



ANNUAL REPORT 2017



MINISTERIO
DE ENERGÍA, TURISMO
Y AGENDA DIGITAL



Oficina Española
de Patentes y Marcas

INTRODUCTION BY Y THE UNDERSECRETARY OF ENERGY, TOURISM AND DIGITAL AGENDA AND PRESIDENT OF THE SPTO

As holder of the office of President and Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, OA (SPTO), it is my great pleasure to present the organization's 2017 Annual Report.

From a purely organizational perspective, the year 2017 ushered in the incorporation of the SPTO into the Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda in line with the provisions of article 2.1.c) of *Royal Decree 903/2017 of 13 October, through which the basic organizational structure of the Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda is designated*. While important, this fact has probably not been one of the most significant in terms of the day-to-day activity of the Office, especially when compared with the impact of the entry into force of Patent Law 24/2015.

Indeed, as is well known, on 1 April 2017, Patent Law 24/2015 came into force, repealing Law 11/1986, more than three decades after its original passing. Law 24/2015 signals Spain's firm decision to opt for a patent grant system that is characterized by substantive examination, doing away with the merely optional prior examination that was the case under the previous norm. While this change may be initially difficult to adjust to in a system in which requests for substantive examination have been typically made in just under 10% of applications, it does not make sense to continue with such a patent grant process in light of the technological, cultural, and international context in which Spain finds itself today.

In addition, during this year past year, the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan regarding Industrial Property (IP) was published, which aims to foster a genuine IP-based and aware culture, which should act especially in the interest of private businesses and entrepreneurs. The plan, consisting of twenty-seven specific measures, aims to promote differentiation, specialization, and overall improved performance in Spanish industry.



*Mr. Pablo García-
Manzano Jiménez de
Andrade.*

The goal is therefore to improve the competitive position of Spanish companies in global markets through the strategic use of means and measures to both protect and leverage Industrial Property.

It is not easy to summarize all of the activities that the SPTO carried out during 2017, which speaks to the length of this document. I am certain that the information herein will be of great interest to users of the Spanish Industrial Property system, and to all those who might have a professional or personal interest in this exciting field of innovative technological know-how. I wish to thank all applicants for their many distinctive signs, designs, and inventions, and for the trust they place in the SPTO for processing their Industrial Property rights, while also encouraging them to continue relying on our services. The more than 60,000 applications for distinctive signs (trademarks and tradenames) submitted during 2017, together with the over 4,700 inventions (patents and utility models), and close to 1,900 requests for designs, illustrate the key role our Office plays. It bears mentioning that such results were made possible thanks to the hard work of more than five hundred people who lend their professional services to the SPTO, whose dedication and effort I also wish to applaud.

In closing, it is my hope that the information presented in these pages will be useful to all readers, grounded in the confidence that comes from providing a public service that works to improve the quality of our daily lives across all domains, and increase the level of satisfaction of the public who seek our services.

FORWARD BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE SPANISH PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

As mentioned by the Undersecretary of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda, President and Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Spanish Patents and Trademarks Office OA, 2017 was a year that witnessed (among other changes) the entry into force of Patent Law 24/2015, introducing a revamped application approval process that fully incorporates substantive examination. With this newly revised process, we are now squarely on a comparable footing with other European nations that have been employing this approach for years.

However, the changes that 2017 ushered in are many, affecting a number of areas. With respect to the domain of new inventions, this year also witnessed the promulgation of Royal Decree 316/2017 of 31 March, which approves the Implementation Regulations for Patent Law 24/2015 of 24 July. Order ETU/296/2017 of 31 March also bears mention, establishing maximum terms for resolution of the procedures regulated under Patent Law 24/2015 of 24 July, a norm which provides legal protection for the patent and utility model granting system. In 2017, processing of the draft Ministerial Order establishing requirements for translating patent documents or patent applications under the procedures regulated in articles 154.2 and 169.2 of Patent Law 24/2015 of 24 July was initiated. The hearing and public information process was conducted on the SPTO website, generating a significant number of public comments and valuable input.

On 18 April 2017, the preliminary draft Law for the partial modification of Trademark Law 17/2001 of 7 December was made public. This preliminary draft stems from the approval of Directive (EU) 2015/2436, of the European Parliament and the Council of 16 December 2015, on the convergence of Member States legislation regarding trademarks. With the advent of this norm, four main modifications were introduced, which I encourage you to read in the Annual Report that you have before you. The bulk of these modifications are scheduled to come



Ms. Patricia García-Escudero Márquez.

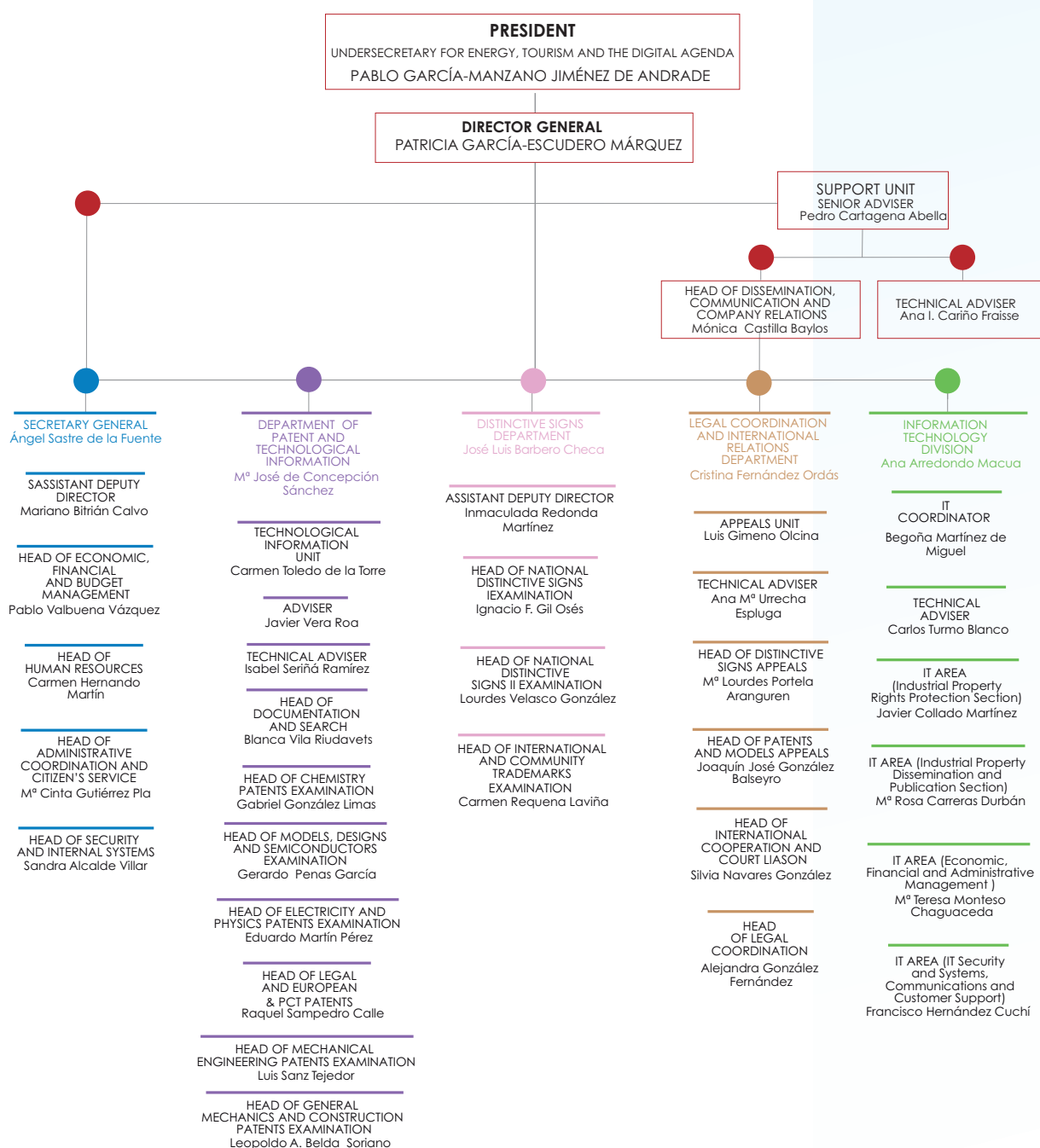
into effect on 14 January 2019, although several will not do so until 14 January 2023.

I would like to highlight the high level of use that was made of the online application systems for the various forms of Industrial Property during 2017; particularly notable in the area of designs, for which nearly 85% of the applications were submitted electronically. Similar percentages were also the case for distinctive signs (82.7% in the case of trademarks, and 89.7% for trade names), while somewhat lower values were the case for inventions (66.4% for utility models, and 65.8% in the case of patents). It is my sincere hope and expectation that the improvements we are implementing at the STPO will allow us to increase these ratios in coming years.

At the international level, the Office of the SPTO has renewed and reaffirmed its status as an International Search and International Preliminary Examination Authority for the next ten years under the aegis of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). In addition, it was decided to add English as a working and correspondence language when the SPTO acts as International Search Administration or as an International Preliminary Examination Administration, a change that is effective as of 1 January 2018. Thus, from that date forward, SMEs, Spanish entrepreneurs, and interested parties from Spanish-speaking countries who so wish may employ the English language, in addition to Spanish, whenever the SPTO acts as a PCT Administrator.

I would like to conclude my comments by adding my voice to the gratitude expressed by the Chairman and President of the SPTO Steering Committee to all the users of the Spanish Industrial Property system, as well as to all my colleagues in the Office for their tireless daily efforts, which are what allow us to improve day by day.

ORGANISATION CHART





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HIGHLIGHTS

1.1. INCORPORATION INTO THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY, TOURISM AND DIGITAL AGENDA

The Official State Gazette of 14 October published *Royal Decree 903/2017 of 13 October*, which establishes the basic organizational structure of the Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda. Article 2.1.(c) of this Royal Decree assigns the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office, OA (SPTO) to the Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda through its Undersecretariat. In addition, the head of the Undersecretariat chairs the SPTO Steering Committee

1.2. ENTRY INTO FORCE OF PATENT LAW 24/2015

On 1 April 2017, Patent Law 24/2015 entered into force, whereby the process of granting patents in Spain includes examination in addition to the search report. This change presupposes derogation of the procedure established in Patent Law 11/1986, which allowed for the optional publication of the STOA report, as well as an optional delay in examining the application. With the entry into force of Patent Law 24/2015, Spain adopts a national patent granting procedure similar to the one that exists in most countries of its political and cultural environment.

The year 2017 has also witnessed the entry into force of the Implementing Regulations for the law in question. Royal Decree 316/2017 of 31 March, which approves the Implementation Regulations for Patent Law 24/2015, aims to establish the various specific elements, procedures, and deadlines to which the Patent Law refers. The Regulation pursues the same purposes as the Patent Law, including:

- a) Offering a fast and efficient procedure to protect innovations through well-defined title ownership, reducing, as far as possible, administrative red tape.
- b) Bringing Spanish patent law into conformity with normative changes in international patent law since 1986, avoiding conflicting standards, and providing greater clarity.
- c) Strengthening legal protection and preventing competitive distortion.
- d) Providing discounts to SMEs and certain types of entrepreneur, as well as for applications or submissions made by online or telematic means.
- e) Replacing the mechanism of prior opposition by post-grant filings in opposition, which speeds up processing.
- f) Offering, within the priority period, information on the state of the art so that applicants may determine their business strategy at the international level.
- g) Adapting the conditions governing the protection of inventions, such as utility models, establishing greater efforts for their protection and defence.
- h) Updating the regulations governing inventions made in the framework of an employment contract or service relationship.
- i) Developing the rules on professional representation before the SPTO.
- j) Providing for the possibility of preferential processing of applications for technologies related to the sustainability objectives contemplated in Law 2/2011 of 4 March, and the establishment of accelerated patent grant programmes under stipulated conditions.

Another relevant standard related to Inventions is *Order ETU/296/2017 of 31 March*, which establishes the maximum terms of resolution in the procedures regulated under Patent Law 24/2015 of 24 July. The significance of this order can easily be understood in view of the second additional provision of Patent Law 24/2015 of 24 July, which reiterates the provisions of article 59.3 of Law 2/2011 of 4 March regarding Sustainable Business Practices, emphasizing the importance and obligatory nature of setting maximum terms in the processing of IP ownership titles related to inventions.

During 2017, the draft Ministerial Order was issued establishing the requirements to translate patent documents or patent applications under the procedures stipulated in articles 154.2 and 169.2 of Patent Law 24/2015 of 24 July. This project entails an effort to guarantee

the fidelity and accuracy of the translations and thereby ensure that the scope of the protection granted by the patent, or by the patent application after translation, corresponds to that conferred in the original language. The public hearing process and public information regarding this project were conducted on the SPTO website, and it bears mention that a great many comments were received.

1.3. 2017-2020 INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY STRATEGIC PLAN

In 2017, the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan for Industrial Property (IP) was approved at the initiative of the SPTO. This plan aims to make IP a critical tool and key element of consideration in daily business and entrepreneurial decision-making, and in so doing create a genuine culture around awareness and proper use of Industrial Property and know-how.

The plan aims to foster the effective management of Industrial Property, which will allow companies to use their intangible assets to make their businesses more competitive and thus increase their market position. The SPTO is committed to making Industrial Property a key factor in the decisions that are taken daily by businesses, and to that end, familiarity with the issues around IP must commence at the outset of student instruction.

This plan comprises twenty-seven measures that seek to promote differentiation, specialization, and improved performance of Spanish industry and business through the strategic use of IP protection mechanisms, with a view toward improving the competitive position of Spanish companies in global markets. The plan is part of the Europe 2020 Strategy for a sustainable economy, which aims at fostering a renewed model of growth based on an intelligent, sustainable, and inclusive economy.

1.4. PROPOSED DRAFT OF LAW FOR PARTIAL MODIFICATION OF TRADEMARK LAW 17/2001 OF 7 DECEMBER

Approval of EU Directive 2015/2436 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2015, concerning the convergence of Member State legislation governing trademarks made adoption of these changes in the Spanish legal system mandatory. After a due process of public hearings for interested parties carried out at the end of 2016, on 18 April 2017, the Draft Bill for Partial Modification of Trademark Law 17/2001 of 7 December was published, once the reports from the various ministries and institutions concerned had been submitted, together with the preliminary report from the Technical General Secretariat of the Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda. The four main modifications introduced by the preliminary draft are:

- substitution of the formal requirement in the concept of trademarks relative to “graphic representations” by the single term, “representation”;
- elimination of the distinction between “Well-Known Brand” and “Renowned Brand” and its replacement by a single category for reinforced protection: “Renowned Brand”;
- introduction of the option of requiring the opposing holder to prove the use of the trademark or brand on which it bases its opposition, and;
- the faculty is granted to the SPTO to decree the nullity or expiration of the trademark directly, and to the Courts in the case of counterclaims.

It is expected that these amendments will come into force prior to approval of the Draft on 14 January 2019, except for the faculty of the SPTO to decree the nullity or expiration of trademarks, which has been postponed until 14 January 2023.

The draft Regulation for partial modification of Regulation 687/2002 of 12 July, which approves the Implementation Regulations for Trademark Law 17/2001 of 7 December, was made subject to prior public consultation on the SPTO website during the month of June 2017.

1.5. RENEWAL OF THE STATUS OF THE SPTO AS AN INTERNATIONAL PCT ADMINISTRATION, AND OPTIONAL USE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

In 2017, the SPTO renewed its status as an International Search and International Preliminary Examination Authority for the next ten years, under the aegis of the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

It was also decided to add the English language as a working and correspondence language when the SPTO acts as Search Administration or International Preliminary Examination Administration, effective as of 1 January 2018. This decision is based on the second line of the 2017-2020 Industrial Property Strategic Plan, related to internationalization, which includes a series of objectives aimed at enabling Spanish companies and entrepreneurs to establish themselves strategically in global markets.

Therefore, from that date forward, SMEs, Spanish entrepreneurs, and those from Spanish-speaking countries who so wish may use the English language, in addition to Spanish, whenever the SPTO acts as a PCT Administration

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DISSEMINATION OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

2.1. VISIBILITY

Website: www.oepm.es

The SPTO website is the main communication channel for the Office with the general public and constitutes the primary means of access to its products and services, especially through its Online Portal.

Throughout 2017, 243 news items and 162 events related to Industrial Property were published. During this period, the website received a total of nearly **42.5 million visits** and handled 21,341,419 database searches, with the brand locator database being the one that received the highest number of searches, 6,883,878, followed by record checks (RCs), at 5,480,615. The number of accesses to the **Historical Archive and Museum** microsite came to 578,481.

www.oepm.es
42.5 million visits

In order to make access to its services easier and faster, a series of improvements have been introduced on the SPTO website. Among others, the following deserve mention:

- **Improvements in the agenda** , making it more iconic and intuitive, facilitating the search for published events and access to them.

Agenda

Diciembre 2017						
lun	mar	mie	jue	vie	sab	dom
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Eventos de Diciembre :

1/12/2017 **11:00**
 1/12/2017 - Convocatoria de Prensa de la Confederación de Consumidores y Usuarios (CECU) contra las falsificaciones-Madrid

7/12/2017 **8:15**
 7-8/12/2017 - Cumbre Pan-Europea sobre Propiedad Intelectual e Industrial (Pan-European IP Summit) - Bruselas

7/12/2017 **9:00**
 7-9/12/2017 - Seminario "CEIPI Advanced training program on Intellectual Property, Intermediary Liability and Online Platforms' Regulation - Estrasburgo (Francia)

12/12/2017 **9:30**
 12/12/2017 - II Jornada Cultura Científica Empresarial - Madrid

- Redesign of the **periodical publication** section, replacing the entries in text format by others with much more attractive and easy-to-identify visual elements.

Periodicals



InfoPI Electronic
Newsletter



Marchamos: In-house
magazine (in Spanish)



CIBEPYME e-Bulletin: IP in
Ibero-America (in Spanish)



Ibero-American IP Experts
Network Magazine (in
Spanish)



The SPTO in Figures (in
Spanish)



SPTO Annual Report



SPTO Infographics

Publication of the **Mission, Vision and Values** of the SPTO on the Website

In order to better guide its actions and make its Strategy known to the general public and its own employees, the SPTO has added explicit statements regarding its mission, vision, and values on its website, and carried out an internal dissemination campaign.

The **mission** states the *raison d'être* of our Entity, which is none other than promoting innovation, economic development, and the social progress through the granting of Industrial Property titles and the dissemination of Information Technology. The **vision** expresses what the SPTO aspires to become; namely, an avant-garde organization, an international standard in best practices, in short, an institution oriented toward the permanent search for excellence through continuous technological and process improvement in the service of all interested parties. Finally, the **values** that the SPTO wishes to exhibit and see permeate its daily life are: professionalism and transparency, as well as an orientation to service, cooperation, and quality.

SPTO Archive Online Shop

During 2017, the **shop** was promoted as a means to publicize the Historical Archive, make improvements in its catalogue, and include English language versions.

Twitter and Facebook

The presence of the SPTO on social networks continues to grow continuously, fostering SPTO-user interaction. Proof of this lies the increase in likes and tweets on the SPTO Twitter profile, **@OEPM.es**, which increased by 27% and 33%, respectively.

↑30%
growth in Twitter interactions

In 2017, 1,828 tweets were published (almost 4% more than in 2016), and 5,457 followers were reached, which is 26% more than in the previous year. This year, new tags have been added to those traditionally used on Twitter (**#OEPMenCifras**, **#OEPMdifundePI** or **#PatentesCuriosas**), such as **#InformaciónOEPM**, to promote information and services of interest in a uniform fashion. Tweets have

continued to go out using the #CiclismoOEPM or #TenisOEPM tags coinciding with sporting events, with the goal of fostering IP awareness among the general public.

Over 5,000
followers on Twitter

The SPTO continued supporting the campaigns of other Institutions or Organizations to raise awareness about the importance of IP, and against counterfeiting, through use of the @OEPM.es account.



As a sign of the close relationship between the SPTO and countries in Latin America, this year social networks joined the "Differently Equal" campaign carried out by the Ibero-American General Secretariat (Spanish acronym, "SEGIB") with the goal of publicizing the work of the 22 member countries, their history, and the cooperation projects they carry out.



Some of the tweets with the greatest impact in 2017 included:





With respect to Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/oepm.es>, a total of 178 posts were published, and the year ended with 2,692 followers, representing an increase of 18.6% in the number of published posts, and 22% in the number of followers compared to 2016. In 2017, the average number of hits on the posts grew 34%, while page visits grew over 28%.

Publications with Greater Reach





YouTube

In 2017, the SPTO's [CanalOEPM](#) YouTube channel saw a significant increase in views, serving to enhance the impact of the organization's videos that were created on the occasion of events holding special significance for the Office (Marathon 2017; presentation of the New Patent Law); as well as for the tutorial on submission of designs through the Online Portal; the videos for the awareness campaigns carried out in collaboration with the Association for the Defence of Trademarks (Spanish acronym, "ANDEMA") ("Being Unique Isn't Easy" and "Betting on Protection; Making a Difference"); and those made with the SME Support Centre on the topic of IP (Spanish acronym, "CEVIPYME"), with real testimonies from companies that use IP as part of their business strategy. In total, 43 videos were uploaded, which is 8 times more than in 2016.

Patent and Trademark Blog

Another medium used to interact with users and disseminate information regarding IP is the institutional blog, [PATENTESYMARCAS](#), which is hosted by the *madri+d* online news bulletin.

During 2017, we continued the practice of publishing of a **weekly news item**, always on relevant topics, or covering current news on Industrial Property, while seeking to use an informative and attractive approach. Altogether, 46 items were published, while the 1,215,611 pages of the blog were consulted in 325,005 site visits.

Maintaining the frequency of publications and overall quality in the blog has been a challenge, albeit rewarding, as its posts were selected as the "blog post of the day" by *madri+d* on numerous occasions.

LAS PATENTES CON LAS QUE JUGÁBAMOS... ENTONCES

Publicado por [patentesymarcas](#) el 14 junio, 2017 Comentarios (1)

Twitfear

Hace unas décadas las niñas – o casi todas las niñas – jugábamos con muñecas. Y jugábamos mucho, mucho tiempo, horas al día, días al año y años de nuestra infancia! Ahora, las niñas juegan menos, juegan poco tiempo, y de ese tiempo, menos aún con muñecas. Y lo mismo los niños, ya no juegan tanto como antes con juguetes, si acaso con el balón, ¡eso sí!

Ahora *l@s niñ@s* ven pasar los juguetes de soslayo por su cada vez más corta infancia, mientras entran en su vida todo tipo de "gadgets" electrónicos con los que pasan horas y horas "jugando".

Las mismas horas que pasábamos *los niños* de *entonces* jugando con muñecas, balones, juegos de mesa, puzzles, aviones o coches..., desarrollando la imaginación, la habilidad para "arreglarlos" cuando se estropeaban, vistiendo y desvistiendo a las muñecas, ordenando una y otra vez su ropita, armando y desarmando camiones, coches, construcciones..., imaginando historias, compartiendo/peleando juguetes con hermanos y amigos..., vamos lo que era ser niño y jugar!



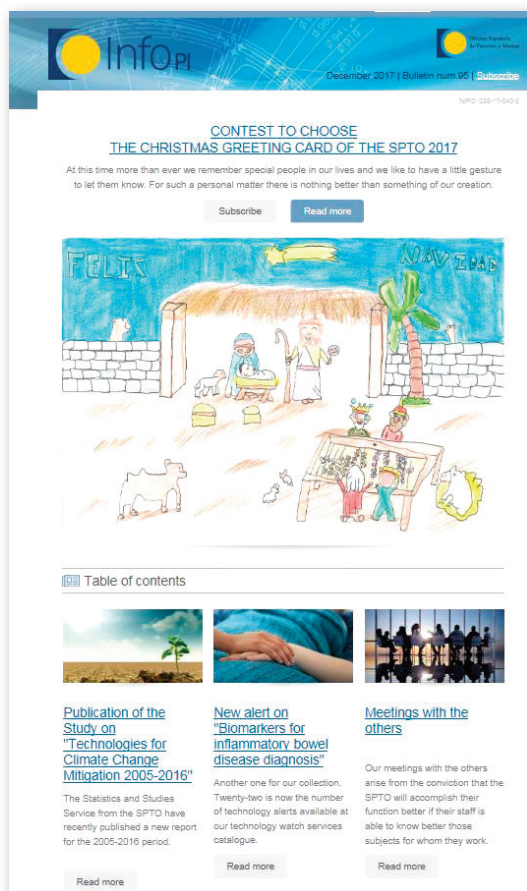
1,215,611 visits to the blog
during 2017

InfoPI Online Magazine

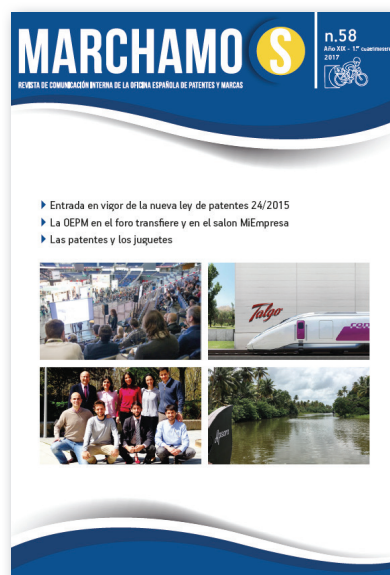
As part of its visibility policy, the SPTO publishes a monthly online magazine in Spanish and English, [InfoPI](#), covering the most significant news and events related to the Office that transpired during the month.

During 2017, 11 issues of the magazine were published, which has 2,304 subscribers, 1,908 for the Spanish edition, and 396 for the English version.

This year, we have endeavoured to improve the design of each issue, making it more attractive and adapting it for all types of access devices. A more journalistic style has also been introduced in the reporting. Furthermore, web access was also improved, so that bringing up any prior news item or issue is now much easier.



As in previous years, three issues of the Internal Communication journal **"Marchamos"** were published in 2017, which covers internal matters and other current topics, such as the entry into force of new Patent Law 24/2015, or the European Inventor Award Ceremony.



Relationships with the News Media

During 2017, the SPTO had spoken or written contacts with the media on 36 occasions, in most cases responding to written queries for reports, with the press being the medium that made the most requests (81 % of the total).

2.2. DISSEMINATION OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

207 dissemination initiatives in 2017

One of the key missions of the SPTO is to foster greater social awareness of the importance and nature of Industrial Property through public outreach. To that end, it took part in a variety workshops, conferences, and seminars throughout 2017. Some of the key events are highlighted below:

Public Launch of the New Law and its Regulations

On 8 June, a public launch event announcing new Patent Law 24/2015 and its Regulations, which entered into force on 1 April 2017, was held at SPTO headquarters. It was a well-attended success, filling the room to capacity while streaming live over the Internet. It concluded with the presentation of a new book covering the full content of the Law and its Regulations, which can currently be ordered for purchase using the SPTO email address, diffusion@oepm.es. It can also be browsed directly on the SPTO website, on the [Industrial Property-Publications-Monographs/Books](#) page.

A video recording of the event can be viewed on the SPTO [YouTube channel](#).

World Intellectual Property Day: *Innovation Makes Life Better*

On the occasion of World Intellectual Property Day, the SPTO intensified its dissemination activities in the week of 26 April, and in collaboration with the Association for the Defence of Trademarks (Spanish acronym, "ANDEMA") launched an awareness campaign entitled "[Being Unique Isn't Easy](#)." Some of these events were held in Madrid, Murcia, Santander and Valencia.



Seminars with International Industrial Property Organizations

Annual Conference on EU Trademarks and Community Designs:

Organized by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and the SPTO, the event was held at SPTO headquarters on 28 February, during which the EUIPO Resource Room, its Mediation Services, and the recent changes in the regulation of EU trade marks, among other topics of interest, were presented.

PCT Seminar: Once again, the European Patent Office (EPO), together with the SPTO and the Official Association of Industrial Property Agents (Spanish acronym, "COAPI"), offered a training session on the topic of the Patent Cooperation Treaty on 25 October at SPT Headquarters.

WIPO Roving Seminar "Intangible Assets as a Competitive Factor in Business Internationalization," held at the ICEX Auditorium in Madrid on 7 November, organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in cooperation with the SPTO and ICEX Spain Export and Investment (Spanish acronym, "ICEX").

2.3. TRADE FAIRS

Traditionally, the SPTO has endeavoured to be present at events such as trade fairs, which allow it to extend its reach and promote the dissemination of knowledge about Industrial Property.

The SPTO attends trade fairs both in the field of Industrial Property, in which its presence is required, as well as others dedicated to specific product-markets, by means of which it endeavours to reach companies and entrepreneurs from key sectors in the Spanish economy.

During 2017, the SPTO attended a total of **18 trade events**. In 12 instances, in addition to hosting a stand offering information on the various forms of Industrial Property and the services the organization offers, a public presentation was given. The shows that were attended by the SPTO can be grouped into the following industries: food; energy, science and technology; technology surveillance and competitive intelligence fairs; shows specially geared toward businesses and entrepreneurs; fairs involving inventors, and events directed toward patent information professionals.

This year, for the first time, the SPTO also attended the **Madrid Book Fair**, which held its 76th edition. The objective of attendance was to make SPTO publications and documents stored in its Historical Archive known to the general public, until now known only to industry professionals.



The total number of requests for information handled over the course of the 18 fairs attended by the SPTO in 2017 amounted to **1,755**, with the fair generating the greatest number of requests, a total of 347, was the MiEmpresa Exhibit, followed by BIZBarcelona, with 242.

**Present at 18 Trade Fairs,
1,755 inquiries handled in 2017**

Awards Given at the International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva (46th edition)

From 29 March 29 to 2 April, the SPTO participated in the **46th International Exhibition of Inventions in Geneva**, organized by the Swiss

Federal Government, the City of Geneva, and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Considered the most important event worldwide on inventions, and a can't-miss meeting in the world of innovation, this edition brought together 725 exhibitors from over 40 countries, as well as some 30,680 visitors.

The Special Prize of the SPTO was awarded to **Lumiartecnia Internacional** for its mural graphic display of sliding water using digital control. Lumiartecnia Internacional also received the award given by the Swiss Design Association.

The SPTO, member of the Organizing Committee, attended the 6th edition of Transfiere 2017.

The sixth edition of Transfiere, the European Forum for Science, Technology, and Innovation, was held on 15 and 16 February at the Malaga Trade Fair and Congress Centre.

On this occasion and highlighting the importance of the knowledge transfer for our economy, **His Majesty King Felipe VI**, Honorary President of the Organizing Committee of Transfiere, presided over the opening ceremony, together with the President of the Junta de Andalucía, the Secretary of State for Research, Development and Innovation, and the Minister of Education, Culture and Sports. Within the framework of the forum, the awarding of the **II Transfiere Forum Journalism Prize** was held, in recognition of excellence in the dissemination of knowledge about science, technology and innovation in the general media.

Annual Meeting of the International Trademark Association (INTA)

From 20 to 24 May, the 139th annual meeting of the International Trademark Association (INTA) was held in Barcelona, an annual event that changes its venue each year. In 2017, it was held at the "Fira Gran Vía Barcelona," and more than 100 exhibitors from a variety of countries took part, with around 10,600 people attending. INTA is comprised of over 7,000 organizations from 190 countries.

The SPTO participated with an exhibition stand, and led a round table on "Fraudulent Correspondence," which also involved the Swedish Patent and Registration Office, the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), and the UK Intellectual Property Office. The SPTO also participated in an open session for all conference participants,

in which the presentations offered dealt with online registration and service quality, given by the Industrial Property Offices of Colombia (Superintendence of Industry and Commerce) and Australia (IP Australia), respectively. For its part, the SPTO was tasked with presenting its education initiatives in the field of Industrial Property.

Other Fairs and Exhibitions

Other fairs in which the SPTO participated in 2017, and in which it gave presentations for the dissemination of IP awareness, included:

- MiEmpresa Exhibition, Madrid, 21 and 22 February.
- EBEC, European BEST Engineering Competition, Madrid, 22 and 23 February.
- NUTRACEUTICALS, International Summit and Expo for Functional and Novel Ingredients, Madrid, 22 and 23 February.
- GENERA Energy and Environment International Trade Fair, 28 February to 3 March.
- IMEX MADRID, International Business and Foreign Trade Fair, Madrid, 9 and 10 March.
- BEST FORUM, Madrid, 10 May.
- SCIENCE FAIR, Seville, 11 to 13 May.
- INNOVA International Innovation Exhibition, Barcelona, 4 to 6 May.
- BIZ BARCELONA Internationalization, Financing and Company Creation Fair, 31 May and 1 June.
- OUTSOURCING, Bilbao, 6 to 8 June.
- HI DRONE, Malaga, 7 and 8 June.
- ELCHE INVENTION FAIR, 22 to 24 September.
- EMPAK, Madrid, 7 and 8 November.
- EGETICA, Energy Fair, Valencia, 28 to 30 November.

In addition, in 2017 the SPTO took part in the following **exhibitions**:

- Caja Rioja Foundation. **LA Rioja: Open for Business. Kinematics** (31 March and 29 October 2017)
- The Vizcaya Ferry Bridge: **The Bizkaia Bridge. From Industrial Symbol to World Heritage Site** (since July 2015).

2.4. INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY AND EDUCATION

The SPTO continued its activities related to Industrial Property training efforts, such as the **12th Edition of the SPTO-MPIU Summer Course** at the Menéndez Pelayo International University (MPIU) of Santander, and this year the session took the title of **“Patents, Trademarks, Designs: Future Challenges,”** or the two-year Master's Degree in **European Patent Law**, sponsored by the SPTO, the Centre for International Intellectual Property Studies (French acronym, “CEIPI”) of the Robert Schumann University in Strasbourg, the European Patent Institute (EPI), and the EOI - Business School at SPTO headquarters.

Once again in 2017, the SPTO took part in the **4°ESO+Empresa Project**, hosting five high school students over the course of three days so they might gain first-hand knowledge about the workings and activities of the agency.

With regards to dissemination of Industrial Property at the university level in Spain during 2017, of note are the **two field trips** students from the Master's Degree in Law at the University College of Financial Studies (Spanish acronym, “CUNEF”) made to the SPTO in the months of January and December, as well as a visit by students from the **Magister Lvcentinvs Master in Industrial and Intellectual Property** programme. We also were paid a visit by students from **Sergio Arboleda University**, from the **University of Nebrija**, and students from the **Salesianos Loyola Aranjuez** vocational training and secondary schools, and from the **Luis Vives de Leganés Institute of Higher Learning**.

*Visiting students
from Luis Vives.*



The SPTO took part in the **European Progress Conference 2017: Dissemination of IP Knowledge in Universities in Europe** (Zurich, 24-25 January) organized by the European Patent Office, the ETH Zürich STEM University, and the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property, as well as in two conferences held by EUIPO on the importance of Industrial Property in education, which took place at its headquarters in Alicante on 5 April and 7 and 8 November.

Among the activities carried out by Spanish Universities regarding education in the field of Industrial Property, the completion of B.SC. Thesis carried out by students of the Polytechnic University of Madrid (PUM) bears special mention. The SPTO has uploaded these B.SC. Thesis to its website in the [Industrial Property Classroom](#) section.

Initiatives in collaboration with the Patent Centre of the University of Barcelona

As part of the framework for collaboration between the SPTO and the University of Barcelona Patent Centre, in 2017 the following training events were held:

- Four seminars and workshops on patents, under the banner of **“Patent Mondays;”** of which two were hosted by the SPTO, with an average attendance of 80 people. Professors in Commercial Law, European Patent agents, a magistrate from the Provincial Court of Madrid, and other industry experts gave talks on current issues in the field, which were then widely debated by the audience.
- **Modules on Patents and Utility Models:** Four modules of varying duration (1, 2 or 4 days), covering a variety of topics and target audiences: Fundamentals of the Patent System; Documentation; Technology Transfer; and Drafting of Patents.

Activities of the Fernández-Nóvoa Chair

The mission of the Chair of Innovation and Industrial Property “Carlos Fernández-Nóvoa” is to promote a seamless training and information system to facilitate the mutual transfer of knowledge between the private enterprise and institutions of higher learning. This led to the elaboration of sixteen Technology Surveillance Bulletins: four in the footwear industry, four in agrifood, four in metal mechanics, and four in plastic moulding (January-December 2017).

For the seventh consecutive year, a new edition of the course in **Administrative Management of Industrial Property (Paralegals)** was

organized, sponsored by the SPTO and the School for Industrial Organization (Spanish acronym, “EOI”). The course, comprised of five modules that can be delivered independently, was taught between the months of May and October.

Among the Chair’s activities was a presentation of the informative brochure **How To Protect Craftsmanship: Patents, Trademarks and Industrial Designs**, sponsored by the Chair of FUNDESARTE, the EOI Foundation (School for Industrial Organization), and the SPTO, whose official presentation took place on June 30 at SPTO Headquarters.

This year, and for the first time, under the auspices of the Fernández-Nóvoa Chair, the **2017 WIPO Summer Course** was held, aimed at university students in their final years of studies and at young professionals, and organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Academy, the SPTO, and the EOI. The course was held at EOI headquarters in Madrid between July 3 and 14, with participating students from Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Spain, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, and Portugal. The objective was to allow students to acquire knowledge about the various domains of Industrial and Intellectual Property (IP); foster a greater understanding of IP as an instrument of economic, social, cultural, and technological development; as well as to become familiarized with the role that the WIPO plays in the global management of IP. The course was structured into several modules which dealt with various aspects of IP (copyright, patents, trademarks, designs, and other Industrial Property rights), the importance of IP as a commercial asset, and the need for enforcement of IP rights. The modules were taught by national and international experts in the field of IP, including officials from the SPTO and the WIPO, as well as private consultants.



Participants in the WIPO-SPTO-EOI summer course of 2017.



**Cátedra de
Innovación y
Propiedad Industrial**
Carlos Fernández-Nóvoa



Oficina Española
de Patentes y Marcas



Escuela de
organización
industrial

2.5. NEW PUBLICATIONS

A milestone in the history of Industrial Property in our country was reached in 2017; namely, the entry into force on 1 April of the **Patent Law of 24 July, 2015 and its implementing regulations**. To that end, the SPTO issued a publication that includes both legal texts, located on its website on the Industrial Property-Publications-Monographs-Books page.

The SPTO considers it both fundamental and essential to publicize the advantages of registering intangible assets as Industrial Property (patents, industrial designs, and trademarks) for artisans and businesses active in artisanal industries who seek to differentiate themselves and stand out in the marketplace. To that end, it proceeded to develop a

new informative brochure **How To Protect Craftsmanship: Patents, Trademarks, and Industrial Designs** in collaboration with the Chair of FUNDESARTE, part of the EOI Foundation. The information brochure can be accessed on the SPTO website.



Throughout the year, several **Informative Brochures and Statistical Studies** on the website were revised and updated, such as the latest paper on Mitigation Technologies for Climate Change 2005-2016, which includes data from the prior 2016 study, as well as the paper titled Technologies in the Automotive Industry 2005-2016, which updates, restructures and expands on the content of the previous study, and illustrates the evolutionary trends in inventions taking place in the automotive industry that were published as Patents or as Utility Models in Spain.



Training flashcards for children: *patents* and *trademarks*

[illegible]

LAS MARCAS

¿QUÉ ES UNA MARCA?

Una Marca es el nombre y/o símbolo que se le da a un producto o a un servicio. Para proteger nuestra marca de los competidores, se debe registrar.

DURACIÓN

La marca dura indefinidamente siempre y cuando se renueve cada 10 años.

PAÍSES DONDE PROTEGE

Puedes proteger tu marca en todos los países donde quieras utilizarla en exclusiva.

CLASIFICACIÓN DE NIZA

Una marca puede identificarse más de un producto, siempre que esté registrada en las diferentes clases de la Clasificación de Niza.

Existen 45 clases, por ejemplo:

- Clase 12: Vehículos
- Clase 29: Productos de vaca

BÚSQUESA EN BASES DE DATOS

Antes de registrar tu marca, es importante que no exista otra que sea similar. Puedes buscar gratuitamente en el buscador de la OMPI, dentro del portal de OEPM.

1. MARCA DENOMINATIVA

Cuando es solo texto.

ZARA

2. MARCA GRÁFICA

Cuando es un gráfico.

3. MARCA MIXTA

Cuando tiene un texto y un gráfico.

4. MARCA TRIDIMENSIONAL

Cuando forma parte de un producto en exclusiva. Se puede registrar en forma de un dibujo o un modelo tridimensional.

La primera marca tridimensional registrada pertenece a Coca-Cola.

EVITA LAS FALSIFICACIONES

Las falsificaciones son aquellas que no son de la marca o que se hacen en perjuicio de la economía y el bienestar. Dentro de las Falsificaciones se encuentran grupos de infracción organizada, explotación laboral, pérdida de empleos y Participación de otros delitos como el tráfico de drogas o de personas.

OFICINA ESPAÑOLA DE PATENTES Y MARCAS

OEPM

Oficina Española de Patentes y Marcas

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In addition to these publications, scans of documents from the SPTO Historical Archive appear in the following publications:

- **“Superwomen, Super Inventors”**, whose author is Sandra Uve, and who is also an editor for Lunweg Editores, which belongs to Editorial Planeta, SA.
- **“Tidbits and Stories About the Mountain Resin Harvesters”**, authored by Lázaro Hernández Muñoz, and published by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and Environment.
- **“Ingeniaelx: 125 Years of Economic History in Elche through Industrial Property”**, a book that tracks the history of the inventions, designs and trademarks that have transformed Elche over the last 125 years of intense economic activity, and which includes results from the INGENIAELX research project carried out by the Pedro Ibarra Chair, the Pusol Museum, and a team of professionals.



03

SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

3.1. GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES

The 2016 subsidy filing record for promotion of national and foreign patents and utility model applications was affected by the order to close the 2016 fiscal year (Order HAP/1169/2016 of 14 July), meaning that it could not be processed and the SPTO had to forego the call. Due to this, the call for the 2017 has kept the same time period covered by the 2016 call.

For fiscal year 2018, a large increase in the number of applications and corresponding processing is foreseen, since the period to be covered in this next call will include part of the period not covered in the 2017 call. For this reason, the budget requested for FY 2018 is greater than previous ones.

A. Subsidies for promotion of patent applications and utility models abroad

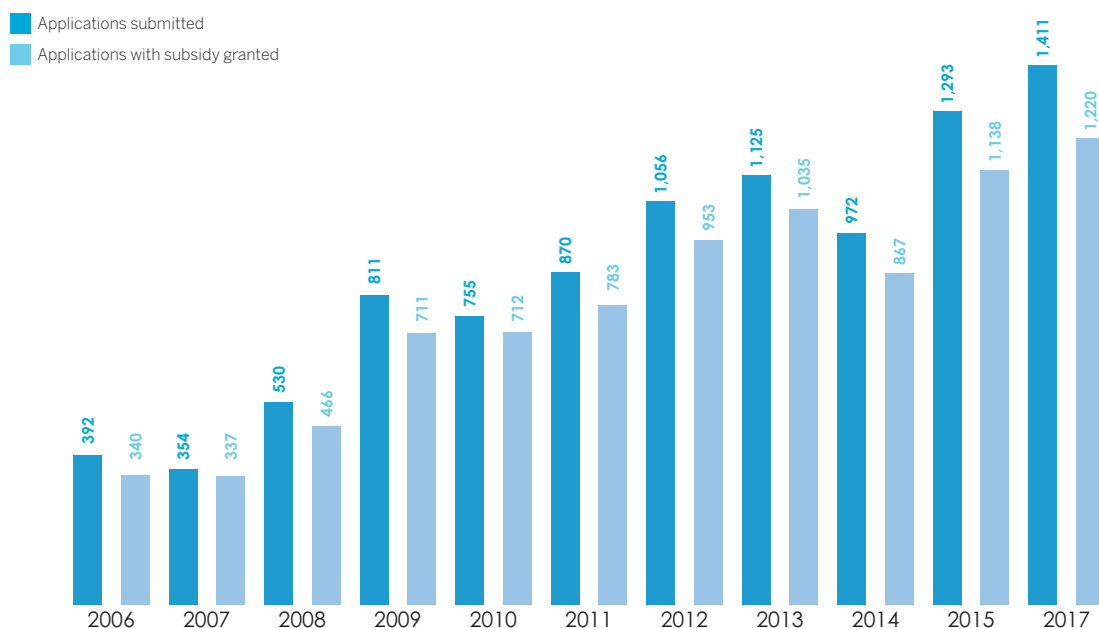
The SPTO promotes non-domestic market protection for Spanish innovation in order to promote the adoption and use of the country's technology and to encourage its transfer.

In 2017, 4,410,103.56 euros were allocated to the funds earmarked for promoting the foreign protection of Spanish innovations and promote use of Spanish technology, as well as assist in its transfer. This is 11.02% more than was the case for the 2015 call.

In the 2017 call, 1,220 applications were granted, corresponding to some 3,037 inventions. Up to 74.2% of the fees and translations for SMEs and individuals were subsidized, and up to 66% in the case of the remaining applicants (private non-profit institutions not dependent on the public sector, and large businesses).

The evolution of the number of applicants and applications granted per call is reflected in the following graph:

Evolution of applications for subsidies for the promotion of patents and utility models abroad, 2006-2017

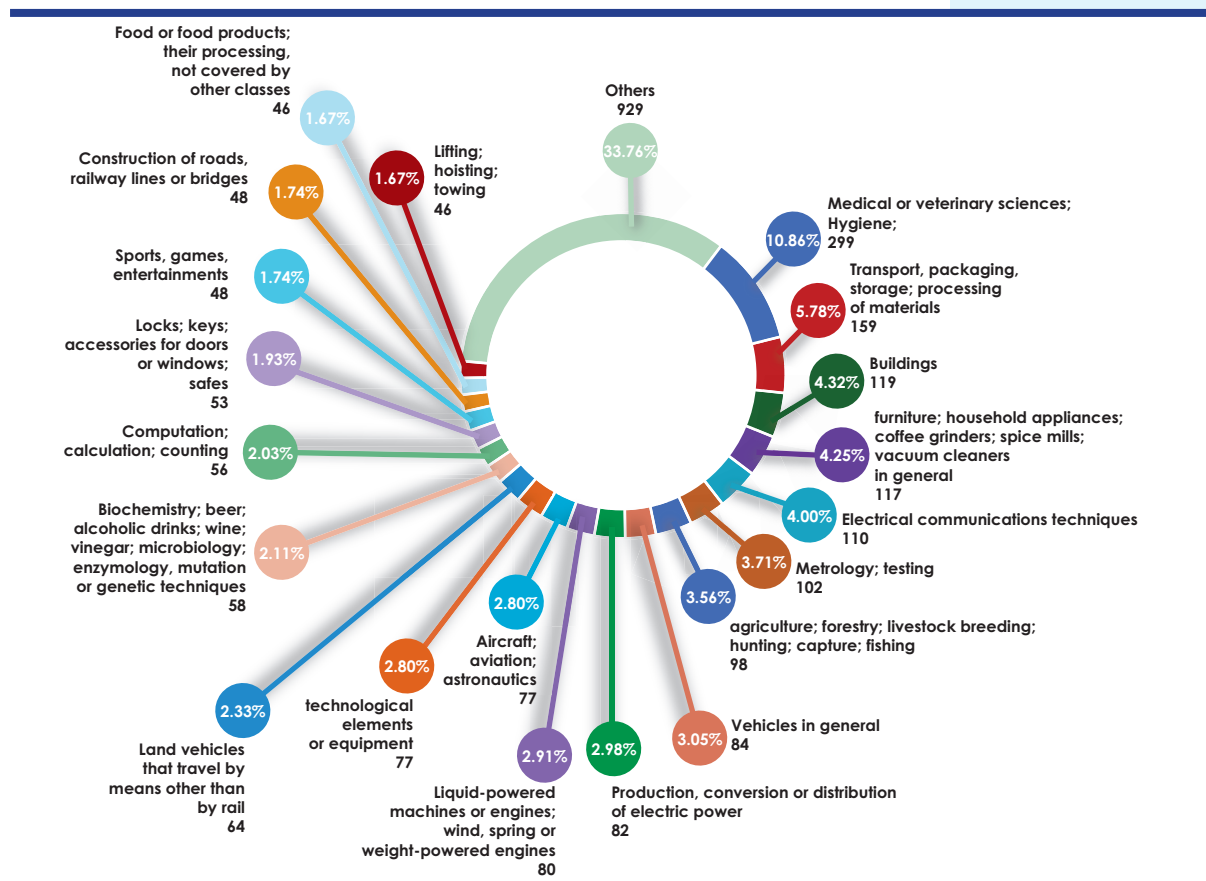


It should be noted that 33.6% of applicants employed the European Patent System to broaden the scope of their patents, followed by 29.42% who used the International Patent System governed by the PCT to protect their inventions in countries around the globe in a variety of ways. Some 3.74% of the applicants applied for US protections, and 15.57% pertained to the rest of the world.

The six Autonomous Communities that received the highest percentage of subsidies are: Catalonia (31.39%), Comunidad de Madrid (16.52%), País Vasco (14.33%), Comunidad Valenciana (10.17%), Andalusia (6.31%) and Navarra (5.47%). The distribution of grants and subsidies by type of beneficiary was as follows: SMEs 46.50%, large businesses 36.43%, individuals 15.26%, and non-profit private institutions 1.81%.

Regarding the breakdown by industry, the following stand out: Medical or Veterinary Sciences (10.86%), Transport and Packaging (5.78%), Construction (4.32%), Furniture (4.25%), and Power Grid Technologies (4.00%).

Distribution, by industry, of subsidies for the promotion of patents and utility models abroad in 2017



B. Subsidies for the promotion of domestic applications for patents and utility models

These grants are aimed at encouraging SMEs and individuals to protect their inventions by means of a patent or utility model, subsidizing up to 90% of the application and/or search reports.

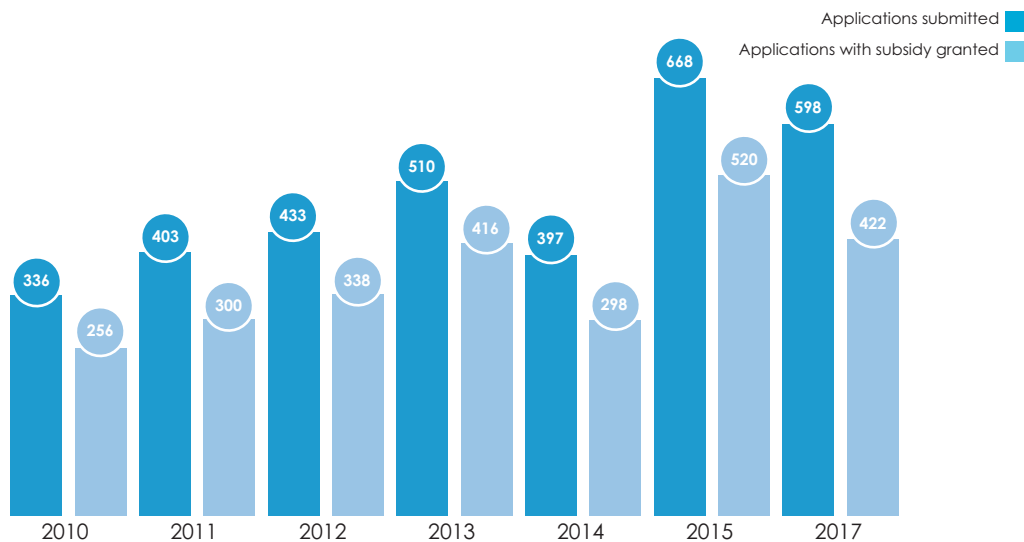
In the 2017 call, 422 grants were awarded, corresponding to 579 inventions. Up to 85% of the fees and translations for SMEs and individuals were subsidized, with a total allocation of €178,399.71, which is 6.6% more than the 2015 call.

The breakdown of grants by type of beneficiary was as follows:

- SMEs: 64.65%
- Individuals: 35.32%.

The evolution of the number of applicants and applications granted per call is reflected in the following graph:

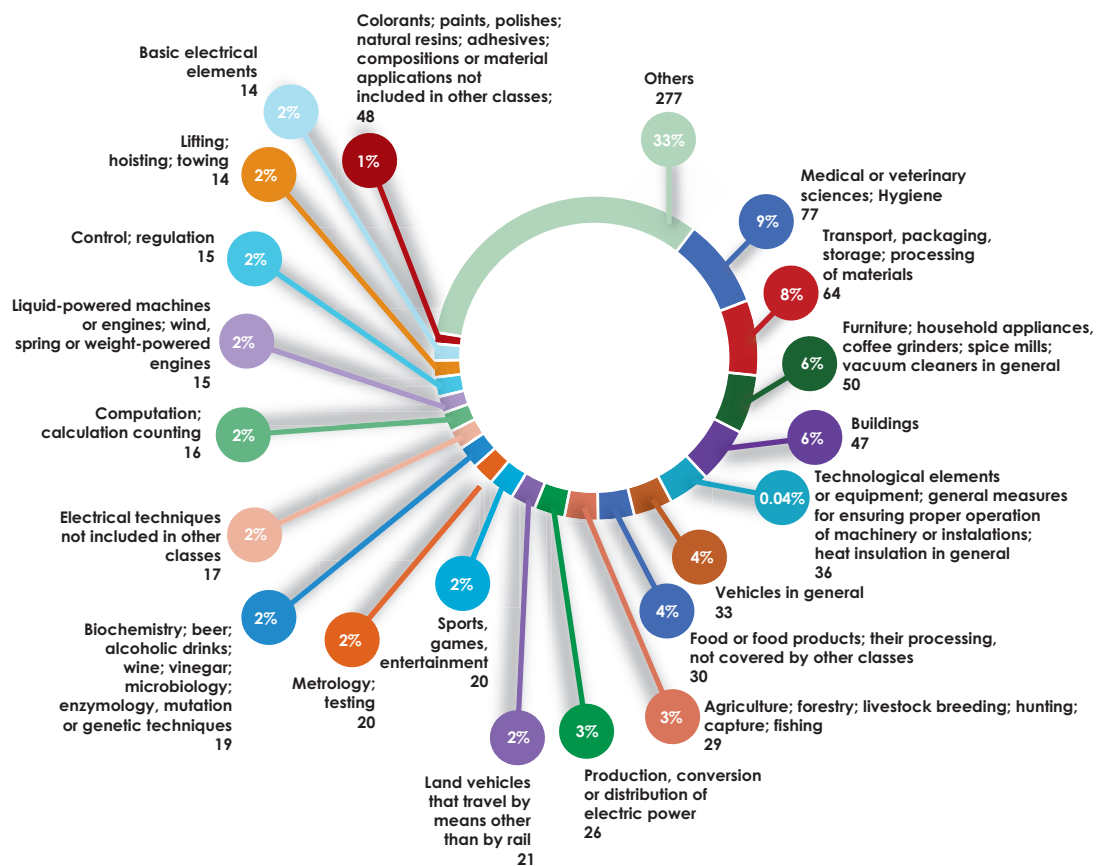
Evolution of applications for subsidies for the promotion of Spanish patents and utility models, 2006-2017



The six Autonomous Communities that received the highest percentage of subsidies are: Catalonia (25.44%), Comunidad Valenciana (15.65%), Comunidad de Madrid (14.45%), País Vasco (11.03%), Andalucía (8.45%), and Galicia (7.23%).

Regarding the distribution by industry, the following stand out: Medical or Veterinary Sciences (9%), Transport, Packaging and Storage (8%), Furniture, Household Goods (6%), Construction (6%) and Vehicles (4%).

Breakdown by industry of subsidies for the promotion of Spanish patents and utility models abroad in 2017



3.2. SMEs

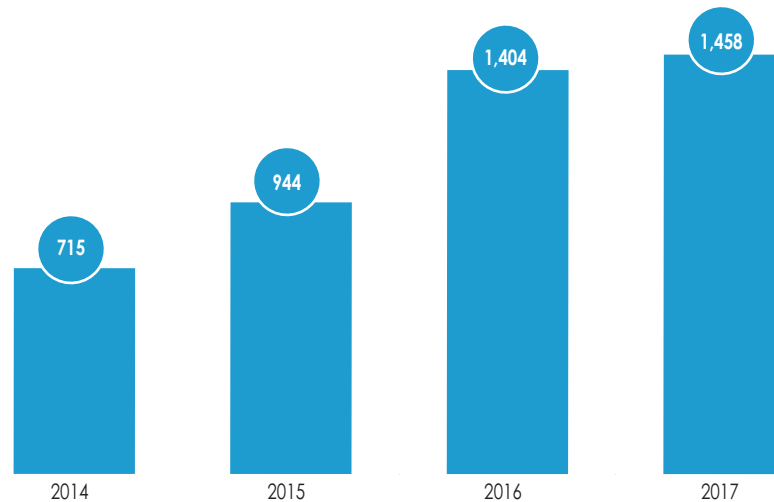
Business Support Service

During 2017, the SPTO continued to provide impetus to its Business Support Service, created in 2014 as part of the institutional policy of support for entrepreneurship. The objective of this free service is to raise the awareness of SMEs and entrepreneurs regarding the importance of protection for their intangible assets through patents, trademarks, and designs, as well as provide them general assistance and help with submitting and registering the different types of IP Rights, namely, the online application for national trademarks, trade names and industrial designs.

In 2017, the Service handled a total of 1,458 queries, distributed as follows: 483 telephone calls, 160 visits, and 815 emails. Of these,

categorized by type, 63% concerned trademarks, 9% patents and utility models, and 3% industrial designs. The remaining 25% involved technological information and Industrial Property in general.

Evolution of queries handled by the Business Support Service, 2014-2017



In order to help applicants for trademarks and industrial designs in the submission of their requests, the SPTO launched a **free assistance service** for anyone seeking to make an online application and benefit from the corresponding discount in filing fees request, enabling them to do so at SPTO headquarters with the help of its staff.

The Business Support Service assisted a total of 96 applicants in making online applications for their trademarks, while the number of trademark applications receiving assistance was lower than in other years, due to the improvements made by the SPTO in the online application process for Distinctive Signs applications named "Protegeo."

SME Point: Website area dedicated to SMEs and entrepreneurs

During the course of 2017, 15,758 visits to the **SME point** on the SPTO website were registered. The most visited sections were: "What a SME Should Know About Industrial Property," "Grants and Subsidies," "How to Monetize the Industrial Property You Own," and "Stay Informed."

CEVIPYME

The SME Support Centre for the management of Industrial Property, Intellectual Property, and Innovation (Spanish acronym, "CEVIPYME") was created in 2009 as a joint initiative of the General Directorate of Industry and Small and Medium Enterprises (Spanish acronym, "DGIPYME"), and the SPTO. Since 2016, the Spanish Chamber of Commerce has also collaborated in the project. The activities carried out in 2017 also received financial support from the European Social Fund.

CEVIPYME, through its website www.cevipyme.es, freely provides SMEs, their associations, and business groups and corporations representing the business community, personalized information and assistance on the best options for the protection of Industrial, Intellectual and Innovation Property, as well as on the most effective way to manage and monetize said property once the corresponding rights have been obtained and duly registered. In 2017, the number of visits to the portal came to 8,667, and the number of pages visited was 19,879. Some 166 requests were handled (121 telephone calls and 45 emails).



During the second semester of 2017, and within the framework of CEVIPYME activities, **nine seminars** were held at the Chambers of Commerce of A Coruña, Santiago, Granada, Mallorca, Ciudad Real, Navarra, Fuerteventura, Tenerife and Torrelavega, on the topic of "Major Considerations Regarding Industrial Property for Companies and Entrepreneurs."

Regarding visibility on social networks, in 2017 CEVIPYME received 292 "Likes" on Facebook, representing an increase of 11% over the previous year, and the number of followers on Twitter reached 1,291, which is

236 more than in the previous period. A minimum of 82 and a maximum of 113 publications per month were issued.

The CIBEPYME Platform

CIBEPYME, an Ibero-American Industrial Property Platform for business created in 2013, is part of the Ibero-American Cooperation initiatives within the Ibero-American Programme for Industrial Property and Promotion of Development (IBEPI). **CIBEPYME** aims to support Ibero-American SMEs by promoting the strategic use of Industrial Property as a tool for development and integration. Currently, thirteen countries participate in the programme: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Spain, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, the Dominican Republic, and Uruguay.

On the Platform, visitors can find the “**IP Kit for SMEs**” where entrepreneurs can easily and quickly locate all the necessary information on IP, as well as offer an overview of IP in Ibero-America in the areas of Trademarks, Industrial Designs, and Patents with which SMEs can roughly gauge the degree of knowledge about and implementation of Industrial Property that exists in their organizations.



The CIBEPYME website received around 660,000 visits in 2017, which represents a considerable increase over 2016, when the Platform received 22,721.

VIP4SME Project

At the beginning of 2016, the SPTO began its participation in the European VIP4SME project (2016-2020), a continuation of the previous IPorta project, which is part of the European Commission's global project called INNOVACCESS. The project has a dual mission: on the one hand, to make European SMEs aware of the value of their intellectual capital and, on the other, to improve SME support services in terms of protection of these intangible assets through Industrial Property (IP), so that they can be converted into commercial and competitive value. To that end, the project involves the participation of local partners who are in contact with small and medium-sized companies. In the case of Spain, the partner is ANCES, the National Association of European Business and Innovation Centres (Spanish acronym, "ANCES"), which is part of the European network of European Business and Innovation Centres (BICs).

In 2017, **four training events** in the field of IP took place under the framework of the VIP4SME project, two of them informative sessions (Infoday) for companies and entrepreneurs (in the Cádiz and in Aragón BICs) and two training workshops at the BIC Araba and the Murcia CEEI.

3.3. TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Five new Technology Alerts

The **Technology Alerts** provide daily updated information on the patents that are being published around the world in relation to a specific technical topic. The thematic areas of each Alert are established in collaboration with the **Technology Platforms** so that they respond to the specific information needs of companies and Public Research Organizations of the various technology industries.

During 2017, five new Alerts were added:

- **TECHNOLOGY FOR THE MONITORING AND CONTROL OF DIABETES**
- **BIOMARKERS FOR DIAGNOSIS OF DEMENTIA**
- **BIOMARKERS FOR DIAGNOSIS OF INTESTINAL INFLAMMATORY DISEASE**
- **MARINE ENERGIES**
- **BATTERY STORAGE**

Thus, the 22 **Technological Alerts** that the SPTO offers through its web page, together with 15 **Technological Surveillance Bulletins**, round out the offer of free technological surveillance services carried out by SPTO patent examiners since 2002.

Work has continued on the **Integrity of the Collection of Spanish Patents** project, started in 2014, whose objective is for businesses and all types of users to have online access to the entire documentary collection of Spanish patents and utility models through the INVENES database. Among the major initiatives that were carried out during 2017, among others, the bibliography of 39,000 utility models and drawings between 1903 and 1996 was completed.

In collaboration with the **Quality at Source** (QATS) project of the European Patent Office (EPO), an exhaustive check of the references of Spanish patents and utility models since 1973, and of the corresponding PDF documents contained in EPO's DocDB/BNS database is being undertaken, which has led to the correction of some 65,000 records with erroneous Spanish patent data in the EPO databases. The simplification and paperwork reduction required for filing summary claims was also undertaken, with a view toward completing the bibliographic references of some 120,000 patents, and another 135,000 utility models, published between 1930 and 1980.

With respect to the **English version of INVENES**, active since 2016 to allow searching in that language among the bibliographic references of Spanish patents and utility models since 1986, during 2017 the progressive uploading of titles and abstracts continued apace: in English: some 1,200,000 titles and 1,150,000 abstracts.



INVENES

SEARCH IN:

☒ Interpat ☐ Latipat

Enter search terms [🔗](#)

Search

Advanced search Expert search

Visual Preferences Coverage Document Numbering and Kind Codes

35,926 patent brochures were issued. Of these, 2,070 were for patent applications (forms A1 and A2), 2,012 for patent grants (forms B1 and B2), 232 for SOTAs (forms R1 and R2), 29,402 for translations of European patents (forms T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6 and T7), 2,014 for applications for utility models, as well as issuing 191 revised brochures. These documents have been uploaded into the SPTO databases and have been made available to outside users through the SPTO online databases (INVENES, Latipat), the OPENDATA portal, or the WIPO databases, (Patentscope) and OEP (Espacenet).

Also, in 2017, the SPTO hosted the semi-annual meeting of the **IMPACT Working Group** of the **Patent Documentation Group (PDG)** on April 20 and 21. The Patent Documentation Group (PDG) is a non-profit organization comprised of Technology-Based Companies with high investment in research and which intensively use information related to Industrial Property for their business. The IMPACT working group within the PDG tracks the effects of the provision of patent information worldwide, considering the quality of the data, its availability, the timeliness of its publication, and the ease of access to it. It was founded in 1980 in response to difficulties with aspects of the documentation for the then-new patent systems, such as the European Patent Convention and the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the introduction of new information technology systems, and the need to establish stable communication channels with National/Regional Offices.



Partial shot of a moment during the meeting of the IMPACT Working Group of the PDG at the SPTO (April 2017).

This group usually meets twice a year, inviting both the users of patent information that make up the group itself (BOSCH, UNILEVER, HENKEL, GSK, L'OREAL, SHELL, BOSCH, BASF, SIEMENS, PHILIPS, etc.), as well as producers and distributors of databases (STN, THOMSON REUTERS, QUESTEL, AWAPATENT) and Patent Offices (EPO, WIPO, INPI, DPMA, PRV, SPTO, JPO, etc.), in order to update data, exchange lessons learned, and discuss needs in the field of patent information. The role of the SPTO as the host Patent Office served to reaffirm its leadership in regard to Patent Information in Spain, and in Latin America through LATIPAT.

04

OBSERVANCE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The actions that the SPTO performs in collaboration with the various agents involved in the fight against counterfeiting can be summarized into three areas: sensitize, deter, and combat.

4.1. RAISING AWARENESS

Poster Design Contest for the Fight Against Counterfeiting

In order to encourage the creative capacity of designers and entrepreneurs, the SPTO and ANDEMA launched the **VI Annual Poster Contest**, designed to reward the best poster design with a slogan for the 2018 World Anti-Counterfeiting Day campaign. For the **fifth edition in 2017**, 52 poster designs were submitted.

Showing the winning posters and finalists from previous editions of the contest, as well as others whose exhibition has been authorized by their authors, a roadshow (travelling exhibit) has been set up and made available for raising awareness about the scope and threat posed by counterfeiting, and to promote respect for Industrial Property rights. If any organization would like to host the exhibition, interested parties may contact areadifusion@oepm.es. In addition, expandable thumbnails of each image have been uploaded to create a **Virtual Online Exhibit** on the SPTO website.



First Prize
"Machinery".



Second Prize
"Don't Take Chances".



Third Prize
"Smoke".

World Anti-Counterfeiting Day

On 30 June, the World Anti-Counterfeiting Day was celebrated at SPTO Headquarters, an event sponsored in collaboration with ANDEMA. The event, which serves to bring attention to **the proliferation of fraudulent sales and purchases of counterfeit goods on the Internet**, brought together Spanish and European authorities under the auspices of the European Observatory on the Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights.

The event was directed by the SPTO Director General and the President of ANDEMA, who highlighted the dire consequences for the health and safety of consumers in the purchase and sale of counterfeit products. These products also negatively impact the economy and social welfare, as **67,000 direct jobs are destroyed per year**, leading to local business failures.

During the event, the value of Industrial Property rights and the negative impact of counterfeiting on the fabric of commerce and consumer health and safety was highlighted; and the need for global action to coordinate joint efforts and optimize outcomes was also stressed. The various participants presented the work methodologies they employ to detect these criminal practices and offered recommendations for when any interested party detects web pages on the internet suspected of selling illegal products.

Campaign: “Cover Your Assets–Make A Difference”

During 2017 World Anti-Counterfeiting Day, a new awareness campaign was presented under the slogan **Cover Your Assets–Make A Difference** in the form of a video that tells, in a straightforward and visual manner, the story of Marta and Juan. Marta and Juan are two entrepreneurs who see their business booming and who turn to the Industrial Property registry to safeguard the value of their intangible assets, adopting a basic protection tool to combat the efforts of counterfeiters who seek a free ride on the back of the creative efforts and business acumen of others. Additionally, it includes an **infographic** where readers can easily picture the facts.



The role of trademarks, patents, and industrial designs in society

Campaign: “Being Unique Isn’t Easy”

Coinciding with World Intellectual and Industrial Property Day, the SPTO, in collaboration with ANDEMA, launched an awareness campaign entitled “**Being Unique Isn’t Easy**”. The campaign consists of educational videos which, in a straightforward manner, seek to convey to the public the need to focus on innovation for economic and social development. In these videos, the critical importance of registering trademarks, patents, and industrial designs – the intangible assets that are a strategic tool for differentiating and competing in an increasingly global market – is brought home.



Poster Contest: “Innovations Marked for Success” ESIC/SPTO

The ESIC-Madrid School of Business and Marketing at Rey Juan Carlos University, in collaboration with the SPTO, issued a call among its students for entries in the Success. “The purpose of this competition was to raise awareness of the importance and value that entrepreneurs and SMEs can derive from protecting their brand. In this contest, undergraduate students from the degree programmes in Advertising and Public Relations, Business Administration, and Marketing, as well as postgraduates in the Master of Advertising and Communication and the Official Master of Management of Communication and New Technologies were asked to participate. The SPTO collaborated in the organization of the contest, as well as in the final selection of the winning posters.



First Prize.



Second Prize.



Third Prize.



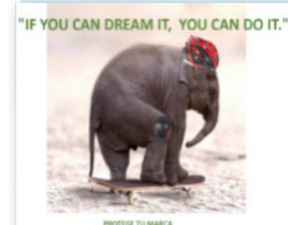
Finalist.



Finalist.



Finalist.



Finalist.

Campaign: “The Real Deal - Be Genuine”

The SPTO took part in the “The Real Deal - Be Genuine” campaign together with the Consumer Advocacy Association (Spanish acronym, “ASGECO”) and ANDEMA. For this new edition, the motto chosen was “Fake Products Hide Real Danger,” which included the initiative of a roadshow (itinerant bus tour) that visited a variety of areas of Spain to raise awareness about counterfeit products among consumers and users. The campaign toured Alicante, Cádiz, Córdoba, Cáceres, Madrid, Málaga, Pamplona and Salou.



Campaign: “True or False”

The “True or False” campaign is an initiative of the Confederation of Consumers and Users (Spanish acronym, “CECU”), which seeks to

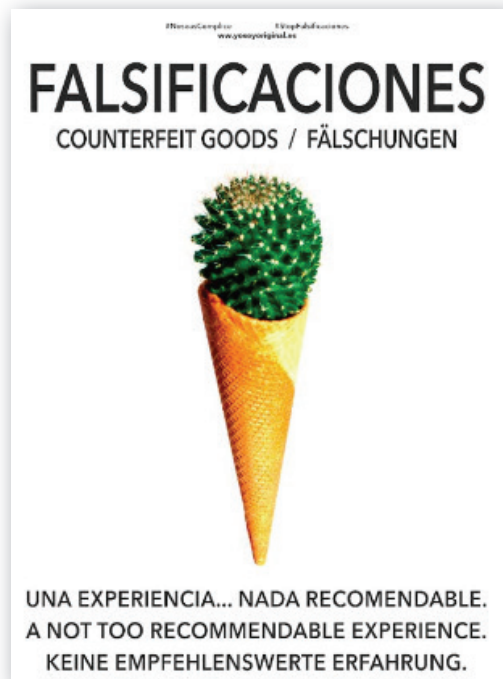
provide consumers with essential information to identify and avoid counterfeit products and, especially, counterfeit cosmetics and perfumes, owing to the serious risk to consumer health and safety arising from their use.

The SPTO supported this campaign by disseminating the informative materials on its social networks, as well as by attending the informative event that took place at the Las Ventas market in Madrid. The chosen venue was an excellent place to inform the public about the falsification of products: their economic, environmental, health and employment consequences; the initiatives undertaken by a variety of industries; and the suggested measures to stop the sale and purchase of counterfeit goods.



Awareness campaign on the damage caused by counterfeiting in collaboration with the City Council of Torrevieja (Alicante)

A campaign aimed at raising awareness among all citizens, and therefore all potential consumers, of the dangers of buying counterfeit products and their illegal sale was launched in the summer of 2017 under the auspices of the Office of Commerce and Hospitality of the City Council of Torrevieja (Alicante). For this occasion, the winning graphic image from the 2016 poster design contest to fight counterfeiting was used as the theme.



To promote this campaign, **billboards** were created for placement on street-level advertising supports in different locations around the city, as well as distributing **posters** to commercial establishments throughout the city, given the widespread interest among business associations in supporting the campaign, acting as both interested and potentially injured parties in these illicit activities. In addition, **10,000 coasters** were distributed among front-line beachfront restaurants to directly message the public, done using the three most commonly used languages during the area's tourist season. These actions were tied into a rollout of **greater police presence** in pedestrian shopping areas in the afternoon/evening in order to stymie the proliferation of this type of criminal act, targeting both sellers and buyers. The motto for the campaign was: **I'M THE REAL DEAL... STOP PIRACY**, and on the other side of the coasters, the message was: **DO YOUR SHOPPING IN OUR STORES, TORREVIEJA SHOPPING.**

Campaign: "When You Start by Buying Fakes, Things Always End Badly"

The City Council of Madrid, the SPTO, and ANDEMA collaborated on a campaign against the practice of counterfeiting with the slogan **When You Start By Buying Fakes, Things Always End Badly**. The campaign was rolled out for the week of October 2 to 8,

coinciding with Marcatlhon 2017, and included two poster designs placed in over 200 publicity displays located on the busiest streets of Madrid.



This was not the first time that the three entities have worked toward the same goal. In December 2015, they participated together in a campaign against street vendors and the sale of counterfeit goods under the slogan *Your choice matters. Every time you buy, you choose what kind of society you live in.*

4th Annual Marcatlhon: “The Trademark Tour”

On Saturday, 7 October, the 4th edition of the so-named **Marcatlhon** took place in the Azca public gardens in Madrid: “**The Trademark Tour**” is an event organized by the SPTO, ANDEMA, and the Madrid City Council.



This is a free public awareness event that each year seeks to make known the value represented by trademarks in an entertaining manner through the use of games and quizzes, and which stresses the need to protect trademarks to counteract fake goods. As in previous editions, well-known trademarks, associations, and institutions came together for an entertaining and educational event that included the following activities:

- **An educational gymkhana for children**, in which, through taking four quizzes, they learned the importance of trademarks and innovation, as well as the dangers of counterfeiting, with special prizes for the best invention and the best brand designed by them.
- **Exhibition of the canine detectives used by the Special Unit of Canine Guides of the National Police Corps**, which delighted the audience, large and small.
- **A 5-km race**, in which more than 230 runners over the age of 18 participated, and in which "Sponsor an Athlete" also took part. In this year's edition, we were treated to the performances of Jaime Martínez Morga and Toni Franco, two prestigious professional runners.

The winners received medals and gifts from the sponsoring trademarks. A diploma was awarded to the first-place finishers in the race who represented the SPTO, to the personnel of the Agencies/Offices of Industrial Property, to the State Security Corps (National Police Corps), and to the employees from Brand member companies. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) donated **funds for five scholarships** for specialized online courses from its Academy which were raffled among the placing winners of the race, as well as among those who received awards.

In this fourth edition of the Marcathlon, more than 75 trademarks, associations, foundations, and institutions participated, as well as over 300 children and 230 runners. The impact on social networks took the form of over 64,000 likes, more than 700 tweets on Twitter, and 2,646 people through sharing on Facebook.

Microsite: "Stopfalsifications"

During the last year, the most significant news items from the efforts to fight against counterfeiting were regularly published on the microsite, [Stopfalsificaciones](#), ("Stop Fakes," hosted on the SPTO website). Similarly, the microsite was refreshed and updated with a view to

making it more suitable for its ultimate purpose, which is to provide consumers with information on how to act in the field of IP rights and protection.

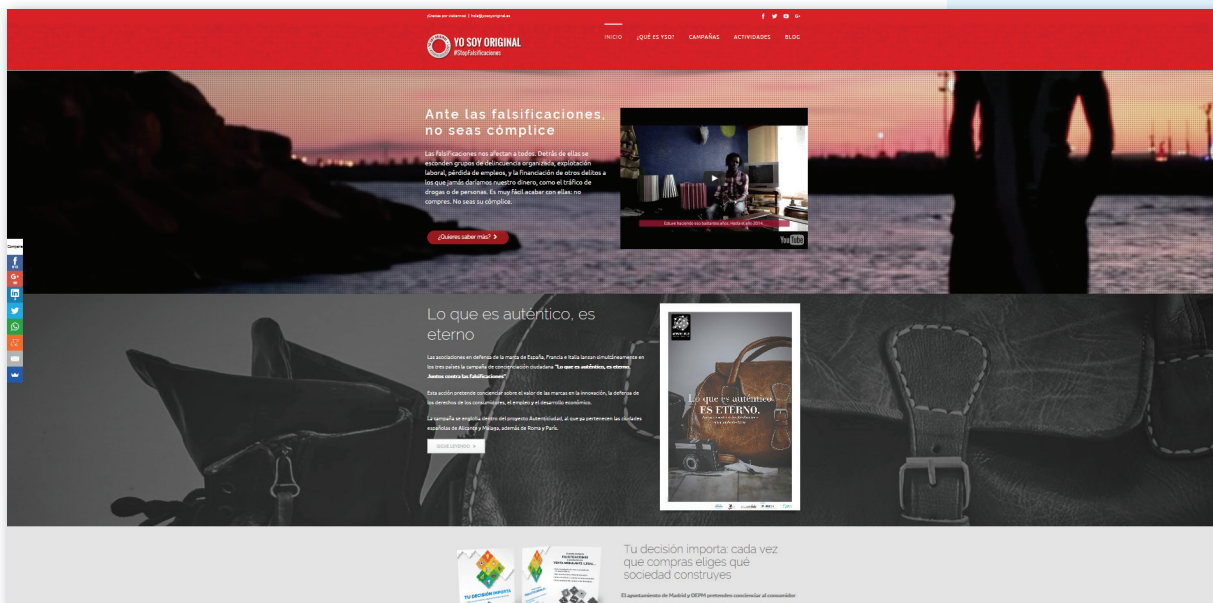
In 2017, the number of email queries to stopfalsificaciones@oepm.es increased by around 10%. However, also among these messages were those which, increasingly, relate to fraudulent emails requesting payments to entities that have absolutely nothing to do with registration and official management of Industrial Property.



Stop Fakes Microsite

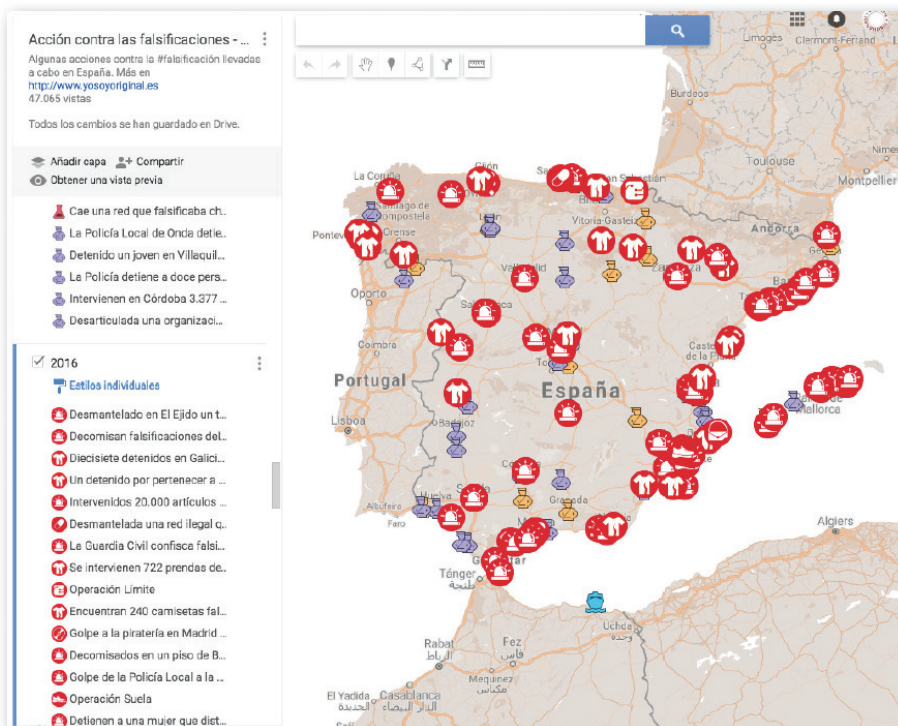
Profile: "I'm The Real Deal"

"I'm The Real Deal" is an initiative created for social networks by the SPTO and the Association for the Defence of the Brand (ANDEMA) in 2012 to jointly act to promote consumer awareness of the need to respect Industrial Property rights. In 2017, the viral nature and reach of the contents on social networks has persisted on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), as have links to the profiles on each service, which has helped to promote social awareness of the harm to society that the purchase of pirated goods represents.



The data shows that 182,600 likes for the tweets were made by 1,835 faithful followers of the profile and its networks of influence. Although the increase in likes and followers has been low, what has grown substantially were the retweets, which went from 42 per month in 2016 to 57 per month in 2017, as well as the comments, going from 11 monthly to 28. The followers are mainly people with a professional and increasingly interactive background.

Similarly, in the case of Facebook, the profile had 1,852 followers in 2017. The website www.yosoyoriginal.es has hosted several awareness campaigns, such as “Faced with Counterfeits, Don't Be an Accomplice,” “What Is Authentic Is Eternal,” “100% Genuine,” or “Your Decision Matters,” which have had a widespread distribution and repercussion worldwide, with almost 12,000 visits. Views of the map of Spain that shows where State Security Forces and Corps have acted in the fight against counterfeiting have doubled since its creation in 2014, with almost 59,000 visits. Meanwhile, the Google+ profile had around 22,000 visits.



4.2. DISSUADING

Efforts by the Cross-Industry Commission Against Activities Violating Industrial Property Rights (Spanish acronym, “CAPRI”) and Its Working Groups

In 2017, the *Annual Statistical Report on the actions of the State Security Forces in the case of Industrial Property Rights Violations* was issued, available for viewing on the “Stopfalsifications” microsite on the SPTO website. This report links to the “Criminality Report” prepared annually by the Ministry for Home Affairs, which, at the initiative of the Secretariat of the Cross-Industry Commission for the fight against activities that violate Industrial Property, which already has a permanent section on criminality with respect to Industrial Property. This report was presented on the occasion of 2017 World Anti-Counterfeiting Day. Related to the previous point and in the same vein as the Secretariat of the Cross-Industry Commission for the Fight Against Industrial Property Rights Violations, the SPTO serves as a validator of the data that stem from the programme for creating and maintaining the National Index of Industrial Property Crimes, which are downloaded directly to the Industrial Property crime map of the EUIPO.

Training Initiatives

In 2017, the role of the SPTO as Organizer and Manager of a course on Industrial Property within the continuing education program of the General Council of the Judiciary was consolidated. This strengthens the Administration as the party in charge of training in Industrial Property for those who, in the final analysis, will be the ones who make the decisions in this type of litigation.

Initiatives related to the European Observatory on the Infringements of IP Rights

Working
in close collaboration with the EU Observatory

During 2017, the SPTO continued to participate in the meetings of the European Observatory for the Fight against the Violations of Industrial Property Rights, as well as those of its Working Groups. In this way, the SPTO collaborates very actively in the activities of the Legal and

International Group of the Observatory, as well as those of Statistics, Observance, and Sensitization on the importance of adequate protection for Industrial Property.

Similarly, the Office continued to take part in the meetings of the Compliance Advisory Committee of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

4.3. FIGHTING

Liaison Initiatives with the Justice System

During 2017, the activities of the **Coordination Service with the Justice System** saw a slight increase compared to previous years. This growth could be seen in the increase of the total number of issues dealt with by this Service, as well as in the number of cases per topic.

These activities consist, on a national level, in the support provided to state security and police forces to help locate the representatives of IP rights holders with a view toward offering them recourse to legal protection. They also consist in preparing the evidence that is requested by Courts and Tribunals for their consideration in all legal proceedings (criminal, civil ...). In the same way, guidance is provided to individuals on how to defend and protect their rights in the face of this type of violation. All these activities are linked to those described in other parts of this document to implement SPTO Strategy for the enforcement of Industrial Property rights.

In this way, the total number of matters handled by the Service has risen to 1,453 cases, with an average of 9 cases affected per subject.

Initiatives Relating to the Administration of Justice

The largest volume of activity of this Service is produced by providing information for contentious litigation. However, in recent years, and in parallel with the advances in the activity of the Commercial Courts, there has been an increase in the number of lawsuits arising in this arena. Thus, there has been a growing shift of litigation from the contentious to the civil sphere. Despite this, the total number of legal proceedings has decreased slightly with respect to last year, which is

attributable to the increasing use of assigning court costs to the losing party.

On the other hand, during 2017, the number of administrative dossiers associated with each judicial procedure has increased. As a result, there has been an increase in the procedures related to processing efforts by the Office to comply with judicial mandates. This increase is estimated to be around 24%.

05

TOWARDS EXCELLENCE IN MANAGEMENT

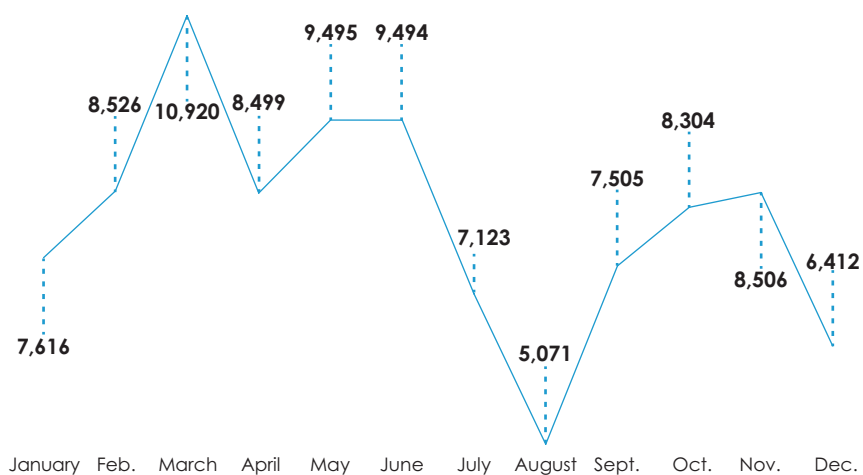
5.1. SPTO INFORMATION SERVICES

Phone Support

The Telephone Information Service of the SPTO (902 157 530) received a total of **97,471** calls, averaging 369 daily. This service is provided by an outside company.

97,471
calls handled

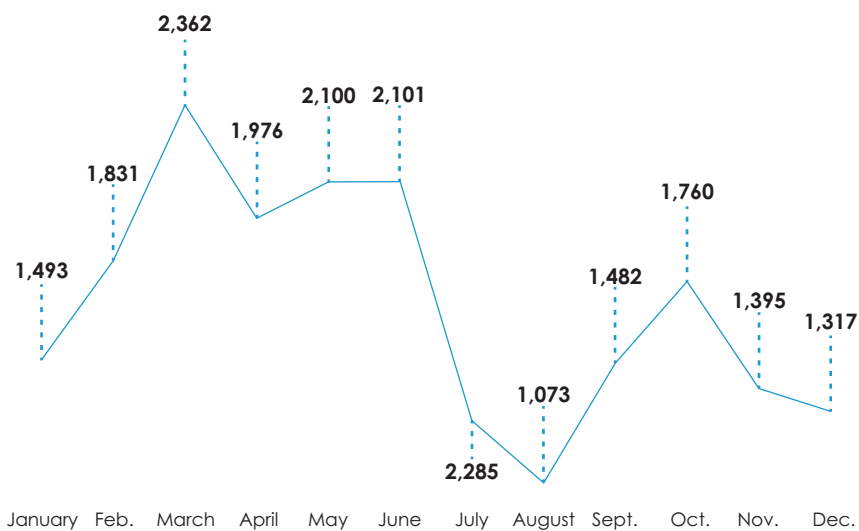
Number of calls per month (Total: 97,471)



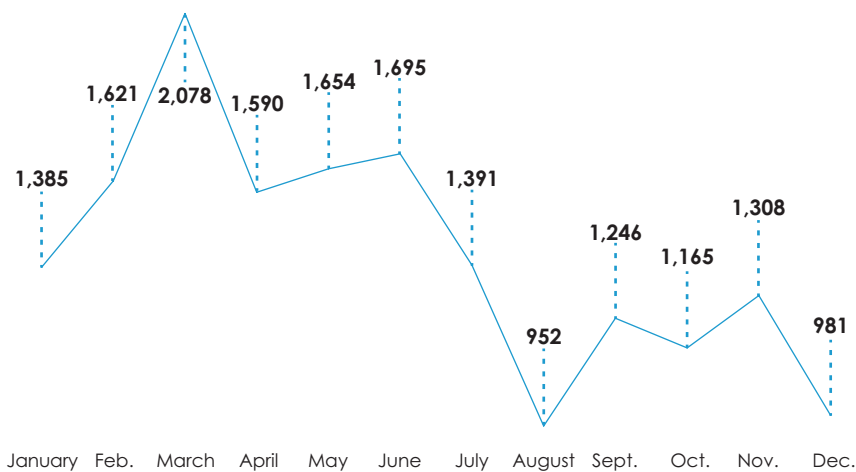
Support given in-person and via email at informacion@oepm.es

During 2017, the **General Information Service** answered a total of **20,175** emails sent to informacion@oepm.es, and answered **17,066** requests for information in person at SPTO Headquarters (Paseo de la Castellana 75, 1st floor, Madrid).

Email queries answered per month: Total 20,175



In-person visits attended to: 17,066



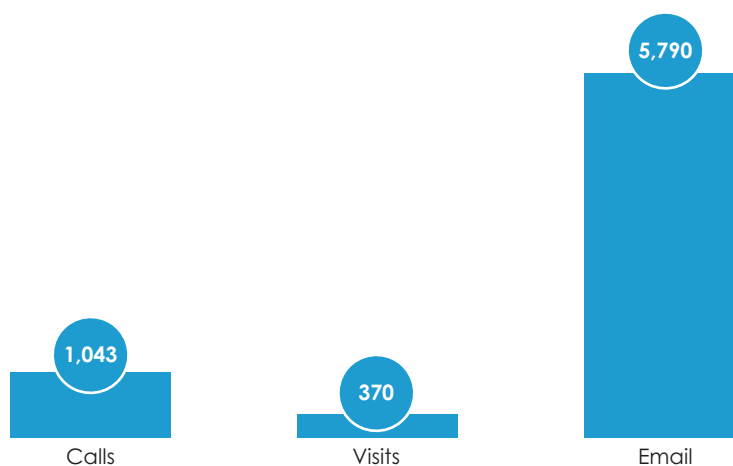
Por otro lado, desde el **Servicio de Registro y Publicaciones** se contestaron 2.433 correos electrónicos (registro@oepm.es) y desde el **Archivo Histórico** se atendieron a 715 investigadores.

Similarly, the **Registry and Publications Service** handled 2,433 emails addressed to (registro@oepm.es), while the **Historical Archive** attended to 715 researchers.

Activities of the Dissemination Office

The Dissemination Office, which reports to the Dissemination, Communication, and Company Relations Department, answers a wide range of enquiries connected with Industrial Property, by either dealing with queries directly, or referring them to the appropriate service.

2017 Dissemination Service



During 2017, 7,203 requests were handled, of which 5,790 were by e-mail (difusion@oepm.es), 1,043 were telephone calls, and 370 face-to-face consultations. The latter mostly came from applicants who, after going through the General Information Service, needed to get more detailed information. Telephone consultations mainly concerned issues relating to trademarks.

On-Duty Examiner Service

During 2017, the SPTO user hotline, the **On-Duty Patent Examiner** (OPE) –launched in March 2013–continued in operation, aimed at

resolving advanced questions on patentability, scope of claims, drafting of applications for patents and utility models, and search services for technical precedents. During 2017, this service attended a total of 921 queries (by phone, by email or in person) which represents an 8% increase over the previous year, with an average time per consultation of about 25 minutes. The service is provided by a team of **22 patent examiners**. This is a specialized attention service, such that all of the matters handled, whether in person, by telephone or by e-mail, are sent to the on-duty examiner by the Office's General Information Service when appropriate.

For their part, among the five on-duty services that currently exist in the **Department of Distinctive Signs**, corresponding to **Examination of Forms, Examination of the National Trademark database, Examination of the database of Trade Names, Renewals, and International Trademarks**. Between the months of February and December of 2017, more than 5,500 customer service requests were processed, of which more than 1,858 consisted of face-to-face assistance to private citizens and legal representatives, while almost 3,500 telephone inquiries were also handled. In addition, more than 200 emails were received, which were handled by the trademark examiners and service chiefs who make up the department's guards on duty each day.

User Support Centre

One of the most visible aspects of the SPTO is the technical support that the **User Support Centre** (assigned to the Information Technology Division) provides internally to all SPTO employees and externally to private citizens, in the form of the *Functional Support team*. In 2017, more than 38,000 support activities were carried out for the various users (internal and external to the SPTO), and over 25,000 contacts and requests made of *Functional Support* came by electronic mail, soportefuncional@oepm.es, or by telephone.

5.2. SIMPLIFYING AND ADAPTING OF PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES

A **new online application service for Trademark Applications** began operations in June. It is a software application that allows submitting either Trademarks, Trade Names, or Collective Trademarks and

Guarantee applications in a simpler, friendlier, and more intuitive way.

Cod. Ref.: 328485B39

SALIR
GUARDAR BORRADOR

Modalidad de Signo Distintivo

Tipo:

Marca de Productos o Servicios

Tipo de Distintivo

MARCATHLON
DENOMINATIVO

GRÁFICO

MIXTO

SONORO

TRIDIMENSIONAL

Declaración de elementos no reivindicados:
☐ Declaración de los elementos de la marca sobre los que no se reivindica un derecho exclusivo de utilización (no obligatoria)

Descripción de la marca:
☐ Descripción escrita de la marca (no obligatoria)

One of the main innovative features of this new tool is that it allows distinctive graphics to be submitted more easily by admitting entries to be done in five distinct file formats (gif, bmp, png, tiff, standard compression jpg). Similarly, the application possesses a graphic format converter. This tool processes the distinctive graphic design to conform with the requirements and technical parameters required by the application, showing the applicant the result of this adaptation for final validation. It also includes search engines that are an essential tool for correctly assigning a classification to products and services under the Nice International Classification protocol, as it checks whether the products or services requested conform or not to the various classes in the International Classification System, advising users of the need to reclassify or correct them, and finally requiring a check by one of the trademark examiners.

– Listado de Productos, Servicios o Actividades

En este apartado de la solicitud es necesario que indique los productos y servicios para los que se solicita la marca. La Clasificación Internacional de Productos y Servicios del Arreglo de Niza (15 de julio de 1.957) así como la Clasificación Armonizada, están organizadas en 34 clases de productos y 11 de servicios. En el siguiente enlace: [CLINMAR](#) podrá conocer el contenido de estas clases a través del título de cada una de ellas y de su nota explicativa.

No obstante, la búsqueda y selección de productos y servicios tiene que hacerse a través del BUSCADOR DE CLASES o del BUSCADOR DE PRODUCTOS Y SERVICIOS individualizado que aparece a continuación. Se recomienda que utilice, en la medida de lo posible, los mismos términos y expresiones que los empleados en las mismas.

Una vez elegidos todos los productos y/o servicios de las distintas clases deberá confirmarlos en el botón Aceptar.

Clase:

+ AÑADIR CLASE

Búsqueda de Productos y Servicios

BUSCAR

Also, in order to better facilitate user access, since November 2017 it has been possible to **pay online for oppositions to Industrial Designs** by credit or debit card.

From the point of view of Information Technologies, some of the most noteworthy milestones achieved in 2017 include:

- **Inventions and Law 24/2015.** The *ALFA* system for processing inventions was *modified to conform* with the regulatory changes required by the entry into force of Patent Law 24/2015 of 1 April. These modifications have impacted not only the processing system itself, but the numerous interfaces with which it interacts: payments, publications, document manager, CEO and eOLF being some of the more significant.
- **Adaptation of eOLF to Law 24/2015.** The eOLF (Online Filing Software) for inventions was modified in terms of the submission of patent applications and subsequent procedures that were affected by the entry into force of Patent Law 24/2015.
- **New online application system for trademark and trade name applications.** This system, called *ProtegeO*, has led to a very significant reduction in the number of incidents in the submission of applications. This platform allows applying for trademarks online, unlike *Solemar* (the old application), which employed a dynamic PDF file.
- **Closure of Sitadex.** During 2017, the CEO system became the official *External Consultation* system for *SPTO files*, allowing the previous tool, *Sitadex*, to cease being used for any end.
- **Management of SPTO IT assets.** In 2017, *Insight*, a system for managing SPTO's IT assets and those of the entities under it, was

commissioned. All applications and URLs were duly registered. This system allows greater control and automation of all the steps in the SPTO application process and has already been used to register over 6,128 assets.

- **Platasol.** New fees were established for opposition to Designs, conforming to Patent Law 24/2015, and certificates that allow for secure connections with the modules for sending notifications and signing supporting documents have been updated.
- **New version of the Portafirmas application.** This internal SPTO application governs the validation of the various administrative actions taken by the Organization. The new version resolves the bugs that had been affecting communications at the time of signing.

The **Official Industrial Property Gazette** (Spanish acronym, "BOPI") required modification to adapt to the new provisions stipulated in Patent Law 24/2015, as well as introduce changes to cover the dual cases of publication under Laws 11/1986 and 24/2015.

Volume II of the BOPI currently conforms with and differentiates between elements of the old Law (11/1986) and the new one (24/2015). The XSD and XSLT templates have also been adapted to the new Law to facilitate automatic downloading of the BOPI in XML format.

5.3. QUALITY

Renewal of ISO 9001 Quality and UNE 166006 Technology Surveillance Certification

As one pillar of the Strategic Plan, in 2017 the SPTO acted to maintain the operational standards that allow the certification of conformity of its Integrated System of Quality and Technology Surveillance practices with the UNE-EN ISO 9001 (Quality Management System) and UNE 166066 (Management of R+D+i, Technology Surveillance and Competitive Intelligence System) standards.

Representing a stellar achievement for the year, the adaptation of the SPTO Quality Management System to the new version of the ISO 9001 (2015) standard successfully passed external audit.

This adaptation was carried out in collaboration with the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) within the framework of one of the

European Cooperation Projects launched by this Office, specifically, ECP 5 – “Support for Management Systems for Intellectual Property Offices,” for which the SPTO was a pilot office.

The conclusions of the audit were very positive, illustrating the success of the adaptation process and certifying that the SPTO quality management system has the ability to meet the requirements of the service in relation to the scope, objectives, and policy of the SPTO.

Key outcomes of the audit, and in compliance with the requirements of the new standard, include: simplifying the supporting documentation of the system, thereby improving its integration with the daily work of SPTO staff; and implementing a Risk Management System which is intended to reinforce the preventive functions of the Quality management system.

In this regard, it is worth mentioning the excellent cooperation among the various departments of the SPTO, as well as with EUIPO. Also noteworthy during the process was the excellent cooperation between the relevant SPTO departments and the EUIPO, which included knowledge transfer between the two Offices, in which both quality and SPTO process experts participated, as well as quality and risk management experts from EUIPO.

The SPTO is the first European Industrial property Office (out of seven) to complete the implementation of this Cooperation Project. The results and lessons learned will be useful for the remainder of the participating Offices.

Regarding the scope of the certified SPTO Integrated Quality Management and Technology Surveillance System, it currently includes the following processes:

For ISO 9001:

- Processing of international applications for Patents, issuance of the International Search Report and Written Opinion, and completion of the International Preliminary Examination within the scope of the PCT.
- European Patent Validation.
- Preparation of Patent Technology Reports, Retrospective Searches, Technology Surveillance Bulletins, and Custom Technology Survey Reports.

- Processing of applications, registration and renewal of national trademarks and trade names.
- Processing of applications and registration of industrial designs, in addition to processing of oppositions submitted to designs registered in the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office.
- Processing of applications and registration of utility models.
- Processing of applications and registration of national patents.
- Processing of the registration of licenses and transfers of Industrial Property rights.
- Processing of requests for rehabilitation and restoration of rights.
- Processing of appeals.

For UNE 166006:

- Preparation of Patent Technology Reports, Retrospective Searches, Technology Surveillance Bulletins, and Custom Technology Survey Reports.

SPTO Service Charters

During 2017, the commitments made to the public in the 5 existing Service Charters continued to be met. Specifically, this refers to the Charters of the Information and Public Attention Service, the Technological Information Service, Distinctive Signs Service, International Search and International Preliminary Examination Authority Service, and the Utility Models Service.

The results have been very positive, since nearly all the commitments made have been met, with only a few minor deviations of little significance.

The **Service Charters** are available to users through the SPTO website, specifically on the dedicated **Quality** portal, where the results from monitoring the fulfilment of service commitments are published every month.

In 2017, on the other hand, the procedures for the renewal of the aforementioned Service Charters for the next term of validity, from 2018 to 2021, have begun.

Satisfaction Surveys

The SPTO periodically carries out satisfaction surveys regarding the services provided to users in order to know their opinion, and in so doing, improve the services offered to the public.

In **2017**, the following user **satisfaction surveys** were carried out:

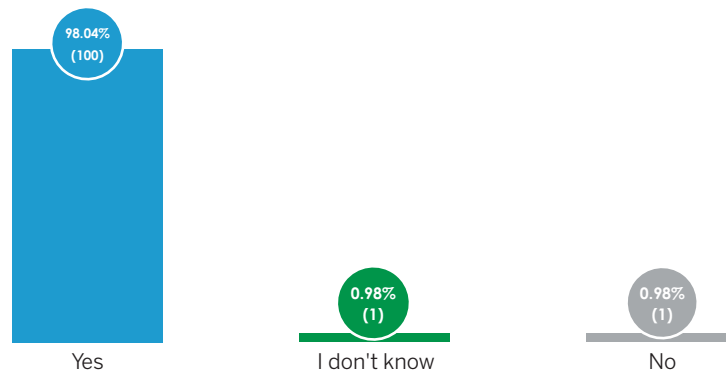
- 2017 User Satisfaction Survey for **Appeal Processing Services**.
- 2017 User Satisfaction Survey for the **Business Support Service**.
- 2017 User Satisfaction Survey for the **On-Duty Examiner Service**.
- 2017 User Satisfaction Survey for **the Distinctive Signs On-Duty Examiner Service**.
- 2017 User Satisfaction Survey of subscribers to **Technology Surveillance Bulletins**.
- 2017 User Satisfaction Survey for the **Technology Surveillance Service**.
- User Satisfaction Survey for the **International Preliminary Examination and Search Service**.

The results obtained in the surveys show a high degree of satisfaction with the services provided by the SPTO.

An outstanding example from these results is the Guard Examiner Service, highly valued by users. In the image, the results for the Distinctive Signs Guard Service are shown, which was surveyed for the first time in 2017.

High level
of user satisfaction

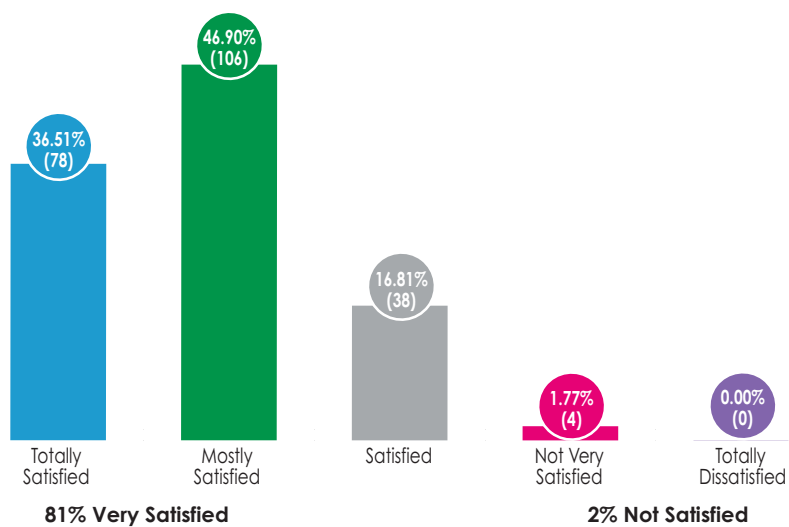
Would you recommend this service to a third party?



Likewise, the On-Duty Patent Examiner Service and the Company Support Service continue to register very high satisfaction levels.

Another positive example from the survey results is the level of satisfaction with the Technology Surveillance Bulletin.

I'm happy with the Technology Surveillance Bulletins I read



Update of Utility Model Guidelines (Law 24/2015)

The revised procedural **Guidelines** for granting, opposition, limitation and search reports for Utility Models was published in November. With the publication of these Guidelines, the goal is to clarify the operative aspects affected by the modifications introduced in Law 24/2015. Its main objective is for the resolutions of the Utility Model Service to be consolidated into a uniform practice for application and file processing. The guidelines are structured according to the sequence of the steps involved in processing.

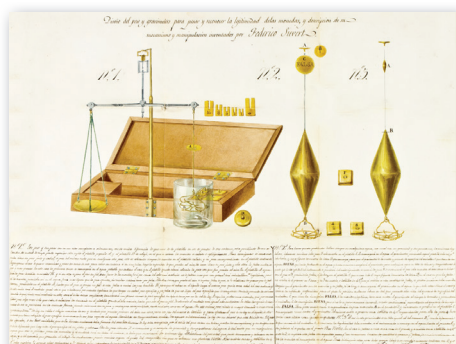
New Industrial Property Agents

A new **certification process** was introduced for obtaining professional qualification as an Industrial Property Agent. Thirteen people passed these tests.

Database Computerization

The scanning and digitization project of IP titles from the period of 1826-1878 continued as planned. To date, the titles numbering from 1.151 to 2.250 have been processed. These complete files can be consulted online in pdf format on the SPTO's **Historical Archive**.

Similarly, the organization has continued with the digitalization of the logos of the historical brand archive. This project is carried out with in-house means, the SPTO now having digitized a total of 842 trademarks, which are depicted on the home page of the SPTO website.



Patent n° 75 dated 05-10-1831
Devices to weigh and easily
differentiate between false and
genuine gold coins.



Trademark N° 2641 dated 02-08-1890
Savons des Princes du Congo.

5.4. CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Initiatives Outside the Organization

The SPTO participated in the following campaigns outside the organization:

The **“Share and Recycle”** campaign to collect used toys for donation to Spanish charities and allow other children to play with them as well. The SPTO donated 668 kg of the total of 128.6 tons of toys collected throughout Spain.



Two food collection campaigns for the Madrid Food Bank Foundation, with a total of 279 kilos donated.

Initiatives Inside the Organization

In the domain of gender equality, the number of women on the Management Committee numbers 5, as compared to 3 men.

In the domain of balancing work and family life, in 2017, the SPTO continued to employ the existing virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI), which allowed 30 Patent examiners access to teleworking.

In terms of sustainability, the change in April 2016 to 37 new multifunction printers to replace the obsolete ones in use led to savings in printing costs of 6,101.53 euros in 2017.

Building maintenance and improvement proceeded as planned, with a view to making the facilities more energy efficient, reduce emissions, and increase the comfort of the people who work there. The following improvements bear mention:

- **Work to replace the cooling towers and the heating boilers**, increasing energy efficiency with new equipment, in addition to switching to natural gas as fuel for the boilers, which is less polluting.
- **Work to improve the thermal insulation in the raised floor of the 2nd level IT rooms**, improving both comfort and energy efficiency.
- **Replacement of elevator door opening and closing mechanisms**; namely, cabin door mechanisms, which cause the most breakdowns in service, as well as refinishing deteriorated cabin and exterior doors.
- **Improvement in the lightning rod installation**, cleaning the wiring and refurbishing the connections in the protection system.
- **Conditioning of hall space available for training use in the Panama Street facility.**

Among the actions taken to promote team spirit in the office, the Epiphany celebration dedicated to the Three Magi and the Christmas banquet stand out. These events, organized by SPTO employees, are already a tradition in the Office.

5.5. STAFF

New Specialist Industrial Property Diploma Holders

The **appointment** of 12 new career civil servants was published in the Official Gazette, hired through an open selection process from the graduating class of the Ministry of Industry's (MITC) programme specialised in Industrial Property. The twelve new officers passed the civil service exam for the selection process published on 7 July 2016.



Photo from the Diploma Award Ceremony in January 2018.

Similarly, in the [Official Gazette of 11 November 2017](#), a call for 18 new Industrial Property specialized civil servants was issued. The breakdown by area and specialty of the 18 openings called for is as follows:

- Technical Area:
 - Mechanical specialty: Three openings.
 - Electrical specialty: Four openings.
 - IT specialty: Two openings.
- Legal Area: Nine openings.

Training Courses

The SPTO is committed to the continuous learning of its staff by providing an extensive programme of training courses tailored to the needs of the various services. A total of 65 training events were carried out: 20 industrial property training courses, 16 language courses, 15 information technology courses, 8 skills courses, 3 public administration procedure and regulations courses, and 3 courses directed to special interest groups or identified topics of interest. A total of 812 employees attended the courses, 358 of whom received training in one or more courses.

Among the ad-hoc training activities not included in the previous paragraph, 60 officials took 21 distance learning in courses given by the Public Employment Office, 2 officials attended a course at the Eladio de Viñuela School of Molecular Biology, and 2 others participated in a course given by the Spanish Quality Association. In

parallel, 12 people attended 6 courses taught by the EUIPO Academy.

Meetings with “The Others”

Once again, two editions of this event were held, mainly aimed at patent examiners, with the aim of gathering impressions from knowledgeable Spanish companies and regular users of the patent system, who apart from describing their business activity, comment on how they use the system, as well as its weaknesses and strengths. These meetings are born of the conviction that the SPTO will perform its function more effectively the better its officials are familiar with the needs of the public for whom they work.

The first company invited to these meetings was **FERROVIAL SA**, a global infrastructure and service management company founded in 1952 which currently has workforce numbering more than 69,000 employees and a presence in over 25 countries.



The second session hosted as its invited guest the **NABRAWIND** company, dedicated to design and development of components for wind turbines, with ground-breaking innovations and patented new developments registered with Patent Offices in Europe, the USA, China, India and Brazil.



Both sessions were attended by an average of 50 examiners, resulting in an animated and engaging exchange.

06

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

6.1. COOPERATION SPTO – EUROPEAN UNION

SPTO-WIPO Cooperation

WIPO General Assemblies

Once again in October, the General Assemblies of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) were held in Geneva. During the Assemblies, the SPTO played an active role in the meetings held for the B+ working group for the international harmonization of the patent system, as well as in several bilateral meetings with other partner countries to define the next phase of cooperation.



Snapshot from one of the WIPO meetings.

Cooperation with WIPO in the Field of ICT

IPC Portal. This is a service that includes a series of applications related to the WIPO International Patent Classification system at the SPTO. It allows for constant updating and introduction of new data into the official version of this classification system in Spanish for

Spain and Spanish-speaking countries. It hosts the IPCPUB applications publishing the ICP in Spanish, as well as the IPCCAT for the categorization of patents in Spanish, which depends on the IPC and the new IPCRMS information management system, a set of tools used to translate the terms of the official versions into Spanish, replacing the local CIPTRANS application for translations. WIPO has developed a new tool for translation of the IPC into Spanish, adopted by the SPTO in early 2017, for publishing the latest version of the IPC. The SPTO installed this new IPCPUB7 platform, as it is called, available on its website.

WIPO-Case Project. The WIPO CASE system allows Patent Offices to securely exchange search and examination information to improve the quality and efficiency of the patent search and examination process done at local and regional patent offices through the use of shared information related to patent applications. During 2017, periodic data transmission to WIPO of new entries into the national PCT database requested in Spain was standardized. These data are then incorporated into the WIPO *Patentscope* database.

Training Courses Under the Auspices of the Spanish Trust Fund for Cooperation with Ibero-America

- **V Regional Seminar on Trademarks and Industrial Designs as Factors in Innovation and Business Assets: Innovation in Crafts.** The objective of this seminar was to raise awareness in the Ibero-American business community about the importance of Industrial Property as a tool for economic development, especially in the arts and crafts industry, and its protection through Collective Trademarks, Certification, and Designs. It was held in Antigua, Guatemala, from 20 to 23 March 2017.
- **II Regional Seminar on Drafting Patent Applications.** The Regional Seminar on Drafting Patent Applications and linked to the framework project for training in the drafting of patents under the Legal Patent Division. This event was organized in collaboration with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (Spanish acronym, "AECID") and the Legal Division of the WIPO Patent Office in Montevideo, Uruguay, from 8 to 12 May 2017.
- **XVI Regional Seminar on Intellectual Property for Judges and Prosecutors in Latin America.** This Seminar brings together judges and prosecutors from the region with international experts, promoting specialization and creating a forum for debate on the latest trends in IP legislation and its application. Organized by the

SPTO, WIPO and AECID, this seminar took place in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 14 to 17 November.

- **VII Management Modernization Workshop for National Industrial Property Offices: From Concept to Market.** On this occasion, the objective of the conferences was to build awareness of the tools geared toward small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to promote knowledge about and use of Industrial Property. This seminar was organized by the Spanish Trust Fund in the WIPO, in cooperation with the AECID, and took place in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, from 16 to 19 October.

Other Cooperation Initiatives with WIPO

Within the framework of the cooperation agreement signed between WIPO and the SPTO to provide technical assistance on IP to developing countries, the SPTO sent a speaker to the regional seminar on IP and innovation marketing, which took place in Minsk, Belarus, in May of 2017.

Similarly, in June 2017, the SPTO participated in a seminar on innovation in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, with the aim of promoting the use of IP rights.

Finally, in November 2017, a conference was held on the international systems of Intellectual and Industrial Property addressed to researchers and companies that would like to become better aware of and more knowledgeable about the importance of patents and Industrial Property rights when it comes to protecting their intangible assets. This event took place in Madrid, and was organized with the collaboration of ICEX, WIPO and the SPTO.

With regard to quality-related activities, the SPTO is particularly active within the Subgroup on Quality of International Search and Examination Authorities of the PCT and on its virtual forum. This group held its 7th Meeting this year in Reykjavik (Iceland). All the International Search and Examination Authorities are members of the group, in which quality issues are dealt with within the framework of the PCT Treaty. In 2017, the SPTO participated in a pilot that consisted of cross audits with other International Authorities, in which the Quality Management Systems as documented in the respective annual reports of each office were audited. Specifically, the SPTO was audited by the Canadian Office (CIPO, Canadian Intellectual Property Office), while the SPTO audited the Australian Office (IP Australia). As a result of the success of this pilot experience, the Subgroup on Quality has decided

to undertake these cross-audits in a generalized manner over the coming years.

SPTO-EPO Cooperation

The 2016-2018 Bilateral Cooperation Plan between the European Patent Office (EPO) and the SPTO acts as a clearinghouse and creates specific plans for cooperation activities between both organizations. These are activities that promote information about and the interoperability of the European patent system, both among users and SPTO officials.

Similarly, in 2017 the bilateral agreement in force between these offices was extended for another three years (until 31 December 2020), and establishes the framework for joint cooperation activities in Ibero-America with the following objectives:

- Develop Ibero-American patent systems to boost local economies based on innovation.
- Improve the quality and efficiency of the search and examination of patents in Ibero-America.
- Facilitate access to the information contained in patent documents in the region.

The **15th Meeting of the Permanent Committee on the Harmonization of Search Activities** (PCHSA) and its Working Group 1, responsible for cooperation and harmonization among the PCT Authorities in Europe, was held at the SPTO. The Committee brings together the 7 International Administrations of the European PCT; namely, the European Patent Offices of Spain, Sweden, Austria, Finland, the Nordic Patent Institute (or NPI, comprised of Denmark, Norway, and Iceland), and the Visegrad Patent Institute (or VPI, comprised of Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia). Under the framework of the PCT Special Cooperation Agreements, the PCHSA has been in operation since 2008, and consists of regular meetings of both the Committee and the various working groups. It has held 14 meetings so far. The SPTO hosted a previous meeting in 2012.



15th Meeting of the PCHSA.

Cooperation with the EPO in the Field of ICT

- **Federated Patent Registry.** The FPR is a federated system that provides for a single search mechanism for the legal data regarding European Patents that have been granted in the various member states in which they were approved. Specifically, the SPTO has developed a set of web services that provide, in real time, the legal information corresponding to the approval of European Patents in Spain. During 2017, improvements were introduced to harmonize the data provided by this service with those of the CEO, while the content related to Complementary Protection Certificates (CPCs), which the SPTO considers should be shown in the Federal Register, was analysed.
- **Quality at the Source (QATS) Project.** The objective of this project is to provide the full document database of SPTO patents, under agreed quality standards, to feed EPO patent databases. To that end, it is necessary to define and create a WIPO XML ST36 formatted file (Authority File), a file in which all patent publications are included by year and type of publication, as well as the public documents associated with them (bibliographical references, abstracts, and attachments). Using this file format, it is possible to extend coverage to the entire SPTO document collection, which houses documents dating from 1826 to 2017, containing over 1,350,000 publications. During 2017, the following actions relating to documents from the 1970-2012 time period were carried out:

- Transfer of 56,136 bibliographic references that had been missing from the EPO.
- Review and transfer of correct data on 211 documents with different publication codes and/or dates, or errors in the format of the publication number.
- Review and transfer of correct data for 65,336 files for which there had been doubts about the correct publication date.

SPTO-EUIPO Cooperation

Technical Cooperation Agreement

The Agreement on Technical Cooperation, relating to promotion and information services, includes dissemination activities of the European Union Brand and Community Design systems, as well as awareness campaigns for the fight against counterfeiting.

Among the activities undertaken by the SPTO within the framework of this agreement are the following: information and advice on these forms of protection for potential Spanish users; development of informative material, lectures, and seminars; dissemination through external channels (website, social networks); and various awareness-raising initiatives on the importance and value of IP rights.

New European Cooperation Projects

The new European Cooperation Projects, launched in 2016, aim to develop new tools and harmonize inter-office practices.

The SPTO has actively participated in the working groups of numerous projects and has begun implementation at the SPTO of some of them, such as the digitization and archiving of historical records project, or the improvements to the processing system for Industrial Designs (Back-office)

New Joint European Projects – ECP – SPTO Work Groups

ECP2 Mejoras al Front Office
ECP2 Mejoras al Back Office
ECP2 Mejoras al Common Gateway
ECP3 Portal de aprendizaje electrónico de la Academia
ECP3 Repositorio de usuarios PI
ECP4 Plataforma electrónica para Administración de la Cooperación
ECP4 Análisis de la convergencia
ECP4 Red de colaboración
ECP5 Captura y almacenamiento de expedientes históricos
ECP5 Apoyo a los sistemas de gestión para oficinas PI
ECP5 Certificación en gestión de proyectos para oficinas PI
ECP5 Apoyo a la red - Deployed Project Manager

In addition, as part of the project management certification project for the staff of the National Offices, SPTO staff have continued to be trained in the PRINCE2 methodology, while 8 others were certified at the Foundation level, and 15 at the Practitioner level.

Other Cooperation Initiatives with EUIPO

Workshop: “Everything You Need to Know About Changes in EU Trade-mark Legislation.”

The headquarters of the SPTO hosted this workshop on legislative reforms with respect to EU Trademarks. It was an excellent opportunity to learn about the changes that would take effect starting 1 October 2017 as a result of the new execution and delegation regulations.

Practical information was provided by IP experts on the changes made and their impact on EUIPO tools. The SPTO also participated by presenting a paper on the impact of these changes on Spanish legislation.



*Snapshot from the
“Everything You
Need to Know
About Changes in
EU Trademark
Legislation”
Workshop.*

Regional Workshops in Latin America

The SPTO took part in two of the regional workshops organized by EUIPO in Latin America aimed at extending the benefits of European Intellectual Property Network (EUIPN) tools to IP Offices not belonging to the European Union. These workshops facilitated the exchange of information, knowledge and experiences related to activities in the Network.

In particular, experts from the SPTO participated in the Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) and Havana (Cuba) workshops, sharing with the experts from the non-EU offices the experiences of the SPTO as an active member in the Network with respect to adoption of the tools, as well as the impact and benefits thereof for both the Office and the users of the IP system.



*Regional Workshop
in Latin America.*

6.2. COOPERATION WITH LATIN AMERICA

2017 CIBIT Programme

The Ibero-American Training in Patent Searches and Examination (Spanish acronym, "CIBIT") is annual cooperation initiative whose purpose is the training of Ibero-American patent examiners in the search methodologies as applied to the various documentary databases, and to familiarize participants with the information technology services, which this year hosted four officials from the Industrial Property Offices of Cuba, Honduras, Costa Rica, and Peru. As usual, the programme entailed enriching exchanges among visiting officials and those of the SPTO, not only from the point of view of theoretical and practical knowledge, but also in terms of fostering cooperation.



CIBIT Officials at the SPTO.

LATIPAT Programme

This international cooperation programme offers a search tool for Patents, Designs and Utility Models specialized in Latin America and Spain, allowing free access to millions of documents in Spanish and Portuguese, providing valuable technical and legal information, and contributing to the dissemination of technical knowledge in Latin America. The SPTO, EPO, and WIPO work together on this programme, along with 19 Industrial Property Offices across Latin America.

From 2016 to July 2017, an official from the Honduran General Directorate of Intellectual Property acted as a highly effective coordinator for the LATIPAT programme.

The Ibero-American Industrial Property Programme

The Ibero-American Industrial Property Program (Spanish acronym, "IBEPI") is a regional project launched by the National Offices of Industrial Property in response to identified needs for the promotion of the strategic use of Industrial Property as a tool for competitiveness and development at an industrial, commercial, and R&D level in Ibero-America.



In 2017, the activities of the SPTO in relation to the IBEPI programme were:

- **Meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee:** two meetings were held, on 1 and 4 October in Geneva, within the framework of the WIPO General Assemblies.
- **Technology Surveillance Initiatives:** the SPTO collaborated in the realization of the fifth and sixth Ibero-American Information Technology Bulletins in the Agrifood industry, as well as in the second and third Wind Power Bulletins.



- **Working group of the Ibero-American Intellectual Property Platform for Companies (Spanish acronym, “CIBEPYME”):** the SPTO played an active role as the Office responsible for this activity within the IBEPI programme, tasked with uploading the contents of the platform and with the development of tools within the portal.

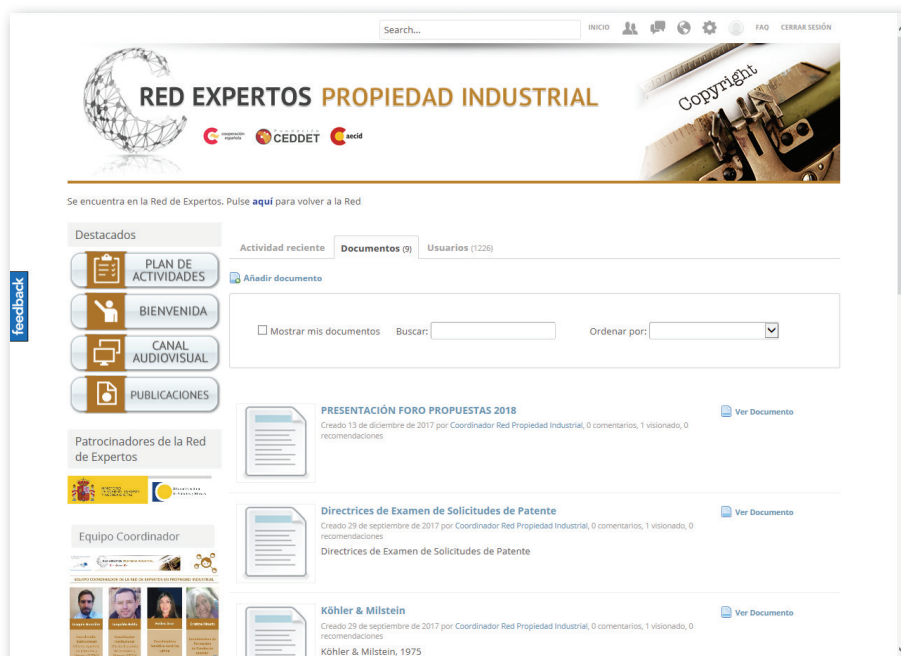
Initiatives in Collaboration with the CEDDET Foundation

These are **online training** activities offered to officials from the Industrial Property Offices, universities, and public research centres in Latin America, free of charge, in order to deepen their knowledge of the various forms of Industrial Property. This helps to strengthen these institutions, improving their management capacity.

Likewise, over the eleven years of collaboration between both institutions, which is governed under a Collaboration Agreement, an **Expert NETWORK in Industrial Property** has been created. It has more than 450 active members, who through webinars, workshops, forums, gatherings and talks exchange specialized knowledge in the field of Industrial Property.

This year, there were four online courses for examiners: “Specialist in Industrial Trademarks and Designs,” Tracks III and I, and “Patent Specialist,” Tracks III and I.

The activities of the NETWORK have consisted in talks and presentations such as: “Assessment of Creative Activity in the Biotech Industry,” “International Patent Harmonization,” and “Multilateral and Bilateral Approaches: Free Trade Agreements,” “Most Significant Jurisprudence of the CJEU Regarding Trademarks,” a virtual workshop on “Drafting of Claims,” and a forum on “Technology Transfer Agreements.”



Other Cooperation Initiatives with Latin America

- **Interregional Training Seminar on Trademarks and Common Themes in Industrial Property**, Madrid, 20-24 February. This Seminar has been held since 1982 in collaboration with the WIPO and establishes a highly effective forum for training and exchange of knowledge for trademark examiners from a variety of Latin American countries. Its content centres on trademark law, but with an eminently practical objective aimed at honing and deepening skills in the work of trademark examination.



6.3. COOPERATION WITH OTHER NATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY BODIES

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Throughout 2017, the SPTO signed a memorandum of understanding with ON Ukraine and the Ecuadorian Intellectual Property Institute (Spanish acronym, "IEPI") for the development of an institutional cooperation programme on Industrial Property.

Accelerated Examination of Patent Applications (PPH, Patent Prosecution Highway)

The PPH agreements, collectively known as the Patent Prosecution Highway, allow an applicant from the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office to request expedited processing at another office. In this way, the exchange of information among offices is fostered, duplication of efforts is avoided, and concession procedures are accelerated.

In January 2017, the **PPH agreements** signed by the SPTO with the national offices of Turkey (TPI) and Russia (Rospatent) came into force.

Our gracious visitors included...

Visiting Delegation from Algeria, 21 April

The SPTO expounded on its technological services, services for SMEs, subsidy system, and on the various international cooperation activities

of the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office. The Algerian delegation showed strong interest in the practices of the SPTO in technical cooperation projects with third countries (especially Latin America) and in its extensive experience as an International Search and Preliminary Examination Authority within the framework of the International Patent System (PCT).



Visiting Delegation from the Greek Office of Industrial Property (OBI). July 25

In the meeting held between the Greek Delegation and SPTO officials, the way in which the SPTO works in its relations with Industrial Property Agents, universities, and research centres was treated in depth.

Visiting Delegation from the Intellectual Property Administration of the new area of Shanghai Pudong. September 15

The SPTO and the Delegation exchanged information about their respective institutions and possible ways to strengthen ties of cooperation in the near future. The attendees from the Chinese delegation showed their gratitude for the welcome received.



Visiting Delegation from several Korean institutions related to Industrial Property, and a group of Korean university students. November 7

The visiting delegation consisted of twenty people from the Republic of Korea interested in knowing about the operation and workings of the SPTO. It was headed by the Deputy Director of the Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Korea (KIPO); as well as a representative from the Korean Association for the Promotion of Inventions (Korea Invention Promotion Association, KIPA); another Intellectual Property Centre in Korea known as the Daejeon Techno Park, which brings together various Korean companies; and a representative from the Intellectual Property Centre of the city of Busan. The rest of the attendees were students from various Korean universities.

Three SPTO officials explained the functioning of the SPTO as the registry office for the various forms of Industrial Property, going into detail with regard to patents, the actions taken to share knowledge, and the proper use of Industrial Property rights, as well as their relations with other international organizations in this field. The attendees actively participated with numerous questions, thanking the courtesy provided by the SPTO.



15 Patent Examiners from the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO), participants in the “Magister Lvcentinvs” training programme, 29-30 November, and 1 December.

The visit to the SPTO by this group of Patent examiners from the SIPO takes place once a year, within the framework of the “Magister Lvcentinvs” Master in Industrial and Intellectual Property of the University of Alicante.



6.4. NATIONWIDE ACTIVITIES

Relations with the Regional Industrial Property Information Centres of the Autonomous Communities

The objective is to bring the Industrial Property and SPTO Services closer to the citizen and in so doing facilitate SPTO proximity to SMEs in the Autonomous Communities.

During 2017, the SPTO, together with the Regional Centres, took part in several days dedicated to public dissemination across Spain, either in the form of workshops within the framework of the CEVIPYME project, or within the framework of the VIP4SMEs Project.

The Annual Meeting of Regional Industrial Property Information Centres took place on 23 October in Zaragoza, attended by representatives from the Autonomous Communities of Andalusia, Aragon, Asturias, Castilla y León, Galicia, La Rioja, Murcia, Navarra, the Basque Country, and Valencia, as well as by SPTO officials. During the meeting, the principal new developments regarding both the SPTO and Industrial Property in general were presented. In particular, a detailed study was made of the Regulation of the Patent Law, which entered into force on 1 April 2017, and the 2017-2020 SPTO Strategic Plan was presented. In addition, the Valencia Institute of Business Competitiveness (Spanish acronym, "IVACE") spoke about the PATLIB Centre reorientation project in which it participates.

The SPTO, together with the Regional Centres, each year attends the PATLIB Patent Information Centres meeting organized by the EPO. This year it was held from 7 to 9 November in Sofia (Bulgaria).

Collaboration Agreements

In 2017, new Collaboration Agreements were signed with universities and public and private organizations, with those signed with the Consortium of Pulsed Ultra-Short Ultra-Light Laser Centres (**CLPU**) and with the Technological Institute of Footwear and Related Products (Spanish acronym, "**INESCOP**") being the most noteworthy.

Collaboration Agreements 2017

Universities

- Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo
- Curso de Verano de Santander.

Public sector

- Fundación EOI
 - Cátedra Fernández Novoa
- Consorcio del centro de Láseres pulsados ultracortos ultraintensos (CLPU)
- Instituto Tecnológico del Calzado y Conexas (INESCOP)

Private sector

- ANDEMA
- Fundación Centro de Educación a Distancia para el Desarrollo Económico y Tecnológico (CEDDET)

The SPTO signed collaboration agreements with several companies, technological platforms, and institutions.

It is worth noting the very close collaboration carried out with Spanish Universities during 2017 under the framework Agreement signed with the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (Spanish acronym, "CRUE") in December 2016. The objective of this agreement is to promote the use of Industrial Property among researchers, not only as a mechanism for protecting the results of university research, but also as an important resource for scientific-technical information.

Among other aspects, the agreement contemplates the realization of dissemination and training activities among university research staff. Thus, during 2017, informative talks were held in 25 universities, both public and private, which were attended by nearly 800 professors and university researchers.

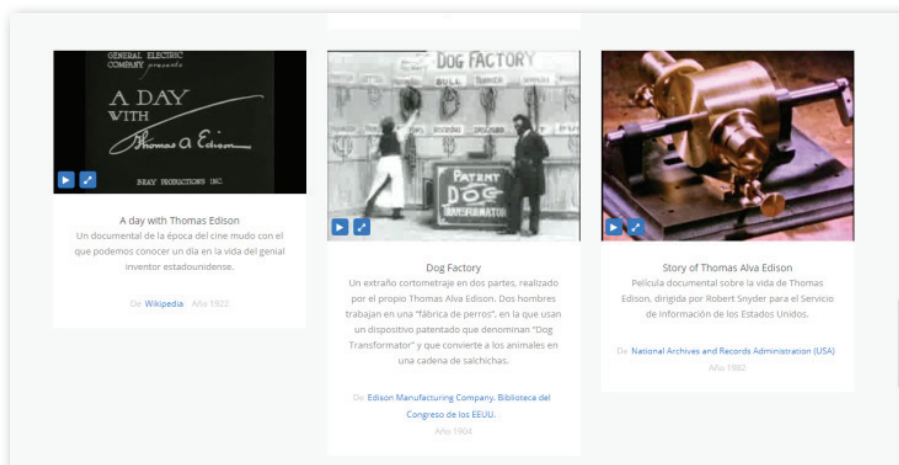
As a consequence of these actions, it should be noted that the number of IPT applications requested by universities has increased by 32%. Also, stemming from collaboration with the Polytechnic University of Valencia, a new Technology Alert ("Technology for Monitoring and Controlling Diabetes") has been set up. Likewise, some universities have requested other, more specific talks, such as the one that will be given soon on the protection of biotechnology inventions at the University of Salamanca.

In short, this initiative underscores the usefulness of patents as a source of scientific and technological information for university researchers.

Collaboration with the Autonomous University of Madrid

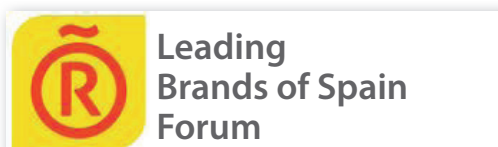
The SPTO and the Autonomous University of Madrid (UAM) have been collaborating since 1999 under various agreements for the study and dissemination of the SPTO Historical Archive.

In 2017, the **Historical Web** was enriched with new contents: bibliographic data on 5,000 trademarks was added, new biographies were included, and the content of the multimedia section was augmented with new videos by Thomas Alva Edison, Henry Ford, and other videos about interesting inventions.



Leading Brands of Spain Forum

The Leading Brands of Spain Forum (Spanish acronym, "FMRE") is a public-private foundation in which the SPTO has been a part since its inception in 1999. In addition to bringing together more than 100 leading Spanish companies with leading trademarks in their respective industries, the FMRE comprises three Ministries and two Public Bodies.



In 2017, the SPTO worked with the FMRE in some of its activities, such as the **7th edition of the Honorary Ambassadors of Spain Brands**, and the **Atlas of the Leading Spanish Fashion Brands**, among others, and has supported the activities of the High Commissioner for Spain Brands (Spanish acronym, "ACME"), both in Spain and abroad.

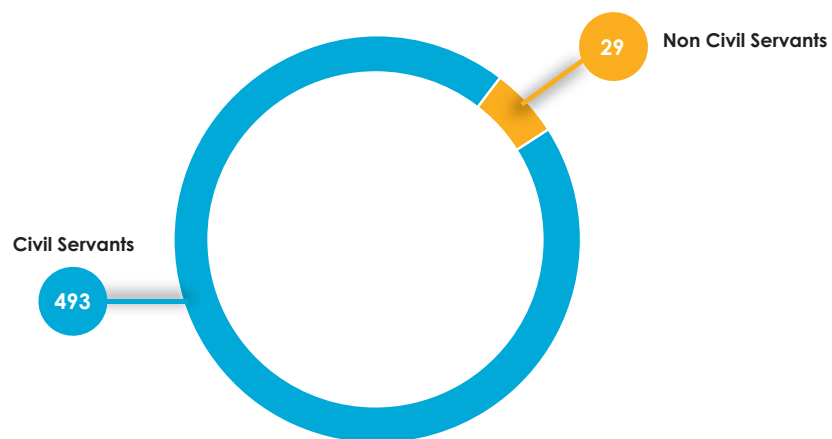


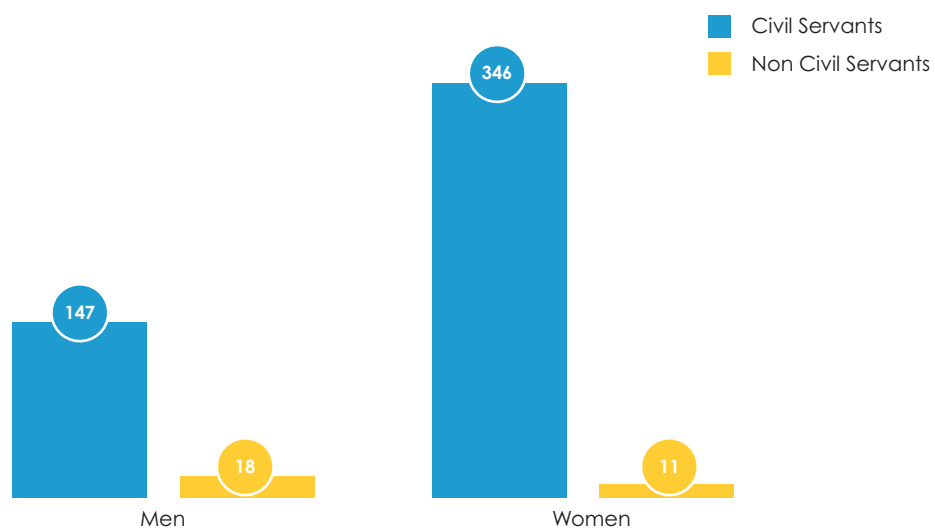
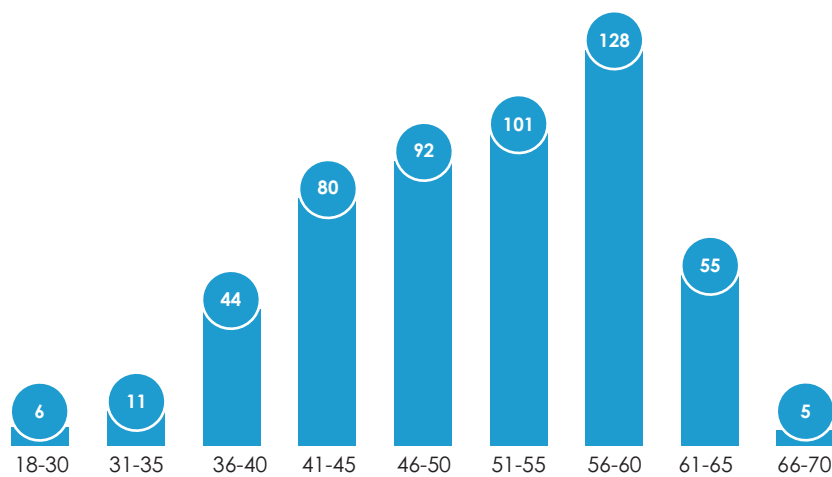
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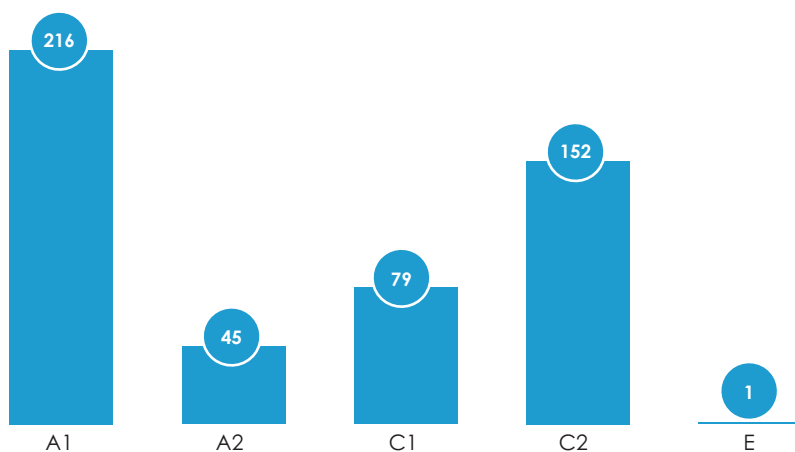
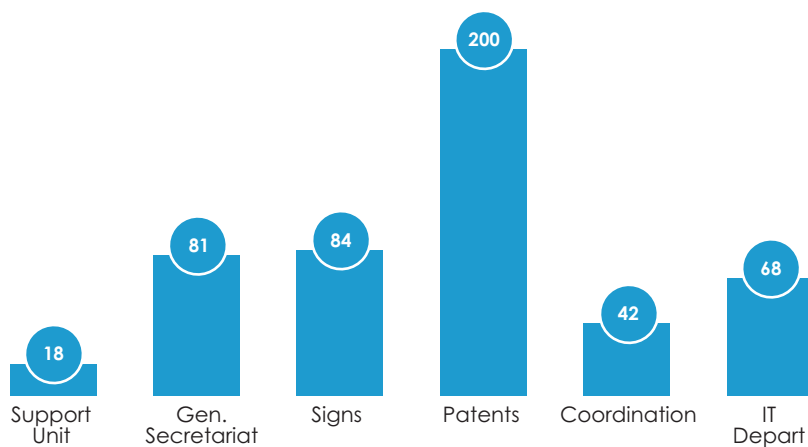
THE SPTO IN FIGURES

7.1. HUMAN RESOURCES

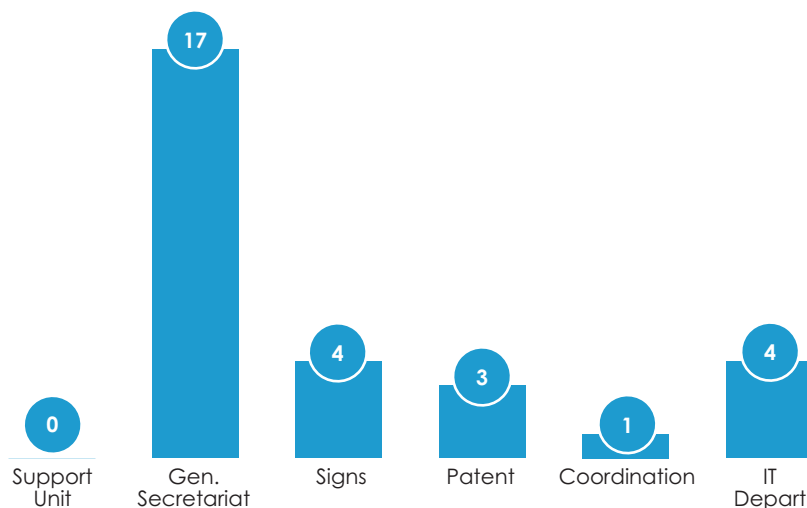
Staff. Figures at 31/12/2017



Distribution by gender. Figures at 31/12/2017**Distribution by age. Figures at 31/12/2017**

Distribution per groups: Civil servants. Figures at 31/12/2017**Civil Servants by Departments. Figures at 31/12/2017**

Non Civil Servants by Departments

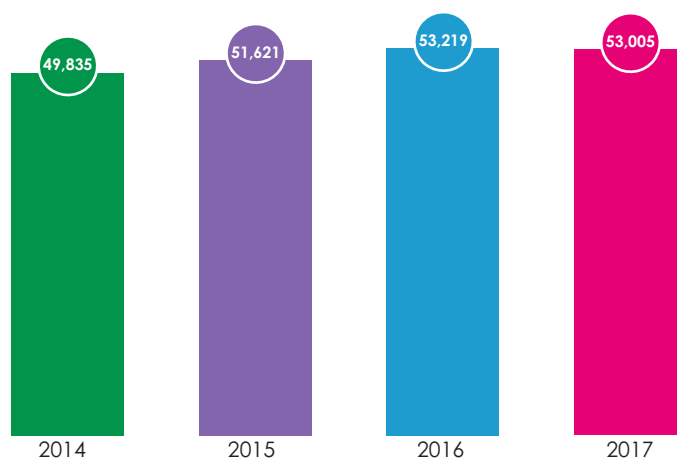


7.2. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Datos económicos

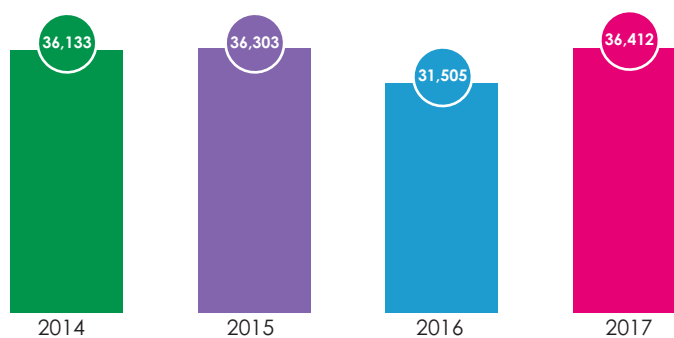
The financial data for 2017 is presented below taking into account that the financial period is not totally closed, as some costs and income still needs to be accounted for.

Net income, in thousands of €



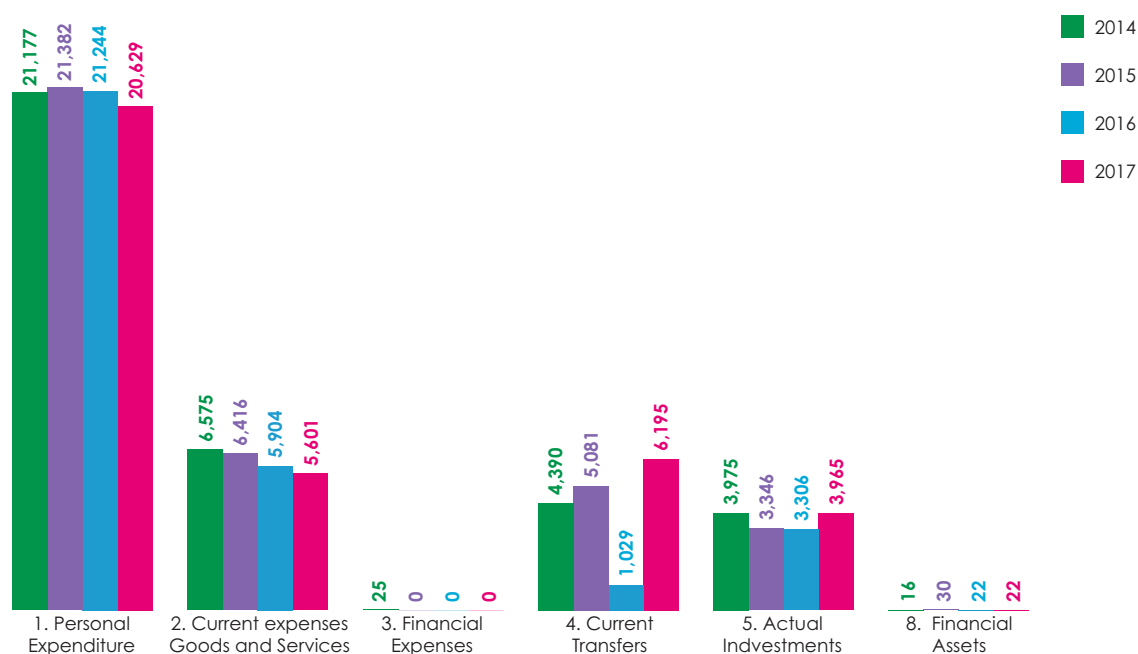
* Provisional Data from 2017.

Total Expenditure, in thousands of €



* Provisional Data from 2017.

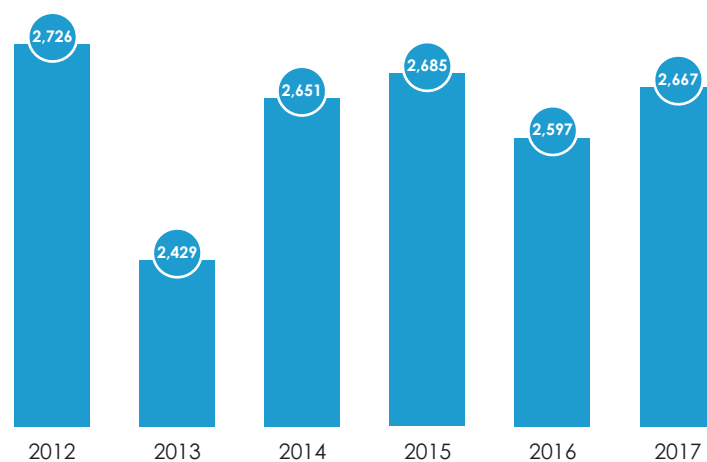
Expenditure per Chapters, in thousands of €



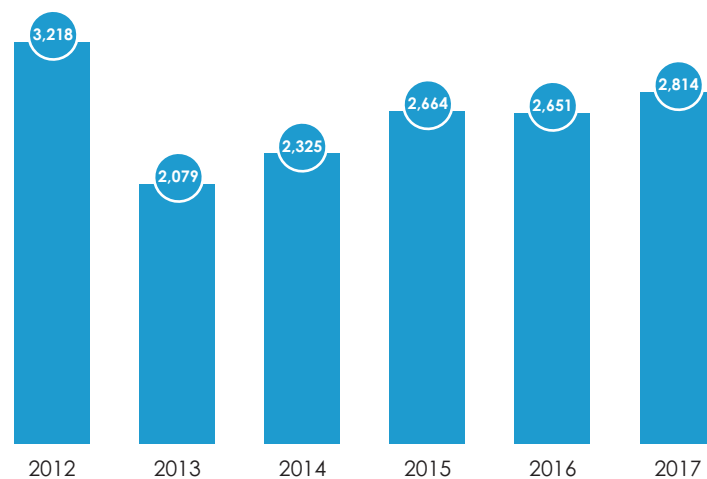
Note: Provisional Data from 2017. In 2016, in Chapter 4 only nominative subsidies have been paid due as per Order HAP-1169/2016 of 14th July.

7.3. APPEALS

Appeals lodgment, 2013-2017



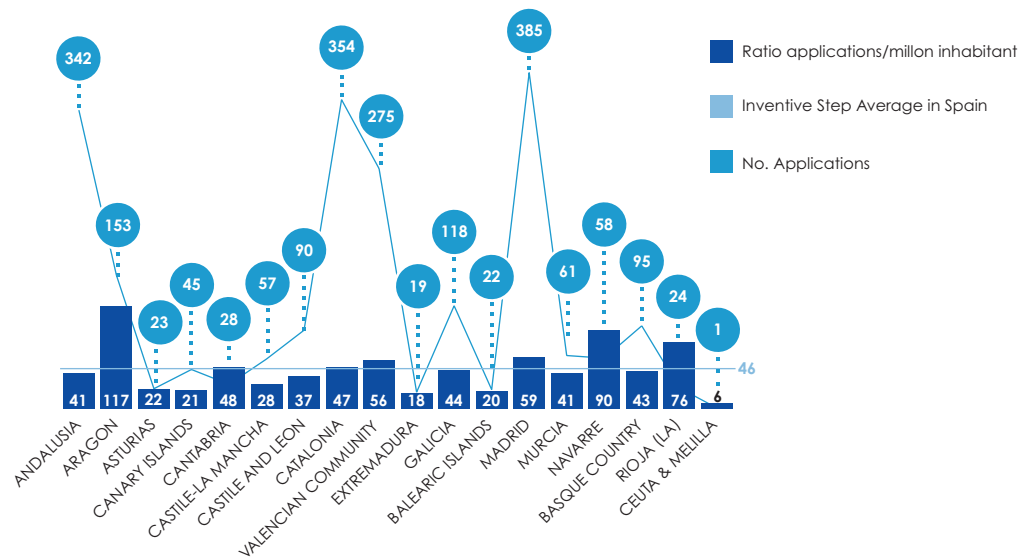
Appeals decisions, 2013-2017



7.4. STATISTICAL DATA

Patents applications per autonomous region, as regards to the number of inhabitants; inventive step , 2017

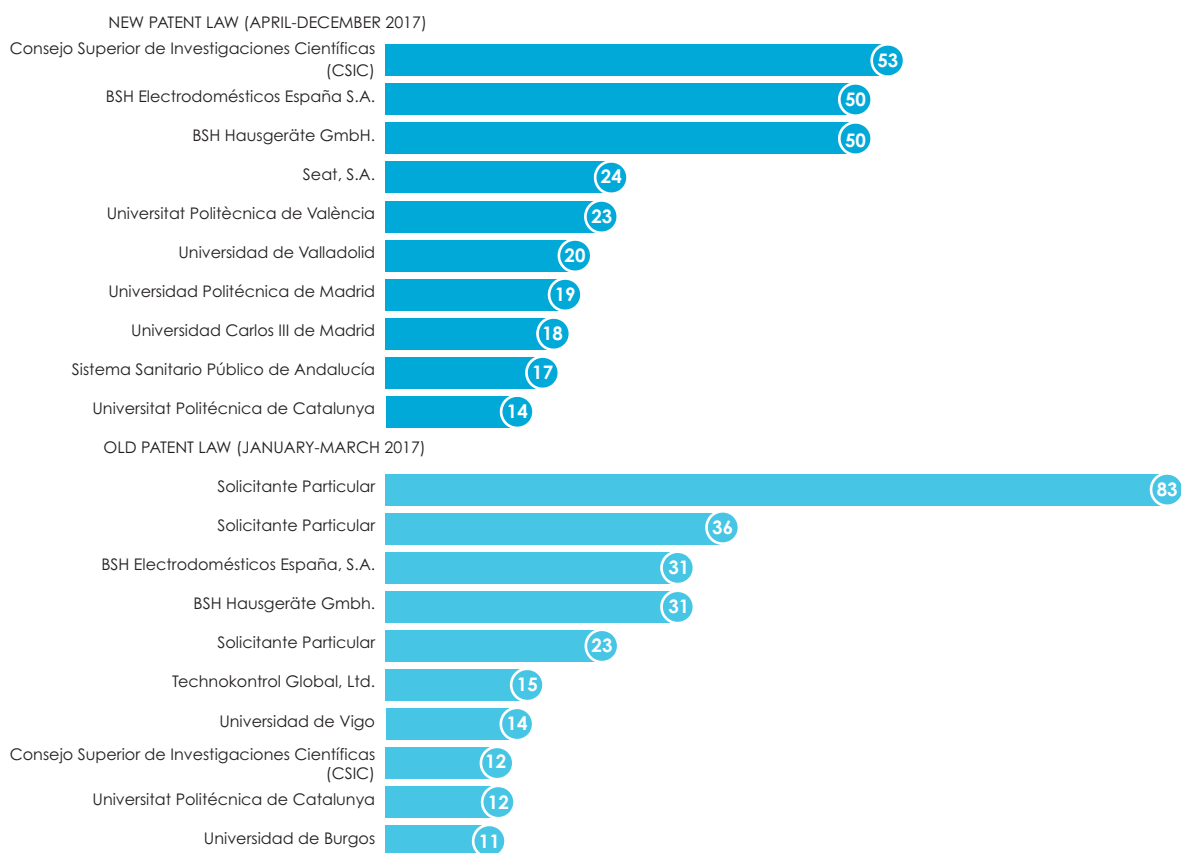
AUTONOMOUS REGIONS	APPLICATIONS			INHABITANTS		INVENTIVE STEP	
	Number	% Annual Variation	% over Total Spanish residents	Number	% Inhabitants/ Total Spanish	Ratio applications/ Million inhabitants	Deviation over the mean
ANDALUSIA	342	-33.20%	15.91%	8,379,820	17.99%	41	-11.6%
ARAGON	153	4.79%	7.12%	1,308,750	2.81%	117	153.2%
ASTURIAS (PRINCIPALITY OF)	23	-50.00%	1.07%	1,034,960	2.22%	22	-51.9%
CANARY ISLANDS	45	-19.64%	2.09%	2,108,121	4.53%	21	-53.8%
CANTABRIA	28	-6.67%	1.30%	580,295	1.25%	48	4.5%
CASTILE-LA MANCHA	57	-12.31%	2.65%	2,031,479	4.36%	28	-39.2%
CASTILE AND LEON	90	1.12%	4.19%	2,425,801	5.21%	37	-19.6%
CATALONIA	354	-21.85%	16.47%	7,555,830	16.22%	47	1.5%
VALENCIAN COMMUNITY	275	-29.85%	12.79%	4,941,509	10.61%	56	20.5%
EXTREMADURA	19	-50.00%	0.88%	1,079,920	2.32%	18	-61.9%
GALICIA	118	-21.33%	5.49%	2,708,339	5.82%	44	-5.6%
BALEARIC ISLANDS	22	22.22%	1.02%	1,115,999	2.40%	20	-57.3%
MADRID	385	-15.94%	17.91%	6,507,184	13.97%	59	28.2%
MURCIA (REGION OF)	61	-25.61%	2.84%	1,470,273	3.16%	41	-10.1%
NAVARRA (CHARTERED COMMUNITY OF)	58	18.37%	2.70%	643,234	1.38%	90	95.3%
BASQUE COUNTRY	95	-12.04%	4.42%	2,194,158	4.71%	43	-6.2%
RIOJA (LA)	24	41.18%	1.12%	315,381	0.68%	76	64.8%
CEUTA & MELILLA	1	100%	0.05%	171,079	0.37%	6	-87.3%
TOTAL	2,150	-22.10%	100%	46,572,132	100%		
AVERAGE IN SPAIN	46						



Patent applications per autonomous region, 2017

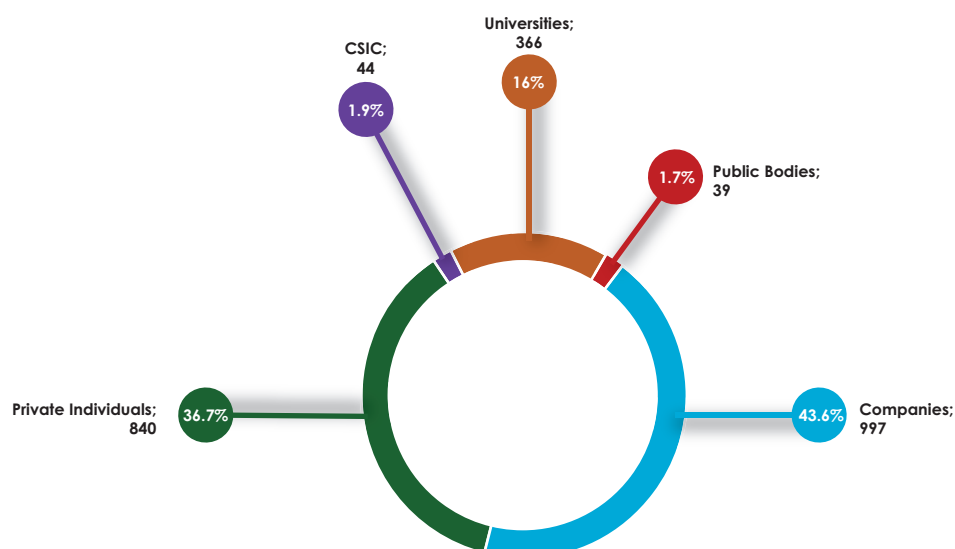


Top applicants of spanish patents, 2017



Remark: All the applicants (owners or joint owners) are considered for each case file.

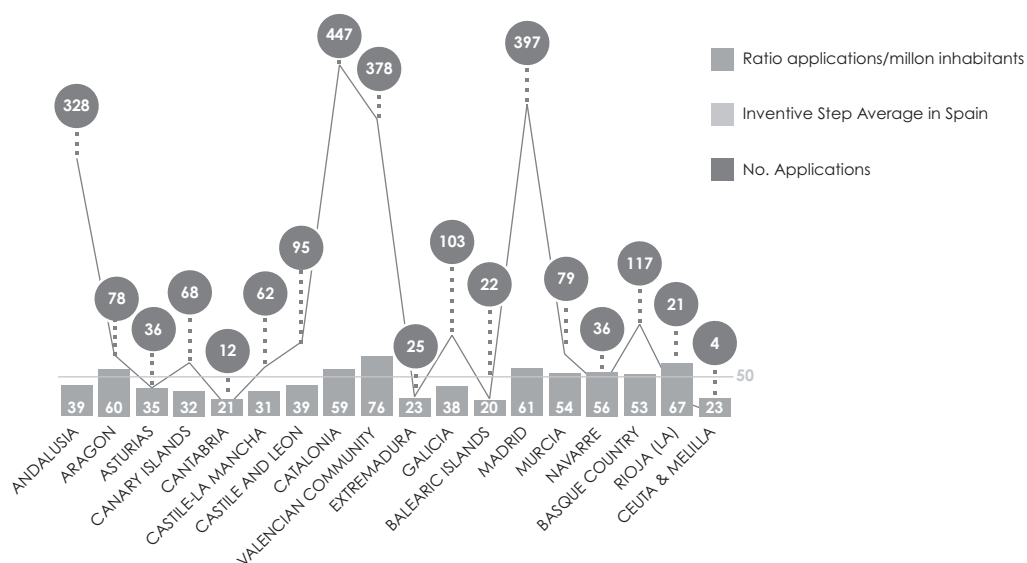
Patent Applications according to type of applicant, 2017



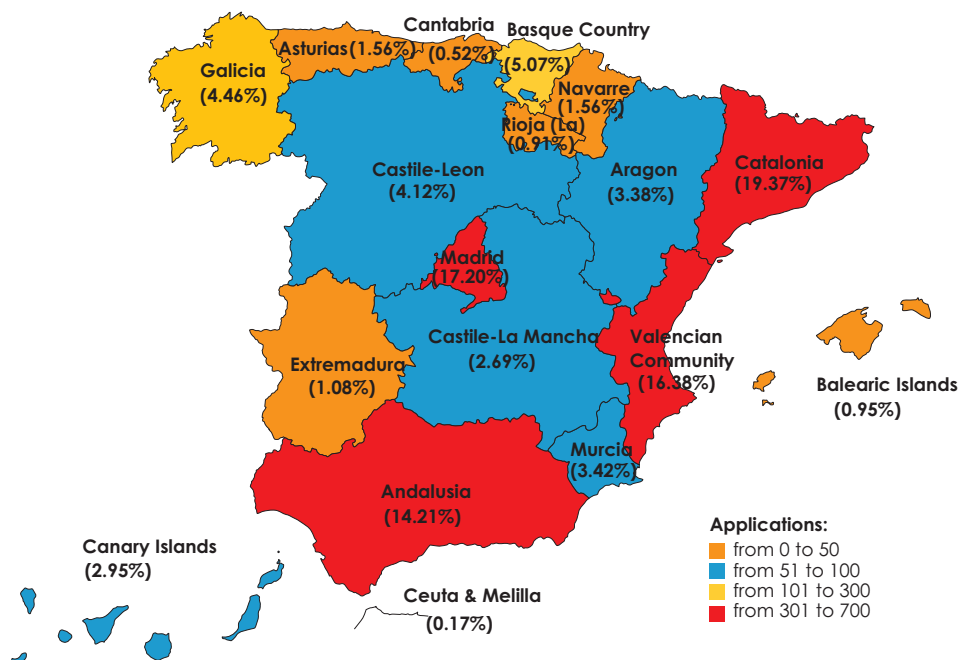
Utility model applications per autonomous region, with regard to the number of inhabitants; inventive step, 2017

AUTONOMOUS REGIONS	APPLICATIONS			INHABITANTS		INVENTIVE STEP	
	Number	% Annual Variation	% over Total Spanish residents	Number	% Inhabitants/ Total Spanish	Ratio applications/ Million inhabitants	Deviation over the mean
ANDALUSIA	328	21.93 %	14.21 %	8,379,820	17.99%	39	-21.0%
ARAGON	78	11.43 %	3.38 %	1,308,750	2.81%	60	20.3%
ASTURIAS (PRINCIPALITY OF)	36	2.86 %	1.56 %	1,034,960	2.22%	35	-29.8%
CANARY ISLANDS	68	6.25 %	2.95 %	2,108,121	4.53%	32	-34.9%
CANTABRIA	12	-64.71 %	0.52 %	580,295	1.25%	21	-58.3%
CASTILE-LA MANCHA	62	-17.33 %	2.69 %	2,031,479	4.36%	31	-38.4%
CASTILE AND LEON	95	17.28 %	4.12 %	2,425,801	5.21%	39	-21.0%
CATALONIA	447	1.82 %	19.37 %	7,555,830	16.22%	59	19.4%
VALENCIAN COMMUNITY	378	-0.79 %	16.38 %	4,941,509	10.61%	76	54.4%
EXTREMADURA	25	-3.85 %	1.08 %	1,079,920	2.32%	23	-53.3%
GALICIA	103	-9.65 %	4.46 %	2,708,339	5.82%	38	-23.3%
BALEARIC ISLANDS	22	10.00 %	0.95 %	1,115,999	2.40%	20	-60%
MADRID	397	-6.81 %	17.20 %	6,507,184	13.97%	61	23.1%
MURCIA (REGION OF)	79	-19.39 %	3.42 %	1,470,273	3.16%	54	8.4%
NAVARRA (CHARTERED COMMUNITY OF)	36	-7.69 %	1.56 %	643,234	1.38%	56	12.9%
BASQUE COUNTRY	117	18.18 %	5.07 %	2,194,158	4.71%	53	7.6%
RIOJA (LA)	21	-16.00 %	0.91 %	315,381	0.68%	67	34.4%
CEUTA & MELILLA	4	100 %	0.17 %	171,079	0.37%	23	-53%
TOTAL	2,308	0.57%	100 %	46,572,132	100%		
AVERAGE IN SPAIN						50	

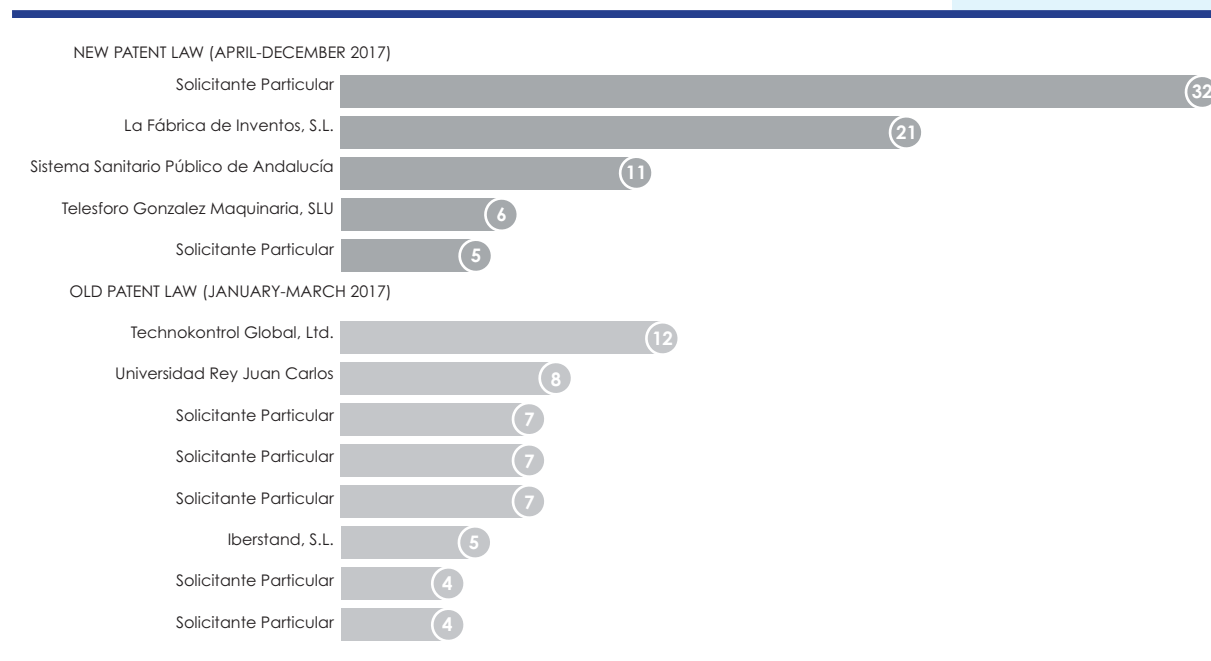
Note: Population base is taken from municipal lists of residents updated on 1 January 2017 (R.D. 1039/2017, of 15 December 2017) published in the Official Gazette on 29 December 2017.



Utility model applications per autonomous region, 2017

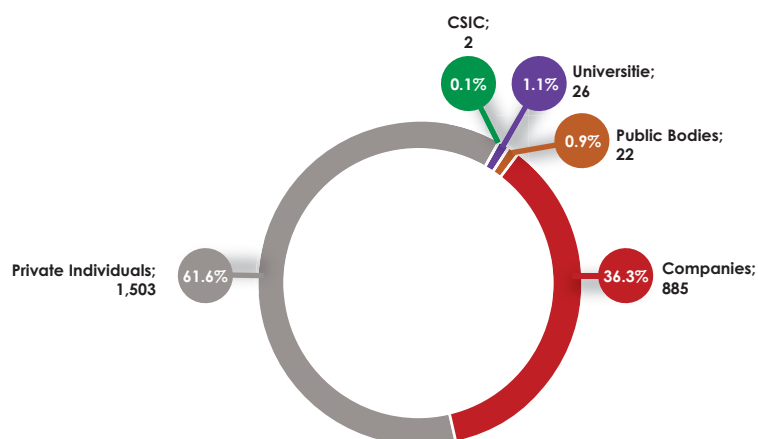


Top applicants of utility models, 2017



Remark: All the applicants (owners or joint owners) are considered for each case file.

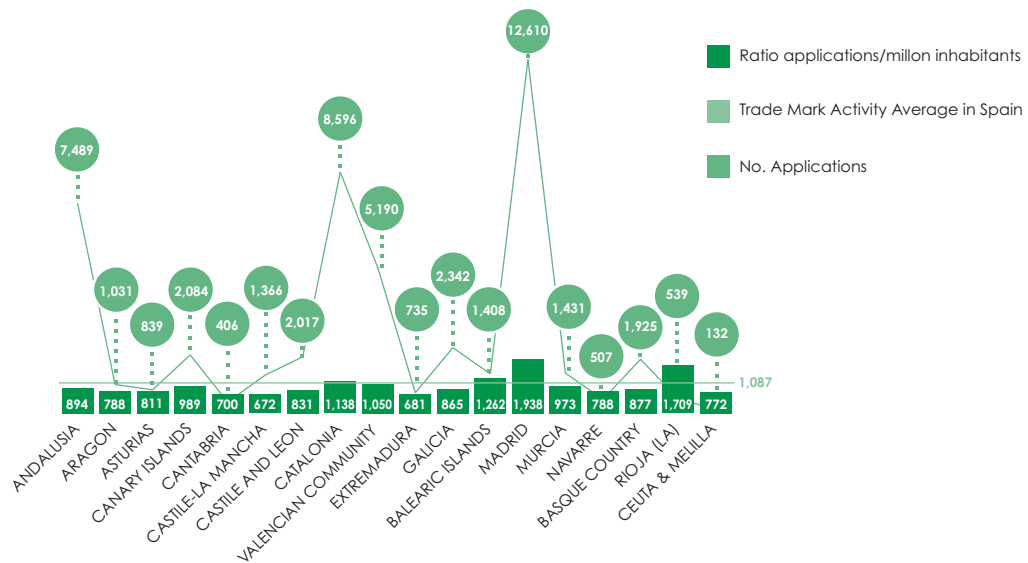
Utility Model Applications according to type of applicant, 2017



Trademark applications per community region, as regards to the number of inhabitants; trademark activity, 2017

AUTONOMOUS REGIONS	APPLICATIONS			INHABITANTS		TRADEMARK ACTIVITY	
	Number	% Annual Variation	% over Total Spanish residents	Number	% Inhabitants/ Total Spanish	Ratio applications/ Million inhabitants	Deviation over the mean
ANDALUSIA	7,489	4.04%	14.79%	8,379,820	17.99%	894	-17.8%
ARAGON	1,031	-1.43%	2.04%	1,308,750	2.81%	788	-27.6%
ASTURIAS (PRINCIPALITY OF)	839	1.08%	1.66%	1,034,960	2.22%	811	-25.5%
CANARY ISLANDS	2,084	1.41%	4.11%	2,108,121	4.53%	989	-9.1%
CANTABRIA	406	-16.46%	0.80%	580,295	1.25%	700	-35.7%
CASTILE-LA MANCHA	1,366	-4.27%	2.70%	2,031,479	4.36%	672	-38.2%
CASTILE AND LEON	2,017	10.04%	3.98%	2,425,801	5.21%	831	-23.5%
CATALONIA	8,596	-6.56%	16.97%	7,555,830	16.22%	1,138	4.6%
VALENCIAN COMMUNITY	5,190	5.57%	10.25%	4,941,509	10.61%	1,050	-3.4%
EXTREMADURA	735	-0.81%	1.45%	1,079,920	2.32%	681	-37.4%
GALICIA	2,342	-4.41%	4.62%	2,708,339	5.82%	865	-20.5%
BALEARIC ISLANDS	1,408	-1.47%	2.78%	1,115,999	2.40%	1,262	16.0%
MADRID	12,610	3.95%	24.90%	6,507,184	13.97%	1,938	78.2%
MURCIA (REGION OF)	1,431	-11.28%	2.83%	1,470,273	3.16%	973	-10.5%
NAVARRA (CHARTERED COMMUNITY OF)	507	-0.20%	1.00%	643,234	1.38%	788	-27.5%
BASQUE COUNTRY	1,925	1.16%	3.80%	2,194,158	4.71%	877	-19.3%
RIOJA (LA)	539	-11.49%	1.06%	315,381	0.68%	1,709	57.2%
CEUTA & MELILLA	132	-32.99%	0.26%	171,079	0.37%	772	-29.1%
TOTAL	50,647	2.46%	100%	46,572,132	100%		
AVERAGE IN SPAIN	1,087						

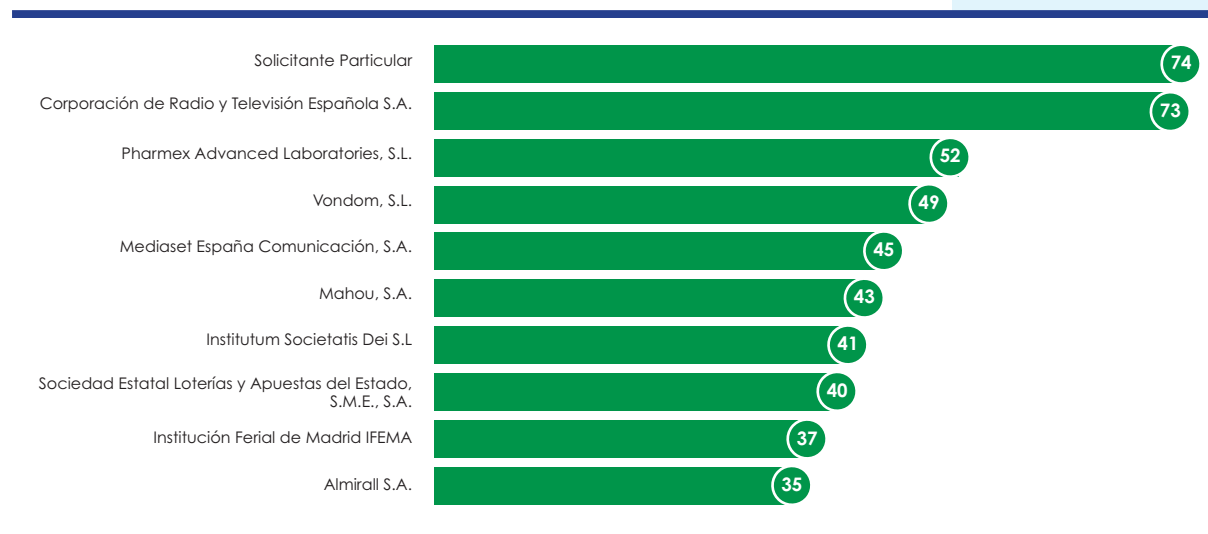
Note: Population base is taken from official municipal lists of residents updated on 1 January 2017 (RD 1039/2017, of 15 December 2017) published in the Official Gazette on 29 December 2017.



Trade mark applications per autonomous region, 2017

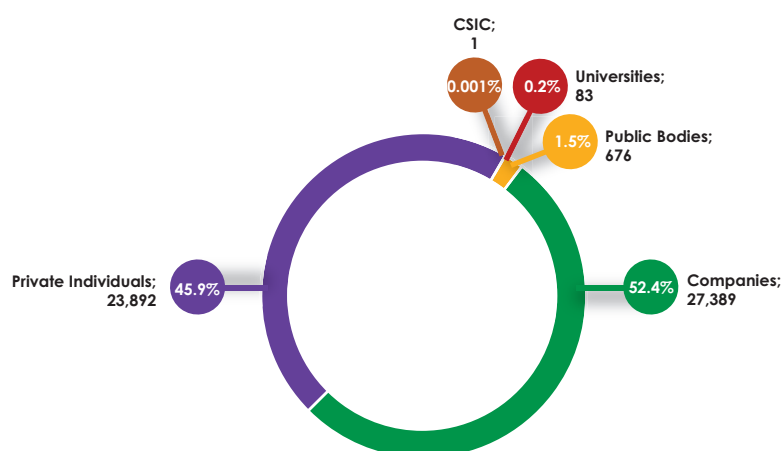


Top applicants of trade marks, 2017



Remark: All the applicants (owners or joint owners) are considered for each case file.

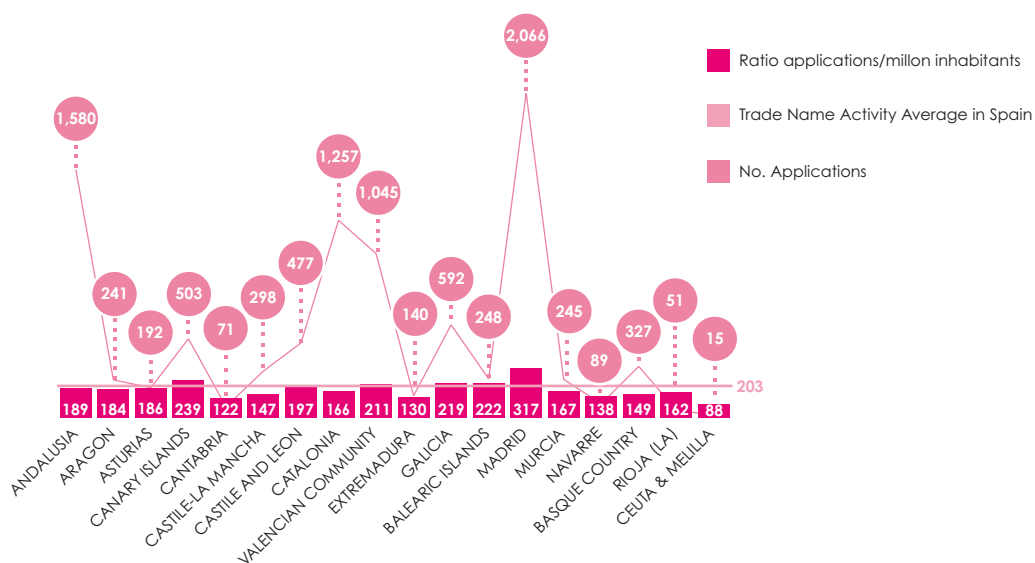
Trade Mark Applications according to type of applicant, 2017



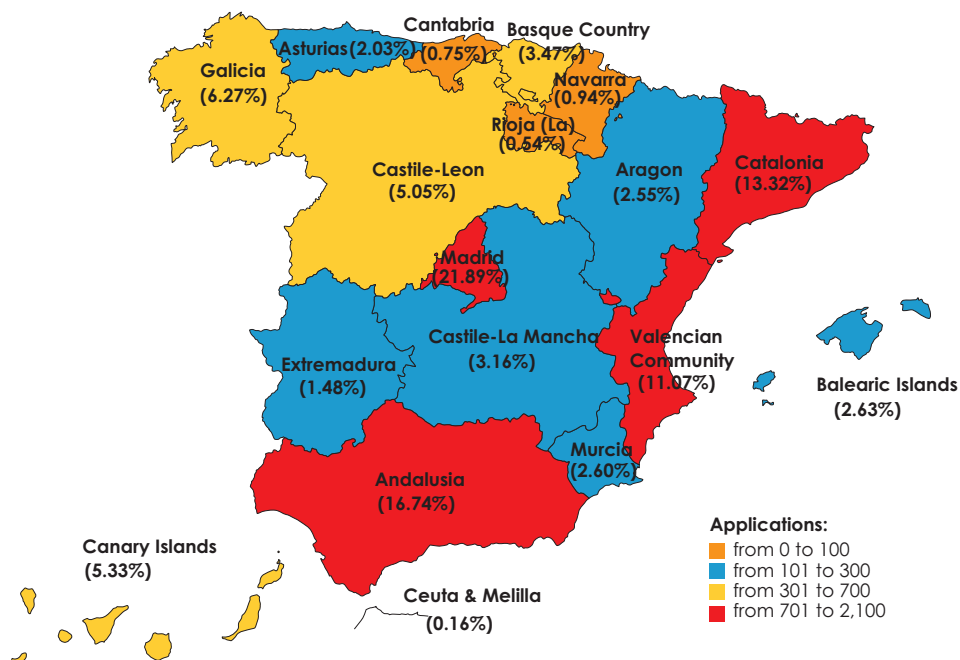
Trade name applications by autonomous community, in relation with the no. of inhabitants; trademark activity, 2017

AUTONOMOUS REGIONS	APPLICATIONS			INHABITANTS		TRADEMARK ACTIVITY	
	Number	% Annual Variation	% over Total Spanish residents	Number	% Inhabitants/ Total Spanish	Ratio applications/ Million inhabitants	Deviation over the mean
ANDALUSIA	1,580	23.53%	16.74%	8,379,820	17.99%	189	-7%
ARAGON	241	25.52%	2.55%	1,308,750	2.81%	184	-9%
ASTURIAS (PRINCIPALITY OF)	192	9.71%	2.03%	1,034,960	2.22%	186	-8%
CANARY ISLANDS	503	27.34%	5.33%	2,108,121	4.53%	239	18%
CANTABRIA	71	12.70%	0.75%	580,295	1.25%	122	-40%
CASTILE-LA MANCHA	298	19.68%	3.16%	2,031,479	4.36%	147	-28%
CASTILE AND LEON	477	39.47%	5.05%	2,425,801	5.21%	197	-3%
CATALONIA	1,257	19.03%	13.32%	7,555,830	16.22%	166	-18%
VALENCIAN COMMUNITY	1,045	20.67%	11.07%	4,941,509	10.61%	211	4%
EXTREMADURA	140	55.56%	1.48%	1,079,920	2.32%	130	-36%
GALICIA	592	29.26%	6.27%	2,708,339	5.82%	219	8%
BALEARIC ISLANDS	248	8.77%	2.63%	1,115,999	2.40%	222	10%
MADRID	2,066	44.98%	21.89%	6,507,184	13.97%	317	57%
MURCIA (REGION OF)	245	46.71%	2.60%	1,470,273	3.16%	167	-18%
NAVARRA (CHARTERED COMMUNITY OF)	89	3.49%	0.94%	643,234	1.38%	138	-32%
BASQUE COUNTRY	327	33.47%	3.47%	2,194,158	4.71%	149	-26%
RIOJA (LA)	51	0.00%	0.54%	315,381	0.68%	162	-20%
CEUTA & MELILLA	15	25.00%	0.16%	171,079	0.37%	88	-57%
TOTAL	9,437	26.43%	100%	46,572,132	100%		
AVERAGE IN SPAIN	203						

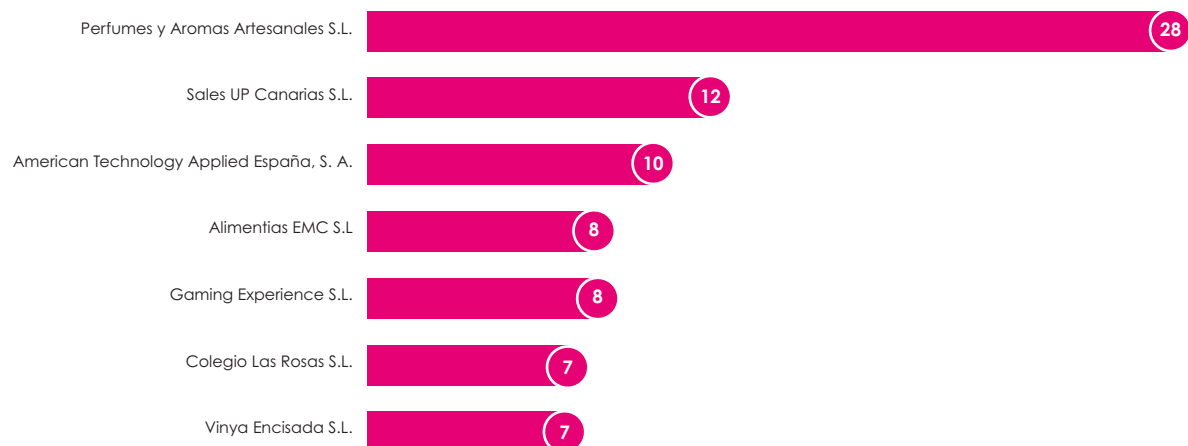
Note: Population base is taken from official municipal lists of residents updated on 1 January 2017 (RD 1039/2017, of 15 December 2017) published in the Official Gazette on 29 December 2017.



Trade name applications per autonomous region, 2017

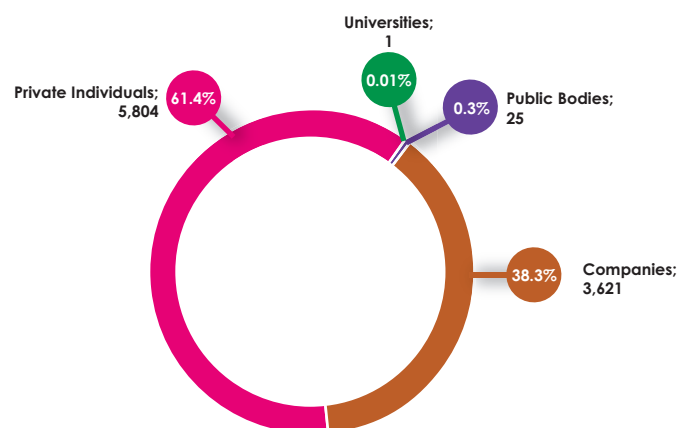


Top applicants of trade names, 2017



Remark: All the applicants (owners or joint owners) are considered for each case file.

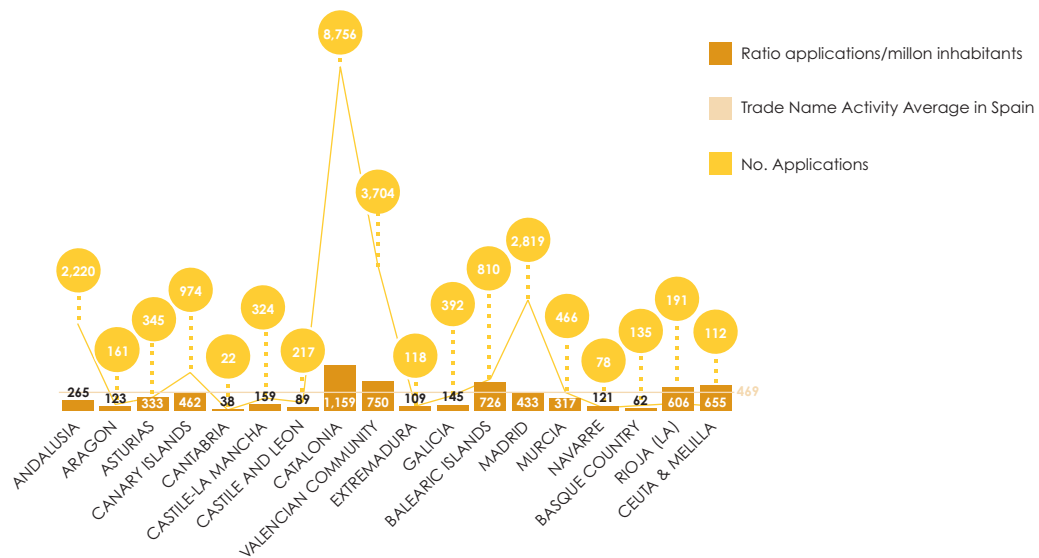
Trade Name Applications according to type of applicant, 2017



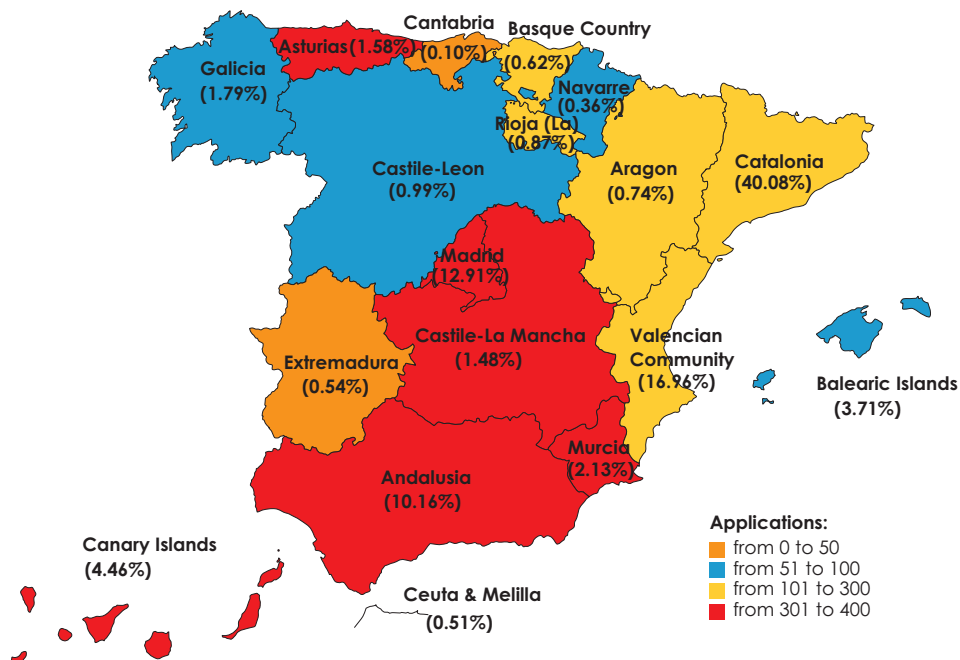
Industrial design applications per autonomous region as regards to the number of inhabitants; design activity, 2017

AUTONOMOUS REGIONS	APPLICATIONS			INHABITANTS		DESIGN ACTIVITY	
	Number	% Annual Variation	% over Total Spanish residents	Number	% Inhabitants/ Total Spanish	Ratio applications/ Million inhabitants	Deviation over the mean
ANDALUSIA	2,220	15.63%	10.16%	8,379,820	17.99%	265	-44%
ARAGON	161	-1.23%	0.74%	1,308,750	2.81%	123	-74%
ASTURIAS (PRINCIPALITY OF)	345	22.78%	1.58%	1,034,960	2.22%	333	-29%
CANARY ISLANDS	974	-29.98%	4.46%	2,108,121	4.53%	462	-1%
CANTABRIA	22	-69.01%	0.10%	580,295	1.25%	38	-92%
CASTILE-LA MANCHA	324	0.93%	1.48%	2,031,479	4.36%	159	-66%
CASTILE AND LEON	217	-42.29%	0.99%	2,425,801	5.21%	89	-81%
CATALONIA	8,756	254.5%	40.08%	7,555,830	16.22%	1,159	147%
VALENCIAN COMMUNITY	3,704	-10.34%	16.96%	4,941,509	10.61%	750	60%
EXTREMADURA	118	63.89%	0.54%	1,079,920	2.32%	109	-77%
GALICIA	392	-36.98%	1.79%	2,708,339	5.82%	145	-69%
BALEARIC ISLANDS	810	6.02%	3.71%	1,115,999	2.40%	726	55%
MADRID	2,819	-21.43%	12.91%	6,507,184	13.97%	433	-8%
MURCIA (REGION OF)	466	-39.56%	2.13%	1,470,273	3.16%	317	-32%
NAVARRA (CHARTERED COMMUNITY OF)	78	-17.02%	0.36%	643,234	1.38%	121	-74%
BASQUE COUNTRY	135	-51.61%	0.62%	2,194,158	4.71%	62	-87%
RIOJA (LA)	191	44.70%	0.87%	315,381	0.68%	606	29%
CEUTA & MELILLA	112	6.7%	0.51%	171,079	0.37%	655	40%
TOTAL	21,844	24.46%	100%	46,572,132	100%		
AVERAGE IN SPAIN							469

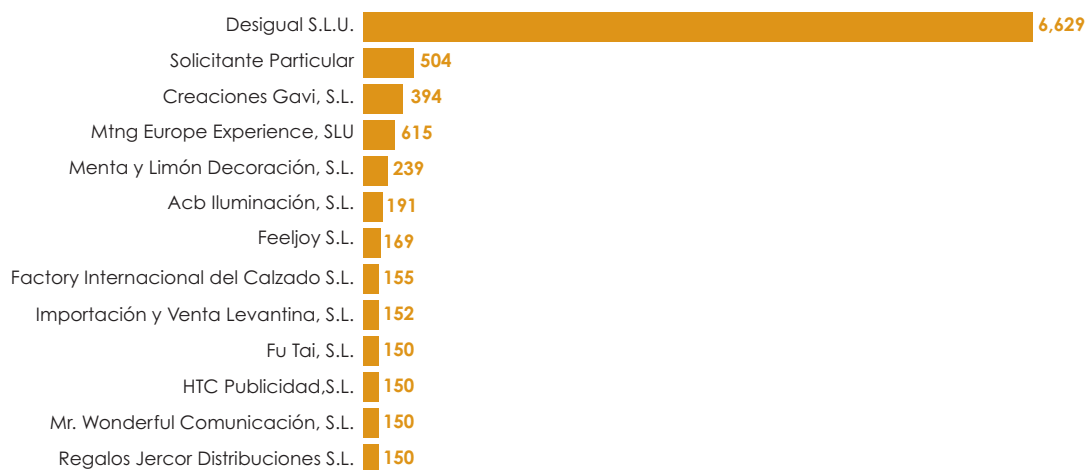
Note: Population base is taken from official municipal lists of residents updated on 1 January 2017 (RD 1039/2017, of 15 December 2017) published in the Official Gazette on 29 December 2017.



Industrial design applications, 2017

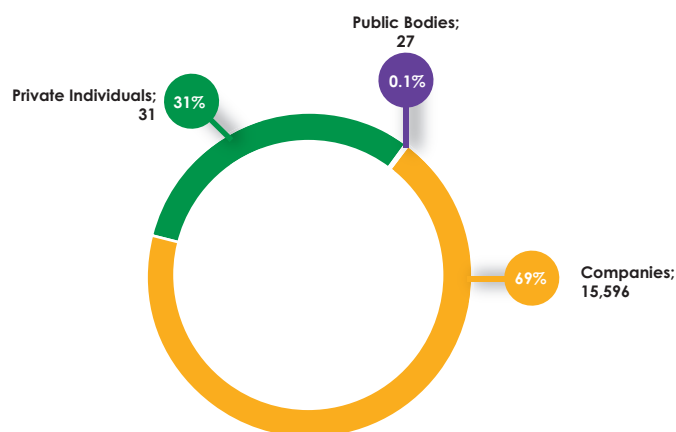


Top applicants of industrial designs, 2017



Remark: All the applicants (owners or joint owners) are considered for each file. N° files/designs are shown.

Industrial Design Applications according to type of applicant, 2017



Trend of pct patent applications, of spanish origin, 2000-2017

YEARS	PCT of Spanish origin	PCT entered Spanish phase *
2000	519	86
2001	616	95
2002	719	79
2003	788	92
2004	823	87
2005	1,127	90
2006	1,202	101
2007	1,294	102
2008	1,390	121
2009	1,564	91
2010	1,769	121
2011	1,732	111
2012	1,704	136
2013	1,705	126
2014	1,705	170
2015	1,530	164
2016	1,504	85
2017	1,407	84

* Include patents and utility models.

Top applicants for patents via PCT of spanish origin, published in 2017



Top applicants for patents via PCT filed at the spto in 2017



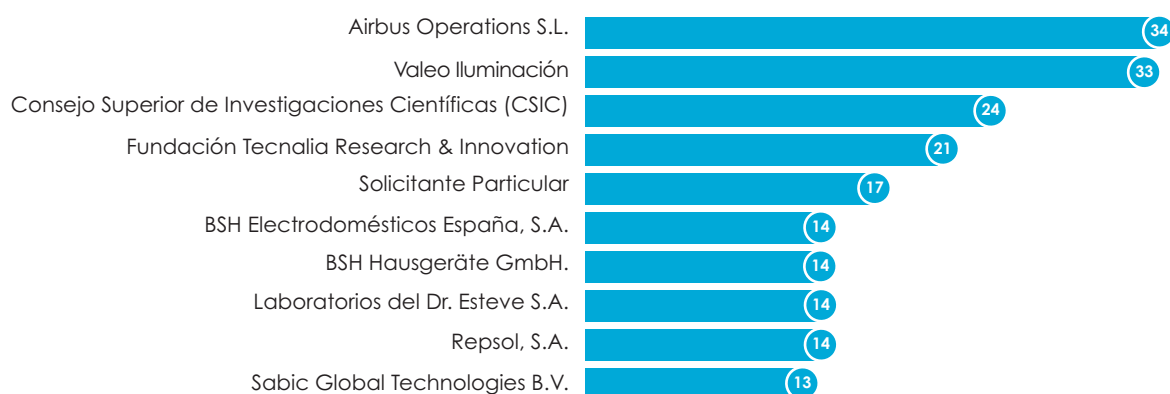
Note: All the applicants (owners or joint owners) are considered for each case file.

Trend of european patent applications of spanish origin, 2000-2017

Years	European Patents of Spanish origin
2000	525
2001	582
2002	603
2003	695
2004	846
2005	972
2006	1,101
2007	1,286
2008	1,324
2009	1,263
2010	1,436
2011	1,412
2012	1,548
2013	1,504
2014	1,471
2015	1,518
2016	1,558
2017	1,676

Note: European Patents of Spanish origin in 2017 are provisional until official publication by EPO.

Top european patent applicants of spanish origin, applications published in 2017



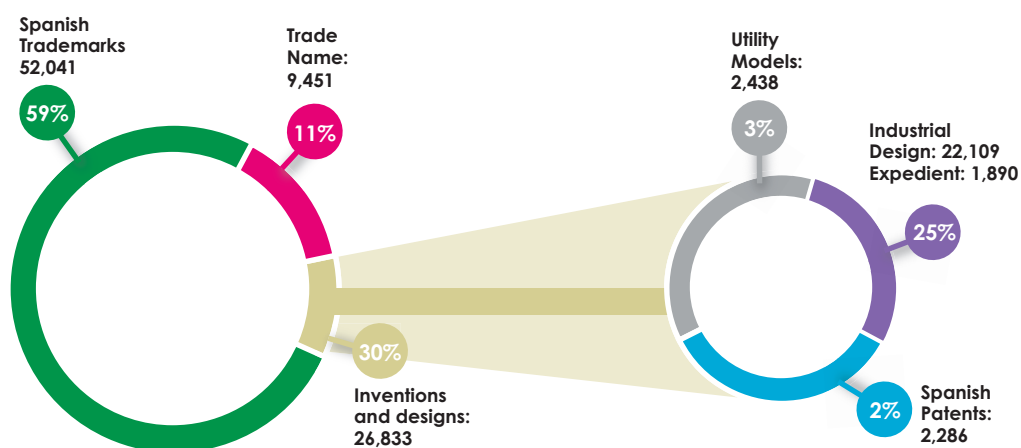
Note: All the applicants (owners or joint owners) are considered for each case file.

Evolution of patent technical reports prepared at the SPTO

YEAR	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	▲ (+/-) ANNUAL 2017/ 2016
International Search Reports (ISR) (PCT World Procedure)	722	751	768	857	939	1,080	1,240	1,238	1,409	1,296	1,481	1,257	1,461	1,214	1,025	1,085	6%
Search Reports (SR) (National Procedure)	2,216	2,432	2,335	2,397	2,263	2,227	2,427	2,881	3,029	2,777	3,091	3,105	2,442	2,152	1,968	1,950	-1%
Patent Technological Reports (Preliminary Reports on patentability)	345	411	483	391	505	435	418	346	325	365	276	251	323	305	314	297	-5%
Substantive Examination Reports (National Procedure)	17	175	264	296	281	263	268	315	368	372	388	374	419	498	434	355	-18%
TOTAL	3,300	3,769	3,850	3,941	3,988	4,005	4,353	4,780	5,131	4,810	5,236	4,987	4,645	4,169	3,741	3,687	-1%

Trend of IP applications, 2000-2017

IP Modalities / per Years	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	▲ 2017/2016
Spanish Patents	3,111	2,904	3,055	3,081	3,100	3,252	3,352	3,439	3,783	3,712	3,670	3,528	3,361	3,133	3,031	2,882	2,849	2,286	-19.76%
Utility Models	3,212	3,142	3,099	3,000	2,901	2,853	2,814	2,657	2,662	2,545	2,629	2,585	2,517	2,633	2,689	2,328	2,427	2,438	0.45%
Industrial Designs	3,644	3,661	3,472	2,386	1,804	1,890	1,588	1,525	1,414	1,529	1,662	1,772	1,598	1,826	1,773	1,927	2,096	1,890	-9.83%
Industrial Designs						11,348	10,594	10,373	11,241	13,141	14,767	18,594	17,420	18,078	17,948	17,508	18,035	22,109	22.59%
Trademarks Spanish	87,769	78,441	69,743	53,989	54,777	56,414	58,643	57,833	49,750	42,437	43,364	44,116	44,029	46,904	50,057	50,715	52,103	52,041	-0.12%
Trade Names	4,229	4,168	4,940	4,162	3,928	5,130	6,449	6,750	5,865	4,694	4,602	5,062	4,998	5,759	7,099	7,475	7,388	9,451	27.92%
DISTINCTIVE SIGNS:													49,027	52,663	57,156	58,190	59,491	61,492	3.36%
NATIONAL INVENTIONS:									6,445	6,257	6,299	6,113	5,878	5,766	5,720	5,210	5,276	4,724	-10.46%



IP filing applications, 2017

IP Modalities	AÑO 2016					
	TOTAL	Electronic Filing	% Electronic Filing over Total Applications	▲ (+/-) Electronic Filing 2016/2015	Applications filed in Paper	% Paper over Total Applications
Spanish Patents	2,286	1,504	65.8%	-13.9%	782	34.2%
Utility Models	2,438	1,620	66.4%	3.8%	818	33.6%
Industrial Designs (Expedient)	1,890	1,604	84.9%	-9.3%	286	15.1%
Industrial Designs (Designs)	22,109	20,204	91.4%	34.3%	1,905	8.6%
Spanish Trademarks	52,041	43,036	82.7%	5.8%	9,005	17.3%
Trade Name	9,451	8,474	89.7%	41.1%	977	10.3%

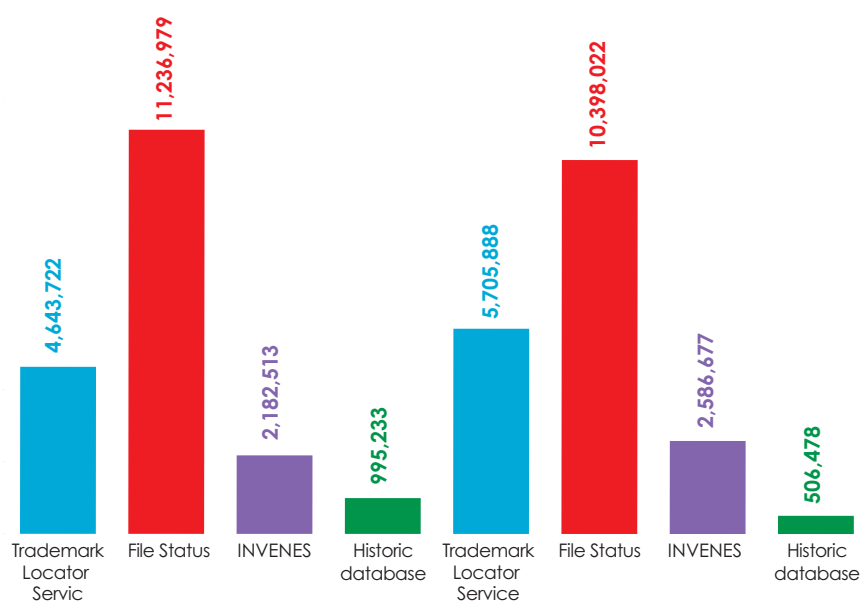
Access to databases of the SPTO website

DATABASES	2016 (01/01/2016 al 31/12/2016)	2017 (01/01/2017 al 31/12/2017)	▲ (+/-) Annual 2017/2016
Trademark Locator Service	5,982,092	6,883,878	15.1%
File Status	10,430,785	5,480,615	-47.5%
INVENES	2,586,677	2,457,259	-5.0%
Complete Documents *	2,020,442	5,320,354	163.3%
Images	239,472	620,832	159.3%
Historic Database	628,845	578,481	-8.0%
ANNUAL TOTAL	21,888,313	21,341,419	-2.5%

* Complete Patent and Utility Model documents (OEPMPAT).

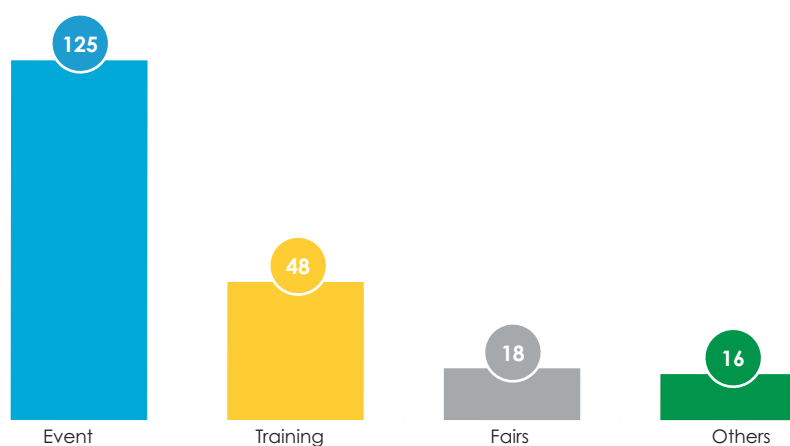
Note: From 2011 images obtained from invention documents are accounted.

Source: Webtrends; Awstats.

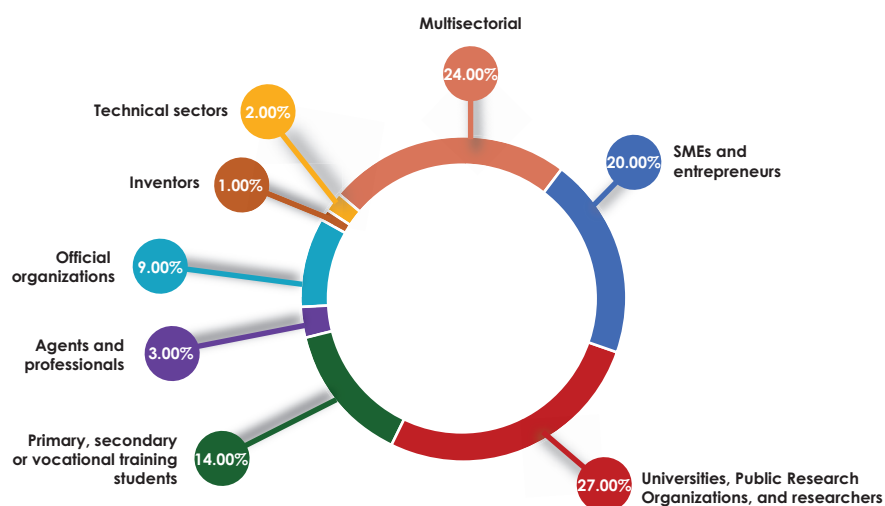


7.5. DISSEMINATION PLAN DATA

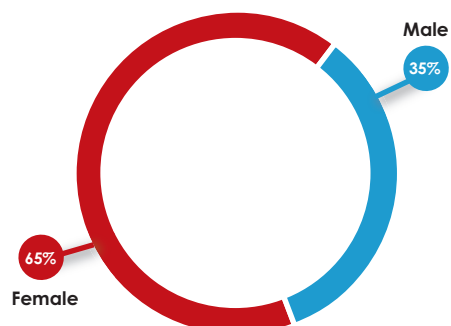
Activities Carried out in 2017



Target public



Distribution of speakers by gender





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