

USE OF IDENTIFIERS FOR APPLICANTS BY IPOs

Response ID:34; pspu Data

1. Country Code page

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

SE

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

Other - Please specify:: To be able to identify an applicant in all different systems, so that all the applications from one applicant can be found and be reached in for example an e-portal with log in facilities for applicants.

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

Other. Please specify:: To be able to identify an applicant in all different systems, so that all the applications from one applicant can be found and be reached in for example an e-portal with log in facilities for applicants.

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

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.

Yes

Comments: The internal Global Identifier number may be published, and the legal entity number (for entities in Sweden) is published today and the personal identification number (for persons in Sweden) may be published.

5. 2b. If yes, how:

The legal entity number (for entities in Sweden) is published today in the public trademark database.

6. 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.

Not sure

Comments: The internal Global Identifier number may be exchanged, and also the legal entity number (for entities in Sweden) or the personal identification number (for persons in Sweden) may be exchanged.

7. 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.

Procedural (code assigned by an international authority, e.g. WIPO, based on the applicant's IP portfolio in an agreed

international database)

Other. Please specify:: A internal Global Identifier (made ut by the Swedish Patent Office) and legal entity number (for entities in Sweden) or the personal identification number (for persons in Sweden), we also use EPO Smartcard number.

8. 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,: If an applicant does not give a unique identifier when applying, we can not ensure this.

In case of foreign applicants,: If an applicant does not give a unique identifier when applying, we can not ensure this.

9. 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.

Copy from the register of legal entities

Other. Please specify:: Swedish personal identification number.

Comments: For companies we use copy from the register of legal entities, for persons we use Swedish personal identification number.

10. 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.

Copy from the register of legal entities

Other. Please specify:: We also demand "Power of Attorney" for entities and when applying it is possible to use the global identification number issued by the Swedish Patent Office.

11. 7a. Does your Office consider that a Global Identifier (GiD) would be a desirable solution for applicant name standardization?

Yes

Comments:

12. 7b. If yes, could you suggest how the GiD should be established and maintained?

We suggest the GiD shall indicate if it represents a legal entity or a person (with for example two different letters - one specific letter for a legal entity and one specific letter for a person). We suggests that the GiD also should have a unique number and with a check sum at the end.

13. 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?

If there is a GiD, we assume that we will use that. We are able to use the national identifier in parallell/connected internally at the office.

14. 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.

15. 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.

16. 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.

17. 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:

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

We would like a name standard where it is clear what information that should be included regarding applicant names. It should be clear what everything means, for example not only Address line 1, Address line 2 - but more information on what is expected to include in Address line 1 compare to address line 2 etc.

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

Both internal use and external use is important.

20. 12a. Does your Office use (or plan to use) a computer algorithm for the normalization or standardization of applicant names?

No

Comments:

21. 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".

22. 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?

Yes.