

# **Trends and focuses in the field of patents and R&D in Hungary**

**Szabolcs Farkas**

**HIPO**

**Vice President for Technical Affairs**



# Main streams of the HIPO's tasks

- National authority and IP service provider
- Marketing mix for HIPO's IP services

# The HIPO's mission

- Continuous improvement of IP rights granting process
- The ease of doing business with HIPO by providing various services
- Meeting the ISO standards

# HIPO's role and functions

## Two sides of the coin:

- **National authority** – granting IP rights, legislation, policy making, international co-operations, etc.
- **Service provider** – face towards the greater public including businesses, clients (e.g. IP rightholders) and general public

HIPO's marketing activities are related mainly to its service provider functions



# Tasks of the Patent Department as national IP authority

- Patent granting procedure
- R&D qualifications
- Search and examination for contracting partners
- Participation in projects of the EPO and EPN

# Accelerated patent granting procedure at the HIPO

- Option mainly for fast developing technical areas
- Upon request possibility of earlier publication
- Upon request preparing accelerated novelty search supplemented with written opinion (costs about 200 EUR) within 2 months from the date of request
- Issuance of the first office action: 4 months after requesting substantive examination

# Decrease of pending applications

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Granted patents	472	382	445	441	1351	376
Refused applications	30	35	27	37	50	44
Lapsed applications	1545	1915	1430	1108	1563	919
Completed applications	2147	2332	1902	1586	2964	1339
Pending applications	<b>8939</b>	<b>7067</b>	<b>5976</b>	<b>4587</b>	<b>2820</b>	<b>2151</b>

# Qualification of R&D activities at HIPO since 2012 (1)

## Preliminary qualification

- The preliminary qualification of R&D projects can be initiated voluntarily and optionally by the applicants prior to the start of the project
- The application for qualification can be submitted on a properly filled in form (on paper or electronically)
- Such decision by the HIPO shall be accepted as such by other authorities



# Qualification of R&D activities at HIPO since 2012 (2)

## Expert opinion

- Expert opinion on the R&D content of certain activities and the assignment of related costs, upon request of courts and authorities (e.g. National Tax and Customs Authority) or by other third parties
- The opinions based on the questions of the authorities or the clients
- The expert opinion includes the R&D assessment of the presented project, and the evaluation of the related costs assigned to that project
- The expert opinion is not binding

## Guide on the R&D qualification procedure

- the HIPO prepared and published a methodology guide in order to increase the transparency and to provide further information about the qualification procedure to enterprises and research institutions

# International and PCT-like work at HIPO

- **Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS)** - Search and Examination (~1500-1750 SR/WO/ER issued yearly as first actions)
- **Austrian Patent Office** - IPOS Search and Examination (~100-200 reports/year)
- **Slovenian Intellectual Property Office** - Search and Examination
- **Macedonia** - Intellectual Property Protection Office - Search
- **Brunei** - Patent Registry Office of Brunei Darussalam - Search and Examination
- **Bilateral PPH agreements and Global PPH**



# Services provided by the HIPO

- Information provision
- Data supply
- Voluntary register of works
- **Patent search services**
- Trade mark services
- IP Library
- Training and education

# Patent search services

- novelty search (fixed price)
- novelty search with patentability report (fixed price)
- patentability report
- validity search
- freedom to operate search

# Promotion – awareness raising

- IP Trainings
- **VIVACE programme (for SMEs)**
- **General awareness seminars**
- Other: IP Library of HIPO



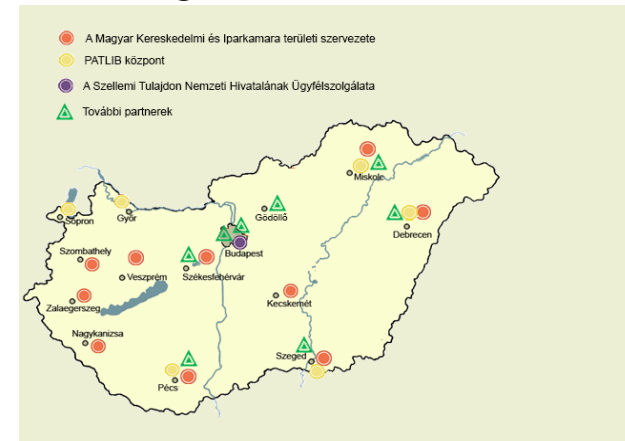
# VIVACE Programme

**VIVACE Programme** = „Action Plan Promoting Industrial Property Competitiveness”  
set up and operated by the HIPO

## Aim:

- to build networks and services
- to foster awareness and expand education
- to provide support (e.g. consulting) for SMEs in using the IP system

**Time span:** 2004 onwards



# General awareness seminars

**Regular awareness seminars** organized for:

- *the Hungarian Academy of Sciences*
- *SMEs*: on a regional basis with the help of regional partners; topics based on local needs

## **On-demand seminars**

- any interested parties; with requested topics
- free of charge or for consideration incl. information material and speakers

# National Board Against Counterfeiting

## Implemented Activities in 2014/15

Exhibition on IP and the consequences of IP infringement - a travelling exhibition

- Participation at festivals, e.g. Sziget Festival
- Bringing the travelling exhibition close to the target group: young people





**Thank you for your attention!**



[szabolcs.farkas@hipo.gov.hu](mailto:szabolcs.farkas@hipo.gov.hu)