

ANNEX IV

STANDARDIZED SEQUENCE OF MAIN GROUPS IN IPC SUBCLASSES

The subject matter generally proceeds from most complex to less complex, namely from combinations to basic subclass subject matter to details and elements of the subclass subject matter. Classifications which are within a category of highly specialized subject matter are placed at the top of the scheme to ensure that their subject matter is emphasized.

Highly specialized

(Examples of subject matter types which may be found in this category are condition responsive control, measuring and testing, unique basic subject matter, convertible.)

Combinations

(Examples of subject matter types which may be found in this category are combinations with subject matter found in different subclasses and combinations with subject matter found in different groups within the subclass.)

Basic subclass subject matter

(This category may include plural basic subject matter, basic subject matter having features for different functions, basic subject matter having features to perfect.)

Details of basic subclass subject matter

(Examples of details which may be found in this category are subject matter parts and elements.)

Production or treatment of basic subclass subject matter

Miscellaneous

(This residual classification is needed if the groups of the subclass are not obviously exhaustive.)

[Annex V follows]