

International Search and International Preliminary Examination

**December 2018
Japan Patent Office**

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	3	YES
	Claims	1, 2	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	3	YES
	Claims	1, 2	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-3	YES
	Claims		NO

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

2. Citations and explanations:

D1:US 2006/9876543 A1 (XX CO., LTD.) 2006.11.21, claim 3,
paragraphs [0026]–[0032], [0055]–[0059], Figs. 2–4 & JP 2006–987654 A & CN 1666666 A

The subject matter of claims 1, 2 lacks novelty and an inventive step over document D1 cited in the International Search Report (ISR).

D1 describes a printer having a control section (10) for setting either a normal mode (corresponding to “a normal operating state” of claims 1, 2) or an energy-saving mode (corresponding to “a power-saving operating state” of claims 1, 2) as the operation mode (see claim 3). D1 also describes an example in which only if the control section detects that a normal mode transition signal (25) (corresponding to “a normal operating request” in claims 1, 2) or an energy-saving mode transition signal (26) (corresponding to “a power-saving operating request” in claims 1, 2) has been continuously inputted into the control section from the outside during the predetermined time, then the control section determines that the signal is valid (see paragraphs [0055]–[0059]).

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 1 is identical with the printer described in D1.

The subject matter of claim 3 meets the requirements with respect to novelty and an inventive step over the documents cited in the ISR.

The subject matter of claim 3 is neither disclosed in any of the documents cited in the ISR nor obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

The description has the page numbered 1-7, 9-30, but the page numbered 8 is missing.

The page numbers of the description are not successive.

All the sheets contained in the international application shall be numbered in consecutive Arabic numerals (PCT Rule 11.7).

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Claim 1 describes a hybrid car defined only by the high energy efficiency of a–b %.

The description, however, does not disclose any specific energy efficiency.

Thus, claim 1 is not supported by the description, as required by PCT Article 6.

Consequently, no search has been carried out on hybrid cars, since no meaningful search can be carried out.

Which claim(s) is/are patentable?

The number of claims is 10

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO

Answer...

All claims are patentable!!

Which claim(s) is/are patentable?

The number of claims is 12

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-8	YES
	Claims	9-12	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-12	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO

Answer...

None of the claim is patentable...

Which claim(s) is/are patentable?

The number of claims is 8

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-3, 7, 8	YES
	Claims	4-6	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	7, 8	YES
	Claims	1-6	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-8	YES
	Claims		NO

Answer...

Claims 7, 8 are patentable.

Which claim(s) is/are patentable?

The number of claims is 16

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2, 3, 6-8, 13-16	YES
	Claims	1, 4, 5, 9-12	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	3, 7, 8, 14-16	YES
	Claims	1, 2, 4-6, 9-13	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO

Answer...

Claims 3, 7, 8, 14-16 are patentable.

Which claim(s) is/are patentable?

The number of claims is 15

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	6-10	YES
	Claims	1-5	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO

Furthermore...

Which claim(s) is/are patentable?

The number of claims is 15

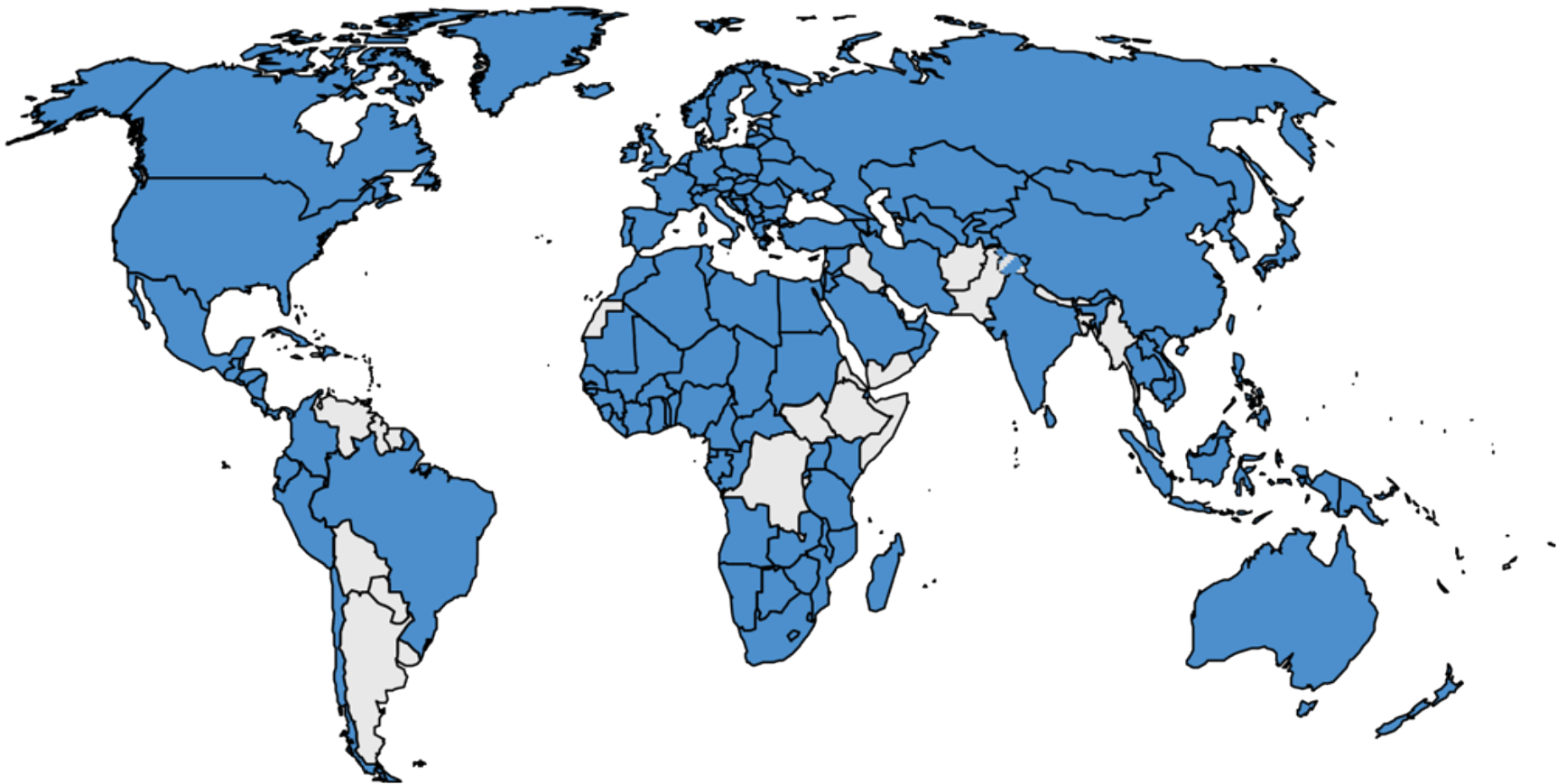
Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

1. In response to the invitation (Form PCT/ISA/206) to pay additional fees the applicant has, within the applicable time limit:
 - paid additional fees.
 - paid additional fees under protest and, where applicable, the protest fee.
 - paid additional fees under protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid.
 - not paid additional fees.
2. (omitted)
3. (omitted)
4. Consequently, this opinion has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application:
 - all parts.
 - the parts relating to claims Nos. 1-10

Answer...

Claims 6-10 are patentable.

Thank you for your attention.



PCT Contracting States [Source: WIPO Website]