



## **Environmental Patents in Brazil: Proposed methodology for identification and compatibility with different databases**

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The concept applied to delimitation of new technologies related to environmental issues is constantly evolving, encompassing processes products or services to improve operational performance and increase efficiency and productivity while reducing costs, inputs, energy consumption and, with the primary purpose of generating lower environmental impact (Winter, 2011). Patent environmental information obtained through different patent classification systems (EPO and WIPO) can present major technological limitations, since in some cases have content too generic or too comprehensive framework for the environmental concept. In some cases, depending on convenience, can even submit commercial or political interests. In this regard, an efficient tool to identify these new technologies related to environmental dimension may be the patent system by identifying environmental patents. In Brazil, the initiatives of companies in relation to mitigation of environmental problems caused by the productive activities is relatively recent. Among the possibilities to monitor these initiatives, we can highlight the Annual Industrial Survey - PIA, through variable Investment in Environmental Control, in the Survey of Technological Innovation - PINTEC, both from IBGE, and information about deposits of patent applications, National Institute of Industrial Property - INPI. However, the handling, processing and reconciling these different databases constituted a major challenge in view of the need for standardization and formatting of data, identification and elimination of duplicate records or missing data, harmonization of names of depositors, among others. Thus, the aim of this paper is to present a methodology for identifying environmental patents filed with the INPI, between 1998 and 2007, based on patents obtained by MIMOSA system developed by the European Patent Office, Japan Patent Office and the Office of Patent and Trademark United States. The results achieved with the application of the proposed method allowed the information obtained through patents could be compatible with the database of PIA and PINTEC.

**Keywords:** environmental patent; patents applications database; environmental technologies; database compatibility.