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Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting

IT Update

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OCIO Highlights

- **Patents End-to-End (PE2E):** Overall effort, current status and challenges – Docket and Application Viewer (shown at last meeting) released "on schedule" in 2Q FY15

- **Hague Agreement and International:** Hague Agreement ratified in Feb 2015 – USPTO IT systems to streamlined filings and access data from other agencies post-Hague

- **Legacy System Replacement and Other Modernization Efforts:** Patent Application Lifecycle Management Replacement (PALM-R) – Obsolete "backbone" database and transaction management system being gradually replaced as PE2E and other systems go live through FY2017

PE2E Background: Purpose

Patents End-to-End (PE2E) is a new way of processing patent applications with a single software platform to manage examination activities and integrate with existing systems. The PE2E vision is to improve quality of IT tools for applicants and examiners and provide:

- Integrated user-oriented tools that help examiners act on applications

- Optimized to eliminate repetitive tasks

- Text-based (XML) filing and examination to support analytics & automated processing

- Flexible, scalable, leverages modern technology

Major PE2E Examination Tools

Effort	Description	Release Date
Docket & Application Viewer (DAV)* in Examination Tools & Infrastructure (ET&I) project (replaces eDan)	Case management tool: docket with multiple views; planner to prioritize work; document, claims, application management; IDS viewer, electronic notes	**Released Mar 2015** training underway (key dates on next slide)
Official Correspondence (Office Actions/replaces OACS)	Authoring & workflow solution; integrates with DAV by leveraging notes, references, & dispositions	Targeted for release Q1 FY17 Pilot release Q1 FY16
Examiner Search (replaces EAST/WEST)	Modern, scalable enterprise search for Patent Examiners	Targeted for release Q1 FY17 Pilot release Q1 FY16
Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)	Harmonization & modernization of classification jointly managed between USPTO & EPO. Facilitates collaborative maintenance of classification system	Released Jan 2013; enhancements ongoing
Central Enterprise Data Repository (CEDR)	Create new operational database to replace PALM that supports PE2E	Incremental releases for critical path items from above efforts

* The product produced by the Examiner Tools & Infrastructure project, which remained unnamed during much of its development, is named Docket & Application Viewer

Key Dates for DAV, ET&I

Jan 2011 3 user interface prototypes presented to Examiners; 2,000+ examiners provided evaluations

Jun 2011 Agile development began based on User Centered Design, using info from prototype evaluation

Sep 2011 First version released to Central Reexamination Unit

Aug 2012 Changed audience to Examiner Corps; data from Patent Application Text Initiative; new scope & timeline

Apr 2013 Major development on PE2E stopped due to funding issues; 18-24 month projected delay

Oct 2013 Ramp-up began for resuming major PE2E development; initial release target Q1 FY15

Jul 2014 Full resumption of development on Examiner Tools & Infrastructure (ET&I); release re-targeted for Q2 FY15
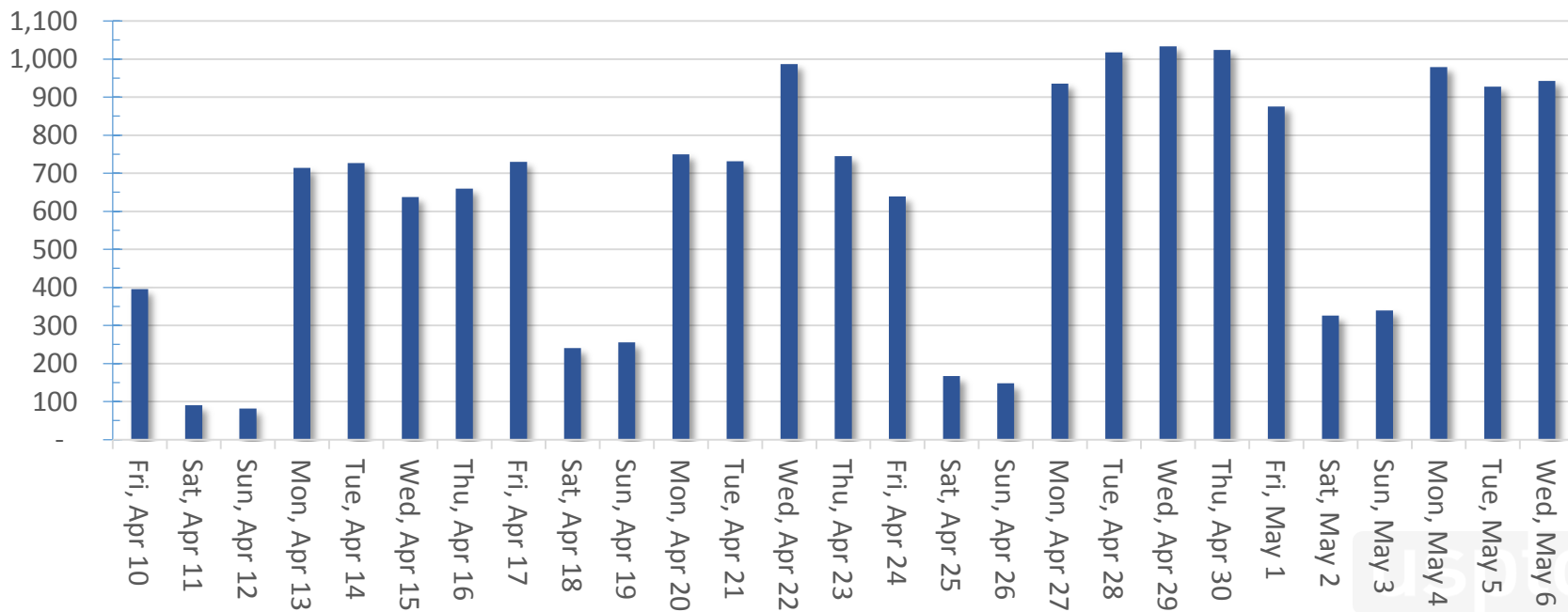
Mar 2015 Released ET&I to the Patent Examiner Corps

DAV Training

- Training carefully coordinated with POPA

  - Will proceed through each Technology Center

  - 4 training sessions per tech center with make-up sessions

- Training for SPEs began Apr 7, 2015

- Training for examiners began Apr 13, 2015

- Training will continue through Aug 2015

- Two tech centers completed (TC 2100 and TC 2400); one tech center in progress (TC 2600); approximately 2,000 Patent Examiners, Managers, & IT specialists

DAV Usage Data

Unique Addresses Accessing Docket & Application Viewer

PE2E Additional Key Releases

Cooperative Patent Classification

Harmonization and modernization of classification between USPTO & EPO. Tools to facilitate collaborative maintenance of classification system jointly managed by USPTO & EPO

Deployed: Further enhancements to Revision and Reclassification Tool/Classification Allocation Tool adding validation & sampling for reclassification data supplied by KIPO

Next Steps:

- Continue enhancements to reclassification tool
- Deliver additional CPC services that support Classification Data System retirement
- Move to new USPTO automated cloud deployment environment

PE2E Additional Key Releases

Examiner Search

Robust and versatile enterprise search system for Patent Examiners

Status
- Apr 2015: Development resumed on existing UI and technology based on same software used in GPSN and Assignments on the Web
- Apr 2015: Completed study on USPTO approach; validated current toolset

Next Steps:
- Work toward first pilot release in Q1 FY16, including defects and additional collections
- Release to the Examination Corps Q1 FY17, with legacy feature parity and all collections

PE2E Additional Key Releases

Official Correspondence (Office Actions)

Authoring and workflow solution that integrates with DAV by leveraging notes, references, and dispositions

Status
- Apr 2015: Completed 1st workflow prototype
- Apr 2015: Completed selection & validation of toolset, including MS Word based authoring tool

Next Steps:
- Work toward first pilot release in Q1 FY16
- Release to the Examination Corps Q1 FY17

PE2E Additional Key Releases

Global Dossier – Public Access to Foreign Dossiers

Expand current solution that provides IP5 partners (patent offices in Europe, Japan, Korea, and China) with web-service based access to US patents (and vice versa; provided through One Portal Dossier) to include public access

Status: On track for June 2015 release allowing foreign access to US Patents

Next Steps:
- Jun 2015: Release for foreign access to US Patents
- Q1 FY16: Release for US Public access to foreign patents

PE2E Additional Key Releases

Patents Content Management Solution

Consolidate multiple content repositories into a single, modern, highly available content management solution to reduce duplication and support distributed deployment to decrease downtime.

Status: After delays related technology choice for highly available, distributed storage solutions, development and migration have resumed

Next Steps:

- Re-scope to ensure roadmap supports deployment of Search solution
- Support migration of data from legacy repositories

PE2E Additional Key Releases

Hague Agreement (HA) and Patent Law Treaty (PLT) Implementation

HA is an international registration system; offers possibility to obtain protection for industrial designs among member countries & intergovernmental organizations using single international application

PLT helps streamline & harmonize formal procedures for filling & processing patent applications

Completed:
- Feb 28, 2015: Hague Implementation
- Feb 13, 2015: U.S. delivered instrument of Ratification

Planned to coincide with May 13, 2015 "go live" date:
- Deployment & activation of dependent systems (EFS Web, EAI Hub, PALM EXPO, SCORE, eDan, PALM SG, PALM Pre-exam, EPAS)
- **Hague Agreement scheduled to go active May 13, 2015**

PE2E Additional Key Releases

Assignments Search Improvements; started Oct 1, 2014

Completed: Release 1 deployed Dec 20, 2014

Planned:
- Displays assignment document,
- Quick Look up of property numbers and Reel/Frame numbers going directly to Abstract of Title or Assignment Details,
- Additional User Interface Improvements – cleaner condensed viewing and printing of Search Results, Abstract of Title and Assignment Details
- Data Export
- API for Search and Retrieval
- Trademarks data

Future Work: Legacy Retirement

Patent Application Lifecycle Management Replacement (PALM-R)

PALM is the core Patents operational database and supporting applications. It supports prosecution, tracking and monitoring of both Patents and Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) applications through their end-to-end life cycle.

- Replacement of PALM services will begin under Legacy Portfolio to complement PE2E deployments of DAV, Search and Office Action Authoring Tools.
- Replacement of PALM will transition into PE2E Portfolio for Data and User Interface Development.
- Collaboration with all Portfolios affected by this work is in progress.

Questions and Comments

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