

Written Description/ Sufficiency of Disclosure

January 16, 2019 ICG Meeting

Japan Patent Office



- 1. Case Studies: Cases 1-3
- 2. Case Studies: Cases 4-6
- 3. Case Studies: Cases 7,8
- 4. Next Step and Expected Outcome



Cases 1-3: Chemistry, Support Requirement

- ➤ Studies by IP5 Offices ✓
- ➤ Opinions from IP5 Users ✓
- ➤ Compile a final report taking into account users' opinion ✓
- ➤ Approved at IP5 Heads Meeting ✓
- ➤ Published on IP5 Website ✓

Completed

Newly Completed



Cases 1-3: Recent Efforts

June 2018: Approved at IP5 Heads Meeting.

August 2018: Published the final report on IP5 Website.

All tasks in Cases 1-3 have been completed!!



Summary of the final report

| | User | EPO | JPO | KIPO | CNIPA | USPTO |
|--------|-------------------------|-----|--------|------|--------|-------|
| Case 1 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Case 2 | Conditional (Yes/No) | No | Yes/No | Yes | Yes/No | Yes |
| Case 3 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Cases 1 and 3

The IP5 Offices' judgments were made in a more concrete manner within the users' judgment.

Case 2

As the users were not able to reach any unified opinion, IP5 Offices' judgments varied depending on which perspectives were adopted and the difference of interpretation of the common general technical knowledge and description.



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- Cases 4-6: Electric/Machine, Clarity (and Support) Requirement
 - ➤ Studies by IP5 Offices
 - Compile an interim report
 - Seek opinions from IP5 Users
 - Compile a final report taking into account users' opinion
 - Approved at IP5 Heads Meeting

Completed

IP5 Offices are reviewing the final report



Summary of the final report (overview of Cases 4-6)

| | | User | ЕРО | JPO | KIPO | CNIPA | USPTO |
|--------|---------|---------------------------------|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|
| Case 4 | Clarity | Same number of Yes and No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Support | Relatively large number of Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Case 5 | Clarity | Relatively large number of No | No | Yes | Yes | No | Yes |
| | Support | Vary among Yes, No, and Both | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No |
| Case 6 | Clarity | Relatively large number of No | No | No | No | Yes | No |
| | Support | Relatively large number of Yes | No | No | Yes | No | No |

It was difficult to summarize users' opinions into either Yes or No. Therefore, the results showed how widely the opinions varied among the users.



Summary of the final report (determination on Case 4)

| Case 4 | IP5 Offices | Users |
|--|--|--|
| A device for performing character input by touching a displayed keyboard | All IP5 Offices determined that Case 4 satisfied both the clarity requirement and support requirement. | Some users prefer clearer expression in the claims than "means for". |
| | | 20 15 |



Summary of the final report (determination on Case 5)

| Case 5 | IP5 Offices | Users |
|--|--|--|
| A method for approximating the amount of net coulomb charge charged/discharg ed in a rechargeable battery. | Three Offices determined that either the clarity requirement or support requirement was not satisfied. Two Offices determined that both the clarity requirement and support requirement were satisfied. | Many users determined that the wording "a specific current condition or a specific voltage condition" was unallowable. |



Summary of the final report (determination on Case 6)

| Case 6 | IP5 Offices | Users | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| A stamping device suited for stamping dates on busi ness cards. | All IP5 Offices determined that Case 6 does not satisfied at least any of the clarity requirement and support requirement. | Many users determined that the claim did not satisfy the clarity requirement. | | |
| | Fig.1 | Case Case-containing section | | |
| | Card-containin section | Window Card hole | | |



Current Status and Next Step

Current: IP5 Offices are reviewing the final report.

June 2019: Approved at IP5 Heads Meeting.

Publishing the final report on IP5 Website.



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- Cases 7,8: Electric/Chemistry, Enablement Requirement
 - ➤ IP5 Offices decided to cancel the new case study, considering users' view.



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- 3. Case Studies: Cases 7,8
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4. Next Step and Expected Outcome



Next Step

June 2019: Approval to close this project upon publishing

the final report of cases 4-6 on IP5 Website.

Expected outcomes

For Users: (1) understand each office's practice

(2) resource for drafting the application documents

For Offices:

 understand both common points and differences about practice among Offices

(2) build confidence for other offices' examination results



Thank you very much.

