



Regional Patent Examination Training (RPET)

Victor Portelli
General Manager, Patent and Plant Breeders Rights Group



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Overview

- Introduction to the RPET program
 - What is RPET?
 - Why develop RPET?
 - What is Competency Based Training?
 - RPET Program Structure
- Experience of RPET to date

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What is the RPET program?

Distance learning capability for patent examination training

- In depth training program
- Focusing on PCT search and examination
- Uses e-learning content and technologies
- Aims to build patent examination capabilities by:
 - Improving competency of examiners
 - Embedding learning into the workplace
 - Encouraging alignment with international standards and facilitates sharing on domestic best practice

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Why develop RPET?

- Enable more in depth and comprehensive training when compared with other training models (short visit based)
- Enhance patent examination capability in member offices
- Contribute to greater confidence in the rights
- Increased business confidence in the international IP system

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About the RPET program



- Pilot launched 8 April 2013 :
 - six participants from ASEAN offices (Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines)
 - two participants from Africa (ARIPO and Kenya)
- Partnership by ASEAN and IP Australia with support from WIPO
- Second intake in 2014 with 15 trainees – expanded to include participants from Thailand and Vietnam

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About the RPET program

- Intensive training and one-on-one support to trainees
 - mostly conducted online, using e-learning technologies
 - until trainee achieves competency (up to two years)
- Strikes a balance between classroom and “on the job” learning
- Local supervisor for each trainee works closely with IP Australia’s trainers to monitor and assess trainee progress
- Takes a competency based approach to training

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Competency Based Training

Ability to perform a workplace task or function to the standard required in the workplace.

Trainees must demonstrate:

- the knowledge, skills and attributes required to perform a task; and
- apply them consistently over time and in the required workplace situations and environments.

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Program Structure

- RPET takes a phased approach

Phase A	Phase B	Phase C	Applied Practice
Key Concepts	Advanced Concepts	Consolidating learning on the job	Demonstrating competence under minimal supervision
16 weeks	14 Weeks		

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Experience so far.....

- Positive feedback on quality of trainers and online resources
- Competency-based training not widely used or understood
- Program required more time commitment and time required than anticipated
- Highlighted differences between national practices and international standards, e.g. treatment of dependent claims

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Experience so far.....

- IT security is critical to success of the program
 - flexible/mobile access for participants hasn't worked in all instances
 - more flexible access since Oct 2013 especially for online collaboration and virtual classrooms
- Lesson learned: Vital role of local supervisors
 - role not sufficiently defined before commencement
 - greater involvement required than anticipated
 - visit by local supervisors to IP Australia early in the program
 - clarified requirements and time commitments for supervisors
 - kicked off Community of Practice


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RPET Video



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLXswfmGNQU>

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Thank you

Questions?



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