

What's New for Applicants in ePCT https://pct.wipo.int





PCT eServices 16 & 18 April 2024

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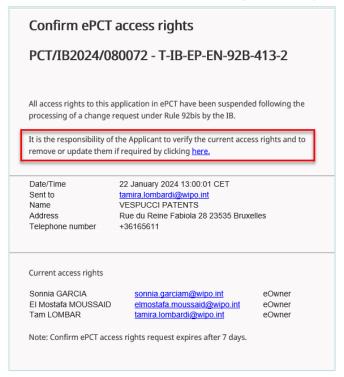
Introduction

- What's New for Applicants in ePCT 4.13
 - Confirm ePCT access rights following a change request under R92bis
 - Signature requirements for ePCT Actions
 - Authorized signatories
 - Authorization to sign
 on behalf of Applicant / Agent (legal entity)
 - US Filing natural person as agent
 - Business Continuity Service change receiving Office to RO/IB before filing



Confirm ePCT Access Rights (1)

- Easier and faster way of managing access rights following a change request under R92bis
- Up to the applicant to manage IA access in ePCT
 - New notification "Confirm ePCT access rights" sent to the e-mail of record once R92bis request processed by IB





Confirm ePCT Access Rights (2)

- Notification includes a link to an external page where the applicant has two options
 - Remove all access rights
 - Keep current access rights





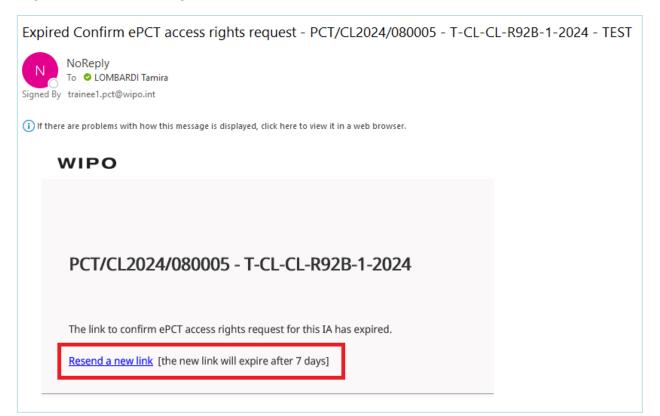
Confirm ePCT Access Rights (3)

- If all access rights are removed, a new Access Rights Request can then be submitted
- If current access rights are kept
 - IA access will be restored
 - Check if access rights should be updated, for example, to add or remove any eOwner, eEditor or eViewer



Confirm ePCT Access Rights (4)

- Link in the notification to confirm ePCT access rights is valid for 7 days
- Reminder sent one day before the expiry date
- If expired, it is possible to resend the notification





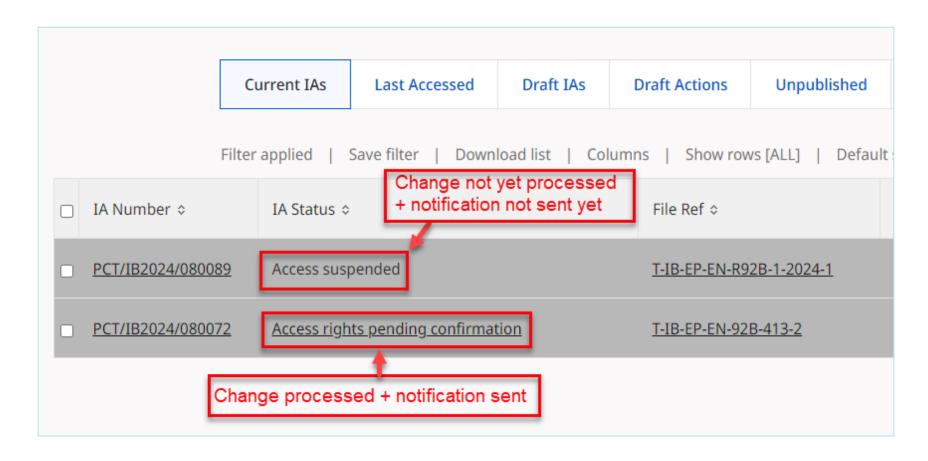
Confirm ePCT Access Rights (5) Examples

- If R92bis request concerns
 - Change of applicant (same agent remains)
 - notification sent to the current e-mail of record
 - agent's access rights can be kept
 - Change of agent
 - notification sent to the new e-mail of record
 - up to the new agent to remove access rights of the former agent and then request access rights



Confirm ePCT Access Rights (6)

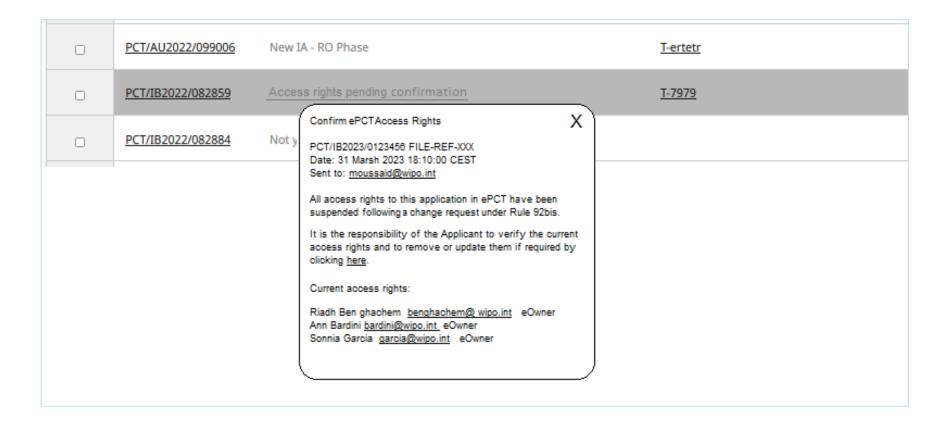
Workbench view





Confirm ePCT Access Rights (7)

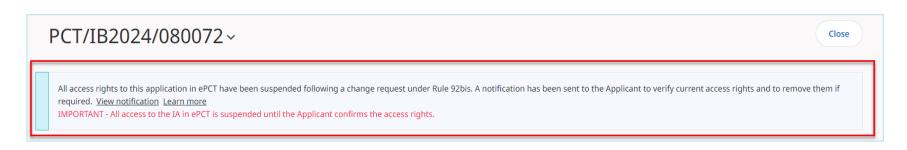
Workbench view





Confirm ePCT Access Rights (8) IA view

- A banner indicating the pending status of the IA access in ePCT: access suspended
- Possible to "View notification" by clicking the dedicated link





Confirm ePCT Access Rights (9) Tips for R92bis Change Request

- Recommended to use the <u>ePCT Action Rule 92bis</u> <u>change request</u>
 - Data directly imported for processing
- ePCT access are not suspended for the following changes
 - adding a new party (regardless of the party type)
 - change of nationality, residence, country of address, telephone, e-mail address, or applicable designations



Confirm ePCT Access Rights (10) Tips for R92bis Change Request

- Always provide an e-mail address for communication purpose
- Change of Agent by submitting a POA
 - Always provide an accompanying letter indicating the e-mail address of the new agent and if applicable, also the new file reference
- Change of a Party using ePCT Action
 - Use the edit button to overwrite the existing data
 - Avoid to delete the former party then add a new one
 - □ For a change in person (not only a change of the name), remember to confirm it in the dedicated pop-up

The International Patent System

Confirm ePCT Access Rights (11) Tips for R92bis Change Request

- Change of Applicant + Agent
 - ☐ R92bis change request can be signed by the new agent if the following documents are also submitted
 - documentary evidence for the change of applicant, such as an assignment showing the transfer of rights
 - POA from the new applicant appointing the new agent
- Change from Applicants/Inventors to Inventors only
 - Specify the new order of the inventors after change if different with originally filed



Confirm ePCT Access Rights (12) ePCT tutorial

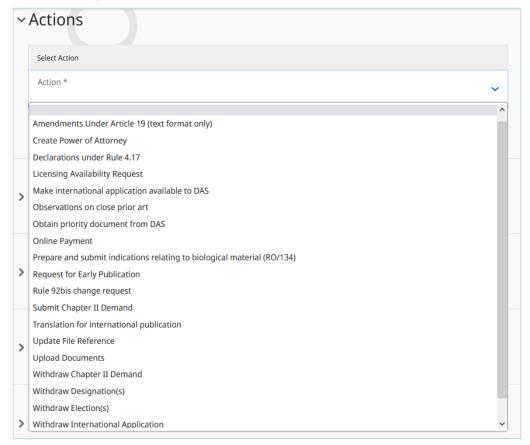




Signature Requirements (1)

ePCT Actions

Actions enable users to prepare and submit post-filing requests / documents online in ePCT, benefiting from pre-filled bibliographic data and automated validations

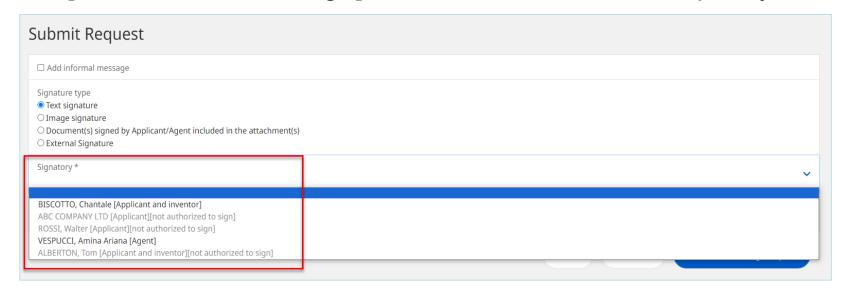




Signature Requirements (2)

Authorized Signatories

- Update to ePCT Actions regarding "Signatory" drop-down list in the signature section
 - Only authorized signatories are available for selection
 - □ Other parties are greyed-out with an indication of "[not authorized to sign]" next to the name and capacity





Signature Requirements (3)

Authorized Signatories

- Authorized signatories are parties authorized to sign on behalf of the applicant(s)
 - Agent
 - Common representative
 - Deemed common representative
- Update implemented for most of the ePCT Actions
 - Exceptions
 - Upload Documents
 - Submit Chapter II Demand ⇒ IPEA
 - Actions for Withdrawal (IA, priority claim, demand, designation / election)



Signature Requirements (4)

Authorization to sign on behalf of Applicant / Agent (legal entity)

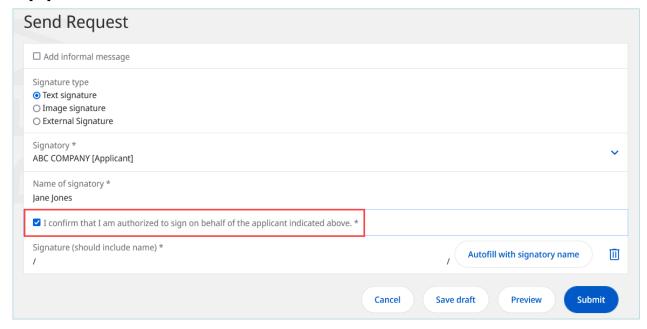
- In the signature section, a checkbox is added for the signatory to confirm the authorization to sign on behalf of the Applicant / Agent (legal entity)
- Checkbox added for all ePCT Actions, except
 - Submit Chapter II Demand ⇒ IPEA
- Note: For filing to RO/IB only, the same checkbox had been added for the Applicant (legal entity) and is now also available for the Agent (legal entity)



Signature Requirements (5)

Authorization to sign on behalf of Applicant (legal entity)

- Applicant (legal entity)
 - □ A mandatory checkbox in the Action signature section: "I confirm that I am authorized to sign on behalf of the applicant indicated above."





Signature Requirements (6)

Authorization to sign on behalf of Applicant (legal entity)

 Authorization indication on the rendered document after the Action is submitted

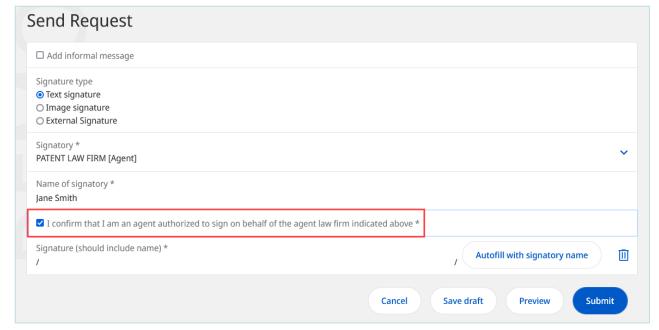
/Jane Jones/
ABC COMPANY (Applicant)
Jane Jones
I confirm that I am authorized to sign on behalf of the applicant
indicated above.
03 April 2024 11:15:01 CEST
Jiao MO
Sign-in with strong authentication



Signature Requirements (7)

Authorization to sign on behalf of Agent (legal entity)

- Agent (legal entity)
 - □ A mandatory checkbox in the Action signature section: "I confirm that I am an agent authorized to sign on behalf of the agent law firm indicated above."





Signature Requirements (8)

Authorization to sign on behalf of Agent (legal entity)

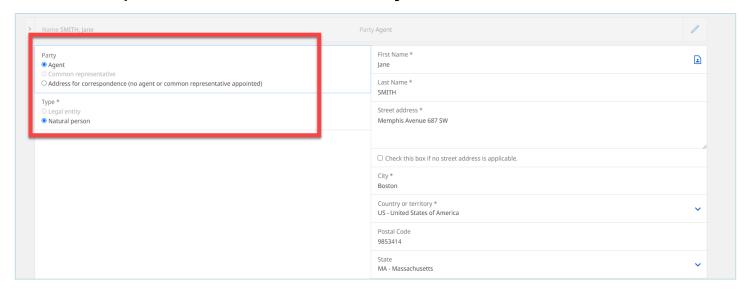
 Authorization indication on the rendered document after the Action is submitted

Signature:	/Jane Smith/
Signatory:	PATENT LAW FIRM (Agent)
Name of signatory:	Jane Smith
Authorization:	I confirm that I am an agent authorized to sign on behalf of the agent law firm indicated above
Date:	03 April 2024 11:28:43 CEST
User Name:	Jiao MO
Authentication:	Sign-in with strong authentication



US Filing - Natural Person as Agent

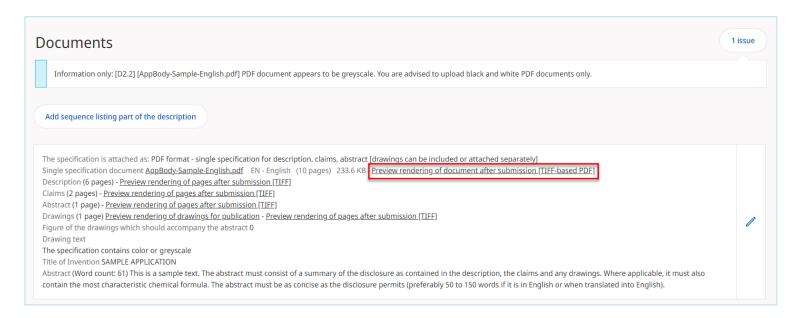
- For filing to RO/US, only a natural person can be appointed as an agent
- When entering the agent's information in ePCT
 - "Legal entity" is greyed-out
 - ☐ "Natural person" is selected by default





Preview Rendering of Document after Submission

■ For clarity purpose, "View document as it will be rendered at the IB" has been renamed to "Preview rendering of document after submission"





Business Continuity Service (1)

Change receiving Office to RO/IB before filing

- When preparing a draft application in Business Continuity Service (BCS), it is now possible to change the selected receiving Office to RO/IB if another receiving Office has been previously selected
 - Example: the applicant needs to request the restoration of the right of priority, but the previously selected receiving Office does not accept such a request



Business Continuity Service (2)

Change receiving Office to RO/IB before filing





ePCT HELP

- PCT eServices Help Desk
 - ☐ Tel: +41 22 338 9523
 - ☐ Email: pct.eservices@wipo.int
 - □ Live Chat & Web Contact Form available via FAQ answers
 - Monday to Friday, 9am-6pm Geneva time (CET)



Thank you!





Q & A



WIPO
WORLD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION