

**Continuation of Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Programs between the  
United States Patent and Trademark Office and  
the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines**

On January 29, 2013, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) commenced two Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot programs with the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOP). The first pilot program (PPH pilot program) enabled an applicant whose claims have been determined allowable or patentable in an application filed in the IPOP to have the corresponding application filed in the USPTO advanced out of turn for examination. *See* Requirements for the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program to Implement PPH 2.0 with the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines, 1389 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 52 (April 2, 2013). The second pilot program, which was based on Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) work products (PCT-PPH pilot program), enabled an applicant who received a written opinion or an international preliminary examination report from the United States International Searching Authority (ISA/US) or United States International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA/US) indicating that at least one claim in the PCT application has novelty, inventive step, and industrial applicability to have the corresponding application filed in the IPOP advanced out of turn for examination. *See* Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Program between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines based on Patent Cooperation Treaty Work Products, 1384 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 50 (April 2, 2013). The USPTO indicated that both pilot programs would terminate on January 28, 2014, but may be extended thereafter.

In order to further assess the feasibility of both the PPH pilot program and the PCT-PPH pilot program, the USPTO and the IPOP have agreed to extend the pilots indefinitely.

Any inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Bryan Lin, Office of PCT Legal Administration, at 571-272-3303, or via e-mail addressed to [bryan.lin@uspto.gov](mailto:bryan.lin@uspto.gov).

Specific questions about the Patent Prosecution Highway should be directed to the Office of Petitions at 571-272-3282, or via e-mail addressed to [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2/18/14



Michelle K. Lee

Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and  
Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office