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**SPECIAL UNION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION
(IPC UNION)**

IPC REVISION WORKING GROUP

**Fourteenth Session
Geneva, November 21 to 25, 2005**

PUBLICATION OF IPC TRAINING EXAMPLES

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its thirty-second session, held in February 2003, the Committee of Experts of the IPC Union underlined the importance of IPC training examples for teaching the staff of industrial property offices and instructed the IPC Revision Working Group to create a Task Force on updating and revising IPC training examples (see document IPC/CE/32/12, paragraph 69).
2. For this purpose, the Working Group established the Task Force on IPC Training Examples (see document IPC/WG/9/8, paragraphs 66 to 71). The Working Group agreed that the work of updating the training examples should rapidly proceed so as to achieve the aim of consideration of all training examples by the end of 2005.
3. Up to now, five sessions of the Task Force have been held, during which the collection of all existing training examples was reviewed, according to the revision changes introduced in the IPC during the current revision period and taking into account the modified rules for classifying introduced in the process of IPC reform. The last meeting was held at the Irish Patents Office, Kilkenny, in September 2005 (see Annex 32 to Project WG093).

4. As a result, 11 existing examples (A6, A10, B22, C3, C4, C8, C9, C15, E2, E4 and E5) were withdrawn because they dealt mainly with outdated technologies and were not helpful as training material. In the case where an office has particular interest in any one of these examples, that particular example will be considered at a later stage. The remaining existing examples were updated and revised according to the said changes. Twenty-three new examples were added in order to better illustrate the new rules and principles resulting from IPC reform, for example, the new definition of invention information or the new presentation and use of indexing codes.

5. The Task Force completed the following 57 training example (TE) projects during its previous five sessions and the Working Group is invited to formally approve them.

Chemistry (21): TE101, TE102, TE103, TE104, TE105, TE 107, TE108, TE109, TE110, TE111, TE112, TE113, TE117, TE118, TE121, TE125, TE127, TE128, TE129, TE130, TE133.

Mechanics (14): TE201, TE202, TE203, TE205, TE206, TE207, TE210, TE211, TE212, TE213, TE214, TE215, TE220, TE223.

Electricity (22): TE301, TE302, TE303, TE304, TE305, TE306, TE307, TE308, TE309, TE310, TE311, TE314, TE315, TE319, TE320, TE322, TE323, TE324, TE329, TE332, TE333, TE335.

6. In addition to the above projects, projects completed during the fourteenth session of the Working Group will be considered as approved. All remaining projects will be considered at the fifteenth session of the Working Group in Summer 2006. Any project not completed by that time will be withdrawn.

7. The initial French versions of the approved training examples will be prepared by the International Bureau. In view of the limited available resources, these French versions will be prepared gradually, with the aim to complete the currently approved collection by April 2006.

8. As soon as a French version is ready, it will be posted to the corresponding TE project for comments. On the basis of these comments, the International Bureau will prepare the final French version, to be approved electronically by at least three French-speaking offices.

9. The collection of the formally approved IPC training examples, after consideration by the Editorial Board, will be made available to offices in compiled Word and PDF files by the end of 2005. Once the process of the preparation of the French version is completed, the two language collections will be published on the IPC website.

10. As it had already been decided by the IPC Committee of Experts at its thirty-third session, the formally approved IPC training examples will be published in the form of Internet-based interactive IPC tutorials. The tutorials will contain two separate sets of training examples—one for the core and one for the advanced level of the IPC. The International Bureau will introduce the training examples to the IPC tutorials gradually, beginning by the end of 2005. During this introduction period, access to the tutorials will be limited to offices. Once the complete collection in both languages is fully introduced, the tutorials will be published on the IPC website.

11. Examples approved at the fifteenth session of the Working Group will be added to both the compiled files and the tutorials mentioned in paragraphs 9 and 10, above, after their formal approval.

12. The Task Force proposed to the Working Group that the IPC training examples materials be updated and revised in a continuous manner, for example, whenever a revision project involves the creation of a new subclass or an extensive revision of an existing one, a training example should be created, or updated if one exists already, in order that IPC training examples would contain up-to-date technologies.

13. The Task Force pointed out that it was increasingly difficult to find identical family members in the three languages (English, French and German). The Working Group is therefore invited to reconsider the policy of including only patent examples with identical family members in the three languages. Using “artificial examples” could be a potential solution to this problem.

14. The Working Group is invited:

(a) to approve the actions and recommendations of the Task Force, in particular the final proposals of the completed TE projects; and

(b) the Working Group is further invited to approve the proposed procedure for the preparation of the French version and for the publication of the training examples.

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