

SARDEGNA RICERCHE

General regulation for the delivery of services by PATLIB CENTRE DOCUMENTATION CENTRE



**SARDEGNA
RICERCHE**

January 2007



1. INTRODUCTION: Science and Technology Park of Sardinia

The Science and Technology Park of Sardinia is a regional network of advanced facilities and infrastructure for the location of innovative enterprises and R&D activities. It also comprises a system of services fostering technological innovation of regional SMEs.

The Park has three key objectives:

- Support the competitiveness of companies by strengthening their technological performance;
 - Create new enterprises with high technology content;
 - Attract to Sardinia R&D centres, medium-sized and large enterprises and high-tech companies.
- Sardegna Ricerche is the company established by the Regional Government to promote, create and manage the Science and Technology Park of Sardinia.

The Park has a region-wide, multi-pole structure, forming a network of centres, each with distinct areas of specialisation. The current centres are:

- Cagliari-Pula, main Park campus and headquarters
- Nuoro, local centre/branch
- Iglesias, local centre/branch

2. THE PATLIB NETWORK



PatLib (Patent Library) is the name of the network of patent information centres present throughout Europe (and comprising PatLib Centres and Patent Information Points). This network was set up thanks to collaboration between the European Patent Office (EPO), the national patent offices of the EPO member states and the regional centres which have joined the initiative.

The PATLIB network was created to spread availability of patent information in Europe and to promote the use of patents.

There are currently more than 300 centres in about 30 countries.

In Italy there are currently 21 PatLib centres and 37 PIP centres, strategically located (at universities, in Science and Technology Parks, Chambers of Commerce) thus forming an information network well distributed over the whole territory of Italy.

The **PatLib Centre** of Nuoro and the **PIP Centre** of Cagliari-Pula located at the Documentation Centre, accredited by the Ministry of Production Activities are operated by Sardegna Ricerche and deliver patent information and assistance services to regional users.

3. THE PATLIB AND PIP CENTRES OF SARDEGNA RICERCHE

The PatLib Centre and the Documentation Centre of Sardegna Ricerche, where a PIP centre is based, deliver various types of services:

3.1 *Patent and trademark information*

3.2 *Technical and scientific documentation*

3.1 Patent and trademark information

Sardegna Ricerche, through the above mentioned Centres, provides a range of IP services covering various user requirements:

- a) state-of-the-art search, prior to the filing of a patent application;
- b) check of technology status in order to focus research (*technology watch*);
- c) check of a specific sector's technology status to detect the existence of patents that might place limits on corporate activity (in terms of product or industrial process);
- d) information on competitor trends (*competitor watch*) to check whether the target sector offers scope for innovation or space for new players;
- e) check of a patent's legal status before purchasing a license;
- f) identification of solutions that can freely be used since their patents have lapsed or expired;
- g) searches aimed at characterising one's company or product through a strategic distinctive element ensuring enhanced market placement hence competitiveness.

To meet the above requirements the following patent information services are offered:

- **Basic searches**
- **State-of-the-art and novelty searches**
- **Assistance in searches on EPO databases**
- **Technology watches**
- **Competitor watches**
- **Patent legal status searches**
- **Full-text printouts of European patent filings, PCT (patent Co-operation Treaty) pamphlets and those of the main industrial countries worldwide**

As to trademarks, the following search services are offered:

- **Trademark screening searches in national registries** (*Australia, Austria, Benelux, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, UK, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Mexico, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Spain, South Korea, Sweden,*

Switzerland, Hungary, USA – federal and state level), and in **European Community and international registries**;

- **Trademark legal status searches.**

3.2 Technical and scientific documentation

The technical-scientific documentation service has been added to the patent and trademark information services in order to provide decision support information.

Thus, searches can now be carried out not only on patents and trademarks but also on technical and scientific literature to:

- a) investigate research-intensive high-tech sectors;
- b) identify solutions to technical problems;
- c) assess market scenarios.

Once the target sector has been defined, the PatLib Centre and Documentation Centre of Sardegna Ricerche can provide a range of services to match users' requirements:

- **Document searches**

According to users' requirements, specialised databases are selected and searched to retrieve all the papers and publications pertaining to the search subject. The output of this search is a list of documents identified as being the most significant (bibliographic information and abstract) together with written comments on search results.

- **Bibliographic searches**

Bibliographic searches may be conducted using different parameters (authors, topic etc.), yielding a list of all publications meeting those parameters. The output is a list of bibliographic references in chronological order.

- **Document delivery**

Once a specific document has been identified, its full text version can be ordered, and is delivered within one week (service provided through the British Library).

- **Dossier**

The dossier is a collection of a broad spectrum of information from multiple sources, illustrating the state of the art of any given sector or technology, thus allowing assessment of its technology level and competition scenario.

- **Industry audits**

Compared with the dossier, sectoral assessments/studies industry audits also include analysis and interpretation of data by experts and contain specific references to the situation in Sardinia.

Both dossiers and audits may cut across sectors or exclusively cover a specific industry.

4. BENEFICIARIES AND ELIGIBLE ORGANISATIONS

The services are available to:

- SMEs with registered office and operations in Sardinia;
- Public or private research centres located in Sardinia;
- Researchers, inventors and professionals resident in Sardinia or who operate mainly in Sardinia.

5. ACCESS TO SERVICES

At Sardegna Ricerche's patent information offices at Nuoro and Pula, qualified staff offer assistance to researchers, entrepreneurs and inventors based in Sardinia in defining the scope of the search.

You can send the service request form by e-mail or fax: the staff from the office you chose will contact you for an initial information gathering interview.

Confidential meetings can be requested for discussing information requirements.

To access services, you need to submit a service application form, provided by Sardegna Ricerche as Annex A. Please indicate on this form the type of service you are requesting and provide details of the invention for which you are requesting state-of-the-art search, or of the industry sector to be monitored.

The patent information offices have the following public opening hours:

- **Monday ÷ Wednesday: 09:00 – 17:00**

- **Thursday ÷ Friday: 09:00 – 13:00**

6. COST OF SERVICES

The patent and trademark information and technical-scientific documentation services provided form part of the activities carried out by Sardegna Ricerche to spread technological innovation in the regional economy, and include both free-of-charge and payable services.

The reason for this is that while some search tools used by the Centres do not involve additional costs, others generate use-based costs which Sardegna Ricerche charges to the user. Available sources (types **A**, **B**, **C**) are described in annex B.

Specifically:

- patent searches, monitoring and/or patent watches using the sources listed as type **A**: **free**.
- Trademark searches using the sources listed as type **B**: **€ 3.10** including VAT (per 1 title/country).

- Additional patent searches and documentation searches using the sources listed as type **C: quoted on a case-by-case basis.**

Any search for which a fee is payable will be made only after the user has formally approved the quotation and paid the fee.

Moreover, all users may purchase a prepaid package, thus facilitating the payment process and delivery of the services.

The Science and Technology Park's tenant companies and research centres benefit from special terms of service delivery as set out in the Tenancy Package.

Payments must be made by post office account payment to:

- **c/c postale (PO account no.) 32367286**
- **account holder:** Sardegna Ricerche - via Palabanda, 9 - 09123 Cagliari
- **reason for payment:** payment for Documentation centre/PatLib services

7. TIMESCALE FOR DELIVERY OF SERVICES

Service requests will be met according to date of submission of the completed form (annex A). As a rule, the search and delivery of results are performed within 30 days from the date of the request. Search results are delivered by mail to the address provided by the user, or can be picked up at the office.

8. SEARCH RESULTS AND USE OF INFORMATION

Please note the results of patent searches might not include the entire status of the art of the target sector: in fact, the absence in databases of patent filings similar or identical to those sought is not sufficient to rule out their existence completely (also because the publication date of patent documents is subsequent to their filing date) Moreover, the materials and all information are provided for purely information gathering purposes and as support for applicants and do not purport to constitute professional or legal advice; **therefore, their exploitation for commercial purposes is prohibited.**

Sardegna Ricerche accepts no liability for the use of the information and documentation provided, and makes no warranties as to their accuracy and completeness. Therefore, Sardegna Ricerche accepts no liability for any problems or harm which might arise from errors, omissions or other causes.

9. INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For further information, please contact:

SARDEGNA RICERCHE – main campus
Science and Technology Park of Sardinia
Documentation Centre - Edificio 2
Loc. Piscinamanna
09010 Pula (Ca) ITALY
Phone +39 070 9243 2204 (switchboard)
Fax +39 070 9243 2203
http://www.sardegna ricerche.it/
Contact: Dr. Silvia Marcis
Tel +39 070 9243 2222
e-mail: marcis@sardegna ricerche.it/
SARDEGNA RICERCHE – Local office
c/o AILUN - Via Pasquale Paoli, sn
Loc. Funtana Buddia
08100 Nuoro ITALY
Phone +39 0784 260803 (switchboard)
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Contact: Dr. Mara Mangia
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**SARDEGNA
RICERCHE**

**FORM FOR REQUESTING THE SERVICES OF THE PATLIB CENTRE/ DOCUMENTATION
CENTRE OF SARDEGNA RICERCHE**

I, the undersigned _____
Born in _____ Province (foreign country) _____
TIN no./VAT no. _____ resident in _____ Prov. (country) _____
Street _____ Postcode _____ e-mail _____
position _____ company/research centre _____
Activity sector _____
ISTAT code of activity sectors _____

HEREBY REQUEST

access to the following services:

- PATENT SEARCH** _____
- PATENT MONITORING AND WATCH** _____
- TRADEMARK SEARCH** _____
- DOCUMENT SEARCH** _____
- OTHER - (specify)** _____

Brief description of the subject matter of the request _____

Keywords _____

Application sector(s) _____

AND DECLARE AS FOLLOWS

- I have read the Regulation on the delivery of services by the PatLib Centre/Documentation Centre of Sardegna Ricerche;
- I/the organisation _____ possess/possesses the requirements set out in the above mentioned "Regulation" and meet/meets all conditions for access to the facilities provided for by the Regulation;
- I hereby exempt SARDEGNA RICERCHE from any liability arising from any breaches of industrial property protection legislation.

NOTICE pursuant to article 13 of Legislative Decree 196/03 (Italian Personal data protection code)

Pursuant to article 13 of Legislative Decree 196/03, we wish to inform you that:

- The data provided will be processed by means of manual and IT tools, for purposes associated with the services delivered directly by SARDEGNA RICERCHE, respecting the data security and privacy rules laid down in the law, also in the event of their disclosure to third parties.
- Your data may be communicated to other SARDEGNA RICERCHE centres located in the Region, for official purposes linked to the agency's activities.
- Pursuant to article 13, para 1 letters b) and c) of Legislative Decree 196/03, we wish to inform you that you have no legal obligation to authorise SARDEGNA RICERCHE to process your data, but failure to provide such authorisation might prevent SARDEGNA RICERCHE from delivering the services you request.
- You also have the rights set forth in article 7 of Legislative Decree 196/03, in particular you have the right to be informed of the source of the data, and of the logic and purposes of processing. You also have the right to obtain erasure, anonymization or blocking of data that have been processed unlawfully, as well as updating or integration of data, where interested therein.
- The Data controller is SARDEGNA RICERCHE, with registered office in Cagliari, in Via Palabanda n. 9 (09123) and main place of business in Pula (CA), loc. Piscinamanna (09010).

I am fully aware of the legal consequences, including criminal liability, of making false statements, and I HEREBY DECLARE that the information provided in this form is true.

Date _____

Signature of applicant

Address for correspondence:

Name _____ organisation _____
address: _____ Postcode _____ town _____
Province (or foreign country) _____ phone _____ fax _____
e-mail _____

SOURCES

Type A

Resources of the European Patent Office – These resources are accessed thanks to Sardegna Ricerche's accreditation as PatLib and PIP centre.

Delphion – A database with collections of US, European and world-wide patents, English abstracts of Japanese patents, legal status information and patent families.

Inpadoc – A database produced by EPO which contains bibliographic and legal status information on patents issued by about 65 countries and patent organisations.

Type B

SAEGIS – A database produced by CompuMark, containing full data of Italian international and European Union trademarks.

Type C

Derwent World Patents Index – DWPI analyses patent records in the sectors of agricultural and veterinary medicine, electronic/electrical engineering, chemistry, pharmaceuticals and polymers, reformulating titles to make them more illustrative and reformulating the abstract so as to summarise the invention in a clear manner and include the main uses and benefits of the patented technology.

DGENE (Derwent Geneseq) – A database of patented nucleotide and protein sequences. More than half of the data contained in this database is not available in any other public sequence database.

Caplus – Since 1907 the Chemical Abstract Society has been indexing and writing English language summaries of journal articles, patent documents, conference proceedings and other documents in the fields of biomedical sciences, chemistry, engineering, materials science, agricultural science and allied disciplines. Overall, *CAPLUS* contains the abstracts of about 21 million documents.

STN – A prestigious host providing databases in the fields of chemistry, life sciences, pharmacology and biotechnology. To cope with the specific manner in which data in these disciplines have been encoded, STN has developed various database search support tools which produce excellent results in terms of precision and processing speed (RN, BLAST, structure search etc.). This service provides access to about 200 databases which, in addition to those mentioned above, also cover other science and technology areas, including energy, the environment, transport and materials.

Dialog – A host providing access to more than 600 databases spanning all areas of science and technology. Dialog also provides market research information, drawn from prestigious sources such as Frost & Sullivan, and Dun & Bradstreet.

SCIENCE DIRECT – Service providing direct access to the electronic version of about 1800 journals published by Elsevier, Cell Press, North Holland, etc.

BRITISH LIBRARY – Document delivery service.

SPECIALISED JOURNALS – Journals from various publishers in the sectors of computer science, life sciences etc.