PCT Update (I)

- New International Searching Authorities for applications filed with US Receiving Office
  - Israel
    - From 01 October 2014
    - Not competent where
      - One or more claims directed to business methods
      - Received more than 75/quarter
  
- Japan
  - From 01 July 2015 – 3 year pilot
  - Only competent where
    - Claims are directed to green technology
    - Less than 300/quarter received in 1st year
    - Less than 500/quarter received in 2nd – 3rd years
PCT Update (II)

- PCT Working Group
  - Transmittal of search results & classification to ISA
  - Information concerning national phase entry to be published by WIPO
  - Personally Identifiable Information may be excluded from publication
  - Excuse of delay due to general unavailability of electronic communications
Collaborative Search Pilots (CSP)

- Collaborative Search Pilot provides contemporaneous search on correlated applications in two patent offices
- Based on First Action Interview (FAI) Program
  - Additional benefit to CSP applicants - Applications made special in both offices for first action
- Federal Register Notices Published July 2015
- Programs with JPO and KIPO last two years with application limits each year
  - Application counts in both offices set to ensure applicants from both countries can be equally represented
Collaborative Search Pilots (CSP)

- JPO – exchange of search information will occur prior to the USPTO examiner establishing Pre-Interview Communication (PIC)
  - Pilot program with JPO commenced 1 August 2015
    - 12 Petitions received in JPO in first week, corresponding petitions received in USPTO
    - Petition data updated on USPTO CSP website
Collaborative Search Pilots (CSP)

- KIPO – Both offices conduct independent search and evaluation. Results of both offices work is provided to applicants at time of Pre-Interview Communication (PIC)
Hague Agreement (I)

• The centralized acquisition and maintenance of industrial design rights
  – by filing a single international application
  – for a single international registration
  – with effect in one or more designated Contracting Parties
Hague Agreement (II)

- WIPO Statistics
  - 2924 International Design Applications filed worldwide in 2014
  - 14,441 Designs covered
- USPTO statistics (to date)
  - Approx. 64 IDAs filed at USPTO as office of indirect filing
  - Approx. 83 IDAs sent from WIPO
PPH

- Cumulative - Applications with Petitions = 33,177
- Last 12 Months – Applications with Petitions = 7,597
- Month of July - Applications with Petitions = 575
- Monthly Average (last 12 months) = 633
- Effective July 6, Estonia and Germany agreed to participate in Global PPH pilot program.
- Mexico joined bilateral agreement under global principles on July 1.
Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)

- USPTO examiners finished transition to CPC
  - Examiners concerns regarding CPC transition being addressed

  - Effective June 2015, USPC static, historical collection
  - All new utility patent documents published with only CPC
  - Continuous collaboration and maintenance in CPC with partner EPO
Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)

Expansion of CPC internationally

• 16 Patent Offices classifying directly into CPC
  ○ Additional Offices coming in 2016

• Working with Japan to increase classification cooperation

• Over 45 Offices and over 25,000 patent examiners search using CPC
Global Dossier

• Task Force meeting held in January 2015 to identify the next service(s) to be delivered

• Industry priorities:
  – Proof of Concept (Inter-office Document Sharing)
  – Indication of Patent Legal Status
  – Applicant Name Standardization
  – Provision of XML Documents
  – Alert Function (Change of Status, Due Dates)

• Studies and planning currently underway
Questions and Comments?

Charles Pearson
Director
International Patent Legal Administration
571-272-3224
Charles.Pearson@uspto.gov