

Index of Eligibility Examples

The table in this appendix provides a comprehensive index of examples for use with the Office's subject matter eligibility guidance, which has now been incorporated into the MPEP Ninth Edition, revision 08.2017 (published in January 2018). The source documents for the listed examples include:

- *Examples: Abstract Ideas* (AI), which issued on January 27, 2015;
- *Examples: Nature-Based Products* (NBP), which issued December 16, 2014;
- *Computer Based Training & CBT Slides* (CBT), which were posted March 6, 2015; and
- *July 2015 Update Appendix 1: Examples* (July 2015 Update), which issued July 30, 2015;
- *Subject Matter Eligibility Examples: Life Sciences* (LS), which issued May 4, 2016; and
- *Subject Matter Eligibility Examples: Business Methods* (BizM), which issued December 15, 2016.

All of these documents, along with the guidance, examiner training materials, and the public comments, are available on USPTO.GOV at the [Subject Matter Eligibility](#) webpage.

For ease of reference, all examples have been consecutively numbered in the table, and future examples will follow this same numbering scheme. However, because some of the source documents used different numbering schemes, the "Source Document" column in the table indicates not only the source document for each example, but also the number that was used in that source document to identify the example. For instance, example AI-2 (Composite web page) appears in the *Examples: Abstract Ideas* source document as Example 2.

The columns that are titled with reference to Step 1, Step 2A, and Step 2B are intended to provide a brief guide to the concepts illustrated by each example, so that examiners and the public may quickly locate example(s) pertinent to a particular situation. Accordingly, these columns indicate for each example the relevant statutory categories, judicial exceptions, characteristics discussed in the MDC analysis, and considerations evaluated in the significantly more inquiry.

Please note that the following table was updated in February 2018 to add a column indicating the court decision (if any) on which each example's claims were based. This information was formerly provided in the [Chart of Subject Matter Eligibility Court Decisions](#).

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Ex. #	Source	Title	Step 1: Statutory Category	Step 2A: Exception	Step 2A: MDC Analysis	Step 2B: Significantly More Considerations	Court Decision On Which Claims Were Based (if applicable)
1	AI-1	Removing Malicious Code From Email Messages	Process, CRM (Manufacture)	None	n/a	n/a	n/a
2	AI-2	Composite Web Page	System (Machine or Manufacture)	None	n/a	n/a	<i>DDR Holdings, LLC v. Hotels.com, L.P.</i> , 773 F.3d 1245 (Fed. Cir. 2014)
3	AI-3	Digital Image Processing	Process, CRM, System	Abstract Idea	n/a	Improving computer, improving another technology, other meaningful limitations, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions)	<i>Research Corporation Technologies Inc. v. Microsoft Corp.</i> , 627 F.3d 859 (Fed. Cir. 2010)
4	AI-4	Global Positioning System	System, Process	Abstract Idea	n/a	Improving another technology, other meaningful limitations, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions)	<i>SiRF Tech. Inc. v. Int'l Trade Commission</i> , 601 F.3d 1319 (Fed. Cir. 2010)
5	AI-5	Digital Image Processing	Process	Abstract Idea	n/a	None (no additional elements)	<i>Digitech Image Techs., LLC v Electronics for Imaging, Inc.</i> , 758 F.3d 1344 (Fed. Cir. 2014)
6	AI-6	Game of Bingo	System	Abstract Idea	n/a	Mere instructions to “apply it”, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions), insignificant extrasolution activity	<i>Planet Bingo, LLC v VKGS LLC</i> , 576 Fed. Appx. 1005 (Fed. Cir. 2014)

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Ex. #	Source	Title	Step 1: Statutory Category	Step 2A: Exception	Step 2A: MDC Analysis	Step 2B: Significantly More Considerations	Court Decision On Which Claims Were Based (if applicable)
7	AI-7	E-Commerce With Transaction Performance Guaranty	Process	Abstract Idea	n/a	Limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions)	<i>buySAFE, Inc. v. Google, Inc.</i> , 765 F.3d 1350 (Fed. Cir. 2014)
8	AI-8	Distribution Of Products Over The Internet	Process	Abstract Idea	n/a	Limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions), insignificant extrasolution activity, field of use	<i>Ultramercial, Inc. v. Hulu, LLC</i> , 772 F.3d 709 (Fed. Cir. 2014)
9	NBP-1	Gunpowder & Fireworks	Composition, Manufacture	Product of Nature	Chem/phys property	n/a	n/a
10	NBP-2	Pomelo Juice	Process, Composition	Product of Nature	Chem/phys property	n/a	n/a
11	NBP-3	Amazonic Acid, Pharm. Compositions, & Methods of Treatment	Composition, Process	Product of Nature	Function/activity, chem/phys property, structure or form	n/a	n/a
12	NBP-4	Purified Proteins	Composition	Product of Nature	Function/activity, chem/phys property, structure or form	n/a	n/a
13	NBP-5	Genetically Modified Bacterium	Composition, Manufacture	Product of Nature	Function/activity, structure or form	n/a	<i>Diamond v. Chakrabarty</i> , 447 U.S. 303 (1980)
14	NBP-6	Bacterial Mixtures	Composition	Product of Nature	Function/activity	n/a	<i>Funk Brothers Seed Co. v. Kalo Inoculant Co.</i> , 333 U.S. 127 (1948)
15	NBP-7	Nucleic Acids	Composition	Product of Nature	Function/activity, structure or form	n/a	n/a
16	NBP-8	Antibodies	Composition	Product of Nature	Function/activity, structure or form	n/a	n/a

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Ex. #	Source	Title	Step 1: Statutory Category	Step 2A: Exception	Step 2A: MDC Analysis	Step 2B: Significantly More Considerations	Court Decision On Which Claims Were Based (if applicable)
17	NBP-9	Cells	Composition	Product of Nature	Function/activity, phenotype	Improving another technology, limitation that is not well-understood, routine, and conventional, mere instructions to “apply it”, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional	n/a
18	NBP-10	Food	Composition	Product of Nature	Function/activity	n/a	n/a
19	CBT-1	Hip Prosthesis	Manufacture	Streamlined (Product of Nature)			n/a
20	CBT-2	Robotic Arm Assembly	System	Streamlined (Particular Machine)			n/a
21	July 2015 Update	Transmission Of Stock Quote Data	Process	Abstract Idea	n/a	Limitation that is not well-understood, routine, and conventional, other meaningful limitations, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions), field of use	<i>Google Inc. v. Simpleair, Inc.</i> , Covered Business Method Case No. CBM 2014-00170 (Jan. 22, 2015)
22	July 2015 Update	Graphical User Interface For Meal Planning	System	Abstract Idea	n/a	Limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions)	<i>Dietgoal Innovations LLC v. Bravo Media LLC</i> , 599 Fed. Appx. 956 (Fed. Cir. Apr. 8, 2015)
23	July 2015 Update	Graphical User Interface For Relocating Obscured Textual Information	Process	Abstract Idea	n/a	Improving computer, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions), mere instructions to “apply it”, field of use	n/a

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Ex. #	Source	Title	Step 1: Statutory Category	Step 2A: Exception	Step 2A: MDC Analysis	Step 2B: Significantly More Considerations	Court Decision On Which Claims Were Based (if applicable)
24	July 2015 Update	Updating Alarm Limits	Process	Abstract Idea	n/a	Limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions), insignificant extrasolution activity, field of use	<i>Parker v. Flook</i> , 437 U.S. 584 (1978)
25	July 2015 Update	Rubber Manufacturing	Process, CRM	Abstract Idea	n/a	Improving another technology, transformation, other meaningful limitations, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions), insignificant extrasolution activity	<i>Diamond v. Diehr</i> , 450 U.S. 175 (1981)
26	July 2015 Update	Internal Combustion Engine	Machine or Manufacture	Streamlined (Particular Machine)			n/a
27	July 2015 Update	System Software - BIOS	Process	Streamlined (No Exception)			n/a
28	LS-28	Vaccines	Composition	Product of Nature	Function/activity, structure or form	Limitation that is not well-understood, routine, and conventional, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional	n/a
29	LS-29	Diagnosing and Treating Julitis	Process	Law of Nature	n/a	Limitation that is not well-understood, routine, and conventional, other meaningful limitations, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional, insignificant extrasolution activity	n/a
30	LS-30	Dietary Sweeteners	Composition	Product of Nature	Chem/phys property, structure or form	Limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional	n/a

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E	Source	Title	Step 1: Statutory Category	Step 2A: Exception	Step 2A: MDC Analysis	Step 2B: Significantly More Considerations	Court Decision On Which Claims Were Based (if applicable)
31	LS-31	Screening for Gene Alterations	Process	Abstract Idea	n/a	Limitation that is not well-understood, routine, and conventional, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional	<i>Univ. of Utah Research Found. v. Ambry Genetics Corp.</i> , 774 F.3d 755 (Fed. Cir. 2014)
32	LS-32	Paper-Making Machine	Machine or Manufacture	Streamlined (Particular Machine)			<i>Eibel Process Co. v. Minnesota & Ontario Paper Co.</i> , 261 U.S. 45 (1923)
33	LS-33	Hydrolysis of Fat	Process	Streamlined (No Exception)			<i>Tilghman v. Proctor</i> , 102 U.S. 707 (1881)
34	BizM-34	System for Filtering Internet Content	System	Abstract Idea	n/a	Improving another technology, limitation that is not well-understood, routine, and conventional, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions)	<i>Bascom Global Internet Services, Inc. v. AT&T Mobility LLC</i> , 827 F.3d 1341 (Fed Cir. 2016)
35	BizM-35	Verifying A Bank Customer's Identity To Permit An ATM Transaction	Methods	Abstract Idea	n/a	Limitation that is not well-understood, routine, and conventional, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions), insignificant extrasolution activity	n/a
36	BizM-36	Tracking Inventory	Systems	Abstract Idea	n/a	Limitation that is not well-understood, routine, and conventional, other meaningful limitations, limitation that is well-understood, routine, and conventional (generic computer performing generic computer functions)	n/a