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**Från:** Marklund Måns  
**Skickat:** den 8 maj 2013 15:30  
**Till:** Eriksson Marie  
**Ämne:** C. 8261

Reply regarding Circular C. 8261

Quality of patents

As to work sharing programs PRV is engaged in PPH by [pilot](#) agreements with the JPO and the USPTO on PCT-PPH. The [apilot](#) greements were signed 2011 and recently prolonged without a termination date.

As regards the use of external information for the S&E we are using the EPOPQUENET and available databases [through](#) this system provided by the EPO. We also have access to a large number of database providers for non patent literature and patent abstracts in full text etc.

In our guidelines it is stated that the examiner should take use of searches performed and issued by other offices which are available at the time for the search. However it is up to the examiner to decide to what extent such search reports may be taken into account and to what extent a supplementary search is necessary in each case.

**Måns Marklund**  
Quality Manager  
Swedish Patent and Registration Office  
P.O. Box 5055  
102 42 Stockholm  
Sweden  
Visitors: Valhallavägen 136

Phone: +46 8 782 25 00, direct +46 8 782 28 81  
Cell: +46 70 536 14 22  
E-mail: [mans.marklund@prv.se](mailto:mans.marklund@prv.se)

<http://www.prv.se>

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