



Overview of Work Sharing Projects

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Content

- Objectives of work-sharing initiatives
- Work-sharing business models
- Current examples
- Critical success factors
- ASEAN context
- Possible models and system requirements

Objectives of Work-Sharing

- Work-sharing = Quality and Efficiency gains
- In 66% of cases, examiners found new prior art by sharing search reports from other offices (*Vancouver Group examiner exchange*).
- In 88% of cases, feedback resulted in additional citations. In 53% of cases, feedback resulted in changes to Written Opinion (*EPO progress report on PCT collaborative search and examination*).
- Collaborative work may increase initial costs, but overall costs decrease.

Work-Sharing Business Models

■ Centralized Examination

- One office examine applications, others accept the results, with some formalities, top-up search, or other procedures

■ Collaborative Examination

- Examiners from 2 or more offices work together to produce a single result, which is then used independently in each office

■ Mutual Recognition

- Examiners from a second office rely on the work of another office, perhaps with additional search and examination

■ Mutual Exploitation

- Examiners from a second office have access to the results of another office and may take them into account in their own work.

■ Unilateral Exploitation

- Examiners from a second office access the results of other offices via public online file inspection systems.

■ Outsourcing

- Applications are examined by another office or by an external company.

Work-Sharing Business Models

<u>Mutual Exploitation</u> Vancouver Group	<u>Collaborative Examination</u> PCT Pilot IP5 Pilots
<u>Centralized Examination</u> ARIPO, EPO, PCT? <u>Outsourcing</u> Singapore WIPO-ICE	<u>Mutual Recognition</u> PPH

Critical Factors

- Successful programs are office-driven
- Language issues must be overcome
- Examiner exchanges/studies help to build confidence and understanding
- Need for common standards for work products
- Need for quality control or quality metrics to increase confidence in results of other offices
- Access to search databases
- System to support sharing of information, data and documents

The ASEAN Context



SCALE
1 : 4,800,000

WIPO
WORLD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION

The ASEAN Context



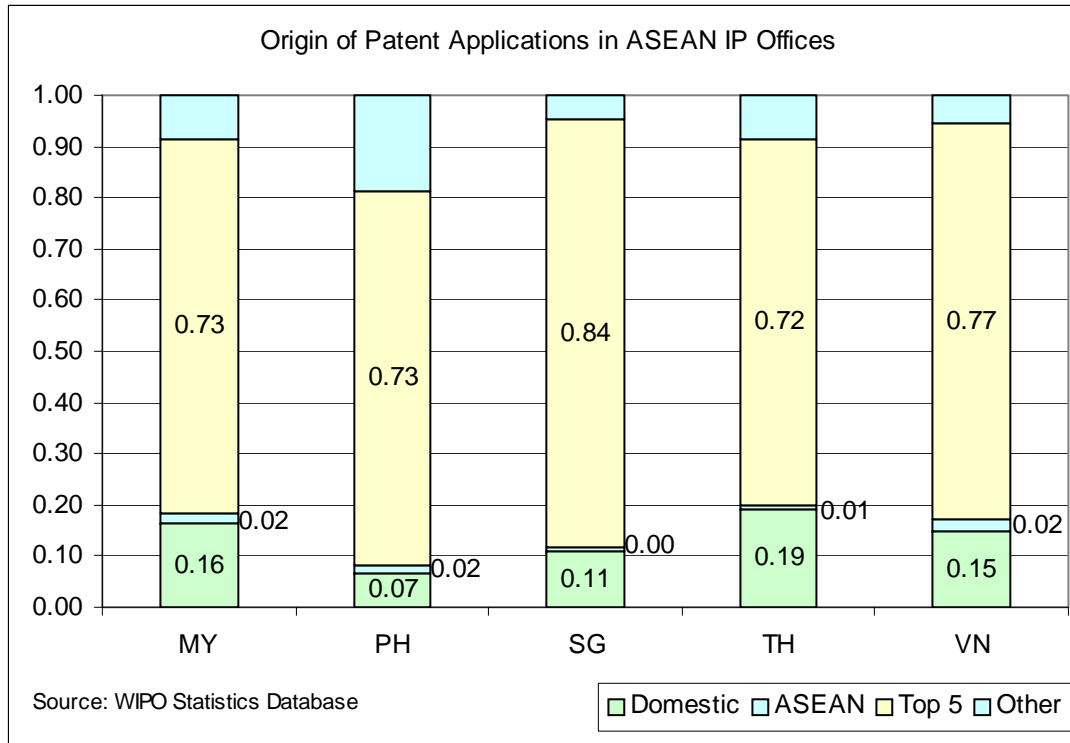
Office	Country of Origin												
	ID	MY	PH	SG	TH	VN	AU	CN	DE	JP	KR	US	Other
Brunei													40
Indonesia	233												3 709
Malaysia		650		70	11		77	37	382	830	126	1 513	258
Philippines	2	16	180	26			48	35	251	494	76	1 148	468
Singapore	1	22	3	674	3		199	53	490	1 210	116	3 243	97
Thailand		14		14	879		25	59	225	1 717	35	1 234	363
Viet Nam		14	1	22	3	249	32	56	169	429	109	521	60

Patent filings in ASEAN offices

10-year averages

Source: WIPO Statistics Database – data missing for some offices, years and/or countries of origin

The ASEAN Context

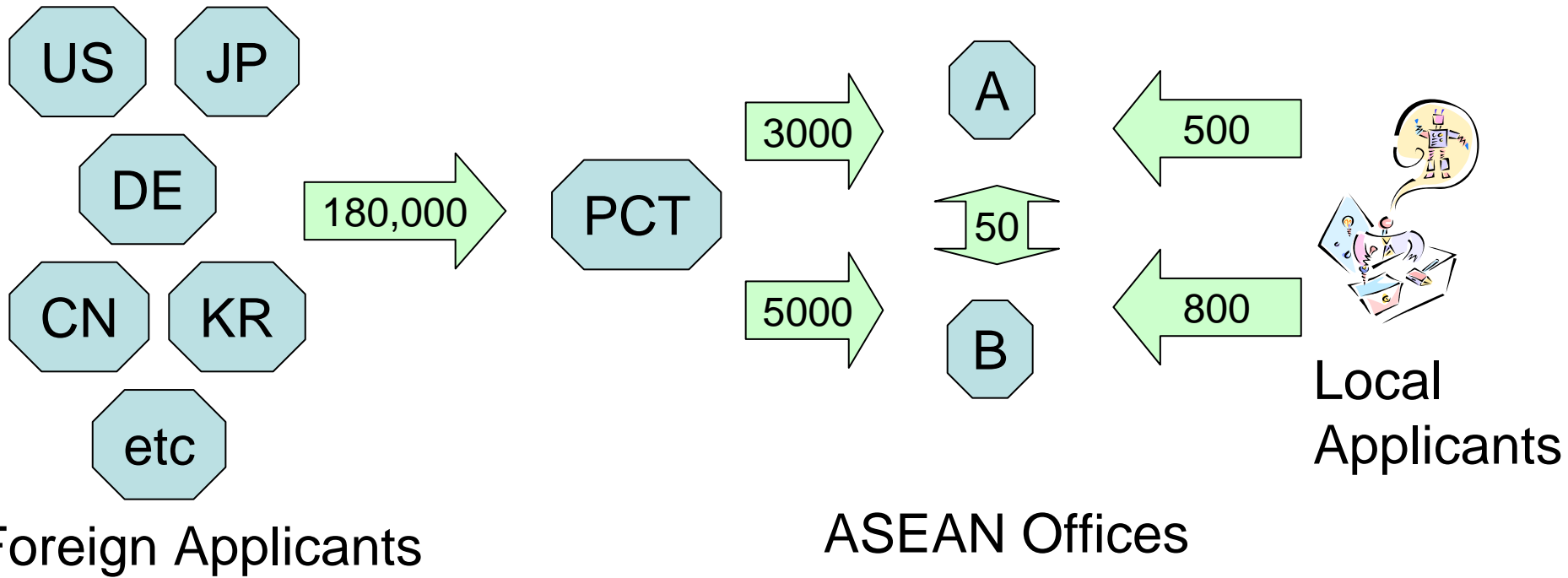


Patent filings in ASEAN offices

10-year averages

Source: WIPO Statistics Database – data missing for some offices, years and/or countries of origin

The ASEAN Context



ASEAN Context

- approximately 15% of patent applications are first filings by local applicants
- at least 75% of patent applications are filed, via the PCT, by foreign applicants from a small number of origins
- Possible priorities for ASEAN:
 1. High quality service for national applicants
 2. Efficient processing of parallel foreign applications

ASEAN Context

■ Possible priorities for ASEAN:

1. High quality service for national applicants
2. Efficient processing of parallel foreign applications

■ Possible models:

1. Outsourcing / Partnerships
2. Access to foreign search/examination documents
3. Collaborative examination of parallel foreign applications

Systems Requirements

- Digitization and storage of the relevant documents in IP Offices
- Identification of parallel applications
- Systems for secure sharing of data and documents with external partners
- Access to foreign search and examination results
- Language tools

