IT-related Cooperation Projects among IP5 Offices and Possible Expansion to the Region

Matsuo Nonaka
Director for International Affairs
IT Planning Office, JPO
May 2007  1st IP5 Heads Meeting

Oct 2008  2nd IP5 Heads Meeting

- Agreed to implement 10 Foundation Projects (FPs) to facilitate work sharing

Work sharing vision:

"The elimination of unnecessary duplication of work among the offices, enhancement of patent examination efficiency and quality, and guarantee of the stability of patent right".
Organization of IP5 Meeting and FPs

IP5 Heads Meeting

IP5 Deputy Heads Meeting

Programme Management Group
(Assisting Deputy Heads)

WG1
Common Hybrid Classification
(EPO)

WG2 IT-supported Business Processes
Common Documentation (EPO)
Common Search and Examination Support Tools (USPTO)
Common Approach to Sharing and Documenting Search Strategy (USPTO)
Common Access to Search and Examination Results (JPO)
Common Application Format (JPO)
Mutual Machine Translation (KIPO)

WG3 Examination Practice-related Projects
Common Training Policy (KIPO)
Search and Exam. Rules / Quality Management (SIPO)
Common Statistical Parameters (SIPO)

( ) Lead Office of each project
Relationship among IT-related IP5 FPs

Objective of IP5 Cooperation

Patent Examination Quality, Stability of Patent Right

Patent Examination Efficiency, Elimination of unnecessary Duplication

Sharing Search and Examination Results

One Portal Dossier (OPD)

Dossier Info.

Search Results

Sharing and Documenting Search Strategy (SS)

Search and Examination Support Tool (ST)

Use of DBs and Classifications

Use of XML Format

Common Hybrid Classification (CHC)

Common Documentation (CD)

Mutual Machine Translation (MMT)

Improvement of Usability / Office Internal Process

Common Application Format (CAF) / XML Standardization

Priority Document Exchange (PDX)

Enhancing and Sharing Search Environment

Use of Machine Translation
WG1: Common Hybrid Classification (CHC)

Concept

IP5 Cooperation

Proposal into IPC

H01L33/00 33/02 33/04

Harmonized Classification
Subdivided Classification

Patent Offices in each country
Applicants/Inventors etc.
Search Service Practitioners etc.

Subdivided Classification

FI

IPC

ECLA

Revised FI

Revised IPC

Revised ECLA

H01L33/00

H01L33/00

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A01A1/24  △△△

A01A1/00  1/00A  ×××

A01A1/24  1/24A  ×××

A01A1/24  1/24A1  ×××

A01A1/24  1/24B  ×××

A01A1/24  1/24B1  ×××

A01A1/24  1/24B2  ×××

A01A1/00  1/06  ○○○

A01A1/00  1/12  ○○○

A01A1/00  1/18  ○○○

A01A1/24  1/30  ×××

A01A1/24  1/36  ×××

A01A1/24  1/42  ×××

A01A1/24  1/50  ×××

A01A1/24  1/56  ×××

A01A1/00  1/06  ○○○

A01A1/00  1/12  ○○○

A01A1/00  1/18  ○○○

A01A1/24  1/30  ×××

A01A1/24  1/36  ×××

A01A1/24  1/42  ×××

A01A1/24  1/50  ×××

A01A1/24  1/56  ×××

A01A1/00  1/06  ○○○

A01A1/00  1/12  ○○○

A01A1/00  1/18  ○○○

A01A1/24  1/30  ×××

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A01A1/24  1/42  ×××

A01A1/24  1/50  ×××

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(1) data exchange for improvement of each in-house DB

- Improve existing scheme for data exchange (e.g. Standardization of data exchange, media-less exchange etc.)
- Create in-house database by collecting frequently cited documentation under each Office's operation and management
- Select the language for searching/viewing documents

*Each office selects the type of text-data language.
(2) Mutual Access to each Office’s DB

- Mutual Access by using API (Application Programming Interface)
- Establishment of All-in-One platform

Access to foreign documents via network as the occasion demands
Develop common search and examination environment to ensure ability to produce and reproduce equivalent search results for each office.

- Issues to be considered
  - Single shared system (cost reduction and repeatability) vs. Examiners' choice of multiple systems (examination quality and efficiency)
  - Differences in languages
  - Differences in legal systems and operations
  - Technical feasibility and performance
  - Relationship with Common Documentation project
Develop a way to capture and exchange “Search Strategy” performed during search to provide examiners ability to understand search criteria selected by other offices’ examiners.

- Issues to be considered
  - What to be recorded (full history vs. clean history)
  - Examiners burden
  - Differences in languages
  - Differences in search systems and classification schemes
  - Relationship with Common Search Tools project
WG2: Common Access to Search and Exam. Results

- Improve IT environment for examiners to effectively utilize other offices’ search and examination result

Other Offices

Other Offices

AIPN (Advanced Industrial Property Network)

Provided for 38 offices (Equipped with J-E Machine Translation)

JPO

KIPO

K-PIO

SIPO

K-E Machine Translation

Started Providing SR (May 2010~)

Dossier Access System
(Mutual Reference to Exam. Results)

J-E Machine Translation

EPO

USPTO

PAIR

Epoline
**WG2: One Portal Dossier (OPD)**

- **Sophisticated Dossier Access System**

**Input Application Number**
(Priority Number, Application number or Publication Number is available.)

**OK**

**JP2005-008213**

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| **Possible UI example**
**Examination Report**

**Reason:**
1. The following documents (D1/D2), of which D1 is considered to
   
   D1= EP-A-0709779
2. Lack of novelty, Articles 52(1) and 54 EPC: The present applications does not comply with the requirements…….

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**Citation Information**

**EPO:**
1. EP 0709779 A
2. Yasuda et. al.

**USPTO:**
1. US 2000-325675 A
2. US 2001-292215 A
3. EP 0709779 A

**WIPO:**
1. US 2001-292215 A
2. EP 0709779 A

**KIPO:**
1. **********

**Classification Information**

**ECLA:**
1. H01L 21/23D1A
2. G03B 3/00A2B

**USC:**
1. 312/06
2. 215/09
3. 21/234

**FI:**
1. H01L 21/23, 101@A
2. G03B 3/00@Z

**IPC:**
1. H01L 21/23

**Patent family (Except for IP5)**

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※ Possible UI example

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Priority Document Exchange (PDX)

- **Bilateral PDX**
  - Direct P-doc exchange between two offices
  - Difficult to add many offices

- **DAS-PDX**
  - (WIPO Digital Access Service)
  - P-doc Exchange through WIPO DAS system
  - Access Control List required
  - Easy to add more offices
Improvement Proposal of DAS Usability

**Current System**
(Access Control List)

- Pdoc#
- DAS
- ACL Check
- WIPO
- OFF

**Proposed System**
(Access Code for OSF use)

- Pdoc#, AC
- DAS
- AC Check
- WIPO
- OFF

Access Code (AC)

Setting ACL
Common Application Format (CAF)

- CAF is a common application format which can be accepted by any participating Office (EPO, JPO, KIPO, USPTO and WIPO(PCT))
- Translation may be necessary, but no need for format change
Mutual Machine Translation (MMT)

- Improve quality of machine translation provided by each office

- **Quality Assessment of MT**
  - EPO and USPTO to assess sample sentences machine translated by JPO, KIPO and SIPO according to agreed assessment scales
  → Current quality of MT can be measured

- **Error Review and Feedback**
  - EPO and USPTO to review machine translated sentences provided by JPO, KIPO and SIPO and give feedback on errors in the translation
  → MT quality can be improved by upgrading MT engine, dictionary etc. based on the error feedback
XML standardization

• Problems on current XML Standards (ST. 36, 66, 86)
  – Inconsistency between DTD-based ST.36 and XML Schema-based ST.66, 86
    → Difficult to develop common system for all types of IP
  – ST.36 is PCT-based
    → Difficult to apply for forms unique to each office

XML4IP (ST.96)
new XML standard common to all types of IP

• Currently discussed at WIPO XML4IP TF with the aim of adopting new standard at WIPO CWS meeting in 2011
• IP5 to input their business needs (emphasis on data exchange and secondly usage) to XML4IP TF
Thank you!