



## ePCT Update

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# Quick recap – what is ePCT?

- A suite of secure online services built around a centralized interactive electronic archive of PCT documents and data held at the IB
- WIPO online user account required to access ePCT – an identity management portal has been built (“WIPO Accounts” service)
- ePCT *public* services: access requires only a standard WIPO user account (Username + password) – no access to confidential documents and data
- ePCT *private* services: access requires the WIPO user account to be reinforced with a valid digital certificate
- WIPO Accounts now being extended to Offices in their capacity as RO, ISA and IPEA (*private* services only)

# What can applicants do in ePCT?

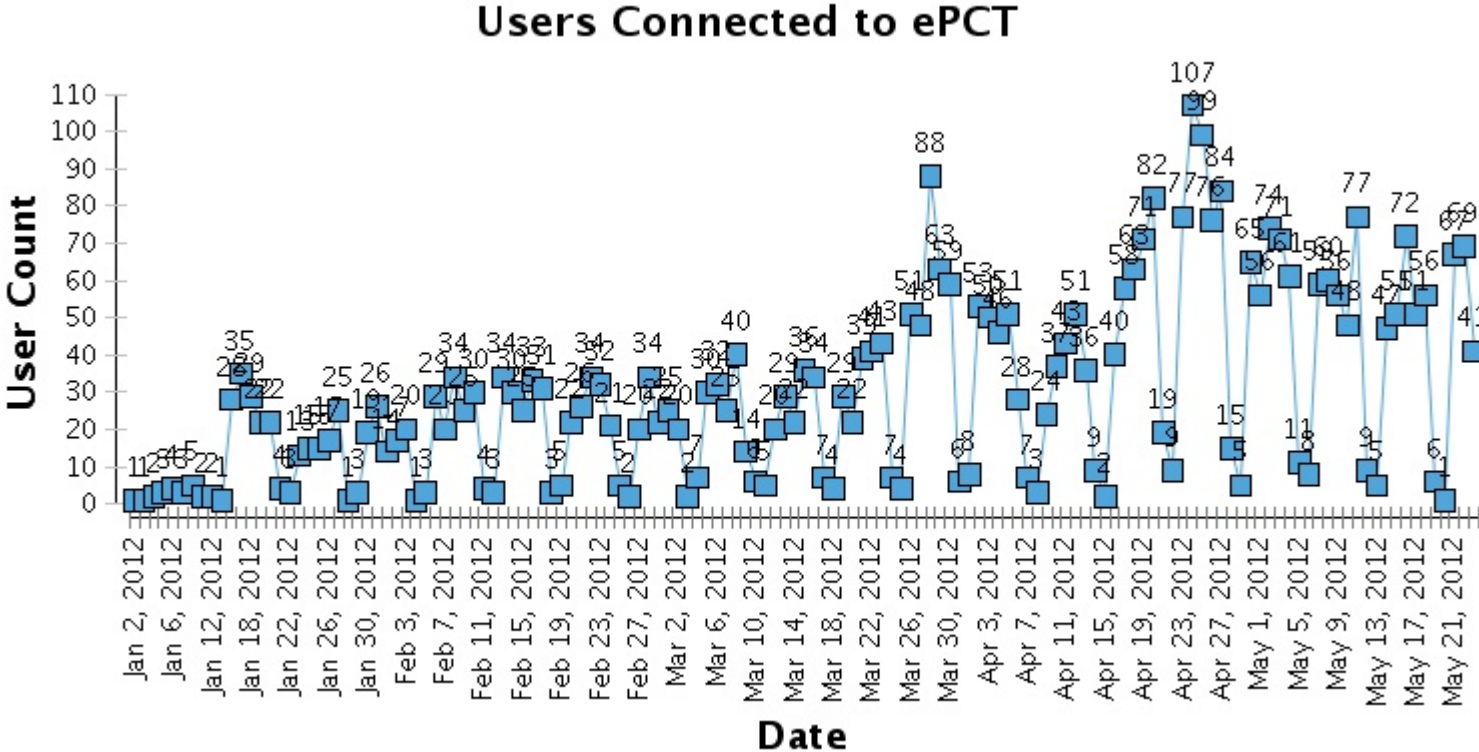
- File a new international application: **coming soon!** (until then, e-filing with PCT-SAFE enables you to establish your online access rights at the time of filing)
- Consult the contents of the IB's electronic file, including full up-to-date bibliographic data
- Interact with your file: withdraw the IA, request changes under Rule 92bis, upload documents electronically, etc.
- Transparency as to processing by the IB and RO/IB
- Monitor deadlines thanks to the timeline feature
- Be notified about events (soon-to-expire deadlines, new documents processed and added to the file, PCT notifications issued, etc.)

# ePCT production usage

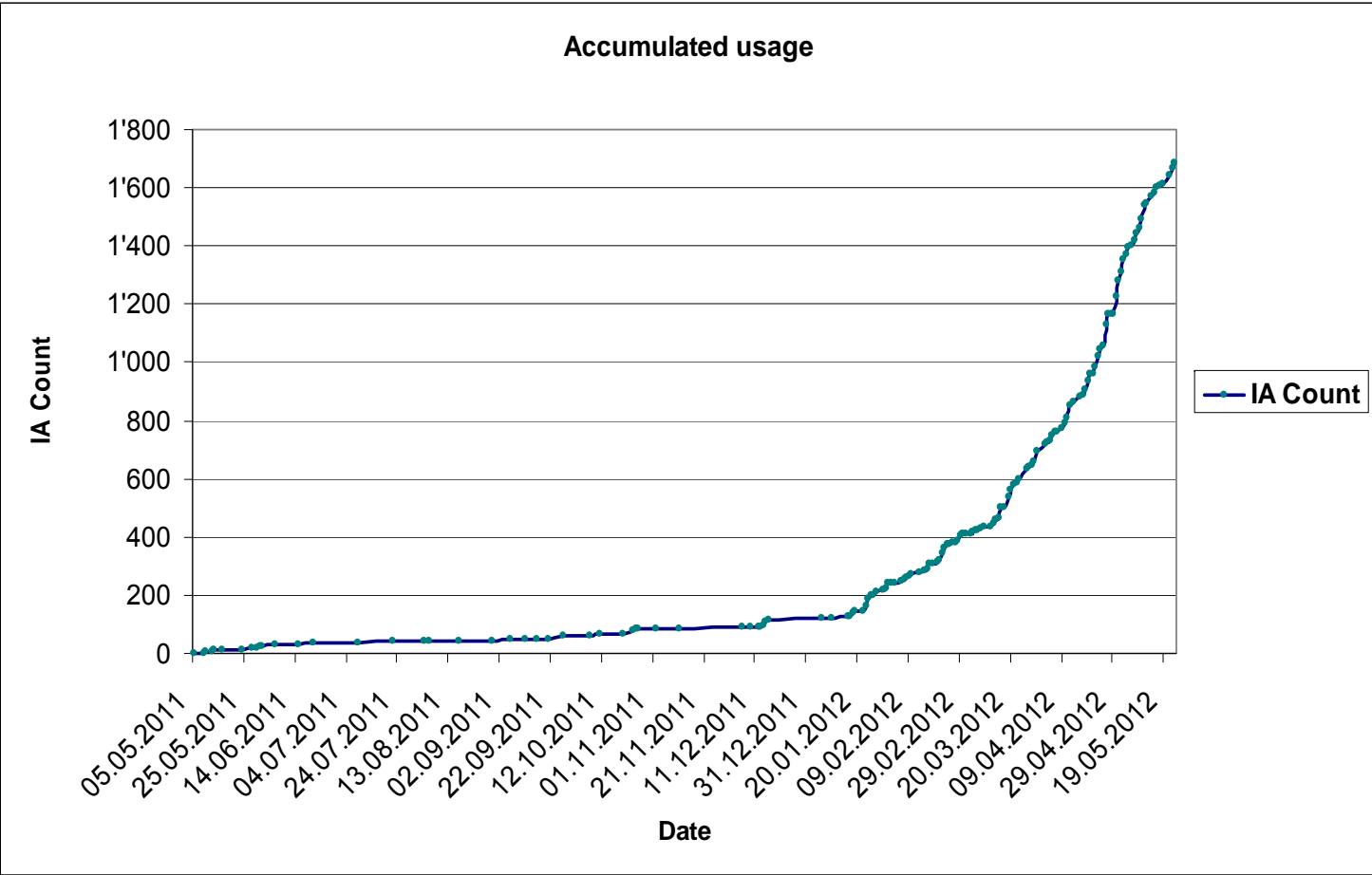
- Significant jump in usage since last year's Working Group (only 10 pilot users at that point!)
  - 1560 users registered and connected at least once
  - 377 unique users connected in the last month alone
- 1600+ International Applications accessible online
  - US 800+
  - IB 300+
  - AU, BR, CA, CN, DE, DK, EP, FI, GB, JP, KR, HU, IL, IN, MY, NL, SE
- Average numbers of users logging in daily ≈60
  - Triggered by opening up of system to all types of filings at any Receiving Office; eOwnership set at time of filing with PCT-SAFE

# Users connecting per day

January to May 2012



# IAs accessible online in ePCT over time



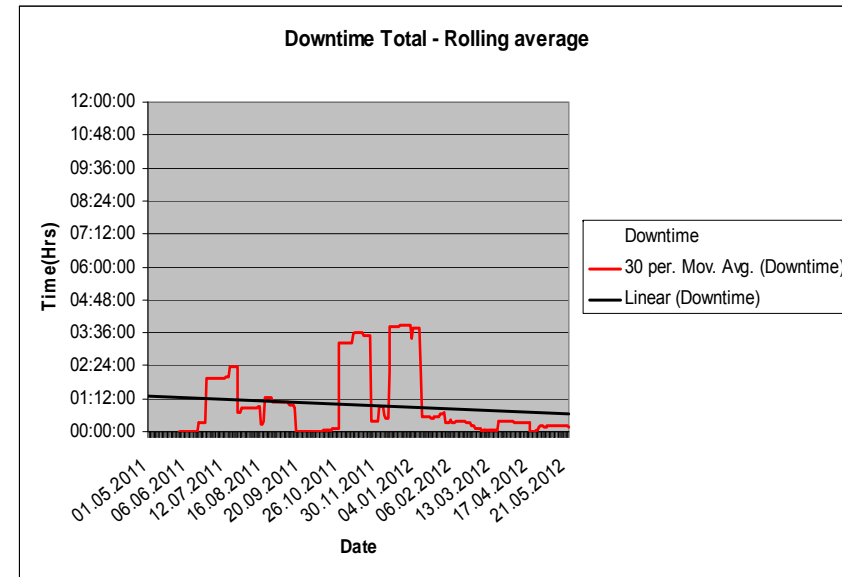
# ePCT access rights management

- Access rights management varies significantly
  - The longest workbench (135 IAs) is owned by a single user account only and access rights are not shared
  - Whereas certain other user accounts routinely share access rights to all their IAs
  - Portfolio management may start to become a more widely used feature

# ePCT pilot system availability

## ■ Current rolling average uptime:

- ❑ Over 30 days: 99.17%
- ❑ Over 60 days: 99.56%
- ❑ Over 90 days: 99.17%





# ePCT version 2.4 released on April 2

## ■ 2.4 release has been stable:

- Incorporated PCT-SAFE April release (for ePCT pre-ownership code at time of filing)
- ePCT Actions: withdraw IA, withdraw priority claims and Rule 92*bis* requests
- ePCT bib data tab: significant extension of bibliographic data available
- Workbench filtering; extension of notification options about certain events in the life of an IA (e.g., new document on file)
- IE9 now supported

# Targets for next ePCT Release in July

## ■ v. 2.5 (2 July)

- Web filing prototype (initially RO/IB only):  
release in DEMO for early feedback from pilot users
- 3rd Party Observations system integration
- Private file inspection pilot for Offices (FI, EP, etc.) in their various roles as RO, ISA, IPEA

## And after that ...

- Web filing production pilot for live filings (initially RO/IB, then gradually propose extension to other ROs)
- Additional online applicant actions:
  - (withdraw designations, post-filing DAS requests, file Demand, etc.)
- Step 1 for Offices: finalize requirements for machine interfaces and PCT forms package tool