



Patent Statistical Report on 10th Anniversary of China and Countries Jointly Building Belt and Road Initiative (2013-2022)

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative, the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) released the *Patent Statistical Report on the 10th Anniversary of China and countries jointly building the Belt and Road Initiative (2013-2022)* on October 16, 2023.

The Report introduces the overall layout and key characteristics of intellectual property of China and countries and relevant organizations jointly building the Belt and Road Initiative (hereinafter referred to as “the BRI countries”) over the last ten years.

In the last ten years, China has filed patent applications in 50 BRI countries, with accumulated published patent applications up to 67,000 pieces, enjoying **an average yearly increase of 25.8%**, an accumulated granted patents up to 35,000 pieces, enjoying **an average yearly increase of 23.8%**. A total of 115 BRI countries filed patent applications in China, with patent applications and granted patents of 253,000 pieces and 112,000 pieces, respectively; enjoying **an average yearly increase of 5.4% and 9.8%**, respectively; higher than those filed by other countries and granted in the same period by 2.9 and 5.6 percentages, respectively.

Over the ten years, a total of **6,882 Chinese enterprises** filed patent applications in the BRI countries, among which the top five enterprises each have more than 2,000 patent applications published in the period, including **Huawei** (6,586 pieces), **Xiaomi** (2,807 pieces), **Alibaba** (2,557 pieces), **ZTE** (2,243 pieces) and **Tencent** (2,089 pieces).

Of the published patent applications filed by Chinese enterprises in the last decade, digital technological fields such as **digital communication** and **computer technology** accounted for the largest proportion with 12,000 applications and 9,000 applications, respectively, together accounting for 31.3% of the total published applications. Of the total applications filed by foreign countries in China, digital technological fields such as **semiconductor, computer technology and digital communication** accounted for the most, with 16,000, 15,000 and 13,000 applications, respectively, together accounting for 27.3% of the total applications.

The top five technical fields in which the BRI countries applied for patents in China are **semiconductor, electric machinery/electric devices/electric energy, other consumer products, computer technology and digital communication**, with 16,000, 15,000, 15,000, 15,000 and 13,000 applications, respectively, together accounting for 46.1% of the total applications. Since the Republic of Korea has advantages in digital technical fields such as semiconductor, computer technology and digital communication and filed a quite number of patent applications in China, the fields mentioned above take the first few places in the patent applications in China.



In Jan.-Sept. 2023, the Granted Utility Model Decreased by 25.49% (by 546,400 Pieces), with Utility Model Applications Filed by Individuals Decreased by 49.11% and by Colleges and Universities 52.49%.

Recently, the main statistical data of intellectual property in Jan.-Sept. 2023 was published on the website of CNIPA. As compared to the same period of 2022,

- the granted invention patents increased by 83,800 pieces, **a year-on-year increase of 13.63%**;
- the granted utility model patents decreased by 546,400 pieces, **a year-on-year decrease of 25.49%**;
- the granted design patents decreased by 44,500 pieces, **a year-on-year decrease of 8.35%**.

By the end of September 2023, the total of valid patents of all the three types reaches up to 19,733,470 pieces.

According to the statistics on domestic granted patents of five classified types of patentees in Jan.-Sept. 2023, the utility model patents of five types of patentees all declined in Jan.-Sept. 2023. The utility model patents of colleges and universities **decreased by 52.49%**, and of individuals **decreased by 49.11%**; the utility model sector saw a decrease of 546,400 pieces in this period (528,000 pieces of decrease from January to August 2023).

From January to September 2023, the trademark sector saw a decrease of 1,715,100 registrations as compared to 2022 (**a year-on-year decrease of 35.34%**).



China Ranking Fifth in Unitary Patent Applications in Europe

The European Patent Office (EPO) has announced the launch of a new data dashboard that publishes European patent data in real-time, which additionally includes a special page for unitary patents. On this page, data about unitary patents is updated on a daily basis, including the country of origin, the pertinent technical field, languages in which patents were published and subsequently translated in EU, etc. The EPO announcement shows that as of July 25, 2023, a total of 5,152 patent applications were received, among which 4,694 applications have uniform effect, accounting for 91% of the total, with 453 pending, and 5 withdrawn. According to the country distribution of unitary patents, China currently ranks the fifth in terms of application quantity. As far as the language of the unitary patent applications filed by China is concerned, basically all applications are filed in English, but the translation language mainly includes German, Spanish, French and Italian.

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