

IPC Reclassification

Experiences at the Swedish Patent and Registration Office



The results of the IPC reform:

~~The core level~~

~~Definitions in all subclasses and main groups~~

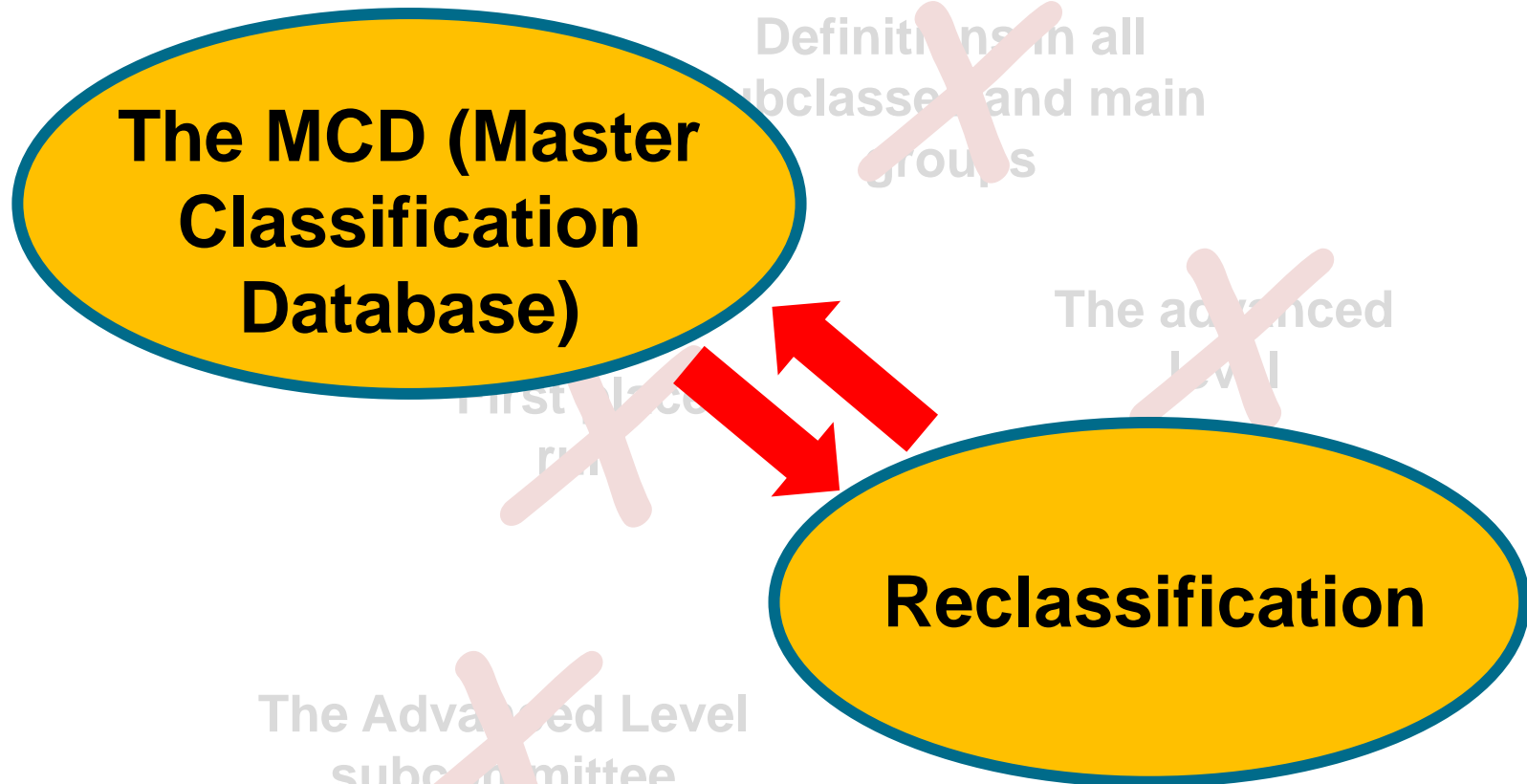
~~First place~~

~~The advanced level~~

~~The Advanced Level subcommittee~~

~~Display in standardized order~~

The results of the IPC reform:



IPC reclassification

- **Work sharing, described in CONOPS (Concept of Operations)**
- **Each patent family is reclassified by one single office**
- **”Working lists” are generated according to a set of rules**

Work distribution

- 1. First so called "Do-it-yourself offices" are given all patent families that contain one of their first filings**
- 2. Then families that contain PCT-minimum documents are given to a trilateral office, selected according to priorities**
- 3. Then families that contain documents from reclassifying "full IPC offices" are given to one of those, selected according to priorities**
- 4. Remaining documents are given to their publishing offices**

Data delivery

- **Reclassification can be made online, using WIPO's IPCRECLASS application**
- **Reclassification can be made offline, delivering XML result lists via IPCRECLASS or as e-mail attachments**
- **A couple of offices (EP and US) deliver data directly into the MCD**

The time line

- **The new IPC version is published six months before entry into force**
- **Working lists are published and implemented in IPCRECLASS three months before entry into force**
- **Responsible offices are expected to reclassify during "Phase 1a" before the entry into force**

The time line

- **During "phase 1b", starting after the entry into force, offices are allowed to reclassify all documents they have published**
- **During "phase 2" any office can reclassify any document**
- **During "phase 3" documents are automatically reclassified based on "default transfers" decided during the revision projects**

The SE office – some statistics

- **Around 2,500 national applications per year**
- **Around 1,000 PCT applications per year**
- **Around 125 examiners**
- **Around 660,000 documents published since 1885**



- **The Swedish office normally reclassifies around ten percent of the SE documents that are affected by revisions, on average around 200 per year**
- **The rest are on the working lists of other offices**

What the SE office promises:

- All SE documents have classification in either CPC or DPK
- All documents classified in CPC by the SE office are reclassified after CPC revisions
- All new SE documents are published with a current IPC classification
- All documents on SE IPC reclassification working lists are reclassified before the entry into force of the new version

The reclassification backlog

- On SE working lists and reclassified in time
- On other working lists, still not reclassified

2017.01	276	2,275
2016.01	412	3,462
2015.01	266	1,265
2014.01	129	1,141
2013.01	292	1,663
2012.01	57	1,132
2011.01	261	655
2010.01	168	605

What can the SE office do?

- **Reclassify SE documents on other working lists?**
 - Other offices might do the same work offline
 - Offline reclassifications might overwrite earlier online results
- **Wait for default transfer?**
 - No gain from revision, sometimes worse quality than the original

What can the IPC community do?

- **Postpone entry into force until a certain level of reclassification has been achieved?**
- **Make temporary default transfers while delayed work goes on?**
- **Better synchronisation between MCD and IPCRECLASS**

IT support for reclassification

- **Data exchanges are based on XML files**
- **Originally no IT support whatsoever was provided to offices**
- **In 2008 a private initiative from Brazil provided a free web service for recording reclassifications and generating the necessary files**

IPCRECLASS

- WIPO's IPCRECLASS was launched in 2012

The screenshot displays the WIPO IPCRECLASS web application interface. At the top, the WIPO logo and 'IP SERVICES' are visible, along with the text 'IPCRECLASS service Management of IPC reclassification information'. The navigation bar includes 'WORKING LIST', 'RESULT LIST', 'MANAGE', 'REPORT', and 'LOG'. The main content area shows a 'Working list' with a title '1 - 10 families of 2275' and a table of patent families. A 'Reclassify Document' window is open, showing details for a specific document and a table of classifications.

Filters

IPC version: 2017.01
Choose filter: []
Reset Filter

Import result list zip file

Select a zipfile...
Upload Reset

References

[Patentscope](#)
[USPTO](#)
[DPMA](#)

Export

Ipcreclass version: 2.06
Last modified: 2016.11.07
No. of // users []

1 - 10 families of 2275

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Project	Member	Resp	Publication	Classification								
				IPC symbol	Version in	Level	Position	Value	Action date	Status	Source	Gnr office
C471	AU, B...	CA		A61K47/48	2006.01	A		I	2005-10-08	R	M	EP
				C08B37/02	2006.01	A		I	2005-10-08	R	M	EP
				C08H1/00	2006.01	A	L	I	2005-12-20	R	M	JP
				C08B31/00	2006.01	A		I	2005-10-08	R	M	EP

Reclassify Document

Version indicator: 2017-01-01
Latest published version used for symbol validation: 2017-01-01
Project revision: C471
Responsible office: CA
Stage: 1b
Publication reference: AU1885276 A 19780427

Classifications:

IPC symbol	Version indicator	Level	Position	Value	Action date	Status	Source	Gnr office
A61K47/48	2006.01	A		I	2005-10-08	R	M	EP
A61K38/00	2006.01	A		N	2005-10-08	R	M	EP
A61K38/16	2006.01	A	L	I	2005-12-20	R	M	JP
A61K9/08	2006.01	A	L	I	2005-12-20	R	M	JP
A61P7/08	2006.01	A	L	I	2005-12-20	R	M	JP
C07K14/8...	2006.01	A		I	2005-10-08	R	M	EP

IPCRECLASS - impressions

- **It does what it's supposed to do, but:**
 - **Saving is final, so errors can't be corrected and you can't work step-by-step**
 - **The interface presents a lot of information and is not very intuitive for non-frequent users**
 - **Response times are sometimes very long**
 - **It doesn't work well on all browsers**
 - **Sessions time out without warning**

IPC data entry at the SE office

- We don't give normal users access to **IPCRECLASS**
- Three "experts" input data into **IPCRECLASS**
- Each revision project is different
- Many new schemes are based on **CPC**, so intellectual work is often not necessary
- If examiner input is necessary data is imported from the **XML** working lists to Excel sheets on which data is collected offline

Conclusions

- **The reclassification procedures work!**
- **Areas of improvement:**
 - **Timely reclassification by all offices**
 - **Quicker reporting of offline reclassification**
 - **Better synchronisation between MCD and IPCRECLASS**
 - **The IPCRECLASS application**

Questions?

Thank you for the attention!

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PRV