

**UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**uspto**

Patent Public Advisory Committee  
Quarterly Meeting

**IP5 Collaborative PCT Search and  
Examination Pilot**

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May 3, 2018

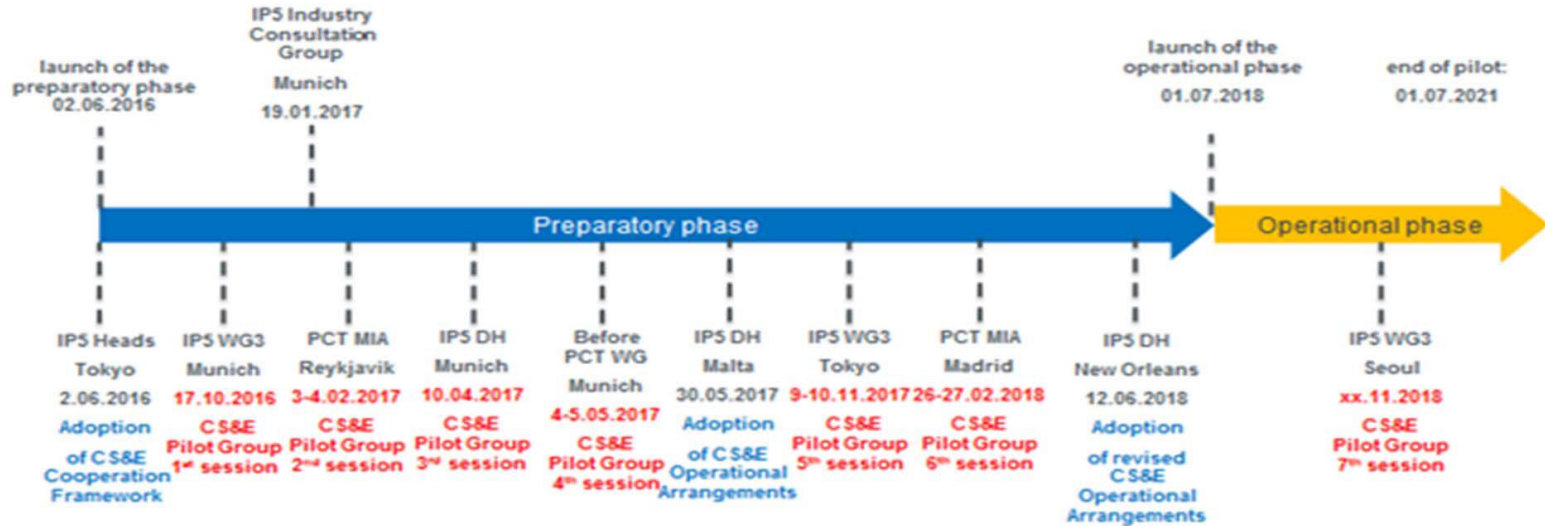
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# PCT CS&E Pilot

- IP5 pilot project aimed at testing the feasibility of collaborative work between examiners of different offices in the international phase of the PCT
- Third stage of pilot between EPO, KIPO, SIPO, JPO and USPTO (IP5)
- First 2 stages included KR, EP and US
- Communications between examiners will take place via a collaboration tool (ePCT) being arranged by WIPO
- Commencement date – July 1, 2018

# PCT CS&E Pilot



# PCT CS&E Pilot

PCT Collaboration Pilot Procedure, in general:

- A first office (selected ISA) will prepare a provisional ISR, WOISA and search strategy
- Provisional reports will be presented to peer examiners in other 4 offices
- Peer offices will comment on or complement this provisional work
  - The complement may be a focused search on particular aspects or a full search
  - KR developed peer review form
- First office will issue a final ISR and WO-ISA after considering the peer examiners' contributions

# PCT CS&E Pilot

- Applicant Driven
  - Must request participation when filing PCT
  - Number of applications per applicant will be limited
- Number of applications
  - 100 as main ISA
  - 400 as peer

# PCT CS&E Pilot

- Final work product will be identified as a collaborative effort
- Applications will be in English
- Other languages may be added after first 6 months
- Examination in US – Hybrid
  - Contractors will do main search
  - OPQA will function as peer examiners

# PCT CS&E Pilot

## PCT Collaboration Pilot Results and Recommendations

- Quality: Examiners felt collaboration resulted in more complete final products
  - Sometimes additional citations were included
  - Sometimes not, but discussions provided confidence to examiners about results
  - In 87% of cases, EPO examiners added citations to ISR, and quality improved in 92% of cases
  - In 67% of cases, US examiners felt quality of ISR “greatly improved”



# Questions and Comments

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