

■ **What's New for Applicants in ePCT**
<https://pct.wipo.int>



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Introduction

- New version released on 6 December 2021
- New ePCT Landing Page
- [What's New for Applicants in ePCT](#)
 - Agent's right to practice before RO/IB
 - Priority claims
 - Names
 - Payment option with RO/IB
 - Chapter II Demand

New ePCT landing page

- URL: <https://pct.wipo.int>
- Overview of ePCT main features for Applicants and IP Offices
- Tips on how to get started for new users
- [ePCT video tutorials](#)

Agent's right to practice for ePCT-Filing with RO/IB

- Annex C of the [PCT Applicant's Guide](#)
- Additional validations have been introduced in ePCT-Filing
- Users are required to confirm that the agent is entitled to practice before RO/IB
- If not confirmed:
 - The status of 'agent' will be automatically changed to 'address for correspondence' when the draft is saved
 - Any signature or PoA related to the agent will be automatically deleted
- More information is available in the [FAQ](#) on this feature

Filing – Priority Claims (1)

- If the filing date of the earlier application is outside the 12 months priority period but within 2 months following that period, a checkbox to request restoration of the right of priority is displayed

Type *	National	Option[s] for providing the priority document to the IB *
Country/Office *	US - United States of America	<input type="radio"/> Receiving Office to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau
Filing Date *	15/11/2020	<input checked="" type="radio"/> To be provided by the applicant
Application number	61/111,111	<input type="radio"/> An electronic copy of the priority document is attached [certified by the issuing Office]
format should be "08/999,999"		<input type="radio"/> International Bureau to obtain from a digital library [DAS]
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The receiving Office is requested to restore the right of priority for this earlier application.
		Statement of reasons
		Add document [.pdf]

Filing – Priority Claims (2)

- If selected RO does not accept requests for restoration of priority, ePCT validation will advise to change to RO/IB but will no longer prevent filing

Type *	National	▼	<p>Option[s] for providing the priority document to the IB *</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Receiving Office to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau</p> <p><input type="radio"/> To be provided by the applicant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> An electronic copy of the priority document is attached (certified by the issuing Office)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> International Bureau to obtain from a digital library (DAS)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The receiving Office is requested to restore the right of priority for this earlier application.</p> <p>The selected receiving Office does not accept requests for restoration of right of priority. You are advised to change the receiving Office to RO/IB in order to be able to request restoration.</p>
Country/Office *	BR - Brazil	▼	
Filing Date *	30/11/2020	📅	
Application number	123456		

Filing – Names: reminder about the 2017 PCT Assembly Understanding (1)

- Where a 90% reduction of the international filing fee is calculated, a validation has been added to remind users about the importance of including **all** the applicants on the request form at the time of filing, as per the [2017 PCT Assembly Understanding](#)

Filing – Names: reminder about the 2017 PCT Assembly Understanding (2)

NAMES

1 issue

Information only: [8.66] Based on the information entered, the fee calculation includes a 90% reduction to the international filing fee. Your attention is drawn to the 2017 PCT Assembly Understanding. The fee reduction in item 5 of the Schedule of Fees is intended to apply only if, at the time of filing, there are no beneficial owners of the international application who would not satisfy the applicable criteria and the applicants indicated in the request are the sole and true owners of the application and under no obligation to assign, grant, convey or license the rights in the invention to another party which is not eligible for the fee reduction. If any such beneficial owners exist, please add them to the list of applicants. Link for 2017 PCT Assembly Understanding = https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees/2017_fee.html Link for the Schedule of Fees = https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/rules/rtax.html#_S

Add Applicant(s)/Inventor(s) Agent/Common representative/Address for correspondence Power of Attorney

▼	Name BALA, Ravi Party Applicant and inventor Type Natural person	1 Taj Mahal Avenue 1234 Agra Chile	State of Nationality CL State of Residence CL Applicable designations All E-mail bardini@wipo.int Notifications to be sent by Email Only	
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Validation of telephone numbers

- Information box added for telephone numbers advising the full international format to be used and that only certain non-numerical characters are allowed
- Although fax is not recommended by the IB, if you need to indicate a fax number for the RO, ISA or IPEA, the same info box has been added

Telephone

Please enter the full international number, prefixed with '+' [e.g. +15031234567 for the United States].
Only the following non-numerical characters are allowed: [] + - x

Fax

Please enter the full international number, prefixed with '+' [e.g. +15031234567 for the United States].
Only the following non-numerical characters are allowed: [] + - x

Telephone

|1-310-876-5432*

Please enter the full international number, prefixed with '+' [e.g. +15031234567 for the United States].
Only the following non-numerical characters are allowed: [] + - x

Method of sending PCT Forms

- PCT Forms issued by IB (including RO/IB) are no longer sent in paper format but by 'Email only'
- Options 'Paper' or 'Paper & Email' have been removed for Filing – Parties, 92bis Action, Chapter II Demand Action, Address Book

E-mail *
pascal.piriou@wipo.int

The IB will use the above e-mail address for correspondence. The RO, ISA & IPEA will do so if they provide such a service.

Filing – adding a translation required for international publication


■ Shortcut button added

T-REF12345 ▾

Save draft Preview RO/101 Close **Review & File**

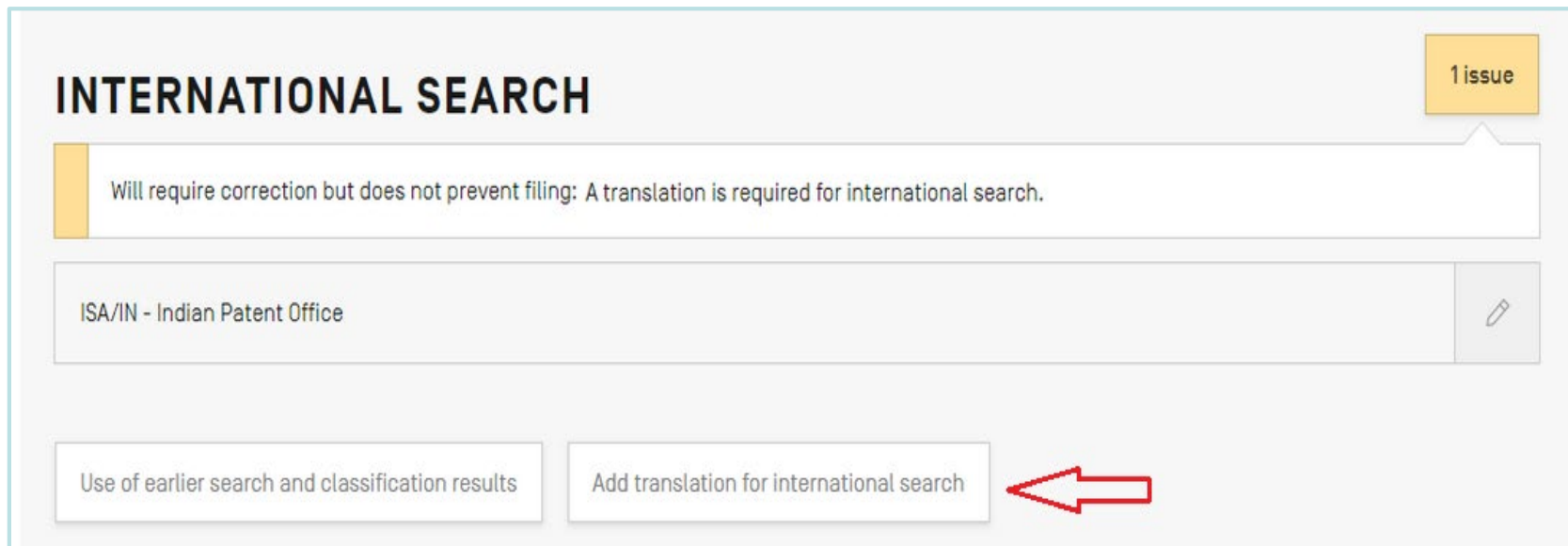
Will require correction but does not prevent filing: A translation is required for international publication.

RO/IB - International Bureau of WIPO	Language of Request EN - English
Applicant/agent's file reference T-Ref12345	Language of filing of the international application IT - Italian
Current date and time at recipient Office Thursday, October 21, 2021 5:24 pm CEST	
Filing method ePCT-Filing	
Make available in DAS No	

Add Translation for International Publication 


Filing – adding a translation required for international search


■ Shortcut button added



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH 1 issue

Will require correction but does not prevent filing: A translation is required for international search.

ISA/IN - Indian Patent Office 

Use of earlier search and classification results **Add translation for international search** 

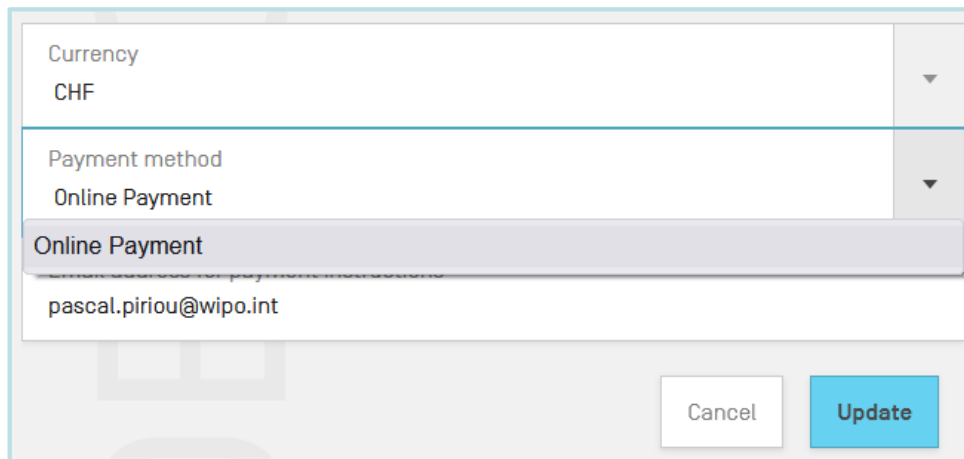
Declaration under Rule 4.17(i)

- When preparing a Declaration under Rule 4.17(i) for more than one inventor, regardless selecting the inventors one by one, or using the multi-select feature, the Declaration is now rendered consistently with all inventors listed together (potentially reduces the number of pages of the RO/101)

PCT REQUEST		4/5
		(Original in Electronic Form)
VIII-1-1	Declaration: Identity of the Inventor Declaration as to the identity of the inventor (Rules 4.17(i) and 51bis.1(a)(i))	In relation to this international application
Name (LAST, First)	Address	BEN GHACHEM, Riadh of 1 Rue de La Mrasa 2070 La Marsa Tunisia is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection is sought by way of this international application
Name (LAST, First)	Address	DOE, John of 123 Ocean Drive San Diego, California 12345 United States of America is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection is sought by way of this international application
Name (LAST, First)	Address	JONES, Mary of 300 Colorado St Baltimore, Maryland 21201-4307 United States of America is the inventor of the subject matter for which protection is sought by way of this international application

Payment method for ePCT filings to RO/IB (1)

- ‘Online payment’ function in ePCT is only used to pay filing related fees for direct filings with RO/IB
- ‘Online payment’ is now the sole default value



The screenshot shows a web form for selecting a payment method. It features two dropdown menus. The first dropdown, labeled 'Currency', has 'CHF' selected. The second dropdown, labeled 'Payment method', has 'Online Payment' selected. Below the dropdowns is a text input field containing the email address 'pascal.piriou@wipo.int'. At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Update'.

- Choose to pay at the time of filing or later using the ‘Payment number’ link in the email confirming the IA filing in ePCT or using the ‘Online payment’ action

Payment method for ePCT filings to RO/IB (2)

■ 'Online payment' options

PAYMENT DETAILS

Attention: Recent changes to European payment security regulations mean that some customers are experiencing problems paying with a credit/debit card.
If your card payment is declined you should [click here](#) for instructions on how to resolve the issue.

Choose payment method

- Bank transfer
- Credit/Debit card
- Current Account at WIPO
- PayPal

Total amount due **CHF 3045.00**

[Go back](#) [Continue](#)

Full-text version of ISR/WOSA for published IAs (1)

- If XML version of the ISR/WOSA or Art.17.2(a) declaration is available in addition to the PDF version in the Documents section, a shortcut link to the XML version is displayed in the bibliographic data header section

The screenshot displays the WIPO IP Portal interface for the patent T-28089 PCT/IB2021/081402. The header includes the WIPO logo, 'IP PORTAL', 'MENU', 'ePCT', 'HELP', 'ANN BARDINI', and a notification bell. The main content area shows the patent number 'T-28089 PCT/IB2021/081402' with a dropdown arrow and a 'Close' button. Below this, a table of bibliographic data is shown:

IA Status Published on 07 Oct 2021	Int. Filing Date 29 Mar 2021	ISA/EG ISR available ISR.xml WO-ISA.xml
Priority Date 29 Mar 2020		

Full-text version of ISR/WOSA for published IAs (2)

■ Also available under 'More' in the Documents section

DOCUMENTS

Upload

RECORD AS HELD BY THE IB

<input type="checkbox"/>	Documents [Doc ID] ⚙	Source ⚙	Status ⚙	PATENTSCOPE ⚙	Date ▾		
<input type="checkbox"/>	[ISA/237] Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority [72]_ 5 pages	ISA/EG	Not yet processed	Pending processing	28 Oct 2...	View	More
<input type="checkbox"/>	[ISA/210] International Search Report [70]_ 3 pages	ISA/EG	Not yet processed	Pending processing	28 Oct 2...	View	More

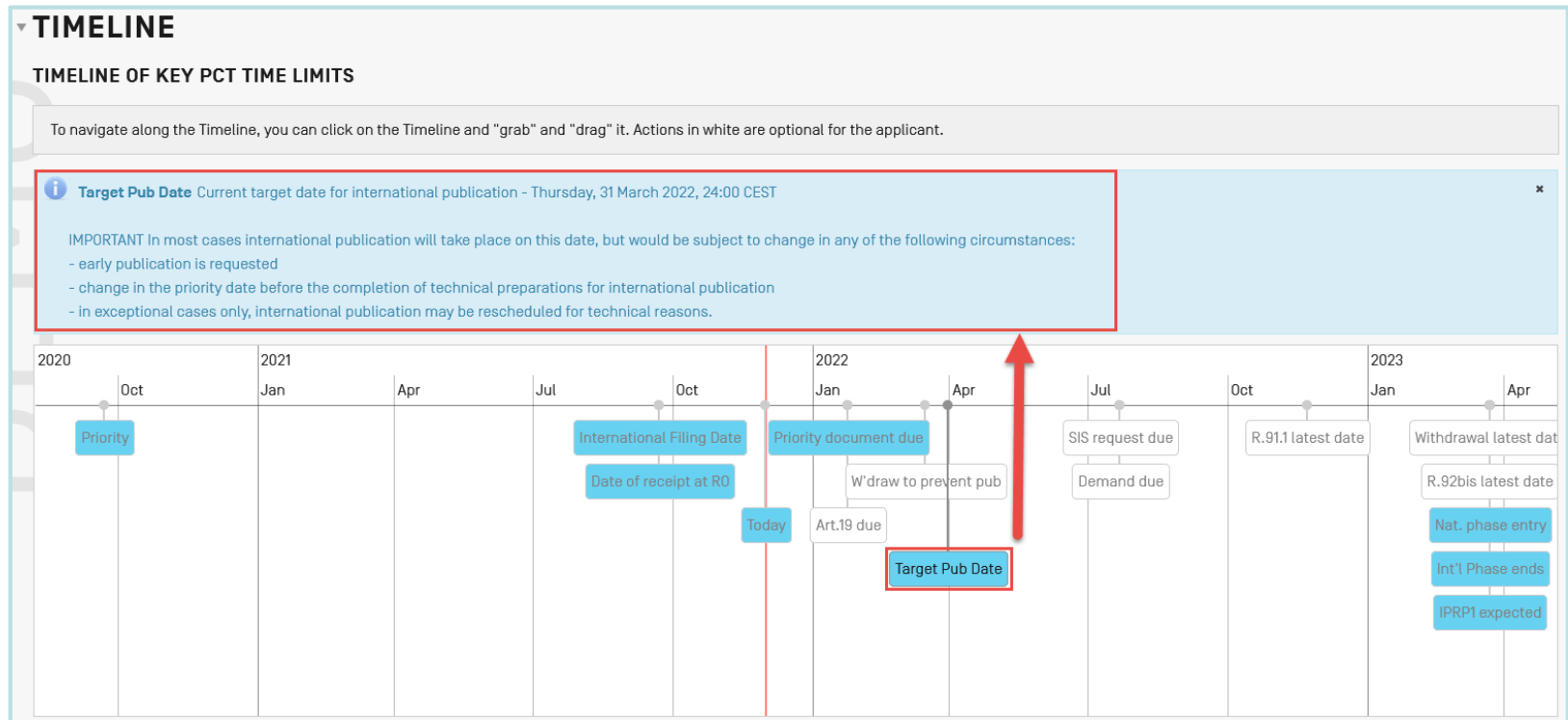
Document : [ISA/210] International Search Report[70]
Status : Not yet processed [Close](#)
Available on PATENTSCOPE : Pending processing
[View document as it will be rendered at the IB](#)
[View full-text version](#)
[Download full-text version](#)

- ▶ 28 Oct 2021 Allal Egypt Form(s) Sent
- ▶ 28 Oct 2021 Allal Egypt Import

<input type="checkbox"/>	[ISA/220] Notification of transmittal of the international search report and the writt...	ISA/EG	Processed	Not yet [publication]	28 Oct 2...	View	More
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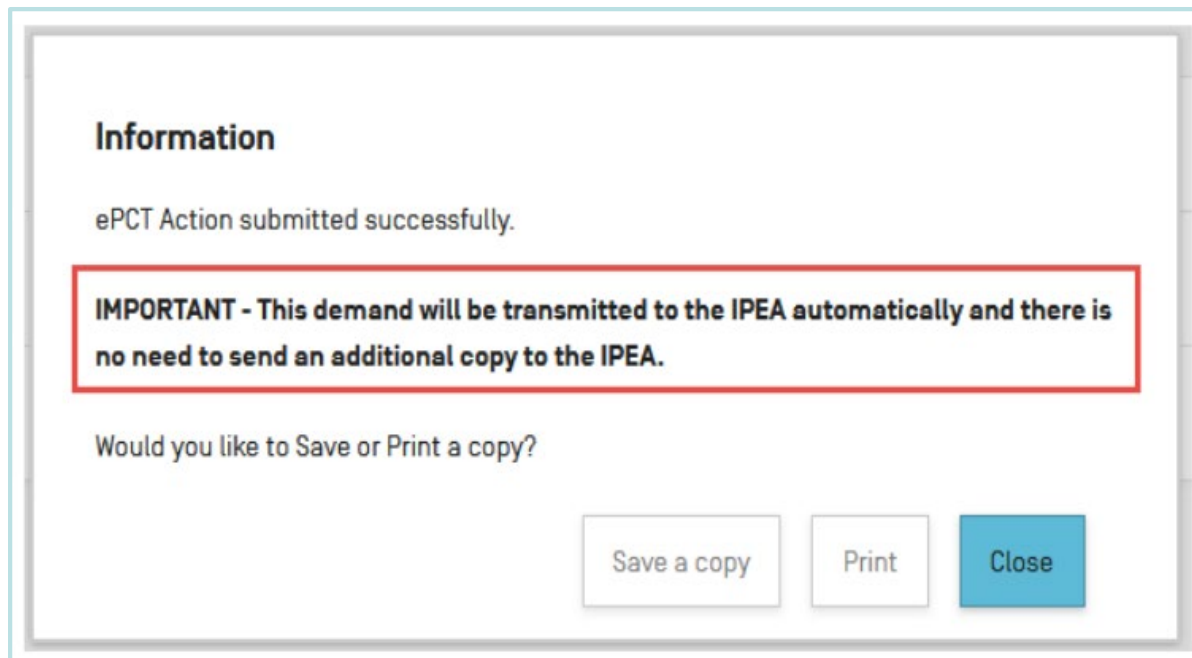
ePCT Timeline

- Clarification added as to possible reasons that might affect the current target date for international publication



ePCT Action – Chapter II Demand (1)

- After submitting a Chapter II Demand using ePCT, it is routed automatically to the IPEA without any need for the applicant to send a separate copy to the IPEA
- Pop-up added to remind users



ePCT Action – Chapter II Demand (2)

- An additional validation has been added to ensure that the language of publication is indicated as the language for international preliminary examination (IPE) if that language is accepted by the selected IPEA
- Example
 - IPEA/RU accepts Russian and English
 - Publication language = Russian
 - Language for IPE and of Chapter II Demand will be set to Russian by default

ePCT Action – Chapter II Demand for IPEA/US (1)

- If the name selected for signature of the Demand Form PCT/IPEA/401 has a USPTO registration number associated with it in the Names section, that registration number will be automatically added to the text string signature in the signature field

The screenshot displays a web form for entering signature information. It includes a 'Signature*' section with radio buttons for 'Text signature' (selected), 'Image Signature', and 'External Signature'. Below this is a 'Signatory*' dropdown menu showing 'ADDINGTON, Jane (Agent)'. The 'Signature [should include name] *' text input field contains a slash '/' and a red box highlights the text '. Reg. No. 9876/'. A message box below the input field states: 'The registration number 9876 will be added automatically to the signature'. At the bottom right are 'Cancel' and 'Save' buttons.

ePCT Action – Chapter II Demand for IPEA/US (2)

- If no USPTO registration number is associated, an information panel will remind the user that, to comply with US requirements, the text string signature should contain the registration number

SIGNATURE OF DEMAND FORM RO=US and IPEA=US

Add

Signature*

Signature type *

Text signature

Image Signature

External Signature

Signatory*

Signature [should include name] *

/ /

In order to comply with US requirements, if the signatory is a registered practitioner acting as a legal representative for the applicant with the USPTO, the text string signature must also contain the registration number of that practitioner within the slash characters, for example: /John DOE, Reg. No. 999999/


Cancel Save



Access Rights

- Added a reminder: **IMPORTANT** – at least 2 persons should have eOwner access rights to each filed IA or draft New IA in order to facilitate access rights management

ACCESS RIGHTS

[Add eHandshake user](#) [Add access rights group](#) [Add Office eViewer rights](#) [History](#)

IMPORTANT - It is recommended to assign eOwner access rights to at least 2 persons. 

▶ Name Ann BARDINI	Rights eOwner	
▶ Name Riadh Test BEN GHACHEM	Rights eOwner	

Address Book – multilingual entries

- Maintain contact details in both non-Latin publication languages and the equivalent transliteration in English

MULTILINGUAL BOOK Close

Add contact Import contacts Search contact

Adding a new contact

Add new Contact [English transliteration is required for names and addresses in Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Russian]

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English Transliteration Required	Name *	[EN] Name *
Language *	Street address	[EN] Street address
AR - Arabic JA - Japanese KO - Korean RU - Russian ZH - Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> No street address applicable	[EN] City
	City	

MULTILINGUAL BOOK Close

Add contact Import contacts Search contact

Editing an existing contact

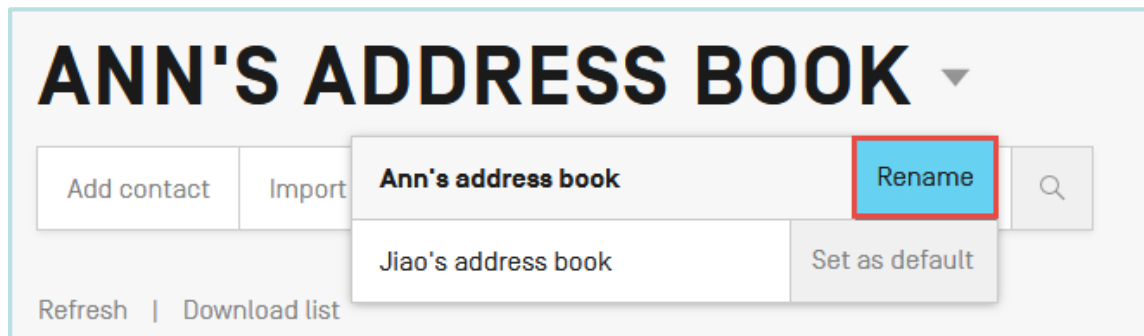
Edit Contact

[EN] ABC COMPANY
 Add additional language version for this Contact

Type *	Name *	[EN] Name *
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Legal entity <input type="radio"/> Natural person	Street address *	[EN] Street address *
Language *	<input type="checkbox"/> No street address applicable	[EN] City *
AR - Arabic JA - Japanese KO - Korean RU - Russian ZH - Chinese	City *	London
	Country or territory *	Telephone
	GB - United Kingdom	Please enter the full international number, prefixed with '+' (e.g., +15031234567 for the United States).

Address Book – Notification about renaming (1)

- If Address Book renamed by an eOwner, automatic notification sent by email to all users with access rights



Address Book – Notification about renaming (2)

■ ePCT Notification

ePCT **WIPO**

ePCT Notification: Address Book Renamed


The following address book has been renamed:

New name:	Ann's address book
Previous name:	John's address book
Modified by:	Pascal PIRIOU
Date:	2021-12-09

NOTE: This is an informal notification for information only.

WIPO reference: jjao.mo@wipo.int [15,55]

World Intellectual Property Organization
34 chemin des Colombettes, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland | www.wipo.int



WIPO
WORLD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
ORGANIZATION

WIPO | PCT
The International
Patent System

This is an automatic e-mail - please do not reply.

WIPO FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ePCT Notifications screen

- New column added displaying the name of the relevant Portfolio, if any, for each IA on the list

The screenshot shows the WIPO IP Portal interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'WIPO IP PORTAL', 'MENU', 'ePCT [DEMO]', 'HELP', 'PASCAL PIRIOU', a notification bell icon, and the 'WIPO' logo. Below the navigation bar, the date and time 'GENEVA DEC 8, 2021 2:38 PM CET' are displayed. The main heading is 'NOTIFICATIONS' with a 'Close' button. A message box states: 'By default the 500 most recent results are displayed. Select and clear notifications to display the next 500 results. IMPORTANT - Notifications are automatically archived one year after the date of receipt and can be retrieved upon request to the ePCT Help Desk.' Below this, there are filter options: 'Add filter | Columns | Preferences'. The 'Columns' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of columns: 'Subject', 'File Ref', 'Portfolio', 'Date', and 'Read'. The 'Portfolio' option is selected and highlighted with a red box. The table below has columns: 'Subject', 'Number', 'Portfolio', 'Date', and 'Read'. The 'Portfolio' column is highlighted with a red box. The table contains three rows of notifications:

Subject	Number	Portfolio	Date	Read
Priority documents outstanding - time limit under Rule 17.1(a) has expired	PCT/IB2021/040253		29 Nov 2021	
New document processed/Form issued	2021/030003	WIPO	25 Nov 2021	
New document processed/Form issued	D-Anita PCT/IB2021/040047	WIPO	23 Nov 2021	

ePCT HELP (1)

- Use the 'HELP' in the navigation bar

<https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/epct/support.html>

- FAQs and user documentation

- Database of help information (use 'Search' feature to pinpoint a topic)

- ePCT Webinars

- ePCT Video tutorials

- To Practice: <https://pctdemo.wipo.int>

- Do NOT use confidential or sensitive data

- Be careful NOT to confuse Demo mode with Production mode

ePCT HELP (2)

■ PCT Customer Support Section

□ Tel: +41-22-338-9523

□ Email: pct.eservices@wipo.int

□ Live Chat available via FAQ answers

□ Monday to Friday, 9am-6pm Geneva time

Thank you!

