

## **IPG-Newsletter 98/07**

### Patent Law 1991 in Romania

A new patent law has come into force on January 21, 1992  
(Law No. 64 of October 1991)

There are two types of documents:

- a) Patents of invention
- b) Patents of improvement

Inventors' certificates have been completely abolished.  
Although in Romania there was never a separate kind of protection for inventors' certificates (in contrary to the Soviet Union) there were nevertheless some advantages for the inventor, when an invention was actually used.

The maximum lifetime of Romanian patents is 20 years from the date of the application. For patents of improvement the minimum lifetime is 10 years from the date of the application of the improvement, or the expiry date of the basic patent, whatever is later. Under the former law the lifetime of patents was 15 years from the date of application.

The number formats of Romanian patent applications are changed. They use the format ynnnnn (e.g. 9212345) under the new legislation. Patent numbers will continue to be ascending number series.

With a certain delay we are going to issue these document types. Kind codes foreseen are C1 (patents of invention) and C2 (patents of improvement).

Principal Directorate Patent Information  
European Patent Office  
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