

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
GENEVA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES STANDARDS AND DOCUMENTATION WORKING GROUP

Fourth Session
Geneva, January 26 to 30, 2004

CORRECTIONS RELATING TO PATENT INFORMATION PUBLISHED
BY PATENT OFFICES

Document prepared by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. The Guidelines given by WIPO Standard ST.50 aim at providing guidance to industrial property offices and other suppliers of patent information on how to issue corrections, alterations and supplements relating to patent information published in paper form or on machine-readable media, for the purpose of promoting an unambiguous and uniform presentation of such corrections, alterations and supplements.
2. In its letter of August 20, 2003, the Patent Documentation Group (PDG) informed the International Bureau (IB) that, since the adoption of WIPO Standard ST.50, there have been developments that are not in accordance with the said Standard. The PDG proposes to carry out a survey on the status of the correction procedures in the industrial property offices.
3. The letter of the PDG is reproduced in the Annex to this document. WIPO Standard ST.50 is available at <http://www.wipo.int/scit/>: WIPO Standards and Other Documentation/List of WIPO Standards.

Proposal

4. In regard to the proposal concerning the survey referred to in paragraph 2, above, the IB proposes the establishment of a task in order to prepare a questionnaire on the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.50 by industrial property offices and to carry out the survey proposed by the PDG in its letter.

5. *The Standards and Documentation Working Group is invited:*

(a) *to note the letter of the PDG reproduced in the Annex to this document; and,*

(b) *if found appropriate, to consider and approve the proposal contained in paragraph 4, above.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

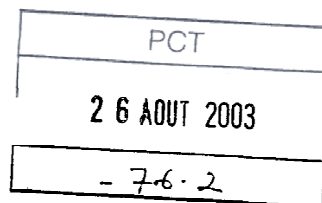
Patent Documentation Group

Dipl.-Phys. Ralf H. Behrens Secretary General

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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
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Attn. Mr. Angel Lopéz Solanas
Head of Standards and Documentation Service
34, chemin des Colombettes
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Date. 20 August 2003

Our ref. WIPO_20032008_1

Your ref.

Re: Corrections Relating to Patent Information Published by Patent Offices.

Dear Mr. Solanas,

During the last meeting of the PDG Working Group IMPACT (Impact of patent laws on documentation), which took place at INPI in Paris in March 2003 the participants from several companies, IP offices, EPI, and Derwent discussed the topic: "Corrections relating to patent information published by Patent offices". The main focus was on the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.50 in the various offices, but also in this context, on the practices of the commercial providers.

Since the introduction of ST.50, which was strongly supported by the PDG, the IMPACT working group has been monitoring developments in the patent information field regarding corrections. Our main goals are a standardized procedure regarding the kind-of-document codes, ways of correcting patent information on different media and the extension of ST.50 where necessary (e.g. date of correction).

In the framework of our discussion we noticed that there have been developments that are not in accordance with the WIPO Standard. As an example, the newly established correction codes on WORLD DVDs (R1-R9) do not conform to WIPO's own Standard.

We would like to propose that WIPO takes action and carries out a survey on the status of correction procedures in the different offices. The following questions could be addressed: Are any correction rules implemented? Are they according to ST.50? What are the future plans of individual offices? If there are deviations from the standard, why have they been implemented? WIPO is clearly the institution that should take the leadership in these issues.

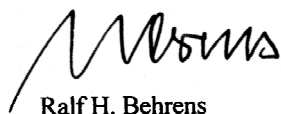
As a separate action, similar questions were sent out to the commercial database producers asking them whether they have installed or are intending to install correction procedures. During the SACEPO/PDI meeting in March 2003 in Vienna, a survey was presented which gives the status of procedures used by the major hosts or database producers. The next step will be to start an initiative to standardize their procedures. We will invite the commercial vendors to take part in this activity. PDG is willing to share the results with WIPO and all IP offices.

The result of both activities described should be a status report on the "correction procedures" employed in the main patent information sources world-wide. Whether additional activities need to be started is still an open issue.

Our delegate would be prepared to explain more fully our proposal should the topic be included on the agenda of the next SCIT meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Patent Documentation Group



Ralf H. Behrens
Secretary General

[End of Annex and of document]