

**From:** Ken MORITSUGU <moritsugu-ken@jpo.go.jp>  
**To:** <scit.mail@wipo.int>  
**Date:** 2/10/05 4:22AM  
**Subject:** Re: Circular C. SCIT 2604 - Questionnaire on Correction Procedures in Patent Offices

Dear Sirs/Madams,

Please find attached the response from Japan Patent Office to the Questionnaire on Correction Procedures in Patent Offices (Annex to Circular C. SCIT 2604).

I hope this information is helpful in further pursuing SDWG Task No. 35.

Best regards,

Ken MORITSUGU  
Deputy Director  
Patent Information Promotion Policy Office  
Japan Patent Office

## Questionnaire on Correction Procedures in Patent Offices

*approved by the SCIT Standards and Documentation Working Group  
at its fifth session on November 11, 2004*

Task No. 35: Prepare a questionnaire and carry out a survey on the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.50 and on the status of the correction procedures in the industrial property offices. Prepare a proposal regarding this matter for consideration by the SDWG.

Please provide the following contact information in order for us to contact the person responsible for the Questionnaire in case of need:

<u>Contact details of the Reporting Office:</u>	
Name of the Reporting Office	<u>JP</u> (ST.3 two-letter country/organization code) <i>Japan Patent Office</i>
Person to contact	Name: <i>Ken MORITSUGU</i>
	Tel. number: <i>+81-3-3597-0330</i>
	E-mail: <i>moritsugu-ken@jpo.go.jp</i>

---

## Q U E S T I O N N A I R E

The Guidelines given by WIPO Standard ST.50 aim at providing guidance to industrial property offices and other suppliers of patent information on how to issue corrections, alterations and supplements relating to patent information published in paper form or on machine-readable media.

### COMPLIANCE WITH WIPO STANDARD ST.50

1. Does your Office use these guidelines?

(a) Guidelines for corrections (paragraphs 7 - 32)

ALL

PARTLY

NO

(i) If your answer was “PARTLY”, which parts of WIPO Standard ST.50 are used?

- Kind-of-document codes according to WIPO Standard ST.16, e.g., A8, A9, etc.
- Data element “publication date” of the correction (INID code (48))
- Additional correction information, e.g., supplementary correction codes (example: codes on EP CD-ROMs like W, Z, etc.), together with INID code (15)
- Other – Please specify:
- *JPO employs kind-of document code according to paragraph 10 of WIPO Standard ST.16. However, JPO at this stage employs digit 6 instead of digits 8 or 9.*
  - *JPO publishes patent documents/patent gazettes in DVD-ROM form only. Provisions of ST.50 regarding publication solely by paper and parallel publication by paper and electronic media do not apply to JPO.*

(ii) If your answer was “NO”, is your Office planning to introduce the guidelines according to WIPO Standard ST.50? If so, when?

YES  NO

When?

Comments, if necessary:

b) Guidelines for alterations (paragraphs 33 – 36) ?

ALL  PARTLY  NO

(i) If your answer was “PARTLY”, please specify the practice of your Office:

*JPO publishes patent documents/patent gazettes in DVD-ROM form only. Provisions of ST.50 regarding publication solely by paper and parallel publication by paper and electronic media do not apply to JPO.*

(ii) If your answer was “NO”, is your Office planning to introduce the guidelines according to WIPO Standard ST.50? If so, when?

YES  NO

When?

Comments, if necessary:

c) Guidelines for supplements (paragraphs 37 – 44) ?

ALL  PARTLY  NO

- (i) If your answer was "PARTLY" please specify the practice of your Office:

*JPO publishes patent documents/patent gazettes in DVD-ROM form only. Provisions of ST.50 regarding publication solely by paper and parallel publication by paper and electronic media do not apply to JPO.*

- (ii) If your answer was "NO", is your Office planning to introduce the guidelines according to ST.50? If so, when?

YES  NO

When?

Comments, if necessary:

2. On which media are the guidelines according to WIPO Standard ST.50 used? Please indicate the guidelines used in the different media below. Please provide the requested media information for both (1) patent documents, and (2) patent gazettes, for any media on which they are provided.

- (a) Paper:  
(i) Patent documents:  
(ii) Patent gazettes:
- (b) CD-ROMs/DVDs:  
(i) Patent documents: *DVD-ROMs (All JPO patent documents are published as patent gazettes.)*  
(ii) Patent gazettes: *DVD-ROMs*
- (c) Machine-readable carriers other than CD-ROMs/DVDs:  
(i) Patent documents:  
(ii) Patent gazettes:

3. Does your Office use other correction procedures than provided in WIPO Standard ST.50?

- Paper Patent Documents:  
 Patent Documents on CD-ROMs/DVDs: *DVD-ROMs (All JPO patent documents are published as patent gazettes.)*  
 Patent Gazettes/Bulletins (please specify media used): *DVD-ROMs*  
 Machine-readable carriers other than CD-ROMs/DVDs  
(Please specify product, e.g., patent document, patent gazette, etc.):

List the WIPO Standard ST.16 kind-of-document codes used for each kind of corrected patent document. Please indicate if your Office does not change the ST.16 kind-of-document code for corrected documents:

*A6: Correction of published unexamined patent application*

*A6: Correction of published unexamined patent application based on international application*

*B6: Correction of published granted patent application*

*B6: Correction of published examined patent application*

*U6: Correction of published unexamined utility model application*

*U6: Correction of published registered utility model application*

*U6: Correction of corrected utility model specification*

*U6: Correction of published unexamined utility model application based on international application*

*Y6: Correction of published granted utility model application*

*Y6: Correction of published examined utility model application*

4. In the case that your Office publishes corrections on machine-readable media:

Please indicate if corrections to image data (e.g., WIPO Standard ST.33 data) are handled differently from corrections to full text versions of the same data (e.g., WIPO Standard ST.32 data).

*Corrections to image data and to full text data are handled in same manners.*

Please indicate if corrections are handled differently on different media (e.g., differently on CD/DVD-ROM, magnetic tape, on-line, etc.):

*JPO publishes patent documents/patent gazettes only in the form of DVD-ROM.*

5. If you use correction procedures that are not fully in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.50 and do not plan to be fully in line with this Standard in the future, please explain why. In particular, please indicate any concerns you have with WIPO Standard ST.50 that cause problems with its implementation.

*WIPO Standard ST.50 does not assume to cover publication of patent documents/patent gazettes only in electronic media. As JPO employs publication of patent documents/patent gazettes only in electronic media, JPO partly adopt other correction procedures than provided in WIPO Standard ST.50.*

6. Do you see a necessity to update or amend WIPO Standard ST.50? In which area(s)?

*It will be desirable to revise WIPO Standard ST.50 in order to fully accommodate publication of patent documents/patent gazettes only in electronic media. However, JPO has been processing publication only in electronic media without any problem by applying current ST.50 with proper interpretation and thus revision of ST.50 is not urgent for JPO.*

## TYPE AND CAUSE OF ERRORS

7. Is the origin of errors leading to corrections mainly due to the applicant or to the internal processes of your Office?

- More from the applicant side  
 More from the Patent Office side  
 About equally from applicant and Patent Office

Comments, if necessary:

8. What is the number of corrections published by your Office every year, in absolute values and/or percentage of the overall publication volume?

*Number of correction per year: 399*

*Number of overall publication per year: 541,290*

*Percentage of correction as a portion of overall publication: 0.07%*

*(Data: CY2004)*

9. Has a significant change occurred in the number of corrections issued in the past years?

- More corrections  
 Stable  
 Fewer corrections

Comments, if necessary:

10. Who makes the final decision of publishing a correction?

- The examiner  
 The formality officer  
 The publication department  
 All, in cooperation  
 Other – Please specify:

Comments, if necessary:

11. Is a request for correction from an applicant usually granted?

YES  NO

Comments, if necessary:

12. How long, on average, does your Office take to publish a correction once an error becomes known?

*About 2 to 3 months.*

Comments, if necessary:

[End of Annex and Questionnaire]