

What's New for Applicants in ePCT 4.12

<https://pct.wipo.int>



Introduction

- New version released early October 2023

- New look & feel

- [What's New for Applicants](#)

- in WIPO Accounts:

- eHandshakes become Connections

- in ePCT:

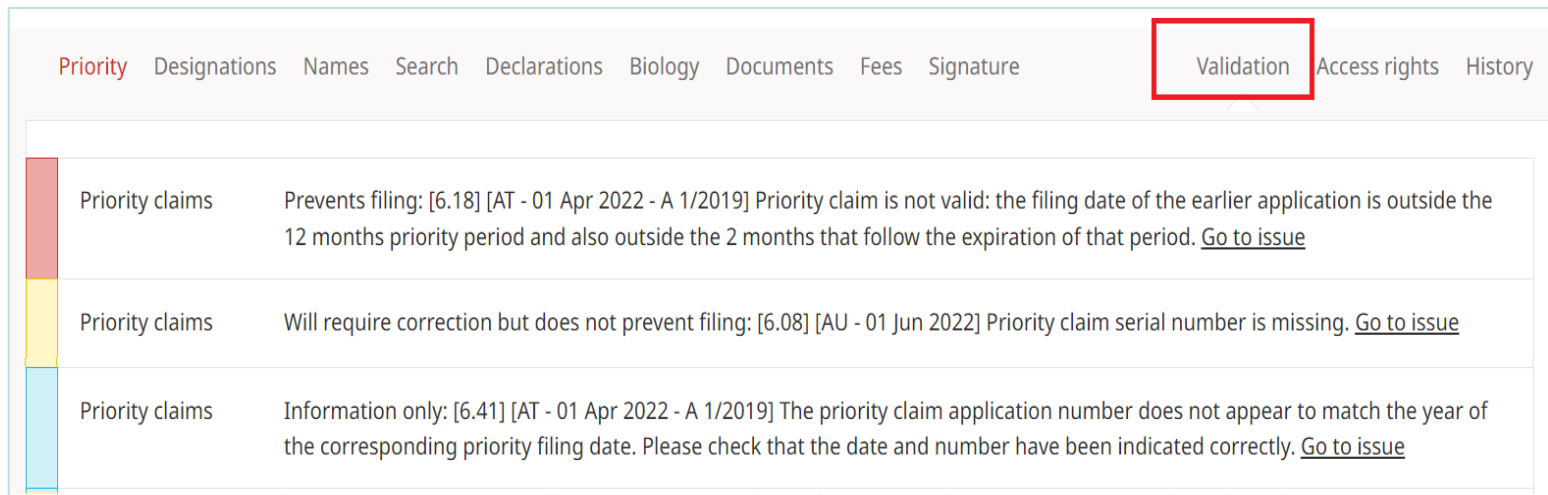
- Business Continuity Service (BCS)

- ePCT-Filing new features and improvements

Updated interface Design

■ WIPO Accounts and ePCT

- ❑ Reflects the new design of WIPO's main website
- ❑ Mostly cosmetic changes: functionalities remain the same



	Priority	Designations	Names	Search	Declarations	Biology	Documents	Fees	Signature	Validation	Access rights	History
	Priority claims	Prevents filing: [6.18] [AT - 01 Apr 2022 - A 1/2019] Priority claim is not valid: the filing date of the earlier application is outside the 12 months priority period and also outside the 2 months that follow the expiration of that period. Go to issue										
	Priority claims	Will require correction but does not prevent filing: [6.08] [AU - 01 Jun 2022] Priority claim serial number is missing. Go to issue										
	Priority claims	Information only: [6.41] [AT - 01 Apr 2022 - A 1/2019] The priority claim application number does not appear to match the year of the corresponding priority filing date. Please check that the date and number have been indicated correctly. Go to issue										

eHandshakes become Connections

- An eHandshake is now called a connection
- Only the e-mail addresses of your colleagues are required
- My WIPO Account > Connections

My connections

Manage my [connections.](#)

- enter the e-mail address > click 'connect'

Request new connection

Emails *

Enter the email of the users with whom you want to connect.

Connect

- [Video tutorial](#)

ePCT Business Continuity Service

- Replaces the Contingency Upload service (decommissioned)
- Back-up solution : <https://pctcs.wipo.int>
- For filing ONLY if ePCT is unavailable for technical reasons
- Business validations but restricted ePCT features (no login, address book, access rights, save draft, DAS look-up, external signature and other)
- Request access rights possible only after receipt of Form IB/301
- Live Demo

ePCT-Filing: fee sheet

Deposit account - reset date of signature

- Reset signature date prior to filing
- Option available for deposit account payment
- Appears on the Fee sheet to the current date at the selected RO
- Live Demo

Payment method Deposit account	▼
Date of signature 18 September 2023	Reset to current date at RO

Workbench – New explicative text Draft IAs in ‘downloaded’ status

- For a draft IA for RO/CA, RO/IL or RO/US :
 - ❑ Status of New IA is Downloaded
 - ❑ The New IA contains at least one priority claim
 - ❑ The record copy has not yet been received at the IB
- New message indicates that the validation of the priority claim(s) will continue to run as of the current date
- This information is cleared after the record copy is received at the IB
- Live Demo

ePCT-Filing: new features for drawings

- New checkbox if the specification does not contain drawings and information only message in the validation report
- Drawings as separate file: if the specification file is deleted the drawings files is also deleted
 - New message to confirm the deletion of the drawings file
- Now **mandatory** to indicate if the drawing for publication contains text
 - If 'Yes' is selected, the free-text field for the drawings text remains **optional**
 - Recommended for more efficient processing by the IB for translation and international publication

ePCT Filing:

Sequence listing zip - PCT Direct button

- **Sequence listing** .xml file in ST.26 format as part of the description automatically zipped when uploaded
 - ❑ Optimizes the process and offsets potential issues in the case of large sequence listing files
- **PCT Direct:**
 - ❑ For participating ISAs: EP, ES, FI and IL
 - ❑ New button 'PCT Direct'
 - ❑ At least one priority claim (within 12-14 months priority period)
 - ❑ Applicant correspondence to the ISA attached in PDF format
- **Live Demo**

ePCT Filing at RO/IB

New features and improvements

■ Signatures

- Checkbox to confirm that the signatory is authorized to sign on behalf of the company
- Replaces the 'position in company' field

I confirm I am authorized to sign on behalf of the applicant indicated above. *

■ On-line payment

- SOFORT: the new [online payment method](#) on the WIPO Pay platform for the payment of filing fees in Swiss francs (CHF) to the RO/IB **extended to Euros (EUR)**

ePCT Messages

- Customized subject depending on the recipient selected, extended to RO, ISA, IPEA
- Recipient IB / Subject DAS assistance:
 - Shortcut link to the Action to request the IB to obtain the priority document from DAS
- Live Demo

ePCT : Other improvements

■ ePCT Access Rights History

- Complete history of access rights, including before filing
- Shows in more details whether access rights were added/modified as part of an access rights group

■ Workbench Filters

- In addition to the option 'Extend filter to archived IAs'
- Criteria: 'Include Archived IAs' and 'Show archived IAs only'

ePCT HELP

■ PCT Operations Customer Support Section

□ Tel: +41 22 338 9523

□ Email: pct.eservices@wipo.int

□ Live Chat & Web Contact Form available via
FAQ answers

□ Monday to Friday, 9am-6pm Geneva time (CET)

Thank you!

