# Patent Public Advisory Committee Meeting
# Patents End-to-End

John Owens, Chief Information Officer

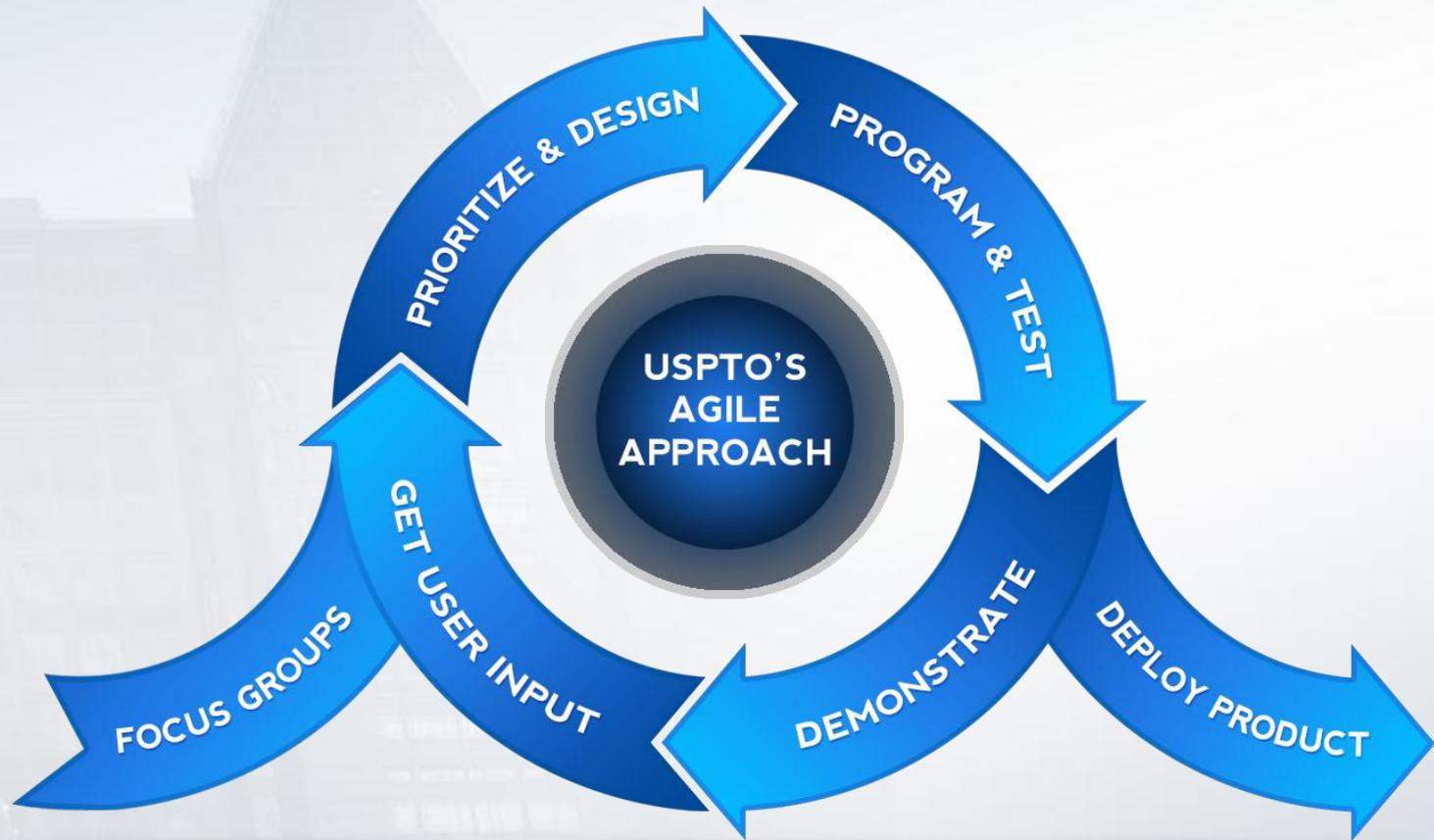David Landrith, Portfolio Manager - Patents

May 16, 2013

# Introduction
# What is PE2E?

- Patents End-to-End (PE2E) enables a new way of processing patent applications providing a single place to manage examination activities and supporting the work done across existing systems. The overall vision for PE2E is to improve quality of IT tools for applicants and examiners that provides:

    – Integrated highly usable applications

    – Optimized to eliminate repetitive tasks

    – Text-based (XML) filing and examination

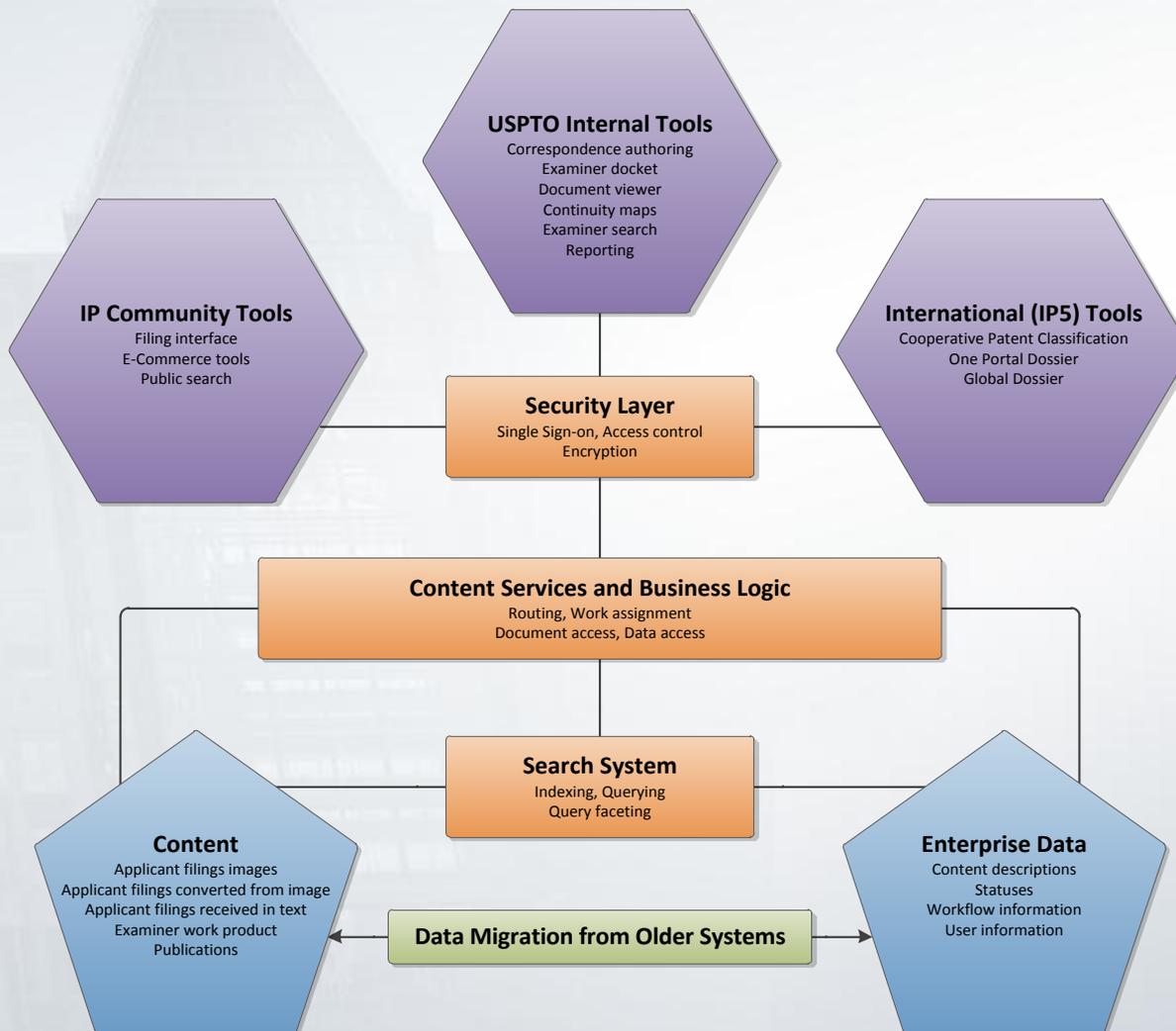    – Flexible, scalable, leverages modern technology

# PE2E: Agile Development Methodology



*Outcome: quality & transparency*

# PE2E Solution Map

# PE2E Funding Impacts (in thousands) as of 3/27/13

| Total Available | Amount Kept | Amount Swept | Overall Time to Restart After Funding | New Finish Date After Funding |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| $17,961.02 | $6,287.80 | $11,673.21 | 9 months | 15 months |

*Note: Infrastructure and support costs were also seriously reduced which will further impact remaining deliveries.*

# Funding Impacts on User Community

Suspension and delay of new development

- Text2PTO: Work on applicant text submission has been suspended

- Modernization of Public PAIR Private PAIR: Work on major improvements to public search capabilities suspended

Retirement of obsolete Systems delayed at least 18 months

- Increased frequency of system failure of Public PAIR, Private PAIR, and EFSWeb

- Compromised support capabilities

- Money that would have funded replacement of obsolete systems now needed to maintain obsolete systems.

# Suspended Projects

The following projects have been suspended due to budget constraints:

- Applicant to Office Interface (Text2PTO)

- BPR eGrant Phase 1

- Convert Existing Office Action Data to XML

- IFW Images and Legacy Services Retired

- Exploring Search Technologies - Phase 2

- PE2E Office Action - Phase 2

- Continuous Capture of CRU Data

- Business Architecture

# Projects with reduced funding

The following projects' funding have been significantly decreased due to budget constraints:

- Patent Examination Tools and Infrastructure Phase 2

- Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) Database

# Unchanged Projects

- PATI Continuous Capture of Application Data

- CPC Classification in Search System – Backend

- CPC Classification in Search System – Frontend

- One Portal Dossier

- Lightweight Search for SIPO Data

# Patent Examination Tools and Infrastructure

**Completed:** The Patent Examination Tools and Infrastructure Phase 1 project released the first generation of the application viewer and docket viewer to the pilot group of 39 Patent Corps Examiners representing all technology centers in November 2012, January 2013, and April 2013. Deployments included:

- Case listing and case table-of-contents (file wrapper)
- Text-based document viewer
- Ability to search within an application
- Claims tree and claims analysis tool
- Reference management tools
- The abandonment office action with Examiner's ability to view a list of rejected, returned, and completed cases
- An improved data intake process
- Workflow Infrastructure developed to support the Abandonment forms and future Office Action functionality
- Miscellaneous improvements

- Next Steps for FY13-14: Enhanced docket viewer, which will support Examiners' efforts to manage work load, make informed decisions on how to prioritize tasks, and understand the impact of decisions on performance goals; and the integration of deliverables from other projects into the core PE2E application

# PE2E Office Action

- **Completed:** PE2E Office Action was released to the group of pilot Patent Corps Examiners representing all technology centers testing the Docket and Application Viewers in April 2013. This included foundational capabilities and minor Office Action functionality to set the stage for incremental additions of more features

- Next steps for FY13: Cancelled due to budget constraints

- In the future, the PE2E Office Action tool will be a fully integrated system able to leverage notes and references to minimize redundant tasks when officially corresponding with Patent Applicants

# Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)

**Requirement due to critical business needs emerging from an international agreement**

- **Completed:** Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) is a partnership with the European Patent Office (EPO) to harmonize patent classification between offices under a single standard. The CPC Database project reclassifies USPTO patents from the USPC classification system to the CPC classification system, including necessary USPTO legacy system changes. The classification system will be jointly managed and maintained by both the EPO and USPTO, and will incorporate best practices in classification from the two offices. CPC officially launched with the EPO in January 2013. Recently, completed enhancements to the conflict resolution engine scheduled for deployment in May 2013

- Next steps for FY13: Make limited improvements for USPTO to EPO collaboration and synchronization tools

- In the future, CPC will require substantial modification to legacy systems

# PATI Continuous Capture of Application Data and PATI Gap Conversion

- **Completed:** Converted and made available to patent examiners claims, specifications, and abstracts for approximately 600,000 applications (approximately 15 million pages) into XML. This is in addition to the 65 million pages of claims, specifications, and abstracts previously made available to the Patent Corps in the Backfile Migration project

- Patent applications (claims, specifications, and abstracts) are now being converted into XML4IP on an ongoing basis within days of receipt

- Next steps for FY13: Continue to convert the claims, specifications and abstracts for all new patent applications

# Lightweight Search for SIPO Data

- **Completed:** Designed and developed the ability to make Chinese Patent information available for searching by USPTO Patent Examiners. Additionally, the Chinese patents provided by the Chinese State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) will be made available on the Web in structured text (XML)

- Next steps for FY13: Deploy the new search functionality displaying Chinese patent information

# One Portal Dossier (OPD)

- **Completed:** Designed and developed functionality to promote work-sharing among the IP5 Offices (USPTO, EPO, JPO, KIPO, and SIPO) reducing redundant work among IP5 Office Examiners while examining patent applications that are members of the same patent family

- Next steps for FY13: Test with IP5 partners and deploy the new OPD functionality