

1. Will Sequence Listings be rejected if they include sequences that aren't "technically" required (e.g. don't meet length requirement, branched, etc.)?
2. How will the implementation begin? Will there be a specific date in which all applications filed after said date will be required to file ST.26-formatted SLs while applications filed prior to will have a choice?
3. What is the timeline for implementation? When will implementation begin and how long will it last? In other words, does the CWS anticipate formal implementation to begin in 2017 (e.g., Q2, Q3, Q4) or more likely in 2018 or beyond?
4. At the time of implementation, will all authoring offices be required to immediately adopt ST.26 or will there be variable office grace periods to comply with the new Standard?
5. We note there will most likely not be a conversion software. Will this result in an application/Sequence Listing initially filed under ST.25 being allowed to be prepared under ST.25? For example, if the implementation date is 1/1/2017 and an application is filed 12/31/2016, will the Sequence Listing rules be dictated by ST.25 for the duration of prosecution?
6. Who/What entity is developing the ST.26 authoring software?
7. Regarding uploading sequence and free text data into the authoring software, in our experience it is more time effective to be able to include all information during upload versus having to insert it manually via feature key after the data has been upload. In other words, the more information we can include in the uploading process, the more efficient Sequence Listing preparation will be.
8. Who/What entity is developing the validation software?
9. A common issue under ST.25 is that Checker validation software does not catch all formatting issues. Will this be addressed with the new validation software as XML introduces significantly more room for error due to the formatting/required XML tags?
10. Will the USPTO provide a training on ST.26, conversion from ST.25 to ST.26, and how to use the software to prepare/validate Sequence Listings?

Thank you!

Best,
Tara



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IMPORTANT:

By providing my authorization, I hereby authorize Harbor Consulting IP Services, Inc. ("HCIP") to commence the outlined project. I hereby understand and agree that this project is by and between HCIP and the undersigned requestor, and any third party involvement regarding payment must be agreed upon prior to commencement of this project.

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