TPAC Status Report

John B. Owens II
Chief Information Officer
United States Patent and Trademark Office

September 2010

Trademark Next Generation (TM NG)

- The TM NG program is based on:
  - (1) improvement of Functional/Technical Services to users of the Trademark systems
  - (2) standup of a next generation IT Platform

- The TM NG Functional/Technical Services area includes making improvements in the operation and usability of E-Gov services, Internal Operations services, Records Management services, Search services, and Reference services.

- The TM NG Platform will separate Trademark systems from other business unit systems, maximize the use of virtualization and make necessary improvements to the Trademark IT Infrastructure resulting in systems capable of operating in a cloud computing environment.

Trademark Next Generation (TM NG)

- Standup of the TM NG IT Platform and the migration of Trademark systems to the new Platform will be an evolutionary, iterative process over the next 1-3 fiscal years.

- Enhancements will continue to be made to the current Trademark systems while the TM NG IT Platform is under development. It is anticipated that almost all of the enhancements made to current systems will be used in the TM NG program.

- TM NG will employ an agile methodology and will use key projects as a pilot for the use of agile processes.

Trademark Next Generation (TM NG)

	FY11	FY12
Program NG	approx. $6.5 Million	approx. $6.5 Million
Enhancements	approx. $3.5 Million	approx. $3.5 Million
Ops & Maintenance	approx. $8.5 Million	approx. $8.5 Million

- The current plan is to spend approximately $6.5 million in FY11 and FY12 for program Next Generation work and $12 million for Enhancements to current systems and Operations & Maintenance (O&M). We anticipate that O&M costs will decrease as we stand up the new IT Platform.

- Next Generation work in FY11 will focus on creating the TM NG IT Platform and starting to separate, virtualize and prepare TM systems for movement to a cloud environment.

- We will continue to add functional/technical services and TM systems to the new IT platform in FY12.

Trademark Next Generation (TM NG)

In Fiscal Year 2011, we will work together to:

- Define the FY11 program plan down to the project-level including scopes, milestones and budgets.

- Sequence the evolutionary, iterative process of standing up the TM NG IT Platform and the migration Technical/Functional services and TM systems to the new Platform.

- Develop and prototype a new architecture for internal processing.

- Develop Trademark Document Retrieval (TDR) 2.0 in a cloud environment.

- Continue to enhance functionality as identified by the user community.

Current Trademark Systems

Features added to current TM Systems in Fiscal Year 2010:

- Madrid 1.9
  - Automates sending of Invalidation notices to the International Bureau
  - Delivered August 2010
- First Action System for Trademarks (FAST) 1.16
  - Separates Notices, providing better service to TM pro se applicants
  - Automates office actions reports
  - Identifies Preliminary Amendments and flags examiner's docket
  - Delivered August 2010
- Trademark Electronic Search System (TESS)

  Malicious attacks were limiting the availability of the system to simultaneous users. Example – over 70k applications were opened by one user in a 5 hours period causing denial of service for other users.
  - Increased connection pool to allow more simultaneous users (Aug)
  - Explore reCaptcha service
- Infrastructure Improvements – PTO Net III
  - End Of Life: Firewall (Feb); ERA VPN Gateway (May); Perimeter Switches (May)

Current Trademark Systems

Features under development in Fiscal Year 2011:

- Trademark Document Retrieval (TDR) 2.0
  - Improvements in performance, retrieval of files in additional formats
  - Hosted on commercial, public cloud
  - Planned for 3rd quarter of FY11

- Madrid 2.0
  - Improves efficiency of receipt and processing of filing from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) International Bureau and Automated Information System (AIS) performance
  - Planned for 1st quarter of FY11

- Fast 2- Trademark Quality Review System (TQRS)
  - Improves efficiency and quality in providing quality reviews
  - Planned deployment date in FY11 will be established in September

Current Trademark Systems

Features under development in Fiscal Year 2011 (continued):

- Trademark Manual of Examination Procedures (TMEP)
  - Version 7 will be available to the public in the current format as scheduled
  - Version 7 will also be available in a BETA version
    - Content written in XML format and published in PDF and HTML
    - Trademarks will manage and publish content directly improving the control and timing of content updates
    - Exploring tool to gather public comments (IdeaScale)
    - New search capability (MarkLogic) will be available in a later release
  - BETA version planned for 1st quarter of FY11
- Trademark Trial and Appeal Board Information System (TTABIS)
  - Improved internal processing through interface and integration with Trademark systems
  - Planned for 1st quarter of FY11