

BILATERAL AGREEMENT REGARDING COOPERATION

BETWEEN

STATE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

AND

THE INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

hereinafter referred as "Parties",

taking into consideration existing excellent relations and cooperation between the Parties, developing mutually beneficial contacts between Parties for providing of effective protection of industrial property rights timely and on high standards,

recognizing the importance of bilateral cooperation and aspiring to develop quality-focused, highly productive market-driven industrial property protection system supporting competitiveness,

desiring to facilitate obtaining of patent protection by providing accelerated search and examination,

the Parties have agreed on the following:

- both Parties shall elaborate and provide the patent applicant from the country of the other Party upon his request with a search report within 9 months from the date of filing the request.
- search reports shall be elaborated according to the legislation and practice of the respective contracting Party.
- once the applicant provides the Party with a search report elaborated by the other Party, it shall be considered as a request for accelerated examination procedure.
- both Parties shall inform each other about changes in national legislation and practice relating to patent search and examination.

This Agreement is concluded for a period of one year.

It shall be prolonged automatically each time for further one year unless one of the Parties sends a written notification not less than three (3) months prior to expiry of its validity to the other Party concerning its intention to discontinue this Agreement.

This Agreement enters into force on the date when it has been signed by both of the Parties.

The Parties sign this Agreement in English in two original copies.

Done in Berlin on 26 October, 2011



Željko Topić
Director General
State Intellectual Property Office
Croatia



Josef Kratochvíl
President
Industrial Property Office
Czech Republic