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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

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

IPC REVISION WORKING GROUP

Fourteenth Session
Geneva, November 21 to 25, 2005

REPORT

adopted by the Working Group

INTRODUCTION

1. The IPC Revision Working Group (hereinafter referred to as “the Working Group”) held its fourteenth session in Geneva from November 21 to 25, 2005. The following members of the Working Group were represented at the session: Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI), European Patent Office (EPO) (26). The list of participants appears as Annex I to this report.

2. The session was opened by Mr. M. Price (United Kingdom), Chair of the Working Group. Mr. F. Gurry, Deputy Director General, WIPO, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Director General.

OFFICERS

3. Mr. A. Farassopoulos (WIPO) acted as Secretary of the session.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4. The Working Group unanimously adopted the agenda, which appears as Annex II to this report.

DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

5. As decided by the Governing Bodies of WIPO at their tenth series of meetings held from September 24 to October 2, 1979 (see document AB/X/32, paragraphs 51 and 52), the report of this session reflects only the conclusions of the Working Group (decisions, recommendations, opinions, etc.) and does not, in particular, reflect the statements made by any participant, except where a reservation in relation to any specific conclusion of the Working Group was expressed or repeated after the conclusion was reached.

INTRODUCTION OF RESIDUAL MAIN GROUPS IN IPC SUBCLASSES

6. Discussions were based on a compilation of the latest submissions to the project file WG 111. The Working Group agreed that subclasses where consensus had been reached in the course of residual projects that a new residual main group was not needed, should not be reviewed again, and that no residual main groups should be created therein. The recently introduced new residual main groups (see Annex IV to document IPC/CE/36/11) should not be reviewed again.

7. It was further decided that the review of all 184 subclasses where no consensus had been reached (see Annex III to this report) should be continued and this task should be completed during the current revision period, if possible. In order to assure the timely completion of this task, the Working Group agreed on the following actions:

(a) Rapporteurs of existing definition projects whose respective subclass is among the subclasses without consensus should review the need for a residual main group in that subclass, taking into account the different opinions submitted in the course of projects R 701 to R 706, and submit their recommendations by March 31, 2006, to the corresponding R 701 to R 706 projects.

(b) For all remaining subclasses (i.e., where there is no consensus and no definition project), Rapporteurs of projects R 701 to R 706 should review the latest comments and submit their recommendations regarding the introduction of a new residual main group or the initiation of a definition project, in difficult cases, by March 31, 2006.

(c) Offices were invited to submit comments on Rapporteurs' recommendations by May 5, 2006, in order to allow Rapporteurs to review these comments before the next session of the Working Group.

(d) The Working Group agreed to consider the recommendations, any comments and replies of Rapporteurs to those comments at its next session.

Particular Instructions for Creating New Residual Main Groups

8. The Working Group approved the following particular instructions for creating new residual main groups:

(a) The sole reason for introduction of a new residual main group in a subclass should be the fact that the scope of that subclass is not exhausted by the existing main groups.

(b) For new residual main groups the standard title "Subject matter not provided for in other groups of this subclass" should be used unless a new residual main group would be clearly residual to only a part of the subclass, e.g., in case of subclasses with multi-part titles or of existing residual main groups with specific titles.

(c) No references should be included in any residual groups and there should be no subgroups under them.

(d) Residual main groups being residual to the whole subclass should in general carry the number 99/00; they should carry the number 999/00 only in exceptional cases when the numbering of existing classification groups goes beyond 100/00.

(e) The numbering of new residual groups with specific titles, i.e., of groups being residual to only a part of the subclass, should be different from 99/00 or 999/00 and should be chosen such, if possible, that the residual group is positioned after all the groups of similar subject matter to which it is residual.

(f) No guidelines for creating residual main groups would be needed because the above decisions would be fully sufficient as instructions to rapporteurs.

Further Actions

9. The following further actions were approved:

(a) A regular review of residual groups having standard titles should be instituted in order to identify subject matter or new technology that may require creation of new ordinary classification groups; the Secretariat was asked to prepare a proposal for a procedure for such regular reviews to be considered at the next session of the Working Group.

(b) No immediate amendments to paragraphs 55 to 57, 162 to 164 and 183 of the Guide would be necessary. The proposed amendments could be examined in the framework of Task 10 as proposed in the IPC development program.

(c) Existing residual groups being residual to their whole subclass should be renumbered to 99/00 or 999/00, and their titles should be replaced by the standard title, in the framework of the systematic maintenance of the IPC.

(d) Existing residual main groups with subgroups should be reviewed with the intention to convert these subgroups to conventional classification groups.

PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING THE IPC

10. Following the procedure adopted at the twelfth session of the Working Group, proposals were submitted in project WG 012, by France, the United Kingdom and by the International Bureau, concerning improvements in class C12 and in subclasses A23B, C08K, C08L, C10L and C12G (see Annexes 3, 4 and 6 to project file WG 012).

Class C12 – The Working Group approved the proposal, submitted by France (see Annex 4 to project file WG 012), containing the French version of the amendments already approved at the thirteenth session of the Working Group (see document IPC/WG/13/5, paragraph 10). This French version was approved with some editorial amendments (see Annexes 3F and 4F to this report).

Subclass A23B – Discussions were based on Annex 6 to project file WG 012 containing a proposal by the United Kingdom to move the advanced level group A23B 7/06 below the core level group A23B 7/005, in order to achieve consistent classification in the advanced and the core levels. Since this proposal concerned an advanced level group, it was referred to the Advanced Level Subcommittee for consideration.

Subclasses C08K, C08L – Discussions were based on Annex 6 to project file WG 012 containing a proposal by the United Kingdom to amend notes 3 and 4 after the title of subclass C08K and note 5 after the title of subclass C08L, in order to clarify how to classify combinations of macromolecular and non-macromolecular components in these subclasses.

In view of the complexity of the proposed amendments and the limited time that had been available for their consideration, it was decided that they should be considered in the framework of a revision project (C 433) and the United Kingdom was invited to submit a new detailed proposal within that project.

Subclass C10L – The Working Group approved the proposal by the International Bureau (see Annex 3 to project file WG 012), to amend the title of subclass C10L in order to bring it in conformity with the title of main group C10L10/00, which had been modified during the previous revision period in the framework of revision project C 363 (see Annex 2 this report).

Subclass C12G Discussions were based on Annex 6 to project file WG 012 containing a proposal, by the United Kingdom, to clarify the title of the advanced level group C12G 1/08 in relation to the use of the term “degorgeage”. It was decided that although the proposed amendment was an editorial improvement, it did not resolve alone the overlap between subclasses C12G and C12H. A further development of this proposal was necessary to resolve this overlap and the United Kingdom was invited to submit a detailed request for the revision of the advanced level (project SC020).

11. It was noted that the Advanced Level Subcommittee had considered the problem of inconsistent classification of “oxytocins” between the advanced and the core levels, referred by the Working Group at its thirteenth session (see document IPC/WG/13/5, paragraph 10). The Subcommittee, after examination of different options, had decided to move group A61K 38/11 below group A61K 38/08, without change in its title and hierarchy,

keeping it in the advanced level (see Annex 4 to project file WG 012). This solution was preferred since it would correct the present inconsistent classification between the two levels at the entry into force of the next version of the advanced level, while allowing the correction of the core level classification of the backfile using automatic reclassification.

UPDATING OF THE IPC MATERIAL IN *THE WIPO HANDBOOK ON INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION*

12. The Working Group had before it a Rapporteur proposal, submitted by Sweden, containing the Guidelines for the Revision of the IPC (see Annex 25 to project file WG 113), with related annexes and subsequent comments submitted by the United States of America and by Sweden (see, respectively, Annexes 26 and 27 to the project file).

13. The Guidelines and the related annexes were discussed and approved, with some modifications in the English version, and appear as Annex IV to this report. In particular, the Working Group decided that references from function-oriented to application-oriented places, and references out of residual places, should normally only be presented in the Definitions, under the heading “References Relevant to Classification”, and not in the classification schemes.

14. It was noted that the International Bureau would prepare a draft French version of these Guidelines, shortly after this session, and post it to the IPC e-forum for comments. Based on the comments, the International Bureau would prepare the final French version, which, together with the approved English version, would be submitted to the thirty-seventh session of the IPC Committee of Experts (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) for adoption.

IPC REVISION PROJECT RELATING TO THE CHEMICAL FIELD

15. The Working Group considered the Rapporteur’s report and proposal prepared by China in light of the comments submitted under Project C 432, relating to the revision of group A01N 65/00 (see Annexes 13 to 19 to project file C 432).

16. The Working Group discussed the problem of future reclassification in this area after adoption of the scheme under consideration, in view of the limited resources or the low priority given to this project by members of the Advanced Level Subcommittee. It was confirmed that this matter should be considered by the Committee of Experts and, in that respect, it was noted that the EPO would present a paper, on behalf of the Trilateral Offices, to the next session of the Committee, addressing the problem of reclassification for projects where an office of the Subcommittee would not be able to commit sufficient resources.

17. It was noted that, according to Espacenet, approximately 8,000 documents worldwide were classified in group A01N 65/00 (including family members), largely exceeding the criteria defined by the Committee for the core level revision. Furthermore, in view of this substantial file size, the Working Group reconfirmed its decision, taken at its previous session, to subdivide group A01N 65/00 into approximately 20 subgroups up to the level of two dots.

18. The scope of group A01N 65/00, as redefined at the thirteenth session of the Working Group, was confirmed and its title was slightly amended. Four one-dot and one two-dot groups were approved. Latin names were used in the titles with their common name in square brackets. It was decided that a group covering “magnoliophyta” was not needed because it would be empty in view of the adoption of groups 65/08 and 65/40 covering “magnoliopsida” and “liliopsida”, respectively (see Annex 1E to this report).

19. It was decided that the references to groups A01N 27/00 to 59/00, in groups A01N 63/00 and 65/00, were appropriate since they are limiting references. It was noted that compounds of determined constitution should be classified in groups A01N 27/00 to 59/00 independently if they were extracted from plant or equivalent material. In the absence of these references, and in view of the last place rule applied in this subclass, such compounds could be classified in groups A01N 63/00 and 65/00.

20. Comments were invited by February 20, 2006, on:

- the necessity of the one-dot group 65/02 covering “algae” proposed by Rapporteur;
- the remaining two-dot subgroups of group 65/08 and 65/40, as proposed by Rapporteur in Annex 11 to project file.

21. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a consolidated proposal, by March 31, 2006, taking into account the comments to be submitted. In the consolidated proposal, group titles should be drafted to be consistent with the corresponding subgroups of main group A61K36/00.

UPDATING OF IPC TRAINING EXAMPLES

22. The Working Group formally approved the following 57 training examples which had been completed by the Task Force during its previous five sessions.

Chemistry (21): TE101 (Annex 15), TE102 (Annex 15), TE103 (Annex 18), TE104 (Annex 12), TE105 (Annex 12), TE107 (Annex 20), TE108 (Annex 14), TE109 (Annex 13), TE110 (Annex 19), TE111 (Annex 22), TE112 (Annex 10), TE113 (Annex 11), TE117 (Annex 11), TE118 (Annex 11), TE121 (Annex 12), TE125 (Annex 13), TE127 (Annex 22), TE128 (Annex 14), TE129 (Annex 18), TE130 (Annex 13), TE133 (Annex 9).

Mechanics (14): TE201 (Annex 8), TE202 (Annex 14), TE203 (Annex 5), TE205 (Annex 18), TE206 (Annex 17), TE207 (Annex 8), TE210 (Annex 12), TE211 (Annex 13), TE212 (Annex 6), TE213 (Annex 13), TE214 (Annex 11), TE215 (Annex 10), TE220 (Annex 6), TE223 (Annex 15).

Electricity (22): TE301 (Annex 8), TE302 (Annex 7), TE303 (Annex 11), TE304 (Annex 12), TE305 (Annex 9), TE306 (Annex 12), TE307 (Annex 20), TE308 (Annex 12), TE309 (Annex 15), TE310 (Annex 12), TE311 (Annex 13), TE314 (Annex 12), TE315 (Annex 10), TE319 (Annex 9), TE320 (Annex 12), TE322 (Annex 7), TE323 (Annex 10), TE324 (Annex 9), TE329 (Annex 9), TE332 (Annex 6), TE333 (Annex 15), TE335 (Annex 8).

23. The Working Group agreed with the proposal made by the Task Force that the IPC training examples should 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 reflect up-to-date technologies.

24. The Working Group noted the difficulty in finding training examples with identical family members in the three languages (English, French and German) and agreed that using “artificial examples” could be a solution to this problem. It was confirmed that the examples would be available in English and French.

25. The Working Group noted that, during this session, the Task Force on IPC Training Examples held separate meetings in the three technical fields, where a total of 23 training example projects were discussed, of which 12 training example projects were approved by the Task Force and one was withdrawn. A summary of these discussions appears as Annex V to this report.

26. It was also agreed that the following 12 projects that were completed by the Task Force during this session could be considered as formally approved by the Working Group as well, subject to further consideration by the Editorial Board:

Chemistry: TE119, TE124.

Mechanics: TE204, TE217, TE224, TE227, TE229, TE230, TE231.

Electricity: TE316, TE326, TE330.

27. It was also noted that there were still a certain number of projects which would require another round of actions. The decisions of the Task Force with respect to the training example projects and deadlines for the next round of actions are summarized in Annex VI to this report.

PUBLICATION OF IPC TRAINING EXAMPLES

28. Discussions were based on document IPC/WG/14/2 indicating how the French version of the training examples would be prepared and how and when the training examples would be published.

29. It was noted that the International Bureau would prepare the initial French versions of the approved training examples. In view of the limited available resources, these French versions would be prepared gradually, with the aim to complete the currently approved collection by April 2006. 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.

30. The collection of the formally approved IPC training examples, after consideration by the Editorial Board, will be made available to offices, e.g., on the IBIS website, 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.

31. The formally approved IPC training examples will also 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.

32. Examples approved at the fifteenth session of the Working Group will be afterwards added to both the compiled files and the tutorials mentioned in paragraphs 30 and 31, above.

IPC DEFINITIONS PROGRAM

33. The Working Group had before it, in particular, document IPC/WG/13/5 and compilations of the relevant definition project files. The decisions of the Working Group with respect to those projects, in particular new deadlines and appointment of offices for the preparation of French versions, are listed in Annex VII to this report. It was further agreed to create new definition projects D115 to D123 (for details see said Annex VII). Further information with respect to some of those decisions is given in paragraph 34, below.

34. The Working Group made the following observations, in addition to the decisions set forth in Annex VII to this report, with respect to the cited IPC definition projects. All references to annexes in this paragraph refer to annexes of the corresponding project file, unless otherwise stated.

IPC Definition Projects

Project D 006 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 48, subject to some editorial changes.

Project D 009 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 34, subject to some editorial changes.

Project D 014 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 27.

Project D 016 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 20.

Project D 018 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 30.

Project D 031 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 39.

Project D 034 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 22, subject to some editorial amendments.

Project D 035 (mechanical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 15.

Project D 036 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 52.

Project D 043 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 16, subject to some editorial amendments.

Project D 046 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 15, subject to some editorial amendments, e.g., the reference to group A61F 9/00 should be placed in the Informative References section.

Project D 048 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 27 and the French version of Annex 28.

Project D 049 (electrical) – After some discussion, the Working Group agreed that definitions for main groups should not be combined (see definitions for main groups H04L 13/00 to 17/00 and H04L 19/00 to 23/00 in Annex 21). The Rapporteur was therefore invited to split these combined definitions into definitions for individual main groups, to apply the new template and, if necessary, to sort the references according to subsections in the section “References Relevant to Classification”. The translating Office was asked to amend the French version accordingly after the submission of the new English version.

Project D 053 (electrical) – The Working Group approved the English version of Annex 11 and asked the translating Office to amend the French version accordingly.

Project D 054 (electrical) – The Rapporteur informed the Working Group that the Trilateral Offices were currently achieving considerable progress in establishing the advanced level for the new subclass G06Q. Since this work has an impact on the subclass definitions, and in particular on definitions of main groups, the latest proposal should be revised. In view of the importance of definitions for classifying the complex subject matter of this new subclass, the Working Group felt that the elaboration of the subclass definition should not be delayed, and asked the Rapporteur to submit a revised

proposal during the first half of 2006. Priority should be given to the elaboration of the subclass definition, while the elaboration of main group definitions could be postponed.

Project D 055 (mechanical) – The Working Group recalled its decision regarding the creation of this definition project (see paragraph 14 of document IPC/WG/9/8), agreed that definitions for classes were not desirable and that in this project, individual definitions for each subclass of class F21 should be established.

Project D 058 (mechanical) – The Working Group agreed that, according to the experience that the German Patent and Trade Mark Office had gained in the course of test classification, definitions for the new subclass B60W were urgently needed and invited a new Rapporteur report and proposal by December 31, 2005, taking into account the latest submitted comments (see Annexes 9 to 12), removing the part in the definition statement “this subclass does not cover” to the relationship or the references section and applying the new template in respect of “references relevant for classification”. Comments were invited on the proposal to be submitted.

Project D 059 (electrical) – The Working Group invited the Rapporteur to prepare a new proposal taking into account the latest comments by Japan (see Annex 4).

Project D 060 (mechanical) – The Working Group invited the Rapporteur to prepare a new report, after reviewing the references relevant to classification and taking into account the latest comments submitted to the project file. It was also agreed that the term “motor” should be replaced by “machine” in the first entry of the Glossary.

Project D 061 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 15 and corresponding amendments to the English version of Annex 13.

Project D 062 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 11 and corresponding proposed amendments to the English version of Annex 12 (see remarks at the end of Annex 11).

Project D 063 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 11 and agreed to delete the expression “overlaps with” in the informative reference of the English version of Annex 7.

Project D 066 (chemical) – The Working Group approved the French version of Annex 9.

Project D 070 (mechanical) – The Working Group invited a new Rapporteur’s proposal taking into account the latest comments submitted to the project file. The Working Group agreed that the subject matter of each subclass to which A23L is residual, listed in the definition statement, should be indicated as in the section “Relationship Between Large Subject Matter Areas”. It was also agreed that in the section “Relationship Between Large Subject Matter Areas”, the wording “matter of function or application” was not sufficiently clear and that a reference to paragraphs 85 to 87 of the Guide should be included.

Project D 072 (electrical) – After some discussion of the two recently submitted comments, regarding the classification of specially adapted equipment using Radio Frequency

Identification (RFID) technology in this subclass (see Annexes 10 and 11), the Working Group invited further comments on this issue and on how the relation to RFID technology *per se* should be taken into account in this definition. The Rapporteur was invited to prepare a new proposal based on the comments to be submitted. The Rapporteur was also requested to review whether the reference to subclass G07D should be considered as a limiting reference.

IPC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR THE YEARS 2005 TO 2008

35. The Working Group had before it a rapporteur proposal of an IPC development program for the next revision period and a counterproposal submitted by Sweden (see Annexes 5 and 6 respectively to project file CE 372). It was noted that the two proposals were mainly identical in substance and only the presentation was different. Based on the counterproposal, a development program was approved, which appears as Annex VIII to this report.

36. The Advanced Level Subcommittee was invited to prepare, by December 15, 2005, a corresponding program for the tasks under its responsibility. The International Bureau was invited to combine the programs approved by the Subcommittee and by the Working Group, into one proposal to be submitted to the thirty-seventh session of the Committee of Experts for adoption.

PROCEDURE FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPORTS

37. The Working Group noted an oral report by the Secretariat on the practice that has been followed for the adoption of the report of the thirteenth session of the Working Group, based on the procedure that had been approved at that session (see document IPC/WG/13/5, paragraphs 46 to 52).

38. The draft report was prepared and posted to the e-forum five working days after the end of the session. During the following week, six offices submitted comments. United Kingdom submitted joint comments with Ireland and the United States of America as recommended in the procedure. In total, 29 amendments were submitted and almost all of them were introduced in the final report. In one case, an exchange of e-mails was necessary in order to clarify a point.

39. The final report was submitted to the e-forum 14 working days after the end of the session, almost on time within the deadline indicated in the procedure.

40. The Working Group expressed its satisfaction with the procedure as it was applied, and decided to follow it for the adoption of the current and future session reports.

STATUS OF THE WORK

41. The Chair stated that, on the agenda of this session, nine definition projects were approved in English and nine definition projects were completed in both English and French. In total 48 definition projects have been completed so far. He also indicated that Annex VII

to this report gave the status of each definition project on the program. He finally stated that 24 training example projects were examined by the Task Force, 12 of them were completed and 3 conditionally approved. In total, 69 training example projects were completed and approved by the Working Group. Annex VI to this report gave the status of each training example project on the program.

42. The Chair stated that, at this session, the Working Group had continued an important work program of the implementation of the results of IPC reform and had achieved good progress.

NEXT SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP

43. The Working Group having assessed the workload expected for its next session (see paragraph 44, below), agreed to devote the first two days to the mechanical field, the third day to the electrical field and the last two days to the chemical field. When convening the next session, the International Bureau was requested to consider the possible need for an extension of the session, depending on the envisaged amount of work, and for the modification of the number of days devoted to any technical field.

44. The Working Group noted the following tentative dates for its fifteenth session.

May 29 to June 2, 2006.

THANKS TO MR. OKELMANN AND MR. BRUCKMAYER

45. On the occasion of Mr. Okelmann's and Mr. Bruckmayer's (Germany) retirement, the Working Group and the International Bureau thanked them and expressed high appreciation of their excellent contribution to the development of the IPC, especially in the period of its reform, both as representatives of their Office and as chairmen of various IPC bodies. The Working Group and the International Bureau wished them a long and very happy retirement.

46. The Working Group unanimously adopted this report by electronic means on December 9, 2005.

[Annexes follow]

ANNEXE I/ANNEX I

I. ÉTATS MEMBRES/MEMBER STATES

(dans l'ordre alphabétique des noms français des États/
in the alphabetical order of the names in French of the States)

ALLEMAGNE/GERMANY

Axel OKELMANN, Head, Classification Section, German Patent and Trade Mark Office, Munich

Thomas BELZ, Expert/Examiner, German Patent and Trade Mark Office, Munich

Gerhard BÖHM-WIRT, Expert/Examiner, German Patent and Trade Mark Office, Munich

Klaus HÖFKEN, Expert/Examiner, German Patent and Trade Mark Office, Munich

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Natalia IOZENAS (Mrs.), Researcher, Federal Service for Intellectual Property, Federal Institute of Industrial Property (FIPS) of Russia, Moscow

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Annex II follows]

ANNEX II

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4. Proposals for improving the IPC See document IPC/WG/12/4 and Project WG 012.	10, 11
5. Updating of the IPC material in the <i>WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation</i> See document IPC/WG/13/5 and Project WG 113.	12 – 14 (IV)
6. IPC revision project relating to the chemical field See document IPC/WG/13/5 and Project C 432.	15 – 21
7. Updating of IPC training examples relating to the mechanical field See document IPC/WG/13/5 and Projects TE 204, TE 209, TE 216, TE 217, TE 218, TE 219, TE 221, TE 222, TE 224, TE 227, TE 229, TE 230, TE 231.	22 – 27 (V, VI)
8. Updating of IPC training examples relating to the electrical field See document IPC/WG/13/5 and Projects TE 316, TE 326, TE 330, TE 334, TE 336.	22 – 27 (V, VI)
9. Updating of IPC training examples relating to the chemical field See document IPC/WG/13/5 and Projects TE 119, TE 122, TE 123, TE 124, TE 131.	22 – 27 (V, VI)
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* (F) indicates that only the French version of projects approved in English was to be considered.

ANNEX III/ANNEXE III

LIST OF IPC SUBCLASSES FOR INTRODUCTION OF RESIDUAL MAIN GROUPS/
LISTE DE SOUS-CLASSES DE LA CIB EN VUE DE
L'INTRODUCTION DE GROUPES PRINCIPAUX RÉSIDUELS

If a definition project exists for a particular subclass in this table, the corresponding project number is given in the column "D Project". Underlined project numbers indicate completed D projects./

Dans le tableau ci-dessous, si un projet de définition existe pour une sous-classe en particulier, le numéro du projet correspondant est donné dans la colonne "Projet D". Les numéros de projet soulignés correspondent aux projets D achevés.

Subclass/ Sous-classe	Technical Field/ Domaine technique	Rapporteur	Reviewing office/ Office vérificateur	Recommendation Former R Project / Recommandation Ex-Projet R	D Project/ Projet D	Former R Project/ Ex-Projet R
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Project R 701/
Projet R 701

B01J	C	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 378
B03B	C	DE	SE	No/Non		R 382
B21C	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 391
B21G	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 394
B22F	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 401
B23B	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 402
B23Q	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 410
B24B	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 411
B24C	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 412
B25B	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 414
B25D	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 416
B25F	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 417
B25H	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 419
B26D	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 422
B27B	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 424
B27C	M	DE	SE	No/Non		R 425
B27G	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 428
B27H	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 429
B27K	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 431
B29C	M	DE	SE	No/Non		R 439
B31F	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 447
E01C	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 133
E01D	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui	D031	R 134
E01F	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 135
E02D	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 139
E03D	M	DE	SE	No/Non		R 143
E04B	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 145
E04C	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 146

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Subclass/ Sous-classe	Technical Field/ Domaine technique	Rapporteur	Reviewing office/ Office vérificateur	Recommendation Former R Project / Recommandation Ex-Projet R	D Project/ Projet D	Former R Project/ Ex-Projet R
E04F	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 148
E04G	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 149
E04H	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 150
E05B	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 151
E06B	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 156
E21C	M	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 159
G01B	E	DE	SE	Yes/Oui	<u>D050</u>	R 224
G01C	E	DE	SE	No/Non	<u>D051</u>	R 225
G01V	E	DE	SE	No/Non	<u>D045</u>	R 239
G12B	E	DE	SE	Yes/Oui		R 280

Project R 702/
Projet R 702

A01N	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	<u>D001</u>	R 011
A21B	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 321
A23B	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 326
A23C	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 327
A23N	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 334
A24B	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 336
A24D	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 338
A41B	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 340
A41D	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 342
A41G	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 344
A42B	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 346
A43B	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 348
A44B	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	<u>D012</u>	R 012
A45D	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 354
A47C	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 359
A47D	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 360
A47F	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 361
A47G	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 362
A47J	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 364
A47K	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 365
A47L	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 366
A61B	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	<u>D013</u>	R 013
A61C	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D104	R 367
A61F	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D098	R 369
A61M	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D109	R 372
A61N	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	<u>D014</u>	R 017
A61Q	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	<u>D023</u>	R 019
A62D	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D071	R 375
C03B	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 064
C03C	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 065
C04B	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D036	R 066
C06C	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 073
C06F	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 075
C07D	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D056	R 078

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Subclass/ Sous-classe	Technical Field/ Domaine technique	Rapporteur	Reviewing office/ Office vérificateur	Recommendation Former R Project / Recommandation Ex-Projet R	D Project/ Projet D	Former R Project/ Ex-Projet R
C25C	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 126
C25F	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 128
C30B	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 129
D01H	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 537
D02J	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 540
D05B	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 549
D06F	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 553
D06N	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 558
D07B	M	EP	GB	No/Non		R 560
D21F	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 564
D21H	C	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 566
D21J	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 567
F16C	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D101	R 168
F16D	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D102	R 169
F16G	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D103	R 171
F16J	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 173
F16P	M	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 178
G02F	E	EP	GB	Yes/Oui	D082	R 243
G07D	E	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 261
G07G	E	EP	GB	Yes/Oui		R 263

Project R 703/
Projet R 703

B01D	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	<u>D024</u>	R 028
B04B	M	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	D074	R 029
B05B	M	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	D076	R 031
B05D	M	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 033
B07B	M	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	D077	R 034
B60T	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	<u>D015</u>	R 051
C07C	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	<u>D002</u>	R 077
C09D	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	D094	R 095
C09F	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 096
C09H	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 098
C09J	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	D095	R 099
C10B	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 511
C10C	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 512
C10J	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 515
C10K	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 516
C11B	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 103
C11D	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	<u>D061</u>	R 105
C12Q	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	D065	R 115
C21B	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 521
C21C	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 522
C22B	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	D116	R 524
C22F	C	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	D117	R 526
G21G	E	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 285
G21H	E	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 286

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Subclass/ Sous-classe	Technical Field/ Domaine technique	Rapporteur	Reviewing office/ Office vérificateur	Recommendation Former R Project / Recommandation Ex-Projet R	D Project/ Projet D	Former R Project/ Ex-Projet R
G21J	E	GB	EP	Yes/Oui	D078	R 287
H05B	E	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 315
H05G	E	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 318
H05H	E	GB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 319

Project R 704/
Projet R 704

G05G	E	IB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 614
G10H	E	IB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 277
G10L	E	IB	EP	No/Non		R 279
H02B	E	IB	EP	No/Non		R 303
H02G	E	IB	EP	No/Non		R 304
H02H	E	IB	EP	No/Non		R 305
H02J	E	IB	EP	No/Non		R 306
H03K	E	IB	EP	No/Non		R 624
H04N	E	IB	EP	Yes/Oui		R 629
H04Q	E	IB	EP	Yes/Oui	D087	R 630

Project R 705/
Projet R 705

Project R 706/
Projet R 706

A01D	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui	D067	R 003
A01F	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui	D068	R 004
A01H	C	SE	DE	Yes/Oui	<u>D033</u>	R 006
B41L	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 455
B42D	M	SE	DE	No/Non		R 460
B43K	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 462
B43L	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 463
B44B	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 465
B44D	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 467
B44F	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 468
B60B	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 036
B60H	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 041
B60K	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 043
B60L	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui	D060	R 044
B60M	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 045
B60P	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 047
B60Q	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 048
B61G	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 473
B62C	M	SE	DE	No/Non		R 478
B62M	M	SE	DE	No/Non		R 484
B63B	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 485
B63C	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 486
B63H	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 488
B65C	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 496

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Subclass/ Sous-classe	Technical Field/ Domaine technique	Rapporteur	Reviewing office/ Office vérificateur	Recommendation Former R Project / Recommandation Ex-Projet R	D Project/ Projet D	Former R Project/ Ex-Projet R
B65D	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui	D081	R 497
B65G	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 499
B66D	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 502
B67B	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 504
B67C	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 505
B68G	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 510
C13C	C	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 118
C13K	C	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 124
F01C	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 569
F01K	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 571
F02C	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 576
F02D	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 577
F17D	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 594
F21H	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui	D055	R 181
F21S	M	SE	DE	No/Non	D055	R 187
F22B	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 191
F22D	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 192
F23Q	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 203
F23R	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 205
F24H	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 210
F25B	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 212
F25C	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 213
F25D	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 214
F25J	M	SE	DE	No/Non		R 215
F27B	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 217
F41C	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 597
F41J	M	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 601
G06G	E	SE	DE	No/Non		R 253
G06K	E	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 255
G06M	E	SE	DE	Yes/Oui		R 256

[Annex IV follows/
L'annexe IV suit]

ANNEX IV

GUIDELINES FOR REVISION OF THE IPC

INTRODUCTION

1. A basic description of the IPC and its classification rules is given in the “Guide to the IPC” *<To be hyperlinked>*. The purpose of the present document and its Appendices is to give complementary information for revising the IPC, particularly in regard of drafting classification schemes.

2. Details of the criteria for revision and of the working methods of different IPC bodies can be found in the following documents *<To be hyperlinked>*:

- “Revision Policy and Revision Procedure for the Reformed IPC”;
- “Working Procedure of the Special Subcommittee for the Supervision of the Advanced Level”;
- “Working Procedure of the IPC Revision Working Group”.

3. Detailed rules for classification can also be found in the following documents *<To be hyperlinked>*:

- “Guidelines for Determining Subject Matter Appropriate for Obligatory and Nonobligatory Classification (i.e., What to Classify Within Patent Document Disclosures Guidelines)”;
- “Guidelines for Determining Where to Classify Patent Documents Within the IPC”.

SECTION I – GENERAL GOALS OF THE IPC

4. The primary purpose of the IPC is to serve as an effective search tool for the retrieval of patent documents by intellectual property offices or other users, in order to establish the novelty or evaluate the non-obviousness or inventive step of patent applications.

5. The IPC, furthermore, has the important purposes of serving as:

- an instrument for the orderly arrangement of patent documents in order to facilitate access to their technological and legal information;
- a basis for selective dissemination of information to all users of patent information;
- a basis for investigating the state of the art in given fields of technology;

– a basis for the preparation of industrial property statistics which in turn permit the assessment of technological development in various areas.

6. The structure of the IPC must be such that its classification places enable searches to be conducted in the most efficient way possible.

7. In order to achieve this purpose, the IPC has to be devised in such a way that a given technical subject matter will be classified in a consistent way, and thus can be retrieved in a consistent way by using a corresponding search statement.

8. Accurate and consistent classification can only be achieved if there is no doubt over the scope of the classification places. Clear and correct wording of the texts of the classification is therefore of crucial importance.

9. Classification places should as far as possible be mutually exclusive, with no overlap therebetween.

10. The IPC should as far as possible enable classification of inventive things as a whole, and not by separate classification of their constituent parts.

11. In order that the IPC may remain a valid and viable classification system and an effective search tool, it has to be dynamic. The IPC must be constantly improved, for example in order to:

- provide for the development of new technology;
- alleviate errors, inconsistencies and conflicts between different places;
- further refine the existing classification, e.g., by subdivision of existing groups;
- conform to international classification practice that is reflected in the classification of the documents in the Master Classification Database (MCD).

SECTION II – FEATURES OF THE IPC

Terminology

12. The wording of a classification place must clearly indicate the scope of the place.

13. Multipart titles are used when it is considered desirable to cover distinct kinds of subject matter, which cannot conveniently be covered by a single phrase, in a single classification place. Each part of a multipart title should be interpreted as if it stood alone as a separate title. Multipart titles should be preferred over sentences with “or”.

14. Multipart titles should not be used where the different title parts are merely alternative expressions for the same subject matter.

15. When necessary, the scope of a place can be restricted by limiting references. However, titles that positively state the scope in a way that makes references unnecessary are preferable. For example, it is better to say “*1/00 Electric motors*” rather than “*1/00 Motors (non-electric motors 3/00)*”, even though both wordings define the same scope.

16. If there is any doubt over the scope of a place the situation should be explained by a note or by an explanation in the Definitions.

17. As far as possible the titles, notes and references of the schemes should give the information necessary for the correct interpretation of the scopes of their places. The Definitions are intended for giving a more detailed explanation of the scope, for example by giving illustrations or definitions of terms or by describing the relationship between related places. This additional information might increase the precision, particularly for novice users. Definitions should also be used for information that can be of use when searching places for related technical fields. Additional information about Definitions can be found in “Guidelines for Drafting Definitions”. *<to be hyperlinked>*

18. A limited number of terms or expressions are used in the IPC with standardized meanings that might be different from their common usage. These terms and their meanings are given in paragraphs 53 to 65 of the Guide and in the “Glossary” contained in Chapter XVI of the Guide. When the terms and expressions given in these parts of the Guide are used in classification schemes their standardized meaning should be assumed. Synonyms or alternative terminology with the same meaning as the standardized terminology should only be used if the standardized terminology is deemed unsuitable in a particular case.

19. If the Guide does not give any guidance on which terminology to use, the terms or expressions used and their spelling and punctuation should be checked for consistency with existing classification places for similar technology.

20. Titles should normally be in plural form, except when it might confuse users as to the scope of a place.

21. If different technical terms or expressions are used in a particular technical field for expressing one and the same thing, only one of them should be selected for use in the classification scheme in order to avoid confusion. The other can be mentioned in the Definitions. However, if alternative terms have been linked together in the title of a hierarchically higher place, the same terms should be used together in all dependent places.

22. When abbreviations are used, those standardized by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) are recommended.

23. If abbreviations are used that might not be familiar to IPC users the corresponding full text that they replace should be given, within square brackets, together with the abbreviation at the hierarchically highest place where it appears in the scheme. Abbreviations that are used in the scheme should also be included, along with the full text that they replace, in the “Synonyms and Keywords” section of the Definitions.

24. When appropriate, the IUPAC (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry) nomenclature should be followed for the presentation of chemical terms.

25. The full names of chemical elements should be used whenever possible. When groupings of elements are given in the IPC, they should follow the definitions given at the beginning of section C of the IPC.
26. Except in chemical formulae, Greek letters should be spelt out, e.g. alpha instead of α , in order to facilitate text searching.
27. Classification symbols should always be given in their complete form, for example “A22C 21/00” and not “21/00”. When two or more classification places are listed together, their classification symbols should also be written in their complete form, for example “B21C, B21D” and not “B21C, D” or “A22C 21/00, A22C 23/00” and not “A22C 21/00, 23/00”.
28. Expressions within brackets should be avoided in schemes, except for references (which are placed within round brackets) and explanations, e.g. of abbreviations [which are placed within square brackets].
29. The use of trademarks should be avoided. However, well-known trademarks may be used in examples when useful in order to clearly illustrate the subject matter in question. In these situations, the trademark should be acknowledged with the symbol “®”. When the use of common trade names is indispensable, a check whether these trade names are registered trademarks should be carried out to the extent possible.
30. Other preferred terms and expressions:
- The term “processes” should be preferred over the term “methods”. Moreover, only one of the terms should be used within a given scheme.
 - The term “apparatus” should be used rather than “machines”, since it is more generic. Exceptions can be made when it is accepted practice in a particular art to use the term “machines”, for example in expressions such as “dynamo-electric machines” or “sewing machines”.
 - The term “functional” may be used only if its meaning is clear in the context given, for example as in “Computing devices characterised by the combination of hydraulic or pneumatic functional elements with at least one other type of functional element”. Otherwise, it should be replaced by a clearer wording.
 - The term “material” should normally be used only in its singular form, except when the plural form is required for accuracy.
 - The terms “invention(s)” and “inventive” should be avoided, with the exception of the expressions “invention information” and “inventive thing(s)” that are used with the meanings defined in the Guide.

References

31. References should be as specific as possible both as to the subject matter referred to and the place where it is covered.
32. References should as accurately as possible identify the subject matter that is actually referred out of the place where they stand. In some cases a mere repetition of the title of the place that the reference points to does not give a clear indication of what is referred out.
33. References must be carefully checked as regards the scope of the place referred to. In particular, it is not allowed to refer out subject matter that is not clearly covered by the place referred to, since the wording of a reference to a place should never appear to affect the scope of that place.
34. References must include the classification symbol(s) of at least one place where the subject matter that is referred out should be classified. Non-specific references, for example of the type “- - - specially adapted to a particular field of use, see the relevant places”, giving no examples of such places, are not allowed. Currently existing references of this type should be removed or clarified during revision or maintenance.
35. References should point to the most specific place (i.e. at the hierarchically lowest level) where the subject matter referred out is covered, rather than pointing to a non-specific subclass or main group.
36. A reference should be placed at the most relevant place in the scheme, for example in the single group where it applies rather than at subclass level.
37. Limiting references should always be presented both in the classification schemes and in the Definitions. A limiting reference is a reference associated with a classification place that excludes specified subject matter from the scope of this classification place, when this subject matter would otherwise be covered by that place. Precedence references are a type of limiting reference.
38. Precedence references should only be used between places in the same subclass. As far as possible, normal limiting references should be used instead of precedence references.
39. References from function-oriented to application-oriented places, and references out of residual places, should normally only be presented in the Definitions, under the heading “References relevant to classification”, and not in the schemes. However, in some cases where references of this type are limiting references, they are included in the scheme.
40. Informative references have no effect on the scope of the place where they stand. They should only be presented in the definitions, under the heading “Informative references”, and not in the schemes. Examples of such references are references from application-oriented places to general places and references between different application places for related subject matter.
41. References in an application-oriented place to a function-oriented place are always informative.

42. If a reference does not relate to all parts of a multipart title it should be placed after the last title part that it relates to. If it is not obvious to which title part(s) a reference relates (e.g. when it relates to only two of three title parts) the order of title parts should be chosen so that the applicability of references is clear. Otherwise the wording of a reference should make clear to which part of the title it refers. Alternatively a note could be introduced instead of a reference.
43. If a classification place has more than one reference, they should be listed in the alphanumerical order of the places referred to, with the following exceptions:
- Precedence references should always be placed first, in their alphanumeric order.
 - Other references pointing to groups within the same subclass as the place where they appear should be placed after the precedence references, in their alphanumeric order, but before references to other subclasses.
44. References that are presented at a higher hierarchical level should not be repeated at a lower hierarchical level. However, references at lower levels are acceptable, when they point to more specific places within a broader area that is indicated by a reference in a hierarchically higher place.
45. Different references in one place, or references in closely related places (e.g. in hierarchically dependent groups), should be worded consistently with one another.
46. References should normally be in plural form. In exceptional cases where the use of the plural form might lead to confusion, the singular form can be used.

Examples Used in Titles

47. Examples should if possible exemplify the subject matter as a whole covered by the place where they stand, rather than single words of titles.
48. The use of examples should be preferred over titles which have a main part that actually serves as an example. For example, “*Cutting tools, e.g. knives*” should be preferred over “*Knives or other cutting tools*” or “*Knives; Other cutting tools*”.
49. In places with multipart titles each example should be placed after the part to which the example applies.
50. Examples should preferably be given in the plural form, for example “*wheels*” rather than “*wheel*” or “*fungi*” rather than “*fungus*”.
51. In lists of two or more examples the last two should be separated by “or”, and the previous by commas.

Notes

52. The purpose of notes is to give information that is of particular relevance to a distinct part of the classification. Instructions, rules or explanations given in notes override similar general guidance or guidance given in hierarchically higher places.
53. Within classification schemes, only the term “Note”, or its plural form “Notes”, should be used where definitions, classification rules or similar information is given. Synonyms for “Note” are not allowed.
54. For each note, the area of the IPC where it is valid should be indicated. The subdivisions of the indicated places are implicitly included in this “scope”.
55. If the scope of a note is a single place the note will be displayed after the place. If the scope is a range of places the note will be displayed before the first place of the range. In the hierarchical mode, the note will be displayed before the highest place belonging to the range.
56. Notes that are presented at a higher hierarchical level should not be repeated in hierarchically dependent places. However, if deemed desirable, a reference to a note at a higher hierarchical level may be introduced, for example, in the form “*Attention is drawn to Note - - -*”.
57. Further instructions on the presentation of notes can be found in Appendix I.

Class and Subclass Indexes

58. Class and subclass indexes are not an obligatory feature of the IPC, but may be introduced in order to simplify the understanding of the structure of a scheme. The indexes only serve an informative purpose and cannot be used for modifying the scope of any classification places.
59. Only core level symbols should be used in the indexes.
60. Main headings should not indicate specific subgroup numbers.

Guidance Headings

61. In situations where the main groups of a subclass can be grouped in intervals that relate to common subject matter, and it is helpful for users to get an indication of this, guidance headings may be used. A guidance heading should consist of a short statement that broadly relates to the common subject matter. Guidance headings are not an obligatory feature of the IPC.
62. Guidance headings must not limit or modify the scopes of the groups to which they relate. The groups should still define their scope on their own, without reference to the guidance heading. References are not allowed in Guidance headings.

63. Where the scope of existing groups is modified by their guidance headings, this must be corrected by modifying the group titles and/or the guidance headings. Existing references in guidance headings should be deleted and either moved to the groups where they are needed or transformed into notes.

64. For each guidance heading, the interval of main groups where it is valid should be indicated. Guidance headings are displayed before the first main group of the interval. If there is no new guidance heading at the end of an interval, a horizontal line is presented after the last subgroup of the interval.

SECTION III – STRATEGIES AND SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR REVISION

65. Revision of the IPC should be carried out in a manner fully consistent with the documents identified in paragraphs 1 and 2, above.

66. As the core level of the IPC should be stable, amendments to the advanced level should be compatible with the core level and should not imply modifications to the relevant parts of the core level without good reason.

67. Revision of the IPC should as far as possible make use of the experiences and solutions of other existing classification schemes, such as ECLA, FI and USPC.

General Strategies for Revision

68. The overall cost and benefits for the system as a whole must be considered when determining the desirability of a particular revision project. For example, when a particular technology can be effectively searched by means other than classification, such as chemical structure searching, it is normally not useful to revise the corresponding part of the IPC.

Subdivision or Reorganization?

69. Revision of the IPC follows the two basic strategies:

- further subdivision of an existing classification place by adding subgroups;
- reorganization of a technical field, for example by introducing new main groups or modifying the relationship between existing classification places by modifying their scope.

70. Many revision projects require a mixture of the basic strategies described above. Caution must be exercised when choosing strategies. Before proposing further subdivision of an area of the IPC, the suitability for search needs of the existing subdivision should be investigated in order to assess whether more extensive revision is required. If relevant documents can be easily found, but groups contain a high number of documents, mere subdivision may be acceptable. If it is difficult to locate relevant patent documents in the existing classification places, then the scopes of existing classification places may need to be modified.

71. In some situations it may not be efficient for search purposes to merely add subdivisions to an existing scheme. For example, if an existing subdivision is not efficient for searches, its further subdivision cannot improve search efficiency and makes future revision more difficult.

72. On the other hand, a major reorganization of an area of the IPC may not be cost-effective when considering the costs involved in reclassification, familiarization with new schemes and reassignment of technical fields to examiners.

73. Accordingly, revision work should be restricted to necessary changes and should pay due regard to the cost of the work involved.

74. Normally, for each group proposed to be subdivided in the advanced level, either the file should contain at least an average of 200 patent documents of the PCT minimum documentation (with one document per patent family) or the rate of growth of the PCT minimum documentation should be at least 50 patent documents for the most recent year for which statistics are considered.

75. When proposing new groups for the advanced level, it should be expected that as an average 50 to 100 patent documents (with one document per patent family) from the PCT minimum documentation should be covered by each such new group.

76. The quantitative criteria indicated in paragraphs 74 and 75, above, should be applied in a flexible manner. It is allowed to depart from them when it is justified by cost/benefit reasons.

Selection of General Classification Rules

77. When undertaking substantial revision of a subclass, the first place priority rule should normally be used. The exception is when the revision only concerns a minor part of a scheme that is organized according to another general rule and introduction of first place priority rule in only this part of the scheme would cause confusion.

78. However, other strategies, such as indexing or multi-aspect classification, may be used if it is considered particularly advantageous for search purposes.

Selecting Aspects to be Used for Subdivision, e.g. Function-Oriented or Application-Oriented Aspects

79. When revising the IPC both the function-oriented and the application-oriented principles of classification should be considered. It has been determined that the function-oriented principle, which subdivides technology according to functional features, embraces wider concepts than the application-oriented principle, which subdivides technology according to its specific uses and applications. Therefore, creating more function-oriented places is normally preferred over creating application-oriented places, since this increases the potential to cover future innovations in the technology. Revision of an area of the IPC according to the application-oriented principle should not, however, be excluded and all aspects should be thoroughly considered.

80. For example, it is often better for search purposes to subdivide a technical field by creating function-oriented groups that cover related technical features. The creation of application-oriented groups often leads to splitting of technically related art between several groups, based on less important application aspects. However, in some cases when it is difficult to find an efficient subdivision according to functional features, or the applications are of great importance, it might be more efficient for search to create groups for important application aspects.

81. The primary motivation for expanding the coverage of a classification place must be to improve search quality while containing classification cost. The scope of a classification place should be finally chosen only after an extensive review of the related arts and the patent documents within the revision project area by experts in the technology.

82. It should be noted that, just as with the terms combination and subcombination, the distinction between the terms function-oriented and application-oriented can only be determined in relation to other related classification places.

83. When selecting aspects to be used for subdivision, one should primarily be concerned with the relationships between existing places that are at the same hierarchical level and under the same higher-level hierarchical place.

84. Since the purpose of the classification is to enable search, the selection of aspects should be based on technical features and problems/solutions that are claimed and disclosed in patent documents.

85. In schemes using the common rule, a mixture of function-oriented and application-oriented groups at the same hierarchical level inherently leads to groups that are not mutually exclusive.

86. When revising an area according to the function-oriented principle, finer subdivision according to application should normally be avoided, unless application aspects are considered very important and no other places for them exist. An alternative strategy in particular cases might be to allow or prescribe parallel classification in areas for both function-oriented and application-oriented aspects.

Hybrid Systems

87. A hybrid system includes one or more classification groups and one or more indexing codes for specified aspects that are associated with these groups. Hybrid systems can only be created in the advanced level.

88. The reasoning behind hybrid systems is that it is often useful to be able to make “and”-type search statements combining two different aspects. A classification scheme should normally be based on as few aspects as possible, in order to reduce conflicts between classification places. The aspects chosen should be the ones that serve best for the purpose of subdividing the particular technical field. As stated above, the function-oriented aspect is most often the one that should be selected. Sometimes other aspects can be identified as particularly relevant for search in combination with the aspects selected as basis for the classification scheme. In such cases these aspects may be considered for creation of indexing

schemes, particularly when the aspects are difficult to text search or do not in itself reflect invention-type information.

89. When revising the IPC, all attempts should be based on applying conventional classification techniques. One reason for that is that indexing is not available in the core level, so that the results of the introduction of an indexing scheme will not be of use for core level users.

90. Indexing codes should identify elements of information about the technical subjects in addition to the information covered by their corresponding classification places. For example, a main group that is subdivided according to structural aspects could have an indexing scheme that identifies specific applications or specific problems to be solved that are useful for limiting a search.

91. Indexing schemes shall therefore not be created to cover aspects of subject matter that are already provided for by the classification schemes they are associated with. New entries that are based on the same principles as existing subdivisions of a classification scheme should only be created as classification groups. In particular, indexing schemes should never be created that merely specify:

- variations of a general concept covered by the classification scheme;
- details of the subject matter covered in existing classification groups.

92. For example, an indexing code for “steam engines” is not proper for a subclass with groups covering different functional types of engines, since the indexing code is a further example of an aspect that is already used for subdivision of the classification groups. If needed, a classification place covering “steam engines” should be created instead.

93. Indexing schemes should normally not be created when existing groups in other parts of the IPC already explicitly identify the same subject matter. In these situations, additional information classification in those groups could be recommended instead.

94. Indexing schemes should be tested for feasibility, cost benefits and clarity prior to their introduction into the IPC. This testing should also verify that the schemes contain no unbeneficial overlap.

95. Each indexing scheme must be associated with a particular identified part of the IPC.

96. Indexing schemes should have Definitions, similar to those of classification schemes.

Presentation of Indexing Schemes

97. Whenever possible, the layout of the indexing schemes should be hierarchical, in order to facilitate their presentation.

98. For indexing schemes alphanumerical symbols, similar to classification symbols, should be used. In the case of an indexing scheme that forms part of a classification subclass the indexing scheme should be placed at the end. Its main group numbers should be in a range

separate from the classification main groups. For detailed instructions on numbering see Appendix IV.

99. An indexing scheme that forms part of a classification subclass should always be preceded by a guidance heading.

100. At each area with which an indexing scheme is associated, a note explaining the use of the indexing scheme should be presented.

Specific Instructions for Revision of the IPC

First Place Priority Rule, Last Place Priority Rule

101. In schemes where a general priority rule is applied the ordering of groups must be carefully considered. The main groups should be arranged in a sequence that ensures the desired placement of subject matter covered by each. When the first place priority rule is applied the main groups should generally be arranged in sequence from more complex to less complex subject matter and from specialized to non-specialized subject matter. When the last place priority rule is applied the order should normally be the opposite.

Common Rule

102. In every subclass in the IPC, the position of the main groups in the standardized sequence (see the Guide, paragraphs 21(c) and 52) should be indicated. This allows the electronic version of the IPC to display the content of a subclass by order of complexity of the subject matter, which can be used as guidance for classification.

103. When revising an area of the IPC where the common rule is applied, the order of the new and revised main groups in the standardized sequence should be specified.

104. When deleting main groups or modifying the scopes of existing main groups in an area of the IPC where the common rule is applied, the order of the main groups in the standardized sequence should be reviewed.

105. The guidelines that were used when arranging the main groups of subclasses of IPC 7 according to the standardized sequence can be found in Appendix II. These guidelines should be applied when those subclasses are revised.

106. Except when it would cause confusion in relation to existing groups, the guidelines of Appendix II should be used also when revising subgroups within a main group, even though it might be unpractical to introduce a general priority rule.

Residual Places

107. Classes or subclasses should normally not be of residual character.

108. Whenever existing subclasses are revised, or new subclasses are created, care must be taken to ensure that any necessary residual main groups are provided, so that the scheme is exhaustive for the subject matter concerned.

109. Main groups that are residual to an entire subclass should be placed at the end of the scheme and have the standard symbol 99/00 whenever possible. When this is not possible, for example when there are already classification main groups in the subclass with numbers higher than 99/00, the symbol 999/00 should be used. These residual main groups should not be subdivided.

110. Residual subgroups should be avoided, since they are not compatible with the split of the IPC into the core and advanced levels. It is preferable to make use of hierarchy instead. As an example, a subdivision of this type:

1/08 . Movable tools
1/10 . . Rotating tools
1/12 . . Reciprocating tools

is preferable to this type:

1/08 . Rotating tools
1/10 . Reciprocating tools
1/12 . Other movable tools

Check List

111. When subdivisions of subclasses are created, or when commenting on proposals for such elaborations, the check list appearing in Appendix III should be borne in mind.

Chemical Structural Formulae and Other Figures

112. When revising a chemical area of the IPC, consideration should be given to the desirability of presenting chemical structural formulae, either in the scheme itself or in the electronic layer. Such consideration should take into account the needs of the user and should not lead to the introduction of chemical formulae for very well-known chemical structures.

113. In the following cases formulae should be included in the schemes, because their inclusion is necessary in order to achieve consistent classification:

- when the numbering of ring atoms in cyclic compounds is inconsistent in practice, because, for example, two different systems of chemical nomenclature are applied;
- when a group covering cyclic compounds contains subordinated groups referring to the numbering system.

114. In most other cases the formulae should be presented in the electronic layer.

115. Illustrating chemical formulae should serve only as examples of subject matter classified in subgroups. General formulae for main groups should only be given in exceptional cases.
116. The number of examples should be limited. One example should normally be sufficient for each group.
117. For facilitating understanding of the examples, simple specific formulae should be used. Three-dimensional formulae may be used where necessary.
118. With respect to substituents, their structural presentation should be used as far as possible, and not their chemical names or trivial names.
119. When there is doubt over which part of the title of a group that a formula relates to, additional indications should be made.
120. In polymer areas of the IPC polymers should normally be used for illustrating purposes. When this is not sufficient for describing the contents of a group, monomers may be selected for illustration.
121. Other figures, for example mechanical drawings, may also be added to the schemes or the electronic layer, when necessary for correct classification or helpful for the user.

Transfers and Revision Concordance Data

122. After revision, each new entry or existing entry that has been changed (in wording or hierarchical position) in such a way that the scope of one or more groups is affected should be indicated. The indications should be “C” for a modification of scope of an existing place, “N” for a new place and “D” for a deleted place.
123. For the purpose of establishing the Revision Concordance List (RCL), the rapporteurs appointed for the revision projects concerned should, at the end of each revision project, submit a proposal indicating how subject matter will be transferred between places in the IPC as a result of the approved amendments. This data should include the following:
- for new places: an indication of the source of the subject matter covered;
 - for existing places whose scope has changed: indication of the source of subject matter added to the scope of the place or the destination of subject matter removed from the scope of the place;
 - for deleted places: an indication of the destination of the original subject matter.
124. Entries in the RCL referring to entire classes or subclasses should be avoided.
125. The inclusion of a group in the RCL indicates that documents classified in that group only, excluding its subgroups, should be reclassified. When subject matter of several consecutive groups is transferred to one and the same place, the first and the last groups transferred should always be indicated, even when the last group is a subgroup of the first.

126. As a result of the approval of the RCL relating to a revision project, an indication of modification of scope (“C”) should be added to those existing places which were included in the RCL, even though their title was not modified. On the other hand the “C” should be removed from those places that were approved with a “C” in the revision project but which were not included in the RCL.

Checking of References, Class Indexes and Subclass Indexes

127. At the end of each revision project, the rapporteur should check all references that point to a revised area and make sure that those affected by the amendments are updated. This check may be carried out with the aid of a reversed list of references, prepared by the International Bureau, listing for a given place in the IPC all places where reference is made to that place.

128. At the end of each revision project, class and subclass indexes should be checked, and those affected by amendments should be updated.

Changing the Symbols of Existing Classification Places

129. Renumbering of a group should take place if the scope of the group is substantially changed, except when the scope of the group is modified solely by the creation, deletion, or amendment of one or more of its subgroups.

130. Renumbering of a group should not take place if the scope of the group is not substantially changed, unless renumbering is necessitated by the change of position of a group in the scheme.

131. Changing the scope of a class or a subclass does not normally require changing the symbol of that class or subclass.

132. Classification symbols which have been used in earlier editions of the IPC should not be reused when creating or renumbering classification places. However, in exceptional cases and when no alternative exists, numbers which have been used in the Classification published by the Council of Europe in the years 1963 to 1967 may be used.

133. Detailed instructions for the selection of classification symbols can be found in Appendix IV.

[Appendices follow]

APPENDIX I

PRESENTATION AND LAYOUT OF NOTES IN THE IPC

1. The notes in the IPC should be categorized and presented in the following order:
 - (a) Notes relating to the subject matter covered by the place in question (see also paragraph 2, below)
 - (i) explaining subject matter which is covered;
 - (ii) explaining subject matter which is not covered;
 - (iii) other notes.
 - (b) Notes defining terms or expressions (see also paragraph 3, below)
 - (c) Notes drawing attention to other notes
 - (i) drawing attention to notes appearing in other sections, subsections, classes or subclasses;
 - (ii) drawing attention to other notes appearing in the section, subsection, class or subclass.
 - (d) Notes drawing attention to other places in the IPC
 - (e) Notes stating classification rules (see also paragraphs 4 to 6, below)
 - (i) precedence rules;
 - (ii) first place priority rule;
 - (iii) last place priority rule;
 - (iv) multiple, e.g. multi-aspect classification;
 - (v) other rules.
 - (f) Notes relating to recommendations
 - (g) Other notes

2. Notes relating to the subject matter covered by the place in question (referred to under 1(a), above) should be presented as follows:

(a) “This subclass covers:

“– apparatus which are not provided for in - - -;

“– the working of materials which - - -;

“– features specific to - - -”.

(b) “This subclass does not cover:

“– multi-step processes, which are covered by class - - -;

“– details or accessories which form part of - - -, e.g., - - -, which are covered by subclass - - -”.

3. Notes defining terms or expressions (referred to under 1(b), above) should be presented as follows:

“In this subclass, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

“– “working” covers also - - -;

“– “combined operation” means - - -”.

4. Notes stating general priority rules (referred to under 1(e)(ii) and 1(e)(iii), above) should be presented as follows:

(a) First place priority rule:

“In this subclass / main group(s) / group(s), at each hierarchical level, in the absence of an indication to the contrary, classification is made in the first appropriate place.”

(b) Last place priority rule:

“In this subclass / main group(s) / group(s), at each hierarchical level, in the absence of an indication to the contrary, classification is made in the last appropriate place.”

5. Notes prescribing multiple classification (referred to under 1(e)(iv), above) should be presented as follows:
 - (a) Obligatory multiple classification:

“- - -, when it is determined to be novel and non-obvious, must also be classified in - - -”.
 - (b) Nonobligatory multiple classification:

“- - -, which is considered to represent information of interest for search, may also be classified in - - -”.

6. Notes stating other classification rules (referred to under 1(e)(v), above) can, for example, be presented as follows:

“In this subclass:

 - “- groups - - - to - - - are limited to - - -;
 - “- after-treatment of materials is classified in groups - - -;
 - “- subject matter relating to both - - - is classified in groups - - -”.

7. The following model wordings of the different notes relating to indexing schemes should be observed:
 - (a) Note for a class containing a subclass which constitutes an indexing scheme:

“The codes of subclass - - - are only for use as indexing codes associated with subclass(es) - - -, so as to provide information concerning - - -”.
 - (b) Note for an area to which an indexing scheme is associated:

“In this - - -, it is desirable to add the indexing code(s) of - - -”.

[Appendix II follows]

APPENDIX II

GUIDELINES FOR THE REARRANGEMENT OF MAIN GROUPS (adopted by the IPC Revision Working Group, document IPC/WG/10/3, Annex G)

After a complete review of each subclass scheme and definitions, classifiers should successively use the following steps to arrange the main groups of schemes that do not follow a general priority rule (i.e., schemes using the common rule) into a top-down sequence:

1. Subclass Title is Multipart

Determine if the subclass title is of the multipart type (i.e., the title consists of two or more distinct parts that are separated by a semicolon) in which each part may be interpreted as if it “stood alone” (i.e., could be used as the title of its own subclass). [Utilization of this step is encouraged when appropriate, but optional.]

(a) If there is essential overlap between the subject matter covered by the distinct parts (i.e., the distinct parts of the title share an essential purpose or structure, as shown for example by a main group covering common subject matter for the multiple parts), then go to Step 2.

(b) If there is no essential overlap between the subject matter covered by the distinct parts of the subclass title, and each main group relates to only a specific part of the subclass title (except for those types of main groups covered by Steps 9 and 10), then the related main groups for each part are collected together within the top-down sequence (i.e., the sequence is divided into specific regions for each collection). Temporary explanatory “headings” may be used to show the division of the sequence into its distinct parts, but these headings are removed from the official rearrangement of main groups.

(c) The collections of main groups for each part of the subclass title are positioned separately in the scheme, with the most complex part’s collection at the top and the least complex part’s collection at the bottom. Complexity here may be based on purpose or structure.

(d) The main groups within each separate collection (i.e., the groups representing a part of the multipart title) are arranged according to the guidelines below (Steps 2 to 10).

2. Main Groups Cover Different Categories of subject matter (Device, Method of Making, etc.)

Determine if the main groups of the scheme cover the same or different categories of subject matter. The categories of subject matter are: Method of Use (of Product), Product (of Manufacture), Processes of Making a Product, Apparatus (to make the product or perform the method of making), and Material used to make the product. It should be noted that main groups sometimes also cover categories of subject matter that are not explicitly mentioned in their titles, as described in paragraphs 92 and 95 to 97 of the Guide to the IPC. [Utilization of this step is encouraged when appropriate, but optional.]

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(a) If all of the main groups cover the same, or at least one common, category or categories of subject matter, then go to Step 3.

(b) If some of the main groups do not cover a common category of subject matter, divide these groups into distinct categories of subject matter collections (i.e., separate into collections that do not share a common category or categories of subject matter). Collect main groups together that cover at least one common category of subject matter within the top-down sequence or the appropriate segment of the sequence for their specific part of a multipart title (e.g., groups for products followed by groups for methods of making the products in the sequence).

(c) Position the categories of subject matter that are covered by a subclass in the top-down sequence, or their part's segment of the sequence, in descending order normally as listed above for categories of subject matter. For example, in E01D the methods and apparatus for building or repairing bridges are located below the various types of bridges in the top-down sequence of main groups for the scheme.

(d) If a single main group covers two or more categories of subject matter (e.g., slide fasteners, making slide fasteners), then the main group is positioned in the highest relevant portion of the top-down sequence providing for one of its categories (e.g., slide fasteners).

(e) Main groups covering the same category or categories of subject matter are arranged according to the Steps 3 to ten below.

3. Main Group Title is Multipart

Determine if one or more of the main group titles has multiple distinct parts of different complexity or level of specialization. [Utilization of subsection (b) is encouraged when appropriate, but optional.]

(a) Groups having multiple distinct parts are usually positioned in the relevant portion of the top-down sequence based upon the part of their title that covers the most complex or highly specialized subject matter.

(b) If it is beneficial to split, and locate in different portions of the sequence, the subject matter covered by a main group title having distinct parts of different complexity or level of specialization: the main group can be split in special situations. It is considered appropriate to split the subject matter of a main group when there is no essential overlap between the subject matter covered by the distinct parts of the main group title and one or more of the one-dot indentation level subgroups completely and separately covers the subject matter for a distinct part of its main group title. When this happens, the distinct part(s) of the main group title may be separately located in the sequence based on Steps 4 to 9 below. The classification symbol of the main group (e.g., 15/00) is used to locate the residue parts of the title and the appropriate one-dot indentation level subgroup symbol(s) (e.g., 15/14) is used to locate the separated out part of the title.

4. Main Group is for Highly Specialized Subject Matter (Subject Matter)

Determine if any main group contains subject matter that is “highly specialized” and place it at the top of the appropriate relevant portion of the sequence. Highly specialized subject matter accomplishes a function that is not inherent or common for the subject matter of the subclass. For example, main groups A61G 10/00 and 11/00 include highly specialized life supporting or sustaining accommodations that are not common within the “accommodations for patients” normally covered by the subclass title.

5. Main Group covers External Combination (Subject Matter Outside the Subclass)

Determine if any main groups provide for combinations of “basic subject matter” (i.e., those “things” that by themselves accomplish the primary purposes or functions stated in the subclass title and definition statement) with subject matter proper for another subclass (i.e., a larger or more extensive system than is commonly found in the subclass).

(a) If this type of combination main group exists, it is placed in its relevant portion of the sequence directly after any groups having highly specialized subject matter.

(b) If there are two or more of these main groups and there is no overlap or precedence reference between them, the main group covering the larger system is placed before the other(s).

(c) If there are two or more of these main groups and there is potential overlap between them, the most specialized main group is placed before the other(s) unless a precedence reference exists. When a precedence reference exists, the preferred order is altered to show the precedence (i.e., the group having precedence comes first in the sequence) and the precedence reference is shown with the group’s title. If this is impractical, then the precedence reference is merely shown with the group’s title.

6. Main Group Covers Internal Combination (Subject Matter Within the Subclass)

Determine if any main groups explicitly provide for combinations of the basic subject matter specified in other main groups within the subclass.

(a) If such a main group exists, it is placed in its relevant portion of the sequence directly after the groups already placed in the preceding steps.

(b) If there are two or more of these main groups and there is no possible overlap or precedence reference between them, the main group covering the larger system is placed before the other(s).

(c) If there are two or more of these main groups and there is potential overlap between them, the most specialized or largest system main group is placed before the other(s) unless a precedence reference exists. When a precedence reference exists, the preferred order is altered to show the precedence (i.e., the

group having precedence comes first in the sequence) and the precedence reference is shown with the group's title. If this is impractical, then the precedence reference is merely shown with the group's title.

7. Main Group Covers Basic Subject Matter (Subject Matter)

Determine the main groups that provide for the basic inventive information of the subclass.

(a) If such main groups exist, the main groups covering the basic subject matter of the subclass are placed in the relevant portion of the sequence directly after the groups already placed in the preceding steps.

(b) If the main groups cover different functions, the main group covering the most specialized or complex function is placed before the others unless a precedence reference exists. When a precedence reference exists, the preferred order is altered to show the precedence (i.e., the group having precedence comes first in the sequence) and the precedence reference is shown with the group's title. If this is impractical, then the precedence reference is merely shown with the group's title.

(c) If main groups that cover the same function, they are collected together and arranged so that the main group having the most specialized structure or largest system is placed before the other(s) unless a precedence reference exists. When a precedence reference exists, the preferred order is altered to show the precedence (i.e., the group having precedence comes first in the sequence) and the precedence reference is shown with the group's title. If this is impractical, then the precedence reference is merely shown with the group's title.

8. Main Group Relates to Only One Part of the Subclass Multipart Title, and Covers That Section's Details, Components, Accessories, Ancillary Devices, or Residual Subject Matter

Determine if there are detail main groups, component main groups, accessories or ancillary device main groups, or "residual subject matter" main groups that are related to only one of the distinct sections of the subclass title.

(a) If such main groups exist, these main groups are placed directly after the main groups already placed in the preceding steps for which they collect specialized details, components, accessories, ancillary devices, or provide for residual subject matter. If there are main groups of two or more of the types specified, they are ordered as they are listed in the introduction of this step with detail main groups first and the most residual main group last.

(b) The main groups for the same purpose (e.g., they all cover components) are then arranged so that the main group having the most specialized structure or largest system is placed before the other(s) unless a precedence reference exists. When a precedence reference exists, the preferred order is altered to show the precedence (i.e., the group having precedence comes first in the sequence) and the precedence reference is shown with the group's title. If this is impractical, then the precedence reference is merely shown with the group's title.

9. Main Group Relates to All or Several Main Groups, and Covers the Details, Components, Accessories, Ancillary Devices, or Residual Subject Matter for all or Several Sections

Determine if there are detail main groups, component main groups, accessories or ancillary device main groups, or “residual subject matter” main groups that are related to all or several of the main groups already placed in the preceding steps.

(a) If such main groups exist, these main groups are placed in the sequence directly after the groups already placed in the preceding steps. They should be ordered as they are listed in the introduction of this step with the most residual main group always at the bottom of the top-down sequence.

(b) The main groups for the same purpose (e.g., they all cover components) are then arranged so that the main group having the most specialized structure or largest system is placed before the other(s) unless a precedence reference exists. When a precedence reference exists, the preferred order is altered to show the precedence (i.e., the group having precedence comes first in the sequence) and the precedence reference is shown with the group’s title. If this is impractical, then the precedence reference is merely shown with the group’s title.

10. New Residual Main Group is Suggested

If there is additional subject matter that is potentially within the coverage of the subclass title that is not covered by an existing main group, a new main group residual to the subclass should be created. It should be noted that main groups sometimes also cover categories of subject matter that are not explicitly mentioned in their titles, as described in paragraphs 92 and 95 to 97 of the Guide to the IPC.

[Appendix III follows]

APPENDIX III

CHECK LIST FOR USE WHEN REVISING THE IPC

1. This check list does not purport to be complete but is intended as a guide to various points which should be considered.
2. It should also be borne in mind that the various items listed in the check list cannot be dealt with independently but, on the contrary, are highly interrelated.

GENERAL ASPECTS

3. All wordings should be checked for clarity, possible ambiguity, uniform use of terms or expressions, and concordance between the English and French versions of the IPC. In addition, attention should be paid to Chapters VI and XVI of the Guide.
4. Every reference and note should be checked for accuracy and for uniformity with other references and notes used for similar purposes. The placement of all references in the schemes and in the Definitions should be checked.
5. A check should be made to determine whether the titles, references notes and Definitions correctly define the necessary borderlines with other classification places. Special care should be taken with the borderlines between entries determined by application and entries determined by function.
6. A check should be made to determine whether all relevant categories of invention, e.g. products, processes or apparatus are clearly provided for.
7. When general classification rules (e.g. first place priority) are introduced, test classification of actual documents should be made in order to verify that the rules produce the desired distribution of subject matter.

KINDS OF REVISION

Subclass Revision

8. Consideration should be given to the following questions:
 - (a) Whether the scope of the subclass is clearly defined; particular reference being given to:
 - the subclass title;
 - notes in different places in the subclass;

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- references in different places in the subclass;
 - the subclass Definitions, including the glossary therein;
 - the class title with associated references and notes.
- (b) Whether the subdivision into main groups enables efficient searches.
- (c) Whether there is subject matter falling within the scope of the subclass which is not provided for or is not specifically referred out.
- (d) The existence or necessity of residual groups, application-oriented groups or “details” groups.
- (e) Whether each main group falls within the scope of the subclass.
- (f) The possible overlap between main groups.
- (g) The usefulness of subdividing the subclass scheme into distinct parts using guidance headings.
- (h) Whether any corrections are needed in the Catchword Index.

Group Revision

9. Consideration should be given to the following questions:

- (a) Whether the scope of the group is clearly defined; particular reference being given to:
- the group title;
 - notes in different places in the subclass;
 - references in different places in the subclass;
 - group definitions, if any;
 - class and subclass titles with references and notes.
- (b) Whether the subdivision into subgroups enables efficient searches.
- (c) Whether each subgroup falls within the scope of its hierarchically higher group.
- (d) The possible overlap between subgroups.

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- (e) The accuracy of the hierarchy of the subdivisions.
- (f) Whether the number of documents and the activity is sufficient to justify the existence of every group.
- (g) Whether any corrections are needed in the Catchword Index.

[Appendix IV follows]

APPENDIX IV

CLASSIFICATION SYMBOLS FOR NEW CLASSIFICATION PLACES

SUBCLASS SYMBOLS

1. The last letter of a subclass symbol should be a consonant. However, in cases where special reasons so require, the use of vowels, with the exception of “T” and “O”, is acceptable.

NUMBERING OF MAIN GROUPS IN NEW SUBCLASSES

2. In new subclasses containing less than 20 main groups, the numbers of the main groups should be spaced between 1 and 98, leaving room for addition of future main groups both between groups and at the beginning and the end of the scheme. If a residual main group is needed it should be numbered 99/00. If an indexing scheme is introduced the first main group number should be 101/00.

– In new subclasses containing more than 20 main groups, numbers above 100/00 may be used, leaving room for addition of future main groups both between groups and at the beginning and the end of the scheme. If a residual main group is needed it should be numbered 999/00. If an indexing scheme is introduced the first main group number should be 1001/00.

NUMBERING OF INDEXING SCHEMES

3. If an indexing scheme is added to an existing subclass its numbering should be chosen on a case by case basis, but whenever possible the number of its first main group should be 101/00.

NUMBERING OF SUBGROUPS

4. Subgroup numbering should, as far as possible, be limited to four digits after the oblique stroke. The maximum number of digits after the oblique stroke is six.

– Group numbers with a final 0 are not allowed, except for groups having only two digits after the oblique stroke.

5. For the addition of further subdivisions the following use of numbers should be observed:

(a) in the case of an existing interrupted sequence of numbering, e.g., 1/02, 1/04, etc., use for additional subdivisions inserted between, for example, groups 1/02 and 1/04:

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one: 1/03
two: 1/027, 1/033
three: 1/025, 1/03, 1/035
four: 1/024, 1/028, 1/032, 1/036
five: 1/023, 1/027, 1/03, 1/033, 1/037
six: 1/022, 1/025, 1/028, 1/032, 1/035, 1/038
seven: 1/022, 1/025, 1/028, 1/03, 1/032, 1/035, 1/038
eight: 1/023, 1/025, 1/027, 1/029, 1/031, 1/033, 1/035, 1/037
nine: 1/022, 1/024, 1/026, 1/028, 1/03, 1/032, 1/034, 1/036, 1/038
etc.

(b) in the case of an existing uninterrupted sequence of numbering, e.g., 1/02, 1/03, etc., use as third digit:

for one	subdivision	5
“ two	subdivisions	3, 7
“ three	“	2, 5, 8
“ four	“	2, 4, 6, 8
“ five	“	1, 3, 5, 7, 9
“ six	“	1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9
“ seven	“	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9
“ eight	“	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9
“ nine	“	1 to 9

(c) in the case of 10 or more subdivisions to be added between subsequent entries, e.g., 1/01 and 1/02, a similar sequence should be used. For example, in case of 10 subdivisions, use the following sequence:

1/0113
1/0117
1/0133
1/0137
1/0153
1/0157
1/0173
1/0177
1/0193
1/0197

or, in case of 15 new subdivisions:

1/0112
1/0115
1/0117
1/0132
1/0135
1/0137

1/0152
1/0155
1/0157
1/0172
1/0175
1/0177
1/0192
1/0195
1/0197

EXCEPTIONS

6. The departure from the numbering principles disclosed in paragraphs 2, 4 and 5, above, is allowed in order to take into account any foreseen future revision, for example by leaving empty intervals where it is likely that further groups will be added.

PROVISIONAL NUMBERING OF PROVISIONAL GROUPS DURING THE REVISION PROCESS

7. During technical discussions and commenting in revision projects, provisional group numbers should be used. These do not have to conform to the rules mentioned above. The provisional numbers should be replaced by finalized numbers at the end of each revision project before its final adoption. Provisional numbers that have once been used within a project should never be reused within the same project for other (e.g. new) proposed groups.

[Annex V follows]

ANNEX V

SUMMARY OF TASK FORCE DISCUSSIONS ON
“UPDATING OF IPC TRAINING EXAMPLES”
(NOVEMBER 22, 23 AND 25, 2005)

General Discussions

1. The Task Force on Training Examples had before it, in particular, the compilations of the relevant TE project files.
2. The Task Force discussed 24 existing IPC Training Example (TE) projects. The decisions of the Task Force with respect to those TE projects, including the new deadlines for the next round of actions are summarized in Annex VI. Further information with respect to some of those decisions is given in paragraph 3, below.
3. The Task Force made the following observations, in addition to the decisions set forth in Annex IV, with respect to the IPC/TE projects. Approved examples during this meeting would be distributed among members of the Editorial Board for editorial checking. All references to annexes in this paragraph refer to annexes of the corresponding project file, unless otherwise stated.

IPC Training Example Projects

Project TE 119 (chemical) – The Task Force approved the last Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 8.

Project TE 122 (chemical) – The Task Force conditionally approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 14. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal taking into account all the comments made during the discussions, e.g. that the reference in C01F and C01G referring “compound containing silicon C01B 33/00” should be mentioned in the “Analysis” section, to include an explanation of the order of symbols in both the core and the advanced levels, and to add in the first table “ALUMINIUM” in the query and “C01F” in the IPC place and to redraft the “Analysis” section accordingly.

Project TE 123 (chemical) – The Task Force conditionally approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 14. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal taking into account the comments made on the order of the symbols and some editorial issues, and investigating whether classification should be made in B32B 29/06, instead of B32B 29/00, in the advanced level.

Project TE 124 (chemical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 10, with some amendments, to appear as Annex 11.

Project TE 131 (chemical) – Discussions were based on the last Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 10. Comments were invited on whether the current invention information I4 really represents invention information or additional information. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal taking into account comments to be submitted.

Project TE 204 (mechanical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 21.

Project TE 209 (mechanical) – The Task Force agreed to withdraw this training example, because no agreement could be reached among Task Force members on the final classification.

Project TE 216 (mechanical) – Discussions were based on the last Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 9. It was agreed that the current classification appearing on the said proposal was acceptable. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal, explaining that C22B 1/20 is not appropriate because of the reference in main group, which refers “sintering apparatus” to F27, adding F26B 15/16 as a classification symbol for additional information with explanation, and investigating whether classification in F27B 9/00 for invention information is appropriate.

Project TE 217 (mechanical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 12, with amendments, to appear as Annex 13.

Project TE 218 (mechanical) – Discussions were based on the last Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 3. The Task Force agreed on classifying in all three groups B60Q 1/26, B60Q 1/34 and B60Q 1/44 as invention information. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal taking into account the comments submitted.

Project TE 219 (mechanical) – Discussions were based on the last Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 14. Comments were invited on whether invention information I1 and I2 are two aspects of the same inventive thing in which case I1 should be classified as invention information and I2 as additional information, in view of the reference in group E02B 17/00, or whether I1 and I2 are two different inventive things and, therefore, should be both classified as invention information. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal taking into account the comments to be submitted.

Project TE 221 (mechanical) – The Task Force conditionally approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 7. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal precisely indicating the IPCCAT query in the first table, including the second table which was missing from the said proposal and providing explanation on the order of the symbols.

Project TE 222 (mechanical) – Comments were invited on the last Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 7. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal taking into account the comments to be submitted and providing the second table that is currently missing in the said Annex.

Project TE 224 (mechanical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 18.

Project TE 225 (mechanical) – Discussions were based on the last Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 8. It was noted that invention information I3 should be removed, whereas I4 should be retained. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a proposal taking into account the above remarks.

Project TE 227 (mechanical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 9.

Project TE 229 (mechanical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 9, with the addition of the following paragraphs at the end of “Analysis and Selection of Classification Symbols” section, to appear as Annex 12:

CL: The group titles in F16F do not accurately reflect the nature of the claimed device. Therefore, its use of balancing of a gate or door is considered to represent the invention most adequately. Thus, E05F 1/00 is listed first.

AL: The group titles in F16F do not accurately reflect the nature of the claimed device. Therefore, its use of balancing of a gate or door is considered to represent the invention most adequately. Thus, E05F 1/08 is listed first.

Project TE 230 (mechanical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 9.

Project TE 231 (mechanical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 13.

Project TE 316 (electrical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 8, with minor editorial amendments, to appear as Annex 9.

Project TE 326 (electrical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 16, with the addition of the reason why F02D 43/00 is listed first and minor editorial amendments, to appear as Annex 17.

Project TE 330 (electrical) – The Task Force approved the Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 12, with minor editorial amendments, to appear as Annex 13.

Project TE 334 (electrical) – Discussions were based on the last Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 2. The Task Force agreed that this is a good example for training and an artificial example should be created based on the patent document, in view of the lack of an identical family member in French. Comments were invited on the said Rapporteur proposal in Annex 2. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal taking into account the comments to be submitted.

Project TE 336 (electrical) – Discussions were based on the last Rapporteur proposal contained in Annex 8. The Rapporteur was invited to submit a new proposal, including, in particular, a redrafted table under the “Identification of Potential Subclasses” section. It was noted that the query for I2 produced A63D 15/00 as a second answer, and it was judged necessary to show why this answer was irrelevant to this example.

ANNEX VI/ANNEXE VI

STATUS OF IPC TRAINING EXAMPLES PROJECTS/
ÉTAT D'AVANCEMENT DES PROJETS D'EXEMPLES DE LA CIB
DESTINÉS À LA FORMATION

Status:/État d'avancement :

A: Approved/Approuvé

A* : Conditionally approved/Approuvé sous certaines conditions

W: Withdrawn/Retiré

Project No./ Projet n°	Subject/ Objet	Area/Domaine	Technology/ Technique	Rapporteur	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions and remarks/ Prochaines mesures et remarques
TE 101	Ex. A1	C07F	C	IE	A (WG/14)	
TE 102	Ex. A4	C23C	C	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 103	Ex. A7	C07D	C	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 104	Ex. A8	C07C	C	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 105	Ex. A9	C07D	C	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 106	Ex. A10	C07C	C	EP	W (WG/12)	
TE 107	Ex. A11	C07D	C	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 108	Ex. A12	C12M	C	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 109	Ex. A14	C04B, H01L	C	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 110	Ex. C-1	C07K, A61K	C	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 111	Ex. A2	C08G	C	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 112	Ex. A3	C10G	C	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 113	Ex. A5	D02G	C/ M	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 114	Ex. A6	D04H	M		W (WG/14)	
TE 117	Ex. A15	C01B, C04B, G21C	C	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 118	Ex. A16	C01B, C01C	C	JP	A (WG/14)	
TE 119	Ex. A17	D21F	M	EP	A (WG/14)	

IPC/WG/14/3
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Project No./ Projet n°	Subject/ Objet	Area/Domaine	Technology/ Technique	Rapporteur	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions and remarks/ Prochaines mesures et remarques
TE 120	Ex. C-2	B01J, D21C	C	SE		Rapporteur proposal by 15.12.05/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.12.05
TE 121	Ex. C-3	C23C, H01J	C	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 122	Ex. C-4	C01B, B01J	C	DE	A* (WG/14)	Rapporteur proposal by 15.12.05/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.12.05
TE 123	Ex. C-5	B41M, D21H	C	DE	A* (WG/14)	Rapporteur proposal by 15.12.05/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.12.05
TE 124	Ex. C-6	B01F, C07C	C	JP	A (WG/14)	
TE 125	Ex. C-7	C09D	C	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 127	New-1C- WO 00/71469 A1	C02F	C	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 128	New-2C- WO 00/35816 A1	C02F	C	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 129	New-3C- WO 03/66320 A3	B32B	C	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 130	New-4C- US 2003/000808 7 A1	B32B	C	US	A (WG/14)	
TE 131	New-5C-US 6689613B1	C40B, B01J	C	US		Comments by 15.01.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.02.06/ Observations pour le 15.01.06; Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.02.06
TE 132	New-6C-US 5641783A	A61K, A61P, C07D	C	IE		Rapporteur proposal by 15.12.05/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.12.05
TE 133	New-7C-US 4350708	A23L, C12G	C	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 201	Ex. B1	A22C	M	SE	A (WG/14)	

Project No./ Projet n°	Subject/ Objet	Area/Domaine	Technology/ Technique	Rapporteur	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions and remarks/ Prochaines mesures et remarques
TE 202	Ex. B2	A23B, A23L	M	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 203	Ex. B5	A61B	M	IE	A (WG/14)	
TE 204	Ex. B6	G09B	M	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 205	Ex. B15	A47B	M	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 206	Ex. B19	F16J, E06B	M	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 207	Ex. B21	A63H	M	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 208	Ex. B22	B04B, F16F	M	GB	W (WG/12)	
TE 209	Ex. M-1	A44C, B29C	M	GB	W (WG/14)	
TE 210	Ex. M-3	G09B	M	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 211	Ex. B3	A23L, A23B	M	IE	A (WG/14)	
TE 212	Ex. B4	A47B	M	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 213	Ex. B7	B43K	M	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 214	Ex. B8	E06B	M	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 215	Ex. B9	F02C	M	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 216	Ex. B11	F27B	M	DE		Rapporteur proposal by 15.12.05/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.12.05
TE 217	Ex. B12	F24B	M	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 218	Ex. B13	B60Q	M/ E	SE		Rapporteur proposal by 15.12.05/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.12.05
TE 219	Ex. B14	B63B, E02B	M	EP		Comments by 15.01.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.02.06/ Observations pour le 15.01.06; Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.02.06
TE 220	Ex. B16	B21J	M	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 221	Ex. B17	B60L	M	EP	A* (WG/14)	Rapporteur proposal by 15.12.05/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.12.05

Project No./ Projet n°	Subject/ Objet	Area/Domaine	Technology/ Technique	Rapporteur	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions and remarks/ Prochaines mesures et remarques
TE 222	Ex. B18	B62D	M	EP		Comments by 15.01.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.02.06/ Observations pour le 15.01.06; Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.02.06
TE 223	Ex. B20	A43D, B29D	M	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 224	Ex. B24	B01D, C02F	M	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 225	Ex. M-2	B60K, B60R	M	SE		Rapporteur proposal by 15.12.05/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.12.05
TE 227	Ex. M-4	F16F, H02K	M	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 228	Ex. M-5	B29C, B29D	M	SE		Initial rapporteur proposal by 30.12.05; comments by 15.02.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.03.06/ Proposition initiale du rapporteur pour le 30.12.05; observations pour le 15.02.06; proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.03.06
TE 229	Ex. M-6	F16F, E05F	M	SE	A (WG/14)	
TE 230	New-1M- GB 2386181 A	F21	M	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 231	New-2M- GB 2385118 A	F21S, A47B	M	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 232	New-3M- US 4213405 A	F23B	M	SE		Initial rapporteur proposal by 30.12.05; comments by 15.02.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.03.06/ Proposition initiale du rapporteur pour le 30.12.05; observations pour le 15.02.06; proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.03.06

Project No./ Projet n°	Subject/ Objet	Area/Domaine	Technology/ Technique	Rapporteur	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions and remarks/ Prochaines mesures et remarques
TE 233	New-4M- US 4491077 A	F23B	M	SE		Initial rapporteur proposal by 30.12.05; comments by 15.02.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.03.06/ Proposition initiale du rapporteur pour le 30.12.05; observations pour le 15.02.06; proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.03.06
TE 234	New-5M- US 4971857 A	B32B	M	SE		Initial rapporteur proposal by 30.12.05; comments by 15.02.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.03.06/ Proposition initiale du rapporteur pour le 30.12.05; observations pour le 15.02.06; proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.03.06
TE 301	Ex. C10	H01S	E	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 302	Ex. C11	H04N	E	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 303	Ex. C13	E02D, G01N	M	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 304	Ex. C19	G21B, G21D	E	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 305	Ex. C20	H01G	E	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 306	Ex. E-1	G01P, H01L	E	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 307	New-1E	G06F	E	SE	A (WG/14)	
TE 308	New-2E	G06Q	E	SE	A (WG/14)	
TE 309	New-3E	H04Q	E	SE	A (WG/14)	
TE 310	Ex. C1	H01G	E	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 311	Ex. C2	H04M	E	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 312	Ex. C3	G11B	E		W (WG/14)	
TE 313	Ex. C4	G11C	E		W (WG/14)	
TE 314	Ex. C5	H01B	E	SE	A (WG/14)	
TE 315	Ex. C6	H01L	E	SE	A (WG/14)	
TE 316	Ex. C7	H01L, H03K	E	SE	A (WG/14)	
TE 317	Ex. C8	H01M	E		W (WG/14)	
TE 318	Ex. C9	H01R	E		W (WG/14)	
TE 319	Ex. C12	G01M	E	GB	A (WG/14)	

Project No./ Projet n°	Subject/ Objet	Area/Domaine	Technology/ Technique	Rapporteur	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions and remarks/ Prochaines mesures et remarques
TE 320	Ex. C14	H01H	M/ E	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 321	Ex. C15	G11C	E		W (WG/14)	
TE 322	Ex. C16	G01B, G06G	E	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 323	Ex. C17	H01L	E	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 324	Ex. C18	B65G, G01G	E	GB	A (WG/14)	
TE 325	Ex. E-2	G01P, H01L	E		W (WG/14)	
TE 326	Ex. E-3	F02D, G05B, H03K	E	DE	A (WG/14)	
TE 327	Ex. E-4	G08C	E		W (WG/14)	
TE 328	Ex. E-5	B60D, H01H	E		W (WG/14)	
TE 329	Ex. E-6	H03L, H04L	E	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 330	Ex. E-7	G05B	E	SE	A (WG/14)	
TE 331	New-4E- EP- A-0 031 033	G09F, A63B	E		W (WG/13)	
TE 332	New-5E- EP- A-0 787 510	G09F, A63B	E	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 333	New-6E- US5469163A	H03M	E	JP	A (WG/14)	
TE 334	New-7E	G06Q	E	SE		Initial rapporteur proposal by 30.12.05; comments by 15.02.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.03.06/ Proposition initiale du rapporteur pour le 30.12.05; observations pour le 15.02.06; proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.03.06
TE 335	New-8E	G01R H01M	E	EP	A (WG/14)	
TE 336	New-9E	G01V, A63B	E	EP		Rapporteur proposal by 15.12.05/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.12.05

Project No./ Projet n°	Subject/ Objet	Area/Domaine	Technology/ Technique	Rapporteur	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions and remarks/ Prochaines mesures et remarques
TE 337	New-10E		E	EP		Initial rapporteur proposal by 30.12.05; comments by 15.02.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.03.06/ Proposition initiale du rapporteur pour le 30.12.05; observations pour le 15.02.06; proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.03.06
TE 338	New-11E		E	SE		Initial rapporteur proposal by 30.12.05; comments by 15.02.06; Rapporteur proposal by 15.03.06/ Proposition initiale du rapporteur pour le 30.12.05; observations pour le 15.02.06; proposition du rapporteur pour le 15.03.06

[Annex VII follows/
L'annexe VII suit]

ANNEX VII/ANNEXE VII

STATUS OF DEFINITION PROJECTS/
ÉTAT D'AVANCEMENT DES PROJETS DE DÉFINITIONS

Status:/État d'avancement :

E: English version approved (with indication at which session it was approved)/

Version anglaise approuvée (avec l'indication de la session à laquelle celle-ci a été approuvée)

F: French version approved/Version française approuvée

D Project /Projet D...	Area/Domaine	Technology/Technique	Rapporteur	Translation by/ Traduction par	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions/ Prochaines actions
001	A01N	C	US	FR	E WG/8 F WG/11	
002	C07C	C	US	EP	E WG/9 F WG/12	
003	C08J	C	SE	CH	E WG/8 F WG/12	
004	C09K	C	EP	EP	E WG/12 F WG/12	
005	C40B	C	EP	EP	E WG/11 F WG/12	
006	B81B	E	US	FR	E WG/13 F WG/14	
007	B81C	E	US	FR	E WG/9 F WG/12	
008	B82B	E	US	FR	E WG/9 F WG/13	
009	G01N	E	EP	EP	E WG/13 F WG/14	
010	G01S	E	DE	CH	E WG/12 F WG/13	
011	H01L	E	DE	EP	E WG/9 F WG/13	
012	A44B	M	US	CH	E WG/11 F WG/13	
013	A61B	M	US	FR	E WG/12 F WG/13	
014	A61N	M	US	FR	E WG/13 F WG/14	
015	B60T	M	GB	FR	E WG/11 F WG/12	
016	B61L	M	US	CH	E WG/14	French version by 31.03.06/ Version française pour le 31.03.06

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D Project /Projet D...	Area/Domaine	Technology/Technique	Rapporteur	Translation by/ Traduction par	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions/ Prochaines actions
017	B66B	M	US	FR	E WG/12 F WG/13	
018	F04C	M	EP	FR	E WG/13 F WG/14	
019	F23B	M	SE	CH	E WG/12 F WG/13	
020	F23C	M	SE	CH	E WG/12 F WG/13	
021	A61K	C	EP	EP	E WG/13 F WG/13	
022	A61P	C	EP	EP	E WG/11 F WG/12	
023	A61Q	C	EP	EP	E WG/11 F WG/12	
024	B01D	C	GB	FR	E WG/11 F WG/12	
025	C07F	C	RU	EP	E WG/9 F WG/11	
026	C10L	C	EP	EP	E WG/9 F WG/11	
027	G01M	E	RU	CH	E WG/12 F WG/13	
028	H01H	E	EP	FR	E WG/12 F WG/13	
029	A61G	M	US	FR	E WG/11 F WG/13	
030	B32B	M	EP	EP	E WG/8 F WG/12	
031	E01D	M	US	EP	E WG/14	French version by 31.03.06/ Version française pour le 31.03.06
032	F23G	M	SE	EP	E WG/11 F WG/13	
033	A01H	C	SE	CH	E WG/9 F WG/11	
034	B60R	M	US	FR	E WG/14	French version by 31.03.06/ Version française pour le 31.03.06
035	B60V	M	US	FR	E WG/14	French version by 31.03.06/ Version française pour le 31.03.06
036	C04B	C	EP	EP	E WG/14	French version by 31.03.06/ Version française pour le 31.03.06
037	C07J	C	RU	EP	E WG/11 F WG/12	
038	C07K	C	SE	EP	E WG/11 F WG/13	
039	C12N	C	US	CH	E WG/12 F WG/13	

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D Project /Projet D...	Area/Domaine	Technology/Technique	Rapporteur	Translation by/ Traduction par	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions/ Prochaines actions
040	C12P	C	US	FR	E WG/11 F WG/13	
041	F01M	M	GB	FR	E WG/11 F WG/13	
042	F16N	M	GB	FR	E WG/11 F WG/13	
043	G01P	E	US	CH	E WG/14	French version by 31.03.06/ Version française pour le 31.03.06
044	G01T	E	SE	CH	E WG/11 F WG/12	
045	G01V	E	DE	CH	E WG/9 F WG/12	
046	G02C	E	US	CH	E WG/14	French version by 31.03.06/ Version française pour le 31.03.06
047	H01P	E	GB	CH	E WG/9 F WG/12	
048	H04B	E	RU	FR	E WG/14 F WG/14	
049	H04L	E	SE	FR		Rapporteur proposal by 31.01.06/ Proposition du rapporteur pour le 31.01.06
050	G01B	E	DE	FR	E WG/11 F WG/13	
051	G01C	E	DE	CH	E WG/11 F WG/13	
052	G11B	E	JP	FR	E WG/11 F WG/13	
053	H02P	E	EP	EP	E WG/14	French version by 31.03.06/ Version française pour le 31.03.06
054	G06Q	E	EP			
055	F21	M	DE			Rapporteur report by 31.01.06; comments by 31.03.06/ Rapport du rapporteur pour le 31.01.06; observations pour le 31.03.06
056	C07D	C	IE	EP		Indication of approval by 31.03.06/ Indication d'approbation pour le 31.03.06
057	G06F	E	EP	EP		Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
058	B60K	M	EP			Rapporteur report by 31.12.05; comments by 31.01.06/ Rapport du rapporteur pour le 31.12.05; observations pour le 31.01.06
059	H02K	E	EP	EP		Rapporteur report by 31.01.06/ Rapport du rapporteur pour le 31.01.06
060	B60L	M	GB			Rapporteur report by 31.01.06/ Rapport du rapporteur pour le 31.01.06
061	C11D	C	GB	FR	E WG/13 F WG/14	
062	C12C	C	GB	EP	E WG/13 F WG/14	

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D Project /Projet D...	Area/Domaine	Technology/Technique	Rapporteur	Translation by/ Traduction par	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions/ Prochaines actions
063	C12G	C	GB	CH	E WG/13 F WG/14	
064	C12M	C	EP	EP		Indication of approval by 31.03.06/ Indication d'approbation pour le 31.03.06
065	C12Q	C	EP	EP		Indication of approval by 31.03.06/ Indication d'approbation pour le 31.03.06
066	C12S	C	US	FR	E WG/13 F WG/14	
067	A01D	M	SE			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
068	A01F	M	SE			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
069	A23K	M	SE			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
070	A23L	M	GB			Rapporteur report by 27.01.06/ Rapport du rapporteur pour le 27.01.06
071	A62D	C	EP			Indication of approval by 31.03.06/ Indication d'approbation pour le 31.03.06
072	G07F	E	EP			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06 Rapporteur report by 17.03.06/ Rapport du rapporteur pour le 17.03.06
073	B03D	M	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
074	B04B	M	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
075	B04C	M	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
076	B05B	M	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
077	B07B	M	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
078	G21J	M	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
079	A63B	M	GB			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
080	A63H	M	GB			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
081	B65D	M	GB			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
082	G02F	E	EP			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
083	H01S	E	EP			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
084	H05C	E	GB			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06

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D Project /Projet D...	Area/Domaine	Technology/Technique	Rapporteur	Translation by/ Traduction par	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions/ Prochaines actions
085	H05F	E	GB			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
086	H04M	E	SE			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
087	H04Q	E	SE			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
088	C06B	C	EP			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
089	C23F	C	EP			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
090	C08F	C	GB			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
091	C08G	C	GB			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
092	C08H	C	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
093	C08L	C	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
094	C09D	C	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
095	C09J	C	GB			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
096	C07B	C	SE			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
097	C07H	C	SE			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
098	A61F	M	DE			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
099	C02F	C	DE			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
100	C08K	C	DE			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
101	F16C	M	DE			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
102	F16D	M	DE			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
103	F16G	M	DE			Comments by 27.01.06/ Observations pour le 27.01.06
104	A61C	M	US			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
105	A61D	M	US			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
106	A61H	M	US			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
107	A61J	M	US			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05

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D Project /Projet D...	Area/Domaine	Technology/Technique	Rapporteur	Translation by/ Traduction par	Status/ État d'avancement	Next actions/ Prochaines actions
108	A61L	M	US			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
109	A61M	M	US			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
110	C01D	C	IE			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 28.10.05
111	C01F	C	IE			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 28.10.05
112	C01B	C	US			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
113	C01C	C	US			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
114	C01G	C	US			Comments by 30.12.05/ Observations pour le 30.12.05
115	C22C	C	US			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
116	C22B	C	US			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
117	C22F	C	US			Initial proposal by 31.12.05/ Proposition initiale pour le 31.12.05
118	H01B	E	US			Comments by 31.12.05/ Observations pour le 31.12.05
119	H01C	E	US			Comments by 31.12.05/ Observations pour le 31.12.05
120	H01F	E	US			Comments by 31.12.05/ Observations pour le 31.12.05
121	H01G	E	US			Comments by 31.12.05/ Observations pour le 31.12.05
122	H01J	E	US			Comments by 31.12.05/ Observations pour le 31.12.05
123	H01K	E	US			Comments by 31.12.05/ Observations pour le 31.12.05

[Annex VIII follows/
L'annexe VIII suit]

ANNEX VIII

IPC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Task No.	Task Title	Action	Timeline
Continuous tasks			
1	Elaboration of classification definitions		
1(a)	Develop a plan for completion of all subclass definitions	Prepare an updated list of priorities Prepare a list of prioritized subclasses	Q2/2006 Q4/2006
1(b)	Preparation of definitions	Complete definitions for an additional 50 subclasses	Q4/2008
2	Systematic maintenance of the IPC		
2(a)	Develop a plan for maintenance of all subclasses	Prepare an updated list of priorities Start pilot projects	Q2/2006
2(b)	Treatment of maintenance projects	Complete maintenance of 10 subclasses	Q4/2007
3	Removal of informative references in IPC schemes	Remove informative references from the IPC schemes after completion of corresponding D-projects	As needed
4	Removal of references from guidance headings		
4(a)	Develop a plan for removal of references from guidance headings in all subclasses	Develop plan	Q2/2006
4(b)	Removal of references	Remove all references from guidance headings and relocate them in appropriate groups (i.e., limiting type) or in the electronic layer (i.e., informative type)	Q4/2007
5	Special Residual Subclasses and Residual Main Groups		

Task No.	Task Title	Action	Timeline
5(a)	Introduction of residual main groups in IPC schemes	Create residual main groups where appropriate	Q1/2008
5(b)	Maintenance of special residual subclasses and main groups in IPC schemes	Develop a procedure Periodical review of all residual subclasses and main groups for emerging technologies or classification problems	Q2/2006 Continuous
Ad hoc tasks			
6	Treating revision projects	Treat CL projects and projects which are forwarded from the ALS	As needed
7	Update of IPC training examples	Update existing training examples following a revision project. Introduce a new training example when a new subclass is introduced or an existing one is extensively revised	As needed
8	Correction of obvious errors or deficiencies in IPC schemes or definitions	The IB will evaluate proposals for correcting obvious errors in IPC schemes or definitions and refer to ALS or WG, if appropriate. IB will correct evident clerical errors without further action.	As needed
9	Evaluate borderlines between core and advanced level in schemes for problems with hierarchy, ease of use, and correctness of notes, examples or references	Evaluate and propose improvements to the schemes, notes, examples or references and refer task to ALS when appropriate	As needed
10	IPC Guide or Handbook improvement	Evaluate proposals for new or revised principles or rules for the IPC and propose corresponding changes to the Guide. Update the Handbook to reflect any changes in the Guide and Guidelines	Q4/2007

Task No.	Task Title	Action	Timeline
11	Quality control of IPC classification	Develop a procedure for investigating significant discrepancies reported between classification symbols applied to members of simple patent families. Propose corrective actions as appropriate	Q2/2007 Continuous
12	Preparation of new IPC edition		Q1/2008

[Technical Annexes follow]

TECHNICAL ANNEXES/ANNEXES TECHNIQUES

ANNEX	1E	A01N	[Project-Rapporteur : C 432/CN]	
<i>C</i>	<i>65/00</i>	<p>--- growth regulators containing material from algae, lichens, bryophyta, multi-cellular fungi or plants, or extracts thereof ---</p> <p>Supersedes corresponding entry approved in IPC/WG/13 (see report, para. 25)</p>		
<i>N, CL</i>	<i>65/04</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pteridophyta [fern allies]; Filicophyta [ferns]</i> 		
<i>N, CL</i>	<i>65/06</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Coniferophyta [gymnosperms], e.g. cypress</i> 		
<i>N, CL</i>	<i>65/08</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Magnoliopsida [dicotyledons]</i> 		
<i>N, CL</i>	<i>65/10</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • <i>Apiaceae or Umbelliferae [Carrot family], e.g. parsley, caraway, dill, lovage, fennel or snakebed</i> 		
<i>N, CL</i>	<i>65/40</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Liliopsida [monocotyledons]</i> 		
ANNEX	2E	C10L	[Project-Rapporteur : WG012/IB]	
<i>Title</i>	<p>--- BY SUBCLASSES C10G OR C10K; LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS; USE OF ADDITIVES TO FUELS OR FIRES; FIRE-LIGHTERS</p>			
ANNEXE	2F	C10L	[Project-Rapporteur : WG012/IB]	
<i>Titre</i>	<p>--- LES SOUS-CLASSES C10G OU C10K; GAZ DE PÉTROLE LIQUÉFIÉ; UTILISATION D'ADDITIFS DANS LES COMBUSTIBLES OU LES FEUX; ALLUME-FEUX</p>			
ANNEXE	3F	C12	[Project-Rapporteur : WG012/IB]	
			(T:FR) - WG/13/5 (para. 10)	<SC11003E>
Note(s) après le titre	(1)	<p>Parmi les sous-classes C12M à C12Q, et à l'intérieur de chacune de ces sous-classes, en l'absence d'indication contraire, le classement s'effectue à la dernière place appropriée. Par exemple, un procédé faisant intervenir une fermentation ou un enzyme et incluant une commande sensible aux conditions du milieu est classé dans la sous-classe C12Q.</p>		

- (2) ---
(3) <inchangée>

ANNEXE 4F	C12S	[Project-Rapporteur : WG012/IB] (T:FR) - WG/13/5 (para. 10)	<SC11003E>
Note(s) après le titre	(2)	Il est important de tenir compte des Notes (2) et (3) qui suivent le titre ---	
<i>N</i>	(3)	<i>Dans la présente sous-classe, sauf indication contraire, le classement s'effectue à la dernière place appropriée.</i>	
	(4)	<Ancienne Note (3)>	

[End of Technical Annexes and of document/
Fin des annexes techniques et du document]