

# Challenges in Examination

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Patent Examiner

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# Statistics on Examination

	2010		2011		2012	
Number of Filings	<b>9,773</b>		<b>9,794</b>		<b>9,685</b>	
	National	PCT	National	PCT	National	PCT
	2,847	6,926	3,068	6,726	3,015	6,670

## Substantive Examination at IPOS (from 28 May 2013):

Number of Patent Examiners: 18

Number of Trainee Examiners: 22

## Outsourced Overseas Offices:

Danish Patent and Trademark Office

Austrian Patent Office

Hungarian Intellectual Property Office

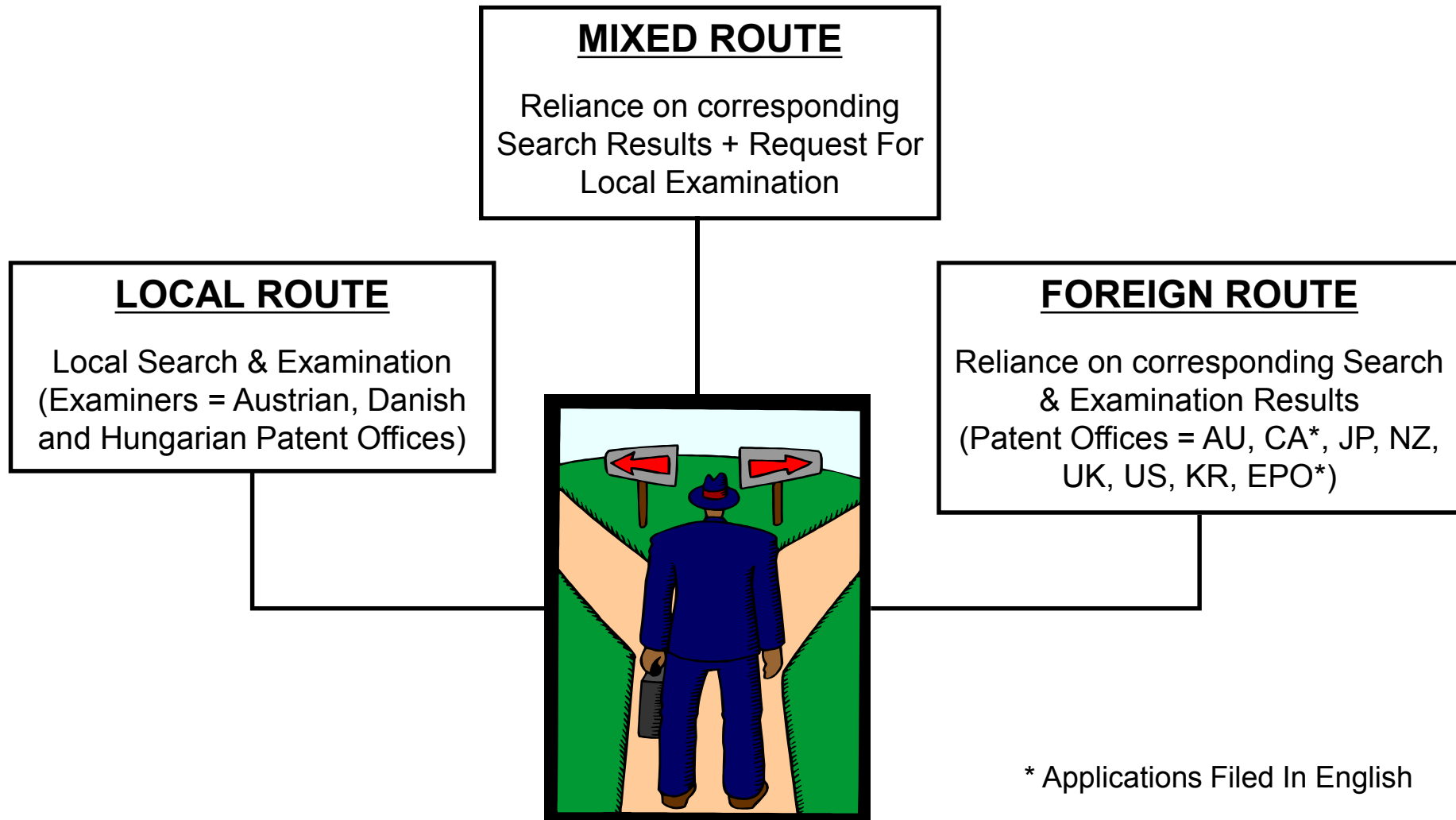
## Paid tools

STN, EPOQUENET, DWPI, ORBIT, EMBASE,  
IEEE Xplore

## Free tools

Google (Scholar, Patents), Espacenet, US-PAIR,  
AIPN, AusPat, Patentscope, EMBL-EBI, etc.

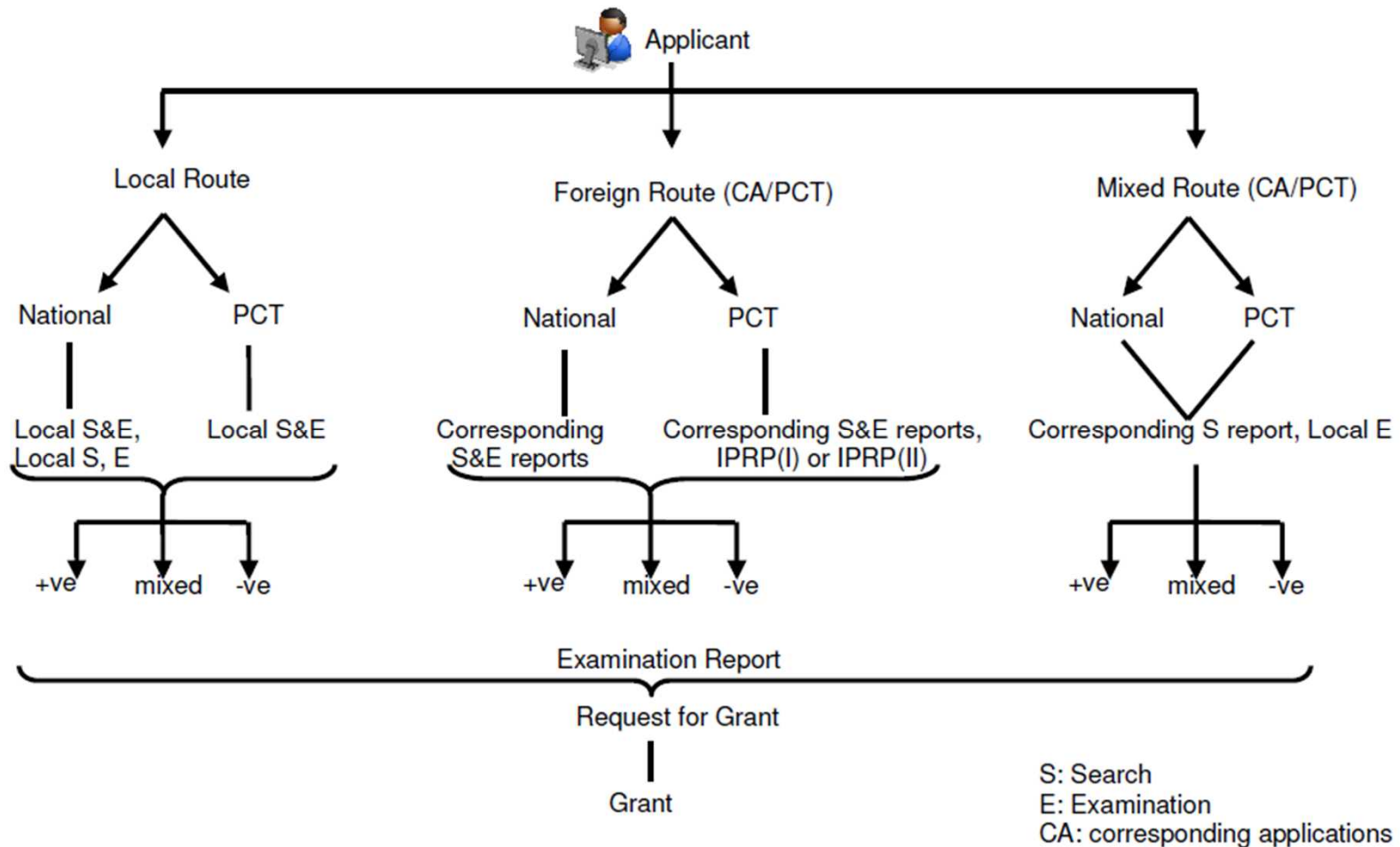
# Patent Search & Examination



\* Applications Filed In English

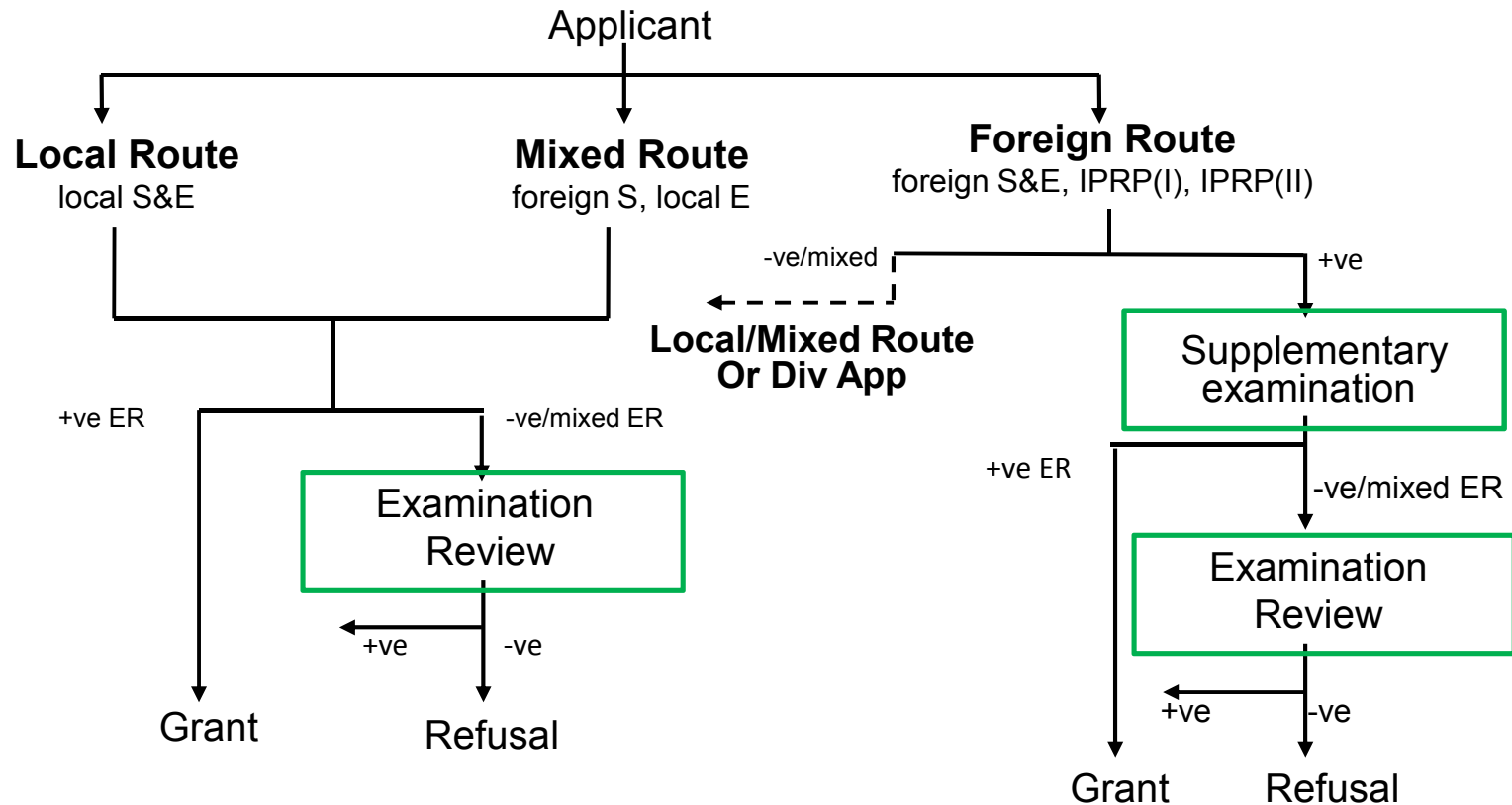
# Current Patent System

## Self-Assessment:



# Patents (Amendment) Act 2012

## New Positive Grant System:



## Introduction of the Supplementary Examination Procedure

All foreign route applications will be subjected to supplementary examination:

1. Amendments, if any, are within original disclosure
2. SG claims and claims of corresponding application are related
3. Meets morality and double-patenting requirements
4. SG application is not claiming a method of treatment

*Only one written opinion may be issued.*

**Patents (Amendment) Act 2012**

## Introduction of the Examination Review Procedure

- An applicant may request for a review of the final examination or supplementary examination report where there are still objections
- Review will be carried out by an Examiner
- Upon review, there are still objections -> Patent will be refused
- Upon review, all objections are overcome -> Eligible for grant of patent

**Patents (Amendment) Act 2012**



# Improving S&E Efficiency & Quality

- Cost of search
- Variation in S&E practices among ISAs
- Availability of detailed S&E notes from foreign offices to know what has been searched to reduce duplication, as well as prosecution history to check for allowable amendments
- Long term goal: Harmonization of practices

# Thank You

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