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Patent Office
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The new IP5 website: an update



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Aim of 2014 website restructuring

- Restructured IP5 website launched on 5 June 2014
- Increase **transparency** and involve stakeholders by:
 - making presentations and meeting material from GDTF and IP5 Industry meetings available
 - offering a section with IP5 news and an RSS feed
 - providing a contact e-mail address
- Render IP5 public website more **user-friendly** by:
 - focusing on projects relevant for users (e.g. Global Dossier, IP5 PPH, etc.)
 - providing useful background material (e.g. CAF, IP5 Authority Files, patent system overview table)

Transparency and stakeholder involvement

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Common Citation Document
Search patent citations across the members of a patent family in the IP5 Common Citation Document (CCD) database.

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Second Global Dossier Task Force (GDTF) meeting, January 2015, SIPO, Suzhou

In January 2015, the second meeting of the IP5 Global Dossier Task Force (GDTF) was held at SIPO's Examination Cooperation Centre in Suzhou, People's Republic of China. The IP5 Offices reported to industry on progress in the Global Dossier (GD) initiative, namely, the on-the-fly retrieval of each office's file wrapper data and its presentation in a collated manner to the public. Significantly, industry (AIPLA, BE, IPO, JIPA, KINPA, PPAC) was able to agree on a number of near-term priorities leading towards the ultimate Global Dossier goal of cross-filing in multiple offices. The five agreed short-term priorities, each to be coordinated by an IP5 Office, are:

- legal status;
- alerting (of changes to an application status);
- XML-based provision of all patent application documents;
- proof of concept for inter office data exchange;
- standardisation of applicant names.

IP5 Industry expressed their hope to be continually involved in the process of developing the Global Dossier initiative further.

The topics and presentations at the second meeting of the Global Dossier Task Force in Suzhou included:

- Agenda
- Report on the recent IP5 Heads and Deputy Heads meetings (presented by KIPO)
- Summary of discussions at 2014 IP5 Heads/Industry meeting (presented by KINPA)

Proposals and requests from IP5 Industry

- Desirable requirements from KINPA user consultation on Global Dossier (presented by KINPA)
- Global Dossier active component - First step "Proof of Concept" (presented by AIPLA)
- Reflections on the active component of the Global Dossier (presented by IPO)
- User requests on Global Dossier (presented by JIPA)
- European Industry proposals for active part of Global Dossier (presented by PDG for BE)
- Questions and requirements from PPAC users on Global Dossier (presented by PPAC)

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News

- [Second Global Dossier Task Force meeting in January 2015](#)
16.2.2015 - The second meeting of the IP5 Global Dossier Task Force (GDTF) was hosted by SIPO in Suzhou, People's Republic of China on 21 and 22 January 2015. Presentations of the meeting are now available on the fiveIPoffices' website.
- [IP5 patent system overview table updated](#)
30.1.2015 - The IP5 Offices have updated their quick reference guide to the most important features of the patent systems in the IP5 regions.
- [IP5 Statistics Report 2013 Edition published](#)
3.12.2014 - The IP5 Offices have released the 2013 Edition of the IP5 Statistics Report covering their activities in 2013. In addition to the report itself, the IP5 offices also provide detailed statistical data sheets for numbers of filings, grants broken down by IPC codes and fees.
- [IP5 calendar updated](#)
2.12.2014 - The IP5 events calendar has been updated.
- [Chinese version of IP5 Statistics Report](#)
13.8.2014 - The State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO) has produced a Chinese translation of the IP5 Statistics Report 2012 and the 2013 key IP5 statistical data report.
- [Presentations from meeting with IP5 Industry, June 2014](#)
The IP5 Heads of Office met with representatives of industry from the IP5 regions in Busan, Korea on 5 June 2014. Presentations of the meeting are now available on the fiveIPoffices' website.
- [IP5 website relaunch](#)
5.6.2014 - The IP5 Offices have relaunched their website. Take a look and don't forget to use the new RSS feed to stay up to date with news and developments.

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Useful background material

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IP5 patent system overview

The IP5 Offices have compiled a quick overview of the features of the patent systems in the

Some facts on the patent systems

Country	Designated patent office	Useful resources/legal texts	Term of protection (patent rights)	Extension of term	Conversions into other forms of industrial property rights/dual filings	Priority (time limit)	Publication of application	Substantive examination (patents)	Time limit for request for examination
Europe	The European Patent Office (EPO) www.epo.org for regional protection in Europe; national patent offices for the protection at national level only	Convention on the Grant of European Patents (EPC), EPC Implementing Regulations, Guidelines for Examination	European patent: 20 years from the filing date EU design: 5 years from the filing date (renewable 4 times in periods of 5 years up to a maximum of 25 years)	Extensions possible at national level, granted by contracting states on the basis of relevant EU regulations or national law; Supplementary Protection Certificate for medicinal and plant protection products, harmonized in the EU countries, granted for a maximum of 5 years (S.S for medicinal products for paediatric use)	Conversions not possible at the EPO (examines and grants patents only); conversion into national (utility model) applications possible under certain circumstances, depending on national law; dual filings of European and national patent application seeking protection in the same country possible but in most contracting states no double protection by European and national patent	12 months from the earliest priority date; multiple priorities possible, internal priorities possible	18 months from the filing date, or if priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication; search report usually published with application	Substantive examination starts on request of applicant	6 months from the date of mention of publication in the search report in the European Patent Bulletin; if no request is duly filed the application is deemed to be withdrawn
Japan	The Japan Patent Office (JPO) www.jpo.go.jp	Patent Act, Patent Act Enforcement Order, Regulations under the Patent Act, Examination Guidelines for Patent and Utility Model in Japan, etc.	Patent: 20 years from the filing date Utility model: 10 years from the filing date Design: 20 years from the registration	Extensions possible for pharmaceutical, veterinary or agrochemical patents, up to a maximum of 5 years	Conversions are possible between the applications of patents, utility models and designs; the converted application is deemed to have been filed on the filing date of the original application; once converted, the original application is deemed to be withdrawn	12 months, multiple priorities possible, domestic priorities	18 months from the filing date, or in case a priority or domestic priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication	Substantive examination starts on request of applicant or third party	3 years from filing date
Korea	The Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) www.kipo.go.kr	Patent Act, Enforcement Decree of the Patent Act, Enforcement Rules of the Patent Act, Patent Examination Guidelines	Patent: 20 years from the filing date Utility model: 10 years from the filing date Design: 20 years from the filing date	1 extension per patent possible for pharmaceutical or agrochemical patents, up to a maximum of 5 years. Extension possible in case the registration of the patent right takes more than 4 years from the application date or 3 years from an examination request, whichever is the later. The term of the patent right may be extended by as much as the period of delay.	Conversions are possible, patent application can be converted into utility model application or utility model application into patent application, original application is deemed withdrawn at time of conversion; no dual filings possible	12 months, multiple priorities possible, domestic priorities	18 months from the filing date, or in case a priority or domestic priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication	Substantive examination starts only on request of applicant or third party; optional deferred examination available upon request of the applicant (under the 3-track system, the applicant can choose accelerated, regular or customer-deferred examination)	5 years from filing date (patents); 3 years from filing date (utility models)
China	The State Intellectual Property Office of P. R. China (SIPO) www.sipo.gov.cn	Patent Law of the People's Republic of China, Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China, Guidelines for Patent Examination	Invention: 20 years from the filing date Utility model: 10 years from the filing date Design: 10 years from the filing date	No extensions possible	No conversion possible, dual filings of patents and utility models possible, but utility model must be withdrawn at grant of patent	12 months from the earliest claimed priority for invention and utility model, 6 months for design Multiple priorities possible, domestic priorities (except design)	18 months from the filing date, or in case a priority or domestic priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication	Substantive examination starts only on request of applicant; SIPO may proceed ex officio to substantive examination	3 years from filing date, or if priority is claimed, from priority date
USA	The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) www.uspto.gov	United States Code, Title 35 - Patents, Code of Federal Regulations, Title 37, Chapter 1 - Patents, Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP)	Utility and plant patent: 20 years from the filing date Design patent: 14 years from the grant date, but the design patent term will soon be extended to 15 years as a result of the US ratification of the Hague Agreement on Industrial Designs	1 extension per patent possible if the patent relates to certain pharmaceutical & veterinary products, some medical devices, and the product is subject to regulation under the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Length of extension is up to 5 years; period of extension may be reduced, so that total term (original remaining term + extension period) does not exceed 14 years Extension possible in the case of certain Patent Office delays in the issuance of a patent	Conversions are not possible, rather, a design patent application may be considered a continuing application of an earlier utility patent application. Conversely, it also applies to a utility patent application relying on the benefit of the filing date of an earlier filed design application. If all the requirements for a continuing application are met. In addition, a design patent application may claim benefit of the earlier filing date from an earlier filed PCT application	12 months from the earliest priority date for utility patent applications; 6 months for design patent applications; multiple priorities possible, domestic priorities	18 months from the filing date, or if priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication Applicant may request non-publication (application for patent in US only); design patent applications, provisional applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(b), and reissue applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 251 are not published	Substantive examination starts automatically; deferred examination is available on the request of the applicant provided certain conditions are met	Not applicable - the mere filing of a patent application and payment of the applicable fees is effectively a request for examination; on request of applicant, examination deferred for up to 3 years

View the IP5 patent system overview

Some facts on the patent systems

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	Europe	Japan	Korea	China	USA
Designated patent office	The European Patent Office (EPO) www.epo.org for regional protection in Europe; national patent offices for the protection at national level only	The Japan Patent Office (JPO) www.jpo.go.jp	The Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) www.kipo.go.kr	The State Intellectual Property Office of P. R. China (SIPO) www.sipo.gov.cn	The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) www.uspto.gov
Useful resources/legal texts	Convention on the Grant of European Patents (EPC), EPC Implementing Regulations, Guidelines for Examination	Patent Act, Patent Act Enforcement Order, Regulations under the Patent Act, Examination Guidelines for Patent and Utility Model in Japan, etc.	Patent Act, Enforcement Decree of the Patent Act, Enforcement Rules of the Patent Act, Patent Examination Guidelines	Patent Law of the People's Republic of China, Implementing Regulations of the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China, Guidelines for Patent Examination	United States Code, Title 35 - Patents, Code of Federal Regulations, Title 37, Chapter 1 - Patents, Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP)
Term of protection (patent rights)	European patent: 20 years from the filing date EU design: 5 years from the filing date (renewable 4 times in periods of 5 years up to a maximum of 25 years)	Patent: 20 years from the filing date Utility model: 10 years from the filing date Design: 20 years from the registration	Patent: 20 years from the filing date Utility model: 10 years from the filing date Design: 20 years from the filing date	Invention: 20 years from the filing date Utility model: 10 years from the filing date Design: 10 years from the filing date	Utility and plant patent: 20 years from the filing date Design patent: 14 years from the grant date, but the design patent term will soon be extended to 15 years as a result of the US ratification of the Hague Agreement on Industrial Designs
Extension of term	Extensions possible at national level, granted by contracting states on the basis of relevant EU regulations or national law; Supplementary Protection Certificate for medicinal and plant protection products, harmonized in the EU countries, granted for a maximum of 5 years (S.S for medicinal products for paediatric use)	Extensions possible for pharmaceutical, veterinary or agrochemical patents, up to a maximum of 5 years	1 extension per patent possible for pharmaceutical or agrochemical patents, up to a maximum of 5 years. Extension possible in case the registration of the patent right takes more than 4 years from the application date or 3 years from an examination request, whichever is the later. The term of the patent right may be extended by as much as the period of delay.	No extensions possible	1 extension per patent possible if the patent relates to certain pharmaceutical & veterinary products, some medical devices, and the product is subject to regulation under the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Length of extension is up to 5 years; period of extension may be reduced, so that total term (original remaining term + extension period) does not exceed 14 years Extension possible in the case of certain Patent Office delays in the issuance of a patent
Conversions into other forms of industrial property rights/dual filings	Conversions not possible at the EPO (examines and grants patents only); conversion into national (utility model) applications possible under certain circumstances, depending on national law; dual filings of European and national patent application seeking protection in the same country possible but in most contracting states no double protection by European and national patent	Conversions are possible between the applications of patents, utility models and designs; the converted application is deemed to have been filed on the filing date of the original application; once converted, the original application is deemed to be withdrawn	Conversions are possible, patent application can be converted into utility model application or utility model application into patent application, original application is deemed withdrawn at time of conversion; no dual filings possible	No conversion possible, dual filings of patents and utility models possible, but utility model must be withdrawn at grant of patent	Conversions are not possible, rather, a design patent application may be considered a continuing application of an earlier utility patent application. Conversely, it also applies to a utility patent application relying on the benefit of the filing date of an earlier filed design application. If all the requirements for a continuing application are met. In addition, a design patent application may claim benefit of the earlier filing date from an earlier filed PCT application
Priority (time limit)	12 months from the earliest priority date; multiple priorities possible, internal priorities possible	12 months, multiple priorities possible, domestic priorities	12 months, multiple priorities possible, domestic priorities	12 months from the earliest claimed priority for invention and utility model, 6 months for design Multiple priorities possible, domestic priorities (except design)	12 months from the earliest priority date for utility patent applications; 6 months for design patent applications; multiple priorities possible, domestic priorities
Publication of application	18 months from the filing date, or if priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication; search report usually published with application	18 months from the filing date, or in case a priority or domestic priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication	18 months from the filing date, or in case a priority or domestic priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication	18 months from the filing date, or in case a priority or domestic priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication	18 months from the filing date, or if priority is claimed, 18 months from the earliest priority date; applicant may request earlier publication Applicant may request non-publication (application for patent in US only); design patent applications, provisional applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(b), and reissue applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 251 are not published
Substantive examination (patents)	Substantive examination starts on request of applicant	Substantive examination starts on request of applicant or third party	Substantive examination starts only on request of applicant or third party; optional deferred examination available upon request of the applicant (under the 3-track system, the applicant can choose accelerated, regular or customer-deferred examination)	Substantive examination starts only on request of applicant; SIPO may proceed ex officio to substantive examination	Substantive examination starts automatically; deferred examination is available on the request of the applicant provided certain conditions are met
Time limit for request for examination	6 months from the date of mention of publication in the search report in the European Patent Bulletin; if no request is duly filed the application is deemed to be withdrawn	3 years from filing date	5 years from filing date (patents); 3 years from filing date (utility models)	3 years from filing date, or if priority is claimed, from priority date	Not applicable - the mere filing of a patent application and payment of the applicable fees is effectively a request for examination; on request of applicant, examination deferred for up to 3 years

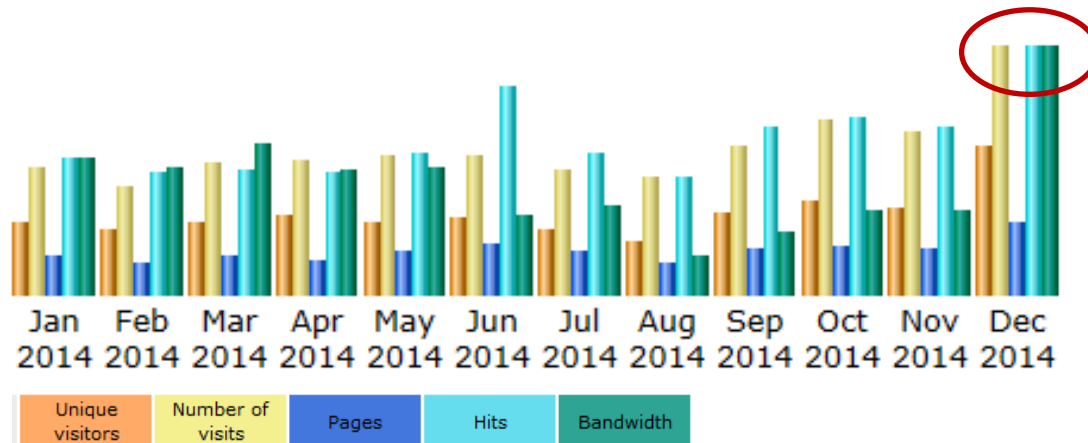
Ongoing improvements

- Ongoing improvements to make IP5 public website a useful resource for the user community
 - Adding new content
 - Monitoring website usage
 - Collecting feedback from users

New content since June 2014

June 2014	Presentations from IP5 Heads and IP5 Industry meeting in Busan
August 2014	Chinese translation of IP5 Statistics Report 2012 Edition
December 2014	IP5 Statistics Report 2013 Edition
December 2014	IP5 events calendar updated
January 2015	IP5 patent system overview table updated
February 2015	Presentations from 2 nd Global Dossier Task Force meeting in Suzhou
May 2015	2014 key IP5 statistical data

Website usage



Noticeable peak in usage following publication of 2013 IP5 Statistics Report

- **Statistics** pages are the most popular
- **News** and **RSS feed** used frequently
- **Global Dossier** page consistently among the top 10
- **Newly added content** (e.g. patent system overview table) gets viewed frequently

Collecting feedback

- What would IP5 Industry like to see improved on the IP5 website?
- What further content would be useful for the public?
 - Any suggestions welcome!
 - ip5@epo.org