CPC Implementation and Data at KIPO

Hee-Sang Shin Korean Intellectual Property Office Twelfth CPC Annual Meeting, Geneva 24 February 2025



- 1. CPC classification and search
- 2. CPC quality assurance
- 3. CPC training
- 4. CPC implementation
- 5. CPC data exchange

CPC Classification and Search

- Across all CPC areas, KIPO uses our own systems to assign classifications to all types of documents.
- KIPO has two classification systems for front/backfiles individually.
- When searching for prior art using our own system, KIPO recommends using CPC.



<A System for classifying back files only>

CPC Quality Assurance Process

- KIPRO conducts to classify provisionally then KIPO reviews and confirms.
- If a patent examiner finds some errors, KIPRO conducts the classification again.
- To ensure CPC quality, **KIPO manually inspects randomly sampled documents** also **KIPRO** has a **circular process** for improving accuracy.



CPC Training

• Our classifiers are trained through the CPC-training program provided by EPO and expert technical lectures.

Date	Subclass	Туре	Host
June 2024	C09, C12F, C12Q, E21B, G01V, H10B	Online	EPO
Mar-Jun, 2023	A61K, B25B, C01G, C08F, F28, G01C, G01P, H01P	Online	EPO
Oct-Nov, 2022	A45B, A61L, B65B, C12N, C07K, G10L, H04R	Online	EPO
May 2022	A24F, A61B, B64G, B65G	Online	EPO
June 2021	B64C	Online	EPO
Sep. 2019	B01D, C07F, C07J, C09C, C09K , C10B, C10G, C10J, C10K, C10L, C11D	Hague	EPO
May 2019	B29C, F22B, F22D, F22G, F24D, F24H	Munich	EPO

< CPC-training program provided by EPO >

• KIPO would like to request CPC-training programs related to the EGST project and newly created subclasses/main groups.

CPC Implementation

- KIPO Began to assign CPC to newly filed applications from January 2015
- In KIPO, CPC is effectively utilized as a useful tool * for efficient search and statistical analysis.
 - Prior art search Application trend statistics Technology-based task allocation
- KIPO is spending a significant budget on the implementation and operation of CPC.

Classification of front file

*

Reclassification of back file Operation of classifiers, etc.

- CPC classification (KIPO) :

YEAR	FRONT FILES
2015	214,030
2016	208,687
2017	183,456
2018	185,167
2019	194,325
2020	194,499
2021	205,680
2022	223,802
2023	233,405
2024	241,045

CPC Implementation

- KIPO immediately applies the updated CPC scheme to front files.
- KIPO applies the updated CPC scheme to back files on an annual basis.
- In KIPO, the reclassification of 2.9 millions back files was completed by 2019.
- In KIPO, since 2020, almost all reclassification has been based on the updated CPC.

YEAR	BACK FILES
2015	231,902
2016	821,441
2017	1,020,254
2018	674,421
2019	157,091
2020	62,367
2021	75,255
2022	82,787
2023	91,977
2024	98,877

- KIPO provides the CPC documents translated into Korean and immediately applies the CPC updates in Korean as well.

CPC Data Exchange

- KIPO exchanges CPC data with the EPO in accordance with the Korea-EPO data exchange MOU signed in December 2012.
- KIPO exchanges data of front files and back files with the EPO every month.
- KIPO immediately applies the exchanged data, and there are no experience issues in this process.

Any additional comments or concerns

- KIPO is always grateful for the efforts of the EPO and USPTO in operating the CPC
- However, as an office utilizing the CPC, KIPO hopes to participate in the CPC revisions, even if only in part.

-We would appreciate it if you could consider this.



Thank you!