

Ivan Ahlert
Dannemann Siemsen

**“One day, my child, this will all be yours!”
Centralised IP: Where is the Profession
Going?**

Our Profession vs. Our Business

What do we do:

- Assess the result of prior art or infringement searches
- Determine whether a product or process is novel and inventive, and whether in general it is patentable
- Prepare specification and claims for a patent application
- Prepare opinions on infringement, validity... etc. etc. etc.



Our Profession vs. Our Business

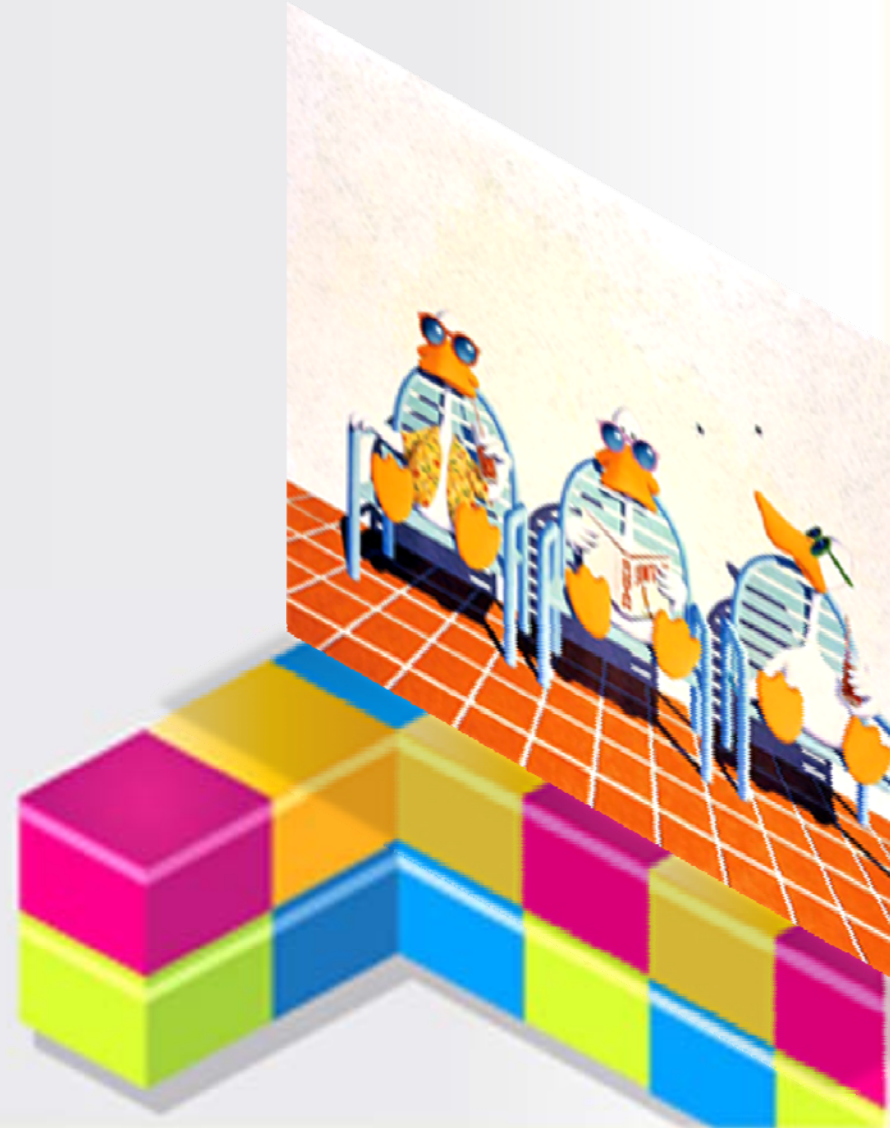
What else do we do:

- Prepare translations
- Pay renewal fees and other official fees



Unavoidable vs. Avoidable: FICPI and the PLT

- We are not sitting ducks
(not always, anyway)
- FICPI engaged in an effective backstage work at the PLT diplomatic conference (art. 7.2)



Unavoidable vs. Avoidable: FICPI and the PLT

Article 7 - Representation

(2) [Mandatory Representation]

A Contracting Party may require that an applicant, owner or other interested person appoint a representative for the purposes of any procedure before the Office after the filing date, **other than:**

....



Unavoidable vs. Avoidable: FICPI and the PLT

Article 7 - Representation

(2) [Mandatory Representation]

A Contracting Party may require that an applicant, owner or other interested person appoint a representative for the purposes of any procedure before the Office after the filing date, **except that an assignee of an application, an applicant, owner or other interested person may act himself before the Office for the following procedures:**

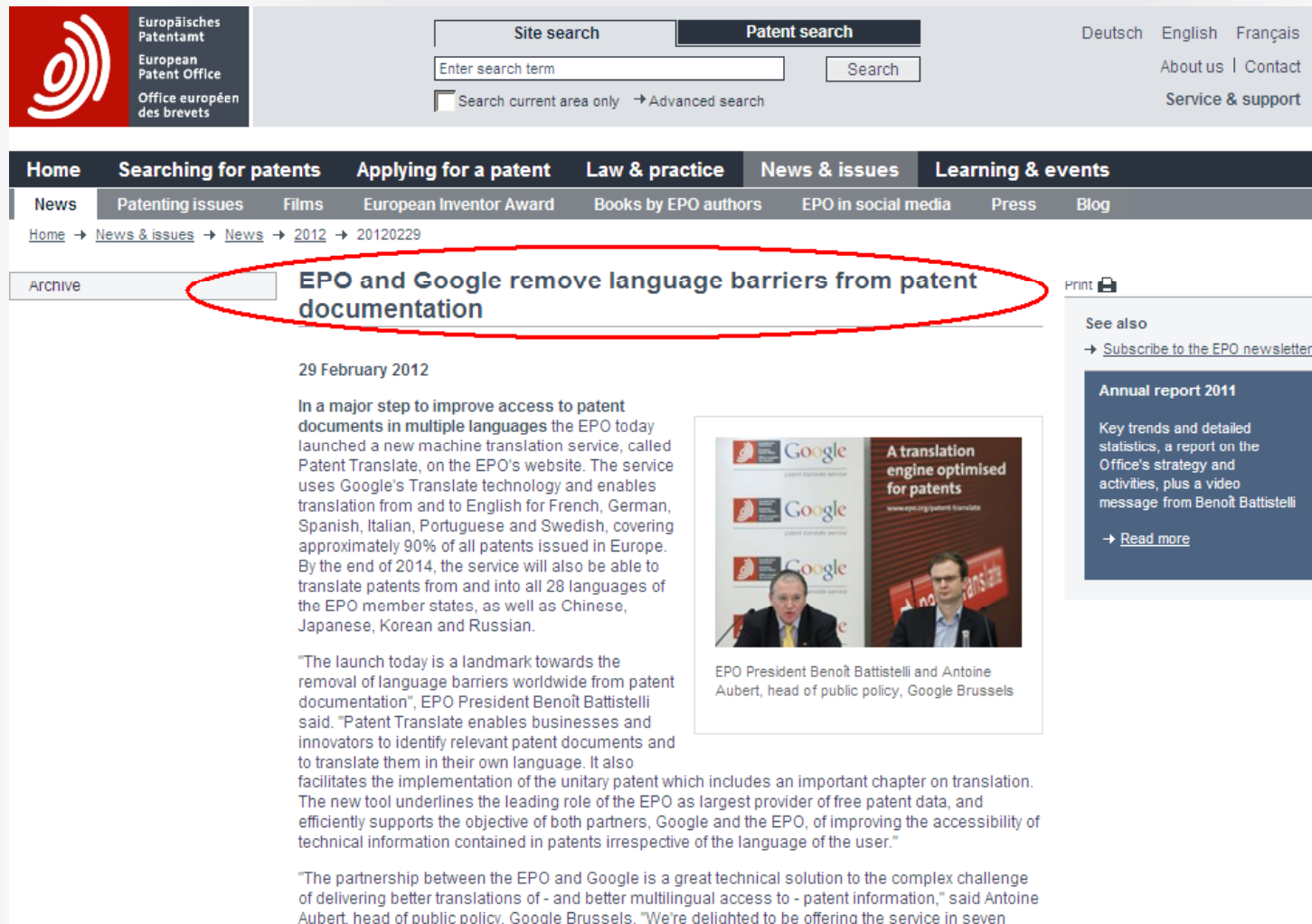
...

(b) A maintenance fee may be paid by any person.



“Threat” vs. Opportunity: translation softwares

- Machine translation will (is already?) gradually replacing human translation → income with translations will decrease



The screenshot shows the EPO website header with the logo and navigation links. The main navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Searching for patents', 'Applying for a patent', 'Law & practice', 'News & issues', and 'Learning & events'. The 'News & issues' section is active, showing a breadcrumb trail: Home → News & issues → News → 2012 → 20120229. The article title 'EPO and Google remove language barriers from patent documentation' is circled in red. The article is dated 29 February 2012 and describes the launch of the Patent Translate service, which uses Google's Translate technology to provide machine translation of patent documents from multiple languages into English and other languages. A photo shows EPO President Benoît Battistelli and Antoine Aubert, head of public policy at Google Brussels. The article concludes with a quote from Antoine Aubert about the partnership between EPO and Google.

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Site search Patent search
Enter search term Search
Search current area only → Advanced search

Deutsch English Français
About us | Contact
Service & support

Home Searching for patents Applying for a patent Law & practice News & issues Learning & events
News Patenting issues Films European Inventor Award Books by EPO authors EPO in social media Press Blog
Home → News & issues → News → 2012 → 20120229
Archive

EPO and Google remove language barriers from patent documentation

29 February 2012

In a major step to improve access to patent documents in multiple languages the EPO today launched a new machine translation service, called Patent Translate, on the EPO's website. The service uses Google's Translate technology and enables translation from and to English for French, German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese and Swedish, covering approximately 90% of all patents issued in Europe. By the end of 2014, the service will also be able to translate patents from and into all 28 languages of the EPO member states, as well as Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Russian.

"The launch today is a landmark towards the removal of language barriers worldwide from patent documentation", EPO President Benoît Battistelli said. "Patent Translate enables businesses and innovators to identify relevant patent documents and to translate them in their own language. It also facilitates the implementation of the unitary patent which includes an important chapter on translation. The new tool underlines the leading role of the EPO as largest provider of free patent data, and efficiently supports the objective of both partners, Google and the EPO, of improving the accessibility of technical information contained in patents irrespective of the language of the user."

"The partnership between the EPO and Google is a great technical solution to the complex challenge of delivering better translations of - and better multilingual access to - patent information," said Antoine Aubert, head of public policy, Google Brussels. "We're delighted to be offering the service in seven

A translation engine optimised for patents
www.epo.org/patent-translate

EPO President Benoît Battistelli and Antoine Aubert, head of public policy, Google Brussels

See also
→ Subscribe to the EPO newsletter

Annual report 2011
Key trends and detailed statistics, a report on the Office's strategy and activities, plus a video message from Benoît Battistelli
→ Read more

“Threat” vs. **Opportunity**: translation softwares

- But ... machine translation can be a powerful tool for improving productivity → costs may also decrease



Google translations

- “One day, my child, this will all be yours!”
- "Un jour, mon enfant, tout cela va être le vôtre! »
- "Eines Tages, mein Kind, wird dies alles dir gehören!“
- "Un día, mi hijo, todo esto será tuyo!”
- "ある日、私の子供が、これは全てあなたのものよ！”
- “有一天，我的孩子，這都將是你的！”
- "Un giorno, mio figlio, questo sarà tutto vostro!”
- "Um dia, meu filho, isto tudo será seu!”



Will there be a World Patent?

- Oh, yes...



Will there be a World Patent?

- Oh, yes... but not now.
Options:

- () world patent
- () hell freezes
- () pigs fly



Will there be a World Patent?

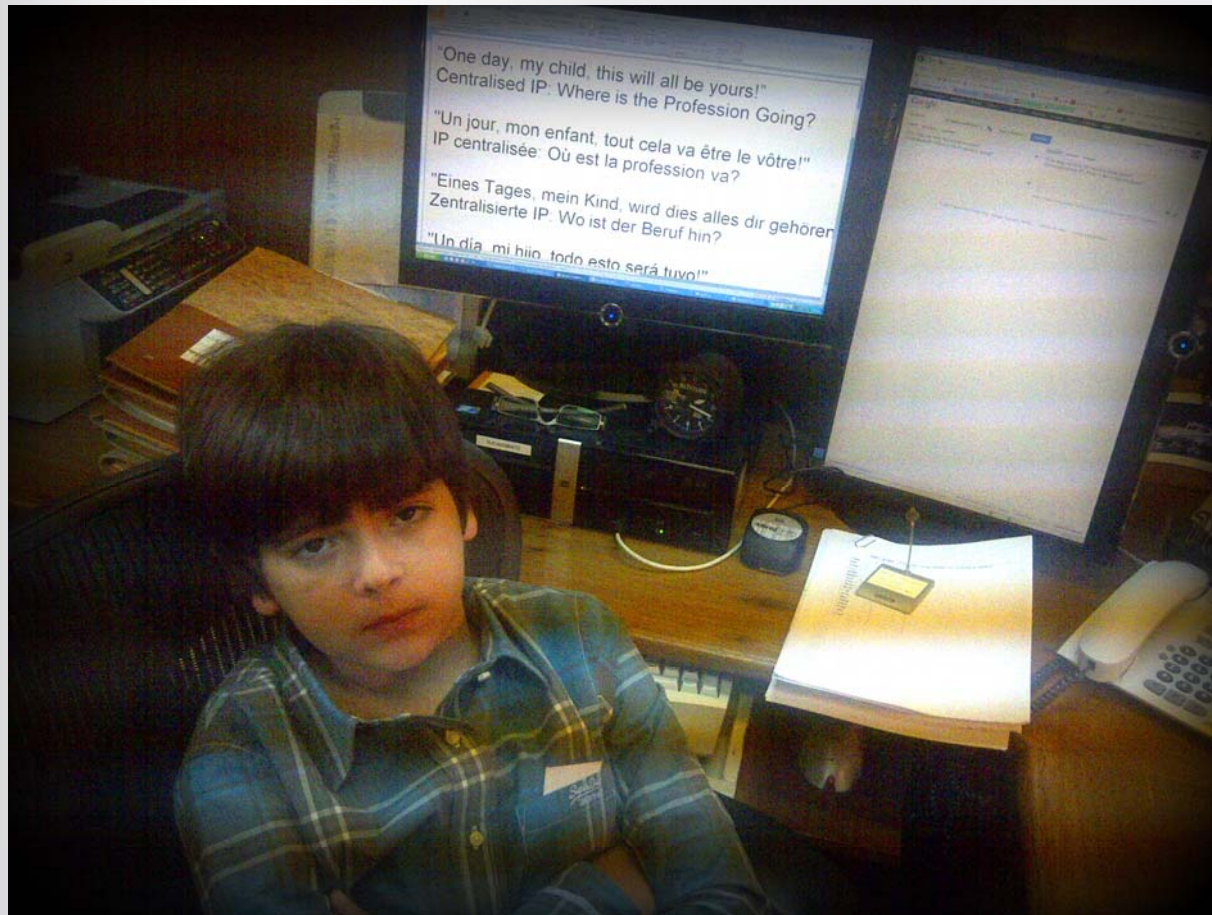
- US proposals to give binding effect to the PCT international preliminary examination report did not receive support
- Developing countries strongly oppose to centralization and loss of autonomy...



Will there be a World Patent?

- US proposals to give binding effect to the PCT international preliminary examination report did not receive support
- Developing countries strongly oppose to centralization and loss of autonomy... **so does FICPI!**





THANK YOU

