



General Directorate for the Protection of Industrial Property

Italian Patent and Trademark Office

Division VII - Patents

PCT national phase entry  
Applications statistics

**(2021 – 2023)**



**Ministry of Enterprises  
and Made in Italy**



**PCT national phase entry  
Applications statistics  
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**2021 Filings**

Patent applications for industrial invention	<b>15</b>	Patent applications for utility model	<b>4</b>
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**2022 Filings**

Patent applications for industrial invention	<b>144</b>	Patent applications for utility model	<b>30</b>
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**2023 Filings**

Patent applications for industrial invention			180	Patent applications for utility model			40
Count by applicant's origin	JP	50	Count by applicant's origin	CN	7		
	CN	31		GB	5		
	US	29		DE	4		
	IT	24		ES			
	DE	15		CH	2		
	TR	5		FR			
	KR			IT			
	ES	4		KR			
	FR			SI			
	AU	3		TR	1		
	AT	2		AU			
	IN			CL			
	RU			CZ			
	BE	1		IL			
	GR			PL			
PL	PT						
TH	TH						
	US						

**PCT national phase entry  
Applications statistics  
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The number of requests for entry into Italian national phase from PCT increased also in 2023. It rose from 174 applications in 2022 to 220 in 2023, an annual growth of 26%.

Industrial invention patent (180) continues to be preferred to utility model patent (40).

Users from 24 different countries decided to request protection in Italy from the international patent application. Data on applicants' nationality show the preference of applicants from Asia to take the opportunity of national phase entry directly from PCT.

The higher number of filings come from Japanese (50) and Chinese (31 applicants). A report of the performance of these deposits both separately (JP, CN) and in combination (JP + CN) can be found in the following pages.

As appreciated in the previous year, PCT national phase is a valuable option not only for foreign users, but also for Italian applicants. Of the 220 applications filed, 26 applications (12%) were submitted by individuals or legal entities with residence in Italy.

**Report of activities carried out in 2023**

Patent applications for industrial invention		Patent applications for utility model	
ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CHECKS	<b>182</b>	ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS CHECKS	<b>42</b>
MINISTERIAL NOTICE ISSUE	<b>121</b>	MINISTERIAL NOTICE ISSUE	<b>28</b>
PATENT GRANTS	<b>102</b>	PATENT GRANTS	<b>21</b>
APPLICATION REFUSALS	<b>4</b>	APPLICATION REFUSALS	<b>2</b>
WITHDRAWALS	<b>2</b>	WITHDRAWALS	<b>3</b>

During the evaluation of eligibility requirements for the opening of the national phase, documents filed with the IPTO is compared to the dossier published by WIPO on PATENTSCOPE portal in the international phase. Formal requirements for entry into Italian phase from PCT are immediately checked with the exception of some requests - those filed before the publication - for which it is necessary to defer examination. This happens because access to the international file is allowed only at least 18 months after the international filing date or the claimed priority date.

The difference between the number of filings (220) in the calendar year and the number of admissibility reviews (224) completed by the Office in the same period results from this time gap that occurs between the filing of the request to open the national phase and the availability of the international file in PATENTSCOPE.

The substantive examination shall be initiated no earlier than 30 months from the international filing date or the priority date, if claimed. In case of absence of the formal or substantive validity requirements of the patent application, the applicant is invited to remedy the deficiencies within a deadline set by the Office by sending a specific communication, according to Italian IP Code.

During 2023, 149 communications were issued by IPTO and 133 applications for entry into the national stage passed the examination and the patents were granted.

In the same period 6 applications were rejected.

In 5 cases, users requested withdrawal of applications.

**PCT national phase entry statistics**  
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**Trend in number of filings by origin: JP**

**2021**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>15</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP	<b>0</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>0%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>4</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP	<b>0</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>0%</b>

**2022**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>144</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP	<b>31</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>22%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>30</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP	<b>0</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>0%</b>

**2023**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>180</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP	<b>50</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>28%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>40</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP	<b>0</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>0%</b>

**Overall**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>339</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP	<b>81</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>24%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>74</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP	<b>0</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>0%</b>

**PCT national phase entry statistics**  
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**Trend in number of filings by origin: CN**

**2021**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>15</b>
Count by applicant's origin: CN	<b>9</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>60%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>4</b>
Count by applicant's origin: CN	<b>3</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>75%</b>

**2022**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>144</b>
Count by applicant's origin: CN	<b>19</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>13%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>30</b>
Count by applicant's origin: CN	<b>2</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>7%</b>

**2023**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>180</b>
Count by applicant's origin: CN	<b>31</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>17%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>40</b>
Count by applicant's origin: CN	<b>7</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>18%</b>

**Overall**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>339</b>
Count by applicant's origin: CN	<b>59</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>17%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>74</b>
Count by applicant's origin: CN	<b>12</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>16%</b>

**PCT national phase entry statistics**  
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**Trend in number of filings by origin: JP + CN**

**2021**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>15</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP + CN	<b>9</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>60%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>4</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP + CN	<b>2</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>50%</b>

**2022**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>144</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP + CN	<b>50</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>35%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>30</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP + CN	<b>2</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>7%</b>

**2023**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>180</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP + CN	<b>81</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>45%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>40</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP + CN	<b>7</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>18%</b>

**Overall**

Patent applications for industrial invention	
Total filings	<b>339</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP + CN	<b>140</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>41%</b>

Patent applications for utility model	
Total filings	<b>74</b>
Count by applicant's origin: JP + CN	<b>11</b>
Percentage on total number	<b>15%</b>