

Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)

EPO and USPTO bilateral classification system



CPC Implementation Group

October 2011

F16G5/14



with reinforcement bonded by the plate

Major Intellectual Property Offices and Current Patent Classification Systems

Office

Classification System

United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)	United States Patent Classification (USPC)
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	International Patent Classification (IPC)
European Patent Office (EPO)	<i>International Patent Classification (IPC) based</i> European Classification (ECLA), Indexing Codes (ICOs)
Japan Patent Office (JPO)	<i>International Patent Classification (IPC) based</i> File Index (FI), Indexing Codes (F-terms)
Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO)	International Patent Classification (IPC)
State Intellectual Property Office of the P.R.C. (SIPO)	International Patent Classification (IPC)

Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC)


- USPTO/EPO agree to co-operate on a joint classification system derived from IPC-based ECLA (October 2010)
- USPTO to move from USPC to CPC; EPO to move from ECLA to CPC
- CPC planned to be bi-laterally operational at EPO and USPTO by end of December 2012



USPTO and EPO Work Toward Joint Patent Classification System

"In view of the significant benefit to stakeholders of developing a transparent and harmonized approach to a global classification system for patent documents; in order to make the search process more effective; and in the belief that cooperation between their two offices will facilitate progress in undertaking classification harmonization projects under the IP5 Common Hybrid Classification initiative, the USPTO and the EPO have agreed together to work toward the formation of a partnership to explore the development of a joint classification system based on the European Classification system (ECLA) that will incorporate the best classification practices of the two offices. This system would be aligned with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) classification standards and the International Patent Classification (IPC) structure. Accordingly, they have initiated discussions on governance and operational aspects of such a partnership.

The IP5 partner offices will be continually apprised of progress at appropriate IP5 forums. Stakeholders will receive regular updates on the substance and progress of classification partnership discussions between the two offices."



David J. Kappos

October 25, 2010



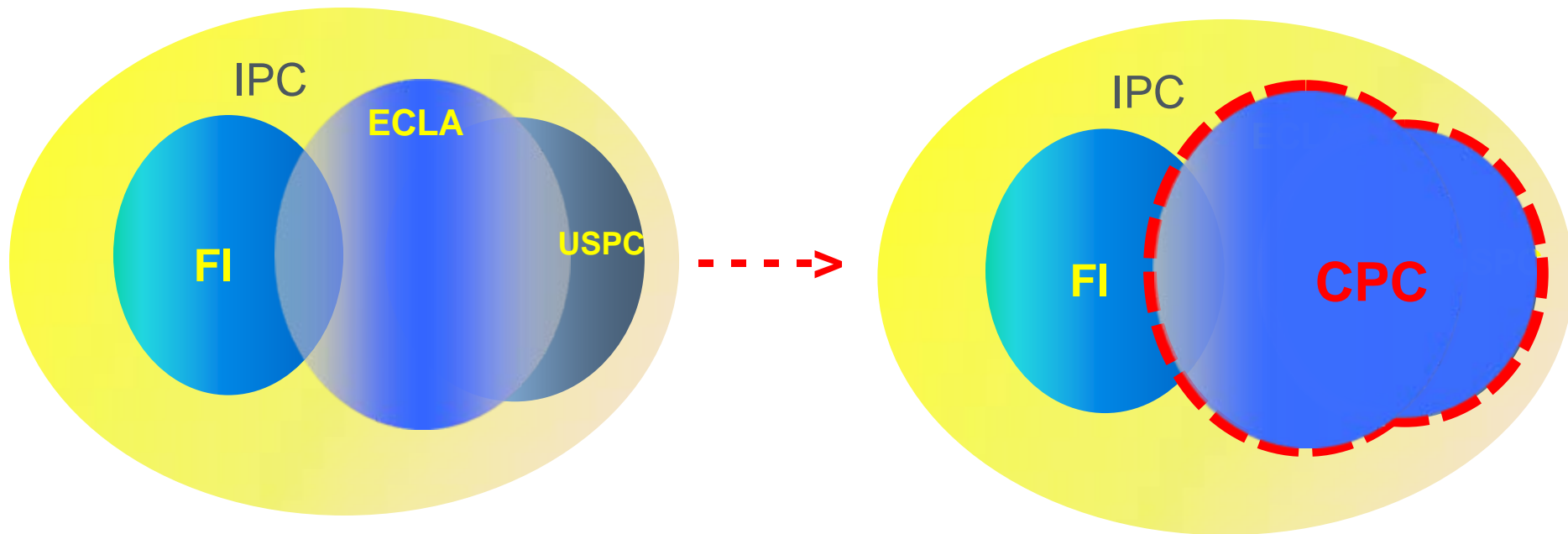
Benoît Battistelli

CPC Overview

- CPC is a bilateral classification system managed and maintained by EPO and USPTO
- Initially based on ECLA and Incorporates best classification practices of EPO and USPTO
- Includes all EPO classified documents
- Includes all US documents
- More subdivisions than IPC

CPC Compared to IPC, ECLA, FI & USPC

Document Coverage of the Four Major Patent Classification Systems
and
CPC



Benefits of Initially Basing CPC on ECLA

- ✓ ECLA is based on IPC
- ✓ USPTO documents (1920 -) are classified in ECLA
- ✓ Large part of PCT minimum documentation is classified in ECLA
- ✓ Enables complete search with one set of symbols (no various IPC editions to search)
- ✓ ECLA has been continuously maintained

Transition from ECLA to CPC

- CPC will include:
 - All ECLA/ICO titles and active subdivisions (one-to-one match)
 - Hierarchical structure of ECLA

A61B10/00	Other methods or instruments for diagnosis, e.g. instruments for taking a cell sample, for biopsy, for vaccination diagnosis (vaccination prophylaxis, vaccination therapy A61B17/20); Sex determination; Ovulation-period determination (menstruation tables G06C3/00); Throat striking implements
Note	Attention is drawn to group A61F13/15 which provides for swabs
A61B10/00L	. [N: Devices for taking samples of body liquids (devices for taking blood samples A61B5/14B)]
A61B10/00L1	.. [N: for taking amniotic fluid samples]
A61B10/00L2	.. [N: for taking saliva or sputum samples (devices for receiving spittle A61J 9/00)]
A61B10/00L4	.. [N: for taking sperm samples (artificial insemination A61B17/43; for animals A61D19/02B; genital receptacles for the male member A61F5/453; massage of the genitals A61H19/00)] [C9709]
A61B10/00L6 A61B5/00E]]	.. [N: for taking sweat or sebum samples (measuring sweat production
A61B10/00L8	.. [N: for taking urine samples (measuring urological functions A61B5/20; genital receptacles A61F5/451; urinals for bed-ridden persons A61G9/00U)] [C9412]

K61B10/00	Other methods or instruments for diagnosis
K61B10/00A [N9511]	. including means for analysis by an unskilled person [C9902]
K61B10/00A2	.. involving a colour change [N9511]
K61B10/00B	. Testing for drug or alcohol abuse [N9902]
K61B10/00D	. Ovulation-period determination
K61B10/00D2 conductivity tests	.. based on measurement of electric currents, e.g. [N9908]
K61B10/00D4	.. based on measurement of temperature [N9908]
K61B10/00D6 [N9908]	.. based on measurement of viscosity or visco-elasticity
K61B10/00D8	.. based on analysis of crystallisation structure [N0011]
K61B10/00D10	.. based on time measurement [N0101]
K61B10/00D12	.. based on measurement of pH-value [N0207]

Transition from ECLA to CPC

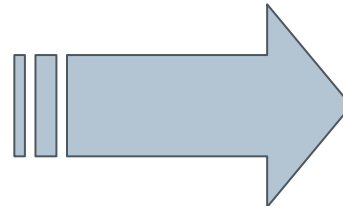
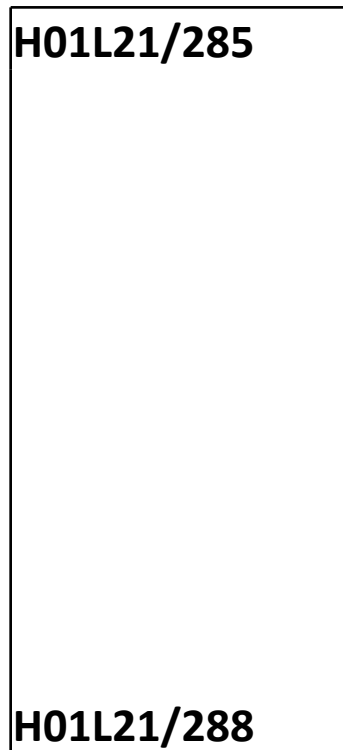
- CPC will use IPC type numbering;
ECLA letters after the “/” will be replaced by digits
 - e.g. H01L 21/02**7B** will become H01L 21/02**09**

IPC	ECLA	CPC
H01L21/027	H01L21/027	H01L21/027
	H01L21/027B	H01L21/02709
	H01L21/027B2	H01L21/02718
	H01L21/027B6	H01L21/02727
	H01L21/027B6B	H01L21/02736
	H01L21/027B6B2	H01L21/02745
	H01L21/027B6B4	H01L21/02754
	H01L21/027B6C	H01L21/02763
	H01L21/027B6D	H01L21/02772
	H01L21/027B6E	H01L21/02781
H01L21/033	H01L21/033	H01L21/033

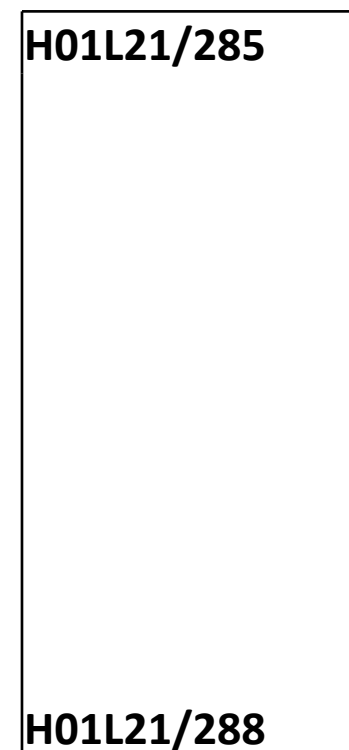
Conversion to CPC via an intermediate stage

Include IPC groups

IPC



→CPC



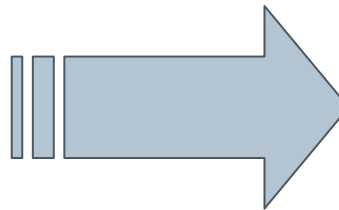
Conversion to CPC via an intermediate stage

Include ECLA groups

ECLA

H01L21/285
H01L21/285B
H01L21/285B4
H01L21/285B4A
H01L21/285B4C

H01L21/285B4F
H01L21/285B4H
H01L21/285B6
H01L21/285B6B
H01L21/285B6C
H01L21/288



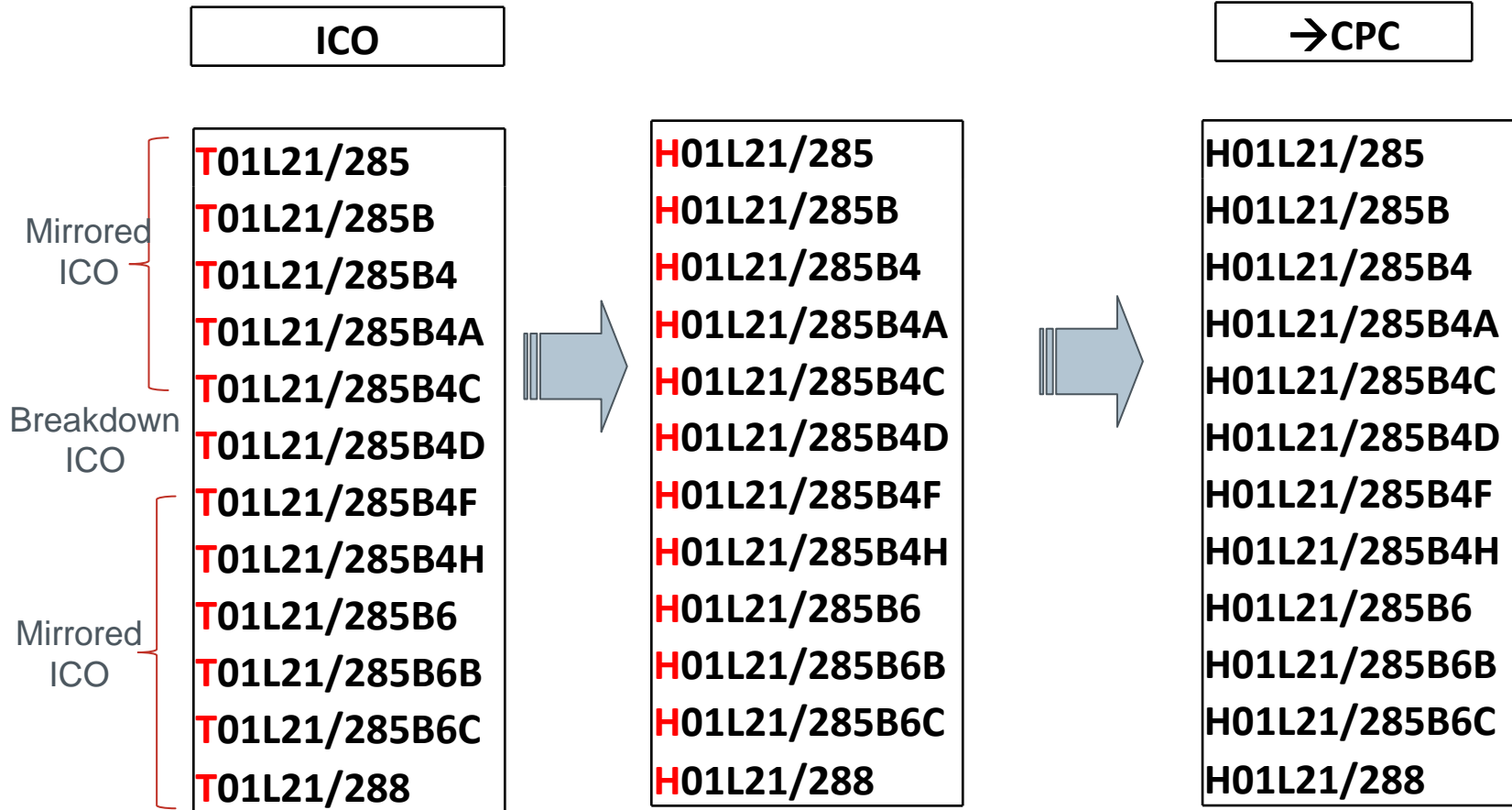
→CPC

H01L21/285
H01L21/285B
H01L21/285B4
H01L21/285B4A
H01L21/285B4C

H01L21/285B4F
H01L21/285B4H
H01L21/285B6
H01L21/285B6B
H01L21/285B6C
H01L21/288

Conversion to CPC via an intermediate stage

Include mirrored (& breakdowns) ICO groups
 Convert ICO Section symbol **T** to ECLA Section symbol **H**



From the intermediate stage to CPC

- IPC part after the "/" remains visible: subdivision takes place while keeping the last digit of the corresponding IPC symbol

→CPC

CPC

H01L21/285
H01L21/285B
H01L21/285B4
H01L21/285B4A
H01L21/285B4C
H01L21/285B4D
H01L21/285B4F
H01L21/285B4H
H01L21/285B6
H01L21/285B6B
H01L21/285B6C
H01L21/288

*Renumber
scheme*



H01L21/285
H01L21/28504
H01L21/28508
H01L21/28512
H01L21/28516
H01L21/2852
H01L21/28524
H01L21/28528
H01L21/28532
H01L21/28536
H01L21/2854
H01L21/288

ICO codes – orthogonal → CPC 2000 series

EC	ICO
H01L	T01L925/065
	T01L925/065S
	T01L925/065S10

Renumber

ICO

EC	ICO
H01L	T01L <u>2</u> 925/065
	T01L <u>2</u> 925/065 <u>04</u>
	T01L <u>2</u> 925/065 <u>09</u>

Convert
ICO section (T)
to ECLA section (H)

EC	ICO
H01L	<u>H</u> 01L <u>2</u> 925/065
	<u>H</u> 01L <u>2</u> 925/065 <u>04</u>
	<u>H</u> 01L <u>2</u> 925/065 <u>09</u>

Final form

of CPC

CPC
H01L2925/065
H01L2925/06504
H01L2925/06509

Final CPC scheme

....
H01L21/285
H01L21/28504
H01L21/28508
H01L21/28512
H01L21/28516
H01L21/2852
H01L21/28524
H01L21/28528
H01L21/28532
H01L21/28536
H01L21/2854
H01L21/288

...
.....
H01L2925/065 ...
H01L2925/06504
H01L2925/06508

Origin:

- IPC
- ECLA
- mirrored ICO
- breakdowns of mirrored ICO

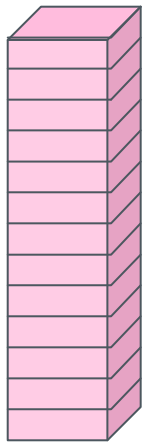
Origin:

- orthogonal ICO
- ICO originating from KW

Transition from ECLA to CPC

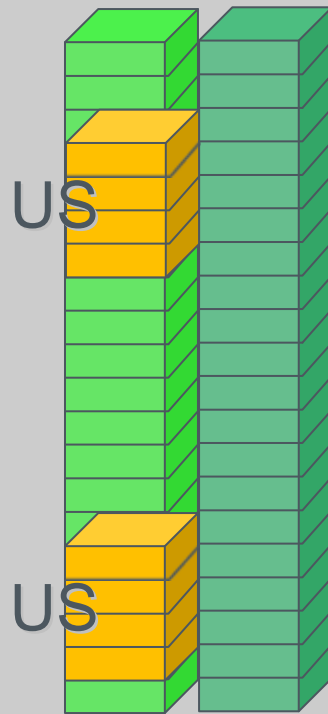
What CPC will look like:

IPC



70,000 entries

ECLA/ICO

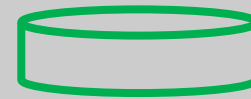


140,000 ECLA entries

+ 120,000 ICO entries

+

Some further indexing codes & Special databases



Classification Harmonization

- EPO and USPTO will jointly promote CHC harmonization in IPC
- USPTO and EPO will jointly present and promote CPC



Anticipated CPC Benefits

- ✓ More comprehensive patent document search using single classification system
 - ✓ Improves access to more prior art document collections
 - ✓ Permits search of multiple language document collection

- ✓ Collaborative maintenance of CPC
 - ✓ EPO and USPTO will undertake revision projects jointly
 - ✓ Frequent updates and revisions

January 2013 CPC Functionality

- Classification of pre-grant publications using CPC
- CPC for Prior Art Search (USPTO + EPO Collections)
- All CPC reclassification/revision work done cooperatively between the EPO and the USPTO in CPC
- CPC available for use by other IP offices
- Legacy USPC Classifications will continue
 - Design classifications in Dnn classes
 - Plant classifications in PLT classes

Thank you!