

Topic 2:

*Patent Examination Practices and Policies of JPO
in View of Exploiting Patent Family Relations*

Aug.2014

JAPAN PATENT OFFICE

- I. Background
- II. Patent Examination Practices and Policies of the JPO
- III. Unity of Invention

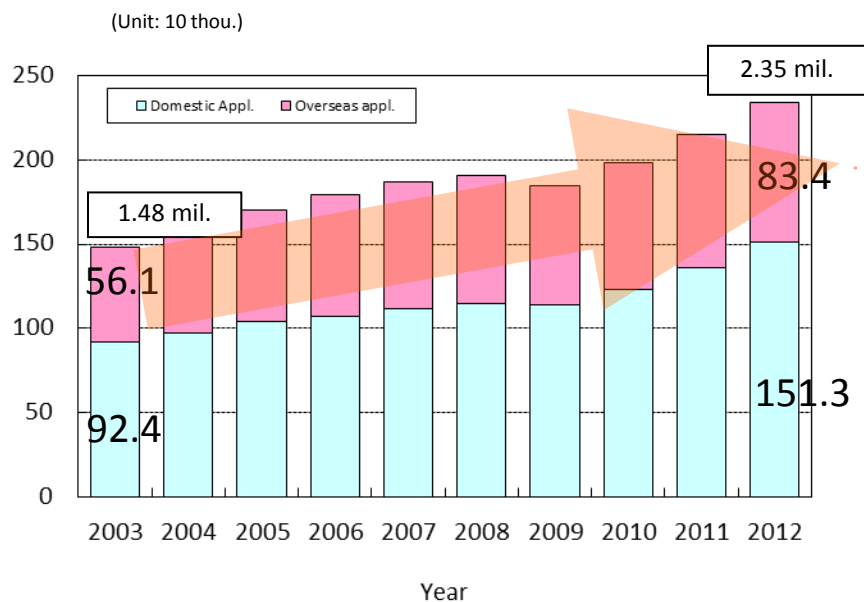
I. Background

II. Patent Examination Practices and Policies of the JPO

III. Unity of Invention

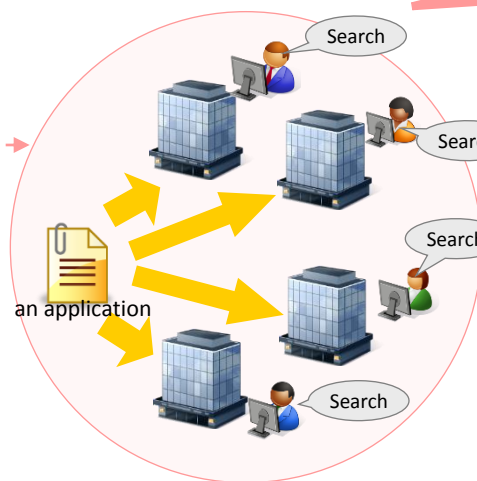
Growing Demand for Work Sharing

Changes in Patent Appl. Filed in the Whole World



Source: WIPO Industrial Property Statistics

The number of applications filed in many offices is increasing.

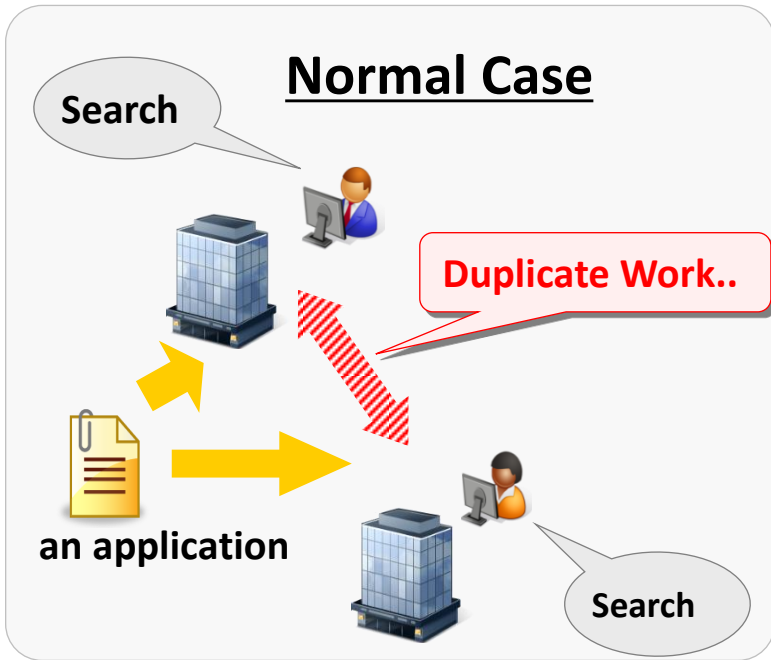


Increasing duplicate work!

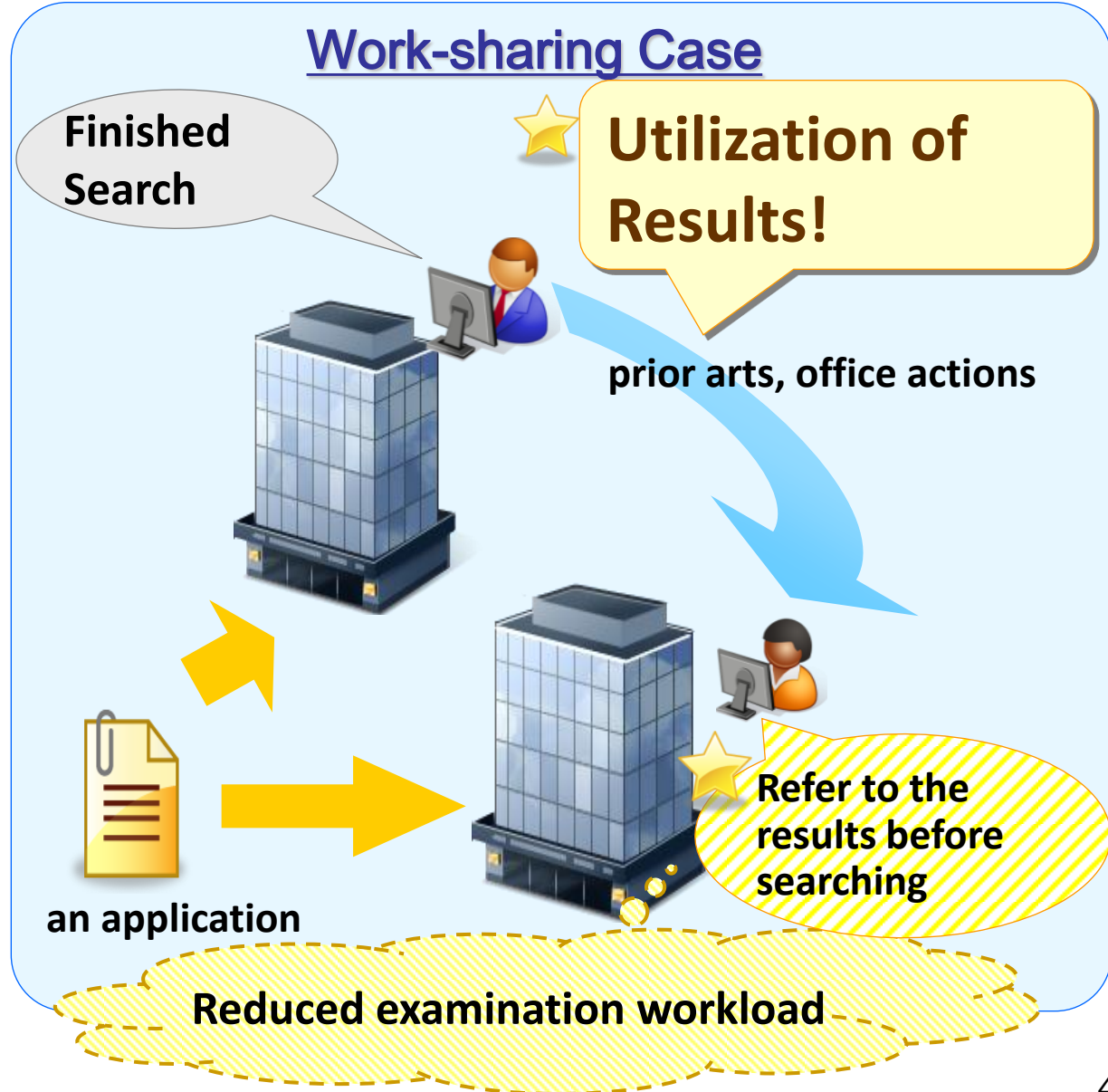
Growing Demand for Work Sharing

Efficiency of Work sharing

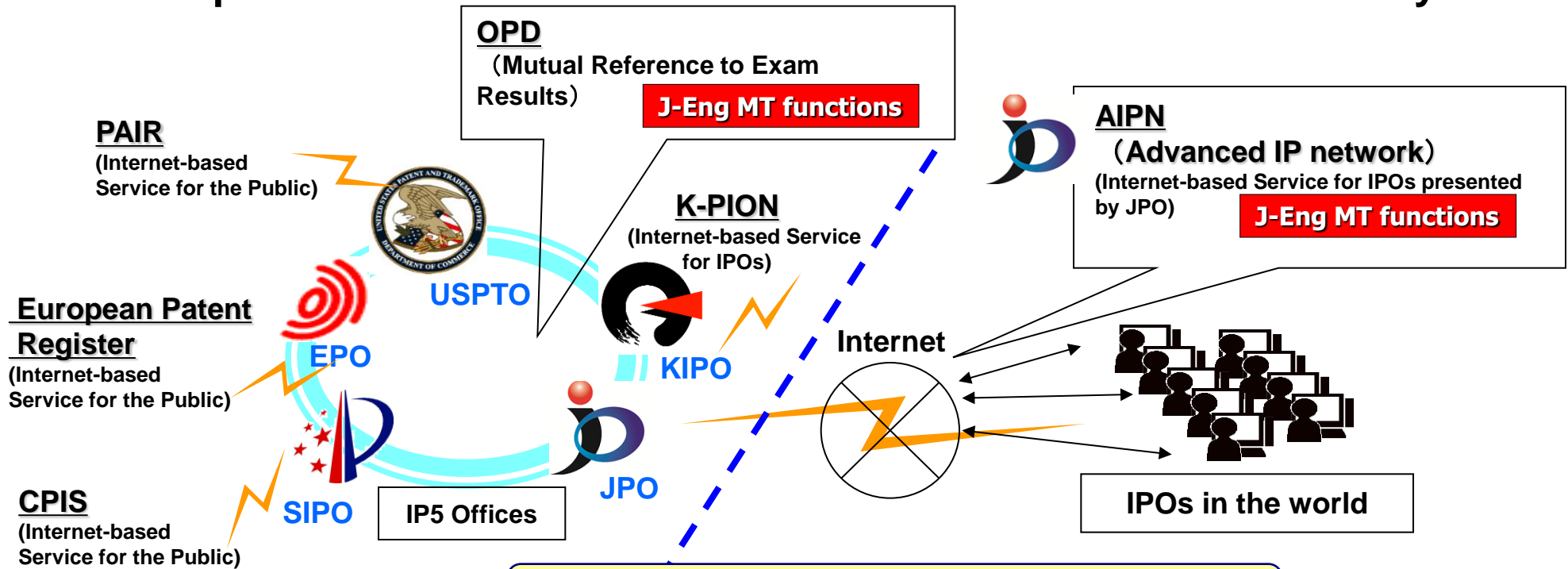
Normal Case



Work-sharing Case



Mutual exploitation of search/examination results - Dossier Access System-



- (1) Reduce workload in examination at IPOs
- (2) Obtain IP rights overseas quickly and properly

OPD(One Portal Dossier)

enable to mutually refer to results of search and examination in real time among IP5 Offices

↓

Sharing results enables to reduce workload and to quicken examination

AIPN

(providing exam info via J-Eng MT)

Quick release of examination results

↓

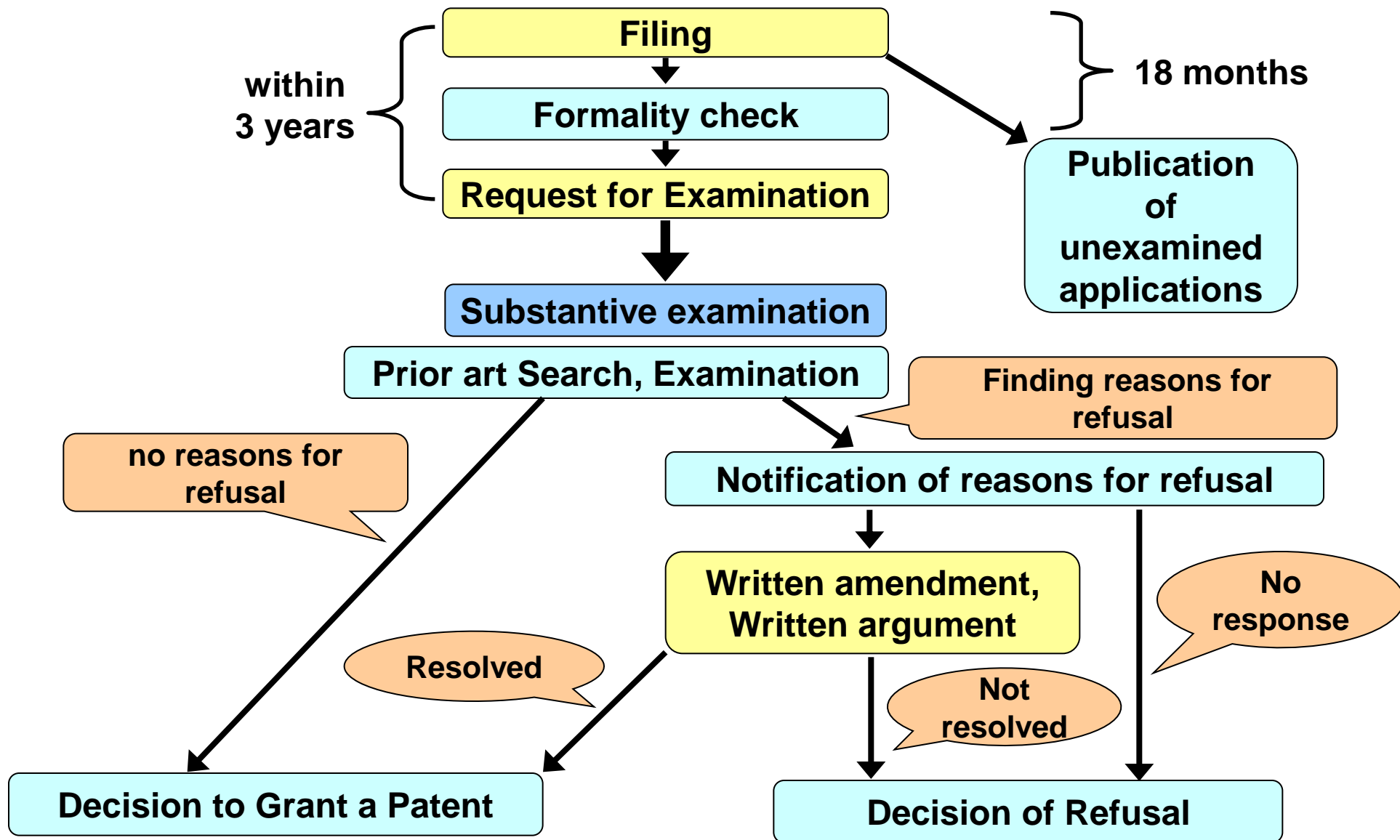
International contribution to other countries

I. Background

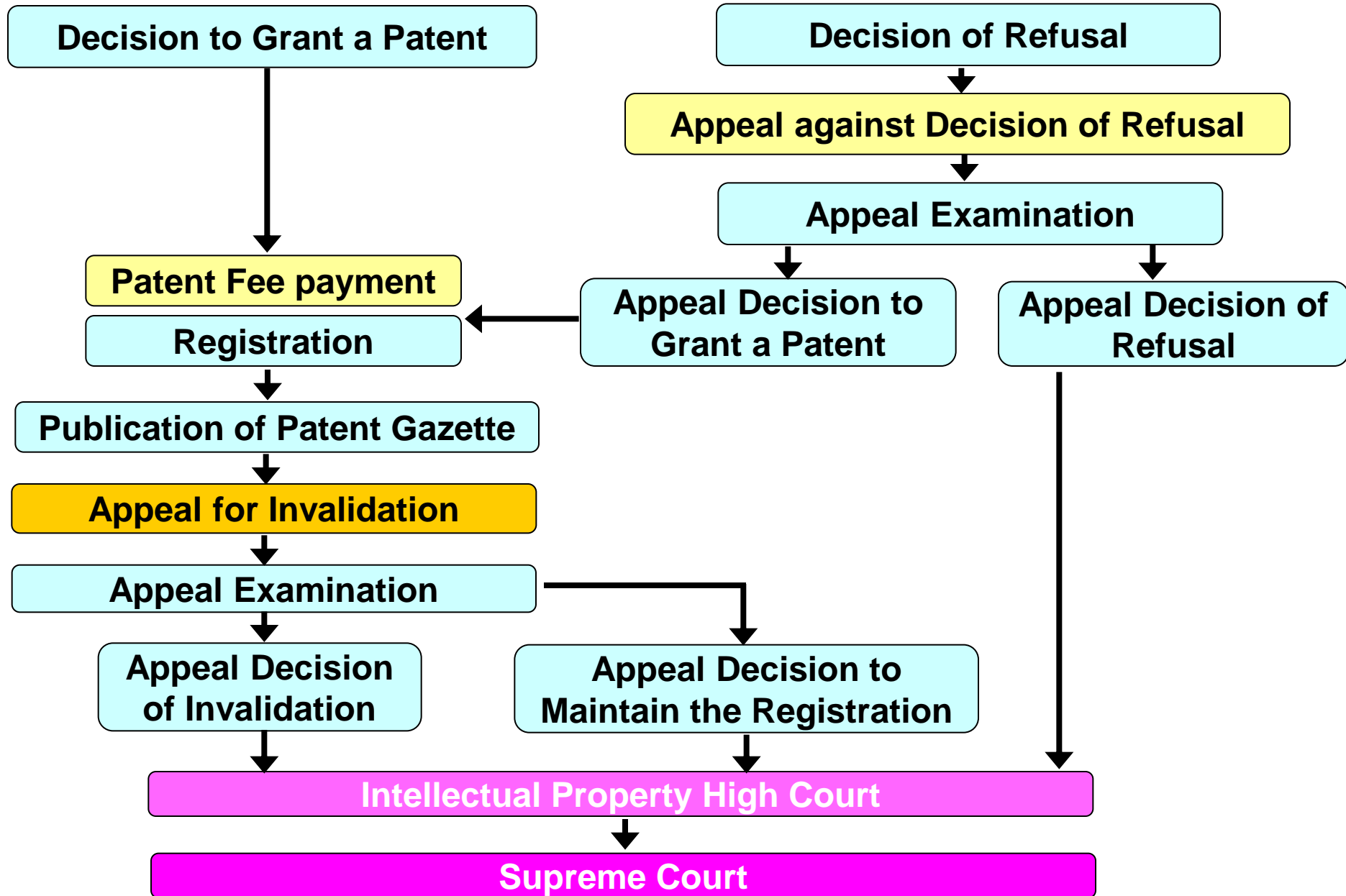
II. Patent Examination Practices and Policies of JPO

III. Unity of Invention

Examination Flow (1)



Examination Flow (2)



Understanding the claimed invention →



Searching for prior arts



Utilizing (If available)



ISR, Examination-related information of IP Offices

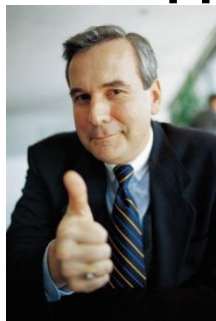


Search result of outside organization for prior art search

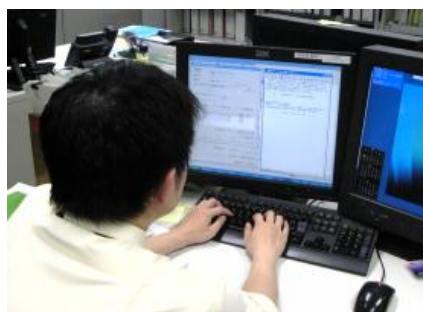
Send to the applicant



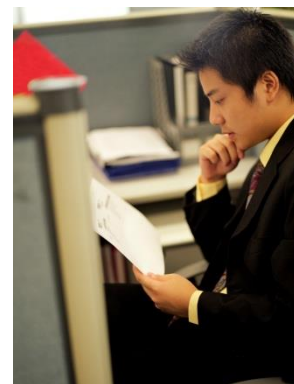
Directors or group leaders check and approve



Drafting an office action to the applicant



Judging patentability



- Guideline for the Use of Prior Art Search Results and Examination Results Provided by Foreign Patent Offices

(JPO's Examinations Guidelines, Part IX, attachment)

1. The examiner shall refer to the prior art search results and examination results provided by foreign patent offices.
2. The examiner is not required to carry out an additional prior art search himself/herself if he/she considers it possible, based on his/her knowledge and experience, to conduct an examination precisely and efficiently by using such search results.
3. The examiner shall carry out an additional prior art search himself/herself where he/she considers it impossible, based on his/her knowledge and experience, to conduct an examination precisely and efficiently by using only such search results. In this case, the scope already searched by the foreign patent office shall be excluded from the scope of the additional search.
4. The examiner shall take into account the prosecution history and examination results and shall take notice of the difference between the practice of each country.

Prior art search (1)

Examiners consider it **possible**, based on their knowledge and experience, to conduct an examination precisely and efficiently by using search and examination results provided by foreign patent offices.



Examiners are not required to carry out an additional prior art search .

Prior art search (2)

Examiners consider it **impossible**, based on their knowledge and experience, to conduct an examination precisely and efficiently by using search and examination results provided by foreign patent offices.



Examiners shall carry out an additional prior art search. In this case, the scope already searched by the foreign patent offices shall be excluded from the scope of the additional search.

Prior art search (3)

Examiners consider it **possible**, based on their knowledge and experience, to find relevant prior art documents more efficiently by carrying out a prior art search by themselves, **rather than** referring to search and examination results provided by foreign patent offices.

.



Examiners may carry out an additional prior art search before referring to the search results.

Prior art search (4)

- To search earlier filed but later published applications which were not searched by other offices (Top-up search)
- To search in order to avoid duplicate patenting

Additional prior art search (with Amendment)

If amendments add any features that necessitate additional prior art search.

Ex. Claim: A+B

Amendment

Claim: A+C

Judging patentability

- Examiners shall take into account the prosecution history and examination.
- Examiners should take notice of the difference between the Japanese examination system and practice and those of the foreign country.



- The substantive examination is conducted according to the Japanese law and guidelines.
- Examiners may only refer to search and examination results, but are not bound to these results.
- Examiners have to judge on their own.

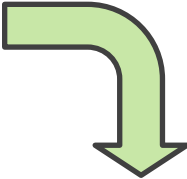
Information relevant to the application

出願番号: 特願2009-050005

| No. | ファミリー文献番号 | 発行日 | IPC | 種別 |
|------|--------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| 0001 | JP-A -2010-208553 | 2010.09.16 | H04N 5/225 | [A] 第一国 最易読 |
| 0002 | US-A1-2010-0309342 | 2010.12.09 | H04N 5/217 | [A] |
| 0003 | EP-A2- 002227004 | 2010.09.08 | H04N 5/21 | [A] 最先告知 |
| 0004 | CN-A - 101827275 | 2010.09.08 | H04N 9/093 | [A] |

Foreign office's dossier access

Family information



One Portal Dossier

| 国コード | ファミリー1 | 国コード | ファミリー2 | 国コード | ファミリー3 | 国コード | ファミリー4 |
|------|--------------|------|--------------|------|--------------|------|--------------|
| EP | EP 100001 A | US | US 120001 A | KR | KR 557891 A | CN | CN 130002 A |
| EP | EP 100011 A1 | US | US 564471 A1 | KR | KR 125549 A1 | | |
| | | US | US 564484 B1 | KR | KR 125578 B1 | CN | CN 553322 S1 |
| | | | | | | | |

Mutually refer to results of search and examination among IP5 Offices.

http://one-portal-dossier-access.jpo.go.jp/Inquiry/Inquiry/GetFamily.do

One Portal Dossier
ワンポータルドシエ


One Portal Dossier

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|------|------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------------------|
| 照会条件 | ファミリー (JP) | | | ファミリー件数 | ファミリー一覧 | 分類・引用情報 | 照会番号入力 | サービス時間/障害・メンテナンス情報 |
| 出願番号 | 出願番号 JP.0011222.A | 出願日 | 1999-12-01 | 15 | 表示 | 表示 | 表示 | 表示 |
| EP.200516.A | 公開番号 JP.0098769.A1 | 登録番号 | - | 書類グループ | ALL | | | DOCDBIについて |

| ファミリー 1 | | ファミリー 2 | | ファミリー 3 | | ファミリー 4 | |
|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|
| 国コード | EP | 国コード | US | 国コード | KR | 国コード | CN |
| 出願番号 | EP.10000 | 出願番号 | US.1200 | 出願番号 | KR.557 | 出願番号 | CN.13.002 |
| 公開番号 | EP.100011.A1 | 公開番号 | US.564471.A1 | 公開番号 | KR.125549.A1 | 公開番号 | - |
| 登録番号 | - | 登録番号 | US.564484.B1 | 登録番号 | KR.125578.B1 | 登録番号 | CN.553322.S1 |
| 出願日 | 2000-10-17 | 出願日 | 2002-09-09 | 出願日 | 2001-02-11 | 出願日 | 2005-10-14 |

| 提出日 | 書類名 | 提出日 | 書類名 | 提出日 | 書類名 | 提出日 | 書類名 |
|------------|---|------------|---|------------|---|------------|---|
| 2005-12-31 | Application Data Sheet | 2005-12-31 | Applicant Arguments or Remarks Made in an Amendment | 2005-12-31 | Anmeldung gilt als zurueckgenommen (keine Antwort auf Bescheid der Prüfungsabteilung) | 2005-12-31 | Beschreibung |
| 2006-01-01 | Applicant Arguments or Remarks Made in an Amendment | 2006-01-01 | Claims | 2006-01-01 | Stattgabe der Fristverlang erung (Prüfungsverfahren) | 2006-01-01 | Specification filed by fax and/or in non-official language |
| 2006-01-02 | Claims | 2006-01-02 | Fee Worksheet (PTO-06) | 2006-01-02 | Accord d'une prorogation de délai (procédure dexamen) | 2006-01-02 | Documents de la demande déposés par fax et/ou dans une langue non-officielle |
| 2006-12-31 | Fee Worksheet (PTO-06) | 2006-12-31 | Application Data Sheet | 2006-01-02 | Request for extension of time limit to communication from the Examining Division | 2006-12-31 | Acknowledgement of receipt of electronic submission of the request for grant of a European patent |
| 2007-08-30 | Preliminary Amendment | 2007-08-30 | Drawings | 2008-01-01 | Letter accompanying subsequently filed items | 2008-01-01 | Dessins |
| 2008-01-01 | Drawings | 2008-01-01 | Preliminary Amendment | | | | |
| 2008-09-01 | Abstract | 2008-09-01 | Claims | | | | |
| 2008- | Claims | 2008- | Abstract | | | | |

How to utilize foreign office's action



The screenshot displays the 'One Portal Dossier' web application interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links. Below this, a search criteria table is visible, including fields for 'ファミリー(JP)', 'ファミリー件数', 'ファミリー一覧', and '分類・引用情報'. The main content area shows a table of search results with columns for 'ファミリー-1', 'ファミリー-2', 'ファミリー-3', and 'ファミリー-4'. Each family entry includes fields for '国コード', '出願番号', '公開番号', '登録番号', and '出願日'. A red circle highlights a dropdown menu for the '国コード' field in the 'ファミリー-1' entry, which is currently set to 'EP'. The dropdown menu lists the following country codes: EP, US, KR, CN, GB, CA, and AU. The 'GB' option is highlighted in blue. Below the table, there are error messages for each family entry, indicating a system error in the EPO, USPTO, KIPO, and SIPO systems.

| ファミリー-1 | ファミリー-2 | ファミリー-3 | ファミリー-4 |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 国コード: EP | 国コード: US | 国コード: KR | 国コード: CN |
| 出願番号: EP 10774739 A | 出願番号: - | 出願番号: KR 20117005004 A | 出願番号: CN 20102019826 U |
| 公開番号: EP 2316656 A4 | 公開番号: - | 公開番号: KR 20120011835 A | 公開番号: - |
| 登録番号: EP 2316656 B1 | 登録番号: - | 登録番号: - | 登録番号: CN 202053682 U |
| 出願日: 2010-05-14 | 出願日: - | 出願日: 2010-05-14 | 出願日: 2010-05-14 |

European search report and Reasons for refusal



出願番号
提出日

書類名 European search report

閉じる



EUROPÄISCHER RECHERCHENBERICHT

| EINSCHLÄGIGE DOKUMENTE | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|--|
| Kategorie | Kurzbeschreibung des Dokuments mit Angabe, soweit erforderlich, der maßgeblichen Teile | Beitritt Anspruch | KLASSIFIKATION DER ANMELDUNG (IPC) |
| X | DE 10 2006 021021 A1 (KRAUSS MAFFEI AUSTRIA [DE]) 15. November 2007 (2007-11-15) * Absätze [0007], [0018] - [0024]; Abbildungen * | 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17-19 2-12, 16 | INV. B29C45/00 B29C45/16 B29C45/14 B29C45/28 B29C44/12 B29C44/14 |
| Y | US 5 618 477 A (SUZUKI HIROSHI [JP]) 8. April 1997 (1997-04-08) * Spalte 5, Zeile 33 - Spalte 6, Zeile 39; Abbildungen * | 1, 10, 14-19 | |
| X | US 5 976 289 A (KANAKUBO YASUSHI [JP] ET AL) 2. November 1999 (1999-11-02) * Spalte 5, Zeilen 12-30 * * Spalte 6, Zeile 34 - Spalte 7, Zeile 4; Abbildungen * | 1, 13, 15, 17-19 | |
| Y | JP 2008 155395 A (KASAI KOGYO KK) 10. Juli 2008 (2008-07-10) * Zusammenfassung; Abbildungen * | 2-6, 16 | |
| Y | EP 0 543 085 A1 (KRAUSS MAFFEI AG [DE]) 26. Mai 1993 (1993-05-26) * Spalte 6, Zeile 9 - Spalte 7, Zeile 8; Abbildungen 1-3 * | 7-12 | RECHERCHIERTE BEREICHGEBIETE (IPC) B29C |

1 Der vorliegende Recherchenbericht wurde für alle Patentansprüche erstellt



出願番号
提出日

書類名 Annex to the communication

閉じる

The examination is being carried out on the following application documents

Description, Pages

1-50 as published

Claims, Numbers

1-12 filed with entry into the regional phase before the EPO

Drawings, Sheets

1/4-4/4 as published

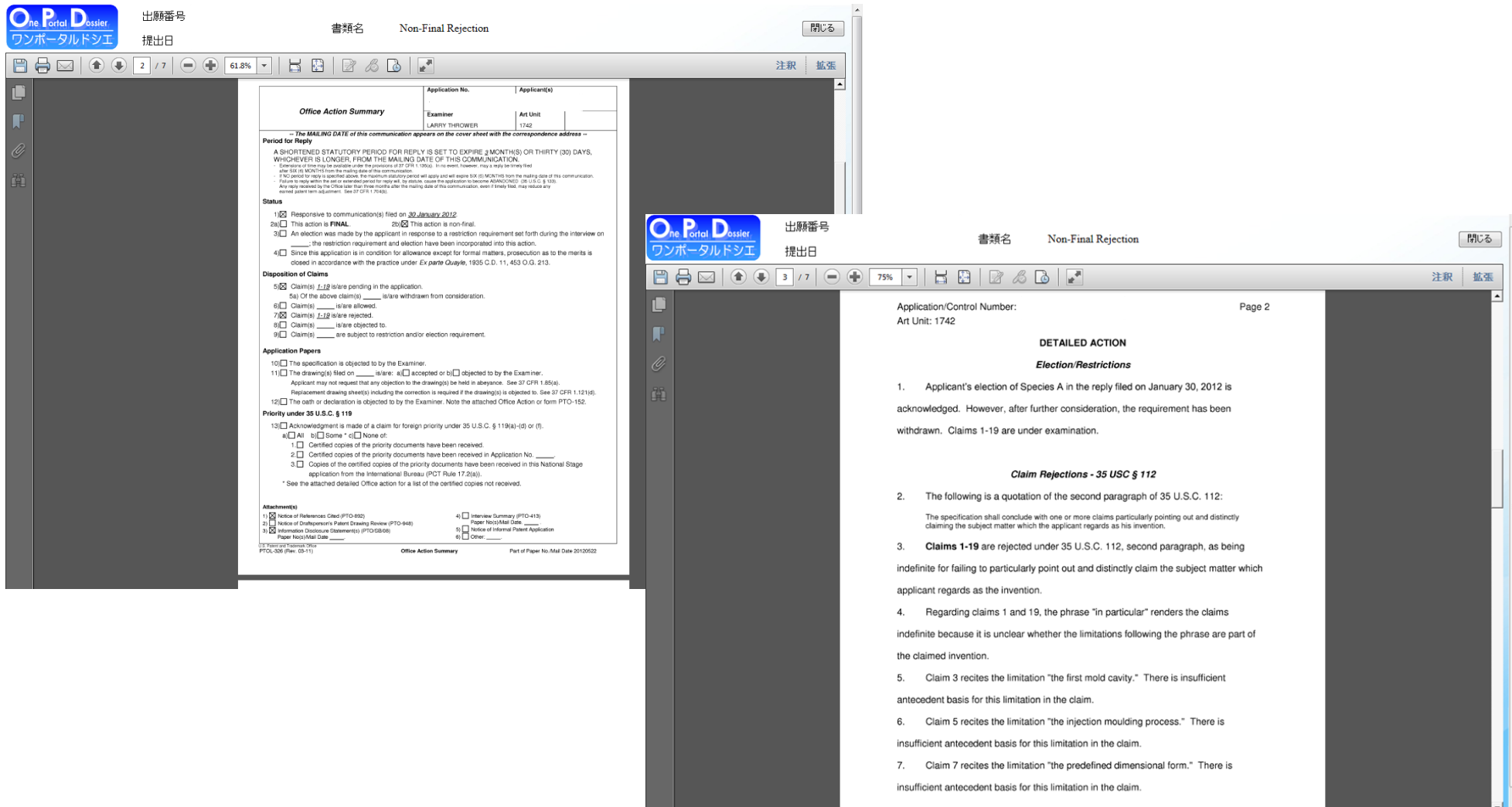
Reference is made to the following documents; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure.

- D1 EP 1 491 248 A
- D2 WO 2007/030410 A
- D3 US 2005/098910 A1
- D4 WO 2007/047273 A
- D5 US 2006/008395 A1

- 1 The only amendment in the set of claims submitted upon entering the European phase appears to be the deletion of original claim 8 and re-numbering of the subsequent claims. Consequently, the amended claims are admissible under Article 123(2) EPC.
- 2 With regard to current claims 1-12, a preliminary report on patentability has already been drawn up under the regulations of the PCT by the Preliminary Examination Authority. The same objections apply under the corresponding regulations of the EPC, see below.

How to utilize foreign office's action

USPTO's notification of reasons for refusal



The screenshot displays the One Portal Dossier interface for a Non-Final Rejection. The top navigation bar includes the application number (出願番号), document type (書類名), and filing date (提出日). The main content area is divided into two panes. The left pane shows the Office Action Summary, which includes the following sections:

- Office Action Summary:** Application No. [redacted], Applicant(s) [redacted], Examiner LARRY THROWER, Art Unit 1742.
- Period for Reply:** A shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire 2 MONTHS OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Status:** 1) Response to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2012. 2a) This action is non-final.
- Disposition of Claims:** 5) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application. 6) Claim(s) [redacted] is/are allowed. 7) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected. 8) Claim(s) [redacted] is/are objected to. 9) Claim(s) [redacted] are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.
- Application Papers:** 10) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 11) The drawing(s) filed on [redacted] is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
- Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119:** 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

The right pane shows the Detailed Action page, which includes the following sections:

- Application/Control Number:** Art Unit: 1742
- DETAILED ACTION**
- Election/Restrictions:** 1. Applicant's election of Species A in the reply filed on January 30, 2012 is acknowledged. However, after further consideration, the requirement has been withdrawn. Claims 1-19 are under examination.
- Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112:** 2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112: The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention. 3. **Claims 1-19** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. 4. Regarding claims 1 and 19, the phrase "in particular" renders the claims indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. 5. Claim 3 recites the limitation "the first mold cavity." There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. 6. Claim 5 recites the limitation "the injection moulding process." There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. 7. Claim 7 recites the limitation "the predefined dimensional form." There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

SIPO(China)'s notification of reasons for refusal

One Portal Dossier
ワンポータルドossier

出願番号

提出日

書類名

First Office Action(PCT)

閉じる



中华人民共和国国家知识产权局

第一次审查意见通知书

(进入国家阶段的PCT申请)

本申请涉及一种用于点燃内燃机所用的可燃混合物的方法，经审查，现提出如下的审查意见。

1. 权利要求1不具备专利法第二十二条第二款规定的新颖性。

权利要求1要求保护一种借助于从电极末端产生分枝火花花的射流火花塞在内燃机的燃烧室内点燃氧化剂和燃料的混合物的方法，对比文件1(LWD_2908/110726A2, 参见说明书第1页第9行至第2页第15行，第6页第2行至第8页第3行，第20页第22行至第21页第7行，权利要求1-4)公开了一种借助于从电极(103,106)末端产生分枝火花花的射流火花塞在内燃机的燃烧室内点火的方法，在燃烧室中点火，必然是点燃氧化剂和燃料的混合物，火花塞也必然有覆层出现在所述内燃机的燃烧室中，该方法包括借助于具有大于1MHz的频率的AC电信号向所述火花塞供给能量的步骤，并在点火期间有多个脉冲串(pulse train, 相当于AC电信号)，各个脉冲串之间具有一定的持续时间(参见说明书第20页第22行至第21页第7行)，因此相当于公开了该方法包括借助于具有大于1MHz的频率的第一AC电信号向所述火花塞供给能量的第一步骤，并包括借助于具有大于1MHz的频率的第二AC电信号向所述火花塞供给能量的第二步骤，该第二步骤在该第一步骤之后，并且以一定的间隔延迟在时间上与该第一步骤间隔开。

由此可见，对比文件1公开了该权利要求的全部技术特征，且对比文件1所公开的技术方案与该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案均属于产生分枝火花的射流点火领域，能够解决相同的提高点火性能减少点火失效的技术问题，并能产生相同的技术效果，因此该权利要求所要求保护的技术方案不具备新颖性。

2. 权利要求2-4不具备专利法第二十三条第三款规定的创造性。

权利要求2-4从属于各自引用的权利要求，它们均对第一步骤和第二步骤之间的间隔延迟时间作了进一步限定，对比文件1(参见说明书第20页第22行至第21页第7行)已经公开了各个脉冲串之间具有一定的持续时间，相当于第一和第二步骤之间具有一定的间隔延迟时间，本领域技术人员根据本领域普通技术知识以及根据从对比文件1得到的启示，为了达到较好的点火效果，能够通过合乎逻辑的分析或有利的试验得到合适的间隔延迟时间。因此权利要求2-4的附加技术特征属于本领域的常规技术手段，在其引用的权利要求不具备新颖性的情况下，该权利要求2-4不具备创造性。

3. 权利要求5不具备专利法第二十二条第二款规定的新颖性和第二十三条第三款规定的创造性。

权利要求5引用在前的至少之一的权利要求，其附加技术特征被对比文件1(参见说明书第1页第9行至第2页第15行，第6页第2行至第8页第3行，第20页第22行至第21页第

210402 纸件申请，田法课第：10098 北京市海润区东直门内大街16号 国家知识产权局专利局受理处收
2010.2 电子申请，应当通过电子专利申请系统以电子文本形式提交相关文件，除另有规定外，以后所有其他形式提交的
文件均为未提交。

One Portal Dossier
ワンポータルドossier

出願番号

提出日

書類名

First Office Action(PCT)

閉じる



The State Intellectual Property Office of People's Republic of China

First Office Action

(PCT Application of Entering the National Phase)

Application

The present application relates to a mounted cushion and method for making same, and the after examination is rendered the following opinions:

1 claim 1 does not possess the inventiveness of the Article 22, para. 3 of the Patent Law regulation

D1 (WO2007/03410A) discloses one kind and has installed and urge for carrying the catalyst 1 (being equivalent to the contamination control device), changes 2 (the seeing the 12nd page of capable, figure 1-2 of 20-30 in the description) of mounted cushion in the converter, and the detailed following content (seeing the 1st page the 1st line the - the 28th page the 20th line in description, figure 1-10) that discloses, said mounted cushion 2 includes the non-woven mat (it is capable to see the 12nd page of 14-19) of inorganic fibre, it has and distributes in wherein mean diameter (φ 1.100mm(39)) inorganic particulate (see the 12nd page of 20-30 in the description is capable, the 13rd page of 1,3-16 is capable), said mounted cushion contains the organic binder no longer than 15 weight % (seeing the 14th page the 22nd line the - the 1,5th page the 22nd line in description) based on the total weight of said mounted cushion.

Claim 1 is compared with D1, the difference lies in, wherein said mounted cushion does not contain the organic binder or contains the organic binder no longer than 5 weight % based on the total weight of said mounted cushion.

To above difference, D1 also discloses the mounted cushion and has contained the organic binder no longer than 15 weight % (seeing the 14th page in description, the 22nd line the - the 1,5th page the 22nd line) based on the total weight of said mounted cushion, D1 discloses the one no longer than 15% on a large scale promptly, the those skilled in the art is very easily no longer than the any numerical value of 15% scope internal management, by way of example 2% there, drop on the within range no longer than 5 weight %; Simultaneously, D1 also discloses to use to have the inorganic particulate purpose and increases frictional force, and adopt the organic binder can be so that inorganic particulate on the mounted cushion has the good enough stability prevent to fall off (see the 4th page the 25th line in description the - the 5th page the, 22 lines). The technical effect that the those skilled in the art probably produced in the time of can expecting not use the organic binder completely, and according to the concrete condition, by way of example, the frictional force size of mounted cushion, particle drop to decide whether adopt the organic binder to the influence of frictional force and/or the cost of organic binder, by way of example provide enough big frictional force at the mounted cushion, and the particle drops less or when adopting the performance / cost of organic binder non-remunerative to the frictional force influence, adopt "not containing the organic binder in the mounted cushion" such technical solution, need not pay the performing creative labour.

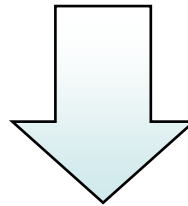
Thus it can be seen that, at the on the basis of D1, further combine the common knowledge, obtain the technical solution of claim 1, conspicuous to the those skilled in the art. Consequently, claim 1 does not possess

210402
2010.2

- I. Background
- II. Patent Examination Practices and Policies of the JPO
- III. Unity of Invention**

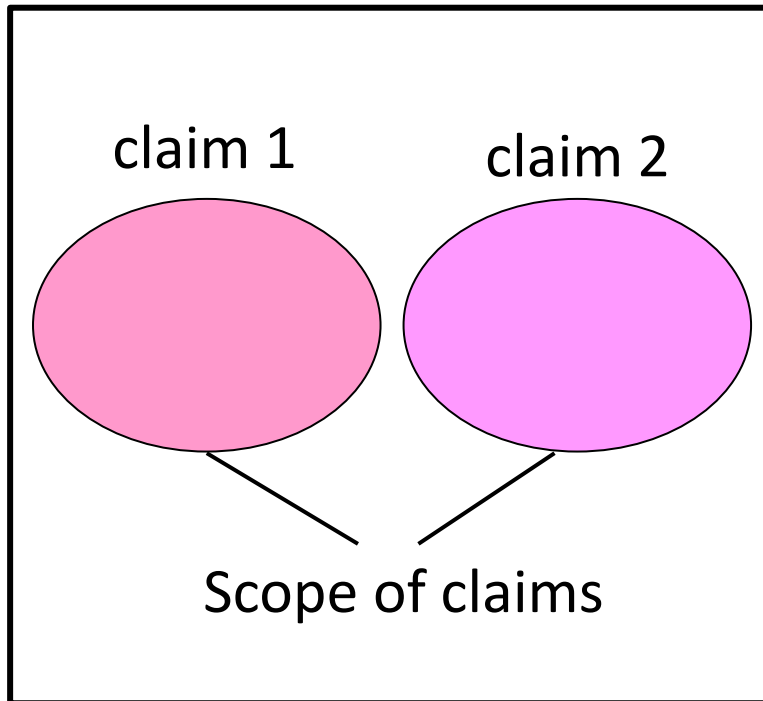
Purpose of Unity of Invention

Two or more inventions complying with the requirement of unity of invention may **be filed for a patent in a single patent application.**



- ◆ Applicants can simplify and rationalize the application procedures.
- ◆ Patent Offices can examine such inventions together in an efficient way.
- ◆ Third parties can use patent information and transact patent rights easier.

Two or more inventions in an application must form **a single general inventive concept.**



Not Good

Claim 1 : **Airplane**



Claim 2 : **Shoes**

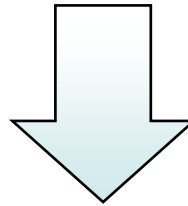


It is obvious that “airplane” and “shoes” don’t form a single general inventive concept.

-> This application doesn’t meet the requirement of unity of invention.

Rule 13.1 Requirement

The international application shall relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form **a single general inventive concept** (“requirement of unity of invention”).



A single general inventive concept

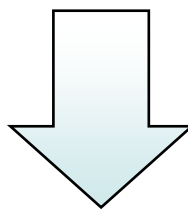
Rule 13.1 Requirement

The international application shall relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form **a single general inventive concept** (“requirement of unity of invention”).

Rule 13.2 Circumstances in Which the Requirement of Unity of Invention Is to Be Considered Fulfilled

Where a group of inventions is claimed in one and the same international application, **the requirement of unity of invention** referred to in Rule 13.1 shall be fulfilled only when there is a technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding **special technical features**. The expression “**special technical features**” shall mean those technical features that **define a contribution** which each of the claimed inventions, considered as a whole, **makes over the prior art**.

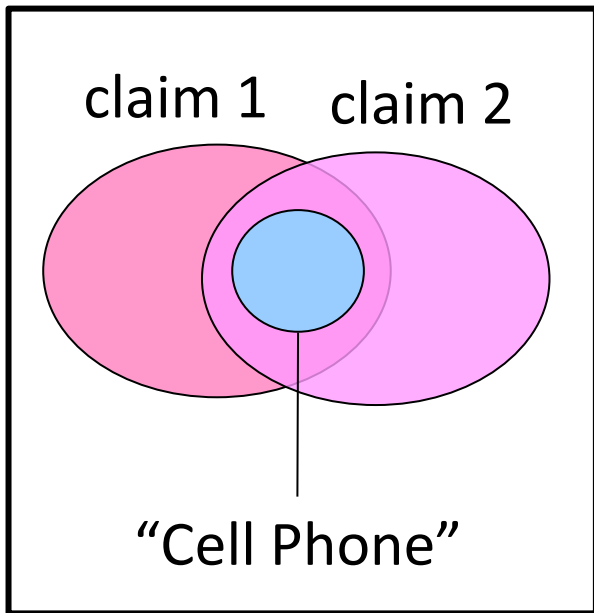
“A single general inventive concept” shall be fulfilled only when there are one or more of the same or corresponding “special technical features” among a group of inventions.



Special Technical Features (STF)

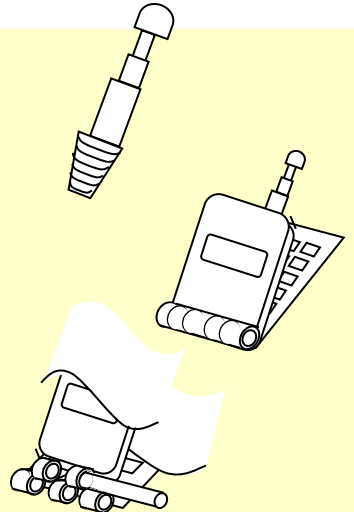
- “STF” means **technical features that make a contribution over prior art.**
- Any technical features that doesn't make a contribution over prior art is not an STF.
 - <Typical Case>
 - The feature is found in the prior art.
 - The feature is well-known or commonly used technology.
 - The feature is a mere design variation of a prior art.

Does this application meet the requirement of unity of invention ?



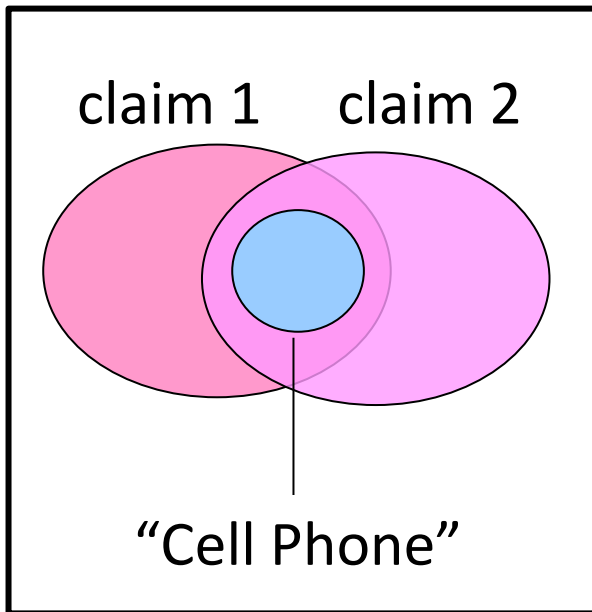
Claim 1 : Antenna of high sensitivity for a **cell phone.**

Claim 2 : Hinges for folding a **cell phone.**



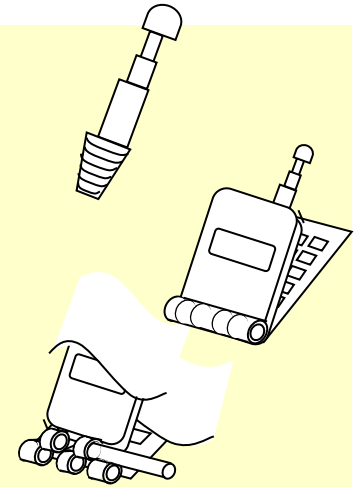
Claim 1 and 2 are inventions related to “cell phone”. There are many prior arts related to cell phone.

Two or more inventions in an application must have the same or corresponding **special technical features (STF)** among them.



Claim 1 : Antenna of high sensitivity for a **cell phone.**

Claim 2 : Hinges for folding a **cell phone.**

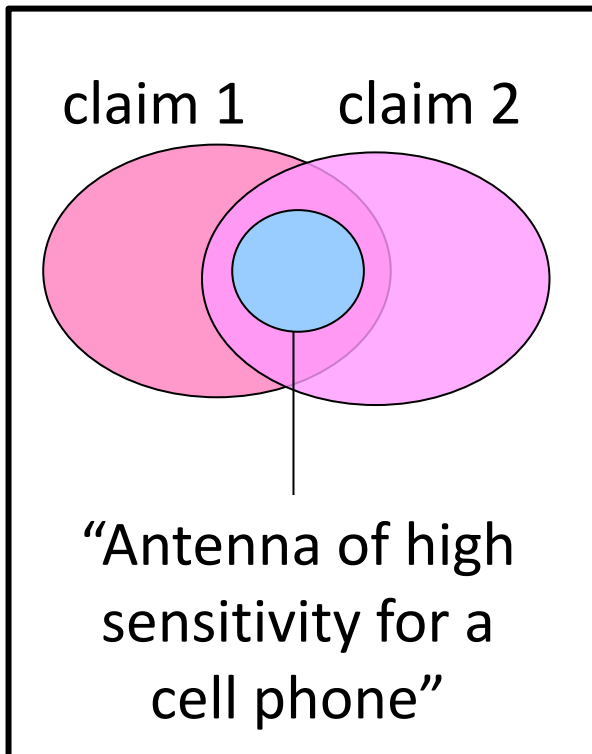


Claim 1 and 2 have the same technical feature (“cell phone”). However, this technical feature (“cell phone”) isn’t the special technical feature because it doesn’t have a contribution over the prior art.

Not Good

→ This application doesn’t meet the requirement of unity of invention.

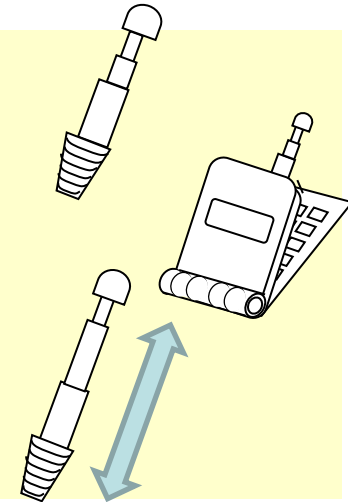
Two or more inventions in an application must have the same or corresponding **special technical features (STF)** among them.



Good !!

Claim 1 : Antenna of high sensitivity for a cell phone.

Claim 2 : Extensible antenna of high sensitivity for a cell phone.



Claim 1 and 2 have the same technical feature (“antenna of high sensitivity for a cell phone”).

This technical feature is the special technical feature because it has a contribution over the prior art.

→ This application meets the requirement of unity of invention.

Subject of the examination

The requirement of unity of invention shall be examined among inventions **described in claims**.

Basic Approach

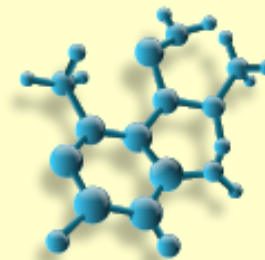
An examination for unity of invention

→ determining whether two or more inventions have the same or corresponding STFs.

If what was deemed to be a “STF” doesn’t contribute to the prior art of the relevant inventions,

→ **it is denied** posteriori that the technical feature is a “STF”

Claim 1: **compound A**. (transparent substance having improved oxygen barrier characteristics)



Claim 2: A food packaging container composed of **compound A**.

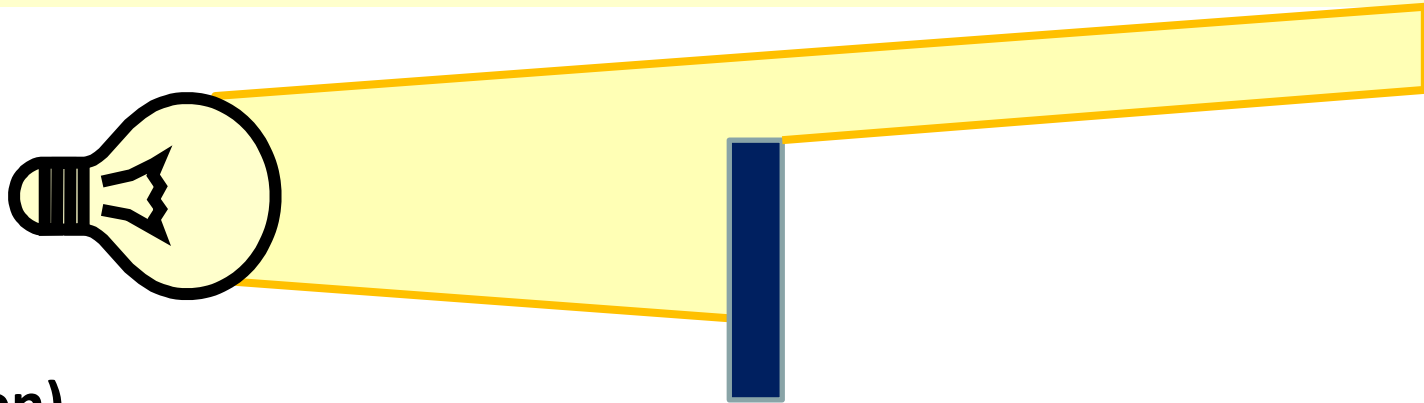


(Explanation)

Since **compound A** itself has a contribution over the prior art, the inventions of Claims 1, 2 have **the same special technical feature**.

Claim 1: A method of lighting comprising **shielding a part of illumination light** from the light source.

Claim 2: A lighting system with a light source and a light shielding part that **partially shields against illumination light** from the light source.

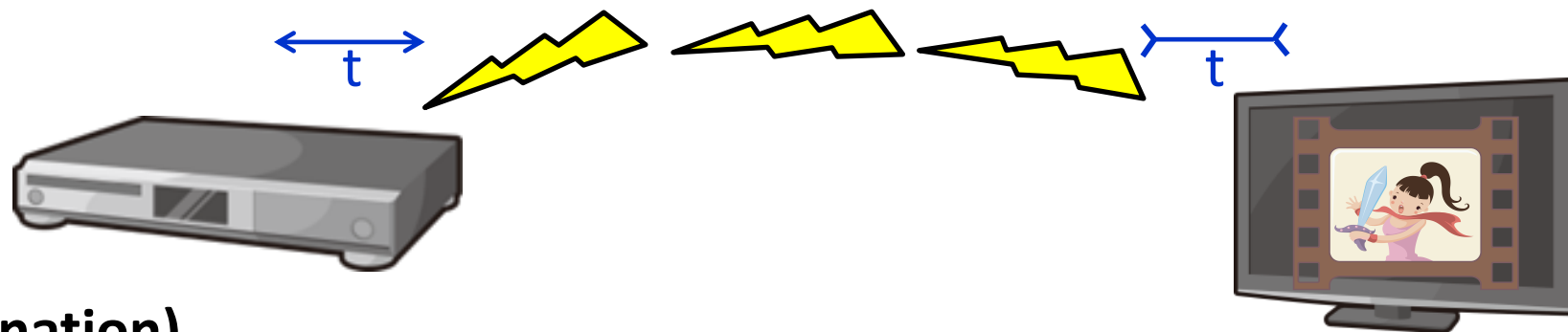


(Explanation)

Because **shielding a part of illumination light** brings a contribution over the prior art, the inventions of Claims 1, 2 have **the same special technical feature**.

Claim 1: A transmitter with a **time axis extender** for a video signal.

Claim 2: A receiver with a **time axis compressor** for a **received** video signal.



(Explanation)

The special technical features of the inventions of Claims 1, 2 are equipping **a time axis extender** and **a time axis compressor** respectively. Both functions lie in extension of the time axis to transmit a video signal and compression of the time axis to receive a video signal respectively.

Therefore, **they are related complementarily**. the inventions of Claims 1, 2 have **the corresponding special technical feature**.

(1) Product and Method of Producing it, Product and Machine, Instrument, Device, the Other Means for Producing it

If a production method or a production device, etc. is suitable for producing “the product”, they have the same or corresponding special technical feature.

(2) Product and Method of Using it, and Product and Another Product Solely Utilizing Specific Properties of the Product

If a “method of using a product” is suitable for use of “that product”, they have the same or corresponding special technical feature.

(3) Product and Handling Method of the Product, or Product and Another Handling Product of it

If a handling method or another handling product is suitable for handling “the product”, both have the same or corresponding special technical features

(4) Method and Machine, Instrument, Device, the Other Means Directly Used to Carry Out the Method

If a device directly used to carry out a method are suitable for direct use to carry out “the method”, both have the same or corresponding special technical features.

- I. Background
- II. Patent Examination Practices and Policies of JPO
- III. Unity of Invention

***Thank you
for your attention!***