

# A Brief Summary of Some Significant Rule Changes

## Patent Business Goals Final Rule

65 Fed. Reg. 54604 (September 8, 2000)

1238 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 77 (September 19, 2000)

\*Unless otherwise specified in the rule, the effective date for the **PBG-FINAL RULE** is November 7, 2000.

### Amendment Practice (37 CFR 1.121)

⊆ Specification/Claims

⊆ Amendment by paragraph replacement or rewritten claim in clean form

⊆ Marked-up version showing changes must be supplied

See § 1.121 Slides on **PBG-FINAL RULE** Webpage for suggested amendment FORMAT (Optional now; mandatory March 1, 2001)

### Small Entity Status (37 CFR 1.27) - **FORMS NO LONGER REQUIRED** (Eff. Sept. 8, 2000):

⊆ Mere written assertion (e.g., use check box on Application Transmittal Forms) is acceptable

### Abstract and Title Length (37 CFR 1.72)

⊆ Abstract now limited to 150 words (PBG)

• Title now limited to 500 characters (AIPA)

### Application Data Sheet (ADS) (37 CFR 1.76) **NEW**

⊆ Use of ADS encouraged for more accurate capture of bibliographic data. Data in ADS not needed in declaration.

### After Allowance Practice (37 CFR 1.85(c) and 1.136)

⊆ No extensions of time permitted to file corrected or formal drawings

### Elimination of Issue Fee Preauthorizations (37 CFR 1.311)

⊆ Preauthorizations prior to Notice of Allowance no longer permitted

### Rocket Docket Established for Designs (37 CFR 1.155)

⊆ Extra submissions plus \$900 fee is required

### Proof of Authority of Legal Representative (37 CFR 1.44) **THIS RULE HAS BEEN DELETED.** (Eff. Sept. 8, 2000):

⊆ Oath/Dec. (§1.63) should identify legal rep for deceased/incapacitated inventor

### Parts of Applications on CD-R or CD-ROM (37 CFR 1.52 (e), 1.58, 1.96 & 1.821)

⊆ Large tables, computer program listings, and bio-sequences now allowed on CD



USPTO's **PBG-FINAL RULE** webpage has helpful related information at one location:  
<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/olia/pbg/index.html>

**This site includes:**  
a Listing of Affected Rules, Training & Implementation Materials including Training Slides, Q & A's, Summaries, Effective Date Chart, Forms Changed by Recent Rules, etc.

Contact:

Bob Spar (703) 308-5107 or  
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for any PBG Change.

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for 37 CFR 1.121  
Amendment Practice Changes

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for 37 CFR 1.27 Small Entity  
Changes