

USE OF IDENTIFIERS FOR APPLICANTS BY IPOs

Response ID:12; tckw Data

1. Country Code page

1. Please enter the two-letter country code corresponding to your Office or Organization.

CH

2. Question page

2. 1. What are the perceived advantages of using Applicant Identifiers in your Office? Please mark all that apply:
For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

1a. advantages for the Office itself:

Effective management of applicant information

Easy to change applicant's information in all relevant records simultaneously

3. 1b. Advantages for Applicants and Patent Information Users:

No need to repeatedly input the same information

Accurate statistics on patent applicants and owners

Eliminating confusion and inconsistency by unifying multiple versions of an applicant name into a single, standardized name

Availability of information regarding the parent company of the entity filing for the patent (disclosed corporate structure)

Avoiding mistakes, such as where the inventor's name incorrectly appears as the patentee name

Improving accuracy for re-assignments

4. 2a. Does your Office publish (or intend to publish) the identifier(s) you use (or plan to use) assigned to the applicant?
For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

No

Comments: General Data Protection Regulation GDPR

2b. If yes, how:

5. 3. Does your Office include (or plan to include) the identifiers in the set of data for the exchange of patent information with other IP Offices?

For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

Yes

Comments:

6. 4. Which approach to assigning identifiers does your Office use (or plan to use)?

For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

Other. Please specify:: by using official swiss IAM Services or manual verification using postal adress

7. 5. How does your Office ensure that an applicant has only one identifier?

For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

In case of national applicants,: we do not ensure that. the applicant can have several id's. we use an email adress as id.
In case of foreign applicants,: we do not ensure that. the applicant can have several id's. we use an email adress as id.

8. 6a. What information does your Office request in order to determine identifiers for national applicants?

For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

E-mail address

Comments: for the moment there is no general personal identification number available in Switzerland. if this will change we will reconsider using Email addresses.

9. 6b. What information does your Office request in order to determine identifiers for foreign applicants?

For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

Other. Please specify:: current regulation enforce us to verify an Email Address by sende a letter to a postal adress.

10. 7a. Does your Office consider that a Global Identifier (GID) would be a desirable solution for applicant name standardization?

No

Comments:

11. 7b. If yes, could you suggest how the GID should be established and maintained?

12. 7c. In case a GID is established, will your Office use both the GID and a national identifier at the same time, or will your Office use the GID instead of a national identifier?

we would first need to understand the change process. how to ensure that changes are propagated in each national register / application.

13. PART B - NO IDENTIFIER

8a. If your Office does not use or does not intend to use identifiers for applicants, please explain why:

For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

14. 8b. Please describe any alternative approach to the use of identifiers that your office is using or contemplates using, including how that approach deals with issues of name ambiguity (misspellings, multiple spellings, different character sets, etc):

For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

15. 9. Please explain any drawbacks or legal complications your Office may have related to using identifiers:

For purposes of this survey, applicant identifiers refers to standardized names or numeric codes which belong to a single legal entity. See question 6a for examples.

16. 10. Which of the following options would you consider for investigation in your Office?

[Note * Normalization – correction of “trivial” errors (which leave the possibility of multiple name variants for one applicant)

**** Standardization – using one name variant for an applicant (which might not be the ultimate owner, as IP rights can be registered in the name of a subsidiary when the beneficiary is the parent company)]**

Please mark each option that you choose with (L: Low), (M: Medium) or (H: High) depending on the priority attributed by your office.

	L: Low	M: Medium	H: High
Use of identifiers			X
Normalized* names	X		
Use of “dictionaries” of patentee names by patent information	X		
Use of standardized** names designated by applicants	X		

Other. Please specify:

17. 11. What is your Office’s desired outcome from the Name Standardization Task Force (set of recommendations, public database, etc.)? Please explain:

18. 12. Where should the standardization effort be focused? For example, on internal systems in IPOs or for externally-held IP databases?

19. 12a. Does your Office use (or plan to use) a computer algorithm for the normalization or standardization of applicant names?

Yes

Comments: using official swiss post address verification / normalization. a swiss postal address is mandatory for communication with ipi

20. 12b. If yes, please briefly describe the algorithm.

A detailed description is not necessary. If the algorithm has a commonly recognized name, that may be sufficient. If not, a few words or sentences describing the general approach of the algorithm are enough. If multiple algorithms are used in combination, please briefly explain each one.

Example: “The algorithm removes non-latin characters and repeated whitespace, then uses a dictionary to replace known abbreviations with a standard format, such as “L.L.C.” and “LLC.” being replaced with “LLC”.

we take the existing postal address and normalize it with the official postal addresses in Switzerland.
We do not use similarity algorithms as this may lead to false positiv changes.

21. 13. If Offices use different approaches to managing applicant names, should the standardization effort harmonize the different approaches for the purpose of the international exchange of patent information?
