

WIPO



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PROPOSED INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIGITAL LIBRARY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

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FOCUS OF PROJECT

1. The WIPO Intellectual Property Digital Library (IPDL) Project will provide electronic intellectual property information to government sectors and individual users. Comprising four phases, Phase I of the Project will provide basic, WIPO-maintained intellectual property information services within a professionally designed, highly standardized environment. Later phases will add new features, access mechanisms and services to the system, extend the base of electronic data published under the system, support additional WIPO languages, and support the integration of locally maintained data collections. This approach is based upon requirements outlined in PCIPI/MI/XXI/2 (Annex III), SCIT/1/5, SCIT/1/9, SCIT/WG/1/12, and pages 87 to 106 of the IT Strategic Implementation Plan (contained in document SCIT/4/2).

POLICY AND PRINCIPLES

2. The IPDL Project was commissioned, by the WIPO Member States, in the July 1997 meeting of the PCIPI/MI. The original objectives were: (a) to promote the dissemination of intellectual property information via the Internet to the public; and (b) to cooperate with

intellectual property offices in the development and exchange of intellectual property information. These basic objectives remain unchanged.

3. In effect, these two objectives define two primary user groups: the public (including researchers, engineers, inventors, students and other novice users), and professionals within WIPO Member State offices. With this in mind, the development of the IPDL Project is based upon the following principles:

(a) WIPO will support the current trend of access to basic IP data collections as demonstrated by various Member State offices.

(b) The Project will not compete with commercially available information services. Due to the wide range of needs within the two primary user groups, the Project will not focus solely on those traditionally supported by commercial services, for users such as professional, corporate patent information specialists and patent attorneys, but will also consider the contents of and interfaces to the IMPACT system. For example, services for the public will be provided through a straightforward, user-friendly interface, and services for Member State offices will include features, functions, and data collections necessary for official use, such as secure access to unpublished data.

(c) To maximize the cost-effectiveness of the project, and minimize the duplication of work, a detailed coordination process will be undertaken with the primary user groups. This will include careful and detailed needs analysis and requirements definition. In particular, the IPDL Project will cooperate and coordinate extensively with the efforts of other major data producers, such as the Trilateral Offices.

(d) Based upon need, WIPO will assist intellectual property offices (in particular those currently operating in a paper-only environment) in the development of standardized on-line access systems within the IPDL environment for their national intellectual property information.

CURRENT STATUS

4. WIPO has developed a prototype IPDL node through which several IP data collections are experimentally published on the Web. Usage statistics reflect the success of this initiative (521,000 hits for the PCT Gazette and 33,000 hits for the Madrid Express data during the month of April 2000). This prototype has also brought to light a variety of information dissemination issues that need to be resolved during the development of a fully functional, production-oriented system. This work will be covered in Phase I of the Project.

IPDL PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

5. Each of the four IPDL Project phases will be self-contained, with a clear scope and mandate.

Phase	Type of Data	Coverage
Phase I (2000/2001)	WIPO-generated electronic data (PCT, Madrid, Hague) Development/Identification of standards for IP Office electronic data integration into the IPDL system	PCT International Applications – April 1998-present Madrid – (full collection) Hague – (1930, 1960)
Migrate Phase I to Production		
Phase II (2002/2003)	Sub-set of existing electronic data available from Member States offices (selected Member States Offices, for the last 10 years) Continued development of standards	Patent full text and access to representative drawings Trademark bibliographic and textual data, plus figurative elements Secure access to non-PCT Member State Priority Documents for unpublished applications
Migrate Phase II to Production		
Phase III (2003/2004)	Additional Member States electronic data	Same as Phase II
Migrate Phase III to Production		
Phase IV (2005/2006)	Begin scanning OCR program for paper-only collections	Same as Phase III
Migrate Phase IV to Production		

6. This phased approach will permit improvements to the system as technology progresses, the addition of new data collections as they become available, and will support the transparent evaluation and approval of IPDL services by the WIPO Member States. Furthermore, this approach will allow WIPO to provide near-term, professionally maintained access to currently unavailable data collections while ensuring the sustainability and scalability of the system.

7. The IPDL Project is currently funded for a period of two years (2000-2001 biennium). While the proposed phased approach foresees continued development, which will include additional data collections, improved services, and additional functionality, it enables the Project to enter a maintenance and support mode at any time after the end of Phase I. Each Phase will include a preliminary planning and budgeting task for the subsequent Phase, which will be presented to the SCIT for approval.

PHASE I DEPLOYMENT

8. Phase I of the IPDL Project is scheduled for completion at the end of 2001, and can be delivered within the existing approved biennial budget for sub-program 12.5. The scope of the first Project phase will include the following activities:

- (a) conceptual planning, design and quality approach for all phases;
- (b) dissemination of information about the Project and its scope and objectives;
- (c) detailed approach to Phase I services, standards and data collections;
- (d) collection and documentation of data on consumer IP information needs and requirements;
- (e) design, procurement and implementation of Phase I hardware and software systems;
- (f) the addition of WIPO produced electronic data collections;
- (g) planning and budgeting for Phase II for presentation to the SCIT.

9. Phase I development activities will focus on a comprehensive data access environment suitable for use by the two primary user groups previously mentioned in paragraph 3. This environment shall provide access to WIPO-produced electronic data collections, such as PCT full text, and complete Madrid and Hague Convention registration data. A number of specific services will be supplied including: a full-featured text search and retrieval system, a persistent-identifier resource location system, an electronic mail-based document retrieval services for bulk retrieval and downloading, document linking and rendering services, a Web-based user interface in 3 official WIPO languages, and the identification and support of critical information systems standards.

10. The SCIT Plenary is invited to approve the IPDL project deployment strategy for Phase I as contained in paragraphs 8 and 9, above.

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