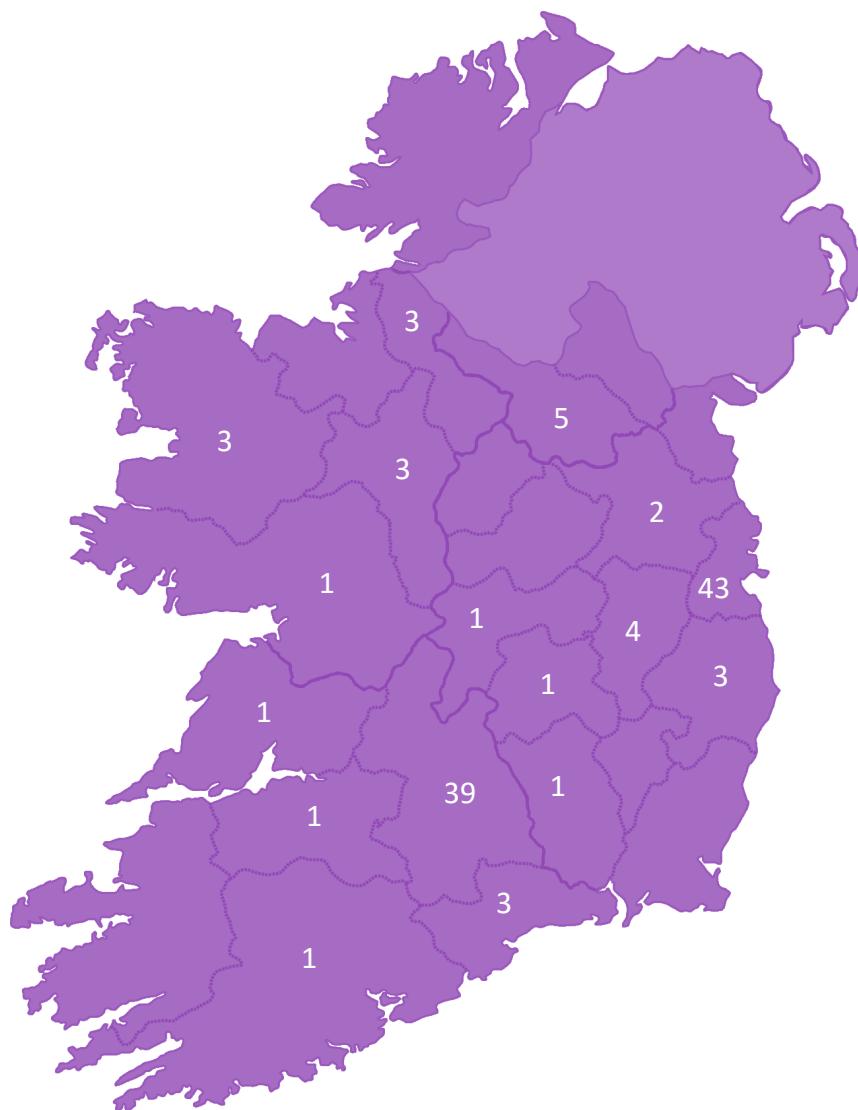
INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF GOODS AND SERVICES INTO WHICH TRADE MARKS

REGISTERED IN 2015 FALL

A multilateral treaty called the “Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks” established a classification system for trade marks. The Nice Classification comprises 45 class headings which describe in very broad terms the nature of the goods or services contained in each of the 34 classes of goods and 11 classes of services into which trade marks may fall. The classification is administered by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the current (tenth) edition has been in force since January 1, 2012.

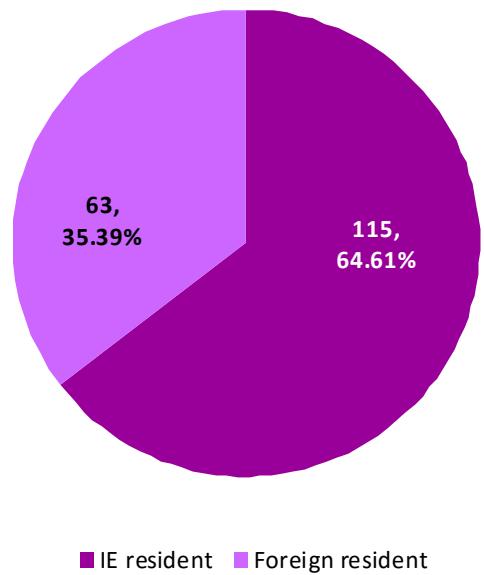
Class	Classification of Goods	No. of marks in classification	Class	Classification of Goods	No. of marks in classification
1	Chemical Products, etc.	42	24	Tissues (piece goods), etc.	27
2	Paints, etc.	25	25	Clothing, including Boots, Shoes and Slippers	128
3	Bleaching Preparations, etc.	99	26	Lace and Embroidery, etc.	12
4	Industrial Oils, etc.	27	27	Carpets, etc.	10
5	Pharmaceutical Substances, etc.	240	28	Games, etc.	57
6	Unwrought and Partly Wrought Common Metals and their Alloys	30	29	Meat, Fish, Poultry and Game, etc.	211
7	Machines and Machine Tools, etc.	31	30	Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, Sugar, Rice, etc.	235
8	Hand Tools and Instruments, Cutlery, etc.	24	31	Agricultural Products, etc.	68
9	Scientific Apparatus and Instruments, etc.	246	32	Beer, etc.	120
10	Surgical Instruments, etc.	22	33	Wines, Spirits and Liqueurs	100
11	Installations for Lighting, etc.	35	34	Tobacco, etc.	6
12	Vehicles; Apparatus for Locomotion by Land, Air or Water	25	35	Advertising, Business Management, etc.	266
13	Firearms, Ammunition and Projectiles; Explosive Substances; Fireworks	1	36	Insurance, Financial Affairs, etc.	116
14	Precious Metals and their Alloys, etc.	33	37	Building Construction, Repair, Installation Services.	52
15	Musical Instruments (other than talking machines and wireless apparatus)	4	38	Telecommunications	98
16	Paper, etc.	183	39	Transport, Packaging and Storage of Goods, etc.	74
17	Gutta Percha, India Rubber, etc.	12	40	Treatment of Materials	35
18	Leather, etc.	36	41	Education, Entertainment, etc.	313
19	Building Materials, etc.	27	42	Scientific and technological services	126
20	Furniture, etc.	47	43	Providing food and drink	87
21	Small Domestic Utensils, etc.	48	44	Medical services, etc	88
22	Ropes, etc.	10	45	Personal and social services	43
23	Yarns, Threads	3			

Business Statistics - Designs



National Design applications by county in 2015

National Design applications by country of first applicant.



■ IE resident ■ Foreign resident

	2013	2014	2015
Design Applications*	61	54	49
Number of designs applied for*	185	139	178
Designs Registered	167	138	149
Designs Lapsed	253	82	53
Designs Renewed (1927 Act)	0	0	0
Designs Renewed (2001 Act)	46	43	79
Designs in force (1927 Act)	351	214	100
Designs in force (2001 Act)	1,112	1,000	1,066
Community Design Applications filed with EUIPO via this Office	0	5	1

*Note: Rule 19 of the Industrial Designs Regulations 2002 provides that up to a maximum of 100 designs may be combined in one multiple application for registration of designs.

**DESIGNS REGISTERED UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS ACT, 2001 DURING THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2015 LISTED ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION**

The Locarno Agreement established a classification system for industrial designs. The Locarno Classification comprises a list of 32 classes of goods in which industrial designs may be incorporated. The classification is administered by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and the current (ninth) edition has been in force since January 1, 2009.

Class	Classification	Designs Registered
1	Foodstuffs	1
2	Articles of Clothing and Haberdashery	2
3	Travel Goods, Cases, Parasols and Personal Belongings, not elsewhere specified	1
4	Brushware	0
5	Textile Piecegood Articles, Artificial and Natural Sheet Material	0
6	Furnishings	7
7	Household Goods, not elsewhere specified	1
8	Tools and Hardware	3
9	Packages and Containers for the Transport or Handling of Goods	5
10	Clocks and Watches and other Measuring Instruments, Checking and Signalling Instruments	5
11	Articles of Adornment	12
12	Means of Transport or Hoisting	2
13	Equipment for Production, Distribution or Transformation of Electricity	0
14	Recording, Communication or Information Retrieval Equipment	1
15	Machines, not elsewhere specified	0
16	Photographic, Cinematographic and Optical Apparatus	0
17	Musical Instruments	0
18	Printing and Office Machinery	0
19	Stationery and Office Equipment, Artists' and Teaching Materials	0
20	Sales and Advertising Equipment, Signs	2
21	Games, Toys, Tents and Sports Goods	35
22	Arms, Pyrotechnic Articles, Articles for Hunting, Fishing and Pest Killing	0
23	Fluid Distribution Equipment, Sanitary, Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning Equipment, Solid Fuel	0
24	Medical and Laboratory Equipment	0
25	Building Units and Construction Elements	10
26	Lighting Apparatus	0
27	Tobacco and Smokers' Supplies	0
28	Pharmaceutical Products and Cosmetic Products, Toilet Articles and Apparatus	0
29	Devices and Equipment Against Fire Hazards, for Accident Prevention and for Rescue	1
30	Articles for the Care and Handling of Animals	1
31	Machines and Appliances for Preparing Food or Drink, not elsewhere specified	0
32	Graphic Symbols And Logos, Surface Patterns, Ornamentation	62
	Total	151

*A Design may be registered in more than one class; hence, the total number of designs in the classes exceeds the number of designs actually registered.

COPYRIGHT

References to the Controller under the Copyright & Related Rights Act, 2000

Under Section 38 of the Act, disputes between persons playing sound recordings in public and the owner of the copyright subsisting in the recordings, regarding the equitable remuneration payable to the copyright owner, may be referred to the Controller for determination.

Under Section 152 of the Act, disputes between persons or organisations requiring a licence under a scheme, which is in operation and the operator of that scheme regarding the equitable remuneration payable, may be referred to the Controller for determination.

Registers of Copyright Licensing Bodies

The Act also makes provision for the Controller to establish and maintain the following Registers.

- The Register of Copyright Licensing Bodies.
- The Register of Licensing Bodies for Performers' Property Rights.
- The Register of Licensing Bodies for Database Rights.

There are 14 bodies registered in the Register of Copyright Licensing Bodies and 1 in the Register of Licensing Bodies for Performers' Property Rights. There are no entries in the Register of Licensing Bodies for Database Rights.

Orphan Works Database

Orphan Works

Orphan Works are all those works such as books, films, newspaper articles and other creative material that are protected by copyright, but whose owner cannot be found or contacted to obtain permission to use them. The works may be part of collections held by Beneficiary Organisations such as libraries, museums, archives, film and audio heritage institutions, and public service broadcasting organisations.

The EU Directive on Orphan Works (Directive 2012/28/EU) sets out common rules for the use of orphan works in the nature of books, journals, or other written works as well as cinematographic or audiovisual works or sound recordings and embedded visual art (it excludes standalone artistic works such as photographs and illustrations) by cultural organisations for the purpose of digitising those works for non-commercial purposes without infringing copyright. The EUIPO was tasked with the establishment and management of a single publicly accessible online database entitled the Orphan Works Database.

The digitisation or dissemination of orphan works cannot take place without permission from the author or his/her heirs. Therefore, before commencing the digitisation of a work, cultural organisations such as libraries, heritage institutions, museums archives and public service organisations must first carry out a diligent search to establish either ownership or the orphan nature of the work(s). Following the completion of a diligent search, any organisation wishing to register an Orphan Work in the Orphan Works Database must first apply online to EUIPO to be registered as a "Beneficiary Organisation". This online application to EUIPO is notified to the Competent National Authority designated in each Member State who then completes the forwarding of the application to EUIPO; in Ireland that authority is the Controller of Patents, Designs and Trade marks.

During 2015, three Irish organisations were registered as Beneficiary Organisations.

LEGISLATION

The Intellectual Property Unit of the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation has responsibility for policy and the preparation of legislation relating to intellectual property.

Legislation enacted in 2015

Trade Marks

S.I. No. 533 of 2015 - TRADE MARKS (AMENDMENT) RULES 2015

The objective of the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks is to create a modern and dynamic international framework for the harmonisation of administrative trademark registration procedures. The Singapore Treaty reflects the various worldwide developments that have occurred since the early 1990's as well as simplifying and streamlining various administrative procedures. While the provisions of the earlier Trademark Law Treaty are maintained, a number of additional provisions are included in the Treaty. The amendments made to the Trade Marks Rules, 1996 align with amendments made in primary trade marks legislation, in the context of the Intellectual Property (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2014, aimed at facilitating Ireland's accession to the Singapore Treaty.

Patents

S.I. No. 579 of 2015 - EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (PATENT AGENTS) REGULATIONS 2015

The European Communities (Patent Agents) Regulations 2015 primarily amends sections 106, 107 and 109 of the Patents Act 1992 thereby removing legal form and shareholding restrictions on patent agents. These Regulations facilitate the registration of EU patent agent partnerships and companies who wish to set up a secondary establishment in Ireland.

S.I. No. 580 of 2015 - REGISTER OF PATENT AGENT RULES

The Register of Patent Agent Rules revokes and replaces the 1992 Register of Patent Agent Rules. These Rules now allow for registration of patent agent partnerships and companies. These Rules facilitate the registration of EU patent agents who wish to set up a secondary establishment in Ireland. The Rules sets out the terms, conditions and fees applicable to patent agents for entry on to the Register.

Financial Information

RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES - YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 (Accounts not yet audited by C&AG)

RECEIPTS	€000
Patent fees (Notes 1 & 2)	5,988
Trade Mark fees	1,426
International Trade Mark Registration – fees received from WIPO (Note 3)	1,039
Design fees	12
Other fees	109
Less refunds made in respect of fees paid in error	97
Less transaction fees arising in respect of online credit card payments	91
Net receipts accruing to the exchequer	8,386

EXPENSES	€000
Salaries	1,873
Travel & Subsistence	48
Miscellaneous & Incidental expenses	52
Postal & Telecommunications Services	113
Office Equipment and Supplies & Related Services	334
Office Premises Expenses	86
Information resources, books periodicals, etc.	0
Subscriptions to Industrial Property Unions	464
Net expenses	2,970

Note 1:

In accordance with the European Patent Convention, to which Ireland is a party, the Patents Office is obliged to remit to the European Patents Office 50% of all renewal fees received in respect of European Patents which have been validated in Ireland and which are entered in the national register of patents.

	€000
Patent Fees	11,392
Less Proportion of patent renewal fees transferred to the European Patent Office	5,404
Net Patent fees which accrue to the Exchequer	5,988

Note 2:

The Patents Office acts as a receiving Office for patent applications made under the Patent Co-operation Treaty and as such receives fees for onward transmission to both the EPO and WIPO. These fees do not accrue to the Irish exchequer and are therefore not included in the figure for net receipts. Details of the fees transferred to the EPO and WIPO during 2015 are shown below:

	€000
PCT Basic and Designation Fees transferred to WIPO, Geneva	30
PCT Search fees transferred to EPO, Munich	36
Total	66

Note 3:

As a consequence of Ireland's ratification of the Protocol relating to the Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks (the Madrid Protocol) on 19 July 2001, the Office receives fees due in respect of International Trade Mark applications seeking protection in Ireland from the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).

PERFORMANCE TARGETS 2015

The Patents Office Customer Service Action Plan is based on the Twelve Quality Customer Service Principles set out in the 'Government's Quality Customer Service Initiative' and outlines the actions which will be taken to give effect to these principles. The customer services targets included in this plan are reported below:

Area of Activity and Level of Achievement

Patents					
1.	Issue formal filing receipts for correctly filed applications within 5 working days.	76%	7.	Transmit European and PCT applications to EPO/WIPO within 5 working days of receipt.	100%
2.	Issue certified copies of patent documents within 5 working days of receipt of request.	100%	8.	Approve the grant of short term patents within a period of 6 months from filing of a proper, complete application.	90%
3.	Issue patent renewal certificate within 3 working days of receipt of payment.	100%	9.	Following receipt of all necessary documents and responses to official objections associated with patent applications, to decide on whether to grant or refuse a patent within two months.	95%
4.	Process applications for registration of assignments within 7 working days of submission of a fully completed application.	100%	10.	Issue notification of formal defects within 15 working days of filing.	82%
5.	Issue confirmation that amendments requested to the patents register in respect of names and address of proprietors and addresses for service have been recorded within 5 working days of receipt of a properly completed application.	100%	11.	Issue notice of substantive defects within 2 months of filing.	100%
6.	Grant patents within 3 working days of receipt of grant fee.	95%	12.	Classify for publication 90% of all non-divisional patent applications within 18 months after the priority filing date.	83%

Supplementary Protection Certificates

1.	Issue notification of formal defects within 10 working days of filing date.	100%	2.	Issue formal filing receipts for correctly filed SPC applications within 5 working days.	100%
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Designs

1.	Issue formal filing receipts for correctly filed design applications within 5 working days.	85%	4.	Issue design renewal certificates within 3 working days of payment of the renewal fee.	100%
2.	Issue initial objections letter/acceptance letter within 12 weeks of receipt of application.	100%	5.	Issue Certificates of Registration within 5 working days of the application being registered by Examination Division.	100%
3.	Respond to 95% of all written correspondence on individual applications in examination within 5 weeks.	100%			

Area of Activity and Level of Achievement

Trade Marks					
1.	Issue formal filing receipts for correctly filed trade mark applications within 7 working days.	90%	10.	Issue to relevant parties copies of notices of opposition and applications for revocation or declaration of invalidity within 2 weeks of receipt.	100%
2.	Process applications for registration of trade mark assignments within 7 working days of submission of a properly, fully completed application.	100%	11.	Respond to 95% of all written correspondence on individual applications in examination within 2 weeks.	100%
3.	Issue certified copies and extracts from the Trade Marks Register within 5 working days of request.	100%	12.	Respond to individual requests for extensions of time prior to the expiry of the relevant deadline where those requests are made not later than 2 weeks before such expiry.	100%
4.	Issue trade mark renewal certificate within 3 working days of receipt of payment.	100%	13.	Register trade marks within 3 working days of receipt of registration fee.	98%
5.	Issue confirmation that requests for amendments to the Trade Marks register in respect of names and addresses of proprietors and trade mark agents and addresses for service have been recorded within 5 working days of receipt of a properly completed application.	100%	14.	Issue 80% of written statement of grounds of decisions in hearings within 2 months following request for same.	79%
6.	Accept applications for trade marks within a period of 2 months from the filing of a properly completed application and where no objections have been raised by the Office.	100%	15.	Issue 90% of decisions in hearings within 1 month of hearing.	100%
7.	Issue initial objections/acceptance letters within 8 weeks of receipt of new application in the Division.	100%	16.	Issue a request for payment of registration fees within 7 working days of the expiration of the period for filing of opposition where no opposition is received.	100%
8.	Respond to 95% of written correspondence on individual applications (opposition, revocation and invalidity) within 2 weeks.	100%	17.	Where opposition is determined in favour of the applicant, the request for registration fees to issue within 7 working days of publication of the withdrawal of opposition.	100%
9.	Transmit application for International Trade Mark Registrations within 5 working days of receipt of correctly filed applications.	100%			

General

	Issue payment receipts for all fees received (in the form of bank draft and money order) within 2 working days.	100%
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COMING IN 2016

Patent and SPC e-filing

The Office will commence work in 2016 on an e-filing system for Patent and SPC applications. This will provide a facility for the Office's customers to file their Patent or SPC application online and also to pay the application fee online. This will also deliver on the recommendation in the Innovation Task Force Report that the Office should provide online filing facilities on a par with other Offices and in line with best international practice.

E-Services (trade mark and design fees)

The Office will implement an e-Services project in 2016 which will expand on the current fee payment functionality which allows for the online payment of renewal, grant and registration fees. The new system will facilitate the online payment of additional trade mark and design fee types. This project has been funded by the EUIPO Co-operation Fund.

Knowledge Development Box

The KDB provisions in the Finance Act only recognises patents which are granted on foot of substantive examination as to patentability, novelty, inventive step and industrial application as qualifying for tax relief, from 1 January 2017. During the course of 2016, amendments to the Patents Act will reintroduce substantive examination of patent applications. The reintroduction of substantive examination will enable Irish full term patents to be regarded as eligible assets for the purposes of the Knowledge Development Box and therefore eligible for tax relief.

Contact us

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Opening Hours

9:30-5pm Mon-Fri



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Facebook



OIFIG NA bPAITINNÍ

BHLIANTÚIL TUARASCÁIL

2015

Brollach



De réir na bhforálacha d'Alt 103 d'Acht na bPaitinní, 1992, tá sé mar onóir dom anois mo Thuarascáil don blhain dar críoch an 31 Nollaig 2015 a chur faoi bhráid an Oireachtas. Pléitear sa Tuarascáil le comhlíonadh na bhfeidhmeanna reachtúla atá agam faoi Acht na bPaitinní, 1992, (arna leasú); faoi Acht na dTrádmharcanna, 1996, (arna leasú); faoin Acht um Dhearaí Tionscail, 2001; faoi na Rialacha agus faoi na Rialacháin Reachtúla éagsúla arna ndéanamh de bhun na nAchtanna sin; agus faoi Rialacháin na gComhphobal Eorpach (Deimhniú Forlíontach Cosanta). Is fúmsa, i gcáil reachtúil, atá sé cinní a dhéanamh faoi na hAchtanna, faoi na Rialacha agus faoi na Rialacháin sin, faoi réir cearta áirithe achomhairc chuig an Ard-Chúirt.

Baineann na feidhmeanna reachtúla sin le cearta maoine intleachtúla a dheonú agus a chlárú in Éirinn, go háirthe cearta paitinne, cearta trádmhairc agus cearta dearaidh thionsclaíoch. Tá feidhmeanna reachtúla áirithe agam freisin faoin Acht Cóipchirt agus Ceart Gaolmhar, 2000, a bhaineann go príomha le déileáil le clárúchán comhlacthaí ceadúnúcháin chóipchirt, le tagairtí agus iarratais a bhaineann le scéimeanna ceadúnúcháin atá á bhfeidhmiú ag na comhlacthaí sin agus le díospóidí a réiteach maidir le dleachtanna. Tá cumhacht agam maidir leis an bpróiseas um stádas "dilleachtach" a bhronnadh ar shaothar faoi chóipcheart freisin. Chomh maith leis sin, lean an Oifig seo ar aghaidh le cúnamh agus le fasnéis faoin gcóras maoine intleachtúla a chur ar fáil do ghnóthais agus d'fhiontair Éireannacha, in éineacht le mic léinn, le fiontraithe óga agus le nuálaithe. Rinneadh dul chun cinn suntasach ar athchóiriú agus ar forbairt na gcóras maoine intleachtúla san Eoraip le linn na bliana 2015. I mí na Nollag 2015, d'fhoilsigh an Coimisiún Eorpach an Treoir nua maidir leis an Trádmharc (AE) 2015/2436 agus an Rialachán nua maidir leis an Trádmharc Comhphobail 2015/2424 (AE). Is éard atá sa phacáiste athchóirithe trádmharcanna ná an t-athrú is mó le breis agus 20 bliain anuas ar an tírdhreach dlíthiúil le haghaidh trádmharcanna Eorpacha. Tagann na leasuithe leis na hiarrachtaí leanúnacha a bhítear ag déanamh chun cómhaireachtáil agus comhlántacht idir córas trádmhairc an Aontais agus na córais trádmhairc náisiúnta a chinntí. Maidir le réimse na cosanta paitinní san Eoraip, rinneadh an-dul chun cinn ar an bPaitinn Aonadach a forbairt. Thángthas ar chomhaontú i mí na Nollag 2015 faoi na rialacha dlíthiúla, airgeadais agus riarrachán a theastaíonn chun córas na Paitinne Aonadaí a chur chun feidhme. Is éard atá i gceist leis an bpaitinn aonadach ná teideal dlíthiúil lena dtabharfar cosaint aonfhoirmeach ar fud 26 thír den AE ar bhonn ionad ilfhreastail. I mí Dheireadh Fómhair, comhaontaiodh rialacha nós imeachta le haghaidh Cúirt Aontaithe Paitinní a bhunú agus a oibriú, rud lena soláthrófar dlínse aonair speisialaithe paitinní san Eoraip.

Is éard atá i gceist leis an bpacáiste trádmharcanna agus leis an bpacáiste paitinní araon ná athruithe nós imeachta agus substainteacha ar chórais chosanta maoine intleachtúla atá ann cheana san AE. Is córais iad arb é is aidhm dóibh nuálaíocht agus fás geilleagrach a chothú agus an rochtain ar chórais mhaoine intleachtúla agus a n-éifeachtúlacht a mhéadú do ghnóthais maidir le costais níos ísle agus castacht níos ísle a sholáthar agus le hualaí laghdaithe riarrachán agus tuilleadh cinnteachta dlíthiúla a chur ar fáil. Cé nach mbeidh tionchar láithreach ag na forbairtí sin ar ghnóthais Éireannacha sa ghearrthéarma, is amhlaidh go léiríonn siad gur gá d'fhiontair in Éirinn atá thírithe ar onnmhairí aird a bheith acu ar na forbairtí sin agus iad ag déanamh cinní ar an dóigh is fearr lena maoin intleachtúil (MI) a chosaint agus a shaothrú agus iad ag pleánáil ina leith d'fhoinn luach a nuálaíochta agus a gcruthaitheachta a uasmhédáu ag costas réasúnach.

Leanfaidh an Oifig seo ar aghaidh ag oibriú le gníomhairescaí eile stáit, ar nós Fhiontraíocht Éireann agus Oifigí Fiontar Áitiúil, agus le hOllscoileanna agus le hInstitiúidí Teicneolaíochta d'fhoinn clár feasacha a sholáthar lena dtugtar eolas faoi na forbairtí sin agus lena ndíritear ar úsáid níos eolaí as an gcóras maoine intleachtúla agus ar thuiscint níos eolaí air a spreagadh, beag beann ar mhéid agus ar chineál an ghnóthais nó an fhiontair. Tugtar fasnéis sa Tuarascáil seo faoi conas a chomhlíon an Oifig seo na feidhmeanna reachtúla éagsúla atá aici le linn na bliana 2015. Luaitear éifeachtúlachtaí agus feabhsuithe ó thaobh oibriúcháin de san insint agus tugtar tuairisc intí ar raon ríomsheirbhísí a thacaíonn le gnó agus ar na hathruithe a rinneadh ar an dóigh a soláthraímid roinnt próiseas agus seirbhísí. Tacaítear leis an insint le raon staitisticí gnó lena dtugtar eolas faoi threochtaí agus athruithe i maoin intleachtúil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerard Barrett".

Gerard Barrett

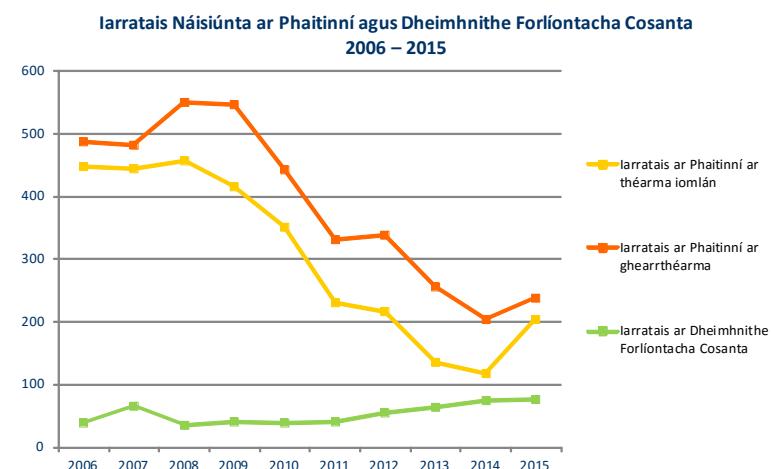
Ceannasaí

Trácht Ginearálta ar Threochtaí, ar Chuspóirí agus ar Ghníomhaíochtaí

Treochtaí

Bhí an geilleagar ba ghasta fás san Aontas Eorpach ag Éirinn don dara bliain i ndiaidh a chéile sa bhliain 2015, de réir réamhaisnéis gheilleagrach an gheimhridh ó Choimisiún an AE. Bhí ceann de na geilleagair ba ghasta fás ar domhan aici freisin. Leag an Eagraíocht um Chomhar agus Fhorbairt Eacnamaíochta (ECFE) béis ina Suirbhé Geilleagrach ar Éirinn don bhliain 2015 ar a thábhachtaí atá nuálaíocht do gheilleagar na hÉireann maidir lena bheith ina príomhni a bhrúnn tárgiúlacht, fás agus fostáiocht chun cinn. Mar sin féin, tugadh faoi deara sa suirbhé go raibh moilliu ann sa ráta fáis OTI. D'fhéadfadh sé sin bheith bainteach leis an moilliu a tháinig aníos le déanaí ar infheistíocht i gcaipiteal eolasbhunaithe agus i maoín intleachtúil nuálach (e.g. paitinní). Luaitear sa tráchtareacht seo a leanas gur ag laghdú atá tionchar an chúlaithe in Éirinn, rud ba chúis le laghduithe ar infheistíocht i nuálaíocht agus le líon níos ísle iarratas ar phaitinní agus ar thrádmharcanna ag gnóthais Éireannacha agus go bhféadfadh go mbeadh láithreacht láidir na gcuideachtaí TF agus cógaisíocha atá dian ar mhaoin intleachtúil agus fás suntasach in earnálacha nua amhail feistí Leighis ag cur leis an líon is airde comhdúchán.

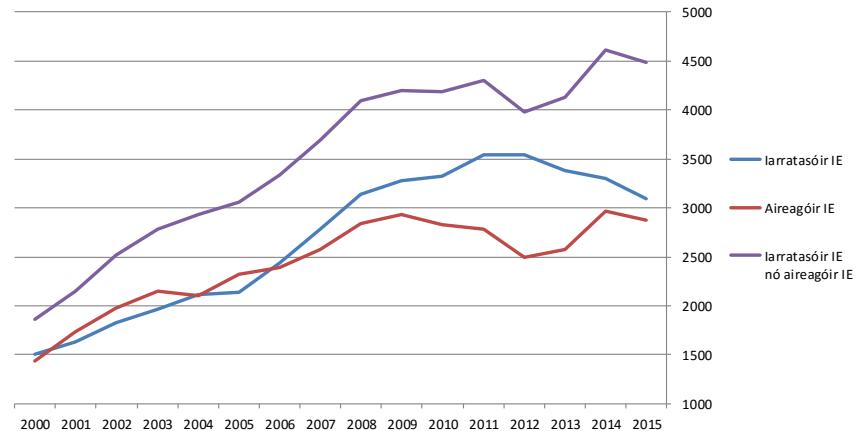
Paitinní agus Deimhnithe Forlíontacha Cosanta (DFCanna)



Ní léiríonn líon na gcomhdúchán paitinní náisiúnta go cuí an méid atá gnóthais Éireannacha agus aireagóir Éireannacha gafa i gníomhaíocht nuálach, rud as a dtagann comhdúcháin phaitinní in Éirinn agus i dtíortha eile agus trí chóras an Choinbhinsiúin um an bPaitinn Eorpach (EPC) nó trí chóras an Chonartha Comhair Paitinní (PCT). D'fhoinn dearcadh níos leithne ar ghníomhaíocht paitinnithe lonnaithe in Éirinn a chur ar fáil, léirítear sa ghráf thíos iarratais fhoilsithe ar phaitinní (iarratais eachtracha agus iarratais intíre ar aon) ón mbliain 2000 i leith sa chás go bhfuil cónaí in Éirinn ar iarratasóir ainmnithe amháin ar a laghad nó ar aireagóir ainmnithe amháin ar a laghad. Léirítear fás seasta go dtí an bhliain 2011 go soiléir sa ghráf. Tar éis na bliana sin, tosaíodh ar thionchar an mhoillithe sa gheilleagar a tháinig chun cinn sa bhliain 2008/2009 a bhrath i réimse na bpaitinní. Mar sin féin, is féidir a fheiceáil gur théarnaigh rátaí comhdúcháin den chuid ba mhó faoin mbliain 2014.

- I gcomparáid leis na figiúirí don bhliain 2014, bhí méadú géar 72% ann ar líon na gcomhdúchán Paitinní lántéarmacha náisiúnta a fuarthas le linn na bliana 2015 (ó 118 go 203) agus bhí méadú 17% ann freisin ar líon na n-iarratas ar phaitinní gearrthéarmacha a fuarthas (ó 203 go 237). Tar éis na laghduithe a tháinig aníos le blianta beaga anuas, is údar misnígh iad na méaduithe sin agus d'fhéadfadh siad a bheith ina léiriú páirteach ar an bhfás sa gheilleagar a mbíonn gníomhaíocht paitinní chun deiridh air de ghnáth.
- Coinníodh iarratais ar Dheimhnithe Forlíontacha Cosanta (DFCanna) ag an leibhéal céanna sa bhliain 2015. B'ann do mhéadú beag ó 75 iarratas sa bhliain 2014 go 76 iarratas sa bhliain 2015. Meastar go mbaineann tábhacht shuntasach le DFCanna don tionscal tárgí cógaisíocha agus íocshláinte agus is ceart an-

Comhdúchán Phaitinní lena mbaineann iarratasóir amháin ar a laghad nó aireagóir amháin ar a laghad a bhfuil cónaí air in Éirinn



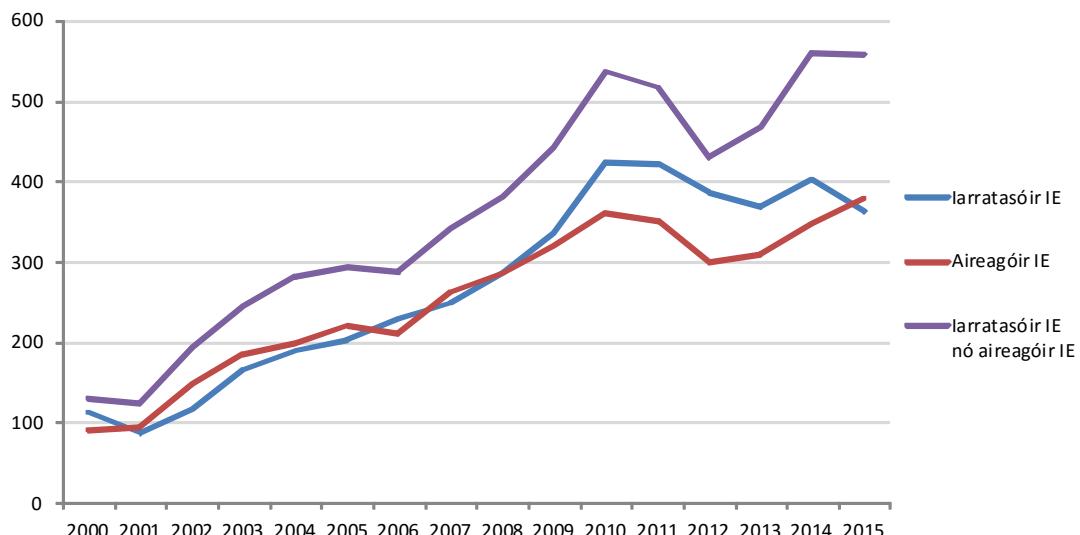
Foinse: Espacetnet - Finte paitinní foilsithe ag a bhfuil [IE] léirithe i réimse an iarratasóra nó an aireagóra.

Trácht Ginearálta ar Threochtaí, ar Chuspóirí agus ar Ghníomhaíochtaí

Díriú ar an earnáil teicneolaíocht leighis

Le blianta beaga anuas, aithníodh an earnáil teicneolaíocht leighis nó feistí leighis in Éirinn a bheith ar cheann de na príomhearnálacha a bhrúfaidh fás tionsclaíoch chun cinn sa todhchaí. De réir Fhiontraíocht Éireann, tá infheistíocht déanta in Éirinn ag seacht gcinn déag de na 25 chuideachta teicneolaíocht leighis is mó ar domhan agus is fiontair bheaga agus mheánmhéide dhúchasacha atá i 60% de chuideachtaí teicneolaíocht leighis. Tá Éire ar cheann amháin de na príomhionaid teicneolaíocht leighis san Eoraip agus aithnítear í a bheith ina hionad domhanda sármaítheasa, áit a bhfuil breis agus 25,000 duine á bhfostú i níos mó ná 100 cuideachta. De réir GFT Éireann, tá onnmhairí na bhfeistí leighis agus na dtáirgí diagnóiseacha freagrachanois as 8% d'iomlán na n-onnmhairí marsantachta de chuid na hÉireann. Tá an tionscal teicneolaíocht leighis in Éirinn ag forbairt ó bheith dírithe ar dhéantúsaíocht den chuid is mó go tionscal atá i bhfad níos casta agus atá á bhrú chun cinn ag taighde agus forbairt. Tá saoráidí tiomnaithe taighde agus forbartha ag breis agus leath na gcuideachtaí teicneolaíochaí leighis atá lonnaithe in Éirinn, áit a bhforbraíonn siad táirgí agus seirbhísí atá nua agus nuálach. Tugtar le fios san fhianaise, rud a léirítear sa ghraf thíos, go bhfuil tuilleadh comhdúchán phaitinní ó chuideachtaí a bhfuil cónaí orthu in Éirinn ag teacht as an athrú sin, ós rud é go bhfuil níos mó aireagóirí Éireannacha acu agus go bhfuil siad ag tabhairt faoi thaighde agus forbairt in Éirinn.

Foilseacháin phatinní teicneolaíocht leighis lena mbaineann iarratasóirí nó aireagóirí a bhfuil cónaí orthu in Éirinn, de réir bliana.



Foinse: Espacenet - Finte paitinní foilsithe ag a bhfuil [IE] léirithe i réimse an iarratasóra nó an aireagóra, agus atá aicmithe de réir an CPC faoi G01N33/48 agus faoina fhoghrúpaí ordlathacha (imscrúdú nó analís ar ábhair bhitheolaíocha, lena n-áirítear teicníci imdhíon-mheasúnachta, mar shampla) nó faoi A61 (eolaíocht leighis nó tréidliacht agus sláinteachas (gan A61K, P agus Q, a dhéileáinn le hullmhúchán cheimiceacha le haghaidh earraí cógaisíocha agus cosmaidi, a áireamh)).

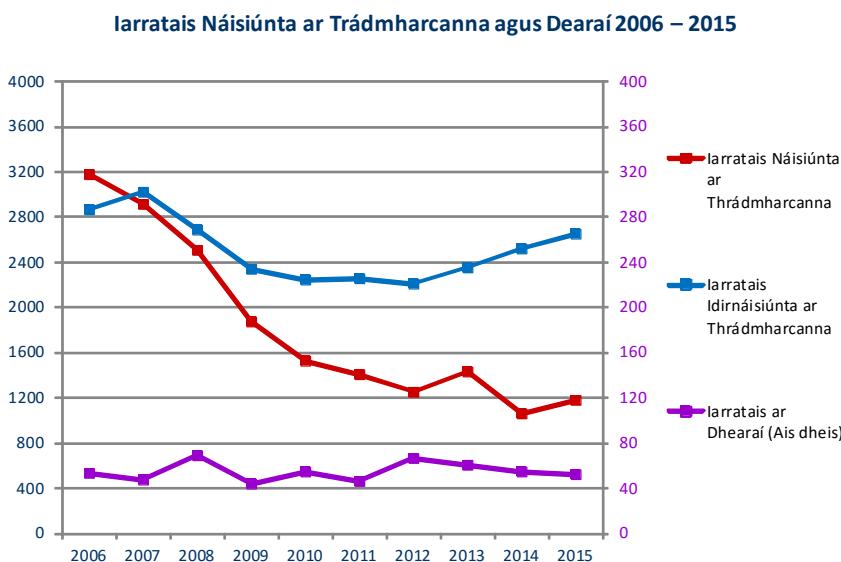
Is féidir comhdúchán ag iarratasóirí agus aireagóirí a bhfuil cónaí orthu in Éirinn a úsáid chun léiriú níos fearr a fháil ar ghníomhaíochtaí dhúchasach teicneolaíochta san earnáil agus chun féachaint le méid na gníomhaíochta nuálaí atáthar ag déanamh in Éirinn a léiriú. Déantar na sonrai a léirítear sa ghraf a chóimheas ag leibhéal na fine; is é sin le rá, ní chomhairtear gach aireagán ach uair amháin, beag beann ar líon na ndlínsí ar comhdaíodh paitinn le haghaidh an aireagáin sin iontu.

Léirítear sa ghraf go raibh fás seasmhach ann go dtí an bhliain 2010 óna bonn sách í seal sa bhliain 2000, nuair nach raibh an earnáil ach ina hearnáil nua. Is féidir tionchar an chúlaithe a fheiceáil sa tréimhse ón mbliain 2011 go dtí an bhliain 2013 agus is féidir téarnamh inbhabháite agus atosú na gníomhaíochta nuálaí a fheiceáil, rud ba chúis le comhdúchán mhéadaithe ina dhiaidh sin.

Trácht Ginearálta ar Threochtaí, ar Chuspóirí agus ar Ghníomhaíochtaí

Trádmharcanna agus Dearaí

Lean lón na n-iarratas náisiúnta ar thrádmharcanna ar aghaidh ag méadú, tar éis dóibh a bheith ag laghdú le blianta beaga anuas. Is féidir é sin a chur i leith roinnt tosca, lena n-áirítear méadú foriomlán ar ghníomhaíocht ghnó in Éirinn mar thoradh ar an dearcadh geilleagrách feabhsaithe. Tá sé sin soileir le feiceáil i bpríomhréimsí an gheilleagair go háirithe, amhail an earnáil cógaisíocha agus an earnáil teicneolaíocha, mar aon leis an earnáil níos traidisiúnta bia agus deochanna. Gné shuntasach ag imeachtaí ardaithe feasacha MI atá dírithe ar gnóthais nuathionscanta is ea an spéis i mbrandáil agus i dtrádmharcanna a úsáid a bhíonn ag gnóthais atá lonnaithe go háitiúil agus ag gnóthais a bhfuil díriú acu ar mhargaí onnmhairiúcháin. Is dócha go ndéantar an spéis sin i dteannta an fheabhas sa gheilleagar agus onnmhairí méadaithe a léiriú go páirteach sa mhéadú ar lón na n-iarratas nua ar thrádmharcanna. Toisc ábhartha eile nach bhfuil chomh soiléir a chuir leis an méadú ar lón na n-iarratas, d'fhéadfadh sí a bheith ar an bhfáil ar urlísí soláimhsithe cuardaigh ar líne agus ríomhchomhdúcháin a forbraíodh le cabhair ó Oifig Maoine Intleachtúla an Aontais Eorpaigh (EUIPO). Cabhraíonn na huirlísí sin le gnóthais straitéisí brandála a gcuid iomaitheoirí a rianú, sárú ar thrádmharcanna reatha a chosc agus iarratais a chomhdú.



- I gcomparáid leis an bhfigír don bhliain 2014, tháinig méadú 5% - arbh údar misnígh é - ar lón iomlán na n-iarratas náisiúnta ar thrádmharcanna a fuarthas sa bhliain 2015 (ó 2,523 iarratas go 2,654 iarratas). Go deimhin, bhí méadú inbhraite ann ón m bliain 2012 i leith a d'fhéadfaí a chur i leith fhás leantach agus fhorbairt leantach an gheilleagair de réir mar a éiríonn le gnóthais teacht amach as tionchar diúltach an chúlaithe.
- Tháinig méadú ar lón na n-iarratas idirnáisiúnta ar thrádmharcanna cosanta in Éirinn freisin, iad tar éis méadú faoi 11.5% gcomparáid leis an bhfigír don bhliain 2014 (ó 1,058 n-iarratas go 1,180 iarratas).
- Lean lón na n-iarratas ar dhearaí tionsclaíocha a chlárú de bheith ag laghdú sa bhliain 2015 (ó 54 iarratas go 49 n-iarratas). Tá lón an-íseal iarratas déanta ó 2003 nuair a tháinig córas clárúcháin Dearáí an Chomphobail i bhfeidhm den chead uair.

Trádmharcanna an Aontais Eorpaigh (TAEenna)

Tháinig Trádmharc an Aontais Eorpaigh (Trádmharc Comphobail roimhe sin) in éifeacht an 1 Aibreán 1996 agus tugtar clárúchán aonair don dílseánach leis, rud atá bailí sna 28 dtí go léir den AE. Ní raibh ach athrú fíorbheag ann sa bhliain 2015 ar chomhdúcháin na n-iarratas ar Thrádmharcanna an Aontais Eorpaigh (TAE) ag iarratasóirí a bhfuil cónaí orthu in Éirinn i gcomparáid leis an m bliain 2014. Ní raibh ach méadú 0.8% iontu.

EUIPO iarratais ar Thrádmharcanna agus clárúcháin arna ndéanamh ag daoine a bhfuil cónaí orthu in Éirinn.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
TAE iarratais	808	827	1,054	1,033	1,042
TAE Clárúcháin	740	678	840	1,017	946

Foinsí: Staitisticí SSC003.1 ón Oifig Maoine Intleachtúla an Aontais Eorpaigh (EUIPO).

Trácht Ginearálta ar Threochtaí, ar Chuspóirí agus ar Ghníomhaíochtaí

Trádmharcanna Idirnáisiúnta

Is éard atá i bPrótacal Mhaidrid ná córas idirnáisiúnta um chlárú trádmharcanna. Riarann Biúró Idirnáisiúnta na hEagraíochta Domhanda um Maoin Intleachtúil (WIPO) é. Le córas Mhaidrid, tugtar deis d'úinéir trádmhairc cosaint trádmhairc a fháil i roinnt tíortha éagsúla trí iarratas amháin a chomhdú. Chomh maith leis sin, éilítéar le córas Mhaidrid nach mór iarratas idirnáisiúnta a bheith bunaithe ar iarratas nó clárúchán ar thrádmharc náisiúnta nó AE (dá dtagraítear buniarratas nó bunchlárúchán) a chomhdaítear trí Oifig na bPaitinní in Éirinn nó trí EUIPO, rud ar a dtugtar an "Oifig Thionscnaimh". Tá trádmharc idirnáisiúnta coibhéiseach le hiarratas ar an trádmharc céanna nó le clárúchán an trádmhairc chéanna a chuirtear i bhfeidhm go díreach i ngach ceann de na tíortha atá ainmnithe ag an iarratasóir. Le córas Mhaidrid, tugtar réiteach gnó chliste do chuideachta ar bith atá ag iarraidh a cuid trádmharcanna a chosaint agus a bhainistiú i margá idirnáisiúnta (lasmuigh den AE de ghnáth) agus is féidir leis an méid a úsáideann cuideachtaí a bhfuil cónaí orthu in Éirinn é a bheith ina léiriú fóntha ar an rún atá acu margá eachtracha a aimsiú agus margá nua a chruthú do raon táirgí atá ann cheana agus do raon táirgí nua.

Thaifead Biúró Idirnáisiúnta na hEagraíochta Domhanda um Maoin Intleachtúil 181 chlárúchán idirnáisiúnta sa bhliain 2014 do shealbhóirí trádmharcanna a bhfuil sainchónaí orthu in Éirinn. Áirítear leo sin 1,297 ainmniúchán le haghaidh baill eile de chóras Mhaidrid. Sna cásanna sin, d'iarr na sealbhóirí go leathnófaí cosaint le haghaidh a dtrádmharcanna. Dá éis sin, bhí 192 bhall sa bhreis de chóras Mhaidrid ina dhiaidh sin ainmnithe i gclárúcháin idirnáisiúnta reatha ó Éirinn d'fhoinn raon geografach bunaidh a gcosanta a leathnú chuig balltortha nó Dlínsí breise de chóras Mhaidrid.

Clárúchán Idirnáisiúnta trí Chóras Mhaidrid do shealbhóirí trádmharcanna a bhfuil sainchónaí/cónaí orthu in Éirinn¹.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
Líon na gclárúchán idirnáisiúnta	115	146	181	n/a
Ainmniúcháin	898	1,647	1,297	n/a
Ainmniúcháin ina dhiaidh sin	263	144	192	n/a

Foinse: Athbhreithniú Bliantúil ar Chóras Mhaidrid ón WIPO do na blianta 2012, 2013 agus 2014.

- Ní áirítear leis sealbhóirí Éireannacha TAE a roghnaigh a n-iarratas idirnáisiúnta a bhunú ar an TAE atá acu.
- Níl sonraí don bhliain 2015 ar fáil ón WIPO.
- D'fhéadfadh éagsúlacht a bheith i roinnt figiúirí stairiúla ó bhliain go bliain mar gheall ar nuashonrú leanúnach bhunachair

Misean agus Cuspóirí Oifig na bPaitinní

Is é seo a leanas lármhisean Oifig na bPaitinní:

"Córas éifeachtach éifeachtúil um maoin thionsclaíoch a chosaint a chur ar fáil, rud a spreagfaidh dul chun cinn teicneolaíochta agus a chuirfidh fiontraíocht chun cinn trí chur chun feidhme na reachtaíochta ábhartha ag an Oifig."

Bainfear é sin amach trí chearta maoine tionsclaíche a chosaint i réimsí na bpaitinní, na dtrádmharcanna agus na ndearáí agus trí eolas agus fhaisnéis ábhartha a scaipeadh go réamhghníomhach i gcomhar le gach ceann de na gníomhaíochtaí sin.

Ullmaíodh Ráiteas Straitéise nuá don tréimhse 2014-2016 i mí na Nollag 2013. Is sa tráchtairreacht seo a leanas agus sa tuarascáil staidrimh a ghabhann léi a dhéantar breithniú ar ghníomhaíochtaí na hOifige maidir leis na sé phríomhchuspóir atá leagtha amach sa Ráiteas Straitéise a chomhlíonadh.

Meastar go bhfuil na sé chuspóir sin ríthábhachtach maidir le misean na hOifige a chomhlíonadh agus maidir lena héifeachtúlacht oibriúchán a choimeád ar bun. Tagann misean agus straitéis na hOifige freisin leis na mórchuspóir náisiúnta a bhaineann le tacaíocht agus le spreagadh a thabhairt d'fhiontraíocht agus do nuálaíocht agus le timpeallacht éifeachtach ghnó a chothú in Éirinn.

Cuspóir 1

Leanúint ar aghaidh le paitinní a dheonú agus le trádmharcanna agus le dearaí a chlárú bunaithe ar nósanna imeachta riarcháin agus ar chaighdeáin seirbhísí atá éifeachtúil (agus ar aon dul leo sin a léirionn an dea-chleachtas idirnáisiúnta agus a fhreastalaíonn ar riachtanais chustaiméirí).

Ba le breis éifeachtúlachta agus éifeachtachta a lean an Oifig lena seirbhísí a sholáthar sa bhliain 2015 agus ba ar leibhéal an-sásúil a bhíothas ag comhlíonadh fhormhór na spriocanna seirbhíse do chustaiméirí. Tá an Oifig tiomanta do chlár ríomhchumarsáide a sholáthar, clár a bhfuil ríomhchomhdú ina chuid ríthábhachtach de. Tá sé ar acmhainn ag Oifig na bPaitinní in Éirinn glacadh le hiarratais ríomhchomhdaithe ar thrádmharcanna agus ar dhearaí. Mórthairbhe a bhaineann leis an gcóras d'úsáideoirí is ea an dearbhú a fhaigheann siad go nglacfaidh an Oifig le haon téarmaí a roghnaíonn siad ón liosta ceadaithe aicmithe comhchuibhithe in TMclass. Chabhraigh sé sin leis an bpróiseas iarratas a chuichóiriú agus tabharfaidh sé leibhéal intuarthachta d'úsáideoirí. Cabhraíonn an córas leis an bpróiseas scrúdúchán freisin agus déanfar cinntí níos tapa ar iarratais ar chosaint mar thoradh air. Faoi dheireadh na bliana 2015, ba go leictreonach trí shuíomh Gréasáin na hOifige a fuarthas 82% de na hiarratais uile ar thrádmharcanna. Ní chruthaítear páipéarchomhaid a thuilleadh d'iarratais ar thrádmharcanna agus ar dhearaí a fhaightear go leictreonach agus tá próiseas gan pháipéar den chuid is mó i bhfeidhm d'obair cuardaigh agus scrúdaithe, rud atá ag teacht leis an dea-chleachtas idirnáisiúnta.

Tháinig ríomhchomhdúchán dearaí i bhfeidhm i mí na Nollag 2015 agus cuireadh túis le réamhobair ar fhorbairt an chórais ríomhchomhdúchán le haghaidh iarratas ar Phaitinní agus ar DFCanna. Le soláthar na gcóras comhdúchán ar líne le haghaidh trádmharcanna agus dearaí, cuireadh an Oifig ar chomhréim le hOifigí eile Maoine Tionsclaíche san Eoraip. Tá na hoifigí sin ag tairiscint seirbhís ríomhchomhdúchán dá gcuid custaiméirí le roinnt mhaith blianta anuas. Beidh seirbhís iomlán ar fáil tar éis deis a thabhairt iarratais ar phaitinní agus ar DFCanna a chomhdú ar líne agus, tar éis déanamh amhlaidh, comhlíonfaidh an Oifig ceanglas an Rialtais nach mór tosaíocht a thabhairt do gach nós imeachta ceadúnúchán agus údarúchán do ghnóthais a chur ar fáil ina n-iomláine ar líne ar bhonn forchéimnitheach roimh dheireadh na bliana 2017. B'ionann agus €8.386m na glanfháltais a bhí fabhraithe don státhiste sa bhliain 2015. Ba mhéadú de €0.136m nó 1.65% é sin ón bhfigiúr de €8.25m sa bhliain 2014. Tagann an chuid is mó d'ioncam táillí na hOifige ó tháillí athnuachana ar Phaitinní Eorpacha. Bhí méadú €0.16m nó 2.25% ón bhfigiúr don bhliain 2014 ann san ioncam comhcheangailte ó tháillí trádmharcanna agus dearaí. Agus iad cothrom le €2.97m don bhliain 2015, bhí méadú €0.21m ann i nglanspeansais na hOifige i gcomparáid leis an bhfigiúr comhfheareagrach €2.76m don bhliain 2014.

Cuspóir 2

Iarracht a dhéanamh ar theicneolaíocht nua a ionchorprú d'fhoínn feabhas a chur ar chórais agus nósanna imeachta agus ar sheirbhís do chustaiméirí agus a thógfaidh ceann freisin d'élimh an tsochaí faisnéise agus r-ghnó.

Ar mhaithe le seirbhísí a sholáthar ar bhealach níos éifeachtúla, lean an fhoireann le feabhas a chur ar na próisis oibre agus ar na réitigh theicneolaíochta atá mar bhonn thaca ag a croítháirgí agus ag a croísheirbhísí le linn na bliana 2015. Tá an tiomantas atá againn do sheirbhís ardchaighdeáin a sholáthar do chustaiméirí leagtha amach inár bPlean Gníomhaíochta um Sheirbhís do Chustaiméirí, rud atá ar fáil ar ár suíomh Gréasáin. Is é 96% an meánleibhéal gnóthachtála i gcás an 37 sprioc seirbhíse do chustaiméirí atá againn, spriocanna lena leagtar síos uasteorainneacha ama chun cúraimí éagsúla atá dírithe ar an gcustaiméir a chur i gcrích. Cuirtear síos ar na spriocanna sin sa rannán "Spriocanna Feidhmíochta" den tuarascáil.

Téann an Oifig go gníomhach le clár ríomhchumarsáide d'fhoínn soláthar seirbhísí a fheabhsú agus próiseáil a dhéanamh ar bhealach níos éifeachtúla trí chomhdúchán leictreonach, phróiseáil leictreonach comhad agus chumarsáid leictreonach a chomhcheangal ar bhealach a chabhróidh ar deireadh le próiseáil gan pháipéar san Oifig. Is trí ríomhphost a eisítéar formhór mór chomhfheagras na Roinneanois. Spreagtar custaiméirí cumarsáid trí ríomhphost a dhéanamh leis an Oifig nuair is féidir. Thug an Oifig ríomhchomhdú na n-iarratas ar thrádmharcanna isteach sa bhliain 2014 agus thug sí ríomhchomhdú dearaí isteach sa bhliain 2015. Faoi láthair, tá sí ag forbairt ríomhchomhdúchán le haghaidh paitinní agus DFCanna. Tá sé beartaithe go dtiocfaidh sé i bhfeidhm go mall sa bhliain 2017.

Ar aon dul le beartas an Rialtais chun úsáid mhéadaithe íocaíochtaí leictreonacha a chur chun cinn sa tseirbhís phoiblí agus ar fud an gheilleagair, bhunaigh an Oifig dhá chuntas nua bainc thráchtála, rud a thugann tuilleadh roghanna íocaíochta táillí dá custaiméirí. Is go leictreonach a íocatar 99% de tháillí reachtúla na hOifigeanois, i gcomparáid le 96% sa bhliain 2014. I mí na Samhna 2013, thug an Oifig teirminéal cártáí creidmheasa (TCC) isteach ar mhaithe le híocaíocht gach táille ar an teileafón a éascú tuilleadh. Tá an Oifig ag obair faoi láthair ar thionscadal Ríomhsheirbhísí a thabhairt isteach, rud lena bhféadfar na táillí trádmharcanna agus dearaí atá fágtha a íoc ar líne. Ní féidir iad a íoc ar shuíomh Gréasáin Oifig na bPaitinní faoi láthair. Níor thabhaigh an Stát ach costas fíorbheag chun na tionscadail sin a bhaineann le trádmharcanna agus le dearaí a sholáthar mar go bhfaigheann an Oifig cúnamh airgeadais agus teicniúil ó Oifig Maoine Intleachtúla an Aontais Eorpaitigh (EUIPO) - an Oifig um Chomhchuibhiú sa Mhargadh Inmheánach (OHIM) roimhe sin.

Le linn na bliana, lean an Oifig ar aghaidh ag baint leas as cúnamh ó Chiste Comhair EUIPO, rud a chuireann cúnamh ar fáil d'Oifigí Náisiúnta AE maidir le huirlisí Gréasánbhunaithe a fhorbairt agus a chur chun feidhme chun tacú leis an tsaoilre trádmharcanna agus dearaí. Comhlánóidh na tionscnaimh sin tionscadail eile a soláthraíodh go rathúil cheana féin le cúnamh ón gCiste Comhair, lena n-áirítear iad seo a leanas:

TMclass: Bunachar sonraí téarmaí aicmithe comhchuibhithe a nglactar leo i ngach Oifig AE, OCMI ina measc.

TMView: Uirlis cuardaigh ar líne lena soláthraítear rochtain saor in aisce ar chláir trádmharcanna de chuid gach Oifige AE, OCMI ina measc.

Designview: Uirlis cuardaigh ar líne lena soláthraítear rochtain saor in aisce ar chláir dhearaí de chuid gach Oifige AE, OCMI ina measc.

Ríomhchódúchán trádmharcanna: Comhdúchán ar líne iarratas ar trádmharcanna lena gcuimsítear íocaíocht ar líne na táille iarratais.

Le linn na bliana 2015, leanadh ar aghaidh le tionscadal arb é is aidhm dó cur le líon na ndoiciméad paitinne náisiúnta atá cartlannaithe go leictreonach. Tosaíodh an tionscadal sa bhliain 2013. Is é aidhm an tionscadail na doiciméid sonraíochta uile atá ar fáil faoi iarratasóirí ar phaitinní a fuarthas sa tréimhse idir na 1960í agus túis na 2000í a scanadh agus iad a chur ar fáil don phobal ar an suíomh Gréasáin. Meastar go bhfuil thart ar 58,000 doiciméad fós le scanadh. Cabhróidh an tionscadal sin le rochtain éasca a thabhairt don phobal mór agus don fhoireann ar aon ar na sonraí lena mbaineann. Laghdóidh sé an gá atá ann le spás stórála do pháipéarchomhaid freisin. Leanadh ar aghaidh leis an tionscadal sa bhliain 2015, agus breis agus 24,000 doiciméad scanta go dtí seo. Meastar go dtógfaidh sé 4 bliana chun an tionscadal a chríochnú. D'fhoínn costais a laghdú agus rochtain leanúnach a chumasú ar na doiciméid, chinn an Oifig gan an obair a sheachfhoinsíú. Ina ionad sin, bíonn acmhainní inmheánacha forgne agus trealaimh á n-úsáid aici chun an obair a chur i gcrích.

Maidir le héifeachtúlachtaí teicneolaíochta a fheabhsú, forbraíodh aon cheann déag d'fheabhsuithe substainteacha ar chóras riarracháin PTOLEMY le linn na bliana. Ba é an aidhm a bhí le gach ceann acu ná feabhas a chur ar éifeachtúlach oibriúcháin agus a chinntí go mbíonn croíchórais ghnó na hOifige cothrom le dáta. Sa bhliain 2015, rinne an Oifig a cuid freastalaithe a aistriú chuig bonneagar nua atá suite lasmuigh den láthair freisin, áit a bhfuil córas níos nua-aimseartha oibriúcháin ar bun.

Cuspóir 3

Cur le dreáchtú agus le forfheidhmiú ina dhiaidh sin ar aon reachtaíocht nua MI a chruthaíonn feidhmeanna don Rialtóir.

Tá rialálil na gceart maoine intleachtúla in Éirinn ina cuid riachtanach den chreat fhioriomlán reachtaíochta lena ndéantar nuálaíocht a spreagadh, a chosaint agus a chur chun cinn. Tá sé ar aon dul leis an dea-chleachtas idirnáisiúnta, a léiríonn an tiomantas atá ag Éirinn do Dhlí Maoine Intleachtúla an AE agus do chonarthaí agus do choinbhinsiúin idirnáisiúnta eile, amhail Coinbhinsiún Paitinní na hEorpa agus Conarthaí agus Comhaontuithe éagsúla na hEagraíochta Domhanda um Maoin Intleachtúil. Is é Aonad Maoine Intleachtúla (AMI) na Roinne Post, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta atá freagrach as beartas maoine intleachtúla agus as reachtaíocht a ullmhú sa réimse sin. Soláthraíonn Oifig na bPaitinní comhairle agus cúnamh ar na hábhair sin, go háirithe ar an tionchar a d'imreodh athruithe dlíthiúla nó rialála a bheartaítear ar obair na hOifige. Is iad seo a leanas na hábhair ar chuir an Oifig leo agus ar chuir sí tuairimí in iúl ina leith le linn 2015:

- Tá Rialacha na dTrádmharcanna (Leasú), 2015, I.R. Uimh. 533 de 2015, ag teacht leis na leasuithe a rinneadh sa phríomhreachtaíocht maidir le trádmharcanna, is é sin, an tAcht um Maoin Intleachtúil (Forálacha Ilghnéitheacha) 2014, a bhfuil sé mar aidhm leis aontachas na hÉireann le Conradh Shingeapór a eascú. Is é an cuspóir atá le Conradh Shingeapór um an Dlí Trádmharcanna creat idirnáisiúnta atá nua-aimseartha agus dinimiciúil a chruthú le haghaidh nósanna imeachta riarracháin um chlárúchán trádmharcanna a chomhchuibhiú.
- Le Rialacháin na gComhphobal Eorpach (Gníomhairí Paitinne), 2015 (I.R. Uimh. 579 de 2015), leasaítear go príomha ailt 106, 107 agus 109 d'Acht na bPaitinní, 1992. Mar sin, cuirtear deireadh leis na srianta foirme dlíthiúla agus scairshealbhóireachta a fhochuirtear ar ghníomhairí paitinne. Éascaítear leis na Rialacháin sin clárú a dhéanamh ar chomhpháirtíochtaí agus ar chuideachtaí gníomhairí paitinne AE ar mian leo bunaíocht thánaisteach a chur ar bun in Éirinn.
- Leis na Rialacha um Chlár na nGníomhairí Paitinne (I.R. Uimh. 580 de 2015), cúlghairtear na Rialacha um Chlár na nGníomhairí Paitinne, 1992. Cuirtear na Rialacha um Chlár na nGníomhairí Paitinne, 2015, in áit na Rialacha um Chlár na nGníomhairí Paitinne, 1992, freisin. Ceadaítear leis na Rialacha sin anois clárú a dhéanamh ar chomhpháirtíochtaí agus ar chuideachtaí gníomhairí paitinne. Éascaítear leis na Rialacha sin clárú a dhéanamh ar ghníomhairí paitinne AE ar mian leo bunaíocht thánaisteach a chur ar bun in Éirinn. Leagtar amach sna Rialacha na téarmaí, na coinníollacha agus na táillí is infheidhme i leith gníomhairí paitinne maidir lena n-iontráil ar an gClár.
- Leis na dréachtrialacháin chun Treoir an Aontais Eorpaigh (Comhbhainistíocht Ceart) (Treoir 2014/26/AE), forchuirtear ceanglais rialachais ar eagraíochtaí comhbhainistíocha atá ar bun sa Stát agus, ar leithligh ó na ceanglais sin, ceadaítear dóibh tabhairt faoi chlárú ar bhonn ilchríche ar fud an Aontais Eorpaigh. I measc na gceanglas rialachais sin, tá oibleagáid ar chomhlachaí Éireannacha ceadúnúcháin chóipchirt ráiteas bliantúil maidir le comhlíonadh a chur ar fáil don Cheannasaí.

Cuspóir 4

Tuiscint ar mhaoin intleachtúil a mhéadú.

Is é ceann de na príomhchuspóirí atá ag Oifig na bPaitinní ná cúnamh a thabhairt do ghnóthais, do nuálaithe agus d'fhiontraithe a thuscint conas is féidir le MI cabhrú leo luach a bhaint amach óna gcuid smaointe agus bheith in ann fainseáid a rochtain ar chearta maoine intleachtúla, rud a chuirfidh ar a gcumas a maoin intleachtúil a úsáid, a bhainistiú agus a fhorfheidhmiú chomh fada agus is féidir. Tá an Oifig ag díriú a cláir feasachta MI go sonrach ar chúnamh a thabhairt d'fhiontair bheaga, do mhicreafhiontair agus d'fhiontraithe agus do nuálaithe aonair. Lean an Oifig lena clár for-rochtana a reáchtáil, rud arb é an aidhm atá leis feasacht a mhéadú i measc an phobail i gcoitinne ar chúrsaí maoine intleachtúla, agus é sícealthe go háirithe ar earnáil na ngnóthas beag nuathionscanta agus ar dhaltaí. Le linn na bliana 2015, ghlac an Oifig páirt i 63 imeacht agus labhair sí faoi MI ag cúrsaí "Do Ghnó Féin a Chur ar Bun", a bhí á reáchtáil ag na hOifigí Fiontar Áitiúil. D'fhreastail an Oifig ar thaispeántais éagsúla comhairle gnó agus fiontair ar fud na tíre sa bláthain, lenar áiríodh an Sárthaispeántas Dearáí, Cruinníú Mullaigh Uile-Éireann na bhFiontar Beag agus Meánmhéide agus an Comórtas Náisiúnta Treabhdóireachta. Tá "MeetWest" inaimeacht rathúil líonraithe gnó inar chuir foireann na hOifige seisiún duine le duine ar siúl le gnóthais éagsúla. Thionóil Oifig na bPaitinní 68 gclinic MI sa bláthain 2015, áit a dtugtar deis do dhaoine den phobal, d'aireagóiri, d'fhiontraithe agus don lucht gnó ceisteanna a bhaineann le hiarratais MI a bheartaíonn siad a dhéanamh nó atá déanta acu cheana féin chuig Oifig na bPaitinní a phlé le foireann na hOifige. Táthar den tuairim go bhfuil an cur chuige sin an-úsáideach maidir le buntreoir a thabhairt maidir le nósanna imeachta agus le foirmeacha a theastaíonn chun cearta MI a chlárú agus maidir leis na próisis a bhaineann le cosaint MI a fháil in Éirinn nó thar lear. Tugtar cúnamh freisin maidir le straitéis chuardaigh 'dén féin é' i gcomhair paitinní, trádmharcanna nó dearaí cláraithe a chur le chéile agus maidir le bunachar sonraí paitinní, trádmharcanna agus dearaí a rochtain agus a úsáid.



Díritear cuid shuntasach d'iarrachtaí na hOifige chun feasacht a ardú ar dhaltaí dara leibhéal ach páirt a ghlacadh sa Taispeántas bliantúil Eolaíte Óga agus Teicneolaofcha de chuid BT agus sna Dámhachtainí bliantúla Fiontar Mac Léinn. Lean an Oifig freisin le hurraíocht a dhéanamh ar dhuais a bhronntar ar an dalta a mbaineann a thionscadal an úsáid is fearr as teicneolaiocht i bhfeidhmchláir nua nó fheabhsaithe agus a mbaineann a thionscadal na héifeachtúlachtaí feabhsaithe nó na nuálaíochtaí núiosacha is fearr amach. Is í Lauren Murphy (atá le feiceáil ar dheis sa ghrianghraif) as Meánscoil Loreto, Baile Brigín, a bhuaigh an duais a ndearna Oifig na bPaitinní urraíocht uirthi sa bláthain 2015. Bronnadh an duais uirthi dá tionscadal dar teideal 'An aid for the rehabilitation of a clenched fist in Multiple Sclerosis'.



Tá na Dámhachtainí Fiontar Mac Léinn atá á reáchtáil ag na Boird Fiontar Áitiúil ar an gcomórtas fiontair is mó do dhaltaí dara leibhéal in Éirinn. Bhí na Babhtaí Ceannais Náisiúnta ar siúl i mí Aibreáin 2015. Is iad seo a leanas buaiteoirí na nDámhachtainí Maoine Intleachtúla: Mya Ní Ruiséil, Coláiste Pobail Osraí, (ar chlé sa ghrianghraif, in éineacht le Damien English TD, an tAire Scileanna, Taighde agus Nuálaíochta, agus Simon Gray, Uachtaráin APTMA) dá tionscadal dar teideal 'Chibi Chick'; Jack Cloney, Pobalscoil Bhéal Átha hAmhnais, Co. Mhaigh Eo, dá thionscadal dar teideal 'Sila-Lights'; agus Kate Devaney, Ciara Bourke, Eileen Barry, Katie Clarke agus Lauren Cawley as Meánscoil Muire, Béal an Átha, dá dtionscadal dar teideal 'Babe Magnets'. Tugann an comórtas deis den scoth don Oifig dul i dteagmháil le fiontraithe is daltaí dara leibhéal d'fhoinn feasacht ar MI a chur chun cinn nuair a bhíonn smaoineamh gnó á fhorbairt acu.

MI i measc daltaí dara leibhéal. Leanfaidh Oifig na bPaitinní de bheith páirteach sna Dámhachtainí Fiontar Mac Léinn amach anseo.

Cuspóir 5

Baill foirne a aithint mar shócmhainn thábhachtach de chuid na hOifige agus úsáid a bhaint as pleanáil ghnó agus as bainistíocht agus forbairt feidhmíochta aonair d'fhoinn feidhmíochta ghnó agus próisis ghnó a fheabhsú agus éifeachtach eagrúcháin a bhreisiú.

Bhí 46 phost údaraithe ag an Oifig amhail an 31 Nollaig 2015. B'ionann é sin agus laghdú aon phoist ar an bhfigiúr don bhliain 2014. Tar éis sosanna gairme, postroinnt agus socruthe oibre eile a thacaíonn leis an teaghlaach a chur san áireamh, áfach, bhí leibhéal foirne 41.78 duine de choibhéis lánaimseartha ag an Oifig le linn na bliana 2015. Tá laghdú mór tagtha ar an lín foirne san Oifig ó dhíláraigh an Oifig chuig Cill Chainnigh den chéad uair sa bhliain 1998. Ón mbliain 2008 ar aghaidh, mar shampla, tá an lín foirne laghdaithe faoi 27%, is é sin, ó 63 dhuine go 46 dhuine faoi láthair. Angus níos lú acmhainní foirne aici, tá iarracht déanta ag an Oifig ardleibhéal seirbhís poiblí a sholáthar gan dochar a dhéanamh dá héifeachtach oibriúcháin trí nósanna imeachta níos fearr agus níos éifeachtúla agus trí theicneolaíocht a úsáid ar bhealach níos fearr agus níos éifeachtúla.

Tá rún daingean ag an Oifig a chinntí go ndéantar measúnú rialta ar fheidhmíocht na foirne ar fad agus go gcuirtear athbhreithnithe foirne i gcrích ar bhealach tráthúil. Nascann an Córás Bainistíochta agus Forbartha Feidhmíochta (CBFF) atá i bhfeidhm san Oifig le pleán gnó bliantúil na hOifige agus tugann sé deis do gach ball foirne spriocanna aonair a shocrú, athrú a thionscnamh agus a sholáthar agus leanúint de chleachtais oibre a fheabhsú chun seirbhís éifeachtúil ardchaighdeáin a sholáthar. De réir CBFF, rinneadh Pleán Forbartha Oiliúna a dhréachtú, rud inar cuireadh san áireamh na riachtanais éagsúla oiliúna ar aithin na baill foirne iad a bheith acu ina bpleananna forbartha pearsanta don bhliain 2015. Lasmuigh den oiliúint leanúnach ar an láthair oibre, thug an fhoireann faoi 44.5 lá oibre san iomlán le linn na bliana 2015. Cuireadh oiliúint ar fáil i réimsí amhail Nósanna Imeachta Airgeadais sa Státseirbhís, Forbairt Phearsanta agus Scileanna Scríbhneoireachta.

Lean an fhoireann le ról ríthábhachtach a imirt maidir le hídiú fuinnimh a laghdú san oifig, ar aon dul leis an gClár Earnála Poiblí atá i bPlean Gníomhaíochta an Rialtais um Éifeachtúlacht Fuinnimh. Is é sprioc an phlean ídiú fuinnimh a laghdú, feasacht na foirne a mhéadú ar éifeachtúlacht fuinnimh agus faireachán a dhéanamh ar fheidhmíocht an trealamh théimh/aerchóirithe. Mar thoradh ar na bearta coigilt fuinnimh atá déanta ag an bhfoireann, tá coigiltí suntasacha ar ídiú fuinnimh bainte amach sa bhliain seo a chuaigh thart (i gcomparáid leis an mbliain 2008, arb í an bhliain tagarmhairc) agus tá coigilt iarmhartach tagtha chun cinn i gcostais fuinnimh.

- Tá laghdú 24% tagtha ar ídiú leictreachais sa 12 mhí seo a chuaigh thart (i gcomparáid leis an bhfigiúr don bhliain 2008)
- Tá laghdú 10% tagtha ar ídiú breosla sa 12 mhí seo a chuaigh thart (i gcomparáid leis an bhfigiúr don bhliain 2008)

Ba mhaith liom aitheantas a thabhairt d'obair chrua agus do ghairmiúlacht na foirne le linn na bliana 2015 agus don tiomantas a bhí acu d'acmhainn oibriúcháin éifeachtúil agus éifeachtach a choinneáil ar bun chun MI a riad in Éirinn. Táim buíoch díobh as an méid sin ar fad.

Cuspóir 6

Ionadaíocht a dhéanamh ar Éirinn ag fóraim idirnáisiúnta.

Déanann foireann Oifig na bPaitinní ionadaíocht d'Éirinn ar Chomhairle Riaracháin Oifig Eorpach na bPaitinní (EPO) agus ar a Coistí Éagsúla, ar Bhord Riaracháin agus ar Choiste Buiséid Oifig Maoine Intleachtúla an Aontais Eorpaigh (EUIPO) agus ar roinnt dá coistí teicniúla agus dá coistí idirchaidrimh a dhéileálann le saincheisteanna éagsúla a bhaineann le maoin intleachtúil. Le linn na bliana 2015, ghlac an Oifig páirt i gcruiinnithe agus i gceardlanna de chuid 'Roghchoiste na Comhairle Riaracháin' (a chuimsíonn an grúpa de 25 stát chonarthacha de réir bhrí Airteagal 142 de Choinbhinsiún na bPaitinní Eorpacha) d'fhoinn níosanna imeachta riarcháin agus rialacha cur chun feidhme a chomhaontú le haghaidh cosaint aonadach paitinne. Anuas air sin, glacann baill foirne páirt i gcruiinnithe na gcomhlachtaí rialaithe agus na gcomhlachtaí teicniúla de chuid na hEagraíochta Domhanda um Maoine Intleachtúil (WIPO) (a riann an Conradh Comhair Paitinní agus socruthe faoi Phrótagal Mhaidrid lena ndéileáiltear le hiarratais idirnáisiúnta trádmhairc) agus i roinnt conarthaí idirnáisiúnta maidir le maoin intleachtúil. Tairgeann EPO agus EUIPO bealaí malartacha ar chosaint MI a fháil san Eoraip agus díritear baint na hOifige leis na heagraíochtaí sin ar a chinntí go ndéantar ionadaíocht chuí do leasanna Éireannacha, ar choinneáil ar an eolas faoin deachleachtas ag leibhéal idirnáisiúnta agus ar chomhoibriú le hoifigí maoine tionsclaíche náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta eile a éascú.

Tá cláir chomhair dhéthaobhaigh ag an Oifig le EPO agus le EUIPO, cláir faoina bhfaigheann an Oifig cúnamh le haghaidh na nithe seo a leanas: páirt a ghlacadh in imeachtaí éagsúla atá dírithe ar fheasacht ar MI a ardú, páirt a ghlacadh i sainoiliúint MI, páirt a ghlacadh i dtionscadail TFC arb é is aidhm dóibh malartú sonraí MI a éascú, uirlisí a fhorbairt chun rochtain níos fearr a chur ar fáil ar fhaisnéis MI agus cleachtais agus níosanna imeachta a chomhchuibhiú. Éascaíonn ár rannpháirtíocht sna cláir comhphlé a dhéanamh ar ábhar agus ar struchtúr clár comhair idir na heagraíochtaí sin agus oifigí náisiúnta eile MI san Eoraip, rud a chuireann ar chumas na hOifige a seirbhísí do chustaiméirí a fheabhsú agus a fhorbairt tuilleadh de réir an deachleachtas idirnáisiúnta.

Comhoibriú Idirnáisiúnta



Glacann an Oifig páirt i ngníomhaíochtaí comhair lena macasamhlacha i dtíortha eile, leis an Oifig um Chomhchuibhiú sa Mhargadh Inmheánach (OCMI) agus le hOifig Paitinní na hEorpa ar roinnt tionscadal arb é is aidhm dóibh comhchuibhiú a chur chun cinn ar fud oifigí náisiúnta MI agus cúrsaí a éascú d'úsáideoirí na gcóras paitinne, trádmhairc agus dearaidh. Is éard atá sna nithe seo a leanas ná samplaí de roinnt de na tionscadail chomhair ar tugadh fúthu in 2015.

COMHAR LE EUIPO AGUS TIONSCADAL PACÁISTE BOGEARRAÍ

Glacann an Oifig páirt i ngníomhaíochtaí comhair lena macasamhlacha i dtíortha eile, le hOifig Maoine Intleachtúla an Aontais Eorpaisc (EUIPO) agus le hOifig Eorpach na bPaitinní (EPO) ar roinnt tionscadal arb é is aidhm dóibh comhchuibhiú a chur chun cinn ar fud oifigí náisiúnta MI agus cúrsaí a éascú d'úsáideoirí na gcóras paitinne, trádmhairc agus dearaidh. Is éard atá sna nithe seo a leanas ná samplaí de roinnt de na tionscadail chomhair ar tugadh fúthu sa bhliain 2015. Trí Chlár Cóníreasaithe EUIPO, a seoladh sa bhliain 2011, nasctar EUIPO agus Oifigí Náisiúnta agus Cumainn Úsáideoirí le chéile d'fhoinn teacht ar chomhaontú i réimsí ina bhfuil cleachtais dhifriúla i bhfeidhm ag oifigí MI. Comhlánaíonn sé an obair a bhíonn á déanamh faoin gCiste Comhair chun uirlísí comhchoiteanna TF a chruthú. Glacann foireann na hOifige páirt sna Grúpaí Oibre a bunaíodh le haghaidh gach cinn de na seacht dtionscadal cóiníreasaithe atá liostaithe thíos.

CP1. Aicmiú an chleachtais trádmharcanna maidir le hearraí agus le seirbhísí a chomhchuibhiú.

CP2. Cinn Aicmithe a Chóineasú

CP3. Na dearbhfhoraí ar dhiúltú do thrádmharcanna fioracha lena mbaineann focail nó nathanna cainte atá tuairisciúil amháin.

CP4. Raon feidhme na cosanta a thugtar do thrádmharcanna atá i gcló dubh, bán agus/nó liath amháin.

CP5. Forais Choibhneasta – an dóchúlacht go meascaí an táirge le ceann eile (an tionchar atá ag comhpháirteanna neamhshainiúla/laga)

CP6. Cóníreasú ar léirithe grafacha ar Dhearaí.

CP7. Tásca Táirge le haghaidh Dearaí a chomhchuibhiú

Is críochnaitheanois atá tionscadail trádmharcanna CP1 go CP5, agus an dá cheann sin san áireamh, agus tá Cumarsáidí Comhchoiteanna á n-eisiúint do gach ceann dióbh anois. Táthar ag súil go gcríochnófar an dá thionscadal Dearaidh sa bhliain 2016. Is iad seo a leanas na príomhthairbhí d'úsáideoirí:

- Soiléire agus tréadhearcacht: Coinníonn comhthionscnaimh chumarsáide geallsealbhóirí ar an eolas faoi dhul chun cinn trí fhaisnéis chomhaontaithe thráthúil a chur ar fáil.
- Cáilíocht agus inúsáidteachta: rochtain éifeachtach éifeachtúil ar an gcosaint a thugtar le córais chlárúcháin ag leibhéal náisiúnta agus ag leibhéal AE ar aon.
- Deimhneacht dhlíthiúil: deimhneacht dhlíthiúil mhéadaithe mar gheall ar an gcomhsheasmhacht mhéadaithe a bhíonn ann maidir le ciintí a dhéantar ag leibhéal náisiúnta agus ag leibhéal AE ar aon.
- Coigiltí ama agus costais: laghduithe féideartha ar amanna próiseála iarratais agus coigiltí costais d'oifigí MI.
- Cur chun feidhme agus leanúnachas Cleachtas Comhchoiteann

I gcomhar le EUIPO, críochnóidh an Oifig obair ar thionscadal Ríomhsheirbhísí sa bhliain 2016. Is é an aidhm atá leis an tionscadal méadú a dhéanamh ar an raon táillí trádmharcanna agus dearaí is féidir a íoc ar líne. Fuair an Oifig tacáiocht ó EUIPO le haghaidh an tionscadail sin agus le haghaidh uirlísí TMView agus Designview a chothabháil. Ina theannta sin, bhain an Oifig leas as cúnamh le fresatal ar an gcostas a bhaineann le raon imeachtaí.

Láithreán greasáin agus foilseacháin na hOifige



Suíomh gréasáin Oifig na bPaitinní

Soláthraíonn an suíomh gréasáin (www.patentsoffice.ie) réamhrá ginearálta do mhaoin intleachtúil agus eolas sonrach ar conas do smaointe a chosaint agus tá rannán ann ar MI do ghnó. Áirítear ar an ábhar atá foilsithe ar an ngréasán tuarascálacha bliantúla ó bhlianta roimhe seo, réimse de leabhrán fhaisnéise MI, ráiteas reatha straitéise na hOifige agus plean gníomhaíochta seirbhís do chustaiméirí agus gach reachtaíocht phríomha agus thánaisteach a rialaíonn feidhmeanna Oifig na bPaitinní. Tá na seirbhísí seo a leanas ar fáil ar líne:

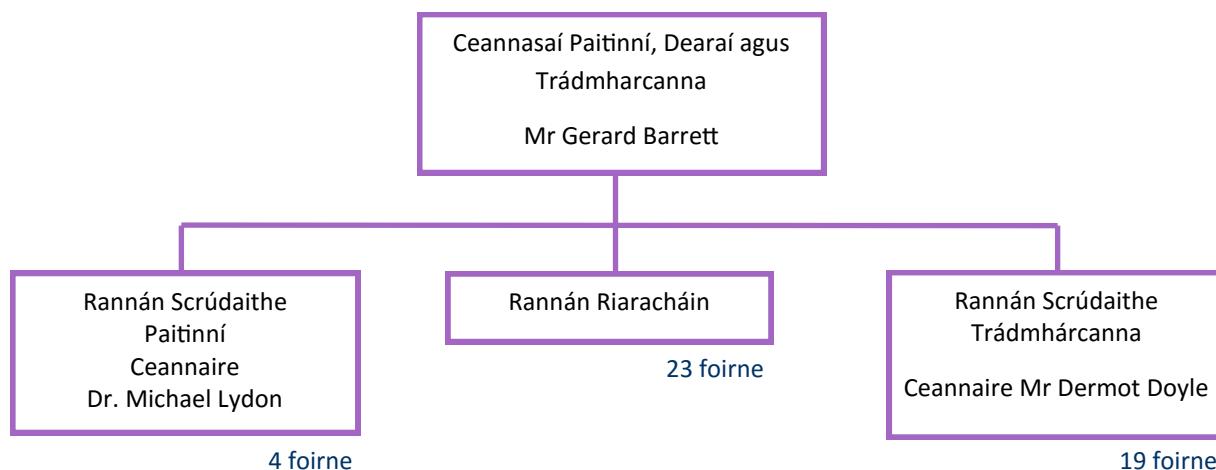
- Cláir agus Bunachair Sonraí d'amharc agus do chuardach – cuardach do phaitinní, trádmharcanna, dearaí
- Rochtaín agus amharc ar chláir chomhlachtaí cheadúnaithe chóipchirt
- Rochtaín agus amharc ar chláir na ngníomhairí paitinne agus trádmharcanna
- Íoc do tháillí paitinne, trádmhairc nó dearaidh ar líne
- Íoc do tháillí ceadaithe paitinne agus cláraithe trádmharc ar líne
- Amharc ar chinntí an Rialtóra i gcásanna trádmharcanna idirpháirtíoch
- Cuardaigh agus amharc ar Iris Oifig na bPaitinní ar líne
- Chomhdú ar líne de trádmharcanna
- TMView agus Designview d'amharc agus do chuardach
- Cúnamh i roghnú rangú trádmharc ag baint úsáide as TMClass

Lean suíomh Gréasáin na hOifige de bheith ar an bpríomh-mhodh chun faisnéis maidir le MI a chur ar fáil don phobal mór. Bealach éifeachtúil chun raon de sheirbhísí idirghníomhacha cuardaigh agus íocaíochta táillí ba ea an suíomh Gréasáin freisin. Bhí 73,000 cuairt ann ar an suíomh gach mí ar an meán agus bhí 882,000 cuairt san ionlán ann sa bhliain 2015. Bhí cuairteoirí nua freagrach as 50% de na cuairteanna sin. Faoi mar a tharla i mblianta roimhe, bhí na leathanaigh chlárúcháin ar líne ar na leathanaigh ba mhó amharc go fóill, agus 754,362 chuairead orthu sa bhliain 2015. Ba sa bhliain 2005 a cuireadh leagan amach agus dearadh reatha an tsuímh Ghréasáin i bhfeidhm, ach is gá iad a fheabhsúanois. D'aistrigh an Oifig chuig córas nua bainistíochta inneachair sa bhliain 2015. Chomh maith leis sin, athdhearfar an suíomh Gréasáin féin sa bhliain 2016 ionas gur aige a bheidh na tréithe agus na riachtanais atá ag suíomhanna Gréasáin nua-aimseartha ó thaobh inúsáidteachta, inrochtaineachta, feidhmiúlachta, cur i láthair agus freagrúlachta de. Cuirfidh an méid sin ar fad feabhas ar shásamh agus ar úsáid araon i measc custaiméirí. Tosóidh an Oifig ar uirlis nua anailísíochta suíomh Gréasáin a úsáid sa bhliain 2016 d'fhoinn faireachán a dhéanamh ar thrácht Gréasáin ar an suíomh nua agus d'fhoinn úsáid an tsuímh a bharrfheabhsú.

An Iris Oifigiúil

Tá innéacs inchuardaithe ag gach eagrán den Iris, in éineacht le heolas ar ghníomhaíochtaí a bhaineann le hiarratais agus clárú paitinní, trádmharcanna agus dearaí. Mar shampla, is féidir leat féachaint ar shonraí de thrádmharcanna agus dearaí san Iris ar glachadh leo. Tá mionsonraí san Iris freisin ar phaitinní ar cuireadh isteach orthu, a foilsíodh agus a tugadh, ar a n-áirítear paitinní a tugadh faoi Choinbhinsiún Paitinne na hEorpa ag ainmniú Éire. Tá eolas san Iris freisin mar fhógraí oifigiúla, mionsonraí ar mhódhanna íocaíochta táillí reachtúla agus uaireanta oscailte Oifig na bPaitinní. I rith 2012, tugadh saoráid idirghníomhach i gceist maidir leis an irisleabhan ar líne a cheadaíonn d'údáideoirí rochtaín a fháil ar an gClár agus aon phaitinn, trádmharc nó dearadh ar leith atá san irisleabhar a bhaint amach trí chliceáil ar an hipearnasc laistigh den irisleabhar.

Eagrú, Struchtúr agus Pearsanra

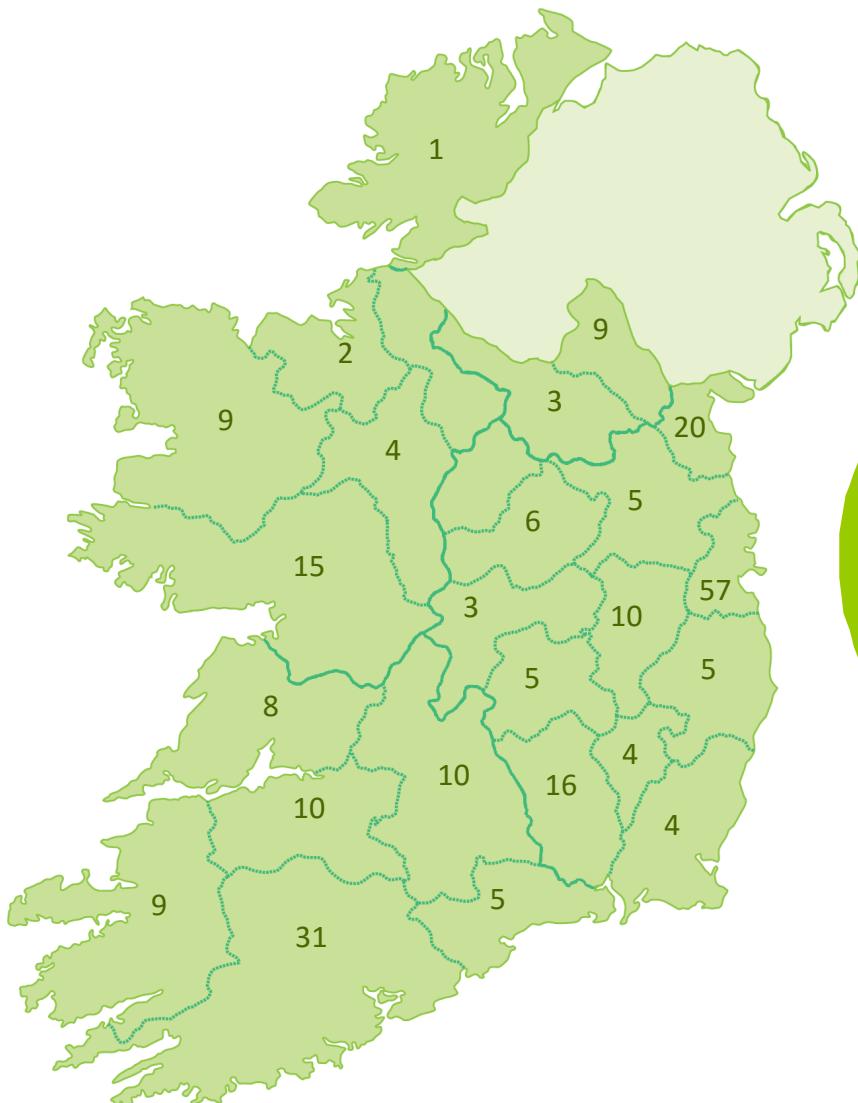


FOIREANN AR SEIRBHÍS AR AN 31 NOLLAIG 2015

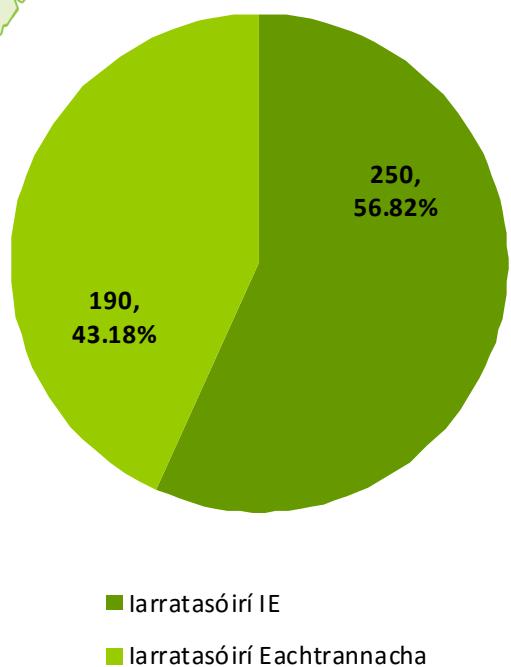
Foireann	Líon na bpost
Ceannasaí	1
Scrúdaitheoir Sinsearach Paitinne	1
Príomhoifigeach Cúnta	1
Scrúdaitheoir Paitinne	3
Ardoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin	4
Oifigeach Riaracháin	1
Oifigeach Feidhmiúcháin	18
Oifigeach Foirne	1
Oifigeach Cléireachais	15
Oifigeach Seirbhísí	1
Iomlán	46

A chuimsíonn 46 foirne (2 Ardoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin, 1 Oifigeach Feidhmiúcháin, 6 Oifigeach Riaracháin agus 5 Oifigeach Cléireachais) a bhain feidhm as scéim oibre i bpáirt a cheadaíonn patrún éagsúla tinnrimh. Bhain triúr feidhm as scéim teilea-oibre a cheadaíonn dóibh cuid dá ndualgas a chomhlíonadh ó bhaile ar feadh cuid den tseachtain. Ar an 31ú Nollaig 2015 bhí comhionann le 41.78 phost iomlán san Oifig. Solátharíonn an Roinn Post, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta seirbhísí teicneolaíochta faisnéise don Oifig. Ina theannta sin tá 4 ball d'fhoireann Aonaid TF an Roinn ag soláthar seirbhísí teicneolaíochta faisnéise don Oifig.

Staidreamh Gnó - Paitinní



Iarratais Náisiúnta ar Phaitinní
on tir den chéad iarratasóir



Iarratais Náisiúnta ar Phaitinní faoi contae i 2015

IARRATAIS FAIGHTE		BLIAIN		PAITINNÍ DEONTA		
Ar Théarma Iomlán	Ar Ghearr-théarma	IOMLÁN	Ar Théarma Iomlán	Ar Ghearr-théarma	IOMLÁN	
135	255	390	2013	116	98	214
118	203	321	2014	69	79	148
203	237	440	2015	48	78	126

Ar an 31^ú Nollaig 2015, bhí 1,236 iarratas san iomlán ar feitheamh idir lámha. Díobh seo, bhí 218 iarratas ag fanacht go gcuirfí isteach fianaise ar nuagacht.

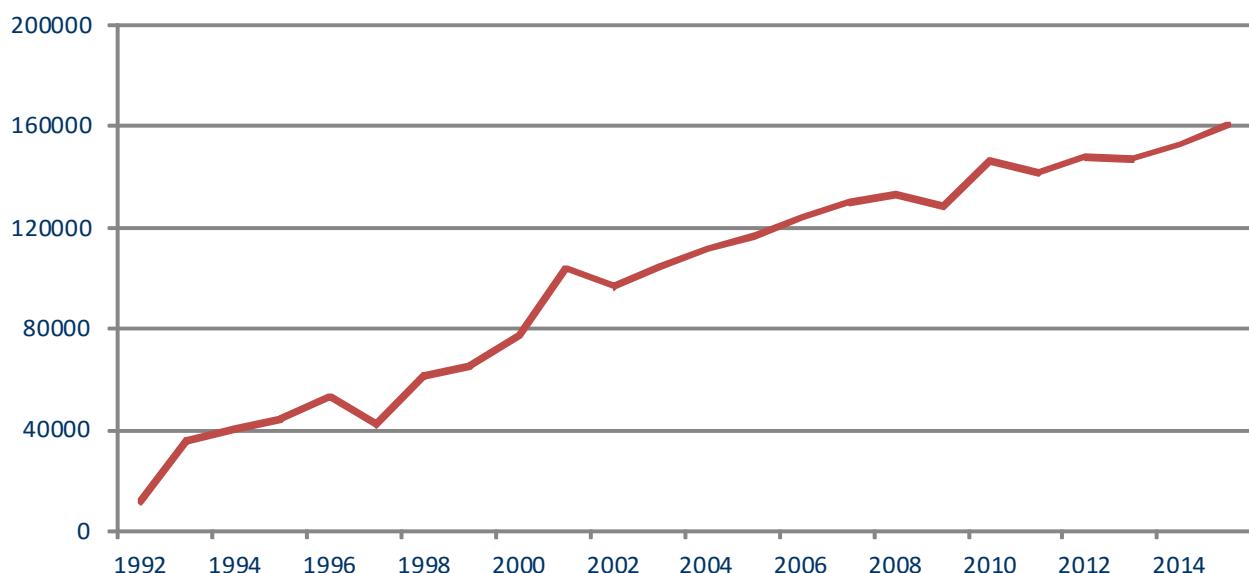
Fuarhas 289 iarratas ó iarratasóirí sa Stát i 2015 i gcomparáid le 262 i 2014.

Iarratais Eorpacha a rinne sainiú ar Éirinn

Bliain	Comhadaithe	Bliain	Comhadaithe	Bliain	Comhadaithe
1992	11,755	2000	76,806	2008	133,248
1993	35,762	2001	103,659	2009	128,378
1994	40,705	2002	96,779	2010	146,726
1995	44,161	2003	104,529	2011	141,373
1996	52,755	2004	111,537	2012	147,551
1997	41,875	2005	117,096	2013	147,487
1998	61,584	2006	123,912	2014	152,400
1999	65,708	2007	129,890	2015	160,028

Níl iarratais Eorpacha le sainiú ar Éirinn (cuireadh an deis seo ar fáil don chéad uair i 1992) san áireamh sna cairteanna thusas ach seo thíos na figíúirí fana gcoinne. Iontráladh na paitinní seo i gClár Náisiúnta na bPaitinní. Tá an seasamh céanna dlíthiúil acu in Éirinn is a bheadh dá mbeidís deonta ag an Oifig-se.

Iarratais Eorpacha a rinne sainiú ar Éirinn



Paitinní a deonadh i 2015 a raibh feidhm leo sa Stát

2015	Iomlán	Líon na bpaitinní a deonadh d'iarratasóirí ó laistigh den Stát	% de nan paitinní a deonadh d'iarratasóirí ó laistigh den Stát
Deonta ag m'Oifig-se	126	87	69%
Deonta ag an OPE	62,984	289	0.46%
Iomlán Deonta	63,110	376	0.60%

Gníomhaíocht Paitinní

	2013	2014	2015
Paitinní agus iarratais ar phaitinní ina n-ábhar sannta	833	827	1,188
Paitinní cúlgairthe	0	0	0
Paitinní tugtha suas	3	2	1
Paitinní tite ar láir	41,337	54,914	55,035
Paitinní curtha ar ais	18	10	13
Paitinní athnuaithe	42,242	42,061	42,740
Paitinní éagtha	979	959	1,064
Paitinní i bhfeidhm	110,486	111,109	118,273
Éisteachtaí	0	0	0
Iarratais PCT a fuarthas le cur chuig WIPO	26	19	21
Iarratais ar Phaitinní Eorpacha a fuarthas le cur chuig EPO	1	0	1

Iarratais ar Dheimhnithe Cosanta Forlíontacha

Fuarthas 76 iarratas san ionlán ar Dheimhnithe Cosanta Forlíontacha i rith na bliana faoi Rialachán na gComhphobal Eorpacha (Deimhnithe Cosanta Forlíontacha), 1992 (móchaineach) agus 1996 (táirgí cosanta plandaí).

I rith na bliana, deonadh 33 deimhniú (cosaint móchaineach agus plandaí), diúltáodh do 0 iarratas agus tarraingíodh siar 2 iarratas. Ag deireadh na bliana bhí 216 iarratas ar feitheamh.

Clár na nGníomhairí Paitinne

Ag deireadh na bliana 2015, bhí 76 duine aonair agus 6 comhpháirtíochtaí iontráilte i gClár na nGníomhairí Paitinne.

**AICMIÚ AR NA PAITINNÍ A DHEONAIGH AN OIFIG SA BLIAIN DAR CHRÍOCH 31 NOLLAIG 2015 DAR LEIS AN
AICMIÚ IDIRNÁISIÚNTA PAITINNE (AIP)**

Nóta ar Aicmiú Paitinne

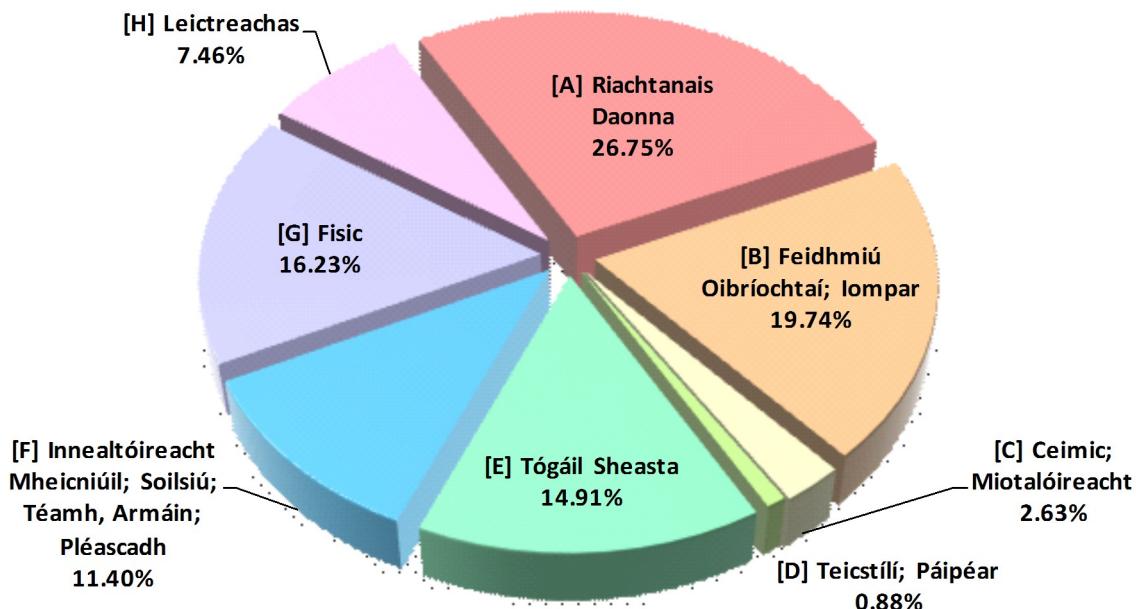
Déantar aicmiú ar phaitinní bunaithe ar a n-ábhar teicniúil. Ceadaíonn aicmiú den chineál sin aisghabháil paitinní de réir nádúr na n-aireagán a nochtar iontu. Is é an tAicmiú Idirnáisiúnta Paitinne (AIP) an córas caighdeánach do rangú paitinne. Tá sé comhdhéanta de thart ar 70,000 siombal aicmithe roinnte ar 8 rannóg bunúsacha (A go H), a bhaineann le cineálacha difriúla bunúsacha teicneolaíochta. I 2015 bhí sé ina 11ú eagrán (Int. Cl. (2011).

Tugtar cód aicmithe ar gach ní airtgtheach i bpaitinn. Is féidir dhá aireagán nó níos mó a bheith i bpaitinn chomh fada is atá leorghaoil eatarthu; mar shampla, comheascán nua ceimice agus a úsáid mar mhíochaine nó mar luibhicíd, nó léasair nua agus a úsáid i máinliacht súl nó léamh sonraí. Dá réir sin, is féidir go dteastódh líon áirithe siombal aicmiúcháin lena n-ábhar ar fad a chlúdach. Déanann an tábla agus an graf atá leis seo comhordú ar líon iomlán na n-aicmí a leithdháileadh do phaitinní í 2015. Seasann gach rangú ar leith do ní airtgtheach a nochtar i bpaitinn, agus dá bhrí sin is ionann seo cuid mhaith agus cuntas scóir ar airtgtheacht. Tá na haicmí curtha i ngrúpaí de réir rannóga AIP.

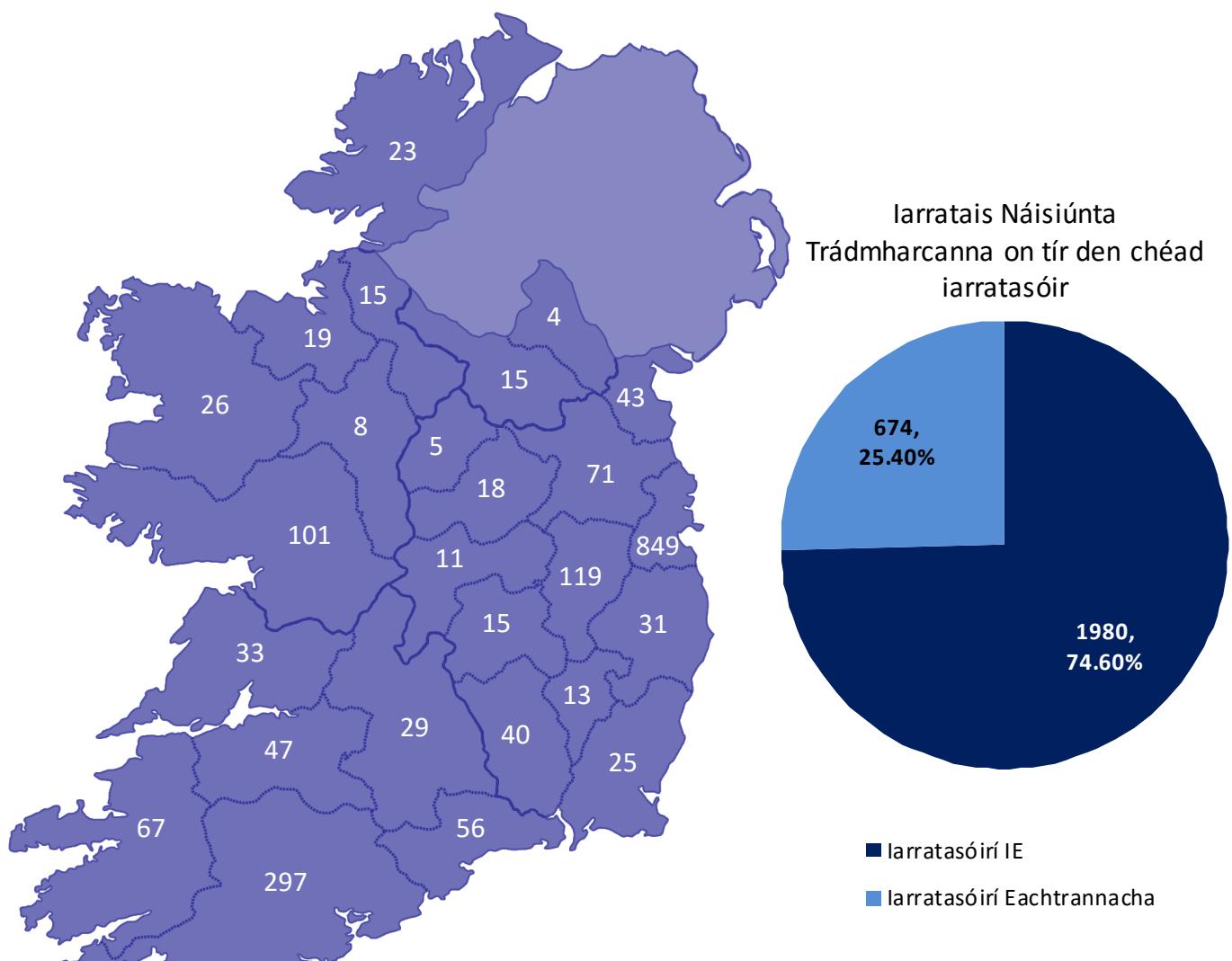
AICMIÚ	An líon deonuithe san Aicmiú *
A. RIACHTANAIS DAONNA m.sh. Ábhair bia, Sláinte, Nithe Pearsanta.	61
B. FEIDHMIÚ OIBRÍOCHTAÍ; IOMPAR: m.sh. Teicneolaíocht múnlaithe, prioritála,	45
C. CEIMIC; MIOTALÓIREACHT	6
D. TEICSTÍLÍ; PÁIPÉAR	2
E. TÓGÁIL SHEASTA: m.sh. Foirgníocht, druileáil, mianadóireacht.	34
F. INNEALTÓIREACHT MHEICNIÚIL; SOILSIÚ; TÉAMH, ARMÁIN; PLÉASCADH	26
G. FISIC: m.sh. Optaic, ríomhaireacht, fisic núicléach.	37
H. LEICTREACHAS: m.sh. Ciorcaid leictreonacha, giniúint agus dáileadh leictreachais.	17

* Nóta:- Toisc gur féidir paitinn a dheontar a bheith aicmithe i níos mó ná réimse amháin teicneolaíochta, beidh líon na rangaithe ina mbeidh aireagán níos mó ná líon na bpaitinní a dheontar.

Aicmithe de réir Choidanna IPC do Phaitinní Deonaithe in 2015



Staidreamh Gnó - Trád Mharcanna



Iarratais Náisiúnta ar Thrádmharcanna faoi contae í 2015

Iarratais a Fuarthas	Iarratais Náisiúnta				BLIAIN	Clárúchán Idirnáisiúnta ina sainfodh Éire			
	Fógraithe	Curtha ina gCoinne	Dearáí cláraithe	Iarratais a Fuarthas		Fógraithe	Curtha ina gCoinne	Cosanta	
2,354	1,650	32	1,486	2013	2013	1,427	1,103	17	1,075
2,523	2,013	53	1,684	2014	2014	1,058	974	11	1,084
2,654	2,198	72	1,860	2015	2015	1,180	945	5	879

Gníomhaíocht Trádmharcanna

	2013	2014	2015
Lón na dtrádmharc ina n-ábhar sannta	1,458	1,229	1,626
Lón na gceadúnas ar thrádmhairc taifeadta sa chlár	6	14	40
Clárúcháin Trádmharc asbhainte de dheasca neamhíocaíocht na dtáillí athnuachana	3,395	1,963	2,018
Clárúcháin trádmharc tugtha suas	7	10	3
Clárúcháin trádmharc tugtha ar ais	8	19	4
Clárúcháin trádmharc athnuaithe	4,053	3,619	3,387
Trádmhairc Náisiúnta cúlgairthe go hiomlán nó i bpáirt	9	5	4
Trádmhairc Idirnáisiúnta cúlgairthe go hiomlán nó i bpáirt	3	4	1
Trádmhairc Náisiúnta fógraithe neamhbhailí	1	0	0
Trádmhairc Idirnáisiúnta fógraithe neamhbhailí	0	0	0
Trádmhairc náisiúnta cláraithe i bhfeidhm	61,737	61,423	61,266
Trádmhairc Idirnáisiúnta i bhfeidhm	22,988	22,260	21,305
Iomlán na dTrádmharc i bhfeidhm	84,725	83,683	82,571

Éisteachtaí agus Ilnithe

	2013	2014	2015
Éisteachtaí (<i>ex-partes</i>)	6	9	9
Éisteachtaí (<i>inter-partes</i>)	12	11	6
Eisteachtaí (<i>inter-partes ar mhodh aighneacht i scribhinn</i>) *	14	8	14
Iarratais le hiarratais Trádmhairc na bPobal Eorpacha a aistriú go hiarratais náisiúnta	32	28	31
Iarratais idirnáisiúnta trádmhairc ina raibh Éire ina hOifig Tionscnaimh comhadaithe atá curtha chuig WIPO	70	82	83
Iarratais Chomhphobail comhadaithe tríd an Oifig agus a cuireadh ar aghaidh chuig an Oifig um Chomhchuibhiú sa Mhargadh Inmheánach (EUIPO)	0	2	0

*Léirítear san fhíor seo lón na n-imeachtaí idir na páirtithe a cinneadh bunaithe ar aighneachtaí i scribhinn in ionad bheith i láthair ag éisteacht. Tugadh an nós imeachta sin isteach den chéad uair in 2012.

Clár na nGníomhairí Trádmhairc

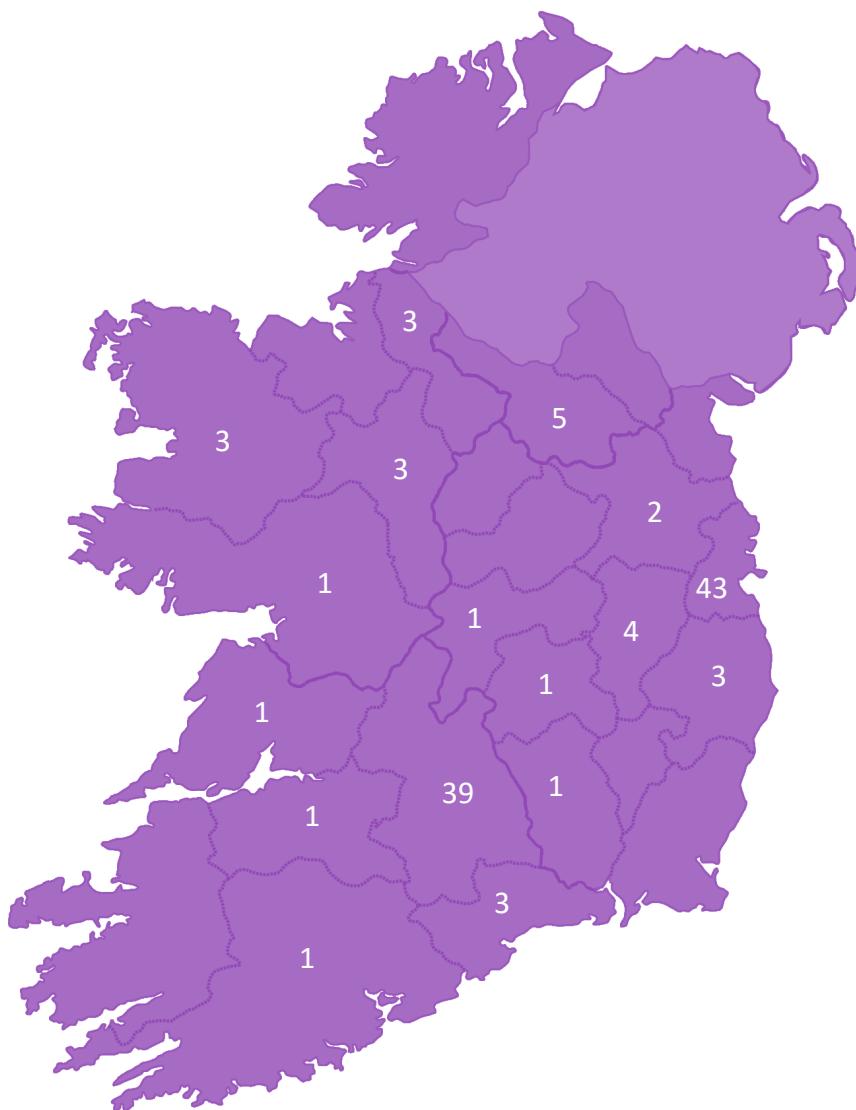
Ag deireadh na bliana 2015, bhí 211 duine aonair agus 5 compháirtíochta iontrálta ar an gClár.

**AICMIÚ IDIRNÁISIÚNTA AR EARRAÍ AGUS AR SHEIRBHÍSÍ INA GCUIRTEAR NA
MARCANNA A CLÁRAÍODH IN 2015**

Rinne conradh iltaobhach ar a ghairtear "Comhaontú Nice Maidir le hAicmiú Idirnáisiúnta Earraí agus Seirbhísí chun Críocha Clárú Marcanna". Tá Aicmiúchán Nice comhdhéanta de 45 ceannteideal aicmiúcháin a dhéanann cur síos an-leathan ar nádúr na n-earrái nó na seirbhísí atá i ngach ceann de na 34 aicme earraí agus na 11 aicme seirbhísí inar féidir trádmharcanna a chur. Riarann An Eagraíocht Domhanda um Maoin Intleachtúil (WIPO) an t-aicmiúchán agus tá an t-eagrán reatha (an deichiú ceann) i bhfeidhm ó Eanáir 1, 2012.

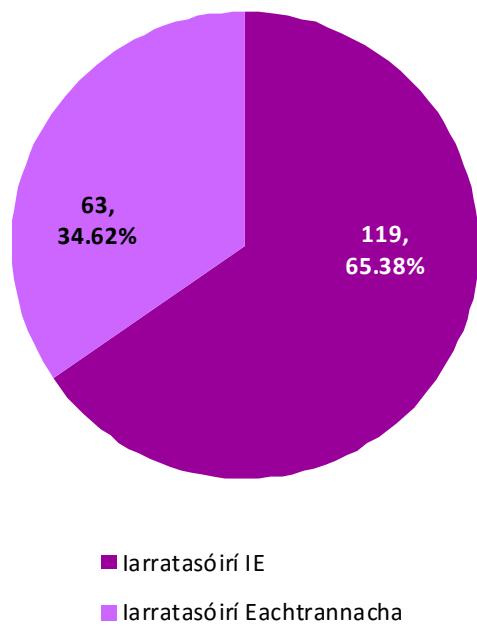
Aicme	Aicmiúchán Earraí	Líon na marc san aicme	Aicme	Aicmiúchán Earraí	Líon na marc san aicme
1	Táirgí Ceimiceacha, srl.	42	24	Fíocháin (gréasáin), srl.	27
2	Péinteanna, srl.	25	25	Éadaí, ag áireamh Buataisí, Bróga agus Slipéir	128
3	Uillmhóidí Tuartha, srl.	99	26	Lásá agus Bróidnáireacht, srl.	12
4	Olaí Tionsclafochta, srl.	27	27	Cairpéid, srl.	10
5	Substaintí Cógaisíochta, srl.	240	28	Cluichí, srl.	57
6	Miotail Choitianta agus a gcóimhiotail Neamhoibrithe agus Páirt Oibrithe	30	29	Feoil, Iasc, Éineoil agus Géim, srl.	211
7	Meaisíní agus Inneal Úirlisí, srl.	31	30	Caifé, Tae, Cócó, Siúcra, Rís, srl.	235
8	Uirlisí agus Ionstraimí Láimhe, Sceanra, srl.	24	31	Táirgí Talmhaíochta, srl.	68
9	Fearas agus Ionstraimí Eolaíochta, srl.	246	32	Beoir, srl.	120
10	Uirlisí Máinliachta, srl.	22	33	Fíonta, Biotáille agus Licéir	100
11	Fearas Soilsithe	35	34	Tobac, srl.	6
12	Feithiclí; Fearas Gluaiseachta ar Thalamh, san Aer agus ar Uisce	25	35	Fógraíocht, Bainistiú Gnó, srl.	266
13	Airm Thine, Lón Lámhaigh agus Diúracáin; Substaintí Pléascacha; Spréachairí	1	36	Árachas, Gnóthaí Airgeadais, srl.	116
14	Miotail luachmhara agus a gCóimhiotail, srl.	33	37	Tógáil Foirgníochta, Deisiúchán, I Seirbhísí suiteála.	52
15	Uirlisí Ceoil (seachas meisíní cainte agus fearas raidió)	4	38	Teileachumarsáidí	98
16	Páipéar, srl.	183	39	Iompar, Pacáistíu agus Stóráil Earraí, srl.	74
17	Guma Peirc, Cúitiúc, srl.	12	40	Cóiriú Ábhar	35
18	Leathar, srl.	36	41	Oideachas, Siamsaíocht, srl.	313
19	Ábhair Thógála, srl.	27	42	Seirbhísí eolaíochta agus teicneolaíochta	126
20	Troscán, Srl.	47	43	Soláthar bia agus dí	87
21	Acraí Beaga Tí, srl.	48	44	Seirbhísí míochaine, srl.	88
22	Rópaí, srl.	10	45	Seirbhísí pearsanta agus sóisialta	43
23	Snáitheanna	3			

Staidreamh Gnó - Dearáí



Iarratais Náisiúnta ar Dhearaí faoi contae í 2015

Iarratais Náisiúnta Dearáí on thí den chéad iarratasóir



	2013	2014	2015
Iarratais ar Dhearaí*	61	54	49
Líon na ndearaí iarrtha*	185	139	178
Dearáí cláraithe	167	138	149
Dearáí tite ar lár	253	82	53
Dearáí athnuaithe (Acht 1927)	0	0	0
Dearáí athnuaithe (Acht 2001)	46	43	79
Dearáí athnuaithe (Acht 2001)	351	214	100
Dearáí i bhfeidhm (Acht 2001)	1,112	1,000	1,066
Iarratais Chomhphobail comhadaithe trí Oifig na bPaitinní agus a cuireadh ar aghaidh chuig an Oifig um OCMI	0	5	1

*Nóta - Déanann Rial 19 de Rialachán um Dheارadh Tionsclaíoch 2002 soláthar gur féidir 2 dheارadh nó níos mó faoi réir ag uaslón de 100 dearadh a bheith comhcheangalte in aon iarratas amháin ar chlárú dearáí.

**DEARAÍ A CLÁRAÍODH FAOI ACHT DEARADH TIONSCLAÍOCH, 2001 I GCAITHEAMH NA BLIANA DAR
CHRÍOCH 31 NOLLAIG 2015**

Bhunaigh conradh iltaobhach dá ngairtear "Comhaontú Locarnó ag bunú Aicmiúchán Idirnáisiúnta do Dhearaí Tionsclaíocha" córas aicmiúchán do dhearaí tionsclaíocha. Tá Aicmiú Locarnó comhdhéanta de liosta de 32 cineál earraí inar féidir dearáí tionsclaíocha a ionchorprú. Riarrann An Eagraíocht Domhanda um Maoin Intleachtúil (EDMI) an t-aicmiúchán agus tá an t-eagrán reatha (an naoú ceann) i bhfeidhm ó Eanáir 1, 2009.

Rang	Aicmiúchán	Dearáí Cláraithe
1	Ábhair Bia	1
2	Baill éadaigh agus Mionéadaí	2
3	Earraí Taistil, Cásanna, Parasóil agus Earraí Pearsanta, nach bhfuil sonraithe in áit eile	1
4	Earraí scuaibé	0
5	Earraí Gréasán Teicstíle, Leatháin Shaorga agus Nádúrtha	0
6	Feistis	7
7	Earraí Tí, nach bhfuil sonraithe in áit eile	1
8	Uirlísí agus Crua-earraí	3
9	Pacáistí agus Gabhdáin d'lompar nó do Láimhseáil Earraí	5
10	Cloig, Uaireadóirí agus Ionstraimí eile Tomhais, Ionstraimí Seiceála agus Comharthaíochta	5
11	Earraí Maisiúchán	12
12	Modhanna lompair nó Árdaithe	2
13	Trealamh do Tháirgeadh, Dáileadh nó Tarchur Leictreachais	0
14	Trealamh chun Taifeadadh, Cumarsáide nó Aisghabháil Faisnéise	1
15	Meaisíní, nach bhfuil sonraithe in áit eile	0
16	Gaireas Fótografaíochta, Cineamatografaíochta agus Optaice	0
17	Uirlísí Ceoil	0
18	Meaisíní Priontála agus Oifige	0
19	Stáiseanóireacht agus Trealamh Oifige, Ábhair Ealaíontóirí agus Múinteoiréachta	0
20	Trealamh Díolacháin agus Fógraíochta, Comharthaí	2
21	Cluichí, Bréagáin, Pubail agus Earraí Spóirt	35
22	Airm, Earraí Piorthéicniúla, Earraí chun Fiaigh, lascaireachta agus Marú Lotnaidí	0
23	Trealamh Dáilithe Leachta, Trealamh Sláintíochta, Téimh, Aerála agus Aerchóirithe, Breosla Soladach	0
24	Trealamh Míochaine agus Saotharlainne	0
25	Aonaid Foirgníochta agus Eilimintí Tógála	10
26	Fearas Soilsithe	0
27	Tobac agus Soláthairtí do Lucht Caite Tobac	0
28	Tárgí Cógaisíochta agus Cosmáide, Earraí agus Fearas Maisiúchán	0
29	Gléasanna agus Trealamh in aghaidh Guaise Tine, Cosc ar Thionóisc agus chun Tarrthála	1
30	Earraí um Chúram agus Láimhseáil Ainmhíthe	1
31	Meaisíní agus Fearas Ullmhúchán Bia agus Dí, nach bhfuil sonraithe in áit eile	0
32	Siombalachá Grafaíochta agus Comharthaí, Patrún Dreacha, Ornadaíochta	62
	IOMLÁN	151

*Is féidir dearadh a bheith cláraithe i níos mó ná aicme amháin, agus dá bhrí sin sáraíonn líon na ndearáí sna ranganna líon na ndearáí atá cláraithe.

Tagairtí don Cheannasaí faoin Acht Cóipchirt agus Ceart Gaolmhar, 2000

Díospoidí idir daoine atá ag seinm taifeadtaí fuaime go poiblí agus úinéir an chóipchirt atá ar marthain sna taifeadtaí maidir leis an luach saothair cothromasach atá iníoctha le húinéir an chóipchirt, féadfar iad a tharchur chuig an gCeannasaí lena chinneadh faoi alt 38 den Acht.

Díospoidí idir daoine nó eagraíochtaí a dteastaíonn ceadúnás uathu faoi scéim atá i bhfeidhm agus oibreoir na scéime sin maidir leis an luach saothair cothromasach atá iníoctha, féadfar í a tharchur chuig an gCeannasaí lena chinneadh faoi alt 152.

Cláir de na Comhlacthaí Ceadúnúchán Cóipchirt

Déanann an tAcht soláthar chomh maith dom leis na Cláir seo a leanas a bhunú agus a chothabháil;

- Clár de na Comhlacthaí Ceadúnúchán Cóipchirt
- Clár de na Comhlacthaí Ceadúnúcháin um Chearta Maoin Thaibheoirí
- Clár de na Comhlacthaí Ceadúnúcháin um Chearta do Bhunachair Sonraí

Go dtí seo tá 14 comhlacht cláraithe sa Chláir na gComhlacthaí Ceadúnúchán Chóipchirt agus 1 (ceann amhain) sa Clár de na Comhlacthaí Ceadúnúcháin um Chearta Maoin Thaibheoirí. Níl aon iontrálacha sa chlár de Chomhlacthaí Ceadúnaithe do Chearta Mbunachar Sonraí.



Bunachar Sonraí na Saothar Dílleachtach

Is é is Saothair Dhílleachtacha ann ná saothair amhail leabhair, scannáin, ailt nuachtáin agus ábhar cruthaitheach eile a chosnaítear le cóipcheart sa chás nach féidir úinéir na saothar a fháil ná teagmháil a dhéanamh leis chun cead a fháil na saothair a úsáid. D'fhéadfadh go mbeadh na saothair sin mar chuid de bhaillíúcháin atá i seilbh Eagraíochtaí Tairbhíocha amhail leabharlanna, músaeim, cartlanna, institiúidí oidhreachta scannáin agus fuaime, agus eagraíochtaí craoltóireachta seirbhíse poiblí.

Leagtar amach i dTreoir an AE um Shaothair Dhílleachtacha (Treoir 2012/28/AE) rialacha comhchoiteanna maidir le húsáid a bheith á baint ag eagraíochtaí cultúrtha as saothair dhílleachtacha i leabhar, in irisleabhair nó i saothair scríofa eile, mar aon le saothair chineamatagrafaíochta nó chlosamhairc nó taifeadtaí fuaime agus amharcealaín leabaithe (seachas saothair ealaíonta aonair amhail grianghraif agus léaráidí), sa chás go bhfuil sé mar aidhm leis an eagraíocht chultúrtha saothair den sórt sin a dhigitíú chun críocha neamhchráctála gan cóipcheart a shárú. Faoin Treoir, cuireadh de chúram ar EUIPO bunú agus bainistíú a dhéanamh ar bhunachar sonraí ar líne aonair dar teideal Bunachar Sonraí na Saothar Dílleachtach, rud a mbeidh rochtain ag an bpobal air. Ní fhéadfar saothair dhílleachtacha a dhigitíú ná a scaipeadh gan cead a fháil ar dtús ó údar an tsaothair nó ó oidhrí an údair. Sula gcuirfear túis le saothair a dhigitíú, mar sin, ní mór d'eagraíochtaí cultúrtha amhail leabharlanna, institiúidí oidhreachta, músaeim, cartlanna agus eagraíochtaí seirbhíse poiblí cuardach dícheallach a dhéanamh ar dtús chun úinéireacht an tsaothair/na saothar nó cineál dílleachtach an tsaothair/na saothar a bhunú. Tar éis di cuardach dílleachtach a chríochnú, ní mór d'aon eagraíocht ar mian léi Saothar Dílleachtach a chlárú i mbunachar Sonraí na Saothar Dílleachtach iarratas a dhéanamh chuig EUIPO ar dtús chun bheith cláraithe mar "Eagraíocht Thairbhíoch". Is don Údarás Inniúil Náisiúnta atá ainmnithe i ngach Ballstát a thugtar fógra faoin iarratas ar líne sin chuig EUIPO. Cuirfidh an túdarás Inniúil Náisiúnta an t-iarratas ar aghaidh chuig EUIPO ansin. Is é an Ceannasaí Paitinní, Dearáí agus Trádmharcanna an túdarás Inniúil Náisiúnta in Éirinn. Cláraíodh trí eagraíocht Éireannacha mar Eagraíochtaí Tairbhíocha le linn na bliana 2015.

Cláraíodh trí eagraíocht Éireannacha mar Eagraíochtaí Tairbhíocha le linn na bliana 2015.

REACHTAÍOCHT

Is é Aonad Maoine Intleachtúla na Roinne Post, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta atá freagrach as beartas agus as reachtaíocht a bhaineann le maoin intleachtúil a ullmhú.

Reachtaíocht a achtaíodh in 2015

Trádmharcanna

I.R. Uimh. 533 de 2015 - RIALACHA NA dTRÁDMHARCANNA (LEASÚ), 2015

Is é an cuspóir atá le Conradh Shingeapór um an Dlí Trádmharcanna creat idirnáisiúnta atá nua-aimseartha agus dinimiciúil a chruthú le haghaidh nósanna imeachta riarrachán um chlárú trádmharcanna a chomhchuibhí. Léirítéar le Conradh Shingeapór na forbairtí éagsúla atá tagtha chun cinn ar fud an domhain ó thus na 1990í. Déantar nósanna imeachta riarrachán éagsúla a shimplí agus a chuíchóiriú leis an gConradh freisin. Cé go gcoinnítear forálacha an Chonartha roimhe um an Dlí Trádmharcanna ar bun, tá roinnt forálacha breise ann sa Chonradh. Tá na leasuithe a rinneadh ar Rialacha na dTrádmharcanna, 1996, ag teacht leis na leasuithe a rinneadh sa phríomhreachtaíocht maidir le trádmharcanna, is é sin, an tAcht um Maoin Intleachtúil (Forálacha Ilghnéitheacha) 2014, a bhfuil sé mar aidhm leis aontachas na hÉireann le Conradh Shingeapór a éascú.

Paitinní

I.R. Uimh. 579 de 2015 - RIALACHÁIN NA gCOMHPHOBAL EORPACH (GNÍOMHAIRÍ PAITINNE), 2015

Le Rialacháin na gComphobal Eorpach (Gníomhairí Paitinne), 2015, leasaítear go príomha ailt 106, 107 agus 109 d'Acht na bPaitinní, 1992. Mar sin, cuirtear deireadh leis na srianta foirme dlíthiúla agus scairshealbhóireachta a fhorchuirtear ar ghníomhairí paitinne. Éascaítear leis na Rialacháin sin clárú a dhéanamh ar chomhpháirtíochtaí agus ar chuideachtaí gníomhairí paitinne AE ar mian leo bunaíocht thánaisteach a chur ar bun in Éirinn.

I.R. Uimh. 580 de 2015 - NA RIALACHA UM CHLÁR NA nGNÍOMHAIRÍ PAITINNE

Leis na Rialacha um Chlár na nGníomhairí Paitinne, 2015, cúlghairtear na Rialacha um Chlár na nGníomhairí Paitinne, 1992. Cuirtear na Rialacha um Chlár na nGníomhairí Paitinne, 2015, in áit na Rialacha um Chlár na nGníomhairí Paitinne, 1992, freisin. Ceadaítear leis na Rialacha sin anois clárú a dhéanamh ar chomhpháirtíochtaí agus ar chuideachtaí gníomhairí paitinne. Éascaítear leis na Rialacha sin clárú a dhéanamh ar ghníomhairí paitinne AE ar mian leo bunaíocht thánaisteach a chur ar bun in Éirinn. Leagtar amach sna Rialacha na téarmaí, na coinníollacha agus na táillí is infheidhme i leith gníomhairí paitinne maidir lena n-iontráil ar an gClár.

Faisnéis Airgeadais

FÁLTAIS AGUS CAITEACHAS 2015 (Níl cuntas iniúchta fós ag an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste)

FÁLTAIS	€000
Táillí Paitinne (Nótaí 1 & 2)	5,988
Táillí Trádmhairc	1,426
Clárúchán ar Thrádmhairc Idirnáisiúnta – táillí a fuarthas ó WIPO (Nóta 3)	1,039
Táillí Dearaidh	12
Táillí eile	109
Lúide aisíochtaí i leith táillí a íocadh i ndearmad	97
Lúide táillí idirbhearta i leith íocaíochtaí ar-líne le cártáí creidmheasa	91
Fáltais ghlan fabhraithe don Státhiste	8,386

COSTAIS	€000
Tuarastail	1,873
Taisteal & Cothabháil	48
Ilinthe & Focostais	52
Seirbhísí Poist agus Teileachumarsáide	113
Meaisní Oifige agus Soláthairtí eile Oifige	334
Costais Áitreabhdh Oifige	86
Foinsí eolais, leabhair, tréimhseacháin, srl.	0
Síntíús do Chumainn Mhaoine Tionsclaíocha	464
Iomlán	2,970

Nóta 1:

Ag teacht leis an gCoinbhinsiún don Phaitinn Eorpach, ina bhfuil Éire rannpháirteach, tá ar Oifig na bPaitinní 50% de na táillí uile athnuachana a fhaightear i leith Paitinní Eorpacha a ndearnathas bailí orthu in Éirinn agus atá iontrálte ar chlár náisiúnta na bpaitinní, a chur chuig Oifig Paitinní na hEorpa.

€000
Táillí Paitinne
11,392
Lúide an cion de na táillí athnuachan paitinne a aistríodh go hOifig na bPaitinní Eorpacha
5,404
Táillí Paitinne glan fabhraithe don Státhiste
5,988

Nóta 2:

Feidhmíonn Oifig na bPaitinní mar Oifig fháltas d'íarratais ar phaitinní a dhéantar faoin Chonradh Comhair Paitinní agus sa cháilfacht sin faigheann sí táillí le tarchur chuig Oifig Paitinní na hEorpa agus chuig An Eagraíocht Domhanda um Maoín Intleachtúil araoen. Ní fhabhraíonn na táillí do Státhiste na hÉireann agus dá bhrí sin níl siad san áireamh sa bhfigiúr ar an bhfáltas glan. Seo a leanas mionsonraí ar na táillí a aistríodh chuig an EPO agus an WIPO i rith 2015:

€000
Táillí Bunaigh agus Sainithe CCP tarchurtha chuig WIPO, an Ghinéiv.
30
Táillí cuardaigh CCP tarchurtha chuig EPO, Munich.
36
Iomlán
66

Nóta 3:

De bhun daingnithe na hÉireann ar an bPrótacal maidir le Comhaontú Maidrid maidir le Clárú Idirnáisiúnta ar Mharcanna (Prótacal Maidrid) ar an 19 Iúil 2001, faigheann an Oifig táillí dlite i leith iarratas Idirnáisiúnta Trádmhairc a lorgaíonn cosaint in Éirinn, ón Eagraíocht Domhanda um Maoín Intleachtúil (WIPO).

SPRIOCANNA FEIDHMIÚCHÁIN 2015

Tá na bPaitinní Plean Gníomhaíochta um Sheirbhís do Chustaiméirí na hOifige bunaithe ar na Prionsabail um Sheirbhís do Chustaiméirí Dhéag Ardchaighdeáin leagtha amach i "Seirbhís Ardchaighdeáin do Chustaiméirí an Rialtais Thionscnamh" agus leagtar amach na gníomhartha a bheidh éifeacht do na prionsabail a thabhairt. Tá na spriocanna seirbhísí custaiméirí san áireamh sa phlean seo.

Réimhse Gníomhaíochta agus Leibhéal Bainte Amach

Paitinní				
1.	Admhálacha foirmeálta a eisiúint ar chomhadú iarrataisí foirfeacha laistigh de 5 lá oibre.	76%	7.	Iarrataisí Eorpacha agus PCT agus sonraí bainteach leo a thraschur go dtí EPO/WIPO laistigh de 5 lá oibre ó fhaightear iad.
2.	Cóipeanna deimhnithe de dhoiciméid phaitinne a eisiúint laistigh de 5 lá oibre i ndiaidh iarraidh a fháil ar a leithéid.	100%	8.	Deonú paitinní gearrthréimhseacha a cheadú laistigh de thréimhse 6 mhí tar éis d'iarratas cuí iomlán a bheith comhdaithe.
3.	Eisiúint na dteastas athnuachan paitinne laistigh de 3 lá oibre i ndiaidh fáil na híochaíochta.	100%	9.	Tar éis gach doiciméad riachtanach agus freagraí ar agóidí oifigiúla a fháil a bhaineann le hiarratais ar phaitinní, cinneadh a ghlacadh maidir le paitinn a dheonú nó a dhiúltú laistigh de dhá mhí.
4.	Iarratais ar chlárú sannaithe a phróiseáil laistigh de 7 lá oibre tar éis iarratas atá comhlánaithe go hiomlán agus i gceart a bheith tagtha isteach.	100%	10.	A chinntí go n-eisítear fógra i dtaobh fabhtaí foirmeálta laistigh de 15 lá oibre tar éis comhdaithe.
5.	Dearbhú a eisiúint go bhfuil iarratais ar leasuithe ar chlár na bpaitinní maidir le hainmneacha agus seoltaí iarratasóirí, úinéirí agus gníomhairí paitinne agus seoladh na seirbhise taifeadta laistigh de 5 lá oibre tar éis iarratas atá comhlánaithe i gceart a fháil.	100%	11.	Fógra maidir le lochtanna substainteacha a eisiúint laistigh de 2 mhí ón gcomhdúchán.
6.	Paitinní a dheonadh laistigh de 5 lá oibre ó fháil na táille deonaithe.	95%	12.	90% de na hiarratais neamhrannóige ar fad ar phaitinní a aicmiú lena bhfoilsíú laistigh de 18 mhí tar éis an dáta comhdúcháin tosaíochta.

Deimhnithe Cosanta Forlíontacha

1.	Fógra ar mháchailí foirmeálta a eisiúint laistigh de 10 lá oibre ón dáta comhadaithe.	100%	2.	Admhála a eisiúint ar iarrataisí foirfeacha DFC ceartchomhdaithe laistigh de 5 lá oibre.	100%
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Dearaí

1.	Admhálacha foirmeálta comhdaithe a eisiúint laistigh de 5 lá oibre ar iarratais ar dhearaí atá comhlánaithe i gceart.	85%	4.	Deimhnithe athnuachana dearaidh a eisiúint laistigh de 3 lá oibre oibre tar éis an íochaíocht a fháil.	100%
2.	Litir tosaigh agóidí / litir glactha a eisiúint laistigh de 12 sheachtain tar éis an t-iarratas a fháil.	100%	5.	Deimhnithe clárúcháin dearhtai a eisiúint laistigh de 5 lá oibre tar éis don rannóg scrúdaithe an t-iarratas a ghlacadh.	100%
3.	Freagra a thabhairt ar 95% de na chomhfhreagras ar iarratais aonair faoi scrúdú laistigh de 5 seachtaíne.	100%			

Réimhse Gníomhaíochta agus Leibhéal Bainte Amach

Trádmharcanna

1.	Admhálacha foirmeálta a eisiúint ar iarratais ar thrádmharcanna atá comhlánaithe i gceart laistigh de 7 lá oibre.	90%	10.	Cóip d'fhógra ar agóid, iarratas ar aisghairm mar gheall ar neamhúsáid, nó dearbhú neamhbhailíochta a eisiúint chuig gach páirtí bainteach leis an chas taobh istigh de 2 seachtain ó fhaightear iad.	100%
2.	Iarratais ar shannadh a phróiseáil laistigh de 7 lá oibre tar éis iarratas atá comhlánaithe go hiomlán a fháil.	100%	11.	Freagra a thabhairt laistigh de 3 seachtaine ar 95% den chomhfhreagras scríofa ar fad maidir le hiarratais aonair atá á scrúdú.	100%
3.	Cóipeanna deimhnithe agus sleachta as Clár na dTrádmharc a eisiúint laistigh de 5 lá tar éis an iarratais.	100%	12.	Freagra a thabhairt ar iarrataí aonair ar shíneadh ama roimh an sprioc ama reatha, i gcás go ndéantar na hiarrataí sin tráth nach déanaí ná 2 sheachtain roimh dhul in éag na sprice ama reatha.	100%
4.	Deimhnithe athnuachana ar thrádmhairc a chur amach laistigh de 3 lá oibre tar éis an íochaíocht a fháil.	100%	13.	Trádmharcanna a chlárú laistigh de 5 lá oibre tar éis an tálle clárúcháin.	98%
5.	Dearbhú a eisiúint go bhfuil taifeadadh déanta ar iarratais ar leasuithe ar Chlár na dTrádmharcanna i ndáil le hainmneacha agus seoltaí úinéirí agus gníomhairí trádmharcanna agus seoladh na seirbhíse laistigh de 5 lá oibre tar éis iarratas atá comhlánaithe i gceart a fháil.	100%	14.	Cúinsí scríofa a eisiúint faoi chinntí in éisteachtaí laistigh de 2 mhí tar éis na héisteachta.	79%
6.	Glacadh (le haghaidh fógraíocht san Iris) le hiarrataisí ar thrádmharcanna taobh istigh de 3 mhí ón dáta comhdaithe i gcásanna nár chuir an Oifig aon rud ina gcoinne.	100%	15.	Cinnithe in éisteachtaí a eisiúint laistigh de mhí amháin tar éis na héisteachta.	100%
7.	Litir tosaigh agóidí/glactha a eisiúint laistigh de 12 sheachtain tar éis iarratas nua a fháil sa Rannóg.	100%	16.	Iarratas ar íocaíocht táillí clárúcháin a eisiúint laistigh de 7 lá oibre ó dheireadh na tréimhse inar feidir achomharc a chomhdú sa chás nach bhfuarthas aon fhreasúra.	100%
8.	Freagra a thabhairt ar chomhfhreagras ar iarratais indibhidiúla (agóidí, aisghairm, neamhbhailíochta) laistigh de 5 seachtaine.	100%	17.	Sa chás go gcinntear an freasúra i bhfabhar an iarratasóra, iarratas ar íocaíocht táillí clárúcháin a eisiúint laistigh de 7 lá oibre ó tharraingt siar an fhreasúra a fhoilsíú.	100%
9.	Iarratais ar clárúcháin trádmharc idirnáisiúnta a tharchur laistigh de 5 lá oibre tar éis na n-iarratas atá comhlánaithe i gceart.	100%			

Ilchineálach

Ginearálta

Admhálacha íocaíochta a eisiúint laistigh de 2 lá oibre ar gach tálle (i bhfoirm seice, dréacht bainc nó órdú airgid) a fuarthas.	100%
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AG TEACHT IN 2016

Ríomhchodúchán Paitinní agus Deimhnithe Forlíontacha Cosanta (DFCanna)

Sa bhliain 2016, cuirfidh an Oifig túis le córas ríomhchodúcháin a fhorbairt d'iarratais ar Phaitinní agus ar Dheimhnithe Forlíontacha Cosanta (DFCanna). Beidh an córas sin ina shaoráid is féidir le custaiméirí na hOifige a úsáid chun a n-iarratas ar Phaitinní nó ar DFCanna a chomhdú ar líne agus chun an táille iarratais a íoc ar líne. Comhlíonfaidh an méid sin moladh a rinneadh i dTuarascáil an Tascfhórsa Nuálaíochta, is é sin, gur cheart don Oifig saoráidí comhdúcháin ar líne a chur ar fáil atá chomh maith leo sin atá i bhfeidhm ag Oifigí eile agus atá ag teacht leis an dea-chleachtas idirnáisiúnta.

Ríomhsheirbhísí (táillí trádmharcanna agus dearaí)

Cuirfidh an Oifig tionscadal Ríomhsheirbhísí chun feidhme sa bhliain 2016, rud lena méadófar an fheidhmiúlacht reatha íocaíochta táillí lena gcumasaítear táillí athnuachana, deonaithe agus clárúcháin a íoc ar líne. Leis an gcóras nua, éascófar cineálacha breise táillí trádmharcanna agus dearaí a íoc ar líne. Tá an tionscadal sin á chistiú ag Ciste Comhair EUIPO.

Bosca Forbartha Eolais

I gcás na bhforálacha Bosca Forbartha Eolais atá san Acht Airgeadais, ní aithneofar ach paitinní a dheonófar ón 1 Eanáir 2017 de bhun scrúdú substainteach ar inphaitinneacht, ar nuacht, ar chéim nuálach agus ar úsáid thionsclaíoch mar phaitinní a cháilíonn d'fhaoiseamh cánach. Is le leasuithe ar Acht na bPaitinní a thabharfar an scrúdú substainteach ar iarratais ar phaitinní isteach an athuair le linn na bliana 2016. Agus an scrúdú substainteach tugtha isteach an athuair, beifear in ann féachaint ar phaitinní Éireannacha fadtéarmacha mar shócmhainní incháilithe chun críocha an Bhosca Forbartha Eolais, agus dá bhrí sin, beidh siad incháilithe d'fhaoiseamh cánach.

Déan teagmháil linn

Oifig na bPaitinní

Oifigí an Rialtais

Bóthar Hebron

Cill Chainnigh

Éire

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Uaireanta oscailte

9:30-5pm Dé Luain-Dé hAoine



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