

## France (FR) Coverage

### Patent Office Details

INPI  
26 bis rue de St.-Petersbourg  
75800 Paris Cedex 08  
France

Web: [www.inpi.fr](http://www.inpi.fr)

Official gazette: *Bulletin Officiel de la Propriété Industrielle (BOPI) Brevets d'invention*

### Kinds of Protection

Patents of Invention	Granted for a term of 20 years from submission date; patents of addition were abolished from 26.11.1990
Supplementary Protection Certificates	Extensions of up to seven years for pharmaceuticals; remaining patent term including supplementary protection cannot exceed 17 years
Utility Models	Granted for a term of six years from submission date

### Convention & Treaty Membership

Patent Cooperation Treaty	25.02.1978
European Patent Convention	07.10.1977
Signatory of:	Paris Convention (Stockholm wording) Budapest Treaty World Intellectual Property Organization International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

### Filing for Patents

Patents are granted for new inventions involving an inventive step and capable of industrial application.

Applications may be made, in French, by the inventor or his successor, whether they are an individual, corporation or firm. Non-residents may apply on a reciprocity basis.

Under the *International Convention*, applications claiming priority must be filed within 12 months of the earliest filing in a Convention country. Priority may be claimed two months after the filing in France. Certified copy must be filed within 16 months of the priority date. Under the PCT, international applications designating France must be filed at the European Patent Office, along with all necessary documentation, within 31 months of the priority date. Under the European Patent Convention, French translations of European patents must be filed at the French Patent Office within three months of publication in the EPO Bulletin. Applications filed first in a non-Convention country may be accorded priority on the basis of reciprocity.

Applications are examined as to form and novelty. When formalities connected with the search are completed (maximum 18 months from filing) the patent office will draw up a final documentary report. When filing the application, the applicant may request postponement of the final documentary report until the end of the 18 months period.

Publication of the search report and the application occur in the *Official Industrial Property Bulletin* after the search for prior art has been completed.

After publication of the documentary report the patent is issued and a notice is published in the *Official Industrial Property Bulletin*.

After publication of the application and search report, third parties have three months to submit documented observations as to novelty and patentability.

## DWPI Coverage

Kind		DWPI Start Dates
A	Granted patent (until 1969); OPI application (from 1969)	1963
A1	OPI application (first publication)	Used from update 199221
A2	Application for certificate of addition	28 February 1992
A3	Application for certificate of utility	3 April 1992
B1	Patent of invention (after A1)	1 January 2010
B2	Certificate of addition (after A2)	1 January 2010
B3	Certificate of utility (after A3)	1 January 2010
B4	Certificate of addition to utility (after A3)	1 January 2010
E	Certificate of addition (until 1969)	1963
M	Medicament (addition) (until 1979)	1963

DWPI Data elements online	Notes
✓ Bibliographic data	
✓ English value-add title and abstract	
✓ Original title and abstract	From January 2009 to date
✓ Manual Codes	Chemical (CPI) and Electrical (EPI)
✓ Chemical Indexing	DCR, Chemical Fragmentation, Polymer and Markush

## Numeration

### Kind Codes – A, A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, B3, B4

Publication Numbers				
Original Data	Derwent Innovation	Dialog	Questel	STN
FRnnnnnnn	FRnnnnnnn	FR nnnnnnn	FRnnnnnnn	FRnnnnnnn
FR2932968	FR2932968	FR 2932968	FR2932968	FR2932968

nnnnnnn                    7-digit serial number

Application Numbers*				
Original Data	Derwent Innovation	Dialog	Questel	STN
YY NNNNN	FRYYYYNnnA	FR YYYYNnn	YYYYFR-nnnnnnn	FRYYYY-Nnn
08 03679	FR20083679A	FR 20083679	2008FR-0003679	FR2008-3679

YY or YYYY                    2 or 4 digits representing the year of application

NNNNN                        5 digit serial number starting at 00001 on January 1<sup>st</sup> each year

Nnn                              1-5 digit serial number starting at 1 on January 1<sup>st</sup> each year

nnnnnnn                        7 digit serial number starting at 0000001 on January 1<sup>st</sup> each year

*\*Full coverage of application numbers commenced from DWPI update 199216*

### Kind Codes – E, M

Publication Numbers				
Original Data	Derwent Innovation	Dialog	Questel	STN
<i>Medicament patents until 1969 (M)</i>				
FRNnn	FRNnn	FR Nnn	FRNnn	FRNnn
FR316	FR316	FR 316	FR316	FR316
<i>Certificate of addition until 1969 (E)</i>				
FRNnn	FRNnn	FR Nnn	FRNnn	FRNnn
FR96644	FR96644	FR 96644	FR96644	FR96644

nnnnnnn                    7 digit serial number

Nnn                              1-5 digit serial number

Application numbers are not always covered for FRE and FRM documents