

Under the *International Convention* applications claiming priority must be filed within 12 months of the earliest filing date in a Convention country. Priority must be claimed on filing in Korea and a certified copy of the priority document must be submitted within 16 months of the earliest priority. A Korean translation of the priority document must also be submitted. As of 01.09.1990, Korea retracted its reservation to Chapter II of the PCT. As such the national phase of an international patent application will be initiated in Korea on submission of a translation of application to the Korean Patent Office within 31 months of the earliest priority date.

Examination is made upon request and within five years of the filing date or, if it is a PCT application, within five years of the international filing date. Requests for examination cannot be withdrawn. Applications are examined as to novelty, industrial application and inventive step. When a request for examination is filed along with the patent application it generally takes two to three years from the filing date for the examination to be conducted. However, the Korean Patent Office plans to reduce the time it takes to examine a patent application to less than a year.

A patent application should be laid open to public inspection after 18 months from the filing date (from the earliest priority date if priority is claimed). Where a registration has been made, the grant of the patent together with the relevant information is published in the Patent Gazette for public inspection for a period of three months from the publication date.

An early opposition period exists for application subject to early publication. The opposition procedure after the registration of the patent has been abolished from 01.10.2006. Instead, the public examination function supplements the invalidation trial of patents.

Dual application for patent and utility model covering the same invention was abolished from October 2006 and a modification application that allows a change in the type of application between patent and utility model will be introduced.

DWPI Coverage

Kind	DWPI Start Dates
A Application	8 January 1997
B Examined patent specification	24 February 1986
B1 Examined patent specification	1 October 1991
B2 Examined patent specification (first publication)	18 August 1993
U Utility model	2 January 2008
Y1 Utility model (registered)	2 January 2008

DWPI Data elements	Notes
✓ Bibliographic data	
✓ English value-add title and abstract	
✓ Original title and abstract	Title and abstract from 2008 onwards
✓ Claims	All claims from 2008 onwards
✓ Manual Codes	Chemical (CPI) and Electrical (EPI)
✓ Chemical Indexing	DCR, Chemical Fragmentation, Polymer and Markush from January 2008

Numeration

Kind Code – A, U

Publication Numbers			
Original Data	Derwent Patent Search	Dialog	STN
<i>Published to May 1998</i>			
YY-Nnnnnnn	KRYYYNnnnnnn	KR YYnnnnnn	KRYNnnnnnn
97-0000107	KR1997000107	KR 97000107	KR97000107
<i>Published May 1998 to 2003</i>			
YYYY-Nnnnnnn	KRYYYNnnnnnn	KR YYnnnnnn	KRYNnnnnnn
1999-0023460	KR1999023460	KR 99023460	KR99023460
<i>Published 2004 onwards</i>			
XX-YYYY-NNNNNNN	KRYYYNnnnnnn	KR YYYYnnnnnn	KRYYYNnnnnnn
10-2004-0012345	KR2002012354	KR 2002012354	KR2002012354
20-2009-0011191	KR200911191U	KR 2009011191	KR2009011191U

YY or YYYY	2 or 4 digit year
XX	Denotes type (10 = patent; 20 = utility model)
nnnnnn	6 digit serial number
Nnnnnn	5 or 6 digit serial number
Nnnnnnn	6 or 7 digit serial number
NNNNNN	7 digit serial number
U	Denotes Utility Model (U kind)

Kind Codes – B, B1, B2, Y1

Publication Numbers			
Original Data	Derwent Patent Search	Dialog	STN
<i>Published to October 1997</i>			
YY-NNNNNNN	KRYYYnnnnnKK KR199108439B1	KR YYnnnnn KR 9108439	KRYYnnnnn KR9108439
<i>Published October 1997 to May 1999</i>			
NNNNNNN	KRnnnnnnKK KR232283B1	KR nnnnnn KR 232283	KRnnnnnn KR232283
<i>Published May 1999 onwards</i>			
XX-NNNNNNN 10-0837877 20-451020	KRnnnnnnKK KR437861B KR451020Y1	KR nnnnnn KR 837877 KR 451020	KRNnnnnnn KR837877 KR451020U

YY or YYYY 2 or 4 digits representing the year of publication
 XX Denotes type (10 = patent, 20= utility model)
 KK Kind code
 nnnnn 5 digit serial number
 Nnnnnnn 6 or 7 digit serial number
 NNNNNNN 7 digit serial number
 U or Y1 Denotes Utility Model

Kind Codes – A, B, B1, B2, U, Y1

Application Numbers*			
Original Data	Derwent Patent Search	Dialog	STN
<i>Published to 1993</i>			
YY-Nnnnnnn	KRYYYYnnnnnA	KR YYYYNnnnn	KR YYYY-Nnnnn
92-0004828	KR19924828A	KR 19924828	KR1992-4828
<i>Published 1994 to 1997</i>			
YYYY-Nnnnnnn	KRYYYYnnnnnA	KR YYYYNnnnn	KR YYYY-Nnnnn
1996-0021041	KR199675336A	KR 199675336	KR1996-21041
<i>Published 1998 onwards</i>			
XX-YYYYnnnnnnn	KRYYYYNnnnnA	KR YYYYNnnnn	KRYYYY-Nnnnn
10-2009-0041503	KR200941503A	KR 200941503	KR2009-41503
	KRYYYYXnnnnnnnU	KR YYYYNnnnn	KRYYYY-NnnnnU
20-2008-0005656	KR2008200005656U	KR 20085656	KR2008-5656U

YY or YYYY 2 or 4 digits representing the year of publication
 XX 2 digits denoting the type of patent (10 = patent, 20= utility model)
 Nnnnn 1 to 5 digit serial number
 Nnnnnnn 6 or 7 digit serial number
 NNNNNN 6 digit serial number
 nnnnnnn 7 digit serial number
 U Denotes Utility Model (U & Y1 kinds)

**Full coverage of application numbers commenced from DWPI update 199216*