

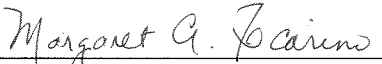
Extension of the Glossary Pilot Program

On March 27, 2014, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) published a notice announcing the Glossary Pilot Program. *See Glossary Pilot Program*, 79 Fed. Reg. 17137 (March 27, 2014). Under the program, an application with a glossary section defining claim terms is treated as special up to issuance of a first action on the merits. The pilot program is responsive to the White House's June 4, 2013 Executive Action 2, which relates to developing strategies to improve claim clarity, specifically with regard to functional claiming in the context of software, such as by the use of glossaries in patent application specifications.

The program has been in effect since June 1, 2014. To date, the feedback has been positive, and participation in the pilot has steadily increased since its inception. The USPTO would like to obtain a larger sample size of applications to better study the efficacy of a glossary section on claim clarity. Accordingly, the USPTO is extending the Glossary Pilot Program for six months until June 2, 2015, or until the USPTO accepts 200 grantable petitions under the pilot program, whichever occurs first.

More information about the Glossary Pilot Program is available on the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/glossary_initiative.jsp. Inquiries concerning a specific application should be directed to the appropriate Technology Center. Questions concerning this notice or the program may be directed to Seema Rao, Director Technology Center 2100, by telephone at 571-272-0800; by facsimile transmission to 571-273-0800; or by electronic mail at seema.rao@uspto.gov.

Date: 12/1/14


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