



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20231
www.uspto.gov

September 13, 2001

Ms. Helen Frary
Head of IT Business Management Section
World Intellectual Property Organization
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
SWITZERLAND

Re: WIPO SCIT Circular 2542 – PCT Minimum Documentation –List of Periodicals

Dear Ms. Frary:

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) concurs with the proposal to add the journal “Research Disclosure” and its electronic version, “Research Disclosure Electronic”, to the PCT Minimum Documentation List. The print version of “Research Disclosure” has been part of the USPTO Scientific and Technical Information Center’s collections since 1972. However, electronic access to “Research Disclosure” is critical if the publication is to be truly useful in patent searching. Until recently, “Research Disclosure” was included in Derwent’s World Patent Index. Discontinuation of electronic access through Derwent makes publisher provided electronic access to the content of “Research Disclosure” extremely important. We request additional information concerning the timetable under which “Research Disclosure Electronic” will be available to IP offices.

Furthermore, the USPTO believes it is appropriate to replace the IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin (IBM TDB) as part of the PCT Minimum Documentation List (PCT No. 063) with the “Research Disclosure” journal, ISSN 0374-4353 (current paper and planned electronic versions). The January 1998 issue of the IBM TDB was the final issue published by IBM Corporation (see the IBM TDB web site http://www.ibm.com/ibm/licensing/ibm_tdb/). The IBM TDB web site indicates the IBM TDBs published after February 1998 are available for a fee through “Research Disclosure”.

The USPTO also concurs with the proposal to remove the journal Funkschau from the PCT Minimum Documentation List.

Sincerely,

/Edmond G. Rishell, Jr./

Edmond G. Rishell, Jr., Acting Director
International Liaison Staff