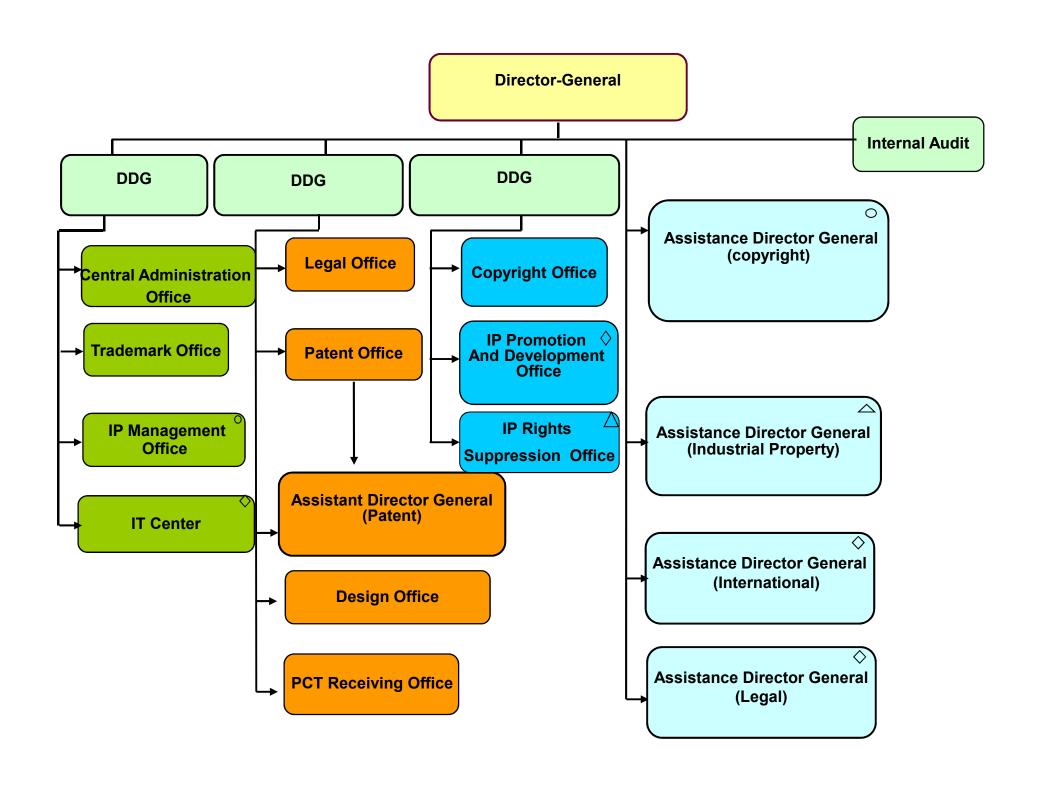


Department of Intellectual Property Ministry of Commerce, Thailand

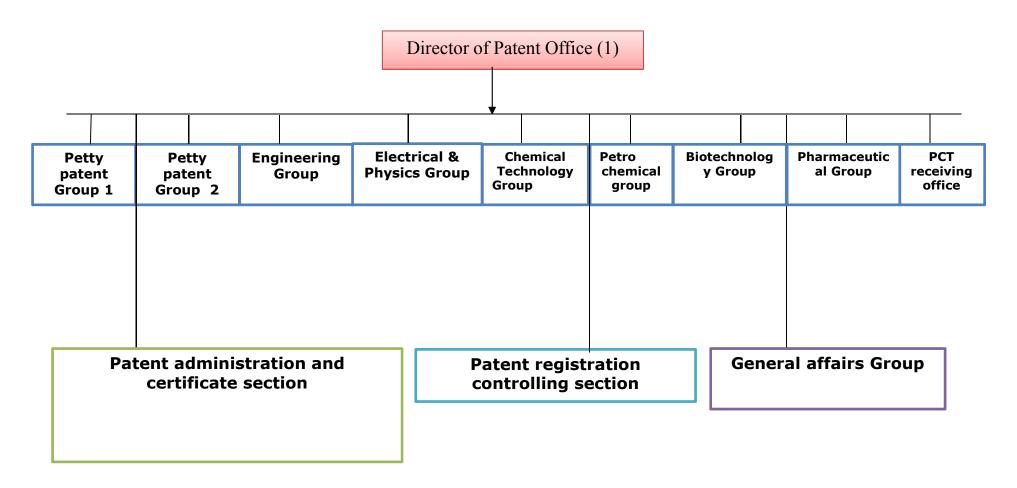
Regional Seminar on Effective Utilization of Patent Classification System

Tokyo, Japan December 11 and 12, 2013

Suwatchai Boon-aree



Organization Chart of Patent Office



Note: Patent examiner = 53 People Supporting staff = 40 People

Invention Patent Examination Group

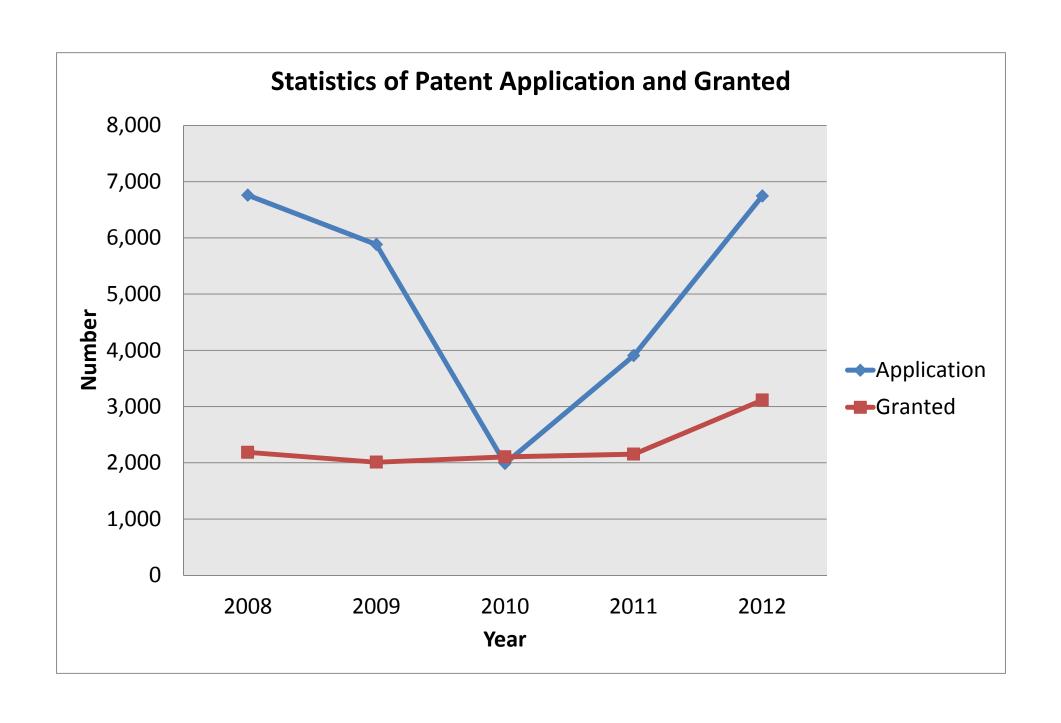
Examination Group	Persons				
Invention Patent Examination Group	37 [24 Examiners / 13 Assistants]				
Biotechnology & pharmaceutical Group	10				
Patent Examiner	7				
Assistant Patent Examiner	3				
Chemical Technology & Petrochemical Group	10				
Patent Examiner	6				
Assistant Patent Examiner	4				
Engineering Group	8				
Patent Examiner	5				
Assistant Patent Examiner	3				
Electrical & Physics Group	9				
Patent Examiner	6				
Assistant Patent Examiner	3				

Petty Patent Group

Examination Group	Persons				
Petty Patent Group	11 (6 Examiners / 5 Assistants)				
Petty Patent Group 1	7				
Patent Examiner	3				
Assistant Patent Examiner	4				
Petty Patent Group 2	4				
Patent Examiner	3				
Assistant Patent Examiner	1				

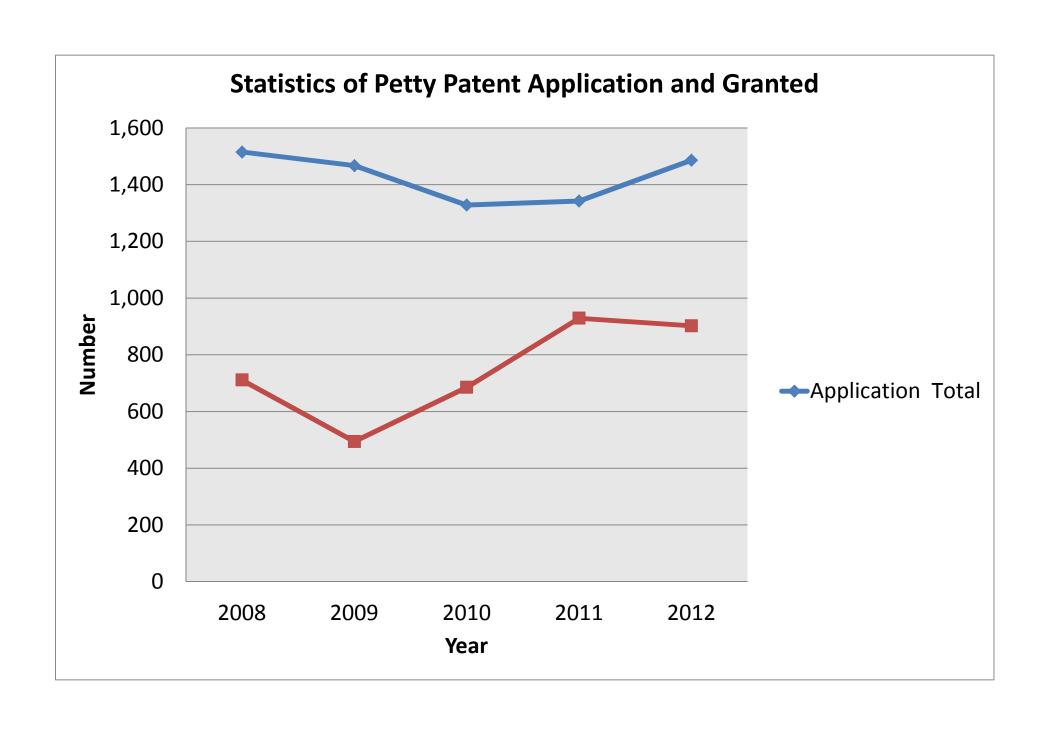
Statistics of Patent Application and Granted

Year		Number				
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Ap	Thai	951	1,062	922	893	1,068
Application	Foreigner	5,807	4,820	1,066	3,013	5,678
ion	Total	6,758	5,882	1,988	3,906	6,746
Thai Foreigne Total	Thai	781	768	889	726	1,212
	Foreigner	1,404	1,242	1,215	1,427	1,903
	Total	2,185	2,010	2,104	2,153	3,115

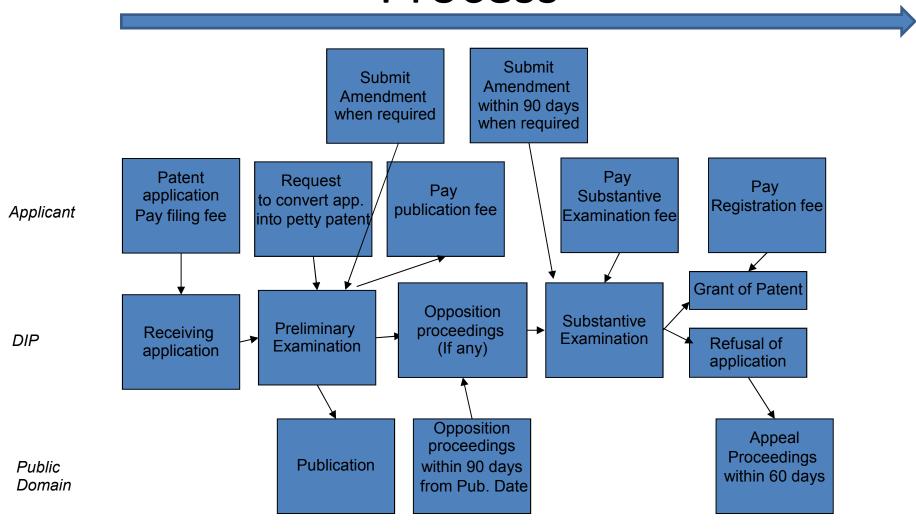


Statistics of Petty Patent Application and Registration

Year		Number				
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Ap	Thai	1,423	1,416	1,238	1,234	1,364
Application	Foreigner	92	51	90	108	122
ion	Total	1,515	1,467	1,328	1,342	1,486
Registration 12/9/2013	Thai	638	451	634	860	812
	Foreigner	73	43	51	69	90
	Total	711	494	685	929	902



Publication and Registration Process



Preliminary Examination

- 1. Preliminary Examination to be done by Assistant Examiner.
- Once the application is filed and the formal requirements have been fulfilled, the application will proceed to the preliminary examination stage which usually takes 1 to 1.5 years to complete.
- 3. The Assistant Examiner conducts the preliminary examination
 - to check the validity of the formal documents and determines the patentability of the invention as described in the specification, claims, drawings, and abstract
 - to allocate classification to patent applications.

Searching/Substantive Examinations Results Admissible

Domestic Application

- Searching Report by Examiner.
- Searching results from university or IP australia (Applicant have to pay extra search fee)
- External Examination
 Results . (in the case the application also have filed in oversea)

Foreign Application

- Searching results from university or IP australia (Applicant have to pay extra search fee).
- External Examination Results .

Substantive examination

- 1. Patent Examiner will only searching state of the art and substantive examination for domestic patent application.
- 2. For foreign patent application, the Examiner will issue an Office Action instructing the applicant to amend the specification and claims of the Thai application to conform to the corresponding patent, and file the amendment as a response of the Office Action and also search report and examination report e.g. USPTO, EPO, JPO, and, etc.

The examination of the Thai application will be based on the patent and Office Action(s), as the Examiner will verify whether the specification and claims of the Thai case conform to those of the documents.

Databases of patent searches

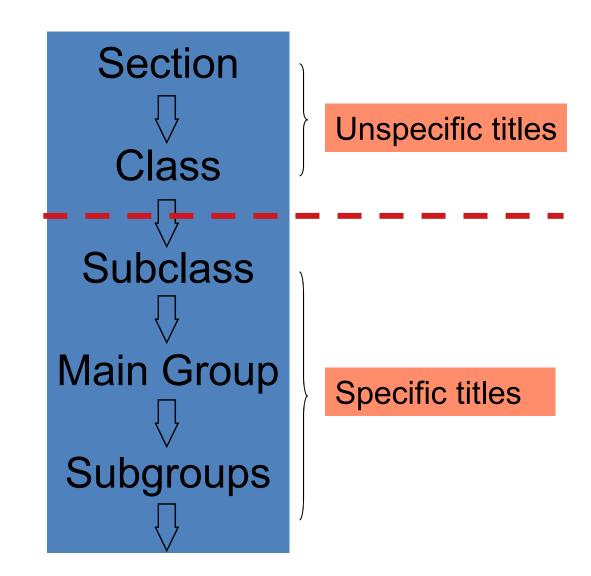


Selecting / Finding IPC place for classifying patent applications

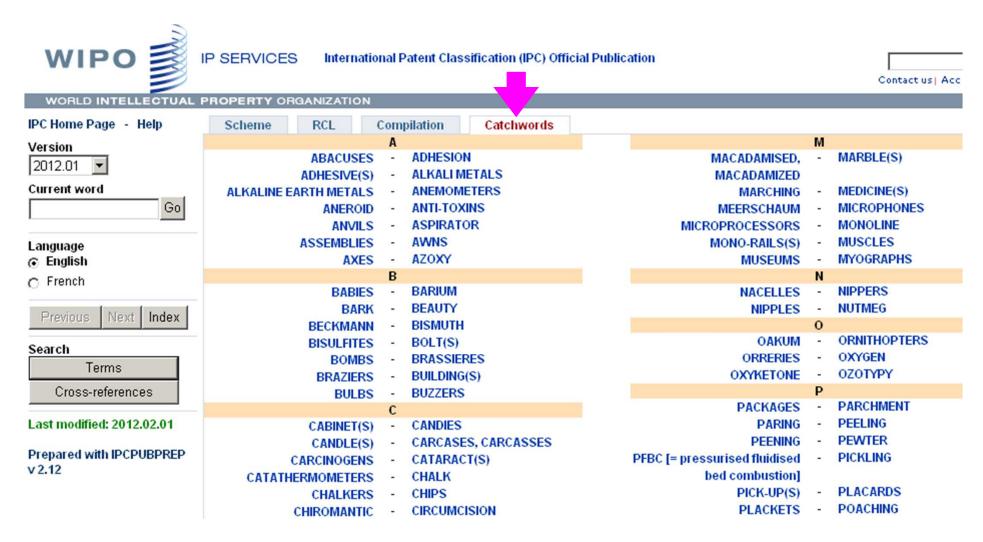
- 1. resources by WIPO
- Browsing the IPC scheme (resources by WIPO)
- Using the Catchword Index
- Text searching of the IPC scheme ("Terms")
- Using patent database : Patentscope database
- 2.resources by other IPOs for searching patents by keywords in order to identify IPC codes: Espacenet (EPO), IPDL (JPO) and USPTO

Browsing the IPC scheme

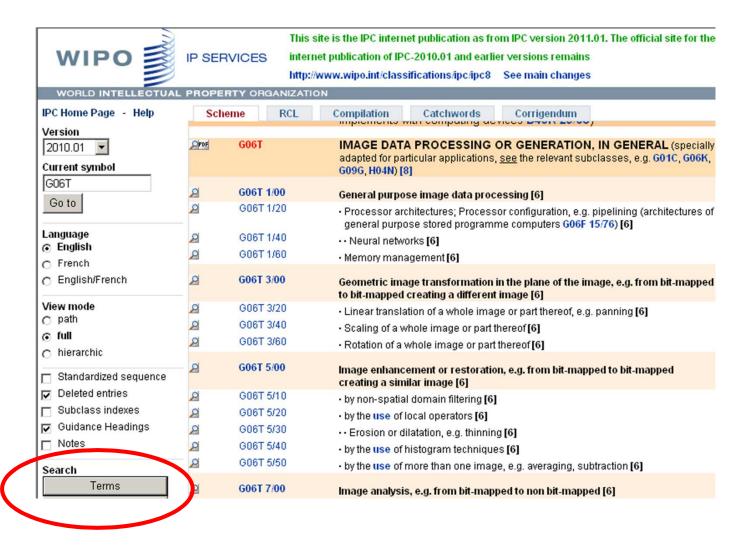
Browsing the IPC



Using Catchword Index



Text search of the IPC scheme



Using patent database

-Search documents with keywords characterizing the subject matter to be classified / searched; check their classifications

- -Reviewing similar documents
- > e.g. state of the art as cited by applicant or by examiner (ISR)

Searching Patent Information

Text searching:

- Databases containing abstracts
- Full-text databases

Classification-based searching:

- IPC
- Other classifications

Combination of classification-based and text searching gives best results

Checklist for classification

- Determine subject matter to be classified, i.e. things claimed to be inventive
 - Process, product, apparatus, or several such type
 - Indentify set of keywords
- Use keywords to identify IPC symbols by using
 - IPC scheme and Catchword Index @ online IPC
 - ECLA search @ Espacenet
- Check for disclosed state of the art
- Search databases with keywords to find similar documents
- Browse neighboring places on same, lower or higher level in order to identify other IPC

Challenges regarding patent classification

 To harmonize the search and examination environment of each office and to standardize the information-sharing process

Reorganisation of classification schemes

* The best classification scheme will be created

* Japanese classification system could be integrated into the cooperative patent classification (CPC)

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Thank you for your kind attention!

