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Patent Public Advisory Committee quarterly meeting
OPQA search feedback pilot recap

• Reviewers from OPQA
  – Conducted an independent search of a pilot application
  – Evaluated the examiner’s recorded search strategy and history via a search feedback form

• Optional meeting between reviewer and examiner at examiner’s election to:
  – Discuss feedback
  – Share best practices
OPQA search feedback pilot takeaways

• 590 randomly selected applications searched
  – Reviewer/examiner meetings held in 34% of applications

• Post pilot survey conducted
  – 75% of examiners expressed interest in having the search feedback form as part of regular OPQA reviews
  – 66% of examiners expressed interest in the opportunity to meet with reviewers and discuss search in the future
Search immersion

• Started during 4th Quarter of FY 20

• Reviewers are
  – Conducting an independent search in 10% of applications reviewed as part of regular OPQA reviews
  – Evaluating recorded search strategy and history using an updated search feedback form

• No optional meetings
Search immersion goals

• Provide meaningful search feedback to both managers and examiners
• Consider impact of no meetings
• Finalize search inquiries for inclusion in Master Review Form (MRF) and search related data collection
Search recordation form for reviewer’s independent search

• Sections include:
  – Inventive concept
  – CPC Symbols allocated to the application
  – Summary of:
    • Attached printouts
    • Search logic
  – Consultations
  – Notes
Search immersion form

• Sections include:
  – Reviewer search
    • Search preparation
    • Search performed and documented
  – Comparison between reviewer/examiner search
  – Assessment of the examiner’s search documentation
  – Analysis of examiner’s search strategy
Search immersion next steps

- Approximately 325 reviews expected during 4\textsuperscript{th} Quarter of FY 20
- Assessment planned in FY 21
Thank you!

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