WIPO Sub-Regional Workshop on Patent Policy and its Legislative Implementation

**Topic 7: The Main Multilateral Legal Instruments in the Field of Patents and Their Impact on National Patent Legal Framework**

The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)
The PCT System for Worldwide Filing of Patent Applications

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Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis  
April 10 and 11, 2013
Special Agreements in the Field of Patents

(international treaties within the framework of the Paris Convention (Article 19) for the protection of industrial property)

- The Strasbourg Agreement (concerning the International Patent Classification - IPC)
  - Provides a common classification for inventions, including published patent applications, utility models and utility certificates
  - IPC is a hierarchical classification system in which the whole range of technology is divided into a number of sections, subclasses and groups
  - This classification is indispensable for the retrieval of patent documents in the search for prior art
  - Important for patent issuing authorities, inventors, R&D Units for considering the novelty of an invention or determining the prior art in a particular area of technology
Special Agreements in the Field of Patents

*(international treaties within the framework of the Paris Convention (Article 19) for the protection of industrial property)*

  - Intended to facilitate the disclosure of inventions that involve a microorganism or the use of a microorganism when disclosure is impossible or difficult to accomplish in writing
  - In such cases the disclosure requirement can be met through the deposit of a sample of the microorganism with a specialized institution
  - Budapest provides that a deposit of a microorganism with any « international depositary authority » suffices for the purposes of patent procedure before the national patent offices of all Contracting States and before regional patent offices that have declared that they recognize the effects of the Treaty.
  - Thus eliminates need to deposit in each country in which patent protection is sought
Special Agreements in the Field of Patents

*(international treaties within the framework of the Paris Convention (Article 19) for the protection of industrial property)*

- The Patent Law Treaty (PLT)
  - The aim of the PLT is to harmonize and streamline formal procedures in respect of national and regional patent applications and patents
  - Provides a maximum set of requirements which the Office of a Contracting Party may apply. (NB: with the significant exception of the filing date requirements)
  - This means that a Contracting Party is free to provide for requirements which are more generous, but not more restrictive from the viewpoint of applicants and owners
Special Agreements in the Field of Patents

*(international treaties within the framework of the Paris Convention (Article 19) for the protection of industrial property)*

- The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)
  - The filing of an “international application” has the same effect of a national filing in each Contracting Party to the PCT
  - Provides a streamlined procedure in those Contracting States by establishing a single international procedure for certain operations to process patent applications (international phase)
  - Thus gives the applicant possibility of one single procedure with a single set of formality requirements during the international phase in accordance with the PCT Regulations
Overview

• What is the PCT?
• Some figures
• The PCT procedure
  - International phase
  - National phase
• The PCT as a strategy for filing foreign applications
• Advantages of the PCT
• Recent developments
• Where to get more information?
Traditional patent systems

- Local patent application followed within 12 months by multiple foreign applications claiming priority under Paris Convention:
  - multiple formality requirements
  - multiple searches
  - multiple publications
  - multiple examinations and prosecutions of applications
  - translations and national fees required at 12 months
- Some rationalization because of regional arrangements:
  ARIPO, EAPO, EPO, OAPI, GCC
Traditional patent system vs. PCT system

**Fees for:**
- translations
- Office fees
- local agents
The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) (1)

• Was signed in June 1970, in Washington, D.C., and became operational in June 1978 with 18 States

• Has currently 146 Contracting States

• Is administered by WIPO as are other international conventions in the field of industrial property, such as the Paris Convention

• Is a mainly procedural international treaty facilitating certain steps in the process of obtaining patents internationally
The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) (2)

- Establishes a procedure for the filing and processing of a single patent application which has legal effect in the countries which are Treaty members

- Simplifies the procedure for obtaining patent protection in many countries, making it more efficient and economical for:
  - users of the patent system (applicants and inventors)
  - patent Offices
Some general remarks on the PCT system

- The PCT system is a patent “filing” system, not a patent “granting” system. There is no “PCT patent” or “global patent”

- The decision on granting patents is made exclusively by national or regional Offices in the national phase

- Only inventions may be protected via the PCT by applying for patents, utility models and similar titles

- Design and trademark protection cannot be obtained via the PCT. There are separate international conventions dealing with these types of industrial property protection (the Hague Agreement and the Madrid Agreement and Protocol, respectively)
The PCT in 1978
The PCT Today
Albania
Algeria
Angola
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Bahamas
Bahrain
Belarus
Belize
Benin
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana
Brazil
Brunei Darussalam (24 July 2012)
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Cameroon
Canada
Central African Republic
Chad
Chile
China
Colombia
Comoros
Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
Costa Rica
Croatia
Cuba
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Denmark
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Estonia
Finland
France
Gabon
Gambia
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Grenada
Guatemala
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Honduras
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Latvia
Lesotho
Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malawi
Malaysia
Maldives
Mali
Mauritania
Mexico
Monaco
Mongolia
Montenegro
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria
Norway
Oman
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Rwanda
Russian Federation
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
San Marino
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Serbia
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Singapore
Slovakia
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland
Syrian Arab Republic
Tajikistan
Thailand
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Togo
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Uzbekistan
Viet Nam
Zambia
Zimbabwe

146 PCT States
## Countries not yet PCT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Afghanistan</th>
<th>Iraq</th>
<th>Solomon Islands</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andorra</td>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>Kiribati</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>Tuvalu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
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<td>Cambodia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cape Verde</td>
<td>Micronesia</td>
<td>Venezuela</td>
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<tr>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>Yemen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>Nauru</td>
<td>(48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
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<td>Ethiopia</td>
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<td>Fiji</td>
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<td>Iran (Islamic Republic of)</td>
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### Evolution of PCT use

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<th></th>
<th>1991</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>Countries</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>74%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Filings Abroad</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross Domestic Product (GDP)</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>93%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;D Expenditure (R&amp;D)</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PCT Applications

+10.7% in 2011

CN: +33.4%
JP: +20.9%
CA: +8.3%
KR: +8%
US: +8%
CH: +6.8%
FR: +4.8%
SE: +4.1%
DE: +4.1%
RU: +17.8%
BR: +15.6%
IN: +13.1%
## Top PCT Applicants 2011

1. ZTE Corporation—CN (2826)
2. Panasonic—JP (2463)
3. Huawei—CN (1831)
4. Sharp—JP (1755)
5. Bosch—DE (1518)
6. Qualcomm—US (1494)
7. Toyota—JP (1417)
8. LG Electronics—KR (1336)
9. Philips—NL (1148)
10. Ericsson—SE (1116)
11. NEC—JP (1056)
12. Siemens—DE (1039)
13. Mitsubishi Electric—JP (834)
14. BASF—DE (773)
15. Samsung Electronics—KR (757)
16. Nokia—FI (698)
17. IBM—US (661)
18. HP—US (591)
19. 3M—US (563)
20. Hitachi—JP (547)
Top University PCT Applicants 2011

1. University of California
2. MIT
3. University of Texas (127)
4. Johns Hopkins
5. Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
6. Seoul National University
7. University of Tokyo
8. University of Michigan
9. Cornell University
10. Harvard University
11. University of Florida
12. Columbia University
13. Leland Stanford University
14. Kyoto University
15. University of Pennsylvania
16. Isis Innovation Limited
17. Korea University
18. Cal Tech
19. Osaka University
20. Arizona State University
The PCT Procedure

- International phase
PCT PROCEDURE

0 months

National/Regional/PCT filing/ (priority date)

12 months

PCT filing

16 months

International search report (ISR) and written opinion (WO) of ISA

18 months

Supplementary international search report (SISR)

19 months

Filing of demand and Article 34 amendments and/or arguments (optional)

22 months

IPRP (Chapter II) established

28 months

IB communicates IPRP (Chapter I or II) to DOs/EOs

30 months

National phase entry
Who may file a PCT application?

• The applicant can be any natural person or legal entity (for example, the assignee, the inventor)

• It is possible to indicate different applicants for different designated States (Rule 4.5(d));
  
  - if the US is designated, the inventor(s) must be indicated as applicant(s) for the US, or, in case of a deceased inventor, the legal representative, heir(s), etc.

• At least one of the applicants must be a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State (Rule 18.3)
Where to file the international application?

- With a competent receiving Office (RO)
- An Office is competent if at least one applicant is a national of or resident in the State for which the Office acts
- Such Office may be
  - a national Office
  - the International Bureau of WIPO (RO/IB), or
  - a regional Office

For details, see PCT Applicant’s Guide, International Phase, General Information, Annexes B1 and B2
Who can act as agent?

- Any person (attorney, patent agent, etc.) who has the right to practice before the RO can act as agent and automatically has the right to practice before the IB, the International Searching Authority (ISA) and the International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) (Article 49);

- Sub-agents may be appointed by agents (Rule 90.1(d)).

- Where the International Bureau is the receiving Office, see Rule 83.1bis
The PCT International Searching Authorities

- Currently, the Patent Offices of
  - Australia
  - Austria
  - Brazil
  - Canada
  - China
  - Finland
  - Japan
  - Republic of Korea
  - Russian Federation
  - Spain
  - Sweden
  - United States of America
  - European Patent Office
  - Nordic Patent Institute

- Appointed but not yet operational: the Patent Offices of Egypt, India and Israel
The International Searching Authority

- Checks unity of invention
- Checks title and abstract
- Searches claimed invention
- Authorizes rectification of obvious mistakes in the application
- Establishes international search report (ISR) and/or declaration that no international search report will be established
- Establishes a written opinion of the ISA opinion on novelty, inventive step (non-obviousness) and industrial applicability of the claimed invention
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>JP 50-14535 B (NCR CORPORATION) 28 May 1975 (28.05.75), column 4, lines 3 to 27</td>
<td>7-9, 11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GB 392415 A (JONES) 18 May 1933 (18.05.33)</td>
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<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>Fig. 1</td>
<td>1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>page 3, lines 5-7</td>
<td>4, 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Fig. 5, support 36</td>
<td>11-12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GB 2174500 A (STC) 5 November 1986 (05.11.86)</td>
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<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>page 1, lines 5-15, 22-34, 46-80; Fig. 1</td>
<td>1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>US 4322752 A (BIXTY) 30 March 1982 (30.03.82)</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>
### Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority

**Box No. VII**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Statement</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Novelty (N)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inventive step (IS)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industrial applicability (IA)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>2. Citations and explanations:</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INDEPENDENT CLAIM 3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Document US-A-5 332 238, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses (cf. relevant passages indicated in the ISR) a device from which the subject-matter of INDEPENDENT CLAIM 3 is derived.

**Reasoning supporting the assessment**

**Patentability assessment of claims**
International Preliminary Examination

• Optional procedure
• Generally requested to overcome negative observations in the written opinion of the International Searching Authority
• Allows the applicant to amend description, claims and drawings
• Allows the applicant to file arguments
• Applicant may request an oral interview with the examiner
• An international preliminary examination report (also called international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II)) is established
The PCT Procedure

- National phase
General national requirements
Art. 22(1) and 39(1)(a)

• Requirements:
  - Translation, if applicable
  - Payment of national fee
  - Copy of international application in particular circumstances only

• Time limit under Art. 22(1): 30 months from the priority date
  - For additional time, see PCT Applicant’s Guide, national phase summaries
  - For exceptions, see www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/reservations/res_incomp.html

• Time limit under Art. 39(1)(a): 30 months from the priority date
  - For additional time, see PCT Applicant’s Guide, national phase summaries
Special national requirements allowed under the PCT (Art. 27 and Rule 51bis.1)

- Time limit under Rule 51bis.3:
  - If requirements are not fulfilled within the time limit for entry into national phase under Art. 22 or 39:
    - Invitation by DO
    - At least 2 months from the invitation
- Some examples:
  - Appointment of agent
  - Assignment documents
  - Translation of application in more than one copy
Documents which may normally not be required

• If the applicant filed declarations under Rule 4.17
  - Documents relating to the identity of the inventor
  - Documents relating to the applicant’s entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent
  - Documents relating to the applicant’s right to claim priority
• Copy of a priority document if the document was filed within the time limit under Rule 17.1
• Translation of the priority document
The PCT as a Strategy for Filing Foreign Applications
Strategies (1)

- Early or late filing in the priority year
- Automatic designation of all States bound by the PCT at the international filing date
- Withdrawal of certain designations to avoid automatic withdrawal of priority application (JP, KR) or signature requirements (US)
- Final decision by management or client needs to be made only prior to entry into the national phase
- Filing of a demand for international preliminary examination
  - to ensure a 30-month time limit for all designated States
  - only if needed to overcome any objections in international search report and written opinion of ISA through amendments/arguments
- 8 or 18 months more time during which improved translations can be prepared for entry into the national phase
Strategies (2)

- Gain time to
  - better identify possible markets
  - find partners (licenses)
  - better evaluate the technical value of the invention
- Increased chance for obtaining stronger foreign patents
- The final version of the claims is drafted when the commercial value of the invention is better known
- Early entry into the national phase - early issuance of patent
- Better information about possible conflicting applications by competitors prior to national entry, enabling adjustment of filing strategy and negotiating position
- International publication does not inform third parties before which designated Offices patent protection will be further pursued
Advantages of the PCT

- A unique procedure
- Greater flexibility
- Further features
Advantages of the PCT: a unique procedure

- One application, in one language, filed with one Office, replaces multiple foreign filings until entry into the national phase
- Permits last minute foreign filing (before expiration of priority year)
- International filing date has the effect of national filing date in all designated Offices
- Uniform formal requirements accepted by all designated Offices
- Greater home control of the prosecution
- Decision on foreign filings can be postponed up to 30 months from the priority date at minimal cost
- Enables assessment of economic value of the invention and the chances of obtaining a patent before entering national phase
Advantages of the PCT: greater flexibility

- Keep options open by making all possible designations for all types of protection
- Various possibilities for withdrawal
- International publication can be prevented or postponed until as late as 15 days before the actual publication date – conditional withdrawal possible
- Further expenses can be avoided simply by no longer prosecuting the application or not entering the national phase
- Amendments made during the international phase have effect in all designated/elected States
- More time for better quality translation for the national phase
- Better planning of the expenditures for the national phase
Advantages of the PCT: further features

- Postponing national filings costs earns interest on capital
- Fee reductions in national phase in certain national Offices
- More straightforward and rapid national patent granting
- Less restrictive unity of invention requirements permit a reduced number of applications in the US
- Provisional protection after publication at 18 months from the priority date (in countries which afford such protection)
- 90% reduction in PCT fees for applicants from certain Contracting States
PCT-SAFE and e-Services developments
Contents

• PCT e-Services
• E-mail authorization
• Retrieval of priority documents via Priority Document Access Service (DAS)
• PCT e-payment
• PCT Online Document Upload
• Future developments
• Further information
PCT e-Services

• In May 2010 the PCT-SAFE Unit was renamed the PCT e-Services Unit.
• The Team’s mandate now includes customer support for additional services.
• The PCT e-Services Team offer support for the following services:
  - PCT-SAFE and PCT e-filing
  - WIPO Certification Authority – certificate issuance and administration
  - DAS - new
  - PCT e-payment – new
  - PCT Online Document Upload – new
• The Team will be supporting additional PCT e-Services in the future.
E-mail authorization

- It is possible to request that certain notifications be sent to the Agent/Applicant via e-mail:
  - In electronic form only, or
  - In electronic form with a paper confirmation copy.
- The e-mail address is indicated on the PCT-SAFE Names page.
- A validation check is made to ensure that the e-mail address given is in a valid format and that there is only one address per field.
E-mail authorization: PCT-SAFE

- Indicate a valid e-mail address.
- Select the type of e-mail notification required (electronic only or advanced + paper confirmation).
- The e-mail authorization checkboxes will only be activated once a valid e-mail address has been indicated.
Retrieval of priority document via DAS

• In certain cases it is possible to request that the International Bureau retrieve a copy of an earlier application, in electronic form, via the Priority Document Access Service (DAS) to meet PCT priority document requirements.
• Currently, the service is only available for earlier filed national applications if filed with AU, ES, GB, JP, KR, US and international applications filed with the RO/IB.
• The Office with which the earlier national application was filed is known as the Office of First Filing (OFF).
• The Office that retrieves the document is known as the Office of Second Filing (OSF).
Main steps for the use of DAS

- Request the OFF to make the earlier application available via DAS.
- File the PCT international application and request the IB to retrieve the priority document via DAS by checking the appropriate box on the request form.
- Go to the DAS portal and grant access permission to the IB to retrieve the priority document.  
  *this step is best taken before the PCT international application has been filed to ensure that the IB can retrieve the priority document before the expiration of the 16 month time limit*.
- The IB retrieves the priority document via DAS and sends a confirmation of retrieval to the applicant by means of the form PCT/IB/304.
Select the checkbox on the Priority details page for the corresponding priority claim.

DAS retrieval is currently possible for national applications filed with the following Offices: AU, ES, GB, JP, KR and US.

DAS retrieval is currently possible for PCT applications filed with RO/IB only.
DAS – log in

- Log in to DAS by indicating the earlier application information (country code and application number), the access code and the captcha text.
DAS - Granting access permission

Select the Office (IB) to grant permission to retrieve the priority document.

KR-50
14.10.10
PCT e-payment

- Certain types of PCT fees can be paid to the RO/IB or the IB by credit card:
  - to the RO/IB – filing fees for a new PCT international application.
  - to the IB – fees for a supplementary international search (SIS).
- For a new application filed with the RO/IB, select the method of payment ‘credit card (e-payment)’ and provide a valid e-mail address for the person authorized to make the credit card payment.
- Once the fees have been processed by the RO/IB examiner, an e-mail will be sent to the address provided on the Payment page. That e-mail will contain a link to a secure webpage where the credit card details for the payment of the fees for the application can be entered.
PCT Online Document Upload

- A service for submitting post-filing electronic documents via a web interface to the IB and RO/IB after they have started processing an application (receipt of Form PCT/IB/301).
- Documents that may be uploaded: e.g. general correspondence, Rule 92bis changes, declarations, translations.
- Only PDF documents can be uploaded via the service (sequence listings for supplementary international search purposes accepted as .zip, .txt and .app files).
- It is recommended that **PDF-text** documents be uploaded, i.e., documents created in MS Word (or other word processor) and then printed to PDF.
- The IB recommends the use of text string signatures on accompanying letters, e.g., "/ John Smith ".
- **NOT** to be used for the initial filing of international applications.
An e-mail confirming that the documents have been uploaded is sent to the address indicated at the start of the transaction.

User Guide with full details available in the PCT Service Center.
Future developments

- Secure online file inspection
  - Create a user profile in order to be able to have access to a variety of PCT services (this may be extended in the future to other WIPO services) that may require a user login or secure access.
  - Using the user profile and a valid digital certificate for authentication the authorized agent/applicant would be able to access his/her unpublished PCT international application data.
Further information

- PCT-SAFE home page [http://www.wipo.int/pct-safe](http://www.wipo.int/pct-safe)
Where to get information?
Where to get information?

• For further information on the PCT, see www.wipo.int/pct

• For general questions on the PCT, contact the PCT Information Service:
  - Telephone: (+41-22) 338 83 38
  - Facsimile: (+41-22) 338 83 39
  - E-mail: pct.infoline@wipo.int
Legal Information

- Treaty, Regulations and Administrative Instructions
- Guidelines for Authorities and Offices
- Amendments to the Regulations (July 1, 2010) [PPT] [Archives]
- Directives for New Equivalent Amounts of Certain PCT Fees
- FAQs
- PCT Glossary
- PCT Case Law Database
- Legal Text Index (April 1, 2007) [PDF] [Archives]
- History of the PCT Regulations [PDF]
- Washington Diplomatic Conference on the PCT

- Reservations and Incompatibilities
- Types of Protection [PDF]
- Time Limits for Entering National/Regional Phase
- Waivers: Powers of Attorney
- Access to IPER under Rule 94.1(c)
- Regional Patents via the PCT
- States Party to PCT/Paris/WTO [PDF]
- Restoration of the Right of Priority

- PCT Contracting States [PDF]
- ISA and IPEA Agreements

PCT Offices

- Quality Reports by International Authorities
- Forms for Offices
- Data Services for Offices
- Minimum Documentation: Patents [PDF] and Non-Patent Literature [PDF]
- Information Concerning Emergency Preparedness Plans
- Patent Applications Management Software (PCT-ROAD)

Patent Data

- PATENTSCOPE® Search Service
- Official Notices (PCT Gazette) Collection
- Data Services

Meetings, Training and Documents

- PCT Distance Learning Course [New]
- Seminars
- PCT Webinars
- PCT Assembly Reports
- Meetings and Documents
- PCT Presentations
- PCT Working Group
PCT information available on the Internet (1)

- PCT Treaty and Regulations, as in force from 1 July 2010 (www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/)
- PCT Administrative Instructions, as in force from 1 July 2010 (www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/)
- PCT Newsletter (monthly) (www.wipo.int/pct/en/newslett/)
- PCT Legal Text Index, providing references to PCT Articles, Rules, Administrative Instructions, Forms and various PCT Guidelines (www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/pdf/legal_index.pdf)
PCT information available on the Internet (2)

- PCT Receiving Office Guidelines, as in force from 1 July 2009 (www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/pdf/ro.pdf)
- WIPO Standards (www.wipo.int/standards/en/part_03_standards.html)
- Agreements between International Bureau of WIPO and International Searching and/or Preliminary Examining Authorities (www.wipo.int/pct/en/access/isa_ipea_agreements.html)
PCT Applicant’s Guide (1)

- Free weekly e-mail updating service detailing updated information
- Contents:
  - International phase
    - instructions concerning the preparation, filing and processing of international applications
    - blank forms (request, demand, power of attorney, etc.)
    - “Annexes” setting out information relevant to each Contracting State and regional or international Organization and each Office and Authority
PCT Applicant’s Guide (2)

- National phase
  - information on all acts that must or may be performed before the DO/EOs
  - time limits
  - fees
  - blank national forms