

Patent Public Advisory Committee Meeting

Patent Process Reengineering Team as part of the Patent End-To-End Processing Team



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Patent Process Reengineering

- Background
 - Challenge
 - Context
 - Initial set-up



Patent Process Reengineering

- Phase I
 - Areas analyzed:
 - Restriction Practice
 - Double Patenting Practice
 - Color Drawings
 - Elimination of Forms
 - Classification/Transfer
 - CRU/Reissue
 - Pre-Exam Streamline
 - Enhancing Technical Knowledge between Examiners
 - Management Operations
 - Applicant/Office Interface
 - Post-Exam Streamline
 - IDS Practice
 - PCT processes



Patent Process Reengineering

- Phase I
 - Results
 - More than 200 individual process improvement recommendations
 - If all of the Phase I recommendations are implemented:
 - Increased electronic filing, revenue collection, processing efficiency, standardization, ability to accurately and easily measure core metrics and progress toward goals, examination quality; and
 - Reductions in pendency measures, examiner search time for related applications and prior art, applicant filing time, Office and applicant errors, management time for quality reviews and administrative tasks, grievances; and
 - Reduction of operating costs of Millions of dollars per year could be realized



Patent Process Reengineering

- Phase II Areas and Results
 - Made resources available to:
 - Sequence Listings, Application/Publication System Numbering Changes
 - Clearing Oldest Patent Applications (COPA)
 - “Stuck Case” cleanup
 - Patent Reform (AIA)
 - Completed Petitions and issues identification for Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)



Patent Process Reengineering

- Phase III Areas and Status
 - Appeals/Pre-Appeals
 - Commercial Database Usage
 - 371 Case Processing
 - Technical Support Staff Implementation and Phasing
 - Workflow System Functionality and Business Rules
 - Risk Analysis
 - Management Operations – Employee Relations
 - Call Centers



Patent Process Reengineering

Questions and Suggestions?

Please contact

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