

**Contact for Matters Relating to Suggesting Interferences under 37 CFR § 41.202(a)**

Applicant's suggesting an interference pursuant to 37 CFR § 41.202(a) should note that proposed interferences will not be forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for consideration unless ex parte examination has been completed. 37 CFR § 41.102. In other words, applications will not be forwarded to the Board unless the application is in condition for allowance "but for" the resolution of the possible interference.

Status inquiries relating to the suggestion of an interference under § 41.202(a) in applications **in which all ex parte matters have been resolved** should be sent to Daniel Hunter using the following e-mail address:

[Interference.status@uspto.gov](mailto:Interference.status@uspto.gov)

**The body of the e-mail must identify the application serial number and state that ex parte examination has been completed.** Submission of interference status inquiries relating to applications that have not completed ex parte examination may delay final resolution of ex parte matters and the declaration of an interference.

Status inquiries relating to declared interferences (37 CFR §41.203(b)) should not be sent to the above e-mail, but should be filed with Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences following the established procedures for conducting interference proceedings as outlined in 37 CFR §§ 41.100 – 41.208.

Date: 3/8/05

Signed: /s/  
MARGARET A. FOCARINO  
Deputy Commissioner  
for Patent Operations