

WIPO



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WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
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**SPECIAL UNION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION
(IPC UNION)**

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

**Fortieth Session
Geneva, February 6 to 8, 2008**

**PUBLICATION OF IPC VERSIONS 2007.10 AND 2008.01 AND RELATED
RECLASSIFICATION OF PATENT FILES**

Document prepared by the Secretariat

1. Two new versions of the advanced level of the IPC (IPC versions 2007.10 and 2008.01), containing amendments to the advanced level, entered into force on October 1, 2007, and on January 1, 2008 respectively. Those amendments relate to subclasses B60K and H04H and have been adopted by the Advanced Level Subcommittee on the basis of advanced level revision projects A006 and A003.
2. On July 2, 2007 and October 10, 2007, i.e., three months before the entering into force of the new versions, the International Bureau made available the English versions of IPC 2007.10 and IPC 2008.01 on a special site called "early publication" and the master files associated therewith on the WIPO IPC website. Both sites were open to all users.
3. The International Bureau prepared the respective draft French versions which were subsequently discussed and adopted by the Subcommittee supervising the French version of the IPC, in time for the entering into force
4. These new versions of the advanced level were officially published on the WIPO IPC website in the two authentic languages, English and French, in due time, before their entering into force.

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5. In view of the systematic reclassification of patent files according to the latest version of the IPC, working lists of documents were prepared by the EPO for all industrial property offices that could potentially take part in the reclassification, and were made available for downloading on the dedicated WIPO IPC website.

6. Ten industrial property offices participated in the reclassification of patent files related to the 2007.10 version of the advanced level of the IPC. This resulted in the reclassification of more than 85% of the worldwide patent collection corresponding to the revised areas of that version.

7. Having noted the importance of the reclassification of patent files relating to new IPC revisions, the Committee of Experts, at its thirty-ninth session, established a special Quality Control Task Force (QCTF). At its last meeting, held in November 2007, the QCTF discussed a proposal for monitoring reclassification, prepared by the International Bureau, and approved a summary of recommendations for consideration by the Committee (See Annex 2 to project file QC003).

8. The Committee of Experts is invited to consider this document, to approve the actions of the International Bureau concerning the publication of the new versions of the advanced level of the IPC and to make other decisions as necessary.

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