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Corsica, France

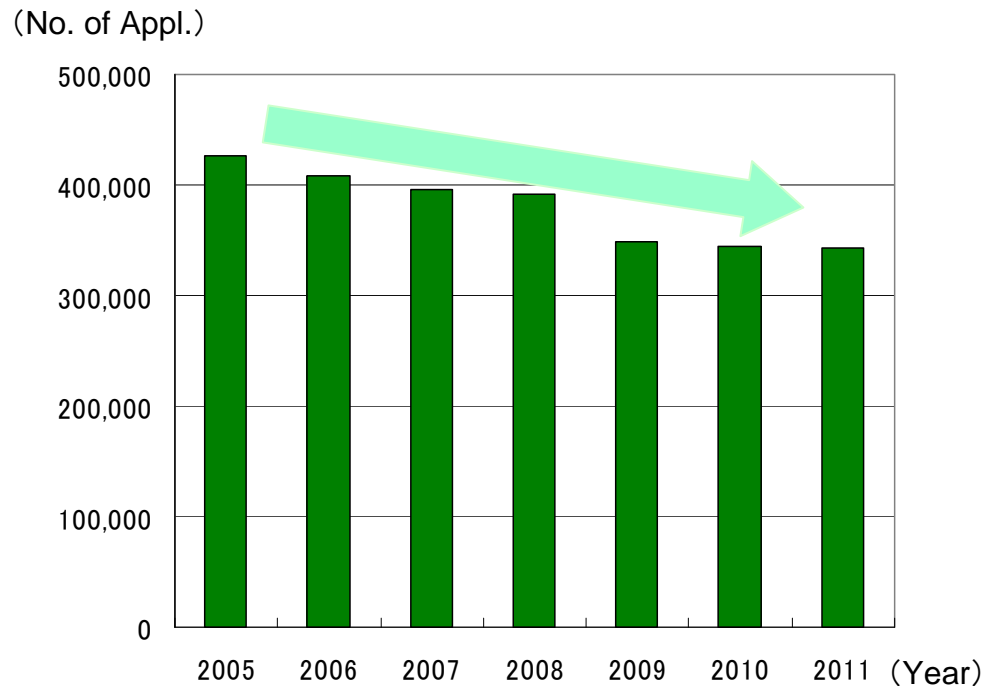
# JPO's Strategic Directions

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**Commissioner**  
**Japan Patent Office**

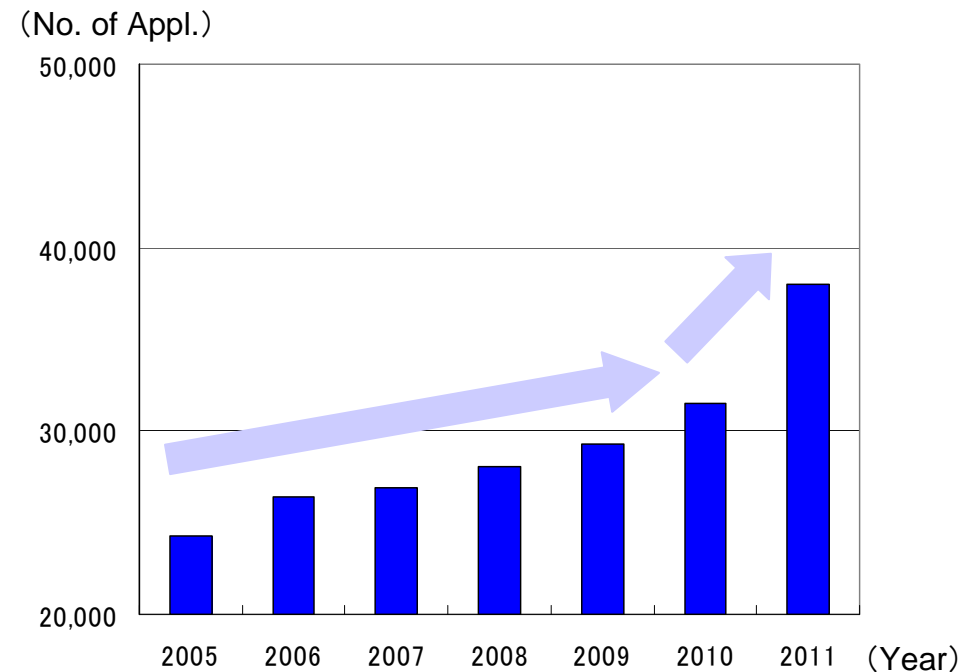
- Although the number of patent applications filed with JPO has been slightly decreasing, the number of PCT applications received by JPO has been greatly increasing.
- The number of PCT applications in 2011 increased 20% year-on-year.

### Changes in the Number of Patent Applications/PCT Applications Filed in Japan

Changes in the No. of Patent Applications



Changes in the No. of PCT Applications



# JPO's Efforts in Conducting Patent Examinations

JPO's measures to achieve the world's highest level of examination efficiency

Improving systems

Utilizing the private  
sector (Outsourcing)

Increasing number  
of examiners

**Faster**

✓ JPO is speeding up patent examination in order to achieve its goal of shortening the examination waiting period to 11 months in 2013.

✓ We anticipate that this goal will be achieved.

➡ **Possible to obtain patents "faster"**

**Cheaper**

✓ Examination request fees and PCT international search fees were reduced nearly 25% due to a revision made in 2011 to the Japan Patent Act.

➡ **Possible to acquire rights at a "lower price"**

**Stronger**

✓ Users want "stronger patent rights", in other words, stable patents that are enforceable and protected internationally.

➡ What are the next steps for JPO in granting "Faster" and "Cheaper" patents?

# Future Strategy of the JPO

- Granting stable patents which can be enforced/protected internationally without difficulties, and
- Enabling users to more easily acquire patents abroad

## Harmonizing patent systems

- Moving toward patent harmonization by making optimum use of various fora such as IP5 and Tegerensee Group
- Expanding the Examiner Exchange Program

## Improving capability to search foreign patent documents

- Developing a system to search patent documents in foreign languages by utilizing machine translation
- Standardizing common patent classification worldwide

## Enhancing examination system

- Enhancing quality management of examination that is beneficial all over the world
- Consolidating examination to support strategies developed by global companies (“Matome\*” examination)

## Revising IT systems

- Revising plan to optimize IT systems, enabling them to respond more flexibly to international treaties & cooperation
- Improving measures to respond to the risks of earthquakes, cyber threats, etc.

\* “Matome” is Japanese term meaning “putting together” or “compiling together”<sup>3</sup>

**Thank you.**