

Digitization of Business Processes and Information Systems

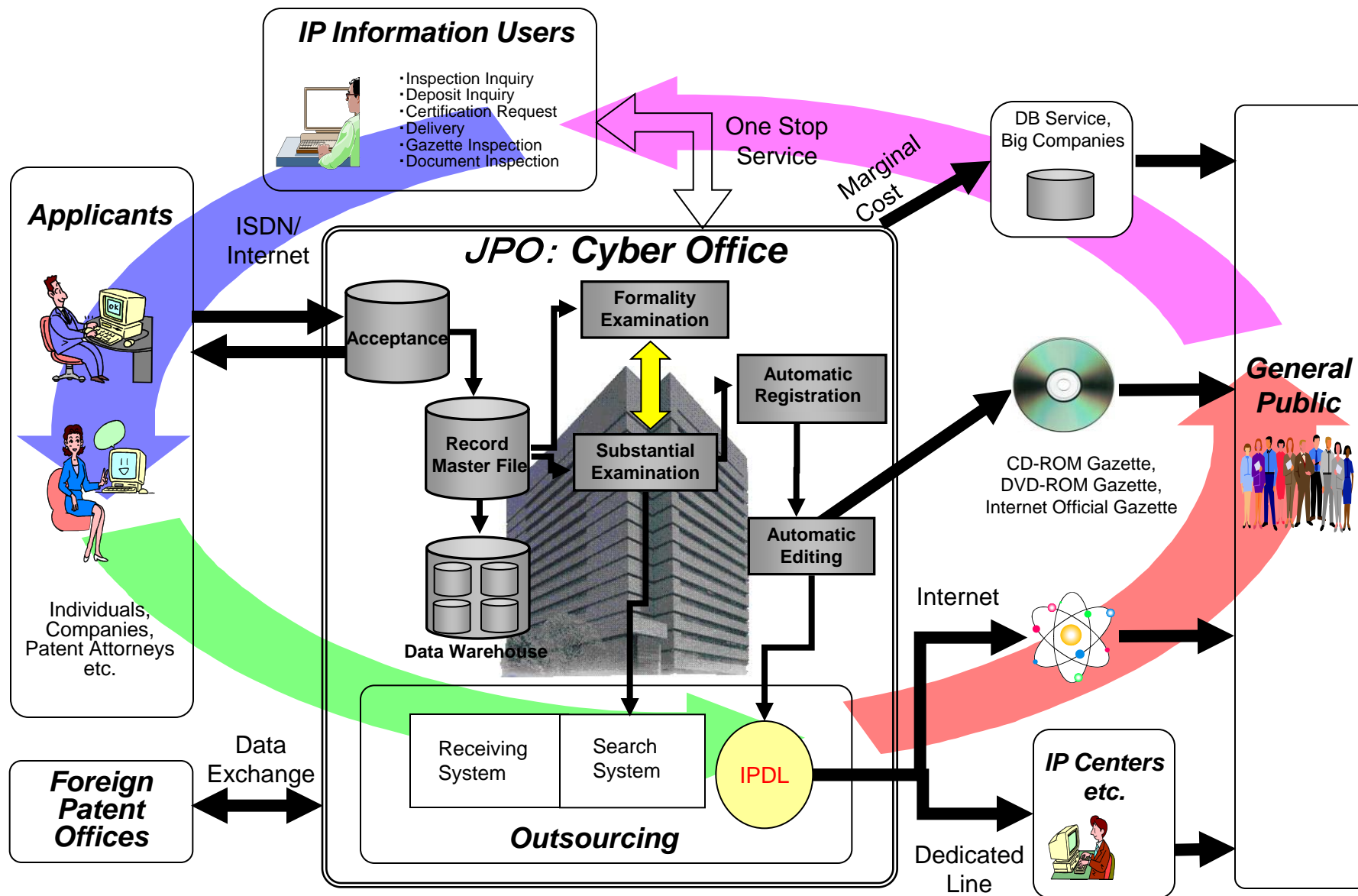
Isao HONZAWA

Japan Patent Office (JPO)

7 Dec, 2010

- **Outline of JPO Paperless System**
- **Effects of Implementing Paperless System**
- **Key issues in system development**

● Outline of JPO Paperless System



The History of Paperless Project

Paperless Project

1964 Introduction of Computer

1984 Start of PL Project

1990 Start of Electronic Filing

1993 Release of Peripheral system for Patent Examination

2000 Release of Peripheral system for Design and Trademark Examination

2005 Start of Optimization Plan

Organization

1961 Computerization Research Office was set in the General Affairs Division.

1964 IT Planning Office and IT Research & Development Office was set

1983 Headquarter of Paperless Project was established in the General Affairs Division.

1984 IT Division was founded. (with IT Planning Office, Research & Development Office, Operation Management office, Administrative System Promotion Office(W1), and Search and Appeal System Promotion Office(W2))

1994 W2 was abolished and the work was transferred to Patent Information Dissemination Division

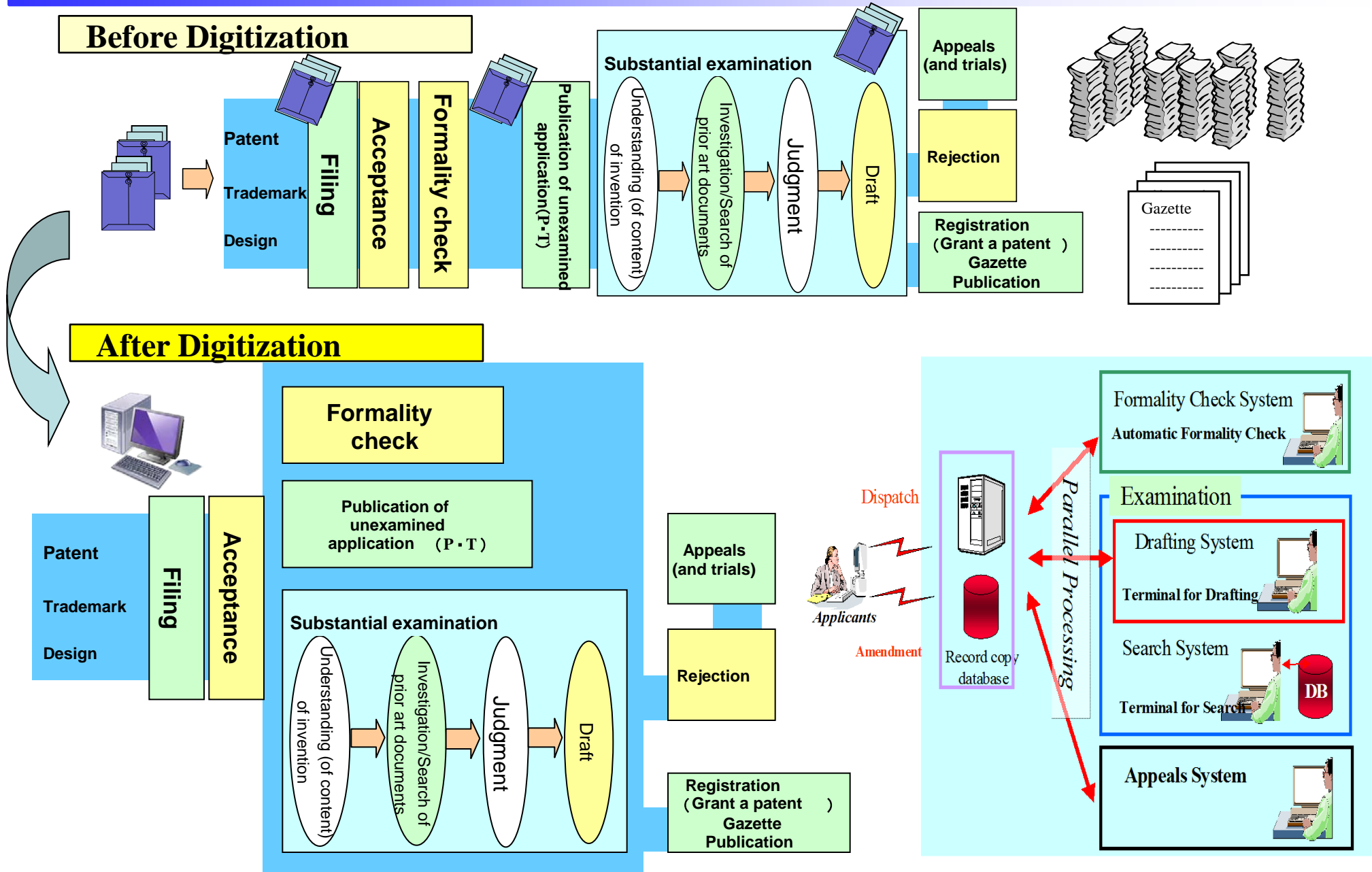
1999 Operation Management Office was abolished. (the section of Operation Management was established directly below the IT division.)

2001 W1 was abolished. Instead, the administrative adjustment section was established below the IT Planning Office.

2005 The services and systems Optimization Promotion Office was started.

2007 The work of IT Division was partly transferred to INPIT.

System Design for Efficient administrative work



● Effects of Implementing Paperless System

- ◆ Increase in User Friendliness
 - Electronic Filing

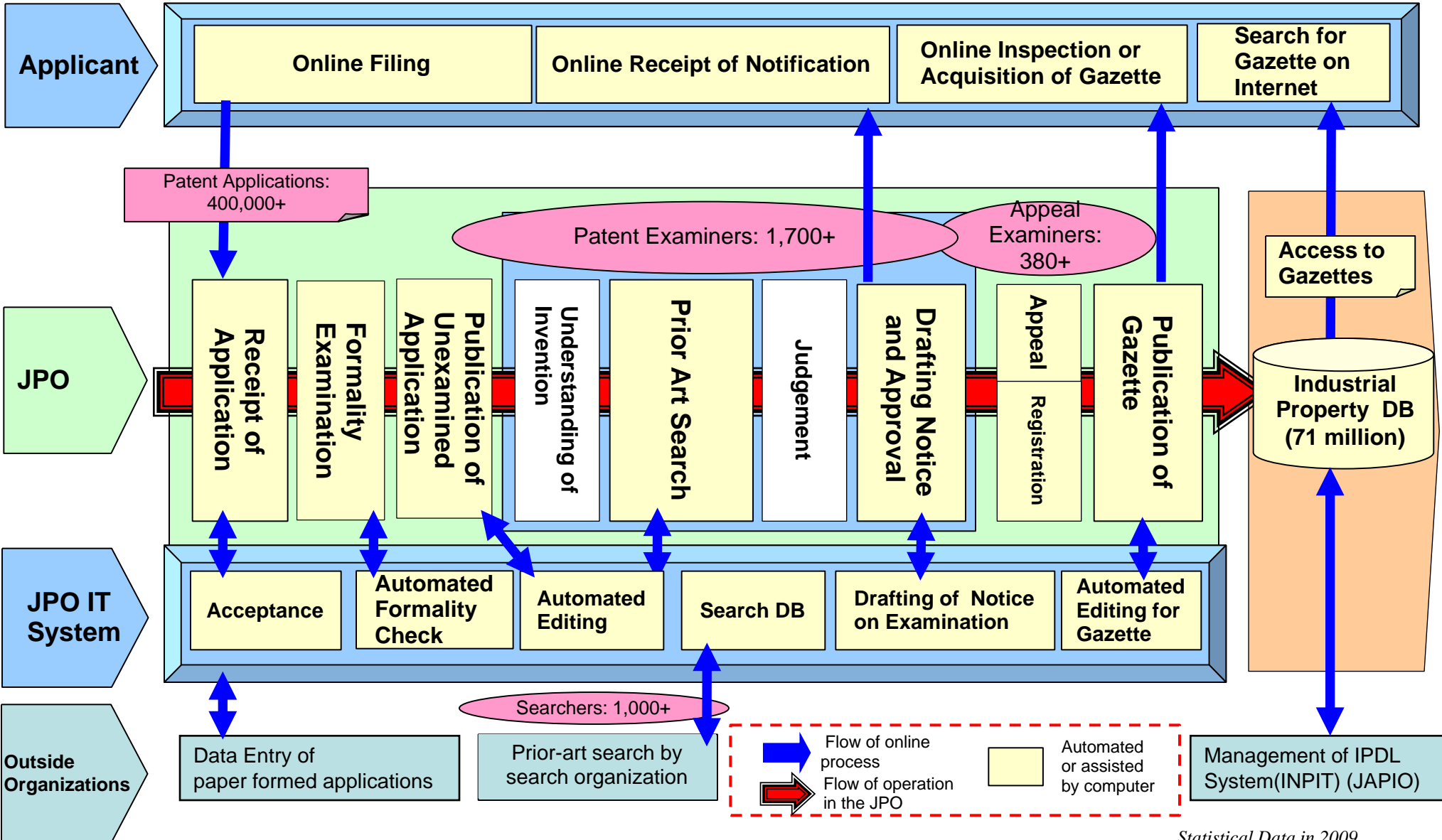
- ◆ Efficient Internal Administrative Procedure
 - Automatic Formality Check

- ◆ Contribution to Prompt and Accurate Examination
 - Search & Examination

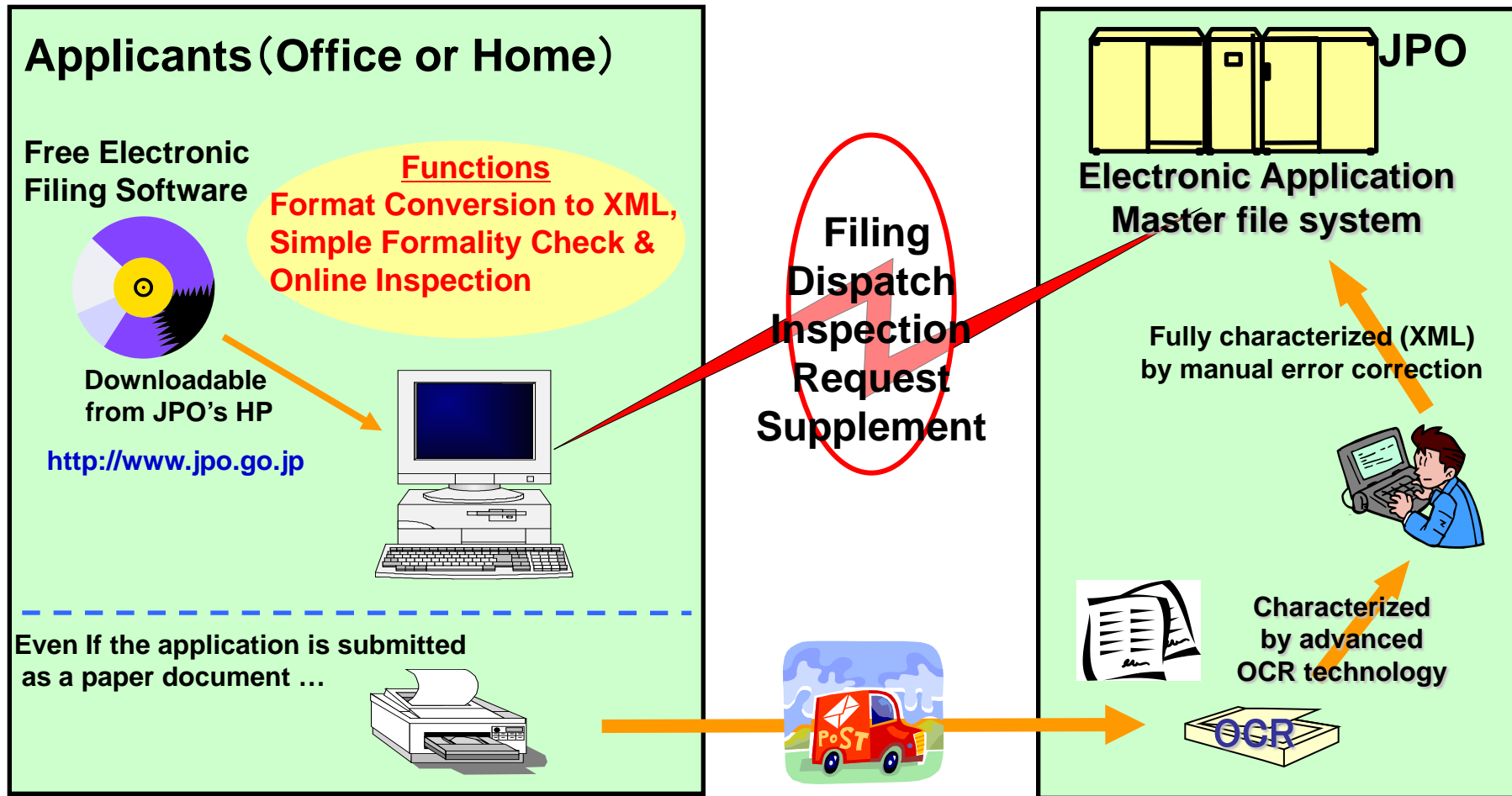
- ◆ Expansion of IP Information Dissemination Services
 - Internet Official Gazette, IPDL

◆ Increase in User Friendliness

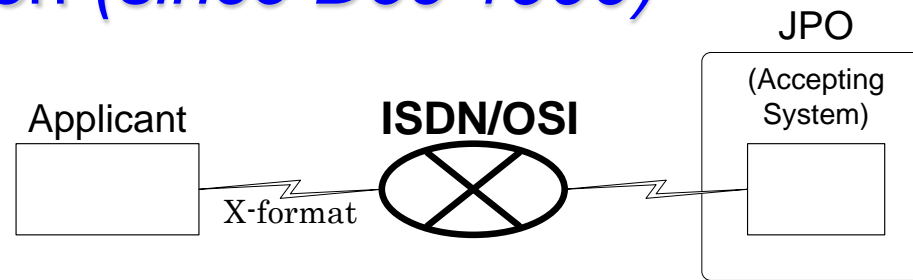
- Patent -



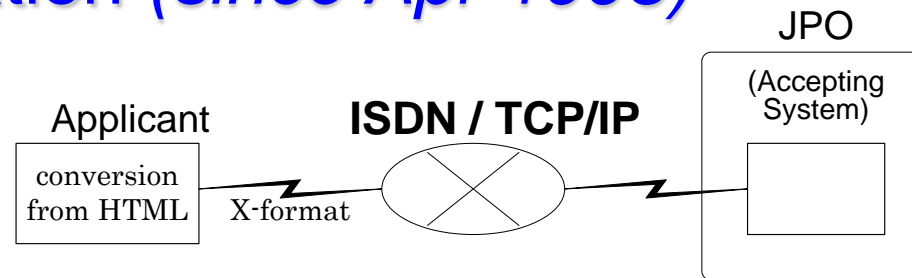
Electronic Filing from Office or Home



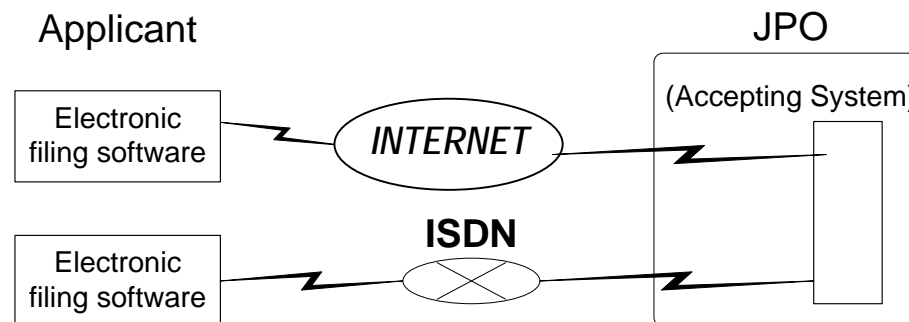
1st generation *(since Dec 1990)*



2nd generation *(since Apr 1998)*



3rd generation *(since Oct 2005)*



Paper to e-document

Paper

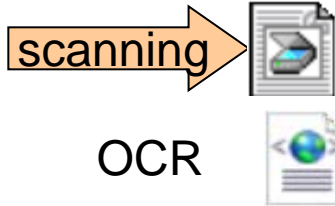
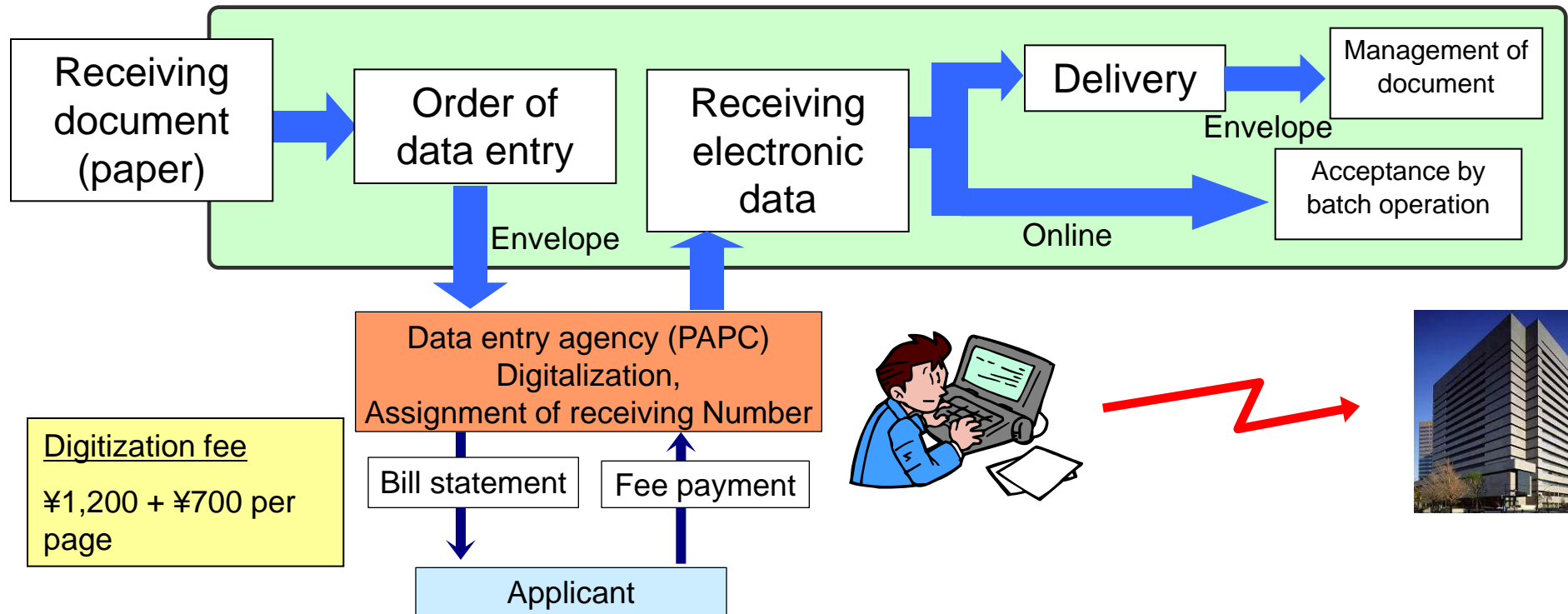
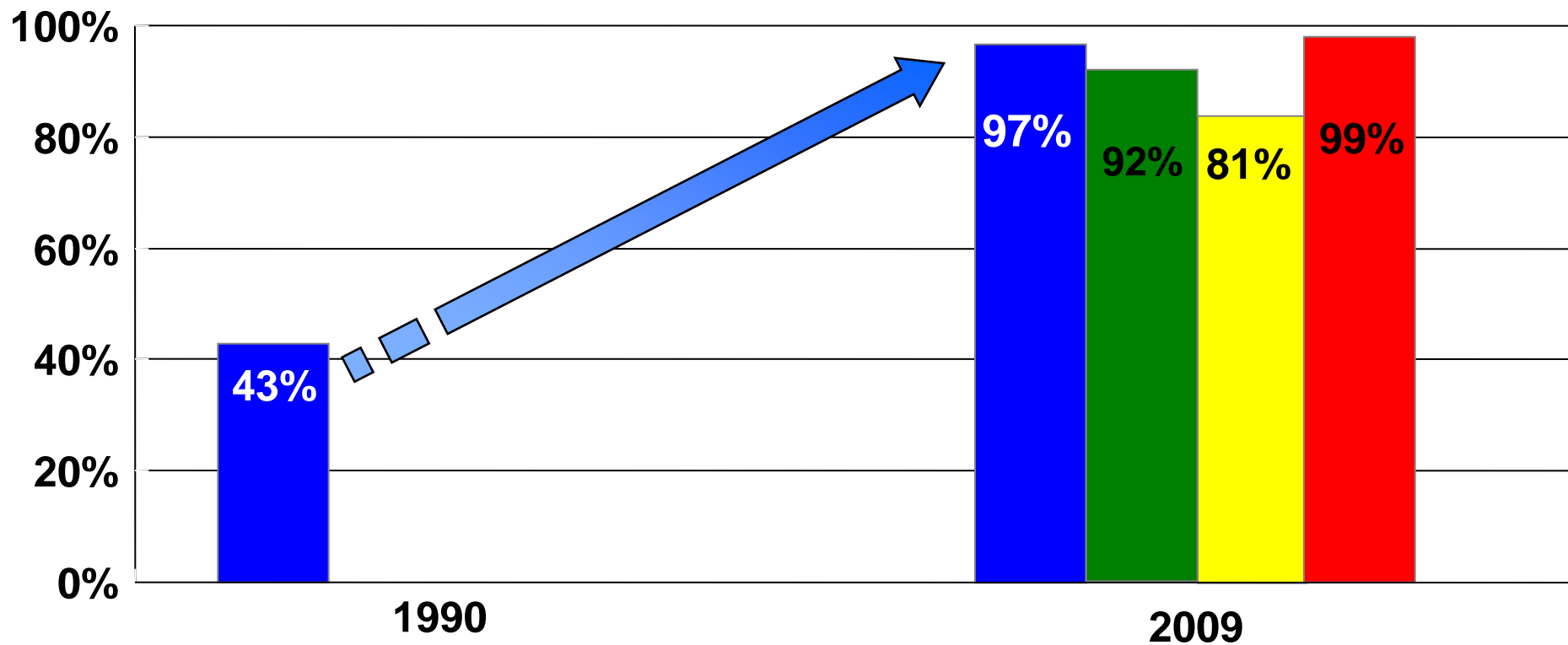


image - large volume, unsearchable

text - small volume, searchable



Electronic Filing Trends



Statistics in 2009

■ Patent and Utility Model

■ Industrial Design

■ Trademark

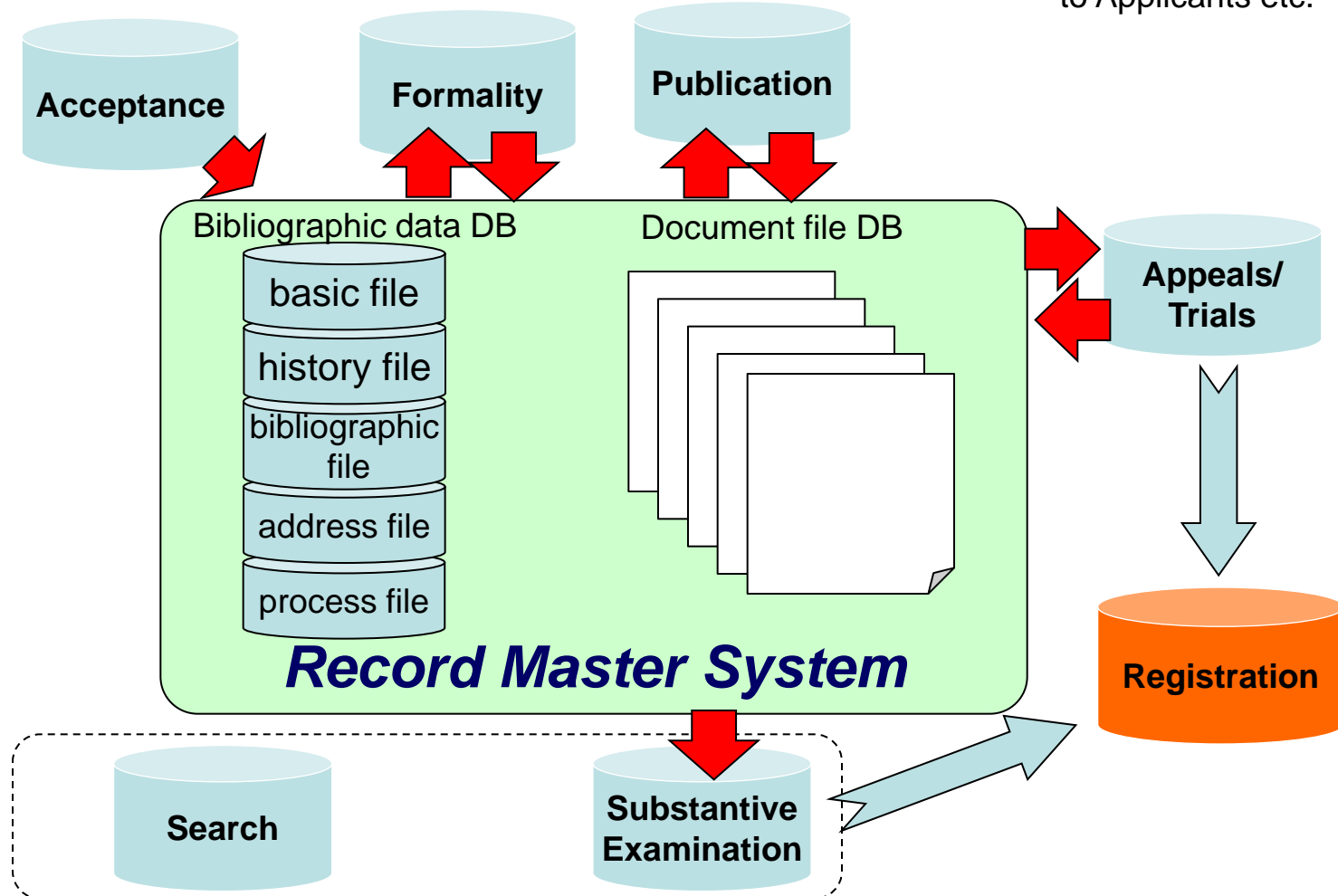
■ Appeal

◆ Efficient Internal Administrative Procedure

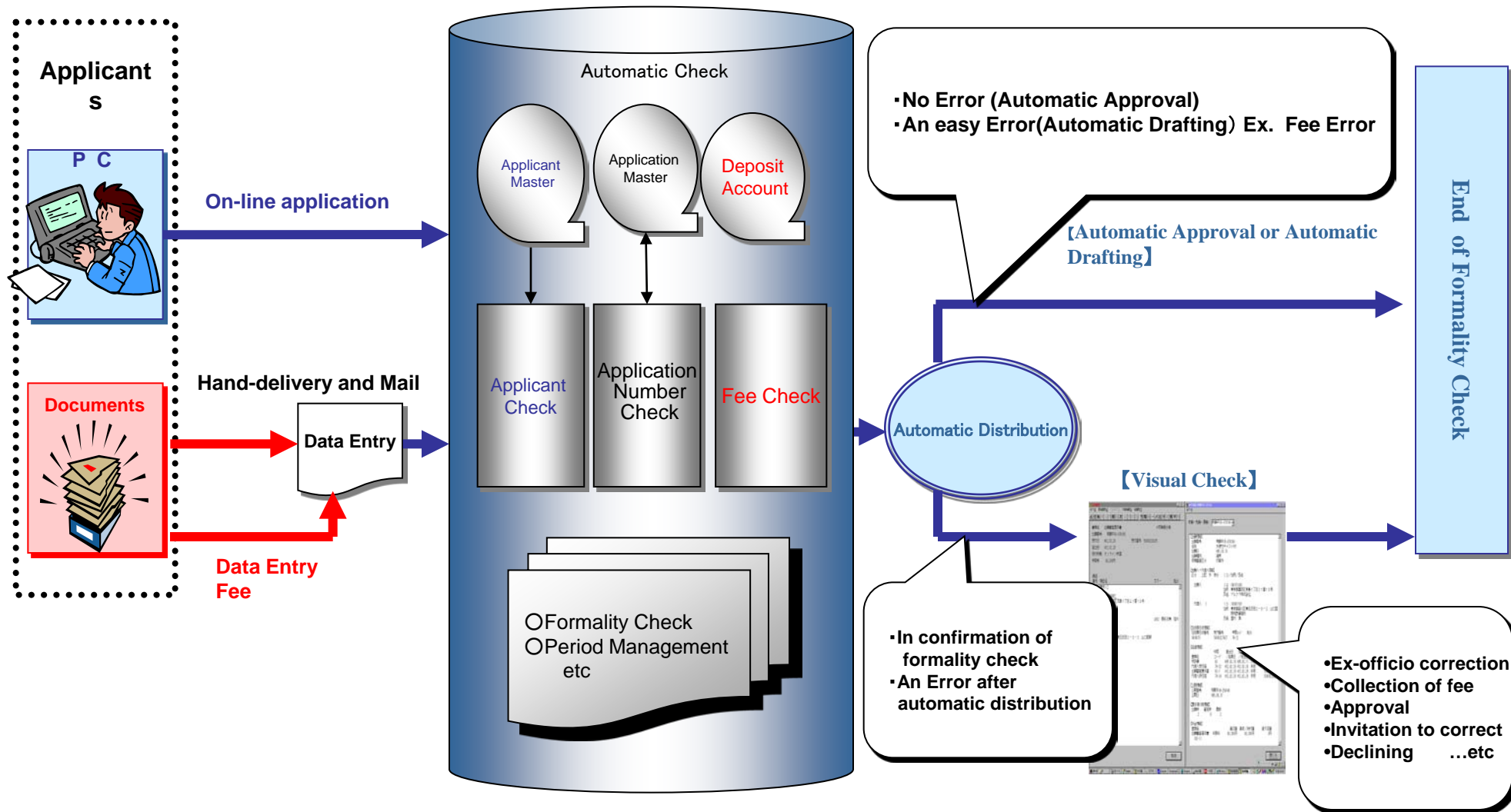
Record Master System

Record Master System consists of bibliographic data DB and document file DB

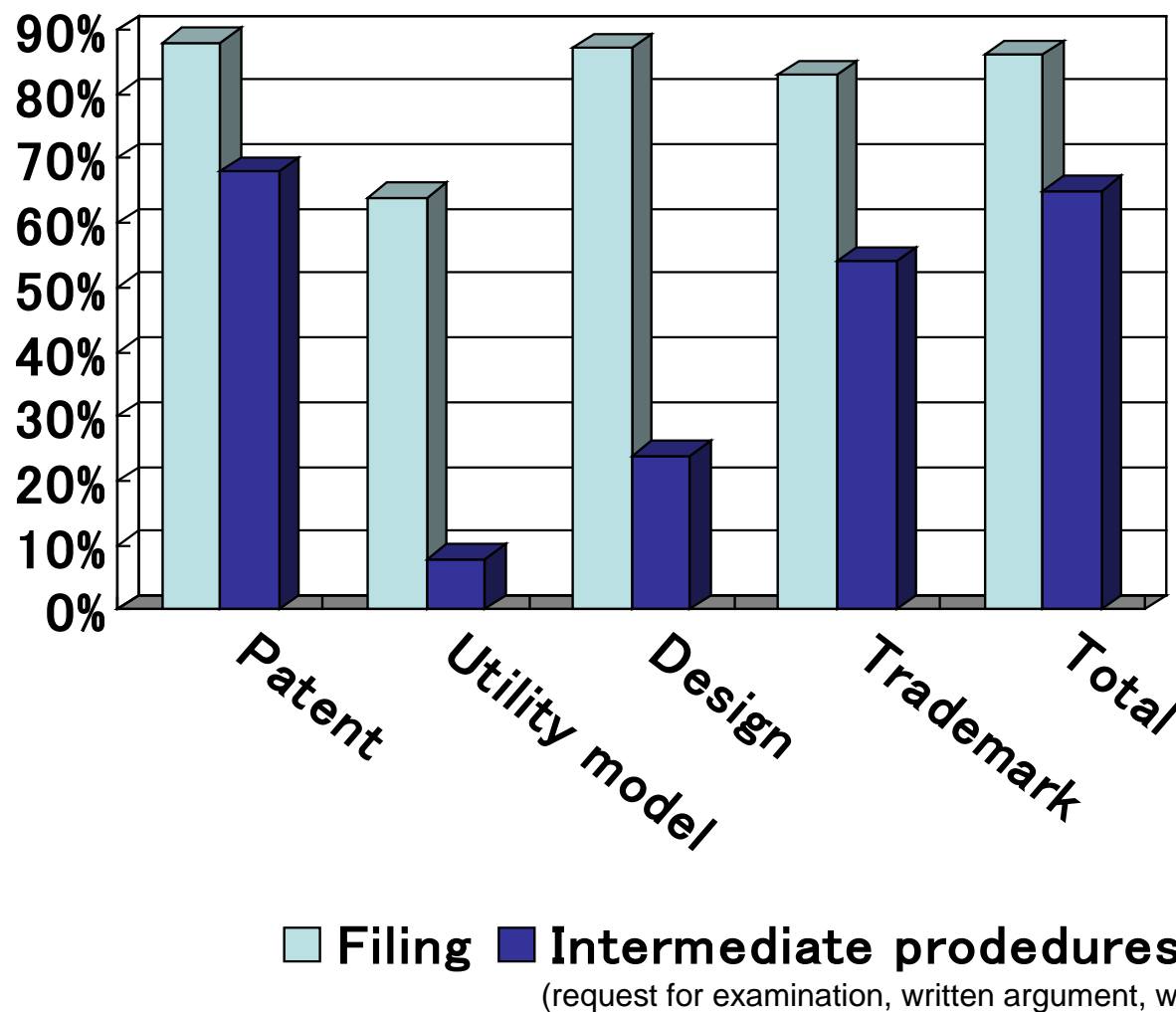
- Bibliographic information
- History information from acceptance of the application to the final action etc.
- Documents submitted from applicants to JPO
- Documents sent from JPO to Applicants etc.



Formality Check System

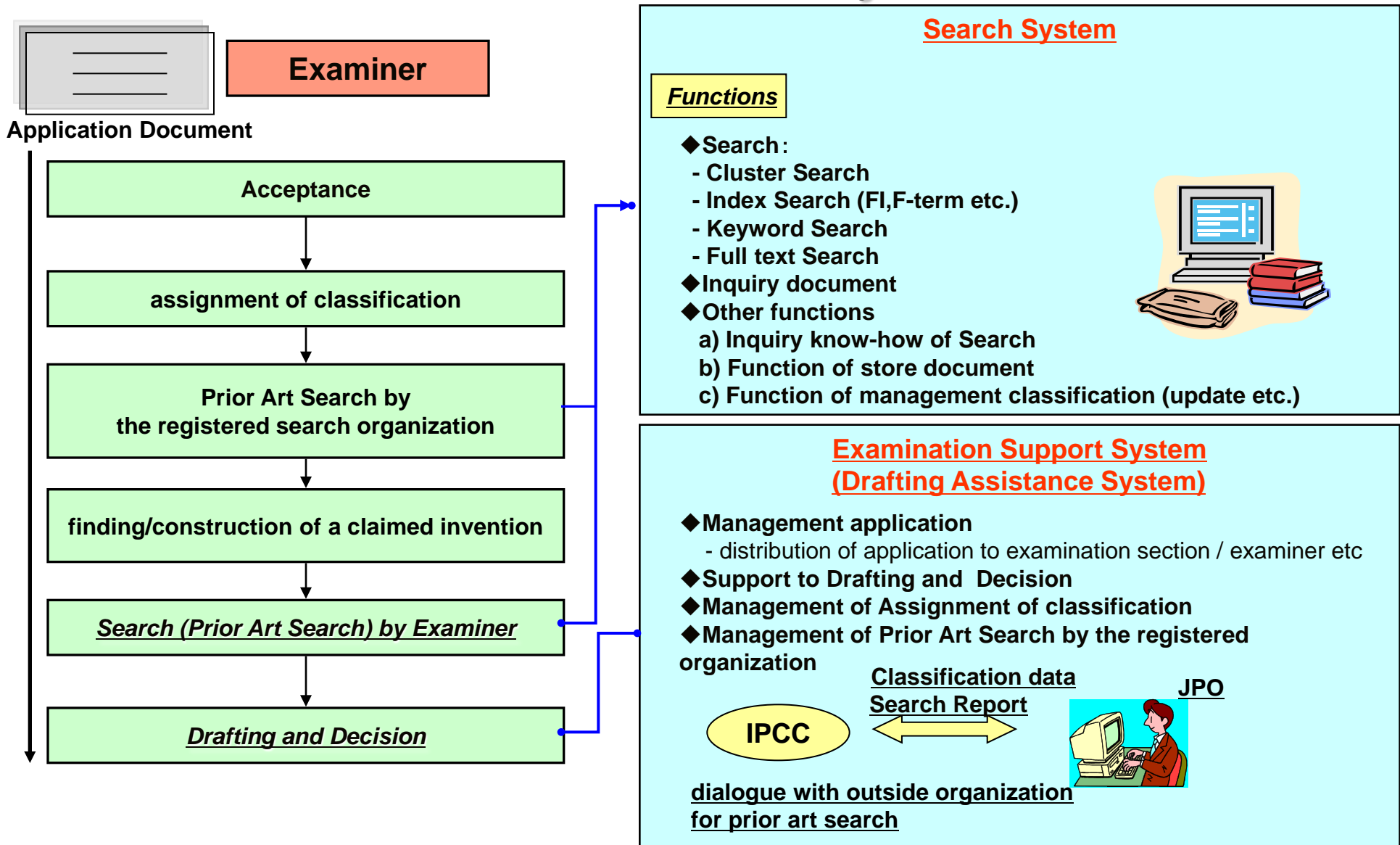


Completion Rate of Formality Check by Automatic Formality Check System (As of 2009)

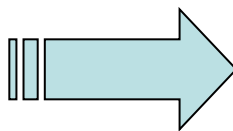
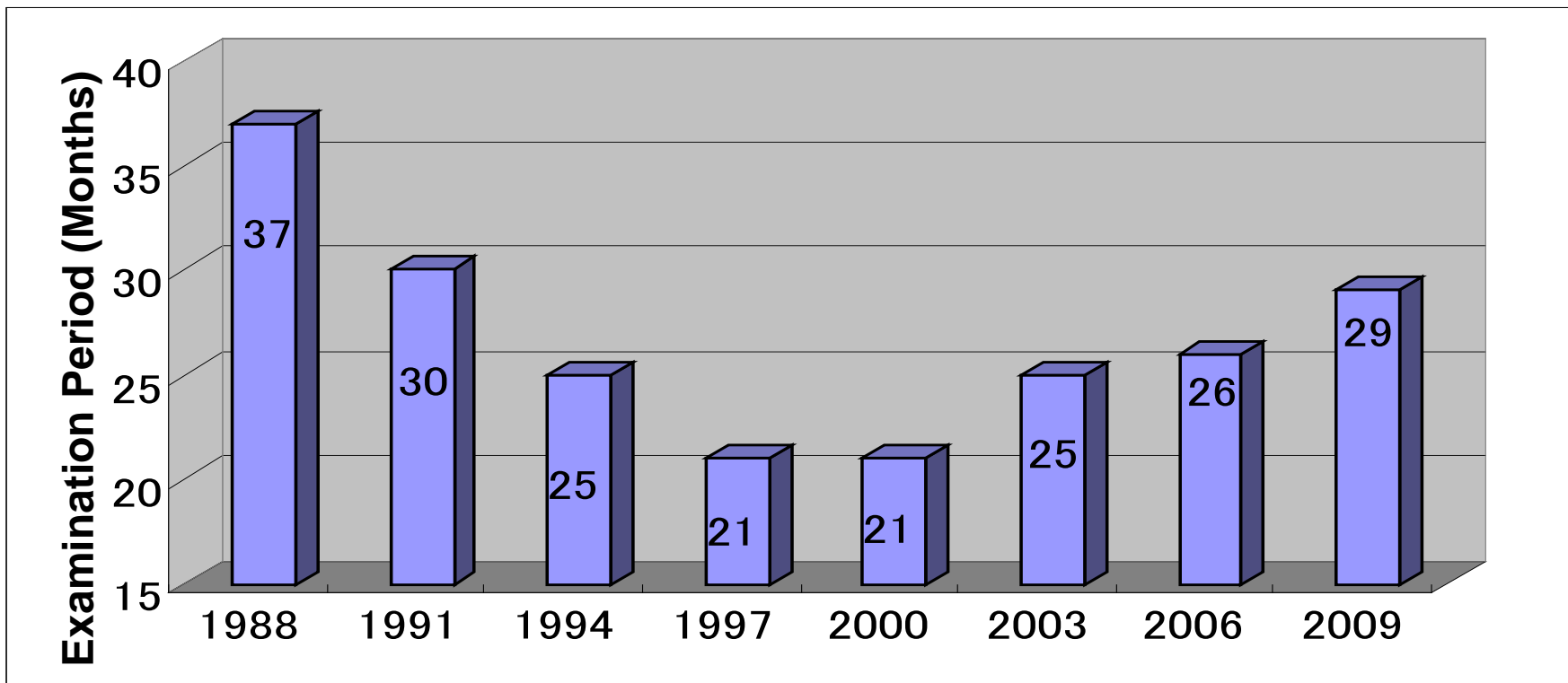


◆ Contribution to Prompt and Accurate Patent Examination

Examination & Search System



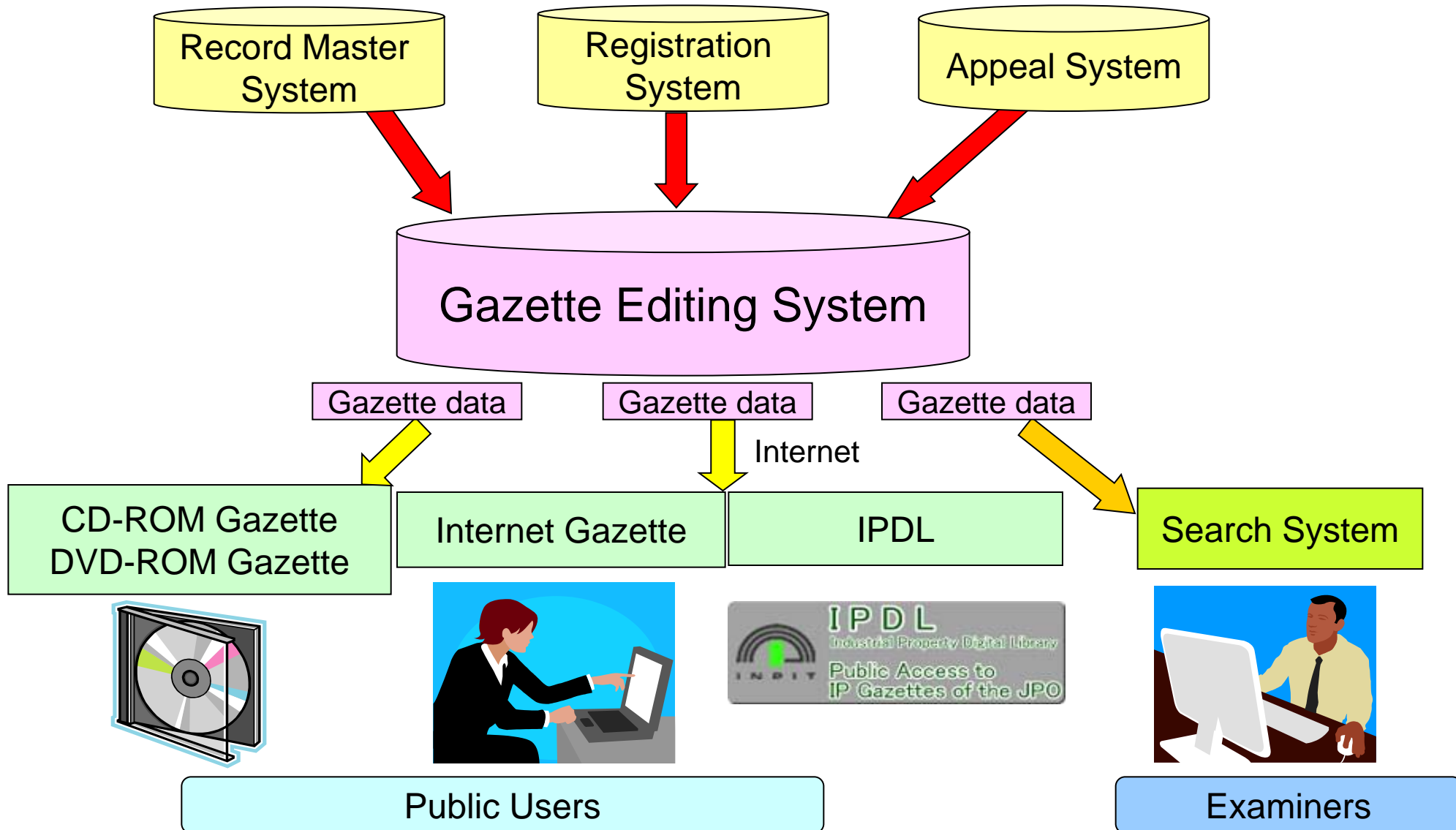
Examination Period



Manual Search To Computerized Search

◆ Upgrading of Information Provision Services

Gazette Editing System



- DVD-ROM Gazette (Patent, Utility Model)
- CD-ROM Gazette (Trademarks, Design, Appeal Decisions)
- Internet Official Gazette (Utility Model, Design)
http://www.publication.jpo.go.jp/utility/do/usr/topmenu?lang=e
- IPDL
http://www.ipdl.inpit.go.jp/homepg_e.ipdl



[EFFECTS] Paper to DVD-ROM
 COST: ¥60/gazette → ¥1/gazette
 SPACE: 150m/year → 0.5m/year
 Computerization of IP Environment

Mar. 1999 - Start of Service

Apr. 2000 - Start of automatic translation

About 71million documents are stored

1.6million Hits per month!

Automatic Translation! (J. to E.)

●Key issues in system development

- ◆ Setup a clear Vision / Target
- ◆ Establishment of Systems for Examination and Development
- ◆ Conformity to Standard Technique

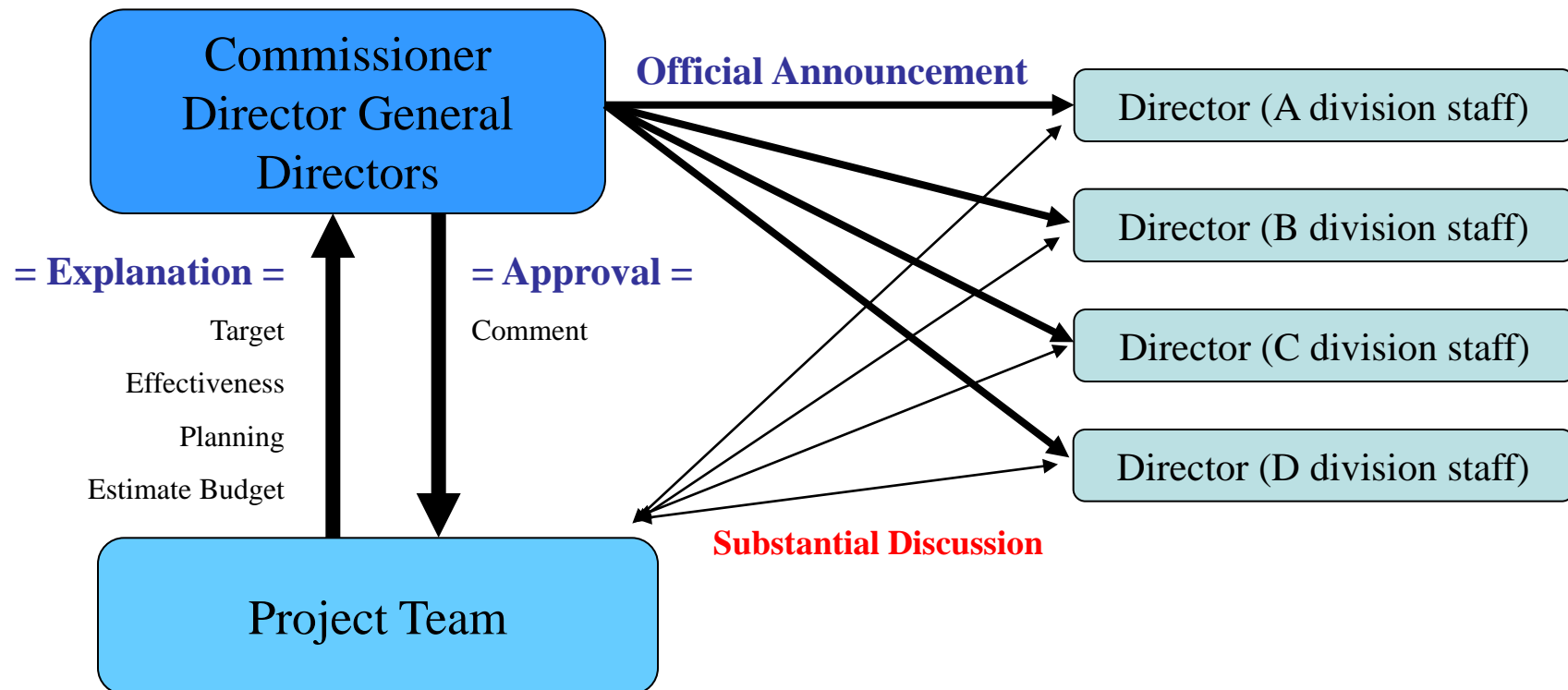
◆ Setup a Clear Vision / Target

✓ Vision of JPO PL System Development

- To digitize from entrance (e-filing) to exit (notification, registration, publication)
- To use online network technology
- To digitize all prior art documents
- To perform all business at online terminals
- To enable anyone to freely access IP related information

◆ Establishment of the System for Consideration and Technical Development

- ✓ Chain of command for planning and administration
- ✓ Clarification of person responsible for development and Concentration of authority
- ✓ Information sharing and consideration of opinions
- ✓ Decision-making at big turning point to prevent regression of system development
- ✓ Cost-benefit evaluation, audit and maintenance



◆ Conformity to Standard Technique

- ✓ PCT e-filing technical standard
 - for e-filing under PCT and PLT

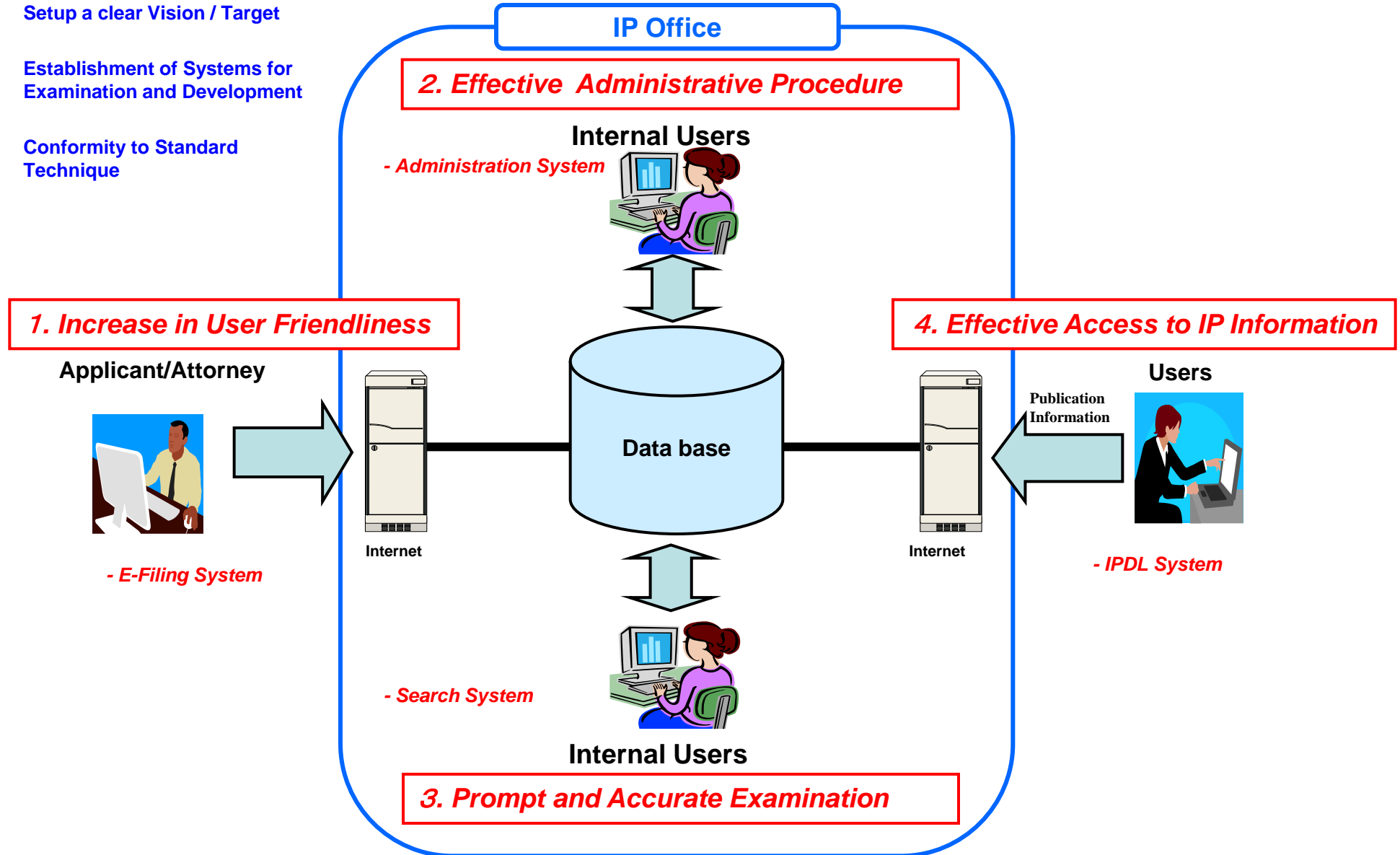
- ✓ WIPO standards (e.g. ST xx)
 - for exchange of IP documents and IP data

- ✓ De-facto standard
 - for long use of the system

● Summary

Image of IP office Computerization

- ◆ Setup a clear Vision / Target
- ◆ Establishment of Systems for Examination and Development
- ◆ Conformity to Standard Technique



Thank You