



WIPO | PCT

The International
Patent System



Online Platforms

Why Do You Still Need a Patent Attorney?

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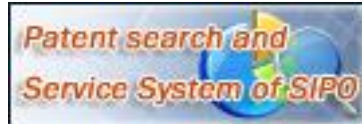
ONLINE PLATFORMS – FRIEND OR FOE?

Online Platforms – Friend or Foe?

- AI is coming
 - Major advances in some areas
 - Radical changes will affect the patent system
 - Not yet threatening the role of the attorney
- More conventional automation
 - Reducing transcription of information
 - Catches many errors before submission
 - More effective routing of information
 - Reduced risk of missing deadlines



EFS-Web

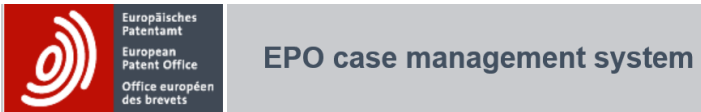


AusPat



PATENTSCOPE

Search International and National Patent Collections



THE CURRENT GLOBAL PICTURE



The Current Global Picture

- Many fragmented national systems
 - reinventing the wheel, without standard gauges
- Largely PDF application bodies, except JP, KR
- Little opportunity to share/reuse bibliographic data
- “Global Dossier” provides some degree of overview of published equivalent documentation

WIPO's Offerings

- ePCT
- PCT-SAFE
- PATENTSCOPE
- IPCPUB
- WIPO PEARL
- Many behind the scenes systems connecting Offices
- Some use of AI
 - mainly around patent information and language
 - professional aspects remain rules-based



EPCT

WELCOME TO ePCT

Username *	Password *	Sign in
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ePCT – Where Are We Now?

- Common system for international phase of PCT
 - Filing to 52 receiving Offices in 10 languages
 - Subsequently filed documents to 60 ROs + 15 ISA/IPEAs
 - Live view of file at IB
 - Flexible role-based access management
- “Actions”
 - Replace traditional forms with directly used data entry
 - Reduce processing time
 - Eliminate transcription errors
- Drafts

ePCT – Where Are We Heading?

- Better information sharing
 - Take bibliographic data from national first filing to create PCT request
 - Take international phase data to create national phase entry packages
 - Coded citation and written opinion data allowing direct access to cited documents, improved family matching, machine translations for foreign associates
- More complete file information
- Machine to machine transactions
- Payments beyond International Bureau
- Easier signatures

OFFICE SYSTEMS AND THE PROFESSIONAL

What Is Happening?

- Many new systems help you to interact with national Offices
- Developing quickly
- Using them effectively is vital
- Generally enabling
 - allows you to provide a better service, rather than replacing skilled roles

What Is Not Happening?

- Systems under development by Offices are not significantly touching the substantive attorney role
- Looking at mechanistic aspects of specification contents, but attempts at AI drafting and examination still crude
- Human expertise remains essential on both substance and processes, which continue to have subtle traps and are different between jurisdictions

- Effective cooperation
 - Offices – profession – system providers

Summary

- Improved traditional (non-AI) systems can offer radical efficiency and accuracy benefits – attorneys not using them will lose out
- Systems concerning substance provide support and error-checking, but not replacement for attorney
- Current threat to attorneys comes from other attorneys using the opportunities to better effect
- Great opportunities for profession if Offices can be guided to work better together on traditional automation
- But AI has developed quickly in other areas – watch this space

And Next...

