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Patent Quality Chat: Future Information Disclosure Practice in a Global Dossier Environment

Patent Quality Chat

Webinar Series 2016 (10 of 12)

September 13, 2016

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**To send in questions or comments during the
webinar, please email:**

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Patent No. 6234487

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Enhanced Patent Quality Initiative



High-quality patents enable certainty and clarity of rights, which fuels innovation and reduces needless litigation. To ensure we continue issuing high-quality patents well into the future, we established the **Enhanced Patent Quality Initiative (EPQI)**. We are strengthening work products, processes, services, and how we measure patent quality at all stages of the patent process.

Updates


- **Post-Prosecution Pilot (P3)**, which launched on July 11th, explores a new after final program that combines features of the Pre-Appeal Brief Conference and After Final Consideration 2.0 pilot programs and adds in new features requested by our stakeholders. For more information, please visit the [P3 webpage](#).
- The **Post Grant Outcomes** Program launched a pilot aimed at putting related AIA trial proceedings, including their prior art, in front of the examiners of pending related applications. More information is on the [Pilot webpage](#).

2016 Patent Quality Chats

NEXT: September 13, 12-1 pm ET

Post-Prosecution Pilot

After final pilot program aimed at reducing the number of issues taken up on appeal.



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Mark Powell

Deputy Commissioner for International Patent Cooperation

Robert Bahr

Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy

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Global Dossier Initiative

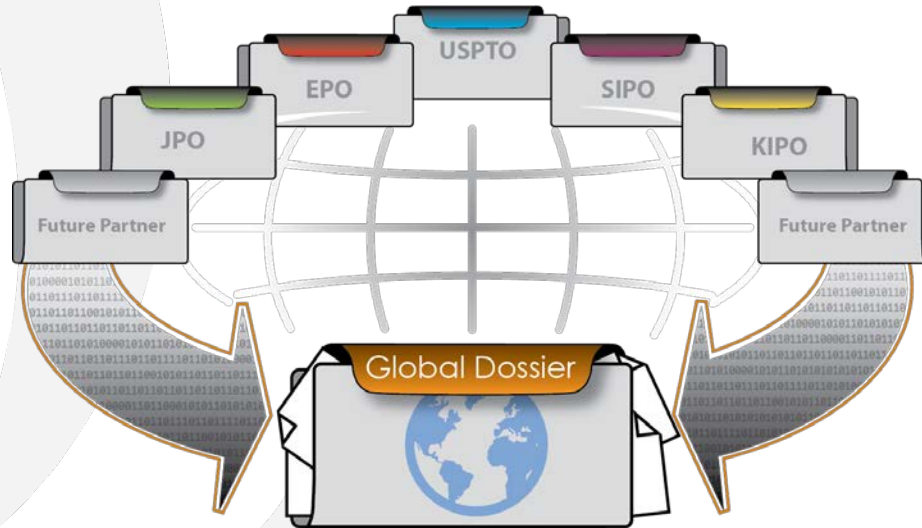
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Global Dossier

Global Dossier is a set of business services modernizing the global patent system and delivering benefits to all stakeholders



Global  Dossier



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Global Dossier Services

– Current Services

- **Public Access:** provides access to a user-friendly online interface, which will make it easier for patent applicants to quickly and easily view, monitor, and manage intellectual property (IP) protection around the world by providing access to the dossiers of related applications filed at participating offices
- **International Patent Family:** provides examiner access to work done by examiners on related applications at other offices

– Upcoming Future Services

- **Document Sharing Functionality:** sharing documents between office, such as prior art exchanges and supporting documents. Viewed as a first step towards cross-filing
- **WIPO CASE Linkage:** provides examiners and the public with access to additional participating offices outside of the IP5



Global Dossier Access

Direct access link:
<http://globaldossier.uspto.gov>

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Global Dossier website. It includes the USPTO logo, a search bar with 'Ex 100000000' entered, and links for 'Home', 'Public Pair', 'Common Citation Document', 'Current Service Status', 'Service Hours', 'Help', and 'Email Us'. Below the navigation bar, the main content area features a 'Welcome to Global Dossier' heading and three columns of text: 'Global Dossier Initiative', 'Global Dossier Public Access', and 'Service Hours'. The 'Global Dossier Initiative' section describes the program's goal to modernize the patent system. The 'Global Dossier Public Access' section explains how users can view application histories. The 'Service Hours' section provides information on office availability and scheduled outages.



The footer of the USPTO website, featuring the USPTO logo and the text 'UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE'. It includes a grid of links organized into four columns: 'BROWSE BY TOPIC' (Patents, Trademarks, Learning & Resources, About the USPTO, Glossary, Careers), 'ABOUT THIS SITE' (Accessibility, Privacy Policy, Terms of Use, Security, Systems Status, Site Map), 'USPTO BACKGROUND' (Federal Activity Inventory Reform Act (FAIR), USPTO Budget and Performance, Freedom of Information Act, Information Quality Guidelines), and 'FEDERAL GOVERNMENT' (Regulations.gov, StopFakes.gov, USA.gov, Department of Commerce, Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy). A large 'uspto' logo is also present on the right side.

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Stakeholder Input on Global Dossier

- IdeaScale - <http://uspto-globaldossier.ideascale.com/>
 - IdeaScale is one of the ways that OIPC will be gathering stakeholder input and feedback on Global Dossier.
 - Vote and comment on the various ideas
 - Provide additional suggestions for services and features that would improve the ability to monitor and manage related cases around the world
- Focus Sessions
 - Conducted to gather input and feedback on services
- Contact the Global Dossier Team
 - GlobalDossier@USPTO.gov



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Access to Relevant Prior Art

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Project Background

- Patentability decisions are based on information from various sources
 - Information disclosure statement
 - Examiner’s search results
 - Information previously considered in a domestic parent application
- Work sharing has resulted in new sources of information from counterpart foreign applications
 - Global Dossier
 - Common Citation Document
 - WIPO CASE
 - PatentScope



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Project Scope

- Study how the USPTO can increase examination efficiency and quality by leveraging electronic resources to retrieve information (prior art, search reports, etc.) from applicant's other applications.
- Explore whether or not automatically importing relevant prior art and other information into the U.S. application file at the earliest point in examination would reduce the burden of duty of disclosure for applicants.
- Consider if patent issuance can be streamlined by eliminating unnecessary information from the first page of a U.S. patent.



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Anticipated Benefits

- Quality and efficiency of examination is increased
- Examiner access to relevant prior art and supplemental information in a conveniently searchable manner
- Decreased applicant expense of submitting information and information disclosure statements
- Reduced burden for applicant compliance with duty to disclose information material to patentability
- Streamlined patent issuance



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Considerations (1)

- Besides domestic parent and counterpart foreign applications, what sources of information should be monitored?
- What is the most convenient way to bring an application to the USPTO's attention that should be monitored for information during the examination of a U.S. application?



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Considerations (2)

- What information should be provided to examiners while ensuring they are not overburdened?
- If information is automatically imported into a U.S. application under examination, what information should be documented?
- Considering the availability of application information in PAIR, what information needs to be on the first page of a U.S. patent?



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Project Update

- External User Initial Focus Sessions at Regional Office Locations – June 2016
- Federal Register Notice – August 29, 2016
- Roundtable – September 28, 2016
- Examiners Focus Sessions – 1st Quarter FY 17



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Roundtable

- September 28, 2016 – 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
 - Deadline for registration: **September 21, 2016**
 - Deadline for requesting to present at the roundtable: **September 14, 2016**
 - Deadline for submitting copy of presentation (if selected as a presenter): **September 21, 2016**

For additional information, including registration instructions, please visit:

<http://www.uspto.gov/patent/initiatives/patent-application-initiatives/roundtable-importing-prior-art-automatically>



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Thank you for joining us today!

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Next Patent Quality Chat:
Tuesday, October 11th
On the Patents Ombudsman Program

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