The Office of Innovation Development
Providing Outreach to America’s Inventors, Innovators, Entrepreneurs and Makers

Patent Public Advisory Committee
August 14, 2014
Meet the Team . . .

Members of the Office of Innovation Development (from left to right) David Jones, Cathie Kirik, John Calvert, Sue Purvis, Anthony Knight, Messina Smith, Dennis Forbes, Alexander Camarota, Elizabeth Dougherty, Bruce Mihalick, and Michael Razavi.
Physically Located – Madison West, 1st Floor
Madison West, 1st Floor – Come Visit!
Basic Facts - OID

- Formed in 2011
- Objective: ensuring independent inventors, small businesses/entrepreneurs, university inventors, and minority/under served populations better understand, secure, and utilize IP, with a focus on patents
- Expansion of previous Office of Independent Inventor Programs
Broad Range of Long Term and Ad Hoc Engagements and Programs – Unique Stakeholders

- Independent Inventors
- Pro Se Inventors
- Small Businesses
- Entrepreneurs
- Minority/Under Served Communities
- University Outreach
- Other
Innovators

- Inventor Conferences and Satellite Office Saturday Seminars
- Support for Inventor Organizations
- Participation in Inventor attended events
- Inventors Resource Page on USPTO Website
- Inventors Eye Bi-Monthly publication
Inventors on the USPTO Web Site
http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/index.jsp
AIA Videos on YouTube; more Videos to come!
The Dreams Ideas Are Made Of

Ideas. They pop in and out of our minds a thousand times a day, and sometimes, if we’re lucky, one of them is good enough to launch an invention, a story, or a life-long pursuit.

Read More ↓
Pro Se Pilot Program
Assistance and Examination Shops

• In response to White House Executive Action
• Target Launch Date, October 1, 2014
• Art Unit of approximately 15 examiners dedicated to examining predominantly pro se applications
• Estimated will handle 500 applications during year long pilot
  – Applications to be selected from oldest undocketed inventory of pro se applications
• Complimentary Pro se assistance shop to be located in OID
Assisting the Engine of the Economy

- Annual Women’s Entrepreneurship Symposium
- IP Assessment Tool
- SBIR/STTR Participation
- Support to Cornell Tech Partnership
- Support to Business Incubators
IP Awareness Assessment Tool

Welcome to the Intellectual Property Awareness Assessment Tool. The IP Assessment includes the below five general categories that are included in all assessments:

- IP Strategies & Best Practices
- International IP Rights
- IP Asset Tracking
- Licensing Technology to Others
- Using Technology of Others

There are five additional categories that can take or, which may be customized through a Pre-assessment. These five categories include:

- Copyrights
- Design Patents
- Trademarks
- Trade Secrets
- Utility Patents

Not all businesses have all categories of IP Assess so they have an opportunity to opt out of certain categories by using the customizer or Pre-assessment or may opt to take the full assessment of ten categories containing 62 questions.

The full assessment requires about 20-30 minutes to complete. The customizer or Pre-assessment can reduce the required time by 10-15 minutes.

Before starting the assessment, please note:

- Save the link for this page as a favorite/bookmark on your browser.
- In the "session options" of your browser, select "remember history on exit. This will allow you to return and resume your assessment session in case you cannot finish it in one sitting. This will also allow you to access your training materials and assessment results at your convenience.
- As you are answering the assessment questions, choose the answer that best applies to your business or circumstances as an independent inventor or individual. Where applicable, choose all the responses that apply to your situation.
- Responses or data collected in the assessment are not stored or used by the USPTO or NIST NCF.

Feedback: Your feedback and comments are crucial for improving the IP Awareness Assessment.

Inventor Assistance Program

Important Notice
Please note that any information provided here does not constitute legal advice, but is intended to increase your IP awareness. When filling an application for obtaining specific IP rights, is recommended that you obtain professional legal assistance. The IP Awareness Assessment contains links to external websites. USPTO does not maintain those external sites and is not responsible for the material found therein.
Diverse Audiences

Minority/Under Served Communities

- Collaboration with DOC-MBDA
- White House Council on Women and Girls Working Group
- Library program
- Former collaboration with NAIPEC, continued efforts with TCU
- Collaborations with HBCUs
MBDA and USPTO Host Webinar Series for Business Owners

The Minority Business Development Agency (MEDA) and the USPTO will conduct a free three-part webinar series August 12-14 to help business owners understand the intellectual property process.
The Next Generation

University Outreach

• Conducted in cooperation with Patents and HR hiring efforts
  – Provide IP education to Freshman, Junior, and Senior level engineering/science classes. Some law school, business, and entrepreneurship classes.
• Meet with technology transfer offices, faculty, and student organizations
University Related Outreach

- Develop collaborations with National Academy of Inventors, NCIIA, and AUTM
- Participate Collegiate Inventors Competition
- Participate in National Conferences for Diverse Engineering/Science Societies, e.g. SHPE
General Public Engagement for IP Education

- White House Executive Actions
- Smithsonian Institution Collaboration
- Maker Faires
- World IP Day
- Boy Scouts of America
- Celebration of Patent Milestones
- USPTO Tours and Visitor Educational Programs
OID integrally involved developing content and implementation
Smithsonian Institution Collaboration

• Activities to occur over period of years at a variety of SI venues
• MOA between USPTO and SI
• Modification of previous MOA for collaboration at SI Arts and Industries Building
How Do We Achieve?

• Through dedicated OID staff, USPTO persons on detail to OID, and collaborating with others within the USPTO and external to the USPTO.

  – Many thanks to USPTO colleagues in:
    • Patents
    • Trademarks
    • The Global Intellectual Property Academy
    • The Office of Policy and International Affairs
    • The Office of Education
Some of Our Many Collaborators

- Minority Business Development Agency (U.S. Department of Commerce)
- American Intellectual Property Law Association
- The United Inventors Association
- National Institute of Standards and Technology (U.S. Department of Commerce)
- National Academy of Inventors
- SBA.gov (U.S. Small Business Administration)
- National Intellectual Property Owners Association
- BusinessUSA (Discover, Connect, Grow.)
- export.gov (Helping U.S. Companies Export)
Contact Us

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Thank You