



USPTO Worksharing Initiatives

ASEAN Sub-regional Workshop

Topic 2: Overview of IP5 Worksharing Projects

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Tokyo, Japan

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Discussion Topics

- PPH Program Update
- Worksharing Pilots
- Access to Patent Application Information: eDan and Public PAIR
- IT Limitations of Current Initiatives
- IP5 Program Recent Developments



PPH Program Update



Messages to Users

- PPH usage is growing rapidly
- What you are ***missing*** if you are not using PPH
 - Significantly lower prosecution costs
 - Fast-tracked examination improving timeliness of patent issuance
 - Higher quality than can be delivered by any single office acting individually
 - Flexibility – PPH is one more avenue to consider when developing an IP portfolio



USPTO PPH Program Growth

- Average number of **new** PPH requests at the USPTO:
 - 2010 = 204
 - 2011 = 344
- 2012 Average to date: 427



PPH Statistics at a Glance

- Number of requests as of **July 31, 2012**:

Route	New in July	Cumulative
Paris-PPH	208	7,856
PCT-PPH	194	4,112
Total	402	11,968



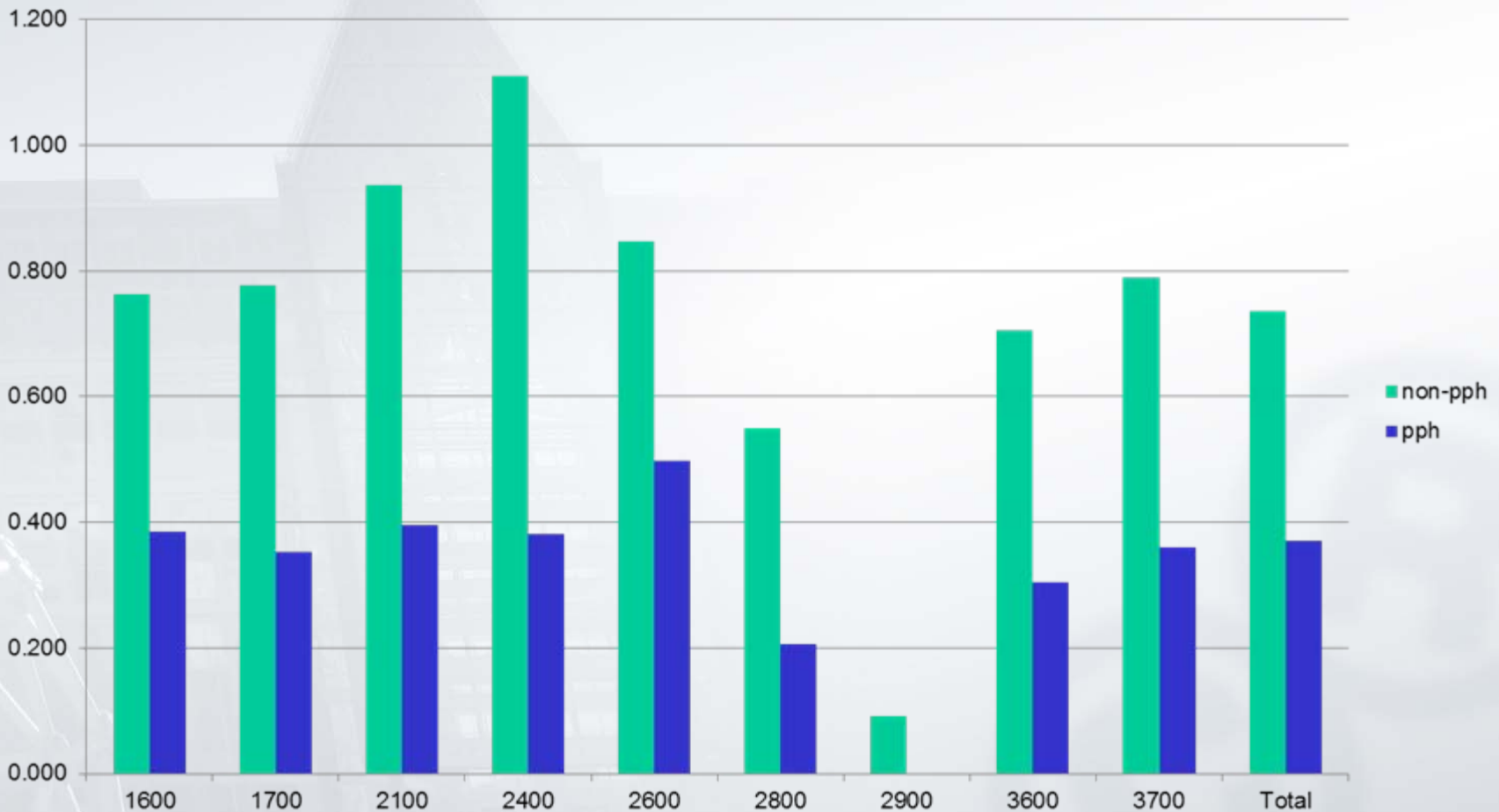
PPH Efficiency Benefits

- PPH continues to deliver benefits to the offices and users
- PPH results compared with all cases

	Paris-PPH	PCT-PPH	All Cases
Grant Rate (Allowances/Total Number of Disposals)	87%	91%	49%
Actions per Disposal	2.3	1.6	2.6++



Full Life Cycle PPI – PPH/Non PPH Comparison – FY 11





PPH Benefits

- Key factor in cost savings: Fewer office actions
- Depending on complexity, cost per action ranges from \$2,086-\$3,899 (AIPLA Economic Survey 2011)

	Paris-PPH	PCT-PPH	All Cases
Actions per Disposal	2.3	1.61	2.6
Cost (\$2,086)	\$4,797	\$3,358	\$5,424
Savings	\$627	\$2,066	



Worksharing Pilots



Worksharing Pilots

- JP-First
 - JPO notifies USPTO when work is available; applications are not prioritized
 - Notification to examiners done via eDAN and email
 - Evaluates ways to improve the availability and usability of results
- Trilateral FLASH
 - USPTO is OFF and prioritizes applications identified for the pilot
 - Evaluates ways to improve the availability and usability of results



Worksharing Pilots

- KIPO-USPTO SHARE Pilot
 - Offices exchange list of cross-filed applications to select candidates for pilot; applications are not prioritized
 - Support staff manually compile OFF results for participants
 - Evaluates the usefulness of search record and results of the OFF



Lessons Learned

- Ability to Reuse or Apply Results:
 - Generally positive regarding the usefulness of work products
 - All suggest better understanding of offices' practices will improve worksharing
- Logistical or Technical Issues:
 - Timing
 - Notification
 - Access
- Difficult to take programs to scale without better IT solutions



Access to Patent Application Information: eDan and Public PAIR



Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR)

- The **Patent Application Information Retrieval** system provides IP customers a safe, simple, and secure way to retrieve and download information regarding patent application status.
- Public PAIR provides access to issued patents and published applications.



Public PAIR Features

- A Published/Issued patent application in Public PAIR may have up to eleven (11) tabs listed
 - The tab is only visible if data is present
- Each tab provides one of the respective data elements
 - Application Data
 - Transaction History
 - Image File Wrapper (IFW)
 - Continuity data
 - Patent Term Adjustments
 - Patent Term Extensions
 - Foreign Priority data
 - Fees
 - Published documents
 - Attorney/Agent Address information
 - Supplemental content



Public PAIR Search Screen

You can search by various types of serial numbers

Enter the serial number then select the SEARCH button

Selecting an 'information' icon displays additional information

Patent Application Information Retrieval

Select New Case

Select New Case

** indicates a required field*

To search for a specific application or conduct a search related to a customer number.

Search for Application:

Choose type of number.

- Application Number (EXAMPLE: 99999999 or 99/999999) *i*
- Control Number *i*
- Patent Number *i*
- PCT Number (EXAMPLE: PCT/CCYY/99999 or PCT/CCYYYY/999999) *i*
- Publication Number *i*

* Enter number:



Tabular Sectioned Data

Each tab is displayed only when data is available

Patent Application Information Retrieval											
		Order Certified Application As Filed	Order Certified File Wrapper	View Order List							
10/123,456		LIFTING DEVICE FOR TYRE REMOVAL MACHINES									
Select New Case	Application Data	Transaction History	Image File Wrapper	Continuity Data	Patent Term Adjustments	Patent Term Extension History	Foreign Priority	Fees	Published Documents	Address & Attorney/Agent	Supplemental Content
Bibliographic Data											
Application Number:	10/123,456	Customer Number:	-								
Filing or 371 (c) Date:	04-17-2002	Status:	Patented Case								
Application Type:	Utility	Status Date:	01-26-2005								
Examiner Name:	UNDERWOOD, DONALD W	Location:	ELECTRONIC								
Group Art Unit:	3652	Location Date:	-								
Confirmation Number:	7490	Earliest Publication No:	US 2002-0154983 A1								
Attorney Docket Number:	CWS1.000GEN	Earliest Publication Date:	10-24-2002								
Class / Subclass:	414/680	Patent Number:	6,854,950								
First Named Inventor:	Remo Corghi , Correggio, (IT)	Issue Date of Patent:	02-15-2005								
Title of Invention:	LIFTING DEVICE FOR TYRE REMOVAL MACHINES										



Foreign Priority

Foreign Priority tab displays in which foreign country the application claims priority

Patent Application Information Retrieval

[Order Certified Application As Filed](#) [Order Certified File Wrapper](#)

10/123,456 LIFTING DEVICE FOR TYRE REMOVAL MACHINES

Select New Case Application Data Transaction History Image File Wrapper Patent Term Adjustments **Foreign Priority** Fees Published Documents Address & Attorney/Agent Supplemental Content

Foreign Priority

Country	Priority	Priority Date
ITALY	RE2001A000042	04-24-2001



IT Limitations



IT Limitations

- PPH IT Issues
 - Manual data entry and retrieval
 - Critical information required to track, measure, and evaluate the programs stored in different, disparate systems
- Impact
 - Inability to automatically generate reports
 - Inability to easily capitalize on the wealth of information about the programs to identify improvement areas, focus outreach, evaluate pilots, etc.
 - Unnecessary delays in responding to requests for information
 - Increased chances of error



IT Limitations

- Worksharing Pilots-Related IT Issues
 - Intense manual effort to select cross-filed applications
 - Manual notification processes
 - Manual effort to record, provide results
 - Varying ease/ability to access the work of other offices
- Impact
 - Inefficient use of resources
 - Decreased size of dataset available for analysis
 - Inability to take programs to scale to truly capitalize on the benefits of worksharing



IP5 Program Recent Developments



IP5 Background

- IP5 Heads of Offices first meeting – May 2007
- Goal: Provide the infrastructure for worksharing
- Ten foundation projects designed to build infrastructure for worksharing and increase examiners' confidence in work completed in other offices
 - *WG1 – Classification*
 - ***WG2 – IT supported business processes***
 - *WG3 – Examination practice-related*



IP5 Recent Developments

- Global Dossier Initiative
 - Global platform for worksharing taking all stakeholders into account
 - Provides the ability to focus IP5 and several other IT initiatives at multiple offices towards a common goal
 - Task force to launch with members from IP5 Offices, WIPO and industry groups
- IP5 Realignment and Shift in Operating Model
 - Eliminate “2 projects per office” philosophy
 - Adapt progressive development models



Arigatō!

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