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ANNUAL REPORT 1997

OFFICE FOR HARMONIZATION
IN THE INTERNAL MARKET
(TRADE MARKS AND DESIGNS)



The theme of The International Year of Oceans was chosen by UNO in December 1997. We have therefore chosen this theme to illustrate the 1997 Annual Report of the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market.

A great deal of additional information on the European Union is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server (<http://europa.eu.int>).

A bibliographic list appears at the end of this report.

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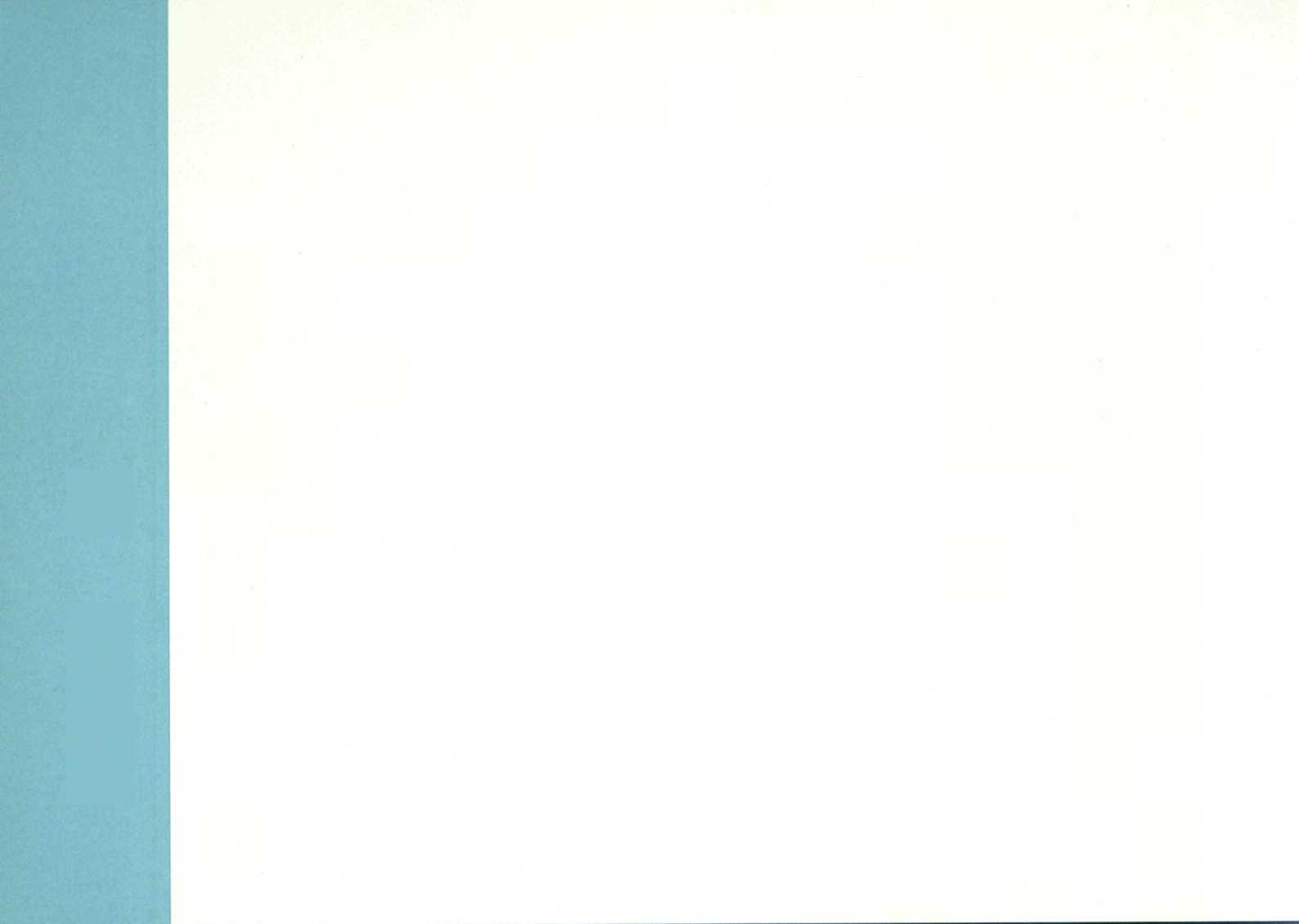
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Jean-Claude COMBALDIEU

President



The Community trade mark gathered impetus with 43 000 applications received in 1996, to which should be added the 27 000 applications received in 1997. Such an achievement is indeed prodigious in the early stages of the creation of a new intellectual property right.

This clearly demonstrates - if, indeed, proof were still needed - that the single European market is now an economic reality for the principal commercial and industrial actors in the market.

In its quest to meet the needs of its customers, and in view of its success, the Office underwent a reorganisation. Over the last months of 1997, the Office was able to provide the human and technical resources needed to manage the registration procedure in a timely manner. This will enable it to operate at a steady and consistent pace over the forthcoming year.

At the same time, in 1997, the Office became self-financing. In doing so, it secured its place in the tradition of the major industrial property offices.

This was precisely the objective the Member States of the European Union had in mind when they created an independent Community agency, which would consequently be in a position to fulfil its tasks as thoroughly and rapidly as possible.

We are delighted that the business community has demonstrated its confidence in the work of the Office.

Developments within the Office

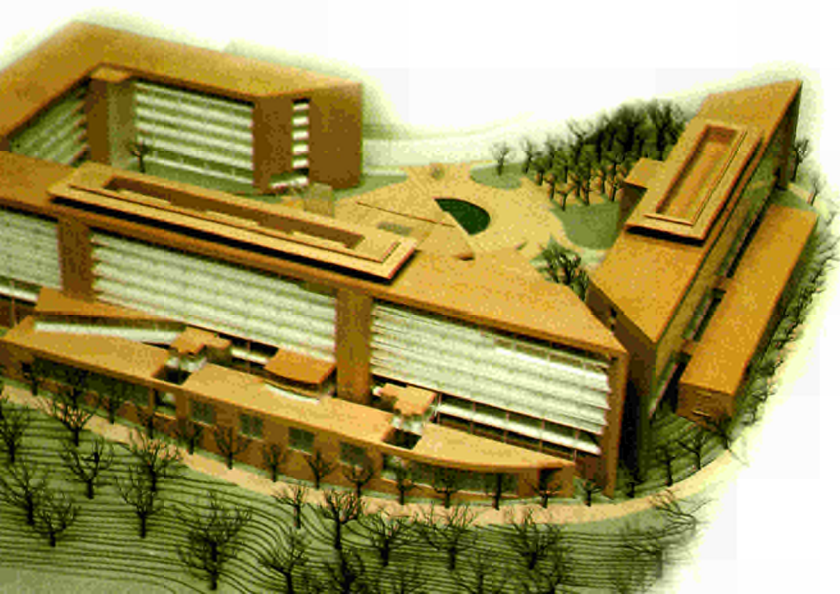
during 1997



1997 has been a difficult year for the Office. Since the closing months of 1996, the Office has had to manage a progressive increase in the human and technical resources set in place to meet the organisational needs of a level of activity higher than that originally anticipated.

In total, 43 000 trade mark applications were received in 1996, and a further 27 000 applications were received in 1997, bringing the total for the two years to 70 000.

Applications have been filed at an average rate of over 100 per working day. This clearly illustrates the interest in the Community trade mark maintained by businesses from all around the world.



In the meantime, work continued on the registration procedure, in all its stages, as laid down in the basic and implementing regulations. The procedure is not simple for the users or for management by the Office. Multilingualism, with the many ensuing translations and publications that it entails, the millions of pages of national search reports necessitating extensive technical and administrative handling, the multiple deadlines to be complied with and managed, are all difficulties which must be overcome.

This complexity must be seen as the price to be paid for a Europe with its many traditions, but which provides the economy and businesses with immeasurable advantages.

Faced with this new situation, and following a detailed audit, the Office has had to review its working methods. The organisation has been restructured, the technical and administrative resources have been strengthened, and the number of examiners have been reinforced particularly taking into account linguistic considerations.

Close links with professional bodies have been strengthened in order to ensure that the resources employed meet the requirements of the users, as regards both quantity and quality, whilst at the same time complying with the Regulation on the Community trade mark.

The Office's relations with the Translation Centre in Luxembourg have also been normalised, and the latter now seems to be able to handle the workload.

This policy has finally borne fruit, since in the last months of 1997 the number of applications published weekly has been double the number of trade mark applications received. The target of 15 000 applications to be published has not only been achieved but exceeded.

All of this demonstrates clearly that the length of time needed to complete the various stages of the registration procedure is improving and, provided the effort is maintained, the Office should operate at a steady pace by the end of 1998. We should at this stage highlight a point which is not always taken on board by people other than specialists: The readjustment of the working capacity of the Office to

more than double that originally foreseen, was achieved in only a few months in 1997, despite all the various constraints inherent in a body subject to rigorous rules on staff, financial and budgetary matters. To these are added the technical constraints associated with, in particular, informatics. The latter have been considerable, particularly if one acknowledges that the Office is entirely computerised, that is to say, the files are handled electronically without any recourse to paper circulation.

Fortunately, as it has turned out, had not the option of the "paperless Office" been adopted from the outset, the result would have been catastrophic resulting in a mountain of documents which could not have circulated in our present relatively cramped offices.



The actual procedure for the registration of trade marks was carried out in accordance with regulatory provisions and, in some cases, up to the stage of final registration. 550 trade marks have been registered this way. It is anticipated that 36 000 applications will be registered in 1998. The first certificates for the registration of trade marks were issued on 17 October 1997, in the presence of Dr Arpad Bogsch, Director-General of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

Oppositions have been lodged against certain trade marks in the three months following publication. The Oppositions Division was re-enforced so that it could deal with the 860 oppositions filed in 1997.

The last of the three Boards of Appeal foreseen by the Administrative Board was established in September 1997. It was decided that a registry under the aegis of the Boards would be set up. Twenty appeals were lodged during the year.

The growth in the size of the Office, to approximately 320 people by the end of the year, irrespective of the type of contract (officials

and other employees), made it necessary to acquire new premises. Accordingly, two new buildings are foreseen for 1998.

The need to find a permanent seat became urgent. An international competition, launched in 1996 by COSOAMI (Consortium of Services of OHIM) under the aegis of the Spanish government, was brought to a close in 1997. The building chosen is that proposed by Dragados and Ecisa. Situated between the airport and the town of Alicante, this building, of symbolic importance, will house 400 people in the first phase, and will have an area above ground of 20 934 m². It will include all the basic amenities, boardroom, meeting room, library, restaurant, etc. Phases 2 and 3, to be constructed later, are foreseen to house a further 400 people each.





The Budget Committee and the Administrative Board of the Office have authorised the choice of the building, and the principle of acquisition during the construction stage. It must be pointed out here that the land has been donated by COSOAMI (which in fact comprises: the Spanish government and the local authorities, namely the autonomous government of the Comunidad Valenciana, the Diputación, and the town of Alicante). The construction is expected to be completed in the second half of 1999.

1997 was also the year the Office became self financing, as foreseen by the Council Regulation on the Community trade mark. Delays in the procedures have generated substantial surpluses. However, in accounting terms, these simply reflect the interval between receipt of the filing fee and the carrying out of operations required by the Regulation, namely, translations, publications, national searches, etc. In other words, the cash balances which correspond to this revenue, will cover actual expenditure to be incurred in 1998.

Thanks to the flexibility of its management and the independence conferred upon it by the Regulation on which it is founded, the Office has responded rapidly to the new and unforeseen situations. Its ability to manage is of supreme importance, and must be preserved. It ensures that users receive the best service at the best price. The organisational culture of providing a service is deeply inculcated in its staff. It should be underlined that they have done their utmost to ensure that the Office is able to deal with applications productively.

It is important that users know that 1997 was the year the foundations were laid for ensuring the success of the Community trade mark.

The Office believes that by serving the all important single European market, it is also providing a service to businesses in ensuring their products and services are protected by means of a recognised trade mark at a reasonable price.

It is a noble and important task.



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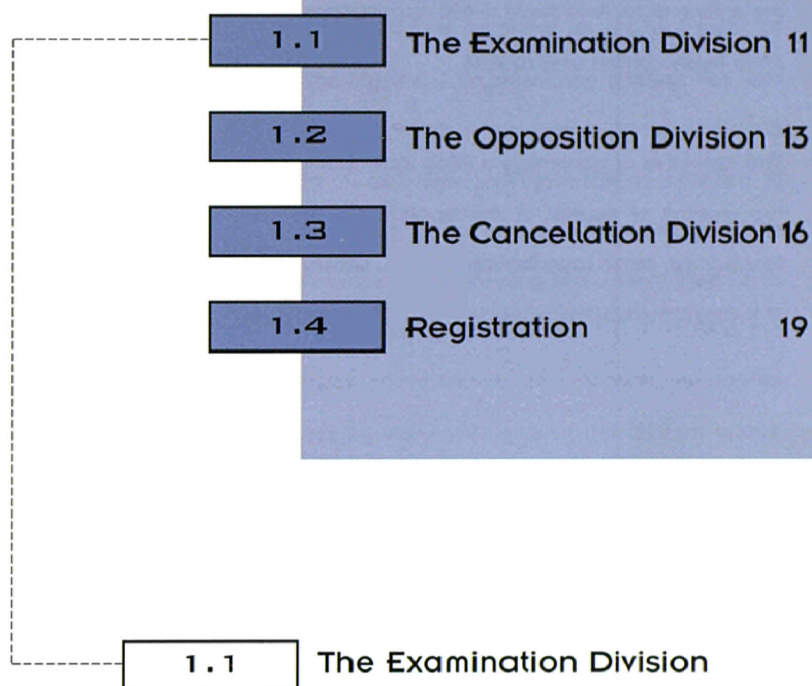
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FROM FILING OF A TRADE MARK TO ITS REGISTRATION



At the beginning of the year, there were nearly 40 000 unprocessed applications carried forward from the previous year. These were yet to be published or examined for the absolute grounds of refusal. In addition, 27 000 new applications were received in 1997, representing an average rate of over 100 applications per working day.

1.1

1

Filing dates

Over 14 000 filing dates were accorded in 1996, bringing the total number of applications to be examined during this year to over 55 000. Filing dates were allocated for more than 48 000 applications. Almost 1 000 applications were withdrawn, and several hundred failed to meet - at least at the outset - the criteria for accord- ing a filing date. As a result, 6 000 applications have been carried over to 1998.

The objective of according a filing date within two months of receipt of the application, in respect of those applications which satisfy statutory requirements, was achieved in the year.

1.1

3

**Formal examination
and absolute grounds
for refusal**

The Division has dealt with some 27 000 appli- cations to the stage involving the examination of absolute grounds. In the majority of cases, this has required verifying whether they com- ply with the basic formal requirements, includ- ing priority and seniority. The issue of seniority is discussed in more detail below. Around 90% of the 27 000 applications examined were accepted.

Over and above the applications involving an exchange of correspondence, more than 40 000 cases have been carried forward to 1998.

1.1

2

Classification

Over 3 000 applications were classified in 1996, bringing the total number of applications to be dealt with in 1997 to more than 66 000. Around 47 000 applications were thus classified, and 16 000 have been carried over to 1998.

There are some 4 000 applications pending on an ongoing basis where the Office remains in contact with the applicant or his representative with a view to resolving problems of classification.



In October, the examination of claims for seniority was suspended in order to speed up the publication of applications. The applications in question were published without indication as to the seniority of the claim. For a number of the applications the approach taken has proved to be particularly advantageous.

The examination of claims for seniority will be resumed in 1998. This will take into account those applications which have already been published.

More than 15 000 applications reached the stage of publication. In reaching this stage, not only did they pass through each of the foregoing stages, but were also translated into all the official languages of the Community.

In June, the existing structure and procedures were modified following an internal audit of the Division. As a result, the Division now has one unit which is responsible for tasks relating to all activities leading to the accordance of the filing date, and four coordinated units responsible for dealing with examination up to publication of applications. Since some of the tasks of the Examination Division are carried out by more than one of the Office's operational divisions, a joint unit was created at the end of the year. The programme of reorganisation will continue into 1998.

During 1997, the activities of the Opposition Division centred on three areas:

The Opposition Divisions became operational in 1997. The first Bulletin was published on 10 March and the first opposition was received on 20 May.

Between 20 May and 31 December, this service received 847 oppositions, representing a ratio (oppositions to applications published) of around 22%. However, only 17% of the applications published for which the deadline had expired were affected by one or more oppositions. It will thus be possible to register the great majority of the applications (83%) without any other procedure being necessary.

The average period of time for sending an acknowledgement of receipt of opposition is two to three days. On the other hand, given that the procedure is new, the majority of the opposition forms received had to be rectified before the applicant could be notified. The divisions were careful to make their practice known in order to speed up the processing of the applications.

In total, 450 oppositions were notified to the relevant applicants. In 132 cases, opposition proceedings have begun. Seventy-one have been brought to a close following withdrawal for limitation of an application (56) or withdrawal of an opposition (15). Eight decisions on inadmissibility have been taken.

The Divisions work mainly in English when processing oppositions. English is the language used in the procedure in around 75% of cases, with German being the second most commonly used language (10%), followed by French (6.5%) and then Spanish (4%).

1.2

2

Computerisation of the Opposition Division

The Division was progressively computerised in the course of the year and all opposition files were administered in both paper and electronic form.

From February onwards, a Euromarc study was carried out in order to determine the specific needs of the Division.

A temporary module was installed in May, and in July a second version made improvements to the computerised handling of correspondence.

In August, a first series of tests were carried out on the definitive module, further tests were carried out by the entire Division in November and December. At the same time, the Division's staff were given training in the use of this module.

The module will become operational progressively from January 1998.

1.2

3

Guidelines

Opposition guidelines, on "procedure" and standard letters, covering the formal and substantive requirements to be followed during opposition proceedings, were adopted by the President of the Office on 31 July 1997 (Decision No. EX-97-3) and published in Official Journal No. 10 of the Office in October 1997.

1.2	4
-----	---

Operation

The first three Opposition Divisions were created in March. Each Division has three members who examine the substance of the files and take decisions, in accordance with Article 127 of the Regulation. They are assisted by one category B person, who is responsible for examining the admissibility of the opposition, the collection of fees and the apportionment of costs, and by two category C people, who are responsible for data capture and handling correspondence. Each Division is responsible for processing "its" oppositions from arrival through to closure.

Each Division is composed in such a way that all the languages of the Office are represented.

A fourth Division was created in October.

Most of the staff of the Opposition Division have been involved in examining files, in order to reduce delays. Progressively, these people will be completely reintegrated into the Opposition Division.

Recruitment has been a key part of the Opposition Division's activities, since 18 people began working in the Divisions in 1997. In December, the total number of staff stood at 30, and seven more people will take up their posts during the first quarter of 1998.

1.3

The Cancellation Division

1.3	/
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Preamble

The "Cancellation Divisions" are responsible for processing and deciding on applications for the revocation or declaration of invalidity of a Community trade mark. Only a trade mark whose registration has been published can be the subject of such an application. Since almost no registrations were published in 1997, and the few that were published came towards the end of the year, the Cancellation Divisions have not, in fact, been operational.

1.3	2
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Activities in support of other services

At first the Cancellation Divisions took part in all the other important activities of the Office and, at the same time, dealt with legal questions. Members of this Division attended conferences and seminars. Not only did these meetings enable them to pass on information to all the specialists present, they also gave them an opportunity to listen to the opinions of the Office's customers.

Until the end of May 1997, one of the principal tasks of the Cancellation Division was to implement the Office's programme of in-house training in the field of Community trade mark law, its implementation and its economic aspects.

Moreover, all the staff, with the exception of the Head of Division and his secretary, were seconded to the Examination Division to give assistance. Finally, in November 1997, four members of staff were officially appointed to the Cancellation Division. Owing to the measures that took effect at the end of May 1997, the programme of in-house training for staff was suspended.

Participation in the establishment of the Office's administrative practice

The Regulation on the Community trade mark and the relevant legislation need to be interpreted and applied by the Office in a uniform fashion. For this reason, staff from the Cancellation Division took part in the joint deliberations on basic issues in the Examination Division (without, of course, taking part in decisions on specific cases). The Cancellation Division is only one element of the Office, which coordinates with the others. It is not only a practical necessity for all the divisions to participate in developing a "common viewpoint", but also an obligation pure and simple. This is the context within which the opportunities to take part in deliberations of this kind have been fully utilised.

Preparation of the procedures for declarations of revocation and invalidity

To prepare for future procedures, forms have been designed in the five languages of the Office for applications for revocation or the declaration of invalidity. The first stages of the procedure for examining an application of this kind (acknowledgement of receipt, verification of receipt of the application fee, etc.) have been finalised, and the corresponding forms have been drawn up in the five languages. The Division has continued to work on the draft guidelines concerning the procedure for declarations of revocation or invalidity.



1.3

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1.3

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1.4 Registration

The first applications for trade marks reached the registration stage in 1997. This event was marked by a ceremony on 17 October 1997 in the presence of Dr Árpád Bogsch, Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization. In the course of this ceremony, the President of the Office symbolically presented four registration certificates to IAPIP (International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property), ECTA (European Communities Trade Mark Association), INTA (International Trade Mark Association), and the Magister Lucentinus of Alicante, respectively. By 31 December, 550 trade marks had been registered.





THE BOARDS OF APPEAL

The Boards of Appeal are responsible for decisions on appeals lodged against decisions by the examiners, the Opposition Divisions and the Cancellation Divisions, or the Legal Department, which includes the Administration of Trade Marks and Legal Division. They operate completely independently and are not bound by any directive.

The second and third Boards of Appeal were set up in the course of 1997, and by the end of the year the three Boards of Appeal currently in existence were fully operational.

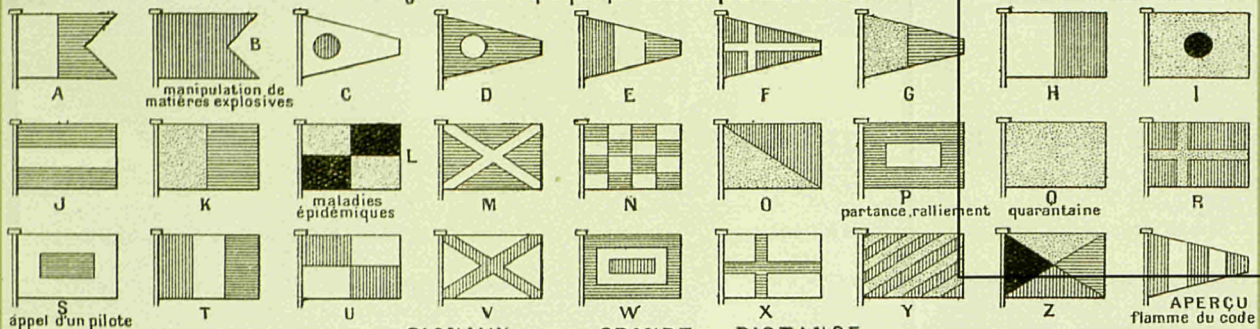
Throughout the year, the Boards and the central registry were busy organising internal working procedures and procedures for recruiting staff to assist them, and with procuring additional office equipment and clarifying general legal questions with regard to handling the appeals to come. The Boards were also engaged in developing electronic research tools for automatic storage and retrieval of their own jurisprudence, while the central registry was involved in putting in place an electronic system for the administrative processing of appeals compatible with Euromarc, the Office's information processing system. Integration with Euromarc should be achieved in the course of 1998.

As regards the composition of the Boards and the allocation of duties, the Authority provided for in Article 1 (2) of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 216/96 laying down the rules of procedure of the Boards of Appeal (see OJ OHIM No. 4/96, p. 399) adopted three decisions on these questions in 1997 (composition of the Boards: see OJ OHIM No. 6/97, p. 427, and No. 12/97, p. 1375; allocation of duties: see No. 12/97, p. 1371).

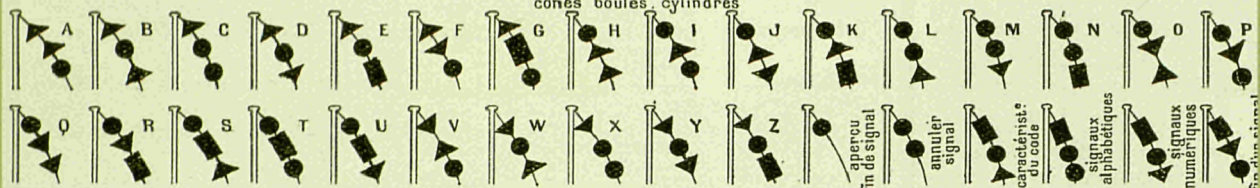
In 1997, twenty appeals were submitted to the Office: nineteen against decisions taken by the Examination Division, and one against a decision taken by the Administration of Trade Marks and Legal Division. In three cases, the contested decision was rectified by way of interlocutory revision in accordance with Article 60 of the Regulation on the Community trade mark, and in one case the appeal was rejected by decision of the first Board of Appeal. The other appeals are still pending.

At the end of 1997, nine people (including the chief registrar) were assisting the Boards of Appeal. A substantial increase in the number of staff assisting the Boards is planned, thanks to the recruitment, *inter alia*, of legal assistants, in the early months of 1998.

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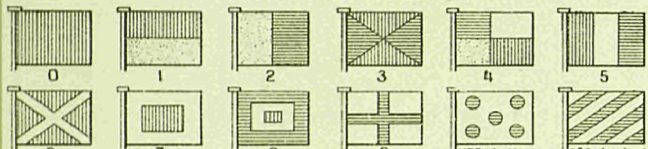


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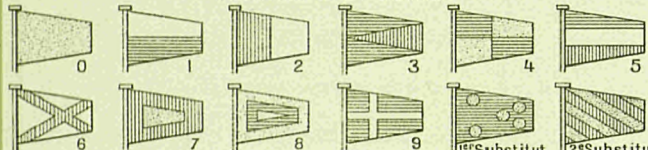


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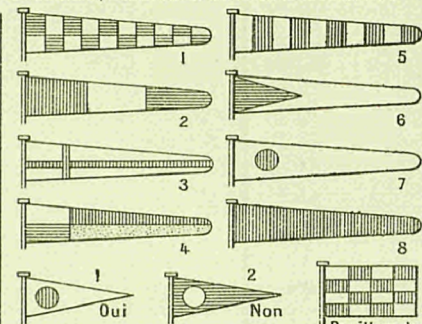
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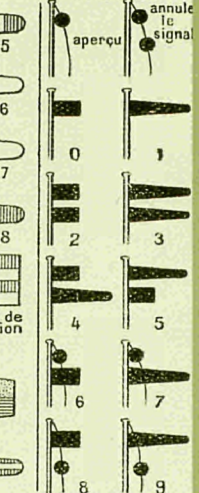
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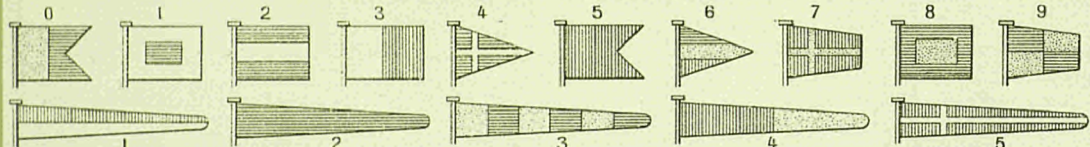
FLAMMES, TRIANGLES & PAVILLON DE RECTIFICATION



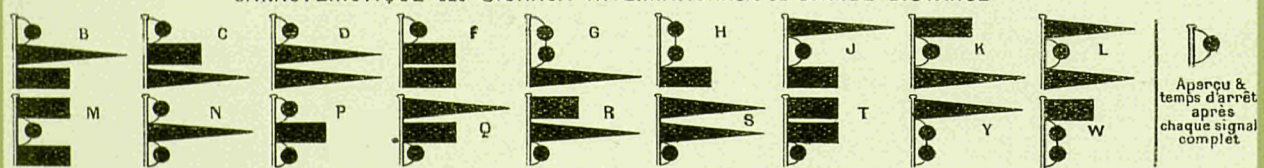
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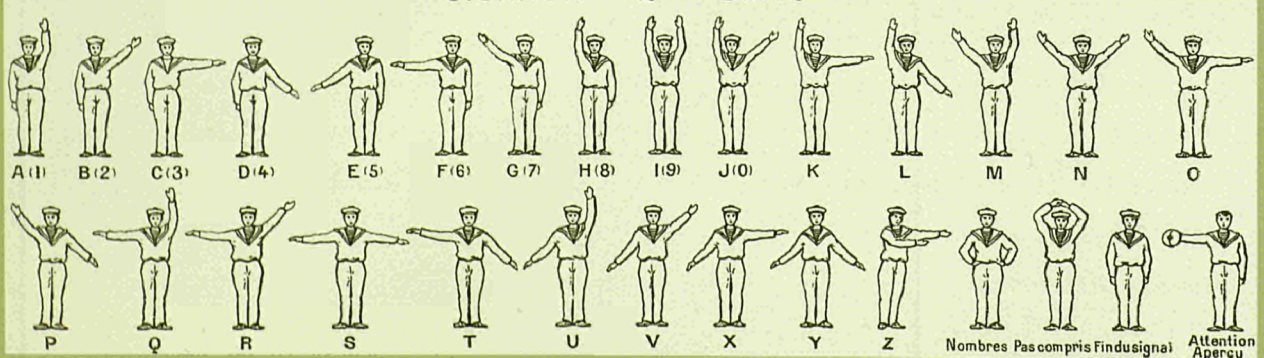
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LEGAL WORK

3.1

The Legal Department is subdivided into the following four services, each corresponding to one of the principal tasks of the department:

- the Legal Affairs and Litigation Service;
- the Legislation and International Legal Affairs Service;
- the Professional Representation Service;
- the Service for the Administration of the Trade Marks Register.

The Legal Department is responsible for any decision required by the Regulation on the Community trade mark which does not come within the competence of an examiner, an Opposition Division or a Cancellation Division.

3.1

Structure

21

3.2

The work of the Legal Department

22



3.2 The work of the Legal Department

3.2 / Work on internal legislation and advice

In the course of 1997, the Legal Department prepared the decisions and communications from the President of the Office, and also draft guidelines on public inspection, interlocutory revision and conversion. The draft guidelines on interlocutory revision and public inspection have been sent to the national offices and to interested parties for their comments. Draft guidelines are being prepared concerning other procedures before the Office.

The Legal Department has also been consulted on various internal subjects, such as the revision of contracts and the procurement procedure with regard to the Office's final seat, and it has also answered legal questions concerning the Community trade mark system raised by applicants or their representatives.

In 1997 the Legal Department represented the Office before the Court of First Instance of the European Communities in a matter concerning the European civil service, but also in the context of an appeal against an administrative decision taken by the President of the Office. The Legal Department also presented its comments in response to a request to examine the legality of an administrative decision by the President of the Office, addressed to the Commission, in accordance with Article 118 CTMR.

The Legal Department is also responsible for determining the contents of the Office's Official Journal.

Participation in work to draw up Community standards

This year representatives of the Legal Department took part in meetings of the Council's working party on:

- a proposal for a Decision approving the accession of the European Community to the Protocol on the Madrid Agreement;
- a proposal for a Regulation amending the Regulation on the Community trade mark in order to give effect to the accession of the European Community to the Protocol on the Madrid Agreement;
- a proposal for a Directive from Parliament and the Council on the legal protection of designs and models.

Professional representation

The Legal Department is responsible for registering General Authorizations that have been submitted and allocating a reference number to them. Up to 23 April 1997, this was done manually; 8 459 General Authorizations were registered in this way.

On 23 April 1997, the Euromarc database made it possible to speed up the registration of General Authorizations between then and the end of December 1997. In this way, 11 169 were registered.

A total of 19 628 General Authorizations have been registered by this Service since the Office opened.

The Legal Department is responsible for maintaining the list of professional representatives which has to be established in accordance with Article 89 (1b) CTMR.

In 1997, 405 applications for inclusion in the list of professional representatives were received, of which 393 were approved. In 12 cases, the Office issued a decision rejecting inclusion in the list. No appeals against a negative decision have been registered.

The establishment of professional representatives according to country can be broken down as follows:

COUNTRY	NUMBER
GERMANY	1586
UNITED KINGDOM	989
ITALY	649
FRANCE	646
BENELUX COUNTRIES	357
SPAIN	335
SWEDEN	163
IRELAND	85
DENMARK	74
PORTUGAL	71
AUSTRIA	59
FINLAND	38
REPRESENTATIVES, TOTAL	5052

In 1997, 12 applications for exemption were addressed to the President of the Office pursuant to Article 89 (4) CTMR.

Twenty-six representatives were deleted from the list following their deletion from the national register, either because they had died (16) or had their authorisation withdrawn (5), or on individual request (5).

In the course of the two years as a whole, 5 052 representatives have been entered and 38 deleted from the list, and 71 applications have been rejected.

A directory of professional representatives has been published. It contains the names of over 4 700 representatives, spread over 14 countries.

3.2**4****Registration of
Community trade marks**

The Legal Department is responsible for registering trade marks. The procedure has been computerised.

According to the Euromarc transition diagram, the Legal Department assumes responsibility for a trade mark once it is passed on to it by the Examination Division or the Opposition Division. In fact, this transfer is effected by means of a simple alteration of the computerised status in the Euromarc system's database. From that point onwards, the Legal Department can handle the processing of the trade mark with a view to its definitive registration. This involves carrying out a sequence of two operations. Firstly, the dispatch to the proprietor of the trade mark (or his representative) of the request for payment of the registration fee - as at 31 December 1997, some 7000 such requests had been dispatched. Secondly, electronic linking of payment to the trade mark file - as at 31 December 1997, around 5500 trade marks had reached this stage and had been registered.



The Administrative and Technical Department is responsible for the operations that then follow, namely publication of registration in the Community Trade Mark Bulletin and the issuing and dispatch of registration certificates.

3.2

5

Documentation

This aspect covers, in the first instance, the issuing of priority documents, i.e. certified copies of applications for a Community trade mark, in order to claim priority under the terms of the Paris Convention. The Legal Department has processed 600 requests and has issued around 1 500 priority documents.

This aspect also covers the issuing of either simple or certified true copies of documents from trade mark files, or the communication of information concerning these files. This work is tending to become increasingly important in line with the increase in the number of files reaching the publication stage, thus becoming universally accessible.

**3.2****6****Entries**

This aspect involves the processing of requests for entries which affect the proprietors of Community trade marks, such as transfers, changes of name, licences and establishment of a right in rem. The Legal Department has examined around 500 requests in respect of a total of 1 200 trade marks.

3.2**7****Conversion
of Community
trade marks
and claims of
seniority following
registration**

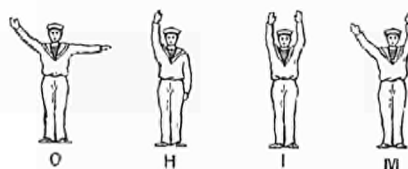
The Legal Department has begun examining the first requests.

3.2**8****International activities**

In 1997, the Office was represented, as part of the European Communities' delegation, at a number of meetings of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

The Head of the Legal Department represented the Office at the meeting of governing bodies of WIPO held in September 1997.

The seventh meeting of the committee of experts on the development of The Hague Agreement was held in November. The draft of a new instrument under The Hague Agreement relating to the international filing of industrial designs and models was studied, and work at the expert level was completed, to enable WIPO's governing bodies to consider convening a diplomatic conference.

SIGNAUX A BRAS

The new draft instrument provides for the possibility of intergovernmental organisations, such as the European Communities, acceding to the Treaty. This would make it possible to establish a "link" between the system of international registration of industrial designs and models under The Hague Agreement and the future Community design or model. However, in 1997 there was no continuation of the discussions of the relevant Council working party on the Commission's proposal for a regulation on Community designs or models.


The Office was also represented at WIPO meetings on Internet trade marks and field names and on the registration of trade mark licences. WIPO has made a proposal for harmonising and simplifying the formalities for registering trade mark licences, which could take the form of a protocol to the Treaty on Trade Mark Law (TLT) which has been in force since 1 August 1996.

In June 1997, the Office attended, as part of the European Commission's delegation, an informal meeting convened with a view to adapting the joint implementing regulation for the Madrid Agreement and Protocol to permit combined utilisation of the Madrid system and the Community trade mark system. In the course of this meeting, which was attended by representatives of the European Community and its Member States and of certain interested parties, participants studied and prepared provisions to be included in the joint implementing regulation, with a view to taking into account the characteristics of the Community trade mark once it is possible to identify the Community in the context of international demand. These proposals were not adopted at the meeting of the Madrid Assembly in October 1997, since at that point the Commission's proposal for a regulation amending the Regulation on the Community trade mark was still being discussed by the relevant Council working party. The Office maintained its informal contacts in order to make appropriate preparations for the impending entry into force of the Madrid Protocol for the European Community.

The Office took part in the third meeting of the committee of experts examining the principles of protection of trade marks of repute.

Finally, the Office was also represented at the 17th meeting of the Working Party preparing the Nice Agreement on the international classification of products and services for the purposes of registration of trade marks.





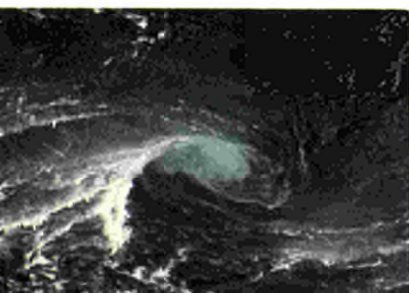
INTERACTION WITH USERS

The President of the Office, the Vice-President for Legal Affairs, and a number of this Vice-Presidency's staff took part in a variety of conferences with a view to promoting the Community trade mark in Europe and throughout the world, including meetings of the International Trademark Association (INTA) and meetings with interested parties in Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Japan.

The Vice-Presidency for Legal Affairs and, in particular, the Legal Department, are called upon to respond to a large number of requests for advice, in both written and oral form, from applicants, their representatives and the public at large on all the legal and practical aspects of the Community trade mark system.

The Office has cooperation links with the following European and international federations:

- *Association Européenne des Industries de Produits de Marques (AIM)*
(European Association of Industries of Branded Products);
- *Association Internationale pour la Protection de la Propriété Industrielle (AIPPI)*
(International Association for the Protection of Industrial Property);
- *Conseil Européen de l'Industrie Chimique (CEFIC)*;
- *Committee of National Institutes of Patent Agents (CNIPA)*;
- *European Communities Trade Mark Association (ECTA)*;
- *European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries Association (EFPIA)*;
- *Fédération Européenne de Mandataires de l'Industrie en Propriété industrielle (FEMIP)*
(European Federation of Agents of Industry in Industrial Property);
- *Fédération Internationale des Conseils en Propriété Industrielle (FICPI)*
(International Federation of Industrial Property Attorneys);
- *International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)*;
- *International Trademark Association (INTA)*;
- *Association of European Trade Mark Proprietors (MARQUES)*;
- *Union des Confédérations de l'Industrie et des Employeurs d'Europe (UNICE)*
(Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe);
- *Union of European Practitioners in Industrial Property (UNION)*.



Delegations from ECTA, FICPI and CNIPA visited the Office in 1997.

At the end of 1997, the Office decided to add to these links a framework of institutionalised contact, in the form of the "OAMI Trade Mark Group". Invitations to the first meeting of this Group were dispatched at the beginning of 1998.

The Office also received several visits from associations of interested parties at national level, and has begun consulting the most important of these national associations and providing them with information on a regular basis. This includes consultation on the draft examination guidelines.

The dissemination of the journal OAMI NEWS also provides interested parties with information.



Le Petit Journal

TOUS LES JOURS
Le Petit Journal
5 Centimes

SUPPLÉMENT ILLUSTRÉ
Huit pages : CINQ centimes

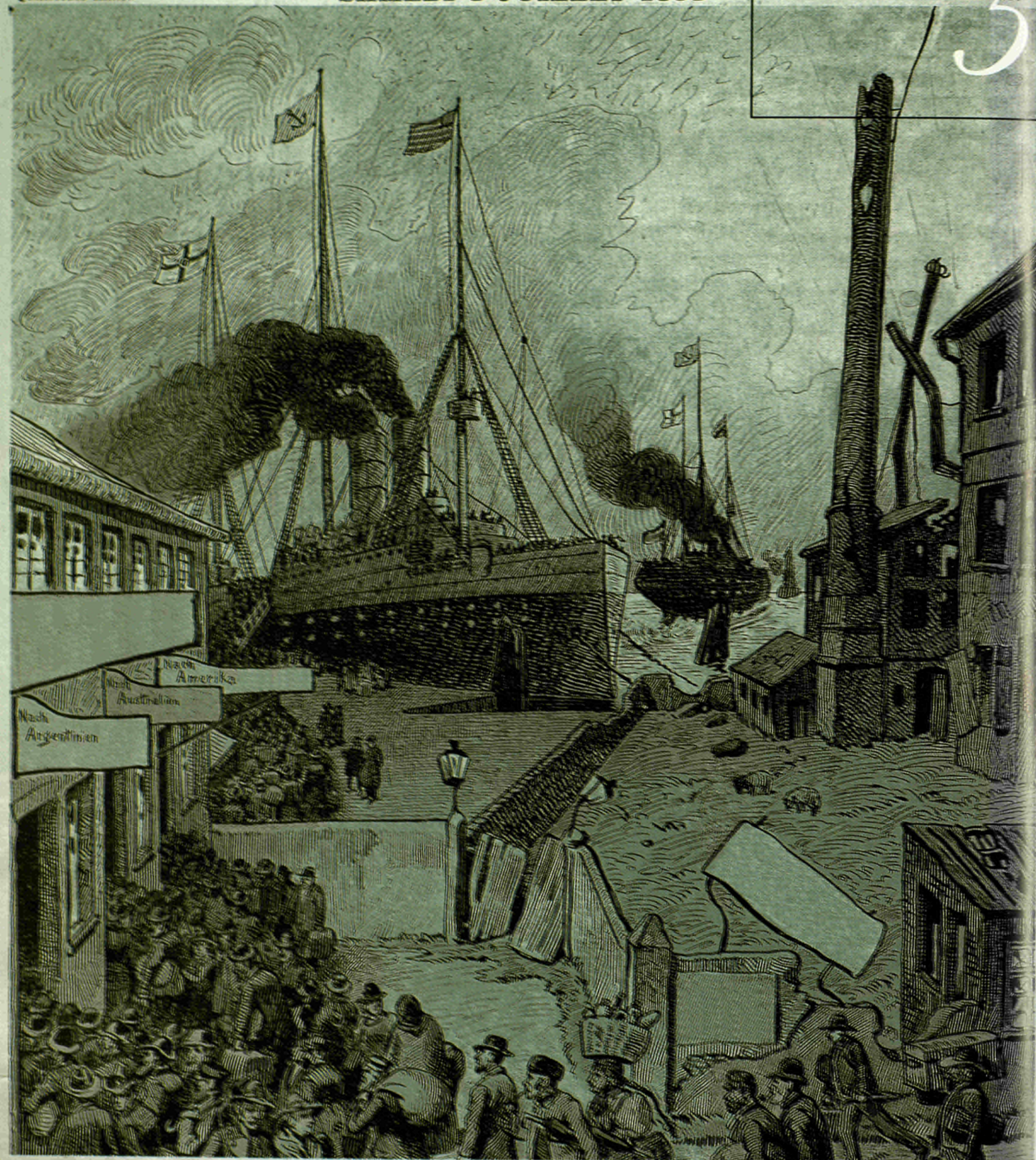
TOUS LES VENDREDIS
Le Supplément illustré
5 Centimes

Quatrième Année

SAMEDI 8 JUILLET 1893

Numéro 451

5





DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

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5.1	/	Official Journal

Eleven issues of OHIM's Official Journal were published in 1997 (with a single issue for July and August). These issues ran to a total of 1480 pages. There were almost 1500 paying subscribers. The Official Journal is also sent to all the national offices in the European Union and to a number of offices and institutions in non-member countries with which OHIM is forging and maintaining links through the Technical Cooperation Division.



The Legal Department is responsible for the contents of the Official Journal. In 1997, the decisions and communications of the President of the Office, guidelines on proceedings before the Office and vacancy notices were published. Draft Community directives, certain international treaties and important judgments of the Court of Justice of the European Communities were also published. Lists of countries party to the international treaties on intellectual property and new entries in the list of professional representatives complete the contents of the Official Journal.

5.1

2

**Community
Trade Mark Bulletin**

The first issue of the Community Trade Mark Bulletin was published on 10 March 1997 in the 11 languages of the European Union, with the assistance of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (OOPEC) in Luxembourg. OOPEC is also responsible for the administration of subscriptions and for disseminating the Bulletin to our subscribers, totalling 672 at the end of 1997, in addition to which there are the subscriber institutions that receive our publications in the context of the exchanges provided for in the Regulation on the Community trade mark.

The CD-ROM of Community trade marks

Production of the monthly CD-ROM of Community trade marks continued in 1997. CD-ROM No. 12/97, the last issue of the year, included over 67 853 trade marks, with a total of 174 Mega Octet.

Thanks to the CD-ROM, licensees who have invested in designing special programs and adapting them in accordance with the changes which have been made, can commercialise the Office's data or use it for internal purposes. As a result, various products have appeared in industrial property circles on the basis of our CD-ROM, in the form of publications on paper, other CD-ROMs, on-line access, etc.

Since the first issue of the Bulletin, which had 182 pages and published 89 trade marks, the publication of applications for Community trade marks has increased literally tenfold, reaching a rate of over 1 000 a week by the end of the year. Thirty-eight volumes of the Bulletin were printed in 1997. A total of over 15 000 trade mark applications were dispatched for publication.

Part A relates to the publication of trade mark applications. In Bulletin No. 23/97, a Part B was added, in which the first four registrations of Community trade marks were published. The Bulletin also contains an index which was expanded in the course of the year.



The licence fee remained at ECU 5 000 in 1997. In the course of the year, the CD-ROM was sent to 24 licensees, as OHIM had granted nine more licences than in 1996.

The majority of the licensees have agreed to be included in a list drawn up by OHIM and passed on to anybody who wishes to obtain unofficial information on applications for Community trade marks not yet published, as OHIM does not itself provide such information.

5.2**General information****5.2****/****General publications**

Seven issues of OAMI News were published in 1997 (including a special issue in November). From the middle of the year onwards, OAMI News was disseminated every two months in the form of an annex to the Official Journal of OHIM and, as in the previous year, was also disseminated to a specific target group with the aim of maintaining close links with users and other interested parties. In view of the success of this bimonthly magazine, the print run was increased from 1 000 copies (at the end of 1996) to 2 700 copies (at the end of 1997).

The first directory of professional representatives and OHIM's first Annual Report for 1996, were published in 1997. The directory of professional representatives contains details of over 4 500 representatives included in the list of professional representatives kept by the Office pursuant to Article 89 (1) of Council Regulation (EC) No. 40/94 on the Community trade mark. Since the directory is published every two years, the next edition will be published in 1999.

TITLE/ MEDIUM	NUMBER OF ISSUES/ EDITIONS PUBLISHED IN 97	LANGUAGE VERSIONS AVAILABLE	FREQUENCY
COMMUNITY TRADE MARK BULLETIN (PAPER)	38	The 11 languages of the EU	Weekly
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF OHIM (PAPER)	11 + cumulative table of contents 95/96	DE/ES/EN/FR/IT	Monthly
DIRECTORY OF PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES (PAPER)	1	DE/ES/EN/FR/IT	One edition every two years
OAMI NEWS	6 + one special issue	Multilingual	Bi-monthly

5.2

2

Public reception, information service

Filing of applications in person

For the second successive year, the Office staff have received members of the public daily, and between five to thirty applications, if not more, have been hand delivered.

General information

In 1997, about 100 daily requests for information by telephone were responded to, in other words, there were almost as many enquiries as there were new applications filed.

Each day there are between 30 and 40 written requests for information by post, fax, and in the form of messages left in the mailbox in our pages of our EUROPA server. Many of these requests simply involve the sending of forms (for an application, an opposition, an appeal, opening a current account, registration on the

list of professional representatives, subscriptions for publications), or documentation on the Office's activities (popularisation booklet, the Regulation on the Community trade mark, OAMI NEWS, statistics, etc). All these documents are also available in electronic form at OHIM's pages on the Commission's EUROPA server (<http://europa.eu.int/agencies/ohim/ohim.htm>).

Many of the questions asked last year concerned how application forms should be completed. Many of the questions now being asked concern examination and opposition procedures. Approximately 8 000 requests were dealt with in 1997 (compared with 5 000 in 1996).

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TECHNICAL COOPERATION

OHIM has operated a policy of technical cooperation since it was created, in order to facilitate links between OHIM and various national, international and private bodies. In this context, the Technical Cooperation Division constitutes the interface between the Office and the "world outside" and allows continuous dialogue between the Office and its various interlocutors.

The Division is working to achieve better knowledge and understanding not only of the Office, but above all of the Community trade mark system. It took part, in particular, in a large number of events in order to promote the Community trade mark.

The Division was expanded in 1997. The five languages of the Office are now represented, which has enabled it to respond to the introduction and implementation of a policy of ever more intensive cooperation. In addition to cooperation with Member States, non-member States and other national and international bodies, the Division provides technical support for the Office's other departments.

6.1**The European Community
and Member States**

The Office maintains continuous contact with the European Commission, especially with regard to the programmes of assistance for non-member countries that the European Community has signed with a number of countries in Asia and Latin America, and for which OHIM is the implementing agency for programmes on trade marks (see point 6.2).



The Technical Cooperation Division organises regular liaison meetings, a forum for discussion and for the exchange of information and ideas between Member State industrial property offices and the Office. Experts from the national offices and OHIM representatives meet to discuss the work of the Office and cooperation in respect of registration, as well as the various procedures involved in the Community trade mark, and its effect on the European Union.

The third liaison meeting, which took place in May 1997, addressed a number of subjects in connection with closer technical and legal cooperation. Subjects discussed at this meeting were RESMA (Réseau des Marques), the forwarding of data on applications for Community trade marks to the national offices, OHIM's search system, claims of seniority and applications for conversions.

The Division organised a round of visits to a number of the national offices, thus playing an active part in bilateral discussions on the topics that had been addressed at the last liaison meeting in particular.

6.2 Technical cooperation with non-member countries

Programmes of technical assistance are either already in place or are in the process of being set up with Vietnam, China, Argentina, Chile and the ASEAN countries.

In the context of implementation of the programme of cooperation with Vietnam, a delegation from that country's national industrial property office visited OHIM. A visit was also made to Vietnam in November, for the meeting of the programme's Management Committee.

With regard to the programme of cooperation with the ASEAN countries, the second cooperation programme is in preparation; this will be a continuation of the ECAP programme (EC-ASEAN Patents and Trade Marks Programme). A visit made to the ASEAN countries in April 1997 formed the subject of a report submitted to the European Commission. In the context of this second assistance programme, a presentation was given in Malaysia on the subject of the Community trade mark system.

The contract between the European Commission and Chile in respect of aid to Chile for modernisation of its industrial property system was signed in June 1997. The contract designates OHIM as the implementing agency for the programme in respect of trade mark law.

OHIM is also the implementing agency in respect of trade mark law for the technical assistance programme for Argentina, for which the aid contract was signed in October 1997.

During its visit to OHIM, the Korean national office expressed a wish to establish technical cooperation with the Office. The President of the Office and the Vice-President for Legal Affairs gave a series of lectures in Tokyo and Osaka in order to familiarise Japanese undertakings with the Community trade mark.

6.3

Technical cooperation with the European Patent Office

In collaboration with the European Patent Office (EPO), OHIM is responsible for monitoring European Community assistance programmes for non-member countries with regard to industrial property.

In addition, the cooperation between OHIM and EPO is symbolised by the reciprocal invitations by the Presidents to attend meetings of the Administrative Board of each other's organisations. It should also be mentioned that EPO has given OHIM a user's licence free of charge for the "Common Software" on which the Euromarc program is based.

6.4 Technical cooperation with WIPO

The Technical Cooperation Division plays an active part in topics dealt with by WIPO which specifically relate to the field of trade marks. It gave a presentation on the Office and the Community trade mark system at a meeting of the ad hoc working party on trade mark information (PCIPI/TI). It also attended meetings of the ad hoc working party on the management of industrial property information (PCIPI/MI) and the executive committee for coordination of PCIPI.

6.5 Visits

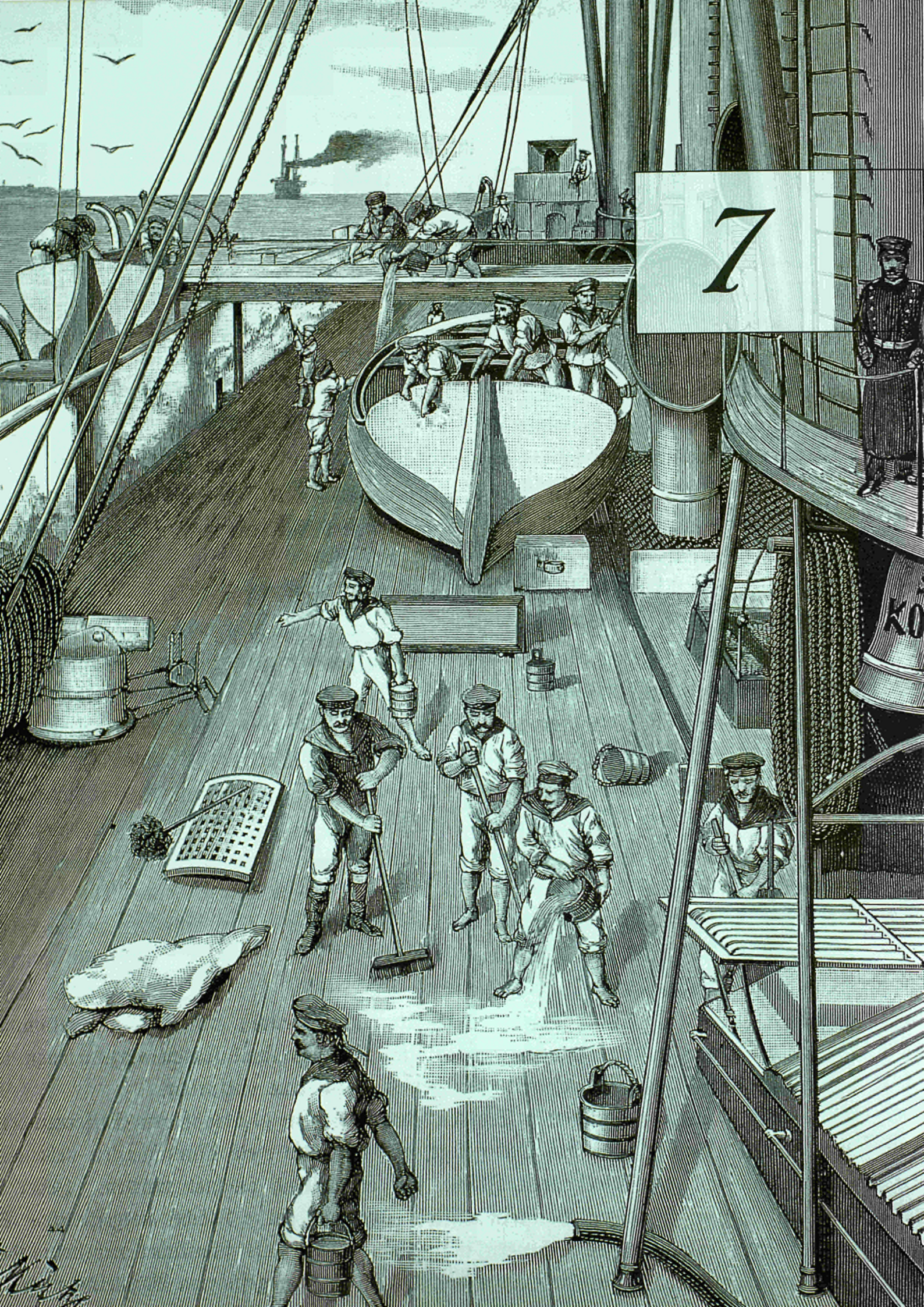
The Office entertained visits from over 200 people wishing to see its premises and familiarise themselves with the Community trade mark system and see the implementation of the registration procedure. The Office received a visit from the President of the Japanese Patent and Trade Mark Office in this respect.

The Office has also entertained visits, inter alia, by delegations from the national offices of Member States (e.g., Spain, France, Ireland, Sweden and the Benelux Trade Mark Office), Community delegations, such as DG X of the European Commission and the Community Plant Varieties Office, delegations from non-member countries such as Lithuania and the Czech Republic, China and Korea, representatives of trade mark agents in the Czech Republic and Germany, educational establishments, in particular the Universities of Taiwan and Alicante, and the Chambers of Commerce from Alicante and Valencia.

In addition to these visits, in 1997 three meetings were organised at the Office for associations of advisers.

A seminar was held at OHIM for the Swedish National Office, which organised its annual meeting in Alicante; the seminar included a tour of the premises, a presentation on the Community trade mark system with emphasis on links between the Office and national offices, and a demonstration of Euromarc.

Representatives of interested UK associations, led by the Comptroller General of the UK Office, also held a working meeting with the principal officers of the Office in Alicante.





HUMAN AND TECHNICAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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7.1	/	Recruitment and personnel management sector

The recruitment and personnel management sector developed its activities in the course of the year with a view to:

Finalising the establishment plan, which, at the end of 1996, stood at 257 staff, plus 30 auxiliary staff and 2 local staff, with the intention of increasing the total to 350 staff* by the end of 1997, to which are added 16 auxiliary staff, 2 local staff and a variable number of temporary employment agency staff.

		1996	1997
IN ACTIVE SERVICE	OFFICIALS	56	55
	TEMPORARY STAFF	111	212
	TOTAL IN ACTIVE SERVICE	167	267
	POST PLANNED VACANCIES	29	12
	TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT PLAN	257	350*
OUTSIDE PLAN	AUXILIARY STAFF	30	16
	LOCAL STAFF	2	2

*: THE BUDGET COMMITTEE RESTRICTED THE SIZE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT PLAN TO 300 POSTS AS AT 31.12.97.



- **Preparing and organising several recruitment competitions and various internal selection procedures.**

Eleven selection procedures were launched in the course of the year (three of them internal procedures), with the intention of increasing staff numbers in the area of processing trade mark applications (examination, opposition, cancellation), administration (especially in respect of the general services and information technology), and law.

Two selection procedures for category A and B staff, launched in the months of October and December 1996, in the area of trade marks (examination, opposition, cancellation), were completed in the course of 1997. Two new selection procedures were launched in January and July, in the same area.

44% of the applications of candidates were in connection with the abovementioned selection procedures.

In addition, as had been announced, the Office organised four competitions on the basis of qualifications and examinations and carried out three internal selection procedures.

- **Providing staff training by organising language and information technology courses.**

In addition to the training package for new members of staff involved in the management of Community trade marks, and in order to provide training for the staff of the Office, 348 training sessions were held in the course of 1997, as part of 19 courses (seven in the field of IT and 12 in the field of languages). Since the staff of the Office are required, in the course of their duties, to have an active or passive knowledge of the Office's various languages, language training is of particular importance. Depending on needs and requirements, the courses were organised at three levels, namely, beginners, intermediate and advanced.

- **Putting various tools and procedures in place for human resource management.**

A number of human resource management procedures and tools were put in place: staff report procedures, promotion procedures, and the necessary databases for management of promotion and training.



7.2

General administration

7.1

2

Social administration

- In the course of the year, efforts to establish management tools continued in order to respond to the increase in workload, and the following procedures were adopted: management procedures for reimbursement of travelling expenses and for education allowances, and procedures for staff medical checks.
- The everyday workload (management of the rights and obligations of officials and other Office staff, from the point when they are recruited and throughout their careers in the Office) increased in comparison with the previous year.
- Medical Service: the Office's Medical Service was established in the third quarter of 1997, following the appointment of a medical officer. His main responsibilities are to carry out medical check-ups on newly appointed staff, to monitor the health of the staff of the Office, and to assist in monitoring medical aspects of the work performed (ergonomic aspects of equipment, prevention of risks, and keeping staff informed).

There was considerable call on the General Services in the course of the year: in addition to their day-to-day management tasks, they were called upon to organise the expansion of the Office's temporary premises (by renting and fitting out new buildings) and preparations for the construction of the Office's final seat.

7.2

1

Contract management

The management of procurements and contracts for works, services and supplies involved 1 250 cases amounting to a total volume of almost ECU 38 million. A total of 504 contracts were concluded, 66 reports were prepared for the Advisory Committee on Procurements and Contracts (ACPC), and 17 tender procedures were conducted. A total of 2 005 invoices were processed, representing an increase of 45% over 1996.

7.2 2 Buildings management

The procedure for the construction of the final seat of the Office continued, with the analysis of the 12 tenders received in response to the invitation to tender issued by the COSOAMI, a critical study of the basic plan of the tender selected (with proposals for modifications), and the analysis of the final design.

The expansion of the temporary seat was achieved by renting and fitting out three additional buildings:



ADDRESS	AREA	PURPOSE
CALLE CASTELLAR 3	1.730 m2 3.100 m2	Offices Garage
CALLE EUSEBIO SEMPERE 11	1.500 m2	Offices
CALLE DOCTOR JUST 11	571 m2	Staff club

The day-to-day management of all the buildings which constitute the Office's temporary seat now concerns 8.900 m2 of office space able to accommodate over 400 work stations (staff with permanent posts, auxiliary staff, local staff and temporary agency staff), and 6.100 m2 of garage space.

7.2 3 Library and Archives Section

As regards the library, 750 new volumes were acquired, 205 new subscriptions were taken out, and the new computerised management system was installed.

As regards the archives, 33 000 new items were filed, and 2 600 requests for documents were dealt with.

7.2 4 Translations

In 1997, in addition to translations in the context of trade mark applications, 2 650 pages were translated by the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union in Luxembourg (TC).

7.3 Information technology

In the course of 1997, the Informatics Service has seen its level of activity increase in line with the considerable increase in the Office's workload, in the following four areas in particular:

7.3 / Support and help desk

More than 180 work stations were installed, complete with hardware and software, resulting in the creation of a major computer centre by the end of 1997.

PERSONAL COMPUTERS	355
LAPTOP COMPUTERS	19
NETWORK PRINTERS	46
LOCAL PRINTERS	68
SCANNERS	5

Over 8 500 calls for assistance were dealt with, almost 50% of them from staff in the Examination Division. More than 57% related to the Euromarc system.

7.3

2

Consolidation of operations

- Between 1996 and 1997 the number of faxes received by the system increased from 22 000 to 140 000, and the number of faxes sent from 7 000 to 24 000.
- The three electronic mail systems (Internet, Route 400 and the internal network) were replaced by a single system ("Exchange"). A total of 200 000 messages were received or sent. An anti-virus detection programme was installed in order to monitor e-mail messages entering the system.
- The Office's Internet pages were consulted by outside users at a rate of 4 000 a month (making a total of 48 000 visits to the site over the year). Security measures were put in place to monitor access from the Internet.
- The two new buildings occupied by the Office in the course of the year were equipped and connected to the headquarters building. Work began at the end of the year on preparing the cabling for a third building.

7.3

3

Administrative management

144 contracts pertaining to IT were concluded or renewed (procurements and services), of which 54 were submitted to the ACPC, in collaboration with General Services. Five of these gave rise to the publication of invitations to tender.

7.3

4

Development work

- **Euromarc system**

The Euromarc system was further developed with a view to its consolidation, in particular with regard to:

- the examination of trade mark applications: management of deadlines, management and monitoring of the various language versions of trade marks, management of the Register, communications automatically generated by the system, and the introduction of the search system;
- management of the opposition procedure in its entirety;
- a preliminary study on management of the registration, cancellation and appeal procedures.

- **RESMA system**

Development of the RESMA system was completed (installation of work stations, establishment of connections with the national offices and the Translation Centre, development of the software required for the system to function). The pilot phase will commence at the beginning of 1998, on completion of the final tests to be carried out in collaboration with the Spanish office.

- **Prior registration search system**

Work on developing the system continued on receipt of the results of the procedure for tender which was completed in April. Tests were carried out before the control phase, which took place throughout October. The system will become operational in the course of the first half of 1998.

- **Other systems**

- Euronice system (multilingual system of automatic searches for product and service terms): the procedure for the conclusion of a contract for the establishment of this system was completed in December.
- The SAP financial management system was improved (VAT management, collection of opposition fees, draft budget accounts, preparation of the balance sheet).

- The library management system (ALEPH) was installed and the inventory management system (ELS) improved.
- A preliminary study with a view to replacing the CD-ROM on the Community trade mark by dissemination on-line was undertaken in the course of the year.

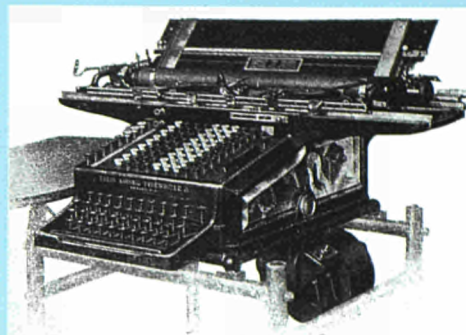
7.4 Budget and finances

7.4 1 Budget

For the first time since it was created, the Office was in a position to finance itself: it was possible to balance the budget without having recourse to a subsidy from the budget of the European Communities.

The 1997 budget made provision for the posting of 49 400 application fees, 12 300 supplementary class fees, 470 opposition fees, 400 registration fees, 50 appeal fees and miscellaneous fees (totalling ECU 100 000), amounting to a total revenue of ECU 54 049 800.

The estimated expenditure amounted to ECU 15 878 300 on persons working within the Office, ECU 21 723 500 on buildings, equipment and miscellaneous operating expenditure, and ECU 16 448 000 for expenditure resulting from special functions carried out by the Office (processing of trade marks and publications).



7.4 2 Implementation of the budget

All the revenue actually posted in the course of the financial year, ECU 55 258 414, came from the Office's operations.

In the course of the financial year, the Office posted 50 554 application fees, 14 472 supplementary fees, 74 opposition fees, 489 registration fees, 17 appeal fees and miscellaneous fees, giving a total of ECU 53 017 959. In addition, the Office received ECU 335 400 from the sale of publications. Interest totalling ECU 1 905 055 was received.

Actual expenditure amounted to ECU 14 602 004 on persons working within the Office, ECU 21 223 885 on buildings, equipment and miscellaneous operating expenditure, and ECU 16 378 731 on expenditure resulting from special functions carried out by the Office.



7.4

3

Work of the Financial Service

● Budget Accounts Sector

The Budget Accounts Sector, which was set up in 1996, had to prepare three amending budgets for 1997, the estimates for 1998, and the analytical accounting model.

● IT tool

The SAP system was upgraded by the introduction of the 3.0 F version and the resolution of various problems concerning the accounting aspects of the Euromarc system.

● General Accounts Sector

As regards the "suppliers" accounts, the year was marked by the gradual settlement of search reports, payments therefor, and a considerable increase in the volume of invoices payable (+20%).

The "clients" accounts required a major effort on the part of staff to ensure that the volume of payments received could be dealt with. In particular, it was necessary to update the system for identifying payers and to ensure that payments received were entered in the accounts immediately, as well as to introduce a procedure in respect of shortages of funds in current accounts and enter oppositions manually (675 in 1997).

7.5

Logistical support for trade mark processing

Within the Administrative and Technical Services Department, administrative duties relating directly to the management of Community trade marks were regrouped during the year within the newly created Trade Marks Logistics Service, which serves as a link between the Examination Division and the Office's partners in the trade mark registration procedures. In particular it is responsible for the following.

7.5

1

Relations with applicants and their representatives

In addition to receiving the public and providing them with information, and the initial receipt of applications, this Service digitises the applications filed and enters them in Euro-marc (more than 470 000 pages scanned), as well as forwarding national and Community search reports (almost 30 000 reports, totalling 900 000 pages) to applicants or their professional representatives.

7.5	2
-----	---

Interface with the national offices with regard to the production of national search reports

Over 50 000 trade mark applications were forwarded to the ten central industrial property offices to enable them to draw up, within a period of three months, the relevant search reports. The quantity of searches requested from the offices was exceptionally large, with peaks of 6 000 in each of the months of July and August. Thanks to good collaboration by all concerned, the objectives were achieved.

In addition, particular arrangements were made to assure the implementation of Community searches on a temporary basis, until the Office has its own system. Since the end of the year, applications for Community trade marks filed after 1 April 1996 have been subject to a Community search report in conjunction with the ten national search reports.

7.5	3
-----	---

Relations with the Translation Centre in Luxembourg

Over 31 000 trade mark applications were forwarded to the Translation Centre; 22 000 translations were returned to the Office (representing almost 80 000 pages) and entered in Euromarc.

Work continued on developing the Euronice project. Its aim is to create a program and a database in order to permit the storage and re-use of expressions used in the lists of products and services filed by applicants for Community trade marks in one language, then translated into the other official languages of the European Union by the Translation Centre. An invitation to tender has been launched for the supply and installation of a database.

7.5	4
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Relations with the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities in Luxembourg

Fifteen thousand trade mark applications were forwarded for publication: 11 633 were published, representing 38 editions of the Bulletin, or 12 279 pages.

8





SECRETARIAT - ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD/ BUDGET COMMITTEE/ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROCUREMENTS AND CONTRACTS

Administrative Board

Budget Committee

In 1997, the Secretariat of the Administrative Board and the Budget Committee organised the 8th and 9th meetings of the Administrative Board and the 8th, 9th and 10th meetings of the Budget Committee.

In collaboration with the Financial, Budget and Accounts Service, the Secretariat also worked on the five language versions of the 1997 budget and the three successive supplementary and amending budgets.

The Secretariat of the ACPC organised and took care of the follow up to nine meetings of the Advisory Committee on Procurements and Contracts (ACPC). The latter examined 67 reports submitted to it by the Office's services and adopted 65 opinions, two by written procedure.



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2 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUDGET

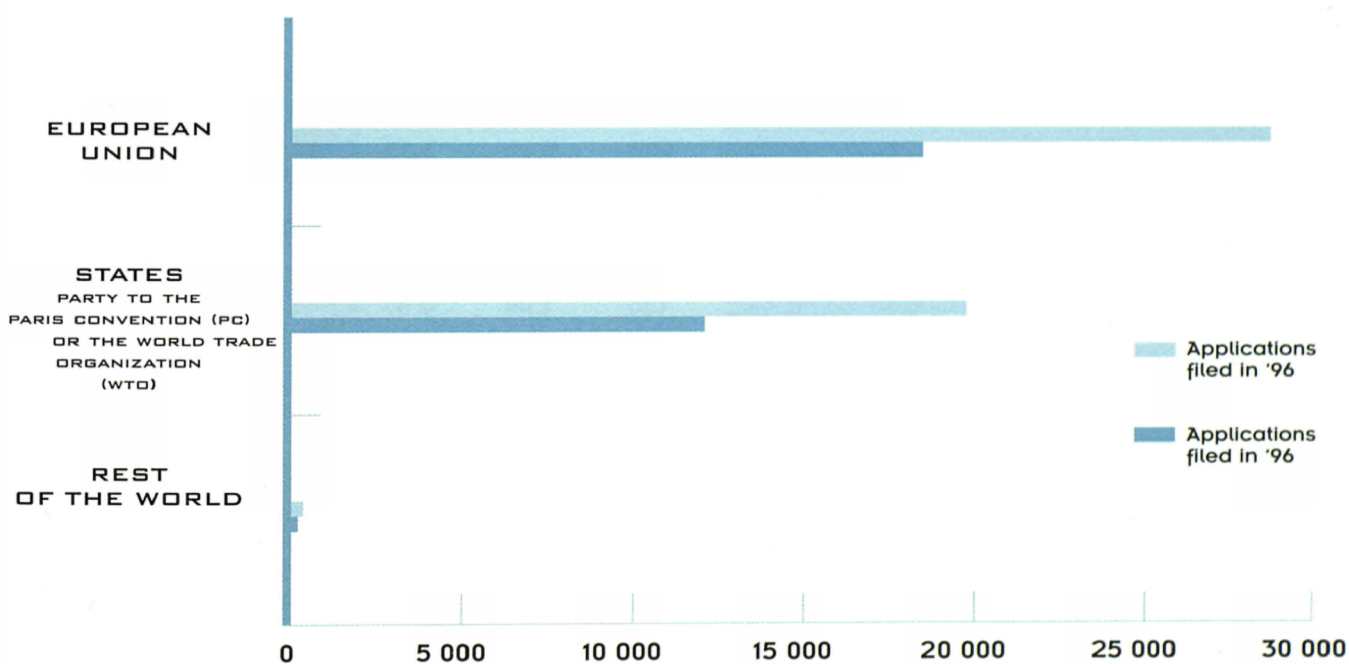
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1

ANNUAL STATISTICS ON COMMUNITY TRADE MARK APPLICATIONS

/ By origin

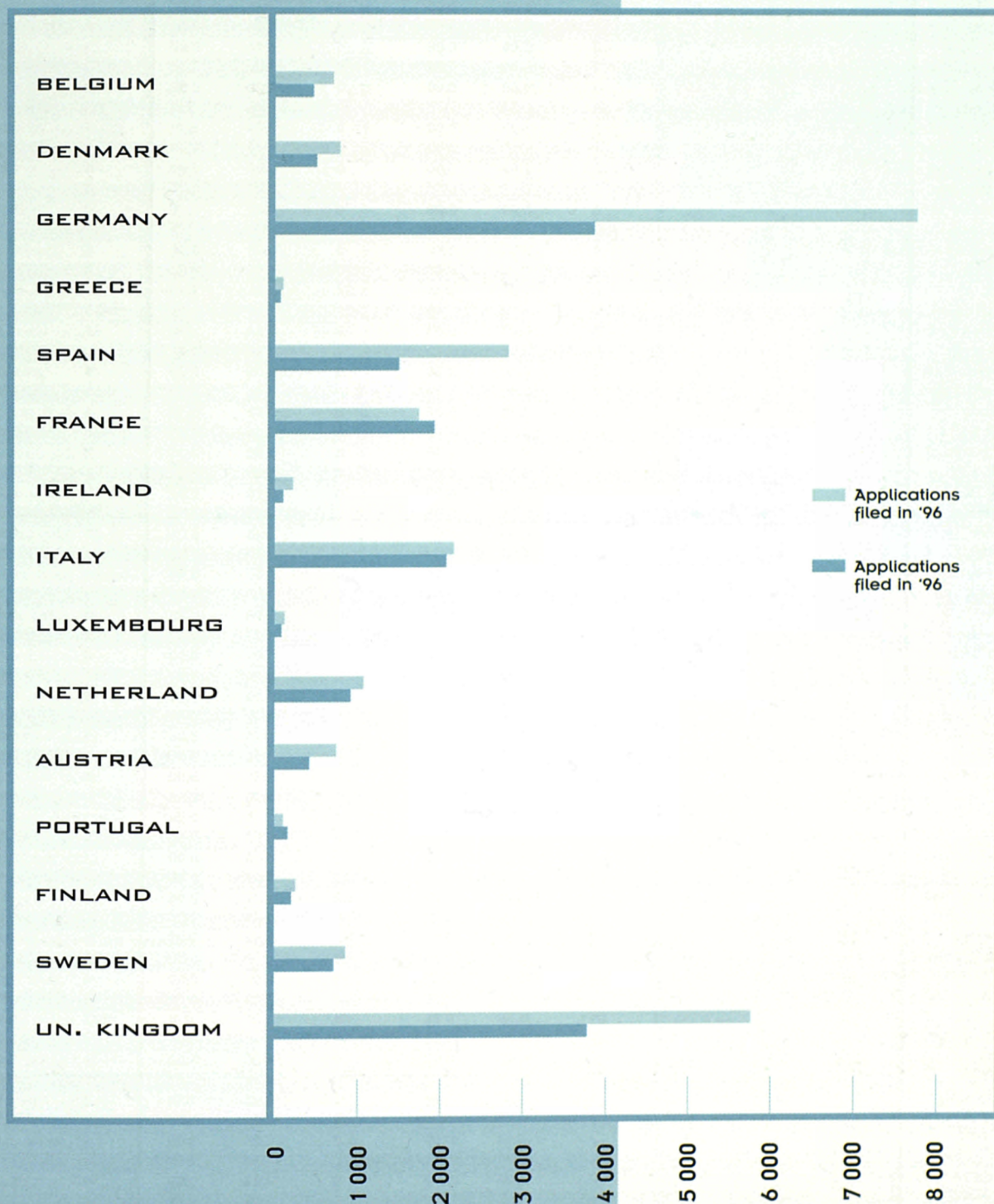
ORIGIN	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '96	% WORLD	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '97	% WORLD	CUMULATIVE '96 + '97
EUROPEAN UNION	25 008	58,14	16 763	61,54	41 771
STATES PARTY TO THE PARIS CONVENTION (PC) OR THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)	17 700	41,15	10 187	37,40	27 887
REST OF THE WORLD	302	0,70	288	1,06	590
OHIM TOTAL	43 010	100	27 238	100	70 248



2 Breakdown by country
European Union

MEMBER STATES		APPLICATIONS FILED IN '96	% EU	% WORLD	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '97	% EU	% WORLD	CUMULATIVE '96+'97	% EU	% WORLD
BE	BELGIUM	643	2,57	1,50	418	2,49	1,53	1 061	2,54	1,51
DK	DENMARK	706	2,82	1,64	473	2,82	1,74	1 179	2,82	1,68
DE	GERMANY	7 714	30,85	17,94	3 911	23,33	14,36	11 625	27,83	16,55
GR	GREECE	85	0,34	0,20	65	0,39	0,24	150	0,36	0,21
ES	SPAIN	2 794	11,17	6,50	1 468	8,76	5,39	4 262	10,20	6,07
FR	FRANCE	1 610	6,44	3,74	1 891	11,28	6,94	3 501	8,38	4,98
IE	IRELAND	282	1,13	0,66	217	1,29	0,80	499	1,19	0,71
IT	ITALY	2 211	8,84	5,14	2 070	12,35	7,60	4 281	10,25	6,09
LU	LUXEMBOURG	137	0,55	0,32	112	0,67	0,41	249	0,60	0,35
NL	NETHERLANDS	1 069	4,27	2,49	908	5,42	3,33	1 977	4,73	2,81
AT	AUSTRIA	678	2,71	1,58	393	2,34	1,44	1 071	2,56	1,52
PT	PORTUGAL	161	0,64	0,37	183	1,09	0,67	344	0,82	0,49
FI	FINLAND	358	1,43	0,83	282	1,68	1,04	640	1,53	0,91
SE	SWEDEN	855	3,42	1,99	713	4,25	2,62	1 568	3,75	2,23
GB	UN. KINGDOM	5 705	22,81	13,26	3 659	21,83	13,43	9 364	22,42	13,33
EU TOTAL		25 008	100	58,14	16 763	100	61,54	41 771	100	59,46

3 Breakdown by country
European Union comparative table



COUNTRY	APPLICATIONS WTO/PC WORLD			APPLICATIONS WTO/PC WORLD			CUMULATIVE WTO/PC WORLD		
	FILED IN '96	%	%	FILED IN '97	%	%	'96+'97	%	%
ALBANIA [AL]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
ALGERIA [DZ]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA [AG] 0	0,00	0,00	1	0,01	0,00	1	0,00	0,00	
ARGENTINA [AR]	14	0,08	0,03	31	0,30	0,11	45	0,16	0,06
ARMENIA [AM]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
AUSTRALIA [AU]	270	1,53	0,63	281	2,76	1,03	551	1,98	0,78
AZERBAIJAN [AZ]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
BAHAMAS [BS]	34	0,19	0,08	21	0,21	0,08	55	0,20	0,08
BAHREIN [BH]	3	0,02	0,01	3	0,03	0,01	6	0,02	0,01
BANGLADESH [BD]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
BARBADOS [BB]	19	0,11	0,04	11	0,11	0,04	30	0,11	0,04
BELARUS [BY]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
BELIZE [BZ]	0	0,00	0,00	1	0,01	0,00	1	0,00	0,00
BENIN [BJ]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
BOLIVIA [BO]	0	0,00	0,00	1	0,01	0,00	1	0,00	0,00
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA [BA]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
BOTSWANA [BW]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
BRAZIL [BR]	58	0,33	0,13	57	0,56	0,21	115	0,41	0,16
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM [BN]	2	0,01	0,00	4	0,04	0,01	6	0,02	0,01
BULGARIA [BG]	1	0,01	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	1	0,00	0,00
BURKINA FASO [BF]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
BURUNDI [BI]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
CAMEROON [CM]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
CANADA [CA]	460	2,60	1,07	358	3,51	1,31	818	2,93	1,16
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC [CF]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
CHAD [TD]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
CHILE [CL]	6	0,03	0,01	26	0,26	0,10	32	0,11	0,05
CHINA (PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF) [CN] 52	0,29	0,12	40	0,39	0,15	92	0,33	0,13	
COLUMBIA [CO]	3	0,07	0,03	26	0,26	0,10	39	0,14	0,06
CONGO [CG]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
COSTA RICA [CR]	2	0,01	0,00	5	0,05	0,02	7	0,03	0,01
CROATIA [HR] 0	0,00	0,00	1	0,01	0,00	1	0,00	0,00	
CUBA [CU]	2	0,01	0,00	2	0,02	0,01	4	0,01	0,01
CYPRUS [CY]	12	0,07	0,03	14	0,14	0,05	26	0,09	0,04
CZECH REPUBLIC [CZ]	2	0,01	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	2	0,01	0,00
DJIBOUTI [DJ]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
DOMINICA [DM]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC [DO]	7	0,04	0,02	2	0,02	0,01	9	0,03	0,01
ECUADOR [EC]	10	0,06	0,02	10	0,10	0,04	20	0,07	0,03
EGYPT [EG]	3	0,02	0,01	1	0,01	0,00	4	0,01	0,01
EL SALVADOR [SV]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
ESTONIA [EE]	1	0,01	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	1	0,00	0,00
FIJI [FJ]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
GABON [GA]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
GAMBIA [GM]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
GEORGIA [GE]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
GHANA [GH]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
GRENADA [GD]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
GUATEMALA [GT]	0	0,00	0,00	1	0,01	0,00	1	0,00	0,00
GUINEA	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
GUINEA-BISSAU [GW]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
GUYANA [GY]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
HAITI [HT]	0	0,00	0,00	1	0,01	0,00	1	0,00	0,00
HOLY SEE (VATICAN) [VA]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
HONDURAS [HN]	1	0,01	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	1	0,00	0,00
HONG KONG [HK]	136	0,77	0,32	105	1,03	0,39	241	0,86	0,34
HUNGARY [HU]	8	0,05	0,02	22	0,22	0,08	30	0,11	0,04
ICELAND [IS]	3	0,02	0,01	3	0,03	0,01	6	0,02	0,01
INDIA [IN]	18	0,10	0,04	33	0,32	0,12	51	0,18	0,07
INDONESIA [ID]	17	0,10	0,04	15	0,15	0,06	32	0,11	0,05
IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) [IR]	4	0,02	0,01	0	0,00	0,00	4	0,01	0,01
IRAQ [IQ]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
ISRAEL [IL]	111	0,63	0,26	111	1,09	0,41	222	0,80	0,32
IVORY COAST [CI]	0	0,00	0,00	1	0,01	0,00	1	0,00	0,00
JAMAICA [JM]	9	0,05	0,02	5	0,05	0,02	14	0,05	0,02
JAPAN [JP]	1 420	8,02	3,30	717	7,04	2,63	2 137	7,66	3,04
JORDAN [JO]	1	0,01	0,00	2	0,02	0,01	3	0,01	0,00
KAZAKSTAN [KZ]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
KENYA [KE]	2	0,01	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	2	0,01	0,00
KUWAIT [KW]	10	0,06	0,02	0	0,00	0,00	10	0,04	0,01
KYRGYZSTAN [KG]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
LATVIA [LV]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
LEBANON [LB]	2	0,01	0,00	2	0,02	0,01	4	0,01	0,01
LESOTHO [LS]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00
LIBERIA [LR]	3	0,02	0,01	5	0,05	0,02	8	0,03	0,01
LIBYA [LY]	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00	0	0,00	0,00

COUNTRY	APPLICATIONS WTO/PC WORLD			APPLICATIONS WTO/PC WORLD			CUMULATIVE WTO/PC WORLD		
	FILED IN '96	%	%	FILED IN '97	%	%	'96+'97	%	%
LIBYA [LY]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
LIECHTENSTEIN [LI]	60	0.34	0.14	22	0.22	0.08	82	0.29	0.12
LITHUANIA [LT]	1	0.01	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.00	0.00
MACAO [MO]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MACEDONIA (FORMER YUG. REP. OF) [MK]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MADAGASCAR [MG]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MALAWI (NYASALAND) [MW]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MALAYSIA (MALAYA)/(SABAH & SAR.) [MY]	12	0.07	0.03	16	0.16	0.06	28	0.10	0.04
MALDIVES [MV]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MALI [ML]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MALTA [MT]	5	0.03	0.01	6	0.06	0.02	11	0.04	0.02
MAURITANIA [MR]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MAURITIUS [MU]	0	0.00	0.00	2	0.02	0.01	2	0.01	0.00
MEXICO [MX]	87	0.49	0.20	51	0.50	0.19	138	0.49	0.20
MOLDOVA [MD]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MONACO [MC]	16	0.09	0.04	20	0.20	0.07	36	0.13	0.05
MONGOLIA [MN]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MOROCCO [MA]	1	0.01	0.00	2	0.02	0.01	3	0.01	0.00
MOZAMBIQUE [MZ]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
MYANMAR [MM]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
NAMIBIA [NA]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
NETHERLANDS ANTILLES [AN]	67	0.38	0.16	32	0.31	0.12	99	0.36	0.14
NEW ZEALAND [NZ]	57	0.32	0.13	47	0.46	0.17	104	0.37	0.15
NICARAGUA [NI]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
NIGER [NE]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
NIGERIA [NG]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
NORTH KOREA (DEM. PEOP. REP. OF) [KP]	2	0.01	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	2	0.01	0.00
NORWAY [NO]	72	0.41	0.17	80	0.79	0.29	152	0.55	0.22
PAKISTAN [PK]	1	0.01	0.00	1	0.01	0.00	2	0.01	0.00
PARAGUAY [PY]	0	0.00	0.00	2	0.02	0.01	2	0.01	0.00
PERU [PE]	4	0.02	0.01	2	0.02	0.01	6	0.02	0.01
PHILIPPINES [PH]	18	0.10	0.04	2	0.02	0.01	20	0.07	0.03
POLAND [PL]	14	0.08	0.03	6	0.06	0.02	20	0.07	0.03
QATAR [QA]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
ROMANIA [RO]	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.01	0.00	1	0.00	0.00
RUSSIAN FEDERATION [RU]	8	0.05	0.02	0	0.00	0.00	8	0.03	0.01
RWANDA [RW]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SAINT LUCIA	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES [VC]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SAN MARINO [SM]	1	0.01	0.00	2	0.02	0.01	3	0.01	0.00
SENEGAL [SN]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SIERRA LEONE [SL]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SINGAPORE [SG]	102	0.58	0.24	50	0.49	0.18	152	0.55	0.22
SLOVAKIA [SK]	0	0.00	0.00	4	0.04	0.01	4	0.01	0.01
SLOVENIA [SI]	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.01	0.00	1	0.00	0.00
SOUTH AFRICA [ZA]	42	0.24	0.10	56	0.55	0.21	98	0.35	0.14
SOUTH KOREA (REPUBLIC OF) [KR]	45	0.25	0.10	44	0.43	0.16	89	0.32	0.13
SRI LANKA [LK]	1	0.01	0.00	1	0.01	0.00	2	0.01	0.00
SUDAN [SD]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SURINAME [SR]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SWAZILAND [SZ]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SWITZERLAND [CH]	975	5.51	2.27	444	4.36	1.63	1 419	5.09	2.02
SYRIA [SY]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
TAJIKISTAN [TJ]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
TANZANIA [TZ]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
THAILAND [TH]	12	0.07	0.03	4	0.04	0.01	16	0.06	0.02
TOGO [TG]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO [TT]	4	0.02	0.01	4	0.04	0.01	8	0.03	0.01
TUNISIA [TN]	1	0.01	0.00	3	0.03	0.01	4	0.01	0.01
TURKEY [TR]	120	0.68	0.28	93	0.91	0.34	213	0.76	0.30
TURKMENISTAN [TM]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
UGANDA [UG]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
UKRAINE [UA]	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.01	0.00	1	0.00	0.00
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA [US]	13 250	74.86	30.81	7 258	71.25	26.65	20 508	73.54	29.19
URUGUAY [UY]	1	0.01	0.00	1	0.01	0.00	2	0.01	0.00
UZBEKISTAN [UZ]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
VENEZUELA [VE]	5	0.03	0.01	7	0.07	0.03	12	0.04	0.02
VIETNAM [VN]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
YUGOSLAVIA [YU]	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.01	0.00	1	0.00	0.00
ZAIRE [ZR]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
ZAMBIA [ZM]	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
ZIMBABWE [ZW]	0	0.00	0.00	2	0.02	0.01	2	0.01	0.00
WTO/PC TOTAL	17 700	100	41.15	10 187	100	37.40	27 887	100	39.70

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Breakdown by country (non members of the WTO / NOT party to the PC)

COUNTRY	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '96	NON WTO/PC %	WORLD %	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '97	NON WTO/PC %	WORLD %	CUMULATIVE '96+'97	NON WTO/PC %	WORLD %
AD ANDORRA	6	1.99	0.01	8	2.81	0.03	14	2.39	0.02
AI ANGUILLA	1	0.33	0.00	1	0.35	0.00	2	0.34	0.00
SA SAUDI ARABIA	3	0.99	0.01	8	2.81	0.03	11	1.87	0.02
AW ARUBA	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.35	0.00	1	0.17	0.00
BM BERMUDA	66	21.85	0.15	21	7.37	0.08	87	14.82	0.12
AE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	13	4.30	0.03	4	1.40	0.01	17	2.90	0.02
GI GIBRALTAR	2	0.66	0.00	6	2.11	0.02	8	1.36	0.01
GL GREENLAND	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.35	0.00	1	0.17	0.00
CHANNEL ISLANDS (JERSEY&GUERNSEY)	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
KY CAYMAN ISLANDS	20	6.62	0.05	3	1.05	0.01	23	3.92	0.03
CK COOK ISLANDS	1	0.33	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.17	0.00
FO FAROE ISLANDS	3	0.99	0.01	0	0.00	0.00	3	0.51	0.00
TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS	2	0.66	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	2	0.34	0.00
VG BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	44	14.57	0.10	39	13.68	0.14	83	14.14	0.12
VI VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE US	4	1.32	0.01	0	0.00	0.00	4	0.68	0.01
NC NEW CALEDONIA ⁰	0.00	0.00	3	1.05	0.01	3	0.51	0.00	
PA PANAMA	7	2.32	0.02	5	1.75	0.02	12	2.04	0.02
PR PUERTO RICO	2	0.66	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	2	0.34	0.00
KN SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS	2	0.66	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	2	0.34	0.00
TW TAIWAN	126	41.72	0.29	185	64.91	0.68	311	52.98	0.44
NON WTO/PC MEMBER STATES TOTAL	302	100	0.70	285	100	1.05	587	100	0.84

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Breakdown by country
world classification

COUNTRY	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '96	WORLD %	COUNTRY	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '97	WORLD %	
1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA [US]	13 250	30.81	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA [US]	7 258	26.65	1
2 GERMANY [DE]	7 714	17.94	GERMANY [DE]	3 911	14.36	2
3 U. KINGDOM [GB]	5 705	13.26	U. KINGDOM [GB]	3 659	13.43	3
4 SPAIN [ES]	2 794	6.50	ITALY [IT]	2 070	7.60	4
5 ITALY [IT]	2 211	5.14	FRANCE [FR]	1 891	6.94	5
6 FRANCE [FR]	1 610	3.74	SPAIN [ES]	1 468	5.39	6
7 JAPAN [JP]	1 420	3.30	NETHERLANDS [NL]	908	3.33	7
8 NETHERLANDS [NL]	1 069	2.49	JAPAN [JP]	717	2.63	8
9 SWITZERLAND [CH]	975	2.27	SWEDEN [SE]	713	2.62	9
10 SWEDEN [SE]	855	1.99	DENMARK [DK]	473	1.74	10
11 DENMARK [DK]	706	1.64	SWITZERLAND [CH]	444	1.63	11
12 AUSTRIA [AT]	678	1.58	BELGIUM [BE]	418	1.53	12
13 BELGIUM [BE]	643	1.50	AUSTRIA [AT]	393	1.44	13
14 CANADA [CA]	460	1.07	CANADA [CA]	358	1.31	14
15 FINLAND [FI]	358	0.83	FINLAND [FI]	282	1.04	15
16 IRELAND [IE]	282	0.66	IRELAND [IE]	217	0.80	17
18 PORTUGAL [PT]	161	0.37	PORTUGAL [PT]	183	0.67	19
19 LUXEMBOURG [LU]	137	0.32	LUXEMBOURG [LU]	112	0.41	20
26 GREECE [GR]	85	0.20	GREECE [GR]	65	0.24	25

7 Breakdown by language of filing

Breakdown by language of filing

LANGUAGE	USED IN THE APPLICATIONS FILED IN '96		USED IN THE APPLICATIONS FILED IN '97		CUMULATIVE '96+'97	
		%		%		%
SPANISH	3 023	7,03	1 701	6,24	4 724	6,72
DANISH	839	1,95	567	2,08	1 406	2,00
GERMAN	9 274	21,56	4 765	17,49	14 039	19,98
GREEK	79	0,18	67	0,25	146	0,21
ENGLISH	18 495	43,00	11 534	42,35	30 029	42,75
FRENCH	2 314	5,38	2 403	8,82	4 717	6,71
ITALIAN	2 178	5,06	2 077	7,63	4 255	6,06
DUTCH	5 290	12,30	2 820	10,35	8 110	11,54
PORTUGUESE	236	0,55	224	0,82	460	0,65
FINNISH	344	0,80	261	0,96	605	0,86
SWEDISH	936	2,18	819	3,01	1 755	2,50
IRREGULARITY (NOT DEFINED)	2	0,00	0	0,00	2	0,00
TOTAL	43 010	100	27 238	100	70 248	100

Breakdown by second language

LANGUAGE	USED IN THE APPLICATIONS FILED '96		USED IN THE APPLICATIONS FILED IN '97		CUMULATIVE '96+'97	
		%		%		%
SPANISH	3 999	9,30	2 379	8,73	6 378	9,08
GERMAN	2 380	5,53	1 460	5,36	3 840	5,47
ENGLISH	22 600	52,55	14 316	52,56	39 916	52,55
FRENCH	12 341	28,69	7 957	29,21	20 298	28,89
ITALIAN	1 635	3,80	1 126	4,13	2 761	3,93
IRREGULARITY (NOT DEFINED)	55	0,13	0	0,00	55	0,08
TOTAL	43 010	100	27 238	100,00	70 248	100

CLASS	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '96	%	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '97	%	CUMULATIVE 96+'97	%
1	3 135	2,95	1 488	2,30	4 623	2,70
2	1 054	0,90	468	0,72	1 522	0,89
3	3 378	3,18	2 058	3,19	5 436	3,18
4	851	0,80	348	0,54	1 199	0,70
5	3 696	3,48	2 407	3,73	6 103	3,57
6	2 162	2,03	1258	1,95	3 420	2,00
7	3 449	3,24	1 741	2,70	5 590	3,04
8	1 218	1,15	569	0,88	1 787	1,05
9	11 771	11,07	7 944	12,30	19 715	11,53
10	1 920	1,81	1 345	2,08	3 265	1,91
11	2 539	2,39	1 412	2,19	3 951	2,31
12	2 325	2,19	1 260	1,96	3 591	2,10
13	162	0,15	71	0,11	233	0,14
14	1 673	1,57	962	1,49	2 635	1,54
15	270	0,22	118	0,18	388	0,23
16	7 715	7,25	4 614	7,15	12 329	7,21
17	1 600	1,50	836	1,29	2 436	1,43
18	2 713	2,55	1 617	2,50	4 330	2,53
19	1 453	1,37	840	1,30	2 293	1,34
20	2 033	1,91	1 229	1,90	3 262	1,91
21	1 822	1,71	1 105	1,71	2 927	1,71
22	469	0,44	262	0,41	731	0,43
23	253	0,24	123	0,19	376	0,22
24	1 558	1,17	948	1,47	2 506	1,47
25	6 179	5,81	3 752	5,81	9 931	5,81
26	577	0,54	290	0,45	867	0,51
27	527	0,50	253	0,39	780	0,46
28	2 955	2,78	1 818	2,82	4 773	2,79
29	2 751	2,59	1 448	2,24	4 199	2,46
30	3 287	3,09	1 798	2,78	5 085	2,98
31	1 284	1,21	804	1,25	2 088	1,22
32	2 175	2,05	1 018	1,58	3 193	1,87
33	1 645	1,55	1 044	1,62	2 689	1,57
34	696	0,65	311	0,48	1 007	0,59
35	3 529	3,32	2 695	4,17	6 224	3,64
36	2 373	2,23	1 523	2,36	3 896	2,28
37	2 432	2,29	1 260	1,96	3 698	2,16
38	2 366	2,22	1 748	2,71	4 114	2,41
39	1 956	1,84	1 253	1,94	3 209	1,88
40	765	0,72	508	0,79	1 273	0,74
41	4 077	3,83	2 666	4,13	6 743	3,95
42	7 555	7,10	5 172	8,01	12 727	7,45
Irregularity (not defined)	0	0,00	171	0,26	171	0,10
Total	106 348	100	64 567	100	170 915	100

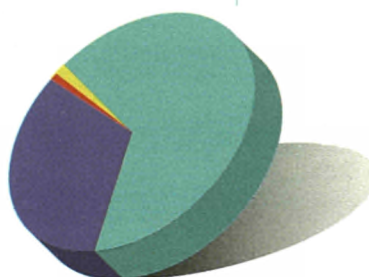
9

Number of classes per application

NUMBER OF CLASSES	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '96	%	APPLICATIONS FILED IN '97	%	CUMULATIVE 96+'97	%
1	18 314	42,58	11 841	43,47	30 155	42,93
2	7 051	16,39	4 455	16,36	11 506	16,383
3	11 361	26,41	7 414	27,22	18 775	26,73
4	2 418	5,62	1 387	5,09	3 805	5,42
5	1 205	2,80	814	2,90	2 019	2,87
6	754	1,75	434	1,59	1 188	1,69
7	495	1,15	240	0,88	735	1,05
8	306	0,71	176	0,65	482	0,69
9	162	0,38	104	0,38	266	0,38
10	129	0,30	70	0,26	190	0,28
11	149	0,35	61	0,22	210	0,30
12	87	0,20	49	0,18	136	0,19
13	65	0,15	22	0,08	87	0,12
14	62	0,14	20	0,07	82	0,12
15	41	0,10	24	0,09	65	0,09
16	33	0,08	8	0,03	41	0,06
17	30	0,07	13	0,05	43	0,06
18	37	0,09	8	0,03	45	0,06
19	15	0,03	13	0,05	28	0,04
20	19	0,04	9	0,03	28	0,04
21	16	0,04	8	0,03	24	0,03
22	9	0,02	7	0,03	16	0,02
23	6	0,01	15	0,06	21	0,03
24	17	0,04	5	0,02	22	0,03
25	4	0,01	3	0,01	7	0,01
26	9	0,02	2	0,01	11	0,02
27	1	0,00	1	0,00	2	0,00
28	5	0,01	5	0,02	10	0,01
29	1	0,00	0	0,00	1	0,00
30	0	0,00	3	0,01	3	0,00
31	2	0,00	0	0,00	2	0,00
32	6	0,01	0	0,00	6	0,01
33	2	0,00	0	0,00	2	0,00
34	2	0,00	1	0,00	3	0,00
35	0	0,00	0	0,00	0	0,00
36	0	0,00	1	0,00	1	0,00
37	2	0,00	0	0,00	2	0,00
38	5	0,01	0	0,00	5	0,01
39	0	0,00	0	0,00	0	0,00
40	2	0,00	0	0,00	2	0,00
41	1	0,00	0	0,00	1	0,00
42	48	0,11	19	0,07	67	0,10
Irregularity (not defined)	139	0,32	6	0,02	145	0,21
Total	43 010	100	27 238	100	70 248	100

96	TYPE	NUMBER	%
	VERBAL TRADE MARKS	27 644	64,27
	FIGURATIVE TRADE MARKS	14 613	33,98
	THREE DIM. TRADE MARKS	357	0,83
	OTHER	396	0,92
	TOTAL	43 010	100,00

97	TYPE	NUMBER	%
	VERBAL TRADE MARKS	17 521	64,33
	FIGURATIVE TRADE MARKS	9 133	33,53
	THREE DIM. TRADE MARKS	268	0,98
	OTHER	316	1,16
	TOTAL	27 238	100,00



96 + 97	TYPE	NUMBER	%
	VERBAL TRADE MARKS	45 165	64,29
	FIGURATIVE TRADE MARKS	23 746	33,80
	THREE DIM. TRADE MARKS	625	0,89
	OTHER	712	1,01
	TOTAL	70 248	100,00

	REVENUE		EXPENDITURE
Revenue accruing from the operation of the Office	55 258 414 Ecu	Expenditure relating to persons working within the Office	14 602 004 Ecu
European Community subsidy		Buildings, equipment and miscellaneous operating expenditure	21 223 885 Ecu
		Expenditure regarding the trade mark registration procedure	16 378 731 Ecu
		Provision for future expenditure	3 053 794 Ecu
TOTAL	55 258 414 Ecu		55 258 414 Ecu

ANNEX OF INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

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	* Bertold SCHWAB	European Commission

*Alternate

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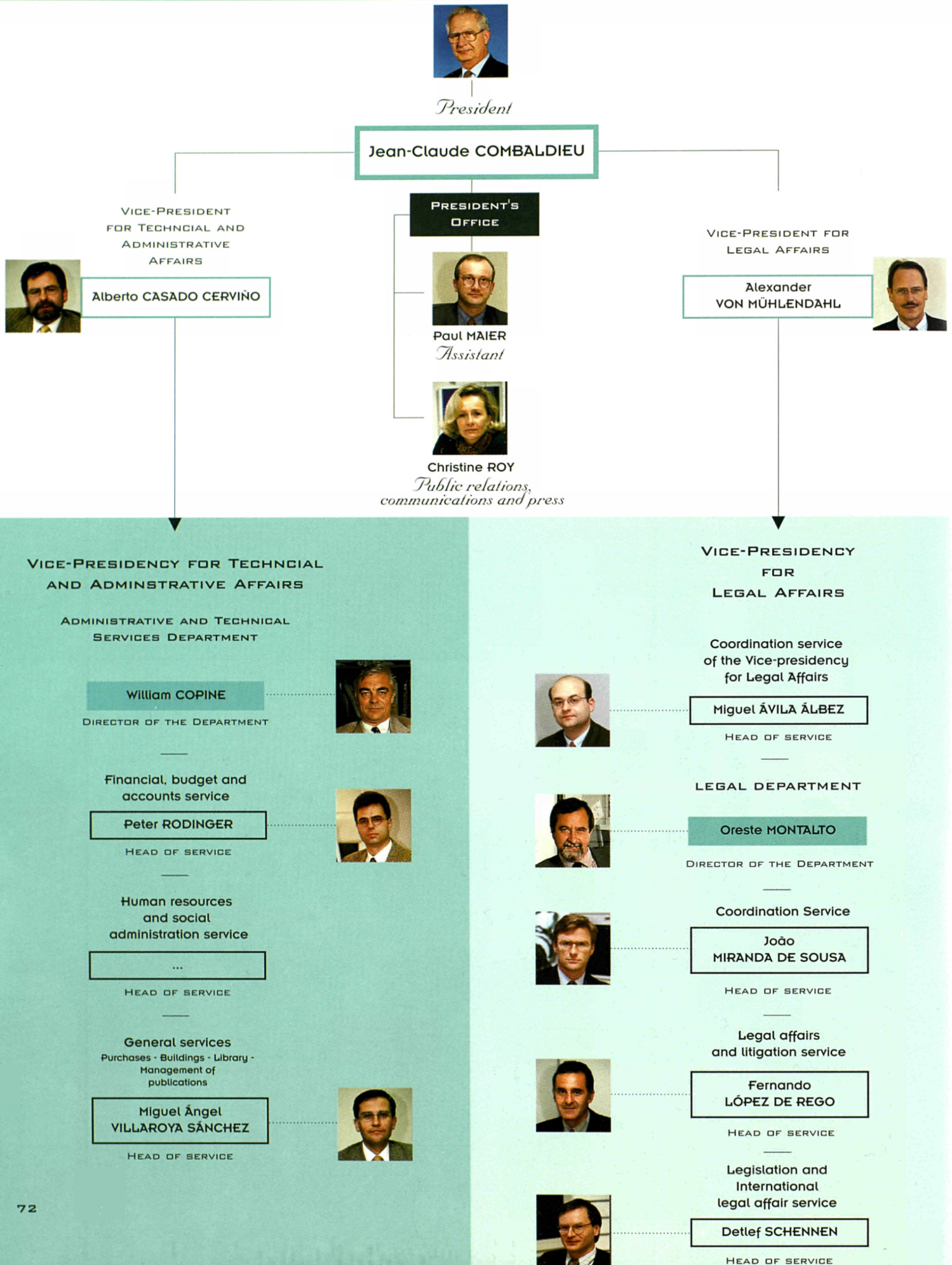
Oreste MONTALTO

DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT



(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT): William Copine, Alberto Casado Cerviño, Jean-Claude Combaldieu, Alexander von Mühlendahl, Oreste Montalto, Paul Maier

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