

Untitled

From: Andrew and Rosy Levy [e-mail address redacted]  
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 3:27 PM  
To: SatelliteOffices  
Cc: [e-mail address redacted]  
Subject: USPTO in Portland OR

Dear Members of the USPTO Satellite Office Selection Working Committee,

As a interested member of the Portland, OR high technology community, there are many important reasons for why the USPTO should select Portland, OR for a satellite office location.

As an embedded firmware engineer, patent agent and product developer I understand the implications of intellectual property as it effects our ability to develop, manufacture and deliver timely products. As part of my job, I prosecute patent applications with the USPTO and represent inventors. On a larger scale, innovation and creativity are cornerstones of our economy. The benefits afforded by patentable rights effect our ability to sustain and prosper as a free market society. Most importantly, the western region of the US and in particular Oregon need access with the USPTO.

Presently, the existing USPTO office is located in Alexandria, Va. There is a large backlog of patent applications in the patent pipeline which depending on technological art may take several years before a a first office action is even received. The Western region of this country could be better served by a more local office that could focus on expediting the prosecution of patents in the western region for the western states of Oregon, Washington, California and others. For example, if the local office handled applications for the western region of the United States and was staffed accordingly the benefits would be noticeable. The first benefit would be a drop in the backlog of applications served by the main office. The second would be the communication improvement where three hour zone difference would no longer be a factor. Scheduled meetings reduce the effectiveness of working with the Alexandria, Va office by 37.5% per day considering the three hour time difference. Having a Portland office would already alleviate the time zone mismatch and this would help increase outreach to better connect patent practitioners with patent examiners. This is one bottleneck that would addressed immediately.

The Portland OR metropolitan area has a highly motivated technological community with an abundance of technological skills. This ready and able work force who understand loyalty, and dedication are ingredients for enhancing patent examiner retention. This local pool of talent would serve to supply the need for recruitment of patent examiners. There would be competition for these patent examiner jobs in the Portland, OR area when combined with the recreational offerings of this area created ideal scenarios for worker retention. With the ample abundance of a highly trained technology community the standards of excellence would well exceed those of other areas surely enhancing the quality of the patent examination process.

I hope that Portland, Oregon is selected as USPTO satellite office.

Sincerely,

Andrew B. Levy  
Registered Patent Agent and Embedded Systems Developer  
#57183