

## IP IN MEXICO GROWS ON E-RESOURCES

Technology developments are reaching all activities to help us in our tasks, and so IP services are showing a new face thanks to electronic developments. Fortunately IP offices and agencies are adopting new electronic technologies to provide additional and more efficient services to users and final clients such as online services.

The Mexican IP Institute (IMPI) has also followed such trend by providing online Patent and Trademark searches since last decade and a couple of years ago a service to pay official fees online was installed in its web site. Recently, the IMPI renewed its online services to provide free Trademark searches (patent searches have always been free) that allows reviewing all data of the trademarks reported in the search result and it also developed a service called ViDoc that allows viewing public documents in Patent and Trademark files.

On the other hand, the federal authority in charge of revising the resolutions issued by the IMPI, that is, the Federal Fiscal and Administrative Justice Tribunal, announced lately that online judgments will be implemented soon, so this will undoubtedly benefit the users by reducing the process extent from 2 years to about 6 months.

Despite most of the described services are provided by International Authorities as well as Patent and Trademark Offices and Courts of developed countries, they imply a great effort for a country under development. Evidently, such kind of innovations make easier the tasks of searching, revising files and hopefully they will offer soon the possibility of e-filing Patents and Trademarks and prosecuting contentious cases online but they also represent a clever way to invest the limited resources of a country like Mexico.

**BY ALMA S. ALVAREZ  
PARTNER**