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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Fifth Session

Geneva, October 29 to November 3, 1975

RESULTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE
SORTED COLLECTIONS OF PATENT DOCUMENTS OF
AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, AND CANADA

prepared by the International Bureau

SUMMARY

This document contains information on the collections of the patent documents of Australia, Austria and Canada, which were sorted out by the Patent Offices of those countries for inclusion in the PCT minimum documentation under Rule 34.1(c) (vi).

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INTRODUCTION

Background

1. At its fourth session, held in Geneva in November 1974, the PCT Interim Committee for Technical Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as "the Interim Committee") requested the International Bureau to undertake a survey in order to compile particulars on the sorted collections of the patent documents of Australia, Austria and Canada for purposes of the inclusion of such documents in the PCT minimum documentation under PCT Rule 34.1(c)(vi) (see paragraph 37 of the Report of the fourth session, document PCT/TCO/IV/18).

Carrying out of Survey

2. In keeping with that request, the International Bureau addressed a questionnaire (see Circular letter C.2135 included as Annex B of this document) to the Patent Offices of the said countries. That questionnaire enquired as to : the date from which the patent documents have been sorted, the total number of patent documents included in the sorted collection, the average annual increase of the collection, and whether or not the patent documents are classified according to the IPC (International Patent Classification) and, if so, from which date.

3. The official replies of the Australian, Austrian and Canadian Patent Offices to that questionnaire are included in this document as Annexes C, D, and E, respectively.

4. A table containing a summary of these replies has been compiled. That table is included as Annex A of this document.

5. It is to be particularly noted that, in respect of the question pertaining to classification according to the IPC, two Offices (Australian and Austrian) replied that the patent documents carry IPC symbols down to the sub-group level (i.e., complete symbols). The third Office (Canadian) replied that, although its patent documents were not classified according to the IPC, it could consider affixing IPC Classification to such documents utilizing a concordance between the Canadian Classification System and the IPC.

Action by the Interim Committee

6. In the light of the information obtained from the survey, the Interim Committee would now seem to be in a position to continue its consideration of the question of the inclusion of the sorted collections of the patent documents of the said three countries in the inventory of PCT minimum documentation.

7. The Interim Committee is invited to take whatever further action in respect of the inclusion of these patent documents into the PCT minimum documentation it deems appropriate.

[Annex A follows]

PCT/TCO/V/4

Annex A

SUMMARY OF THE REPLIES SUBMITTED BY THE
PATENT OFFICES OF AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, AND CANADA

<p>Questions Patent Office</p>	<p>From which date onwards have the patent documents been sorted?</p>	<p>What is the total number of patent documents included in the sorted collection?</p>	<p>What is the average annual increase of the collection on the basis of recent statistical data?</p>	<p>Do the sorted patent documents contain symbols indicating their classification according to the IPC and, if so, from which date?</p>
<p>Australian</p>	<p>October 22, 1970 (for accepted specifications) July 2, 1970 (for lapsed specifications)</p>	<p>10,000</p>	<p>3,000/year</p>	<p>Yes, from January 23, 1975 (for accepted specifications) and from January 1, 1976 (for lapsed specifications)</p>
<p>Austrian</p>	<p>July 26, 1971</p>	<p>7,500</p>	<p>2,100/year</p>	<p>Yes, from July 26, 1971</p>
<p>Canadian</p>	<p>August 4, 1970</p>	<p>4,640</p>	<p>850/year</p>	<p>Not classified according to IPC, but such classification possible due to existence of concordance between Canadian Classification and IPC.</p>

[Annex B follows]



WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE

C.2135
PCT 21

February 28, 1975

Sir,

I have the honor to call to your attention a decision taken by the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Interim Committee for Technical Cooperation at its fourth session held in Geneva from November 14 to 19, 1974.

That decision (see paragraph 37 of the Report of the fourth session, document PCT/TCO/IV/18) provided for the International Bureau to compile certain information on the collections of the Australian, Austrian and Canadian non-priority patent documents which have been sorted out by the originating Office, in order to be included in the PCT minimum documentation under PCT Rule 34.1(c)(vi).

In order to assist the International Bureau in carrying out that decision, you are hereby kindly requested to communicate to the International Bureau, at your earliest convenience, the responses to the following questions concerning the said collection of your country's patent documents:

- (1) From which date onwards have the patent documents been sorted?
- (2) What is the total number of patent documents included in the sorted collection?
- (3) What is the average annual increase of the collection on the basis of recent statistical data?
- (4) Do the sorted patent documents contain symbols indicating their classification according to the IPC and, if so, from which date?

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K. Pfanner', is written over a light-colored background.

K. Pfanner
Deputy Director General

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE



PATENT, TRADEMARKS AND DESIGNS OFFICES
SCARBOROUGH HOUSE, PHILLIP
P.O. BOX 200, WODEN, A.C.T. 2606
Telephone: 832211 Telegrams: COMPATS Telex: AA62484

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE:

1 April 1975

The Deputy Director General,
World Intellectual Property Organisation
32, Chemin des Colombettes,
1211 GENEVE 20
SWITZERLAND.

P.C.T. Interim Committee for Technical Co-operation

Your ref: C.2135/PCT 21 - letter dated 28 February 1975.

The following information is furnished in response to the last paragraph of your letter dated 28 February.

(1) The documents comprise both accepted specifications and lapsed specifications; the coverage commences with specifications accepted on 22 October 1970, and specifications notified as lapsed in our Official Journal of Patents of 2 July 1970. In terms of application numbers these would cover a range of years extending back to 1965 and earlier.

(2) The total number despatched to date is just under 10,000.

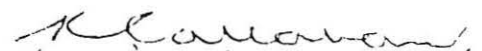
(3) The average increase is of the order of 3,000, this being the level of non-Convention complete specifications lodged each year. It is a loose average as the following figures show:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Non-Convention completes</u>
1970	2664
1971	2746
1972	3946
1973	3003
1974	2691

However, for some few years to come, for so long as the Patent Office is reducing arrears, this figure may be as much as 50% above the stated average.

(4) All specifications carry I.P.C. markings down to Sub-Class level; the sub classes are those appended to the original European Convention, although a progressive change to the sub-classes of the first edition of the I.P.C. will be detectable.

Accepted Specifications which were accepted on or after 23 January 1975 and lapsed applications printed in 1976 will carry full markings down to sub-group level, drawn from Int. Cl. 1. Later the documents will bear Int. Cl. 2 markings and will be so identified.


(K. Callahan)

A/Assistant Commissioner Administration

[Annex D follows]

DER PRÄSIDENT
DES ÖSTERREICHISCHEN PATENTAMTES

18. März 1975

Wien, am
I., Kohlmarkt 8-10
Postanschrift: Postfach 95, A-101, Wien

GR 232/75

Mr.

Dr. Klaus PFANNER
Deputy Director General
WIPO

Geneva

Ref: PCT Rule 34.1 (c) (vi) -
Document PCT/TCO/IV/18 par 37
Circ. 2135 PCT 21

Dear Dr. Pfanner,

In reply to your letter of February 28, 1975
I have the honor to communicate the following information:

Question No 1

The Austrian Patent Office has been saving ten sets of non-priority claiming Austrian Patent documents up from July 26, 1971 (= patent No 291.501).

Question No 2

The total number of patent documents included in the sorted collection amounts to 7500 documents (January 1, 1975).

Question No 3

The average annual increase of the collection is about 2100 documents.

Question No 4

IPC symbols up to sub-group level (complete symbols) are printed on each document (according to ICIREPAT Standard 9 and 10).

I want to confirm that the Austrian Patent Office is ready to furnish upon request sets of Austrian patent documents to be included in the PCT minimum documentation under Rule 34.1 (c) (vi) to the prospective International Searching and Preliminary Examining Authorities.

Sincerely Yours

W. Schmeißer

[Annex E follows]

(Dr. Schmeißer)



May 13 1975

Your file — Votre dossier

Our file — Notre dossier

Dr Klaus Pfanner
Deputy Director General
WIPO
32 chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneve 20 SUISSE

Dear Dr Pfanner *Klaus*

I refer to Circular 2135 concerning the PCT minimum documentation under PCT Rule 34.1 (c) VI in relation to Canadian nonpriority documents.

The following are replies to the four questions contained in the fore-mentioned circular:

- (1) Beginning with patent 848, 159, our documents have been sorted since August 4, 1970.
- (2) The sorted collection contains 4,640 documents.
- (3) The annual average increase of the collection is 4% of all Canadian Patents granted for a total of 850 patents.
- (4) Our patent documents do not indicate the classification according to the IPC but since a concordance exists between the Canadian Classification System and the IPC, the possibility of affixing the IPC classification to our sorted documents could possibly be contemplated.

I hope that the information given will be of some assistance in your compiling of information on the collection of Canadian nonpriority patent documents.

Sincerely

Jacques Corbeil
Director
Research and International Affairs

Place du Portage
Hull Quebec
K1A 0E1

[End of Annex]

[End of Document]

