

# An Introduction to Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)



**United States Patent and Trademark Office**

[www.uspto.gov/web/patents/pph/index.html](http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/pph/index.html)



# PPH: Fast Track Examination of Applications

- **What is PPH?**

- When claims are determined to be allowable in the Office of First Filing (OFF), a corresponding application filed in the Office of Second Filing (OSF) may be advanced out of turn.

- **What is the Purpose of PPH?**

- OSF can utilize the search and examination results of the OFF thereby avoiding duplication of work and expedite the examination process in the OSF.





# What Are the Benefits of PPH?

## PPH Benefits

- Provides a useful tool to expedite prosecution of claims toward patentability.
- Decreases costs of prosecution.
- Provides quicker patentability determinations.
- May be particularly attractive to rapidly evolving industries.





# How Do I Submit A PPH Request?

All claims in each U.S. application must sufficiently correspond to the allowable claims in the application in the OFF.

- Refer to the PPH Web site for the request form and more information.
- e-File the Request/Petition to Make Special Form and the supporting documents via EFS-Web.

Doc Code: PPH.PET.652  
Document Description: Petition to make special under Patent Prosec Hwy  
Approved for use through 01/31/2012. CMB 0851-0058  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PTO/SB/20JP (04-09)

**REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PATENT PROSECUTION HIGHWAY (PPH) PROGRAM BETWEEN THE JPO AND THE USPTO**

Application No.:	First Named Inventor:
Filing Date:	Attorney Docket No.:
Title of the Invention:	

THIS REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PPH PROGRAM ALONG WITH THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA EFS-Web. INFORMATION REGARDING EFS-Web IS AVAILABLE AT [HTTP://WWW.USPTO.GOV/EFSW\\_HELP.HTML](http://www.uspto.gov/efsw/help.html).

APPLICANT HEREBY REQUESTS PARTICIPATION IN THE PATENT PROSECUTION HIGHWAY (PPH) PROGRAM AND PETITIONS TO MAKE THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED APPLICATION SPECIAL UNDER THE PPH PROGRAM.

The above-identified application (1) validly claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a) and 37 CFR 1.55 to one or more corresponding JPO application(s) or to a PCT application that does not contain any priority claim, or (2) is a national stage entry of a PCT application that does not contain any priority claim.

The JPO/PCT application number(s) is/are: \_\_\_\_\_

The filing date of the JPO/PCT application(s) is/are: \_\_\_\_\_

I. List of Required Documents:

a. A copy of the latest JPO office actions (other than "Decision to Grant a Patent") in the above-identified JPO application(s)

is attached.

is not attached because the JPO application was allowed in a first office action.

*"It is not necessary to submit a copy of the "Decision to Grant a Patent" and an English translation thereof.*

b. A copy of all claims which were determined to be patentable by the JPO in the above-identified JPO application(s)

is attached.

c. English translations of the documents in a. and b. above along with a statement that the English translations are accurate (if the documents are not in the English language).

d. (1) An information disclosure statement listing the documents cited in the JPO office actions

is attached.

has already been filed in the above-identified U.S. application on \_\_\_\_\_

Example of PTO/SB/20JP Form





# Current PPH Programs

## PPH Pilot to Full implementation

Japan (JPO)

Effective on January 4, 2008

Korea (KIPO)

Effective on January 29, 2009





# Current PPH Pilot Programs

## Current Pilots

Australia (IPAU)

Canada (CIPO)

Denmark (DKPTO)

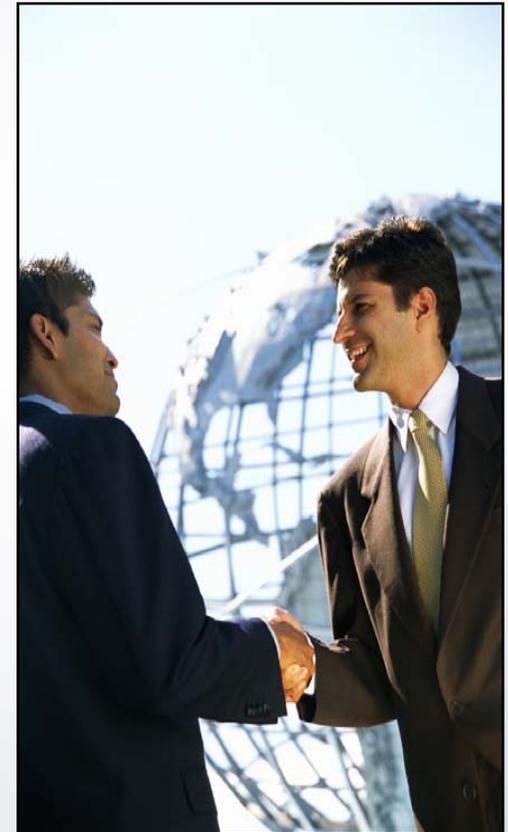
European Patent Office (EPO)

Finland (NBPR)

Germany (DPMA)

Singapore (IPOS)

United Kingdom (UK IPO)





# Important PPH Metrics\*

- Average First Action (FA) Pendency from Grant of PPH Request
  - Non-PPH
    - 25 months (from filing date of application to FA)
  - PPH
    - 2-3 months (from grant of PPH request to FA)
- Overall Allowance Rate
  - PPH cases: 95%
  - Non-PPH cases: 44%
- Actions per disposal
  - PPH cases: 1.7
  - Non-PPH cases: 3.4





# For More Information

- For general information concerning PPH, visit [www.uspto.gov/web/patents/pph/index.html](http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/pph/index.html).
- If you have specific questions about PPH, please e-mail [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).
- To receive future USPTO updates on PPH, sign up for USPTO's e-Commerce e-Alerts by visiting: <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/optin.html>

