

Report on Comparative Study
Carried Out under Trilateral Project B3b

Trilateral Technical Meeting
June 14-16,2000,TOKYO
Japanese Patent Office

Consensus Summary

- Confirmed Current Practices on Business Method Related Inventions -

The consensus among the Trilateral Offices resulting from this comparative study on computer implemented business methods is as follows:

- A technical aspect¹ is necessary for a computer-implemented business method to be eligible for patenting.
- To merely automate a known human transaction process using well known automation techniques is not patentable.

¹ In the United States, the "in the technological arts" feature may be implicitly recited in the claim.

The EPO and the JPO require that the technical aspect be expressed in the claim.