

IPC/WG/9

**IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILES/
DOSSIERS DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB**

**MECHANICAL FIELD/
DOMAINE DE LA MÉCANIQUE**



IPC/H 005/02
ORIGINAL: English/French
DATE: May 14, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	GB	HYBRID SYSTEM OF IPC AREA: SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	B01J
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	GB	09.02
2	Comments / Observations	US	09.02
3	Comments / Observations	EP	09.02
4	Comments / Observations	JP	10.02
5	Comments / Observations	SE	10.02
6	Comments / Observations	DE	10.02
7	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	GB	10.02
8	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	GB	10.02
9	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	GB	05.03
10	Comments / Observations	US	05.03
11	Comments / Observations	JP	05.03

RAPPORTEUR : GB TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE : M

UK Patent Office
Date: 25 April 2003

Rapporteur Proposal on Project H005, Subclass B01J

Amended proposal *[following discussions at WG/8 and following the SE proposal for standardised notes in indexing schemes]*

[We feel there is no need for a change to the last place rule, i.e. Note (4) above group 20/00]

B01J

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| C | Note (1)
after 31/40 | When classifying in groups 32/00 to 38/00, a part of a catalyst that is not identified by the said classification, and which itself is determined to be novel and non-obvious, must also be classified in groups 21/00 to 31/00, with the exception of groups 21/20, 23/90 to 23/96, 25/04, 27/28 and 31/40. Such a part of a catalyst can be either a single compound or ingredient, or a composition in itself. |
| D | Note (2)
after 31/40 | <Delete note, and replace by the following>
A part of a catalyst which is not identified by the classification according to Note (1) above, and which is considered to represent information of interest for search, may also be classified according to Note (1) above. This can for example be the case when it is considered of interest to enable searching of catalysts using a combination of classification symbols. Such non-obligatory classifications should be given as "other information". |
| D | 21/00 to
31/38 | <Delete vertical line> |
| D | Guide Heading
after 49/02 | <Delete guide heading> |
| D | Notes (1) to (3)
After 49/02 | <Delete all 3 Notes> |
| D | 101:00 to 105:98 | <Delete all entries> |

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H005

Subclass – B01J

Date: May 6, 2003

Comments

US supports Rapporteur's proposal of Annex 9, but has minor recommendations for wording changes in Note (1) that will help clarify the note for inexperienced examiners and the public users.

In Note (1) after 31/40, we propose the following:

When classifying in groups 32/00 to 38/00, a part of a catalyst that is not identified by ~~the said this~~ classification range, and which itself is determined to be novel and non-obvious, must also be classified in groups 21/00 to 31/00 for chemical compounds or ingredients, with the exception of groups 21/20, 23/90 to 23/96, 25/04, 27/28 and 31/40 which are for regeneration or reactivation of the catalyst. Such a part of a catalyst can be either a single compound or ingredient, or a composition in itself.

Japan Patent Office

May 14 , 2003

Project: H005

Subclass:B01J

JP Comments on Rapporteur Proposal Dated April 25, 2003 (Annex 9)

JP is afraid that "...with the exception of groups 21/20, 23/90 to 23/96, 25/04, 27/28 and 31/40 (Note (1) after 31/40)" is a misdescription. It should be corrected into "...with the exception of groups 21/20, 23/90 to 23/96, 25/04, 27/28 to 27/32, 29/90 and 31/40."



IPC/H 007/02

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 14, 2003

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IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	SE	HYBRID SYSTEM OF IPC AREA: SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	B63B
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	SE	08.02
2	Comments / Observations	US	08.02
3	Comments / Observations	GB	09.02
4	Comments / Observations	JP	10.02
5	Comments / Observations	DE	10.02
6	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	SE	05.03

RAPPORTEUR : SE

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

M

Swedish Patent and Registration Office

IPC Hybrid Project H007, subclass B63B

May 12th, 2003

RAPPORTEUR REPORT (in response to Annexes 2 - 5)

In Annex 1 Rapporteur proposed to abolish the indexing use of group B63B 36/79. Comments have been received from US, GB, JP and DE, all agreeing with the proposal.

Therefore Rapporteur proposes the following changes in B63B:

- D Notes (1) and (2) after the subclass title
- D Vertical line at B63B 36/79

Anders Bruun



IPC/H 029/02
ORIGINAL: English/French
DATE: May 15, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	SE	HYBRID SYSTEM OF IPC AREA: SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	D21H
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	SE	08.02
2	Comments / Observations	US	08.02
3	Comments / Observations	GB	09.02
4	Comments / Observations	RO	10.02
5	Comments / Observations	JP	10.02
6	Comments / Observations	RU	10.02
7	Comments / Observations	EP	10.02
8	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	SE	05.03

RAPPORTEUR : SE TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE : M

Swedish Patent and Registration Office

IPC Hybrid Project H029, subclass D21H

May 12th, 2003

RAPPORTEUR REPORT (in response to Annexes 2 - 7)

Comments on Annex 1 have been received from US, GB, RO, JP, RU and EP.

Double usage indexing in main groups 11/00 - 15/00 and 19/00 - 25/00

In Annex 1 Rapporteur proposed abolishing the double usage indexing in main groups 11/00 - 15/00 and 19/00 - 25/00 without introduction of any new special rules. All comments agree to this.

A new note after the subclass title

Rapporteur also, while indicating that it would not be strictly necessary, proposed a note to be placed after the subclass title, giving general advice for classification in the subclass:

- US propose modifications, while agreeing that the note would not be necessary.
- GB support the US proposal.
- RO support the note, and propose some modifications based on the US proposal.
- JP support Rapporteur's proposal.
- RU support the US proposal.
- EP support Rapporteur's proposal.

Rapporteur's proposal was *"If a paper or pulp, or a material therefor, is characterised by more than one feature provided for in this subclass, - - -, classification is made in places providing for all these features"*.

The US proposal was *"If the individual constituents forming or associated with forming the paper or pulp of an invention are separately characterised by more than one distinct feature provided for in this subclass, - - -, they are classified in the places providing for each distinct feature that is novel or useful for search."*

The main difference between the two proposals appears that to be that Rapporteur focuses on inventions as a whole, while US merely focus on individual constituents. Rapporteur thinks the US proposal is unnecessarily restricted, since several groups cover paper or pulp and not just their constituents, for example 19/72. Rapporteur further thinks that the phrase "characterised by a feature" implies that this feature is invention information. Therefore it is correct to say "classification is made". The US proposal appears to prescribe classification of features that are merely "useful for search", and thus normally only qualify for non-obligatory classification.

Rapporteur proposes a slightly reworded note - see the attached proposal. The Working Group should decide whether the introduction of a note is desirable.

Double usage indexing in groups 17/71 - 17/74

For the double usage indexing in group 17/71 and its subgroups, using other codes of main group 17/00, Rapporteur made two alternative proposals:

- (a) Delete the "mixtures" groups 17/71 - 17/74 and introduce a note prescribing separate classification of all components of a mixture.
- (b) Apply the last place rule, together with non-obligatory additional classification of individual ingredients

Alternative (a), as far as it prescribes obligatory classification of separate ingredients, is not in line with general decisions taken. The solution to be chosen will have to include application of the last place rule, together with non-obligatory additional classification of individual ingredients that are not identified by the classification according to the last place rule.

The remaining question is then whether or not the "mixtures" groups 17/71 - 17/74 should be deleted or not. Three offices (SE, RO and EP) are in favour of this, while four offices (US, GB, JP and RU) are opposed to it, mainly on the grounds of the change being beyond the scope of a hybrid project, whereas keeping the groups would preserve "status quo". Both GB and RO pointed out the need for further discussion of this question.

There is a slight majority in favour of keeping groups 17/71 - 17/74, but the situation is not straightforward. A couple of the comments question the usefulness of the groups, on the grounds that classification in the groups gives no information of search value, and that the usage of the groups, particularly in the offices (EP and JP) whose classifications will form the basis of the Master Classification Database, is inconsistent and apparently not in line with the present rules.

Rapporteur agrees that, on the surface, the deletion of the groups appears to be a major change. However, what is the "status quo"? The offices who will provide the classification data of the PCT minimum documentation in the future Master Classification Database have apparently already decided to more or less disregard the groups. Keeping the so called "status quo" would thus force them to reclassify the documents. This is a question that goes beyond the scope of this single project, but which will need to be discussed.

Rapporteur still presents two alternatives, with and without the deletion of groups 17/71 - 17/74. The Working Group should decide on which to choose.

Anders Bruun

PROPOSAL

D21H

Common parts:

- C Note (4) after subclass title If a paper or pulp, or a constituent thereof, is characterised by more than one feature provided for in this subclass, for example by both the fibrous material and a coating or by both a colorant and a water-repelling agent, classification is made in places providing for all these features.
- N Note (5) after subclass title <old Note (4)>
- 11/00 - 17/00 <delete vertical line>
- 17/01 - 17/17 <delete vertical line>
- 17/20 - 17/69 <delete vertical line>
- 19/00 <delete vertical line>
- D Notes (1) and (2) after 19/00
- 19/02 - 19/84 <delete vertical line>
- D Notes (1) and (2) after 19/84
- 21/00 - 21/12 <delete vertical line>
- D Notes (1) and (2) after 21/12
- 21/14 - 21/56 <delete vertical line>
- D Notes (1) and (2) after 21/56
- 23/00 - 23/20 <delete vertical line>
- D Notes (1) and (2) after 23/20
- 23/22 - 25/00 <delete vertical line>
- D Notes (1) and (2) after 25/00
- 25/02 - 25/18 <delete vertical line>
- Note (1) after 27/00 <delete "(1)">
- D Notes (2) and (3) after 27/00

Alternative (a) - deletion of groups 17/71 - 17/74:

- C Note (1) after 17/00 In main group 17/00, in the absence of an indication to the contrary, a material is classified in the last appropriate place.

- C Note (2) after 17/00 A mixture of two or more materials is classified in the last of groups 17/00 to 17/63 that provides for one of these materials.
- C Note (3) after 17/00 A part of a mixture which is not identified by the classification according to note (2), and which itself is determined to be novel and non-obvious, must also be classified according to the relevant of note (1) or (2). The part can be either a single material or a mixture in itself.
- N Note (4) after 17/00 A part of a mixture which is not identified by the classification according to note (2) or (3), and which is considered to represent information of interest for search, may also be classified according to the relevant of notes (1) or (2). This can for example be the case when it is considered of interest to enable searching of mixtures using a combination of classification symbols. Such non-obligatory classifications should be given as "other information".
- D 17/71 (covered by 17/00)
- D Notes (1) and (2) after 17/71
- D 17/72 (covered by 17/00)
- D 17/73 (covered by 17/00)
- D 17/74 (covered by 17/00)

Alternative (b) - no deletions:

- C Note (1) after 17/00 In main group 17/00, in the absence of an indication to the contrary, a material or a mixture of materials is classified in the last appropriate place. A mixture of two or more materials is thus classified in group 17/71.
- D Note (2) after 17/00
- D Note (3) after 17/00
- C Note (1) after 17/71 A part of a mixture, which itself is determined to be novel and non-obvious, must also be classified according to the relevant of notes (1) or (2) after 17/00. The part can be either a single material or a mixture in itself.
- C Note (2) after 17/71 A part of a mixture which is not identified by the classification according to the previous note, and which is considered to represent information of interest for search, may also be classified according to the relevant of notes (1) or (2) after 17/00. This can for example be the case when it is considered of interest to enable searching of mixtures using a combination of classification symbols. Such non-obligatory classifications should be given as "additional information".



IPC/H 031/02

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 15, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	EP	HYBRID SYSTEM OF IPC AREA: SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	F16H
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Proposal / Proposition	EP	09.02
2	Comments / Observations	US	09.02
3	Comments / Observations	GB	09.02
4	Comments / Observations	RO	09.02
5	Comments / Observations	JP	10.02
6	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	EP	10.02
7	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
8	Comments / Observations	FR	05.03
9	Comments / Observations	JP	05.03
10	Comments / Observations	JP	05.03
11	Comments / Observations	SE	05.03
12	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	EP	05.03
13	Comments / Observations	US	05.03

RAPPORTEUR : EP

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

M



**Europäisches
Patentamt**

**European
Patent Office**

**Office européen
des brevets**

Principal Directorate Tools / Documentation

Comments	Project: H031	Subclass: F16H	15 May 2003
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Comments were invited on the desirability of the creation of the proposed group F16H61/68, in the light of its intended scope, and of subgroups of the said group.

This question was raised by the working group because some delegations feared that this group will be empty because of their subgroups. Our experts believe that there will still be enough documents classified in this group, especially documents where the kind of stepped transmission - with or without interruption of drive - are not described. For example document FR 2820462 describes a shift control method for shifting into lower gear ratios to assist the regeneration of a particle filter of a diesel engine without referring to a particular form of stepped gearing.

In addition we have a similar break down in the subclass B60K where the first group is not empty.

B60K 41/06	. .	the gearing being stepped
B60K 41/08	. . .	with interruption of the drive
B60K 41/10	. . .	without interruption of the drive

For these reasons we would prefer the creation of group F16H61/68.

H. Mende

Projet IPC /**H031**
Sous-classe **F16H**

Au WG/8/8 des observations ont été demandées sur l'opportunité de créer les groupes F16H 61/68 et suivants en remplacement des codes d'indexation.

Ces entrées d'indexation avaient été créées dans le but d'éviter les classements multiples tout en apportant des indications utiles sur la transmission à laquelle était reliée l'invention relative à la commande.

Peu de documents portent ces codes d'indexation et de toute façon ils ont au moins un autre classement.

Dans la mesure où le principe du classement multiple est employé pour indiquer ce type d'information en tant qu'information additionnelle, ne serait-il pas plus facile d'utiliser les groupes existants F16H 3/00, 9/00, 15/00 et leurs sous-groupes pour classer cette information qui relevait des codes d'indexation 101:00 à 105:00 ?

Ce qui donne :

F16H

- C Note (6) before 59/00 **In groups 59/00 to 63/00, it is desirable to add additional classification chosen from groups 3/00, 9/00 or 15/00 relating to the type of gearing controlled, or from group 59/00 relating to control inputs.**
- D Notes (7 and 8) before 59/00
- D Guide heading and note after 63/50
- D 101:00 (replaced by 3/00, 9/00, 15/00)
- D 101:02 (replaced by 9/00)
- D 101:04 (replaced by 3/00)
- D 103:00 (replaced by 3/00)
- D 103:02 (replaced by 3/00)
- D 103:10 (replaced by 3/00)
- D 103:12 (replaced by 3/00)
- D 103:14 (replaced by 3/00)
- D 105:00 (replaced by 3/00)
- D 107:00 (empty)
- D 109:00 (empty)
- D vertical lines parallel to columns of F16H48/00, F16H59/00 and F16H63/00

Remarque : "transferred to" ne nous paraît pas correct dans ce contexte. Si on veut indiquer les équivalences, il faut trouver une autre expression. Nous suggérons ici "**remplacé par**", au moins pour garder trace dans le dossier de projet de la démarche suivie.

Japan Patent Office

October 4, 2002

Project:H031

Subclass:F16H

JP Comments on Rapporteur Proposal Dated August 26, 2002

JP agrees with Rapporteur proposal.

JP just wonders whether it is useful to classify to F16H59/00, on condition that "the input parameters are no longer essential technical features of the control system."

Japan Patent Office

April 8 , 2003

Project: H031

Subclass:F16H

JP Comments on FR and EP Comments Dated March 21, 2003

JP supports EP proposal rather than FR one for the following reasons:

1. According to the scheme proposed by FR, a document that is not characterized by structure of transmission but by control alone should be classified under F61H 3/00. We think this would lead to an improper situation: when we search for structure of transmissions by the groups under F16H 3/00, many unnecessary documents are obtained.
2. We concerns that the proposal by FR would provide additional classifications and require classifiers deeper knowledge concerning all groups 3/00, 9/00, 15/00 and their subdivisions. We believe this would impose much burden on classifiers.

Swedish Patent and Registration Office

IPC Hybrid Project H031, subclass F16H

April 15th, 2003

COMMENTS (in response to Annex 6)

We support the introduction of groups 61/66 - 61/70. Given the arguments of the EP comments we can accept the introduction of 61/78, even though the number of relevant documents appears to be low.

A couple of minor comments:

- A couple of words of the title of 61/688 appear to be missing.
- In F16G 105:00 the words "change-speed" and "range-(type)" are written with hyphens.

- N 61/688 . . . with two inputs, e.g. selection of one *of two torque-flow paths* by clutch
- N 61/70 . specially adapted for *change-speed* gearing in group arrangement, i.e. with separate *change-speed* gear trains arranged in series, e.g. *range-* or *overdrive-type* gearing arrangements

As pointed out by France, we think "transferred to" is incorrect. We do not know if there are any precedents to the situation, but "replaced by", as proposed by France, appears more suitable.

Anders Bruun

Europäisches
PatentamtEuropean
Patent OfficeOffice européen
des brevets

Principal Directorate Tools / Documentation

Rapporteur Report

Project: H031

Subclass: F16H

7 May 2003

Rapporteur report on the comments invited on the desirability of the creation of proposed group F16H61/68 in the light of its intended scope, and of subgroups of the said group.

Comments

Comments were received from FR, JP, SE and EP.

FR made a counterproposal using the symbols of F16H3/00, F16H9/00 and 15/00 and their subgroups for giving informative classification to replace indexing scheme 101:00 to 105:00. FR pointed out that the “transferred to” is incorrect and a better term to use in this context for the indexing schemes would be “replaced by”.

JP is afraid that the FR-proposal will lead to an improper situation where unnecessary documents not characterised by the structure of the transmission will get a classification symbol in these groups and this approach will also impose a high burden to the classifier to select the proper classes.

SE supports the introduction of groups 61/66 –61/70 and also new group 61/78, although the number of documents for this group appears to be low.

EPO pointed out that the group 61/78 is useful for some documents and therefore will not be empty. EPO referred to a similar break down in B60K41/06.

Rapporteur’s evaluation and recommendation

The majority of comments do not support the FR counterproposal and are in favour of introducing group F16H61/68. RR takes into account the corrections suggested by SE and FR and attaches an improved proposal.

Proposal

F16H

- C Note (2) after group 48/04 In groups 48/06 to 48/30 it is desirable to add additional classification, chosen from the same groups, relating to constructional features of differential gearings
- D Note (3) after group 48/04
- C Note (6) chosen before 59/00 In groups 59/00 to 63/00 it is desirable to add additional classification from these groups, e.g. selected from subgroup 61/66 relating to the type of gearing controlled or from group 59/00 relating to control inputs.
- D Note (7 and 8) before 59/00
- N 61/66 . specially adapted for continuously variable gearings (61/38 takes precedence)
- N 61/662 . . with endless flexible members
- N 61/664 . . Friction gearings
- N 61/68 . specially adapted for stepped gearings
- N 61/682 . . with interruption of drive
- N 61/684 . . without interruption of drive
- N 61/686 . . . with orbital gears
- N 61/688 . . . with two inputs, e.g. selection of one of two torque-flow path by clutch
- N 61/70 . specially adapted for change-speed gearing in group arrangement, i.e. with separate change-speed gear trains arranged in series, e.g. range or overdrive-type gearing arrangements
- D after 63/50 Guide heading and note
- D 101:00 (replaced by 61/66)
- D 101:02 (replaced by 61/662)
- D 101:04 (replaced by 61/664)
- D 103:00 (replaced by 61/68)
- D 103:02 (replaced by 61/682)
- D 103:10 (replaced by 61/684)
- D 101:12 (replaced by 61/686)
- D 101:14 (replaced by 61/688)
- D 105:00 (replaced by 61/70)
- D 107:00 (empty)
- D 109:00 (empty)
- D vertical lines parallel to columns of F16H48/00, F16H59/00 and F16H63/00

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H031

Subclass – F16H

Date: May 7, 2003

Comments

US fully supports Rapporteur's recommendations and proposal of Annex 12.



IPC/H 039/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 21, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
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COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	IE	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	A61B
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Proposal / Proposition	IE	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	US	05.03
5	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	IE	05.03
6	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	IE	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :



Oifig na bPaitinní
Irish Patents Office

Project: H039/03 Subclass: A61B

IE proposal for indexing scheme in A61B.

1. Introduction

The hybrid system the subject of this survey concerns subgroups of A61B 18/00 (relating to surgical instruments, devices or methods for transferring non-mechanical energy to or from the body). Connected with these subgroups is an indexing scheme with one group, A61B 101:00, indicating the removal of hair. Both A61B 18/00 and 101:00 were introduced into the IPC at the seventh edition, so they have only been in force for 3 years.

The indexing scheme was recommended for retention by the ad hoc Reform Working Group, when considering the role of indexing schemes in the Reformed IPC.

2. Discussion

It would appear that the indexing scheme A61B 101:00 is little used. An examination of documents classed under the relevant subgroups of A61B 18/00 reveals 4922 published documents in total since 1 January 2000. A total of 4 documents have been further classified under A61B 101:00, less than one tenth of one percent of potential correlation. This indicates that either very few documents relate to the removal of hair by means of the transfer of non-mechanical energy to or from the body, or that there is a body of documentation concerning such art, but that the indexing scheme is of little interest for classifiers. If the former is true, then there is not enough art to justify the retention of the scheme, and if the latter is true, it is unlikely that such art can be systematically searched by means of the IPC. It is possible that the scheme merely too recent for efficient use, though no discernable trend to increased use is detectable in such a small sample of documents.

3. Proposal

On the basis of the foregoing, that there is low density of use, and therefore a clear lack of a searchable body of documentation under A61B 101:00, IE propose the abolition of A61B, despite the recommendation of the ad hoc IPC Reform Working Group.

Fergal Brady
Irish Patents Office

UK Patent Office

Date: 23 April 2003

Comments on Project H039, Subclass A61B

We agree with the Rapporteur's reasoning and conclusions, and agree to abolishing the indexing scheme A61B 101:00.

Martin Price

DEUTSCHES PATENT- UND MARKENAMT German Patent and Trade Mark Office	Class/Subcl.: A 61 B
	Date : 08 May 2003
DE – Comment on Project H039	

Re: DE supports IE's proposal to abolish the indexing scheme A61B 101:00.

Jochen Baumgart

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H039

Subclass – A61B

Date: May 7, 2003

Comments

US agrees with Rapporteur's recommendation to delete indexing scheme A61B 101:00. We understand the reason for Rapporteur's suggestion and agree with its logic.



Oifig na bPaitinní

Irish Patents Office

Project: H039

Subclass: A61B

Rapporteur report.

1. Introduction

The hybrid system the subject of this survey concerns subgroups of A61B 18/00 (relating to surgical instruments, devices or methods for transferring non-mechanical energy to or from the body). Connected with these subgroups is an indexing scheme with one group, A61B 101:00, indicating the removal of hair. Both A61B 18/00 and 101:00 were introduced into the IPC at the seventh edition, so they have only been in force for 3 years.

The indexing scheme was recommended for retention by the ad hoc Reform Working Group, when considering the role of indexing schemes in the Reformed IPC. However, when the Irish Office examined the scheme on behalf of the Revision Working Group, it proposed abolition.

2. Subsequent submissions

Comments were received from GB, DE and US. All are agreed that the indexing scheme should be abolished.

3. Proposal

In agreement with the commenting offices, the rapporteur proposes the deletion of A61B 101:00 and its associated title and note. It is also necessary to delete the note after the title of A61B 18/00.

Fergal Brady
Irish Patents Office



Oifig na bPaitinní

Irish Patents Office

Project: H039

Subclass: A61B

Rapporteur report.

1. Introduction

The hybrid system the subject of this survey concerns subgroups of A61B 18/00 (relating to surgical instruments, devices or methods for transferring non-mechanical energy to or from the body). Connected with these subgroups is an indexing scheme with one group, A61B 101:00, indicating the removal of hair. Both A61B 18/00 and 101:00 were introduced into the IPC at the seventh edition, so they have only been in force for 3 years.

The indexing scheme was recommended for retention by the ad hoc Reform Working Group, when considering the role of indexing schemes in the Reformed IPC. However, when the Irish Office examined the scheme on behalf of the Revision Working Group, it proposed abolition.

2. Subsequent submissions

Comments were received from GB, DE and US. All are agreed that the indexing scheme should be abolished.

3. Proposal

In agreement with the commenting offices, the rapporteur proposes the deletion of A61B 101:00 and its associated title and note. It is also necessary to delete the note after the title of A61B 18/00.

Fergal Brady
Irish Patents Office



IPC/H 040/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 21, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	IE	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	A61F
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Proposal / Proposition	IE	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	US	05.03
5	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	IE	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :



Oifig na bPaitinní
Irish Patents Office

Project: H040/03 Subclass: A61F

IE proposal for indexing schemes in A61F.

1. Introduction

This project concerns two indexing schemes deriving from A61F 13/00, relating to non-chemical aspects of bandages and dressings and absorbent pads. A61F 13/00 predates the seventh edition of the IPC, but was greatly expanded in that edition.

The first indexing scheme incorporates A61F 101:00, 103:00 and 105:00, which relates to A61F 13/00 as a whole, and concerns their environmental aspects, particularly their solubility/disintegrability in liquid, compostability or biodegradability, and their reusability, respectively.

The second scheme incorporates A61F 111:00 and 113:00, and relates only to groups A61F 13/45 to 13/496 (shape characteristics). These indexing codes concern special adaptation for male and female use respectively.

Both indexing schemes were introduced into the IPC at the seventh edition, so they have only been in force for 3 years.

Both schemes were recommended for retention by the ad hoc Reform Working Group, when considering the role of indexing schemes in the Reformed IPC.

2. A61F 101:00 – 105:00

A survey of documents classified indicate 18,142 documents classified under A61F 13/00 since the coming into force of the seventh edition of the IPC. This represents the total potential correlation with the above indexing codes. Classification also citing these indexing codes over the same period is as follows:

A61F 101:00 5
A61F 103:00 2
A61F 105:00 0

It is clear therefore that there is no apparent demand for these groups. While it must be allowed that the groups are only recently available to users, the number of documents from the source

groups is such that it is clear that these groups are not serving any useful purpose. No discernable trend to increased use is detectable in such a small sample of documents.

3. A61F 111:00, 113:00

These codes do not apply to all of A61F 13/00, but only to subgroups of A61F 13/45, with two exceptions. The total number of classified documents under the cited subgroups is 2681. The number of such documents further classified under A61F 111:00 or 113:00 are 1 and 4 respectively. While this indicates minimal usage of these codes, the situation merits closer attention. Below are cited the relevant classification titles.

13/00 Bandages or dressings (suspensory bandages A61F 5/40; radioactive dressings A61M 36/14); Absorbent pads (chemical aspects of, or use of materials for, bandages, dressings or absorbent pads A61L 15/00, A61L 26/00)

13/15 . Absorbent pads, e.g. sanitary towels, swabs or tampons for external or internal application to the body (non-absorbent catamenial receptacles A61F 5/44); Supporting or fastening means therefor; Tampon applicators [5]

13/45 .. characterised by the shape (cup-shaped type tampons A61F 13/24) [7] 132

Note In groups A61F 13/45 to A61F 13/496, with the exception of groups A61F 13/471 and A61F 13/472, it is desirable to add the indexing codes of groups A61F 111:00 and A61F 113:00. The indexing codes should be unlinked. [7]

13/47	...	Sanitary towels, incontinence pads or napkins (A61F 13/49 takes precedence) [7]	104
13/471	....	specialy adapted for male use (A61F 13/474, A61F 13/475 take precedence) [7]	33
13/472	....	specialy adapted for female use (A61F 13/474, A61F 13/475 take precedence) [7]	578
13/474	....	adjustable [7]	36
13/475	....	characterised by edge leakage prevention means [7]	119
13/476	....	characterised by encircling the crotch region of the undergarment, e.g. with flaps [7]	58
13/49	...	specialy adapted to be worn around the waist, e.g. diapers, nappies [7]	1467
13/491	....	specialy adapted for gender distinct urine discharge pattern [7]	3
13/493	....	adjustable [7]	17
13/494	....	characterised by edge leakage prevention means [7]	389
13/495	....	with faecal cavity [7]	51
13/496	....	in the form of pants or briefs [7]	305

Indexing scheme associated with groups A61F 13/45 to A61F 13/496, with the exception of groups A61F 13/471 and A61F 13/472, relating to the adaptation to the gender of the user. The indexing codes should be unlinked. [7]

111:00	Special adaptation for male use [7]	1
113:00	Special adaptation for female use [7]	4

The population of documents published since 1 January 2000 is given on the right. These figures indicate that the most significant occurrence of special adaptation to gender occurs for sanitary towels, and that despite the precedence rules governing 13/471 and 13/472, the number of documents therein is altogether in a different league to those being indexed for the same reasons. This being the case, it is not clear that the indexing scheme is serving its intended purpose.

There are a number of potential solutions for this. One is to unite the indexing scheme with the existing groups 13/471 and 13/472, since they are gathering documents clearly share inventive aspects. This may require a reorganisation of the groups cited above, and an alteration to the precedence existing. An alternative may be to abolish the indexing scheme altogether, the deletion of the precedence references and the application of multiaspect classification. This would need groups similar to 13/471 and 13/472 under 13/49.

The simplest solution is, however, simply to abolish the indexing scheme without alteration of A61F 13/00, since only 5 documents would be affected.

4. Proposals

Despite the recommendation by the IPC Reform Working Group to retain these schemes (presumably on the basis of their infancy), IE recommends the abolition of both schemes as the simplest solution.

Fergal Brady
Irish Patents Office

UK Patent Office

Date: 23 April 2003

Comments on Project H040, Subclass A61F

We agree with the Rapporteur's reasoning and conclusions, and agree to abolishing the indexing schemes A61F 101:00 to 105:00, and 111:00 and 113:00.

Martin Price

DEUTSCHES PATENT- UND MARKENAMT German Patent and Trade Mark Office	Class/Subcl.: A 61 F
	Date : 08 May 2003
DE – Comment on Project H040	

**Re: DE supports IE's proposal to abolish indexing schemes
A61F 101:00 to 105:00, 111:00 and 113:00.**

Jochen Baumgart

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H040

Subclass – A61F

Date: May 7, 2003

Comments

US agrees with Rapporteur's recommendation to abolish indexing schemes A61F 101:00 to 105:00, and A61F 111:00 to 113:00. We understand the reasons for Rapporteur's suggestions and agree with their logic. In particular, US believes the purpose of A61F 111:00 and 113:00 is better served by term searching abstracts using the terms 'male' and 'female' in the advanced level.



Oifig na bPaitinní
Irish Patents Office

Project: H040/03 Subclass: A61F

Rapporteur report.

1. Introduction

This project concerns two indexing schemes deriving from A61F 13/00, relating to non-chemical aspects of bandages and dressings and absorbent pads.

The first indexing scheme incorporates A61F 101:00, 103:00 and 105:00, which relates to A61F 13/00 as a whole. The second scheme incorporates A61F 111:00 and 113:00, and relates only to groups A61F 13/45 to 13/496 (shape characteristics). These indexing codes concern special adaptation for male and female use respectively.

Both indexing schemes were introduced into the IPC at the seventh edition, so they have only been in force for 3 years.

Both schemes were recommended for retention by the ad hoc Reform Working Group, when considering the role of indexing schemes in the Reformed IPC. However, the schemes were both recommended for abolition by the Irish Office when examining them on behalf of the Revision Working Group.

2. Subsequent submissions

Comments were received from GB, DE and US. They were unanimous in agreeing with the IE proposal to abolish both schemes.

3. Proposals

Following the unanimous views of the commenting offices, the rapporteur proposes deletion of both indexing schemes from the IPC. Further to be deleted are the note after A61F 13/00, and the note after A61F 13/45.

Fergal Brady
Irish Patents Office



IPC/H 041/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 21, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	IE	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	A61L
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Proposal / Proposition	IE	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
5	Comments / Observations	US	05.03
6	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	IE	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :



Oifig na bPaitinní
Irish Patents Office

Project: H041/03 Subclass: A61L

IE proposal for indexing scheme in A61L.

1. Introduction

This project concerns A61L relating to methods or apparatus for sterilising materials or objects in general; disinfection, sterilisation or deodorisation of air; chemical aspects of bandages, dressings, absorbent pads or surgical articles; and materials for bandages, dressings, absorbent pads or surgical articles. A61L 101:00 is an indexing scheme relating to groups A61L 2/00 to 12/00, and concerns the chemical composition of materials used in disinfecting, sterilising or deodorising. The indexing scheme was only introduced at the seventh edition of the Classification, as was group 12/00 and parts of the scheme under 2/00. The indexing scheme has, therefore, been in force for only 3 years.

2. Discussion

The following table indicates the breakdown of classifications by year since 2000 under each of the main groups A61L 2/00, 9/00, 11/00 and 12/00, all of which are linked in the hybrid system to the indexing scheme A61L 101:00, for which figures are also given.

	2/00 (<i>49</i>)	9/00 (<i>23</i>)	11/00 (<i>3</i>)	12/00 (<i>1</i>)	101:00
2000	2036	1522	86	50	26
2001	2014	1787	96	33	30
2002	2312	2078	112	39	17
2003	439	471	17	16	3

The figure in italics after each main group identifier is the number of documents classified under that main group which is also indexed under 101:00. A total of 76 such documents exist presently. This is a relatively small number of documents, particularly in the light of the populations of the normal main groups to which the indexing scheme relates. However, it is not insignificant.

The population within the indexing scheme is not evenly distributed either. Many groups have only one or no documents. Exceptions are (not unexpectedly) 101:22 (peroxides), 101:32 (organic compounds), 101:34 (hydroxy compounds) and 101:36 (carboxylic acids or derivatives thereof). This suggests that perhaps the indexing scheme is over elaborated, and proffers one solution in particular, that being retention of the scheme, but condensed down to remove all three dot groups and some two dot groups. This, however, is in substance more akin to a revision

project than a mere review of the scheme, and this is not the forum for such an elaborate proposal. However, as the scheme is being used, albeit modestly, and given the relative youth of the scheme, abolition does not seem necessary or prudent at this stage. The simplest solution is, of course, to retain the scheme as it currently stands.

3. Proposal

In view of the above, and in deference to the IPC Reform Working Group, IE proposes that the indexing scheme should be retained as at present.

Fergal Brady
Irish Patents Office

UK Patent Office

Date: 23 April 2003

Comments on Project H041 , Subclass A61L

We are not sure we agree with the Rapporteur's conclusion to retain this indexing scheme (A61L 101:00 to 101:56).

The total usage of this indexing scheme is 0.6 % of the global documentation in this area. On this basis, it is hard to see how this percentage can provide a coherent and complete body of searchable art in this field. Therefore, despite the recommendation of IPC/REF to retain this scheme, we would probably tend towards abolition.

(For the record, the undersigned was the Rapporteur who, back in 1998, piloted through project C319 where this indexing scheme was introduced into the IPC.)

Martin Price

DEUTSCHES PATENT- UND MARKENAMT German Patent and Trade Mark Office	Class/Subcl.: A 61 L
	Date : 07.05.2003
DE - Comment — H 041	

We agree with the Rapporteur's proposal on subclass A 61 L to retain the separate indexing scheme.

KV

**Europäisches
Patentamt****European
Patent Office****Office européen
des brevets**

Principal Directorate Tools / Documentation

Comments

Project: H041/03

Subclass: A61L

28 April 2003

Separate indexing scheme A61L101:00 –101:56

The indexing scheme, relating to the chemical composition of materials used in disinfecting, sterilising or deodorising, was only introduced in IPC7.

As these indexing codes are considered to be useful at least theoretically, EP agrees with the recommendation of the Ref WG and rapporteur, to keep these entries as indexing codes. As pointed out by rapporteur and GB, only few documents have been indexed up to now, however, EP suggests to give this indexing scheme – for the time being - the benefit of the doubt.

Paul Daeleman

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H041

Subclass – A61L

Date: May 7, 2003

Comments

US understands Rapporteur's recommendation to at least temporarily retain indexing scheme A61L 101:00 to 101:56, but in view of GB's comments would prefer that it be abolished.

GB is correct in its statement that a coherent and complete search of this topic probably is not possible with only .6% of the global documentation for this area. In view of the fact that GB was the Rapporteur for the revision project that created this indexing scheme, we believe that significant weight needs to be given to their statement.

In our opinion, providing a useful search for this subject matter can be done by other methods in a more meaningful manner. For example, if the use of a particular chemical composition to disinfect, sterilize, or deodorize per se is novel and unobvious, even when the composition is known (see our proposed amendment to paragraph 90 of the tentatively approved Paris Guide) and is used in a multiple step process, we believe that it is required to obligatorily classify this use with its composition when no classification place exists for this use of the composition per se. Placing the document in the existing index scheme of A61L does not overcome this obligation.

If the chemical composition was known to be used for some disinfecting, sterilizing, or deodorizing applications in general, a classifier could still discretionarily classify a particular chemical composition's specific use with the composition when useful or of interest for searching. Very generally stated compositions (e.g., gaseous) would normally be covered in groups 2/00 to 12/00 of A61L without requiring discretionary classification with their compositions. If this is done, then the indexing scheme of A61L serves no additional purpose for searching. Term searching abstracts for specific compositions in the advanced level would provide additional potentially applicable references without the need to index mere named compositions.



Oifig na bPaitinní

Irish Patents Office

Project: H041/03 Subclass: A61L

Rapporteur report.

1. Introduction

This project concerns A61L, relating to methods or apparatus for sterilising materials or objects in general; disinfection, sterilisation or deodorisation of air; chemical aspects of bandages, dressings, absorbent pads or surgical articles; and materials for bandages, dressings, absorbent pads or surgical articles. A61L 101:00 is an indexing scheme relating to groups A61L 2/00 to 12/00, and concerns the chemical composition of materials used in disinfecting, sterilising or deodorising. The indexing scheme was only introduced at the seventh edition of the Classification, as was group 12/00 and parts of the scheme under 2/00. The indexing scheme has, therefore, been in force for only 3 years.

2. Subsequent submissions

Comments were received from GB, DE, EP and US. The expressed views were evenly divided, with DE and EP agreeing with the rapporteur and GB and US recommending deletion. GB point out that usage of this scheme only extends to 0.6% of documentation in A61L. US further express doubt as to the use of A61L generally. EP and DE agree, EP giving the benefit of the doubt to the scheme. In our original proposal, we draw attention to the fact that the use of the subgroups of A61L is not consistent, with some groups used more heavily than others. We were reluctant, however, to suggest alteration of A61L, as that did not seem within the remit of the study, with the options of abolition, retention or conversion, and this remains our view.

Given the choice of retention or abolition (conversion is not an option here) we feel inclined to give the benefit of the doubt to retention on two grounds. Firstly, the scheme is used, however modestly and it is possible that its use will increase before the end of the current revision cycle. Secondly, as the scheme will only exist in the advanced level, this should easily facilitate its removal at a later juncture, should it prove generally desirable. We would be happy, however, to propose alteration of the scheme, deleting the underused groups as outlined in our earlier submission, if there were any appetite for such a move.

3. Proposal

In the light of the foregoing, we propose the retention of the scheme as presently constituted.

Fergal Brady
Irish Patents Office



IPC/H 044/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 15, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION

COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	SE	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	B08B
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	SE	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Swedish Patent and Registration Office

IPC Hybrid Project H044, subclass B08B

May 6th, 2003

INITIAL PROPOSAL

The indexing scheme B08B 101:00 is associated with classification groups B08B 9/00 - 9/46. It covers the application aspect of cleaning of hollow articles, i.e. the different types of containers cleaned, whereas the classification groups cover functional aspects, such as the nature of the cleaning devices used. B08B 101:00 was introduced in IPC5, concurrently with the deletion of several application-oriented classification groups.

The indexing scheme is in accordance with the guidelines for creation of indexing schemes.

The usage of the indexing codes is relatively low. Less than 4 percent of the documents classified in B08B 9/00 are indexed in B08B 101:00. ECLA does not contain a similar ICO code, although the F-term theme 3B116 contains similar codes.

The Reform Working Group recommended that the scheme should be abolished. In view of the low usage of the scheme Rapporteur agrees with this. The low usage would also seem to indicate that there is no reason for conversion to classification.

Anders Bruun

DEUTSCHES PATENT- UND MARKENAMT German Patent and Trade Mark Office	Class/Subcl.: B 08 B
	Date : 08 May 2003
DE – Comment on Project H044	

Re: We agree to the abolition of indexing scheme B08B 101:00 to 101:12.

Jochen Baumgart

UK Patent Office

Date: 9 May 2003

Comments on Project H044 , Subclass B08B

We agree to the abolition of the indexing scheme B08B 101:00 to 101:12.

Martin Price



IPC/H 045/03
ORIGINAL: English/French
DATE: May 15, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	GB	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	B09C
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	GB	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	RU	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
5	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	GB	05.03
6	Comments / Observations	US	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

UK Patent Office**Date: 7 March 2003**

Rapporteur Report on Project H045, Subclass B09C

The indexing scheme in question here is B09C 101:00, which has a “Retain/Clarify” recommendation from the IPC Reform Working Group.

This separate indexing scheme is associated with main group B09C 1/00 (Reclamation of contaminated soil), which in fact constitutes the entire subclass.

A quick search on EPODOC reveals that the above main group contains 3225 documents, whereas the indexing term is applied to only 40 documents (1.2 % of the global documentation in this area). This is not a high enough figure for an unqualified “Retain” recommendation to be made.

Another problem is that this indexing term is not entirely clear, as acknowledged by the Reform WG. This term reads “***in situ***”, which we assume should mean, in conjunction with the main group, “*In situ reclamation of contaminated soil*”. We would assume that the majority of treatments done to the soil (physical/chemical/biological treatments mentioned eg in subgroups 1/02 to 1/10) are best done *in situ*, instead of carting off hundreds of tonnes of the soil to another place, carrying out the treatment there and bringing the soil back. So why are only 1.2 % of documents indexed using this indexing term?

R looked at EPODOC abstracts of 10 of the 40 documents to which the indexing term is applied, and only 2 unequivocally state that the treatment is done *in situ*. The other documents do not make it entirely clear where the treatment is actually carried out, and certainly do not exclude the possibility of the treatment being carried out in another place. It seems to R that where the treatment is carried out is not terribly important, and is not specified as an important requirement in all that many patent applications.

R is therefore of the opinion, contrary to the REF WG decision, that this indexing scheme is not useful and should be **abolished**.

R proposes:

B09C

Note above group 1/00 <Delete entire Note>

All matter after group 1/10 <Delete guide heading, Note and indexing term 101:00>

Martin Price

FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

RU comments	
Project : H 045	Date: 24.03.2003
Class/Subclass : B09C	

RU supports the Rapporteur's opinion that the indexing scheme B09C101:00 is not useful and should be abolished.

S. Kovaleva

DEUTSCHES PATENT- UND MARKENAMT German Patent and Trade Mark Office	Class/Subcl.: B09C
	Date : 31 March 2003
DE – Comment on Project H045	

Re: We agree with the Rapporteurs opinion that the indexing scheme B09C 101:00 is not useful. The indexing scheme and the corresponding notes should be abolished / deleted.

Jochen Baumgart

Project: H045 Subclass: B09C

EP supports Rapporteur's proposal to abolish the indexing scheme.

A.Narminio

UK Patent Office

Date: 28 April 2003

Rapporteur Report on Project H045, Subclass B09C

GB examined the indexing scheme of B09C 101:00 in view of the IPC/REF WG's recommendation to "Retain/Clarify" this indexing scheme, and came to a different conclusion, namely that the indexing scheme should be abolished.

Comments were received from RU, DE and EP, all of which fully agree with the conclusion reached by GB.

R therefore suggests abolishing this indexing scheme, along the lines proposed by GB. Details follow.

B09C

Note above
group 1/00

<Delete entire Note (but not Notes (1) or (2) after the subclass title)>

All matter
after group 1/10

<Delete guide heading, Note and indexing term 101:00>

Martin Price

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H045

Subclass – B09C

Date: May 7, 2003

Comments

US fully supports Rapporteur's recommendation to delete indexing scheme B09C 101:00 in the proposal of Annex 5.

We agree that the meaning of the term "in situ" is not clear in this subclass. For example, GB's comments indicate that they felt the indexing title was actually "In situ reclamation of contaminated soil" and that this covered any soil reclamation done 'on-site' at its original location. US believed that the intent of the indexing code's scope was narrower and covered only "Reclamation of contaminated soil that did not involve digging or otherwise moving the vast majority of the treated soil from its natural location". This would be an 'in-place' type treatment such as injecting chemicals into farmland and pumping them out without disturbing the grazing surface (for example, in a field where a truck had spilled chemicals during an accident).

In any event, there is very little art classified into this index and, from GB's test, 80% of it is misclassified there. The indexing code is not serving a useful purpose and should be abolished. In the future, if it is determined there is a need to search for the narrower concept envisioned by US as the intended scope of this index, the advanced level could add a 'special' type indented group under B09C 1/00 with a narrower title to provide for this body of art.



IPC/H 046/03
ORIGINAL: English/French
DATE: May 15, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	JP	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	B21B
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	JP	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	RU	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
5	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
6	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	JP	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Japan Patent Office

March 5 , 2003

Project: H046**Subclass: B21B**

Conversion of indexing scheme

The recommendation of the IPC Reform Working Group is to retain this scheme (see document IPC/WG/6/5, Annex G). It means many offices utilize this technical information and it is necessary to retrieve technical documents.

In addition to the above, the IPC Reform Working Group mentioned in the guidelines that "when an indexing scheme provides for inventive or novel subject matter that is essential to the determination of the patentability of the patent documents populating it, and this subject matter is not already elsewhere provided for in the titles and definitions of the classification schemes", the indexing scheme should be converted to a classification scheme (see document IPC/REF/6/2, Annex V, Paragraph 6).

Since rapporteur think that the subject matter provided for these indexing scheme is inventive, rapporteur proposes to convert this indexing scheme to a classification scheme.

Rapporteur also proposes to place the new entry under 1/08 as two-dot subgroups because the cross-section of the work is directly related to the process. Rapporteur also notes from its experience that existing indexing codes are allocated with the subgroup 1/08 in most cases. Furthermore, the scheme would become compact, and classification practice in this area would not be substantially changed because a document is to be classified in both new entries (cross section) and B21B1/10-14 (continuity of the process) when necessary according to the general IPC classification practice (each piece of invention information has to be classified).

Therefore we suggest conversion of the indexing scheme as follows;

D Note(s) after 1/08 <deleted>
N B21B1/081 .. Rail sections
N B21B1/082 .. H- or I-sections
N B21B1/083 .. L-sections
N B21B1/084 .. T-sections
N B21B1/085 .. U- or channel sections
N B21B1/086 .. Z-sections
N B21B1/087 .. Piling sections having lateral edges interlocking with each other to build a wall

D guide heading before 108:00 <deleted>
D Note(s) before 108:00 <deleted>
D B21B108:00 <deleted>
D B21B108:02 <deleted>
D B21B108:04 <deleted>
D B21B108:06 <deleted>
D B21B108:08 <deleted>
D B21B108:10 <deleted>
D B21B108:12 <deleted>
D B21B108:14 <deleted>

UK Patent Office

Date: 12 March 2003

Comments on Project H046 , Subclass B21B

Our expert agrees with the Rapporteur's recommendation to convert the indexing scheme of B21B 108:00 to a classification scheme, and is happy with the reasoning and specific proposals of the Rapporteur. Converting the indexing terms into subgroups of B21B 1/08 meets with his approval.

Martin Price

FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

RU comments	
Project : H 046	Date: 24.03.2003
Class/Subclass : B21B	

RU supports the JP proposal to convert the indexing scheme B21B108:00 to a classification scheme.

S. Kovaleva

Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt German Patent and Trademark Office	Class/Subcl.: B21B
	Date : 28.03.2003
DE - Comments — H046	

We support the conversion of the indexing scheme B21B 108:00 to a classification scheme as proposed by the Rapporteur.

U. Rödiger

Project: H-046 Subclass: B21B

EP supports Rapporteur's proposal to convert the indexing scheme to a classification scheme.

A.Narminio

Japan Patent Office

May 8 , 2003

Project:H046

Subclass:B21B

Rapporteur Report

The Rapporteur proposed in Annex 1 to convert the indexing scheme B21B 108:00 to a classification scheme.

Comments were received from GB, RU, DE and EP, all support the original proposal, and no adverse comments or suggestions for change were received.

Therefore, the Rapporteur proposes that the conversion in Annex 1 be adopted by the Revision Working Group.



IPC/H 047/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 15, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :
EP	B23K

ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	EP	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	JP	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	RU	05.03
5	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Project: H47 Subclass: B23K

1. The investigation conducted in EPODOC about the use of the indexing scheme gives the following results:

Total of documents having been indexed at least once in B23K101:00 or sub-indexes: 4041

B23K101:00	32
B23K101:02	186
B23K101:04	199
B23K101:06	470
B23K101:08	27
B23K101:10	53
B23K101:12	150
B23K101:14	441
B23K101:16	132
B23K101:18	173
B23K101:20	42
B23K101:22	63
B23K101:24	46
B23K101:26	85
B23K101:28	50
B23K101:30	13
B23K101:32	23
B23K101:34	65
B23K101:36	363
B23K101:38	150
B23K101:40	389
B23K101:42	964

Total of documents having been indexed at least once in B23K103:00 or sub-indexes: 1965

B23K103:00	54
B23K103:02	81
B23K103:04	394
B23K103:06	46
B23K103:08	65
B23K103:10	766
B23K103:12	70
B23K103:14	90
B23K103:16	228
B23K103:18	203
B23K103:20	110
B23K103:22	23
B23K103:24	35

As we can see the scheme is intensively used since its introduction in IPC5, in particular out of 8368 documents published in 2002 and classified in B23K, 1122 (13.4%) have got at least an index from that scheme.

Furthermore if we could imagine creating relevant material related subgroups under the different main groups (some are already in place see, e.g. B23K20/22, B23K26/40) this will only allow us to delete B23K103:00, but we do not see any practical solution for B23K101:00.

2. Conclusion

We think that we have here one of the cases foreseen by document IPC/REF/6/2, Annex V, where the scheme covers aspects of subject-matter which represent useful search information.

EP suggests retaining the indexing scheme.

A.Narminio

UK Patent Office

Date: 12 March 2003

Comments on Project H047, Subclass B23K

Our expert agrees with the Rapporteur's recommendation to retain the indexing scheme of B23K 101:00 and 103:00. He uses it regularly, especially the 101:00 area, and finds it a useful search tool.

We assume that there will be a standard presentation in the IPC for indexing schemes that survive the review of hybrid schemes, and that this scheme will be suitable for this standard presentation.

Martin Price

Japan Patent Office

March 17 , 2003

Project: H047

Subclass: B23K

JP Comments on Rapporteur Proposal Dated March 10, 2003

JP supports the EP proposal to retain the indexing scheme.

FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

RU comments	
Project : H 047	Date: 24.03.2003
Class/Subclass : B23K	

We agree with the EP proposal to retain indexing schemes B23K101:00 and 103:00 as intensively used.

S. Kovaleva

DEUTSCHES PATENT- UND MARKENAMT German Patent and Trade Mark Office	Class/Subcl.: B 23 K
	Date : 30.04.03
DE - Comments — H047	

Re: DE comments on EP proposal (Annex 1, 10 March 2003)

Our expert concurs that the indexing scheme appears to have search value and is worth keeping.

Therefore we support the Rapporteur's recommendation to retain the indexing scheme of B23K 101:00 and 103:00.

Angelika Eva Zettler



IPC/H 048/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 15, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	GB	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	B29K
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	GB	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	RU	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
5	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	GB	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

UK Patent Office

Date: 7 March 2003

Rapporteur Report on Project H048, Subclass B29K

The indexing scheme in question here is the whole of subclass B29K, which has a “Retain” recommendation from the IPC Reform Working Group.

This subclass constitutes an indexing scheme associated with subclasses B29 B, C or D, relating to moulding materials or to materials for reinforcements, fillers or preformed parts. The coverage of the indexing terms in this subclass is comprehensive, and appears to exhaust the possibilities for such materials. As such, in an ideal world, the entire global documentation in the B29B, C or D areas would carry one or more terms selected from B29K.

In reality, only 12.9 % of the global documentation carries terms from B29K (60,536 documents out of 468,129), according to a quick search on EPODOC. Some Offices probably use B29K consistently, and others probably not at all. On the basis of these figures, R feels that this indexing subclass is not felt to be as useful as might have been expected; however the usage of this subclass indicates that there is no cast-iron case to abolish it.

The question of abolition should probably be raised again in some years' time, but meanwhile R recommends, in line with the REF WG decision, that subclass B29K be **retained**.

R assumes that there will be a standard presentation in the IPC for the indexing terms that survive the review of hybrid schemes, and that this scheme will be suitable for this standard presentation.

Martin Price

FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

RU comments	
Project : H 048	Date: 24.03.2003
Class/Subclass : B29K	

RU thinks that subclass B29K is useful for searching and agrees with the Rapporteur's proposal to retain it.

S. Kovaleva

Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt German Patent and Trademark Office	Class/Subcl.: B29K
	Date : 28.03.2003
DE - Comments — H 048	

It was found that the indexing scheme B29K is hardly used in our office.

For the time being DE supports the Rapporteur proposal to retain this indexing scheme although we are open for other solutions.

U. Rödiger

Project: H048 Subclass: B29K

EP shares the Rapporteur's analysis about the disappointing of the scheme, and supports the proposal to retain the indexing scheme in the absence of a better solution.

A.Narminio

UK Patent Office

Date: 28 April 2003

Rapporteur Report on Project H048, Subclass B29K

GB examined the indexing scheme of B29K (entire subclass) in view of the IPC/REF WG's recommendation to retain this indexing scheme and found that usage of that scheme, while substantial at 12.9 %, was not as great as might have been expected. GB recommended that the indexing scheme should be retained, while stating that the scheme was not felt to be as useful as it could be.

Comments came from RU, DE and EP. All agree that the scheme should be retained. RU back the scheme enthusiastically. EP express disappointment about the scheme, and DE state that it is hardly used in their office. However DE and EP agree to retain it "in the absence of a better solution".

Since all offices agree, with varying degrees of enthusiasm, to retain the indexing scheme of B29K, R proposes to make no changes to the scheme.

Martin Price



IPC/H 049/03
ORIGINAL: English/French
DATE: May 15, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	GB	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	B29L
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	GB	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	RU	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	RO	05.03
5	Comments / Observations	RO	05.03
6	Comments / Observations	RO	05.03
7	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
8	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	GB	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

UK Patent Office**Date: 7 March 2003**

Rapporteur Report on Project H049, Subclass B29L

The indexing scheme in question here is the whole of subclass B29L, which has a “Retain” recommendation from the IPC Reform Working Group.

This subclass constitutes an indexing scheme associated with subclass B29C, relating to particular articles to be moulded. The coverage of the indexing terms in this subclass is quite comprehensive, and more or less exhausts the possibilities for such materials. As such, in an ideal world, most of the entire global documentation in the B29C area would carry one or more terms selected from B29L.

In reality, only 20.2 % of the global documentation carries terms from B29L (64,320 documents out of 318,582), according to a quick search on EPODOC. Some Offices probably use B29L consistently, and others probably not at all, although this figure is better than for B29K. On the basis of these figures, R feels that this indexing subclass is not felt to be as useful as might have been expected; however the usage of this subclass indicates that there is no cast-iron case to abolish it.

The question of abolition should probably be raised again in some years' time, but meanwhile R recommends, in line with the REF WG decision, that subclass B29K be **retained**.

R assumes that there will be a standard presentation in the IPC for the indexing terms that survive the review of hybrid schemes, and that this scheme will be suitable for this standard presentation.

Martin Price

FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

RU comments	
Project : H 049	Date: 24.03.2003
Class/Subclass : B29L	

RU thinks that subclass B29L is useful for searching and agrees with the Rapporteur's proposal to retain it.

S. Kovaleva

Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt German Patent and Trademark Office	Class/Subcl.: B29L
	Date : 28.03.2003
DE - Comments — H 049	

It was found that the indexing scheme B29L is hardly used in our office.

For the time being DE supports the Rapporteur proposal to retain this indexing scheme although we are open for other solutions.

U. Rödiger

OFICIUL DE STAT PENTRU
INVENTII SI MARCI

RO Comments

Date: 28 March 2003

Project H049

Subclass B 29L

RO agrees with R's recommendation that the subclass B29L be retained.

The problem is whether indexing term **B 29L 9:00 Layered products** should be abolished, since according to the Revision Project 278 group- B29D 9/00 Producing layered products- was deleted and the whole class B 32B was revised.

We would therefore suggest deleting B29L 9:00 if this action is consistent with a hybrid project.

Bucura Ionescu

OFICIUL DE STAT PENTRU
INVENTII SI MARCI

RO Comments

Date: 28 March 2003

Project H049

Subclass B 29L

RO agrees with R's recommendation that the subclass B29L be retained.

The problem is whether indexing term **B 29L 9:00 Layered products** should be abolished, since according to the Revision Project 278 group- B29D 9/00 Producing layered products- was deleted and the whole class B 32B was revised.

We would therefore suggest deleting B29L 9:00 if this action is consistent with a hybrid project.

Bucura Ionescu

OFICIUL DE STAT PENTRU
INVENTII SI MARCI

RO Comments

Date: 28 March 2003

Project H049

Subclass B 29L

RO agrees with R's recommendation that the subclass B29L be retained.

The problem is whether indexing term **B 29L 9:00 Layered products** should be abolished, since according to the Revision Project 278 group- B29D 9/00 Producing layered products- was deleted and the whole class B 32B was revised.

We would therefore suggest deleting B29L 9:00 if this action is consistent with a hybrid project.

Bucura Ionescu

Project: H-049 Subclass: B29L

EP supports Rapporteur's proposal to retain the indexing scheme:

A.Narminio

UK Patent Office

Date: 28 April 2003

Rapporteur Report on Project H049, Subclass B29L

GB examined the indexing scheme of B29L (entire subclass) in view of the IPC/REF WG's recommendation to retain this indexing scheme and found that usage of that scheme, while substantial at 20.2 % and better than the usage of subclass B29K, was not as great as might have been expected. GB recommended that the indexing scheme should be retained, while stating that the scheme was not felt to be as useful as it could be.

Comments came from RU, DE, RO and EP. All agree that the scheme should be retained. RU back the scheme enthusiastically, saying it is useful for searching. DE state that it is hardly used in their office, but agree to retain it although they are "open for other solutions".

RO agree to retain the scheme but suggest deleting one of the indexing terms (B29L 9:00), if this action is consistent with a hybrid project. R feels that this is not the case, since selective examination of some terms and retaining of others appears to be a revision matter. Unless there is a general clamour to examine the merits of RO's suggestion, R does not intend to do so.

In view of the comments received, R proposes to make no changes to this indexing scheme.

Martin Price



IPC/H 050/03
ORIGINAL: English/French
DATE: May 20, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
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GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :
DE	B42D

ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	DE	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	RO	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	RO	05.03
5	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
6	Comments / Observations	US	05.03
7	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	DE	05.03
8	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	DE	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt German Patent and Trademark Office	Class/Subcl.: B42D
	Date : 17.02.2003
DE Rapporteur Proposal on Project H050	

B62D101:00 to B62D121:00

The Ad Hoc IPC Reform Working Group recommends retaining/converting this indexing scheme.

The indexing scheme B42D101:00 to B42D121:00 is associated with subgroup 15/10 and relates to details, specially to the structure or materials of identity, credit, cheque or like information-bearing cards. It was introduced in IPC 5. We found since then almost 900 documents were indexed in this scheme.

Following the recommendations of IPC/7/7 Annex H we propose to convert the existing indexing scheme into a classification scheme for the classification of invention and additional information.

B42D201:00 to B62D227:00

The Ad Hoc IPC Reform Working Group recommends abolishing this indexing scheme.

The indexing scheme B42D201:00 to B62D227:00 is also associated with subgroup 15/10 and relates to data features of said cards. It was introduced in IPC5 and is applied roughly to 700 documents. Except the number of documents indexed in this scheme being a little lower we see no reason why it should be handled differently from the indexing scheme B42D101:00 to B42D121:00.

Therefore we propose not to follow the recommendation of the Ad Hoc IPC Reform Working Group and to convert the indexing scheme 151:00 to 155:00 into a classification scheme.

Although this creates a relatively large number of new subgroups we see no interference with other entries.

U. Rödiger

PROPOSAL:

B42D

- C Note after Group 6/00 In group 15/10 it is desirable to add additional classification, chosen from the groups 15/12 to 15/62 relating to details of identity, credit, cheque or like information-bearing cards. From 15/12 to 15/34 : Structure or materials of cards. From 15/36 to 15/62 : Data features.
- N 15/12 .. Card or region thereof being transparent
- N 15/14 .. Card or region thereof being translucent
- N 15/16 .. with metallic material
- N 15/18 .. with magnetic or magnetisable material
- N 15/20 .. incorporating electrical circuitry
- N 15/22 ... with liquid-crystal display
- N 15/24 .. made of paper or cardboard
- N 15/26 .. of single layer structure
- N 15/28 .. having foldable or removable parts
- N 15/30 .. having mating or co-operating parts
- N 15/32 .. with pressure-sensitive material
- N 15/34 .. having projections or recesses, e.g. for co-operation with machine elements
- N 15/36 .. Finger-prints
- N 15/38 .. Picture of user
- N 15/40 .. Dot- or raster-patterns
- N 15/42 .. Bar- or line-codes
- N 15/44 .. Diffraction gratings or holograms
- N 15/46 .. Half-tone or interference patterns
- N 15/48 .. Data in the form of reliefs or indentations
- N 15/50 .. Data in the form of perforations
- N 15/52 .. Readable by transmitted light, e.g. watermarks
- N 15/54 .. Readable by laser light
- N 15/56 .. Readable by infra-red light
- N 15/58 .. Readable by ultra-violet light
- N 15/60 .. Readable by polarised light
- N 15/62 .. Data repeated in different forms at different places
- D after 19/00 Guide heading and note

D 101:00 (transferred to 15/12)
D 103:00 (transferred to 15/14)
D 105:00 (transferred to 15/16)
D 107:00 (transferred to 15/18)
D 109:00 (transferred to 15/20)
D 109:02 (transferred to 15/22)
D 111:00 (transferred to 15/24)
D 113:00 (transferred to 15/26)
D 115:00 (transferred to 15/28)
D 117:00 (transferred to 15/30)
D 119:00 (transferred to 15/32)
D 121:00 (transferred to 15/34)

D after 121:00 Guide heading

D 201:00 (transferred to 15/36)
D 203:00 (transferred to 15/38)
D 205:00 (transferred to 15/40)
D 207:00 (transferred to 15/42)
D 209:00 (transferred to 15/44)
D 211:00 (transferred to 15/46)
D 213:00 (transferred to 15/48)
D 215:00 (transferred to 15/50)
D 217:00 (transferred to 15/52)
D 219:00 (transferred to 15/54)
D 221:00 (transferred to 15/56)
D 223:00 (transferred to 15/58)
D 225:00 (transferred to 15/60)
D 227:00 (transferred to 15/62)

UK Patent Office**Date: 12 March 2003**

Comments on Project H050 , Subclass B42D

Overlap problems in this subject matter area

The area in question in this project (B42D 15/10 and indexing terms 101:00 to 227:00) is a difficult and confused one, according to our expert. The B42D 15/10 area relates to printed matter, but many of the indexing terms of 101:00 to 227:00 relate to features that are concerned with data carrying, record carrying, data recognition etc. - see e.g. 107:00, 109:00, 207:00, 209:00, 213:00 to 227:00. These terms are more in keeping with the G06K 19/00 area.

Another confusing fact is that most ID cards, credit cards, cheque cards etc. that exist nowadays also have a magnetic strip on the back, as well as carrying important printed matter on the front. The overlap between the B42D and G06K areas here is very substantial, however in the context of this hybrid project we cannot deal with this overlap. A Revision project would appear to be desirable here.

Conversion of indexing codes to classifying terms

Bearing in mind the constraints that apply to a hybrid project, our expert feels that it is better to convert the indexing terms in question to classifying terms than to abolish them all. He also agrees that creating subgroups for additional classification, as suggested by the Rapporteur, is a desirable solution in general.

Possibility of keeping some codes and abolishing others

The IPC/REF Working Group recommend retaining/converting some of the codes (101:00 to 121:00) and abolishing the rest. So the principle of **partial** abolition of indexing schemes does not seem out of the question. Might it be possible to achieve a different split between what is retained/converted and what is abolished, without infringing the rationale of hybrid projects and without changing the classification philosophy of a subclass?

Our expert agrees with IPC/REF that the indexing terms 201:00 to 227:00 are less useful and should be abolished. This is because most ID cards have several of the features recited in these codes (picture of user, a bar code, a hologram, data in relief form and readable by various forms of radiation - *all the various cards in my wallet and around my neck have all or most of these features*); therefore there is no use in classifying these features. Therefore Rapporteur's suggested 2-dot groups B42D 15/36 to 15/62 should not be created in our expert's opinion. In this respect, he agrees with IPC/REF and disagrees with the Rapporteur.

Our expert also feels that suggested groups 15/16 and 15/18 (metallic or magnetic material, corresponding to 105:00 and 107:00) are useless for searching or classifying. All ID cards have this. However the other suggested subgroups (15/12, 15/14 and 15/20 to 15/34) meet with approval.

Comments on Rapporteur's proposal

The Rapporteur proposal is a little confused in that in several places it mentions **B62D** instead of **B42D**. The statistical information is also incomplete since the size of the global documentation is not mentioned; the only figures mentioned are the 900 and 700 documents which carry indexing terms. The global documentation is 15,102. The 900 documents represent about 6 %, and the 700 documents represent about 4.6 %. These percentages tend to favour abolition.

Conclusions

GB opinion coincides with the IPC/REF Working Group's opinion in that indexing terms B42D 201:00 to 227:00 should be abolished, and that indexing terms 101:00 to 121:00 should be converted to a classifying scheme. However GB prefer to abolish 105:00 and 107:00 in addition, and not convert them to corresponding classifying terms (if this action is consistent with the aims of a hybrid project).

GB agree with the principle of subgroups for additional classification, suggested by the Rapporteur, and with the proposed subgroups 15/12, 15/14 and 15/20 to 15/34.

Martin Price

OFICIUL DE STAT PENTRU
INVENTII SI MARCI

RO Comments

Date: 28 March 2003

Project H050

Subclass B 42D

RO agrees with R's proposal of converting indexing scheme B 42D 101:00 to 121:00 to the classifying scheme as presented.

Since the indexing scheme B42D 201:00 to B42D 227:00 relates to data features of cards and not to printed matter, as indicated in B 42D15/00, we would rather be in favour of the recommendation of the IPC Reform Working Group, to abolish the indexing terms 201:00 to 227:00.

Bucura Ionescu

OFICIUL DE STAT PENTRU
INVENTII SI MARCI

RO Comments

Date: 28 March 2003

Project H050

Subclass B 42D

RO agrees with R's proposal of converting indexing scheme B 42D 101:00 to 121:00 to the classifying scheme as presented.

Since the indexing scheme B42D 201:00 to B42D 227:00 relates to data features of cards and not to printed matter, as indicated in B 42D15/00, we would rather be in favour of the recommendation of the IPC Reform Working Group, to abolish the indexing terms 201:00 to 227:00.

Bucura Ionescu

Project: H-050 Subclass: B42D

From the data analysis we were able to perform, we find a total of 687 documents carrying at least an indexing code from that scheme. In total 15205 documents have been classified in B42D15/10 since St. January 1990.

Out of that 15205 documents, 8577 are also classified in G06K.

The code distribution is the following:

54 docs carry the indexing code	B42D101:00
28	B42D103:00
37	B42D105:00
97	B42D107:00
206	B42D109:00
7	B42D109:02
54	B42D111:00
9	B42D113:00
64	B42D115:00
43	B42D117:00
6	B42D119:00
8	B42D121:00

In total 453 documents carry at least one indexing code from the range 101:00-121:00. (221 of which are also classified in G06K)

19	B42D201:00
105	B42D203:00
27	B42D205:00
31	B42D207:00
113	B42D209:00
29	B42D211:00
48	B42D213:00
6	B42D215:00
32	B42D217:00
19	B42D219:00
20	B42D221:00
22	B42D223:00
18	B42D225:00
19	B42D227:00

In total 360 documents carry at least one indexing code from the range 201:00-227:00. (145 of which are also classified in G06K)

Note that 126 documents are indexed in the two ranges.

Conclusion:

EP believes that the indexing scheme does not fulfill the needs of the search. We suggest abolishing the scheme.

A.Narminio

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H050

Subclass – B42D

Date: May 12, 2003

Comments

US does not agree with Rapporteur that conversion of most of the indexing codes of this subclass (B42D 101:00 - B42D 227:00) to dependent classification places under B42D 15/10 is useful.

Our primary objection is that the subject matter is inappropriate for the basic concept covered by groups B42D 15/00 and 15/10. This main group covers residual 'printed matter' in special formats or style on selected types of objects. This main group is not appropriate for mere 'constructional details' of the objects per se (e.g., credit card) on which subject matter could be printed. Based on the title of subclass B42D, it is also not clear that methods other than 'print' or 'writing' for transmitting information are within the basic subject matter of the subclass (e.g., bar-codes, finger-prints). Where the combination of this subject matter will go will depend on the subclass' definition and limiting references.

Moreover, in our view, the subject matter of several of the indexing codes can easily be text-searched for this particular group range using the extremely common terms of the indexing code titles.

If retained at all, these concepts should be kept as indexing codes in this area based on the "Guidelines for the Conversion of Existing IPC Indexing Schemes into Classification Schemes" (see IPC/REF/6/2, paragraph 7) until the definition for this subclass is completed. In the future, indents under main group B42D 15/00 specifying "with diverse form of information transmitting (e.g., fingerprints)" may be useful. Another indent under main group B42D 15/00 may also be useful for covering "constructional details of product having printed matter" on them that are not otherwise provided for. However, if the structure of any of these objects is provided for elsewhere when no 'printed matter' is on them (e.g., blank cards), then when their mere 'construction' is the novel and unobvious invention information, it must be classified in the other classification places providing for them and not in B42D.

Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt German Patent and Trademark Office	Class/Subcl.: B42D
	Date : 16.05.2003
DE Rapporteur Report on Project H050	

R apologizes for two mistakes that showed up on the first page of the last Rapporteur Report :

- in the first paragraph the indexing codes 101:00 to 121:00 relate obviously to **B42D**;
- In the last but one paragraph the correct wording is “... *to convert the indexing scheme **201:00 to 227:00** into a classification scheme*”.

R hopes that these mistake were not too misleading and the correct wordings could be disclosed by the circumstances of the Report.

Comments were received from GB, RO, EP and US.

GB, RO and US raise the objection that B42D 15/10 relates to “printed matter”, but many of the indexing terms of 101:00 to 227:00 relate to features that are not appropriate for this subclass.

GB and RO agree to convert the indexing scheme 101:00 to 121:00 with the exception that GB prefers to abolish 105:00 and 107:00.

The indexing codes 201:00 to 227:00 should be abolished in the opinion of GB and RO.

EP suggests to abolish the whole indexing scheme 101:00 to 227:00.

US do not agree with the Rapporteur that the conversion of the indexing codes 101:00 to 227:00 under B42D 15/10 is useful. If retained at all, they should be kept as indexing codes until the definition for this subclass is completed.

R thinks the indexing codes 101:00 to 121:00 relate without exception to typical details of identity, credit, cheque or like information bearing cards as known by everybody covered by subgroup 15/10. Therefore R sees no objection to associate this subject matter with the subgroup 15/10 and to convert the indexing codes 101:00 to 121:00 to two dot subgroups under 15/10.

To find a solution for a possible inconsistency within the whole classification area of identity, credit cards and the like cannot be part of this project for the time being.

R agrees that the indexing codes from 201:00 to 227:00 relating to data features are not suitable for conversion under the subgroup 15/10. In accordance with all commenting offices and the IPC/REF Working Group's opinion R proposes to abolish the indexing codes from 201:00 to 227:00.

R proposal with some further corrections is included in an other annex.

U. Rödiger

Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt German Patent and Trademark Office	Class/Subcl.: B42D
	Date : 16.05.2003
DE Rapporteur Proposal on Project H050	

B42D

C Note after Group 15/10 In group 15/10 it is desirable to add additional classification, chosen from the groups 15/12 to 15/34 relating to details of identity, credit, cheque or like information-bearing cards.

N 15/12 .. Card or region thereof being transparent
 N 15/14 .. Card or region thereof being translucent
 N 15/16 .. with metallic material
 N 15/18 .. with magnetic or magnetisable material
 N 15/20 .. incorporating electrical circuitry
 N 15/22 ... with liquid-crystal display
 N 15/24 .. made of paper or cardboard
 N 15/26 .. of single layer structure
 N 15/28 .. having foldable or removable parts
 N 15/30 .. having mating or co-operating parts
 N 15/32 .. with pressure-sensitive material
 N 15/34 .. having projections or recesses, e.g. for co-operation with machine
 Elements

D after 19/00 <Delete guide heading and note>

D 101:00 (transferred to 15/12)
 D 103:00 (transferred to 15/14)
 D 105:00 (transferred to 15/16)
 D 107:00 (transferred to 15/18)
 D 109:00 (transferred to 15/20)
 D 109:02 (transferred to 15/22)
 D 111:00 (transferred to 15/24)
 D 113:00 (transferred to 15/26)
 D 115:00 (transferred to 15/28)

- D 117:00 (transferred to 15/30)
- D 119:00 (transferred to 15/32)
- D 121:00 (transferred to 15/34)

D after 121:00 <Delete guide heading>

- D 201:00 <delete entry>
- D 203:00 <delete entry>
- D 205:00 <delete entry>
- D 207:00 <delete entry>
- D 209:00 <delete entry>
- D 211:00 <delete entry>
- D 213:00 <delete entry>
- D 215:00 <delete entry>
- D 217:00 <delete entry>
- D 219:00 <delete entry>
- D 221:00 <delete entry>
- D 223:00 <delete entry>
- D 225:00 <delete entry>
- D 227:00 <delete entry>



IPC/H 051/03
ORIGINAL: English/French
DATE: May 16, 2003

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GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	JP	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	B60C
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	JP	05.03
2	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	JP	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
5	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	JP	05.03
6	Comments / Observations	US	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Japan Patent Office

March 5 , 2003

Project: **H051**

Subclass: B60C

Initial Rapporteur proposal

Indexing codes B60C 101:00-125:00

It was recommended by the ad hoc IPC Reform WG to abolish these indexing codes.

This indexing scheme was introduced at the sixth edition and it is associated with groups from 11/03 to 11/13, relating to features of the tread pattern.

It is only about 8.7% of B60C 11/03-11/13 global documents that have been provided with these indexing codes (as of Feb. 2003, based on WPI database).

Concerning individual indexing codes, they have been allocated on a couple of dozens of documents on average. The highest frequent code has been allocated on about 70 documents, while the least frequent one has been allocated on only 2 documents where the code should have been allocated on more documents in view of the original meaning. These facts reveal us inconsistency of the application of the indexing scheme in this area. They have clearly not been seen as helpful in searching. A text-search with using technical terms, e.g. "zigzag", "motorcycle", seems more efficient .

We therefore propose to abolish the indexing codes.

Hiroe Joboji

UK Patent Office

Date: 12 March 2003

Comments on Project H051 , Subclass B60C

The Rapporteur suggests abolishing the indexing codes B60C 101:00 to 125:00. Our expert considers that these codes are not useful, and fully agrees with the Rapporteur's proposal.

It is clear that some of these indexing codes overlap with each other and with some of the classifying terms of B60C 11/03 to 11/13, and in so doing cause confusion.

We therefore support abolition of the indexing codes in question.

Martin Price

Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt German Patent and Trademark Office	Class/Subcl.: B60C
	Date : 03.04.2003
DE - Comments — H051	

We support the proposal of the Rapporteur to abolish the indexing schemes B60C 101:00 to 125:00.

U. Rödiger

Project: H-051 Subclass: B60C

EP supports Rapporteur's proposal to abolish the indexing codes.

A.Narminio

Japan Patent Office

May 6 , 2003

Project: **H051**

Subclass: B60C

JP proposed to abolish the indexing codes B60C 101:00-125:00.

Comments were received from GB, DE and EP. All support R's original proposal and no office made adverse comments or suggestions for change.

R suggests that these codes should be abolished.

Hiroe Joboji

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H051

Subclass – B60C

Date: May 7, 2003

Comments

US fully supports Rapporteur's recommendations in Annex 1 to abolish the indexing scheme B60C 101:00 – 125:00.

The subject matter of indexing codes 101:00 – 113:00 is clearly only appropriate for classification places (see Guidelines for Conversion of Existing IPC indexing Schemes into Classification Schemes, section 6 & 7). The indexing codes' low representation, as a percentage of the global documents, would indicate that these codes are not particularly useful as classification places as currently worded. Future development in this area in the advanced level based on existing ECLA, USPC, and FI subgroups will be more useful and the subgroups will be fully populated. As Rapporteur indicates, most of the subject matter of the remaining indexing codes can be easily text-searched using technical terms.



IPC/H 052/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 16, 2003

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GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	JP	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	B60T
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	JP	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	DE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
5	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	JP	05.03
6	Comments / Observations	US	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Japan Patent Office

March 5 , 2003

Project: **H052**Subclass: B60T

INITIAL RAPPORTEUR PROPOSAL

The IPC/REF Working Group has recommended abolishing of indexing codes B60T 101:00 to 105:00 in the list of IPC/WG/6/5 Annex G. We support this recommendation for two reasons shown in below.

1) Statistics (as of 10.2.03)*

Total number of documents in B60T having these indexing codes: 10

Total number of documents published in B60T since 1995: 34926

Thus, of all documents that could potentially bear these indexing codes, only 0.0286 % had in fact been assigned. They were substantially not used.

2) Full-text search capabilities

These indexing codes were made for use as indexing terms. However, recent electronic retrieval systems make it possible to replace this function easily with full-text search. This is particularly the case here because there is no or only a very limited number of synonyms for the respective terms.

Thus, these indexing codes will not provide more useful information than the full-text of the relevant documents themselves.

We therefore suggest complete abolition of these codes, as follows.

B60T

D	Note(s) after 13/12	<Deleted>
D	guide heading before 101:00	<Deleted>
D	Note(s) before 101:00	<Deleted>
D	101:00 <deleted>	
D	103:00 <deleted>	
D	105:00 <deleted>	

**All data were acquired from the world wide patent search in the esp@cenet.*

UK Patent Office

Date: 11 March 2003

Comments on Project H052 , Subclass B60T

We agree to the abolition of indexing schemes B60T 101:00 to 105:00 and associated notes.

Martin Price

Deutsches Patent- und Markenamt German Patent and Trademark Office	Class/Subcl.: B60T
	Date : 28.03.2003
DE - Comments — H052	

We support the Rapporteur proposal to abolish the indexing schemes B60T 101:00 to 105:00 and the associated notes.

U. Rödiger

Project: H-052 Subclass: B60T

EP supports Rapporteur's proposal to abolish the indexing codes.

A.Narminio

Japan Patent Office

May 6 , 2003

Project: **H052**

Subclass:B60T

JP proposed in Annex 1 to abolish the indexing codes B60T 101:00 to 105:00 and associated Notes and Guide headings, in accordance with the recommendations from the IPC/REF Working Group.

Comments were received from GB, DE and EP (Annexes 2, 3 and 4), all favorable to the proposal, and no adverse comments or suggestions for change were received.

R proposes that the deletions in Annex 1 be adopted by the Revision Working Group.

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H052

Subclass – B60T

Date: May 8, 2003

Comments

US fully supports Rapporteur's recommendations in Annex 1 to abolish the indexing scheme B60T 101:00 – 105:00.

The indexing codes' low representation, as a percentage of the global documents, would indicate that these codes are not particularly useful to searchers. As Rapporteur indicates, the subject matter of the indexing codes can be easily text-searched using these common technical terms.



IPC/H 057/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 16, 2003

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GENEVA/GENÈVE

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COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	SE	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	E01D
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	SE	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Swedish Patent and Registration Office

IPC Hybrid Project H057, subclass E01D

April 15th, 2003

INITIAL PROPOSAL

The indexing codes of main group E01D 101:00 cover materials of bridges. They are applicable in the entire subclass E01D, which is subdivided according to constructional types and functional features of bridges.

According to WPI data the usage of the codes of 101:00 is not very high - in single percentage figures. However, the corresponding ICO scheme P01D 101:00 is applied to around 22 % of the corresponding ECLA documentation.

The indexing scheme conforms to the guidelines for creation of indexing schemes. It covers an aspect that is not covered in the schemes of the subclass, and which can not be indicated by additional classification in other parts of the IPC. Text searching can probably be used effectively as an alternative to some of the codes, but the concepts represented by other of the codes are difficult to text-search accurately.

The indexing codes could conceivably be converted to classification groups, but it seems less satisfactory, since they represent "natural" additional information.

IPC/REF recommended retaining this scheme. **Rapporteur supports this recommendation.**

Anders Bruun

UK Patent Office

Date: 23 April 2003

Comments on Project H057, Subclass E01D

We are not sure we agree with the Rapporteur's conclusion to retain this indexing scheme (E01D 101:00 to 101:40).

The total usage of this indexing scheme is 0.5 % of the global documentation in this area (86 documents in E01D 101+, compared to a total of 17,938 documents in E01D, according to EPODOC). On this basis, it is hard to see how this low percentage can provide a coherent and complete body of searchable art in this field.

Text-searching should be effective in this area. The standard construction materials (wood, concrete, stone, plastics etc.) should be easy enough to find and should not have too many synonyms.

Therefore, despite the recommendation of IPC/REF to retain this scheme, we would probably tend towards abolition.

Martin Price



IPC/H 058/03
ORIGINAL: English/French
DATE: May 16, 2003

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IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :
EP	F16D

ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	EP	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	EP	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	US	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Project: H058 Subclass: F16D

IPC/WG/8/8 Annex I lists the indexing codes F16D 101:00 to 113:00 as having an "abolish" recommendation from the IPC/REF Working Group.

We support this recommendation because these indexing terms, introduced with Edition 6, have only been applied only 92 times in a documentation of 42000 documents (021% of documents published after 1995 with a classification in F16D). We can conclude that these codes have clearly not been seen as useful in the view of the classifiers.

The codes are relating to control inputs of clutches or clutch systems. With the developments of the last years these input parameters are no longer essential features of the control system, because nearly every parameter is measured in a modern control system.

We therefor recommend that the indexing scheme F16D101:00 to 113:00 is abolished.

H. Mende

UK Patent Office

Date: 11 March 2003

Comments on Project H058, Subclass F16D

We agree to the abolition of indexing scheme F16D 101:00 to 113:00, as proposed by the Rapporteur. The Note above F16D 48/00 also needs deletion.

Martin Price



**Europäisches
Patentamt**

**European
Patent Office**

**Office européen
des brevets**

Principal Directorate Tools / Documentation

Rapporteur Report

Project: H058

Subclass: F16D

7 May 2003

Comments

Comments were only received from GB who support the deletion of the indexing scheme in F16D.

RR concludes that the indexing scheme F16D101:00 to 113:00 and the accompanying note can be deleted.

H. Mende

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H058

Subclass – F16D

Date: May 8, 2003

Comments

US agrees with Rapporteur's recommendation to delete indexing scheme F16D 101:00 – 113:00. We understand the reason for Rapporteur's suggestion and agree with its logic.

In our view, the subject matter of most of the indexing codes can easily be text-searched for particular groups using the extremely common terms of the indexing code titles.



IPC/H 059/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 16, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
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IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	JP	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	F16F
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	JP	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	EP	05.03
4	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	JP	05.03
5	Comments / Observations	US	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Japan Patent Office

March 5 , 2003

Project: **H059**Subclass: F16F

INITIAL RAPPORTEUR PROPOSAL

The IPC/REF Working Group has recommended abolishing of indexing codes F16F 101:00 , 103:00 in the list of IPC/WG/6/5 Annex G. We support this recommendation for two reasons shown in below.

1) Statistics (as of 14.2.03)*

Total number of documents in F16F having these indexing codes: 19

Total number of documents published in F16F since 1995: 33770

Thus, of all documents that could potentially bear these indexing codes, only 0.0563 % had in fact been assigned. They were substantially not used.

2) Full-text search capabilities

These indexing codes were made for use as indexing terms. However, recent electronic retrieval systems make it possible to replace this function easily with full-text search.

Thus, these indexing codes will not provide more useful information than the full-text of the relevant documents themselves.

We therefore suggest complete abolition of these codes, as follows.

F16F

D	Note(s) before 15/00	<Deleted>
D	guide heading before 101:00	<Deleted>
D	Note(s) before 101:00	<Deleted>
D	101:00	<deleted>
D	103:00	<deleted>

**All data were acquired from the world wide patent search in the esp@cenet.*

UK Patent Office

Date: 11 March 2003

Comments on Project H059, Subclass F16F

We agree to the abolition of indexing scheme F16F 101:00 to 103:00 and associated notes, as proposed by the Rapporteur.

Martin Price



**Europäisches
Patentamt**

**European
Patent Office**

**Office européen
des brevets**

Principal Directorate Tools / Documentation

Comments

Project: H059

Subclass: F16F

16 May 2003

We agree to the abolition of indexing scheme F16F 101:00 to 103:00 as proposed by the Rapporteur.

H. Mende

Japan Patent Office

May 6 , 2003

Project: **H059**

Subclass: F16F

JP proposed in Annex 1 to abolish the indexing codes F16F 101:00 to 103:00 and associated Notes and Guide headings, in accordance with the recommendations from the IPC/REF Working Group.

Comments were received from GB and EP (Annexes 2 and 3), both favorable to the proposal, and no adverse comments or suggestions for change were received.

R proposes that the deletions in Annex 1 be adopted by the Revision Working Group.

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H059

Subclass – F16F

Date: May 8, 2003

Comments

US fully supports Rapporteur's recommendations in Annex 1 to abolish the indexing scheme F16F 101:00 and 103:00.

US agrees that the indexing codes have a low representation as a percentage of the global documents. However, we think that Rapporteur should not have used all of the subclass' documents published after 1995 in the estimate. The estimate should have used only the documents published after 1995 for main group F16F 15/00+. Even with this correction, the fact that only 19 documents were assigned to these codes indicates that the codes are not particularly useful to searchers. As Rapporteur indicates, the subject matter of the indexing codes can easily, if not in as limited a manner, be text-searched using the common technical term "gyratory".

In our view, the exact intent of these titles is not absolutely clear. If these codes are retained, we believe that it would be useful for classifiers and searchers to have a 'definition' for each indexing code that clarifies the intent of each title utilizing an example drawing.



IPC/H 060/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 16, 2003

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IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	SE	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	F16L
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	SE	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

Swedish Patent and Registration Office

IPC Hybrid Project H060, subclass F16L

May 5th, 2003

INITIAL PROPOSAL

The indexing scheme F16L 101:00 is associated with classification groups F16L 55/26 - 55/48. It covers the application aspect of pigs or moles for pipes, i.e. their use for particular purposes, whereas the classification groups cover constructional and functional aspects, such as propulsion means and launching. F16L 101:00 was introduced in IPC6, together with the introduction of several new classification groups.

F16L 101:00 is in accordance with the guidelines for creation of indexing schemes.

The usage of F16L 101:00 in the IPC files is not very high. However, the corresponding ICO codes of R16L 101/00 have very high usage - the number of documents indexed with those codes is in fact higher than the number of documents classified in the ECLA classification groups F16L 55/26 - 55/48.

The Reform Working Group recommended retaining F16L 101:00. In view of the high usage of the corresponding ICO codes Rapporteur agrees with this. There is no reason for conversion to classification groups.

Anders Bruun

UK Patent Office

Date: 9 May 2003

Comments on Project H060, Subclass F16L

We agree to retaining the indexing scheme of F16L 101:00 to 101:70.

Martin Price



IPC/H 061/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 16, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	DE	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	F21W
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur report / Rapport du rapporteur	DE	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	SE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	US	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

DEUTSCHES PATENT- UND MARKENAMT German Patent and Trade Mark Office	Class/Subcl.: F21W
	Date : 02.04.03
DE - Rapporteur Report — H061/ 03	

- 1) The index schemes F21W and F21Y were introduced only in IPC 7.
- 2) Nevertheless examiners in DE office already report good experiences with the schemes.
- 3) Conversion of these schemes seems not to be useful because they identify specific applications (F21W) or specific geometries (F21Y) besides the concept of the classification schemes F21L,S,V (see IPC/REF/5/3 para. 1).
- 4) The adhoc IPC Reform Working Group (see IPC/WG/6/5 Annex G) recommends to retain the index schemes F21W and F21Y.

-----> Keeping all this in mind, Rapporteur proposes to retain the index schemes F21W and F21Y

Rainer Anders

UK Patent Office

Date: 23 April 2003

Comments on Project H061 , Subclass F21W

We agree with the Rapporteur's reasoning and conclusions, and agree to retaining the indexing schemes of F21W and F21Y, especially after the huge amount of work involved in revision project C28 which introduced large-scale changes to the F21 area.

Searches in WPI and EPODOC show 7351 documents in F21W and 11,508 documents in F21Y. Out of a total documentation of 180,021 in subclasses F21L, S and V to which F21W and Y apply, the percentages for F21W and Y are 4% and 6.4% respectively. These figures are not that large, but sufficient to recommend retention of the schemes.

Martin Price

Swedish Patent and Registration Office

IPC Hybrid Project H061, subclass F21W

May 6th, 2003

Comments (in response to Annex 1)

We strongly support retaining indexing subclass F21W.

Before IPC7 class F21 was thoroughly revised - for good reasons. The introduction of F21W coincided with the deletion of three application-oriented subclasses for lighting devices as well as some groups in other subclasses. The introduction of F21W was a condition for abolishing these subclasses. To abolish F21W would mean that the search possibilities that previously existed through subclasses F21M - F21Q would disappear. This would lead to a situation that would in many respects be worse than before IPC7.

Anders Bruun

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H061

Subclass – F21W

Date: May 8, 2003

Comments

US agrees with Rapporteur that conversion of these indexing codes is definitely not useful. We are willing to support Rapporteur's recommendation to retain indexing schemes F21W 101:00, F21W 111:00, F21W 121:00, and F21W 131:00, for at least a longer test period, if the schemes are modified to clarify their intent. Otherwise, in our view, the subject matter of most of the indexing codes can easily be text-searched for particular group ranges in the related subclasses using the extremely common terms of the indexing code titles

In our opinion, the exact intent of some of the titles is unclear and there is extensive and needless overlapping. For example, the distinction between indexing codes F21W 111:02, 131:101, and 131:103 is confusing. F21W 131:101 and 131:103 could take patent documents that did both a marking function (proper for F21W 111:02) and a lighting function (not explicitly provided for in the title of F21W 111:00) done at the same time with a single lighting device. Why would anyone want to classify these documents both places in this situation?

Another example is that pool or garden lights often serve both a decorative function and a safety function. Two indexing schemes are not needed for this type situation. If the indexing codes of F21W are retained, we believe that it would be useful for classifiers and searchers to have a 'definition' for each indexing code that clarifies the intended scope of each title and utilizes example drawings. Since DE originally created these related schemes and has examiners that have been populating them, perhaps they could easily define the intended scope of each title and provide example drawings?



IPC/H 062/03

ORIGINAL: English/French

DATE: May 16, 2003

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE
GENEVA/GENÈVE

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE IPC UNION
COMITÉ D'EXPERTS DE L'UNION DE L'IPC

IPC HYBRID SYSTEM PROJECT FILE/DOSSIER DE PROJET DE SYSTÈME HYBRIDE DE LA CIB

PROPOSAL BY: PROPOSITION DE :	DE	REVISION OF IPC AREA: RÉVISION DU DOMAINE DE LA CIB :	F21Y
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ANNEX/ ANNEXE	CONTENT/CONTENU	ORIGIN/ ORIGINE	DATE
1	Rapporteur proposal / Proposition du rapporteur	DE	05.03
2	Comments / Observations	GB	05.03
3	Comments / Observations	SE	05.03
4	Comments / Observations	US	05.03

RAPPORTEUR :

TECHNICAL FIELD/DOMAINE TECHNIQUE :

DEUTSCHES PATENT- UND MARKENAMT German Patent and Trade Mark Office	Class/Subcl.: F21Y
	Date : 02.04.03
DE - Rapporteur Proposal — H062/ 03	

- 1) The index schemes F21W and F21Y were introduced only in IPC 7.
- 2) Nevertheless examiners in DE office already report good experiences with the schemes.
- 3) Conversion of these schemes seems not to be useful because they identify specific applications (F21W) or specific geometries (F21Y) besides the concept of the classification schemes F21L,S,V (see IPC/REF/5/3 para. 1).
- 4) The adhoc IPC Reform Working Group (see IPC/WG/6/5 Annex G) recommends to retain the index schemes F21W and F21Y.

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Keeping all this in mind, Rapporteur proposes to retain the index schemes F21W and F21Y

Rainer Anders

UK Patent Office

Date: 23 April 2003

Comments on Project H062, Subclass F21Y

We agree with the Rapporteur's reasoning and conclusions, and agree to retaining the indexing schemes of F21W and F21Y, especially after the huge amount of work involved in revision project C28 which introduced large-scale changes to the F21 area.

Searches in WPI and EPODOC show 7351 documents in F21W and 11,508 documents in F21Y. Out of a total documentation of 180,021 in subclasses F21L, S and V to which F21W and Y apply, the percentages for F21W and Y are 4% and 6.4% respectively. These figures are not that large, but sufficient to recommend retention of the schemes.

Martin Price

Swedish Patent and Registration Office

IPC Hybrid Project H062, subclass F21Y

May 6th, 2003

Comments (in response to Annex 1)

We strongly support retaining indexing subclass F21Y.

Before IPC7 class F21 was thoroughly revised - for good reasons. The introduction of F21Y coincided with the deletion of several groups in several main groups covering forms of light sources. The introduction of F21Y was a condition for abolishing these groups. To abolish F21Y would lead to a situation that would in many respects be worse than before IPC7.

Anders Bruun

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Project: H062

Subclass – F21Y

Date: May 8, 2003

Comments

US agrees with Rapporteur that conversion of these indexing codes is not useful. We are willing to support, for at least a longer test period, Rapporteur's recommendation to retain indexing scheme F21Y 101:00 – 113:00.

In our view, the exact intent of the titles of these indexing codes is not absolutely clear. If the codes are retained, we believe that it would be useful for classifiers and searchers to have a 'definition' for each indexing code that clarifies the intent of each title and utilizes example drawings. Since DE originally created this scheme and has examiners that have been populating it, perhaps they could easily define the intended scope of each title and provide example drawings?