



# **Public Patent Application Information Retrieval System (PAIR)**

## **Introduction to Public PAIR:**

Public PAIR, the Patent Application Information Retrieval system, is available to the general public twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Public PAIR retrieves Patented, Pending and Published Applications. With the advent of the USPTO's Image File Wrapper (IFW), the scanned images of many Application Documents for Published Applications are now available to the public for viewing via Public PAIR. Additionally, Public PAIR provides access to IFW whenever the IFW database is available, generally, during the following hours: Monday through Friday 5:30 am to midnight and Saturday and Sunday 5:30 am to 10 pm.

## **New Features of Public PAIR:**

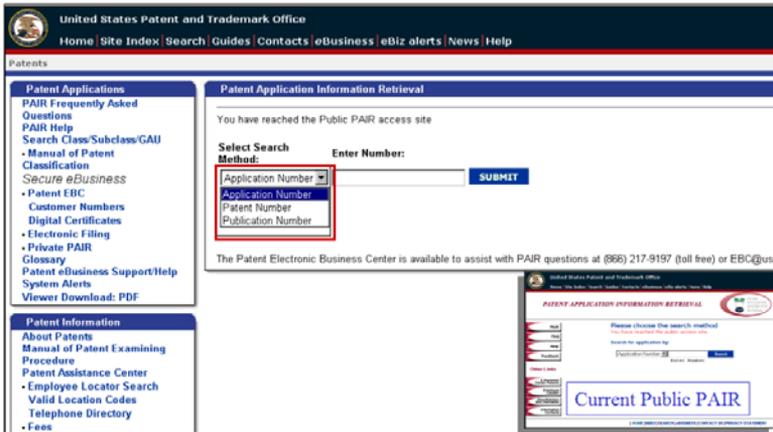
- Online access to IFW, as available, for Patented and Published Applications for viewing and downloading in PDF format
- Quick click method to order certified file copies from the Office of Public Records
- Easy to read "Tabs" replace drop-down lists for search options
- New Search option is available at the top of every Public PAIR screen
- Expanded access to online Patent resources

## **Accessing Public PAIR:**

To access Public PAIR, navigate to <http://www.uspto.gov> and select the **Status** link on the left hand side of the USPTO's home page under the Patents header.

The Public PAIR page has been revised as of July 30, 2004. For reference, a screen shot of the pre-July 30, 2004 Public PAIR page has been included as an inset to the following screen shot displaying the revised Public PAIR page. The search methods remain the same:

- Application Number
- Patent Number
- Publication Number



**Figure 1 – Revised Public PAIR home page**

Please note, there are several enhanced side bar navigation options now available in Public PAIR:

- Patent Applications
- Patent Information
- Patent Searches

### **Search for Application Number:**

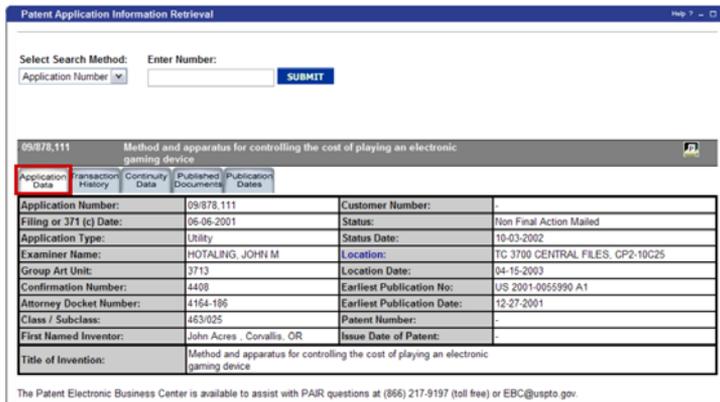
Select the drop-down arrow under **Select Search Method** and select one of the following options:

- Application Number (i.e. 09123456)
- Patent Number (i.e. 1234567)
- Publication Number (i.e. US 9999-9999999 A1 or 9999-9999999)

Once a selection has been made from the drop-down list, type the appropriate number in the Enter Number field and select **Submit**:

- Once the search is submitted, the Search Results for the Application Number are displayed.

Public PAIR customers can then view the Application Data, Transaction History, Continuity Data, Fees, Image File Wrapper, Foreign Priority, Patent Term Adjustment/Extension History, Published Documents and Publication Dates information by selecting the appropriate tab.



**Figure 2 – Application Data Tab**

## To View an Application Document

If the Application has been scanned into IFW, and the electronic documents are the official record, Application Documents can be viewed and downloaded from Public PAIR in PDF format by selecting the Image File Wrapper tab.

The documents are listed in a table and can be viewed by clicking on each individual Document Description link. Individual documents can be selected for downloading and printing by clicking on the document’s download check box.



**Figure 3 – Image File Wrapper Tab**