

South Africa (ZA) Coverage

Patent Office Details

Companies and Intellectual Property Registration Office (CIPRO)
The dti campus (Block F - Entfufukweni)
77 Meintjies Street
Sunnyside
Pretoria
South Africa

Web: <http://www.cipc.co.za/za/>

Official gazette: *Official Journal of Patents*

Kinds of Protection

Patents of Invention	Granted for a term of 20 years from submission date
Patents of Addition	Granted for the unexpired term of the principal patent
Industrial designs and models	May be registered

Convention & Treaty Membership

Patent Cooperation Treaty	16.03.1999
Signatory of:	Paris Convention (Stockholm wording) Budapest Treaty World Intellectual Property Organization International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

Filing for Patents

Any invention which involves an inventive step and which has application in trade or industry or agriculture may be patented. Applications may be made, in English and Afrikaans, by the inventor, anyone acquiring the rights from the inventor, or the inventor's legal successor.

Under the International Convention applications claiming priority must be filed within one year of the earliest filing date in a Convention country and must be accompanied by a complete specification. A certified copy of the basic application together with a verified translation may be filed within three months of the date of application in South Africa.

There is no examination as to the patentability of the application. The only examination ensures that all formal requirements have been complied with.

When the application is accepted, the applicant will be notified by the patent office. Within three months of notification the applicant must advertise the acceptance in the patent journal. Applicants may delay acceptance by up to 18 months. On the date of publication the patent is deemed to have been sealed.

There is no provision for opposition. The patent is granted and sealed upon publication of the acceptance of the complete specification in the gazette (should be within 18 months of the acceptance date).

DWPI Coverage

Kind		DWPI Start Dates
A	Unexamined accepted specification	1963*
AA	Second application with same number	2 January 1979
AZ	Second application with same number	26 June 1974

*Note that pre-1974 DWPI coverage is limited by subject area as follows:

Coverage starts	Subject coverage
1963	Pharmaceuticals
1965	Agrochemicals
1966	Polymers
1970	All chemistry covered
1974	All technologies covered

DWPI Data elements	Notes
✓ Bibliographic data	
✓ English value-add title and abstract	Abstracts from 1987 onwards
✓ Manual Codes	Chemical (CPI) and Electrical (EPI)
✓ Chemical Indexing	DCR, Chemical Fragmentation, Polymer and Markush

Numeration

Kind Codes – A, AA, AZ

Publication Numbers			
Original Data	Derwent Patent Search	Dialog	STN
<i>Published up to 2000</i>			
ZA YY/Nnnn	ZAYYYNNNNN	ZA YYNNNNN	ZAYNNNNN
ZA 77/6272	ZA197706272	ZA 7706272	ZA7706272
<i>Published from 2000 onwards</i>			
ZA YYYY/nnnnnn	ZAYYYNNNNN	ZA YYYYNNNNN	ZAYYYnnnnnn
ZA 2011/000264	ZA201100264	ZA 201100264	ZA2011000264

YY or YYYY 2 or 4 digit year
 Nnnn 1-4 digit serial number
 NNNNN 5 digit serial number
 nnnnnn 6 digit serial number

Application Numbers*			
Original Data	Derwent Patent Search	Dialog	STN
ZA YYYY/nnnnnn	ZAYYYNnnA	ZA YYYYNnn	ZAYYY-Nnn
ZA 2007/10275	ZA200710275A	ZA 200710275	ZA2007-10275

YYYY 4 digit year
 Nnn Up to 5 digit serial number
 nnnnnn 7 digit serial number

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