



eMPEP Public

User Manual

For users of assistive technology, additional information about visual elements within the presentation is provided in the notes section.

eMPEP Home Page Layout

The image shows a screenshot of the eMPEP (Electronic Manual of Patent Examining Procedure) home page. The page header includes the USPTO logo, the text "MPEP Manual of Patent Examining Procedure Eighth Edition Revision 8: July 2010", and a search bar. Below the header, there are navigation tabs and a main content area. Several callout boxes with arrows point to specific elements on the page:

- Content**: Points to the "MPEP" checkbox in the navigation bar.
- Search Field**: Points to the search input field in the header.
- MPEP contents Tab**: Points to the hamburger menu icon in the left sidebar.
- Collapse/Expand TOC**: Points to the left arrow icon in the sidebar.
- Table of Contents (TOC)**: Points to the list of links in the sidebar.
- Document Viewer**: Points to the main content area displaying the text of the manual.

Browse

TOC Legend	
■	A square bullet denotes the lowest section.
▶	A side triangle bullet denotes a further subdivision.
▼	A down triangle bullet lists the subdivisions.

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure Eighth Edition Revision 8: July 2010

MPEP Index FPs

Operator: ADJ

Browsing the E8r8 Version

- Blue Page - Introduction
- Title Page - Manual of PATENT
- Foreword - Foreword
- Introduction - Constitutional Basis
- 20100 - Secrecy, Access, Nationality
- 20200 - Types, Cross-Noting, and Other Matters
 - 201 - Types of Applications
 - 202 - Cross-Noting
 - 202.02 - Notation in File History
 - 202.03 - Notation on File Wrapping
 - 202.04 - In Oath or Declaration
 - 203 - Status of Applications

202.02 - Notation in File History Regarding Prior U.S. Patent Applications [R-3]

annual. ** > The front page of a printed patent identifies the prior art under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, or 365(c) in continuation-in-part applications. Therefore, the identifying data of all prior applications reviewed by the examiner to ensure that the data is accurate and provided in either the first sentence(s) of the specification or in an application data sheet. See 37 CFR 1.78(a) and MPEP § 201.11. For example, the reference to a prior nonprovisional application must include the appropriate relationship (e.g., continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part) between the nonprovisional applications. <

MPEP Contents tab 

- Ensure that the MPEP box is checked.
- Click a specific chapter/subsection, to view that chapter/subsection.
- Click the triangle bullet to expand the list of corresponding subsections.

Browse (continued)



The screenshot shows a document viewer window. At the top left, there is a right-pointing arrow button. At the top right, there are buttons for font size adjustment (A with up and down arrows) and a print icon. Below the window title bar, there is a breadcrumb trail: < 202, 0200 > 202 > 202.02, and 202.03 >. The main content area displays the title "202.02 Notation in File History Regarding Prior U.S. Applications, Including Provisional Applications [R-3]" in blue text. Below the title is a paragraph of text starting with "For Image File Wrapper (IFW) processing, see the IFW Manual. ** > The front page of a printed patent identifies all prior applications for which benefits are claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, or 365(c) in continuation-in-part, continuation, divisional, substitute, and reissue applications. Therefore, the identifying data of all prior applications for which benefits are claimed should be reviewed by the examiner to ensure that the data is accurate and provided in either the first sentence(s) of the specification or in an application data sheet. See 37 CFR 1.78(a) and MPEP § 201.11. For example, the reference to a prior nonprovisional application must include the appropriate relationship (e.g., continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part) between the nonprovisional applications. <

Document Viewer buttons:



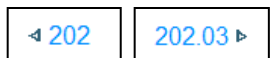
- Collapse/expand the Table of Contents to change the size of the Document Viewer.



- Increase or decrease font size.



- Print the content.




- Access preceding and subsequent sections and/or chapters.

Print A Chapter or Section



The screenshot shows a Document Viewer window with a navigation bar at the top. The navigation bar includes a back arrow, a search icon, and a print icon (a printer symbol) which is highlighted with a red square. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb path is displayed as "0200 > 202 > 202.02". The main content area displays the title "202.02 Notation in File History Regarding Prior U.S. Applications, Including Provisional Applications [R-3]" in blue text. Below the title, there is a paragraph of text explaining the requirements for Image File Wrapper (IFW) processing, including references to 35 U.S.C. 119(e), 120, 121, 365(c), 37 CFR 1.78(a), and MPEP § 201.11.

To print the entire chapter or section:

1. View the desired chapter or section within the Document Viewer. Within eMPEP the print icon  will appear.
2. Click this **print icon** to print the entire chapter or section accessed within the Document Viewer.

Print a Screen Shot

The following three print methods will only print the content that is being displayed within the TOC and Document Viewer:

- From the Internet Browser menu, click **File > Print** or **Ctrl+P**.

or

- From the Internet Browser, click the **print icon**.



or


- Within the eMPEP Document Viewer, **right-click** and click **Print**.

Search

- In the **Search** field, enter the search query.



The screenshot shows a search interface with a light blue header. In the top right corner of the header is a 'Help' link with a downward arrow. Below the header is a search input field containing the text 'double patenting'. To the right of the input field is a magnifying glass icon. Below the input field is a row of three checkboxes: 'MPEP' (checked), 'Index' (unchecked), and 'FPs' (unchecked). To the right of these checkboxes is a dropdown menu labeled 'Operator' with 'ADJ' selected. Red boxes highlight the magnifying glass icon, the checkboxes, and the operator dropdown.

- Click the **Run Search** icon  or press the **Enter** key to invoke the search.
- The search is conducted against the checked areas: MPEP, Index (Subject Matter Index), and/or FPs (Form Paragraphs).
- Searches can use Boolean and Proximity operators.
- ADJ (adjacent) is the default operator, unless changed by the user.
- Terms within quotation marks are searched as entered.

Search Syntax

Boolean Operators

Operator	Example	Meaning
OR	A or B	Term A or term B or both
AND	A and B	Both term A and term B
NOT	A not B	Term A but not term B
XOR	A xor B	Term A or term B but not both

Example: 102 and obviousness

Search Syntax

Proximity Operators

Operator	Example	Meaning
ADJ	A adj B	Term A and term B as a phrase in the specified order
NEAR	A near B	Term A next to term B, in either order
NEAR/n	A near/5 B	Term A within n words of term B, in either order, where $n \leq 99$

ADJ is the default operator.

Example: **final action** is searched as **final adj action**.

Operators are **not** case-sensitive.

Example: **related near patent**

Search Syntax

Wildcard Symbols

Symbol	Meaning
*	Represents zero to n characters in a term
?	Represents one character in a term

Wildcard symbols can be used at the beginning, middle, or end of a term.

Examples:

- ?con* - Retrieves *economic, icon, icons, iconic*
- ?con? - Retrieves *icons*, but not *icon*
- Catalog* - Retrieves *catalog, catalogs, cataloged, catalogue*
- Adv?e - Retrieves *advise, advice*

Search Syntax

Punctuation and Special Characters

Punctuation and special characters:

- Can be included within a search query.
- Are not required.
- May be replaced with a space.

Examples:

- 35 U.S.C. is searched as **35 u.s.c.** or as **35 u s c**
- 102 (e) is searched as **102 (e)** or as **102 e**

Search Query Examples

	Requested Search	Sample Queries		
1	request for continued examination	request for continued examination "request for continued examination" request ADJ for ADJ continued ADJ examination		
2	102 (e)	102 (e)	102 e	"102(e)"
3	six-month	six-month	six month	
4	PCT/RO/101	pct/ro/101	pct ro 101	
5	Comm'r	comm'r	comm r	
6	35 U.S.C. 102	35 u.s.c. 102	35 u s c 102	102
7	WIPO Standard ST.16	st.16	st 16	
8	37 CFR 1.17	1.17	1 17	
9	non-final	non-final or nonfinal	(non final) or nonfinal	

Display of Search Results

- The TOC is focused on the **Search Results** tab which reflects the sections where the hits were found.
- 10 result sections per page display (default).
- The total number of section hits.
- Denotes the number of result pages and the ability to navigate to a specific result page.

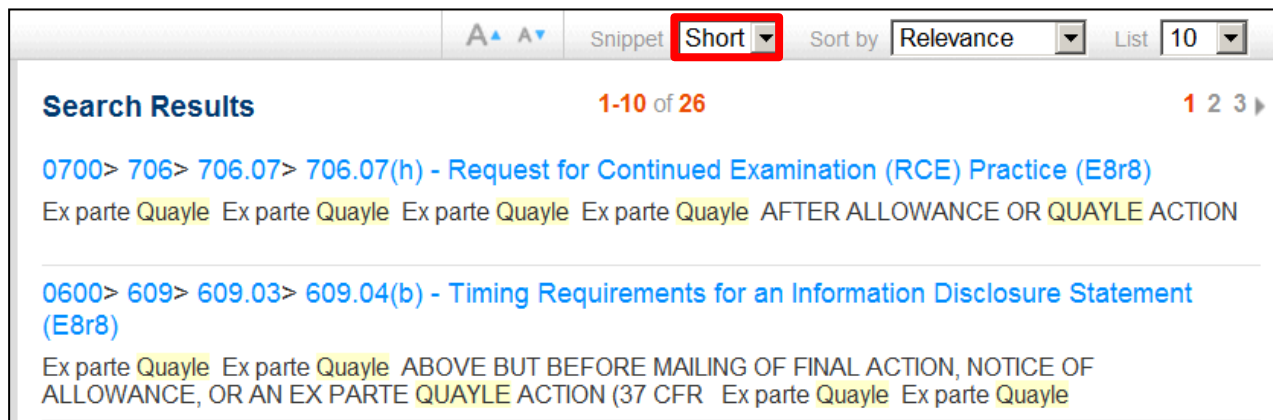
The screenshot displays the MPEP (Manual of Patent Examining Procedure) search results for the term "quayle". The interface includes a search bar at the top with the term "quayle" entered. Below the search bar, there are navigation options for "MPEP", "Index", and "FPs", along with a "Version" dropdown set to "E8r8" and an "Operator" dropdown set to "ADJ". The search results are displayed in a list format, showing 1-10 of 26 results. The results are organized into sections, each with a title and a list of hits. The sections include:

- 0700> 706> 706.07> 706.07(h) - Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Practice (E8r8)**
 - Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle AFTER ALLOWANCE OR QUAYLE ACTION
- 0600> 609> 609.03> 609.04(b) - Timing Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement (E8r8)**
 - Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle ABOVE BUT BEFORE MAILING OF FINAL ACTION, NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR AN EX PARTE QUAYLE ACTION (37 CFR Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle
- 0700> 714> 714.14 - Amendments After Allowance of All Claims (E8r8)**
 - Under the decision in Quayle, 25 USPQ 74, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213 (Comm... Use form paragraph Quayle action. Quayle Action Ex parte Quayle
- 1500> 1504 - Examination (E8r8)**
 - Ex parte Quayle Claimed Design Is Patentable (Ex parte Quayle Actions) Quayle Action Ex parte Quayle ...determined that a rejection of the claim should be given after a reply to a Quayle action, the indication of allowability set forth in the previous action must be withdrawn...
- 0700> 724> 724.06 - Handling of Petitions To Expunge Information or Copy of Papers in Application File (E8r8)**
 - Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle
- 0700> 710> 710.02> 710.02(b) - Shortened Statutory Period; Situations in Which Used (E8r8)**
 - Quayle Ex parte Quayle
- 0700> 714> 714.20 - List of Amendments Entered in Part (E8r8)**
 - Ex Parte Quayle
- 1400> 1444 - Review of Reissue Oath/Declaration (E8r8)**
 - Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle
- 0700> 714> 714.15 - Amendment Received in Technology Center After Mailing of Notice of Allowance (E8r8)**
 - Ex parte Quayle
- 1000> 1005 - Exceptions to Partial Signatory Authority (E8r8)**
 - Quayle actions (

Search Results

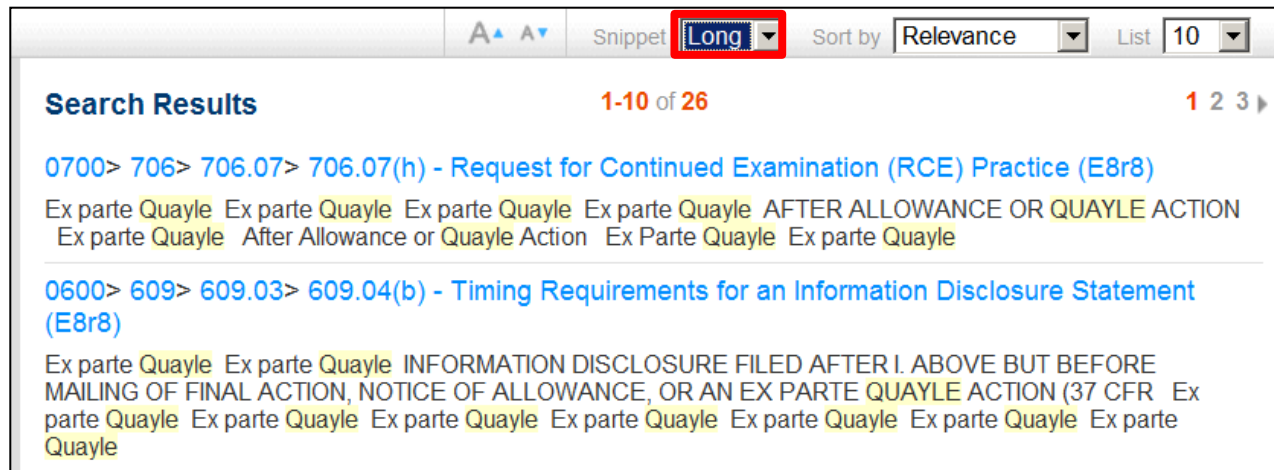
Short or Long Snippet

Short decreases the amount of preview text displayed (the default display).



A screenshot of a search results interface. At the top, there are navigation icons (A, A), a 'Snippet' dropdown menu set to 'Short', a 'Sort by' dropdown set to 'Relevance', and a 'List' dropdown set to '10'. Below this, the text 'Search Results' is followed by '1-10 of 26' and page navigation '1 2 3'. Two search results are shown. The first result is '0700> 706> 706.07> 706.07(h) - Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Practice (E8r8)' with a snippet: 'Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle AFTER ALLOWANCE OR QUAYLE ACTION'. The second result is '0600> 609> 609.03> 609.04(b) - Timing Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement (E8r8)' with a snippet: 'Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle ABOVE BUT BEFORE MAILING OF FINAL ACTION, NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR AN EX PARTE QUAYLE ACTION (37 CFR Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle'.

Long Increases the amount of preview text displayed.



A screenshot of a search results interface, similar to the one above but with the 'Snippet' dropdown menu set to 'Long'. The 'Search Results' section shows '1-10 of 26' and page navigation '1 2 3'. The two search results are the same as in the previous screenshot. The first result's snippet is: 'Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle AFTER ALLOWANCE OR QUAYLE ACTION Ex parte Quayle After Allowance or Quayle Action Ex Parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle'. The second result's snippet is: 'Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle INFORMATION DISCLOSURE FILED AFTER I. ABOVE BUT BEFORE MAILING OF FINAL ACTION, NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR AN EX PARTE QUAYLE ACTION (37 CFR Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle'.

Search Results Sorted

The screenshot shows a search results interface with the following elements:

- Search bar: A+ A- Snippet Long Sort by Relevance List 10
- Sort by dropdown menu: Relevance (selected), Section order
- Search Results: 1-10 of 26
- Result 1: [0700> 706> 706.07> 706.07\(h\) - Request for Continued Examination \(RCE\) Practice \(E8r8\)](#)
Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle AFTER ALLOWANCE OR QUAYLE ACTION
Ex parte Quayle After Allowance or Quayle Action Ex Parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle
- Result 2: [0600> 609> 609.03> 609.04\(b\) - Timing Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement \(E8r8\)](#)
Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle INFORMATION DISCLOSURE FILED AFTER I. ABOVE BUT BEFORE MAILING OF FINAL ACTION, NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR AN EX PARTE QUAYLE ACTION (37 CFR Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle

- **Relevance** (default) displays the results in descending order based upon the number of hits in a section.
- **Section order** displays the results in the numerical order of the Table of Contents Search Results tab.

Search Results

Hierarchical Hyperlinks

A▲ A▼ Snippet Short Sort by Relevance List 10

Search Results 1-10 of 26 1 2 3 ▶

[0700> 706> 706.07> 706.07\(h\) - Request for Continued Examination \(RCE\) Practice \(E8r8\)](#)
Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle AFTER ALLOWANCE OR QUAYLE ACTION

[0600> 609> 609.03> 609.04\(b\) - Timing Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement \(E8r8\)](#)
Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle ABOVE BUT BEFORE MAILING OF FINAL ACTION, NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR AN EX PARTE QUAYLE ACTION (37 CFR Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle

[0700> 714> 714.14 - Amendments After Allowance of All Claims \(E8r8\)](#)
Under the decision in Quayle, 25 USPQ 74, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213 (Comm... Use form paragraph Quayle action. Quayle Action Ex parte Quayle

- Click a hyperlink to view the section at that level.
- Right-click a hyperlink to open that section in a new tab or window.

View Search Results Section via Hyperlink

The screenshot shows a search results interface with the following elements:

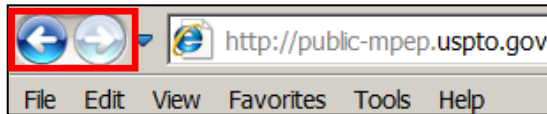
- Search Results: 1-10 of 26
- 0700> 706> 706.07> 706.07(h) - Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Practice (E8r8)
Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle AFTER ALLOWANCE OR QUAYLE ACTION
- 0600> 609> 609.03> 609.04(b) - Timing Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement (E8r8)
Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle ABOVE BUT BEFORE MAILING OF FINAL ACTION, NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR AN EX PARTE QUAYLE ACTION (37 CFR Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle
- 0700> 714> **714.14 - Amendments After Allowance of All Claims (E8r8)**
Under the decision in Quayle, 25 USPQ 74, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213 (Comm... Use form paragraph Quayle action. Quayle Action Ex parte Quayle

The detailed view on the right shows:


- Search Hits 1 of 4
- 714.15 ▶
- 714.14 Amendments After Allowance of All Claims [R-3]**
- Under the decision in *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935), after all claims in an application have been allowed the prosecution of the application on the merits is closed even though there may be outstanding formal objections which preclude fully closing the prosecution.

- Select the hyperlink to directly access the section containing the highlighted hit terms.

Navigate to Another Search Result Section

A screenshot of a search results page. The browser's address bar shows 'http://public-mpep.uspto.gov'. The search results page has a navigation bar with 'Search Results' highlighted in red. Below the navigation bar, there are search results for '714.14 Amendments After Allowance of All Claims [R-3]'. The page content includes a paragraph about the decision in *Ex parte Quayle*, a paragraph about amendments touching the merits, and a section for '7.51 Quayle Action'.

- Click the browser navigation arrows to page back and forward.

- Click the  button to return to the Search Results window. This button is only viewable when a search result section is displayed.

Search the Form Paragraph - Book


- In the Search field, enter a search query.

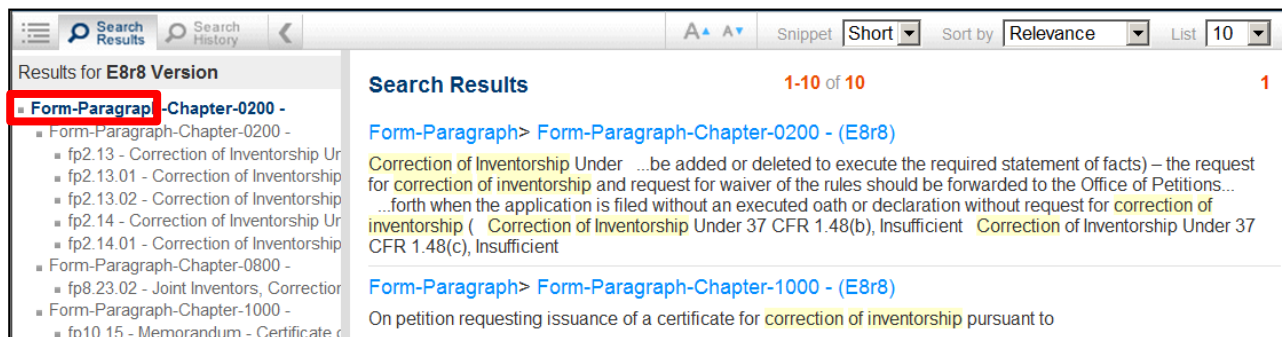


correction of inventorship

MPEP Index FPs

Operator ADJ

- Ensure that at least the **FPs** check box is checked.
- Click the **Run Search** button  or press the **Enter** key to invoke the search.
- The search results are displayed within the **Search Results** document viewer highlighting the search term(s).



Search Results 1-10 of 10

Form-Paragraph> Form-Paragraph-Chapter-0200 - (E8r8)

Correction of Inventorship Under ...be added or deleted to execute the required statement of facts) – the request for correction of inventorship and request for waiver of the rules should be forwarded to the Office of Petitions... forth when the application is filed without an executed oath or declaration without request for correction of inventorship (Correction of Inventorship Under 37 CFR 1.48(b), Insufficient Correction of Inventorship Under 37 CFR 1.48(c), Insufficient

Form-Paragraph> Form-Paragraph-Chapter-1000 - (E8r8)

On petition requesting issuance of a certificate for correction of inventorship pursuant to

Navigate to Another Search Result Section via TOC

The screenshot shows a search results page for 'E8r8 Version'. The left sidebar contains a table of contents (TOC) with the following sections:

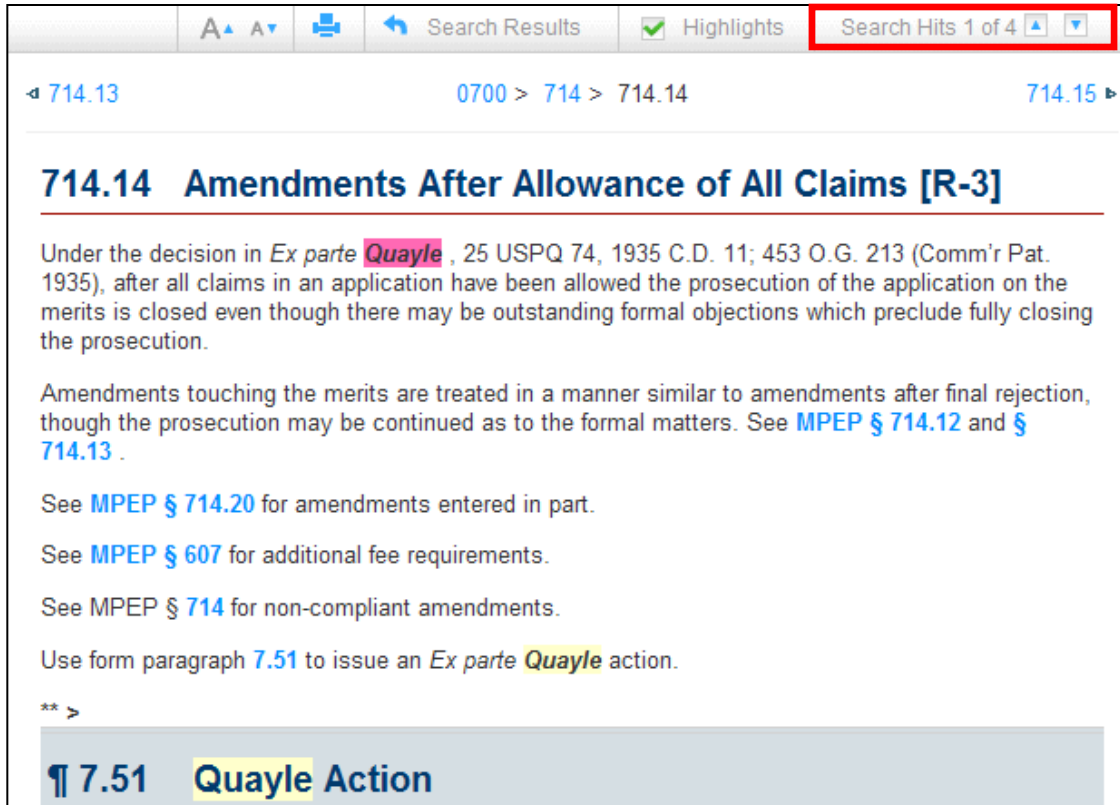
- 0200 - Types, Cross-Noting, and Sta
 - 201 - Types of Applications
 - 201.17 - Incorporation by Referen
- 0600 - Parts, Form, and Content of A
 - 608 - Disclosure
 - 608.01 - Specification
 - 608.01(b) - Abstract of the Disc
 - 609 - Information Disclosure Statem
 - 609.01 - Examiner Checklist for In
 - 609.03 - Information Disclosure S
 - 609.04(b) - Timing Requiremen
- 0700 - Examination of Applications
 - 704 - Search and Requirements for I
 - 704.11 - What Information May Be
 - 704.11(b) - When May a Requir
 - 706 - Rejection of Claims
 - 706.07 - Final Rejection
 - 706.07(f) - Time for Reply to Fir
 - 706.07(h) - Request for Continu

The right side of the page shows search results for '1-10 of 26'. The results are:

- 0700> 706> 706.07> 706.07(h) - Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Practice (E8r8)
Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle AFTER ALLOWANCE OR QUAYLE ACTION
- 0600> 609> 609.03> 609.04(b) - Timing Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement (E8r8)
Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle ABOVE BUT BEFORE MAILING OF FINAL ACTION, NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR AN EX PARTE QUAYLE ACTION (37 CFR Ex parte Quayle Ex parte Quayle
- 0700> 714> 714.14 - Amendments After Allowance of All Claims (E8r8)
Under the decision in Quayle, 25 USPQ 74, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213 (Comm... Use form paragraph Quayle action. Quayle Action Ex parte Quayle
- 1500> 1504 - Examination (E8r8)
Ex parte Quayle Claimed Design Is Patentable (Ex parte Quayle Actions) Quayle Action Ex parte Quayle ...determined that a rejection of the claim should be given after a reply to a Quayle action, the indication of allowability set forth in the previous action must be withdrawn...
- 0700> 724> 724.06 - Handling of Petitions To Expunge Information or Copy of Papers in

- When a search query is invoked, the TOC will automatically focus on the **Search Results** tab.
- Click a TOC link to directly view that section which contains the highlighted hit terms.

Navigate to the Next Hit Term



The screenshot shows a search results interface. At the top, there are navigation icons (back, forward, search) and a search bar containing "Search Results". To the right of the search bar, there is a "Highlights" checkbox and a "Search Hits 1 of 4" indicator with up and down arrow buttons. Below the search bar, there are navigation links: "714.13", "0700 > 714 > 714.14", and "714.15". The main content area displays the title "714.14 Amendments After Allowance of All Claims [R-3]" in blue. Below the title, there is a paragraph of text starting with "Under the decision in *Ex parte Quayle*". The word "Quayle" is highlighted in pink. Below the paragraph, there are several lines of text, each starting with "See MPEP §" followed by a number. The word "Quayle" is also highlighted in pink in the last line of text. At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled "7.51 Quayle Action" with a pink highlight on the word "Quayle".

- In **Search Hits # of #**, click the **down** or **up arrow** to navigate forward or backward between each individual word in the search query.
- The pink highlight denotes the cursor location.
- **Search Hits # of #** is only viewable when a section is displayed.

Access and Invoke Search History Queries

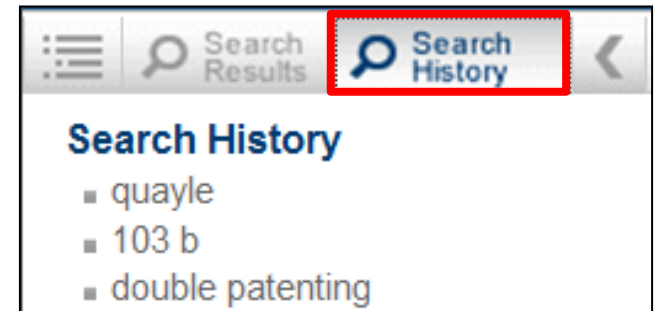
To access a search query from the current session:

1. In the TOC, click the **Search History** tab.

The list of **Search History** queries automatically displays.

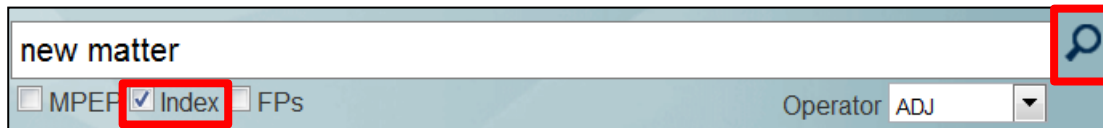
2. Click a desired search query.

This search query will be invoked automatically and the associated search results will display.




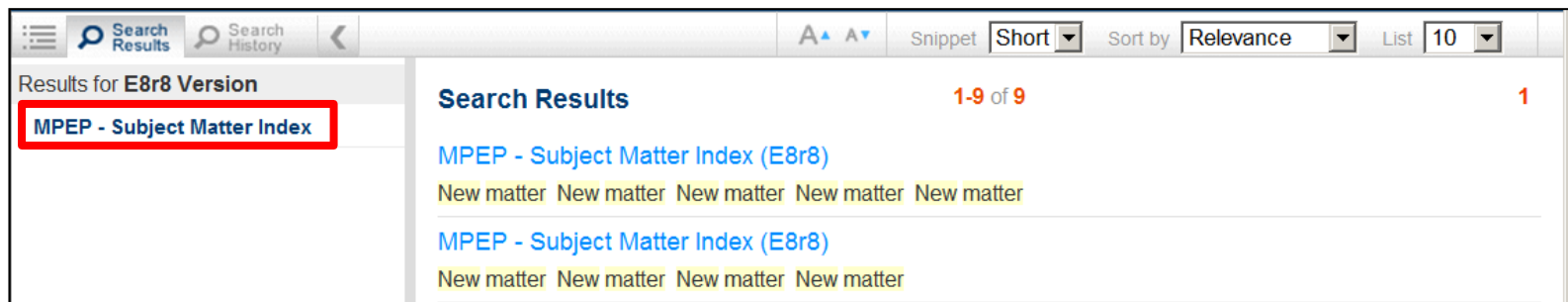
Search the Subject Matter Index

- In the Search field, enter the search query.



A screenshot of a search interface. The search field contains the text "new matter". To the right of the search field is a magnifying glass icon. Below the search field are three checkboxes: "MPEP", "Index", and "FPs". The "Index" checkbox is checked. To the right of the checkboxes is a dropdown menu labeled "Operator" with the value "ADJ".

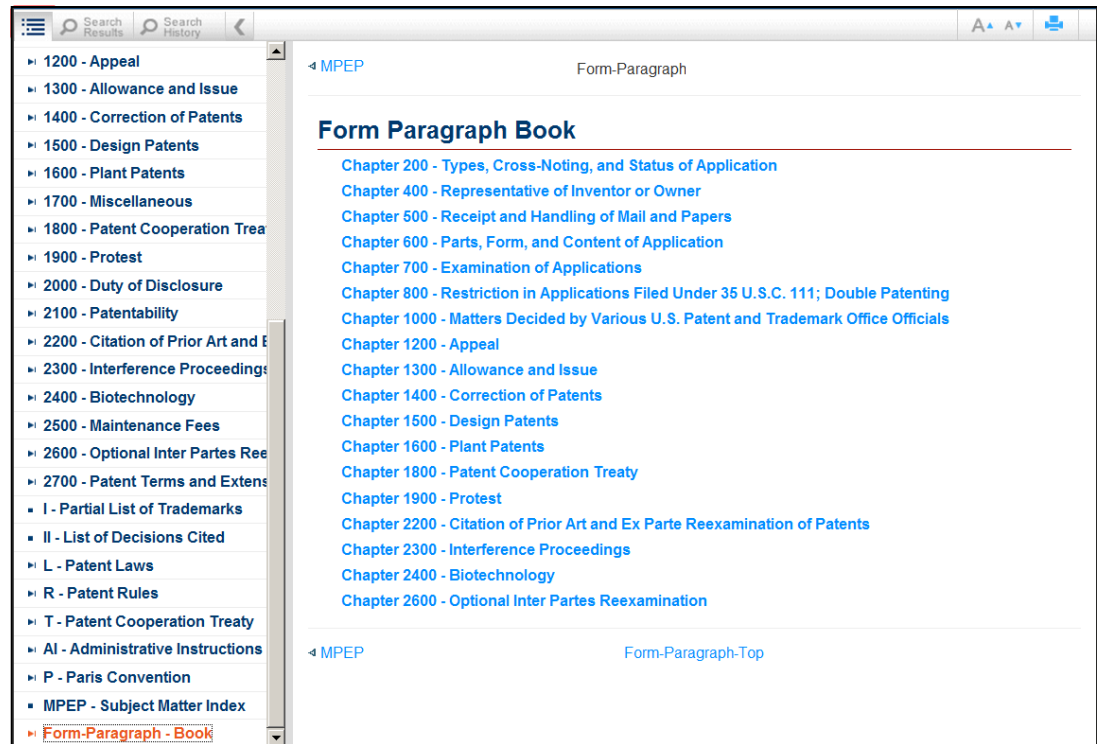
- Ensure that at least the **Index** box is checked.
- Click the **Run Search** icon  or press the **Enter** key to invoke the search.
- The search results are displayed within the **Search Results** document viewer highlighting the search term(s).



A screenshot of a search results page. The top navigation bar includes "Search Results", "Search History", and a magnifying glass icon. The main content area is titled "Search Results" and shows "1-9 of 9" results. The first result is "MPEP - Subject Matter Index (E8r8)", which is highlighted in the left sidebar. The search results list shows "New matter" repeated five times. The "MPEP - Subject Matter Index (E8r8)" result is also highlighted in the main area.

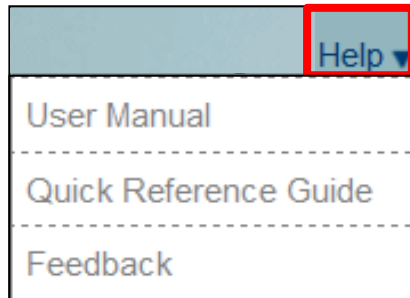
Access the Form Paragraph - Book

- The official Form Paragraph Manual is a separate manual from the MPEP and is located at the end of the TOC as the **Form Paragraph Book**.
- The Form Paragraph Book comprises the text of the Form Paragraphs (FPs) by chapter.



Access Help

Use:



To access:

- these slides.
- the Quick Reference Guide (QRG).
- the version.