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Presentation to WIPO Standing Committee on IT

Plenary Session, 22 to 26 Jun 1998



Singapore IP Office

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Agenda

- Patent computerisation at the Singapore IP Office
- Enabling technologies for the provision of value-added information services on WIPONet

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WIPONet & IP Digital Libraries

- Objectives
 - Facilitate access to and exchange of IP data by member states
 - Provide public access to information
- IP Office computerisation acts as building block for Singapore to contribute towards establishment of WIPOnet & IPDLs.
- Trademark and patent computerisation



Patent Registry Information System (PRISM)



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Patent Registry Information System

Features:

- A workflow and electronic document-based system for patent processing
- Electronic submission of applications and documents :
 - ✓ via diskettes
 - ✓ via the Internet

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Patent Registry Information System

Features:

- Integrates with MS Office, Lotus Notes, Internet browsers etc allowing single point of access for staff of IP Office
- Information dissemination via Internet web pages and CD-ROMs (Patent Journal)



Patent Registry Information System

Online Internet Services for registered users :

- ✓ Renewal of patents
- ✓ Change of addresses
- ✓ Patent application and document submissions
- ✓ Enquiry services of IPDL
 - Structured bibliographical data
 - Abstracts, Specifications and drawings
 - Patent Register



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Patent Registry Information System

Secured Online Services built on National Infrastructure for:

➤ Electronic Identification (IEI)

- ✓ Certified keys (Electronic ID)
- ✓ Authentication, Confidentiality, Message Integrity, Non-repudiation
- ✓ Certificate Management Services (NETRUST)

➤ Electronic Commerce

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Patent Registry Information System

➤ Input/Output Formats Supported

- ✓ ASCII text, RTF and SGML for Text
- ✓ TIFF, CCITT Group 3 & 4 and PDF for Images
- ✓ Specialised documentation to be submitted as Images

➤ WIPO Standards Supported

- ✓ WIPO ST.32, ST.10, ST.40

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Patent Registry Information System

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Status

- ✓ Tender called in Jan/ Feb 1998
- ✓ Currently under evaluation and award is expected by the 3rd quarter of 1998
- ✓ Three phase deployment expected from 3Qtr 1999 to early 2001

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Technologies for WIPONet

- **Domain-Specific Patent Search**
 - **Protein Patent Query System using Kleisli**
- Cross-Lingual Search
- Natural Language/Concept Search

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Domain-Specific Patent Search

- A search tool accessing distributed IP Digital Libraries
- Solution to problems in BioInformatics commonly require:
 - Access to data sources that are:
 - highly heterogeneous
 - geographically distributed
 - highly complex in structure
 - constantly evolving and high in volume
 - Involvement of multiple carefully sequenced steps
 - Information to be passed smoothly between the steps

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Domain-Specific Patent Search

Our Technologies...

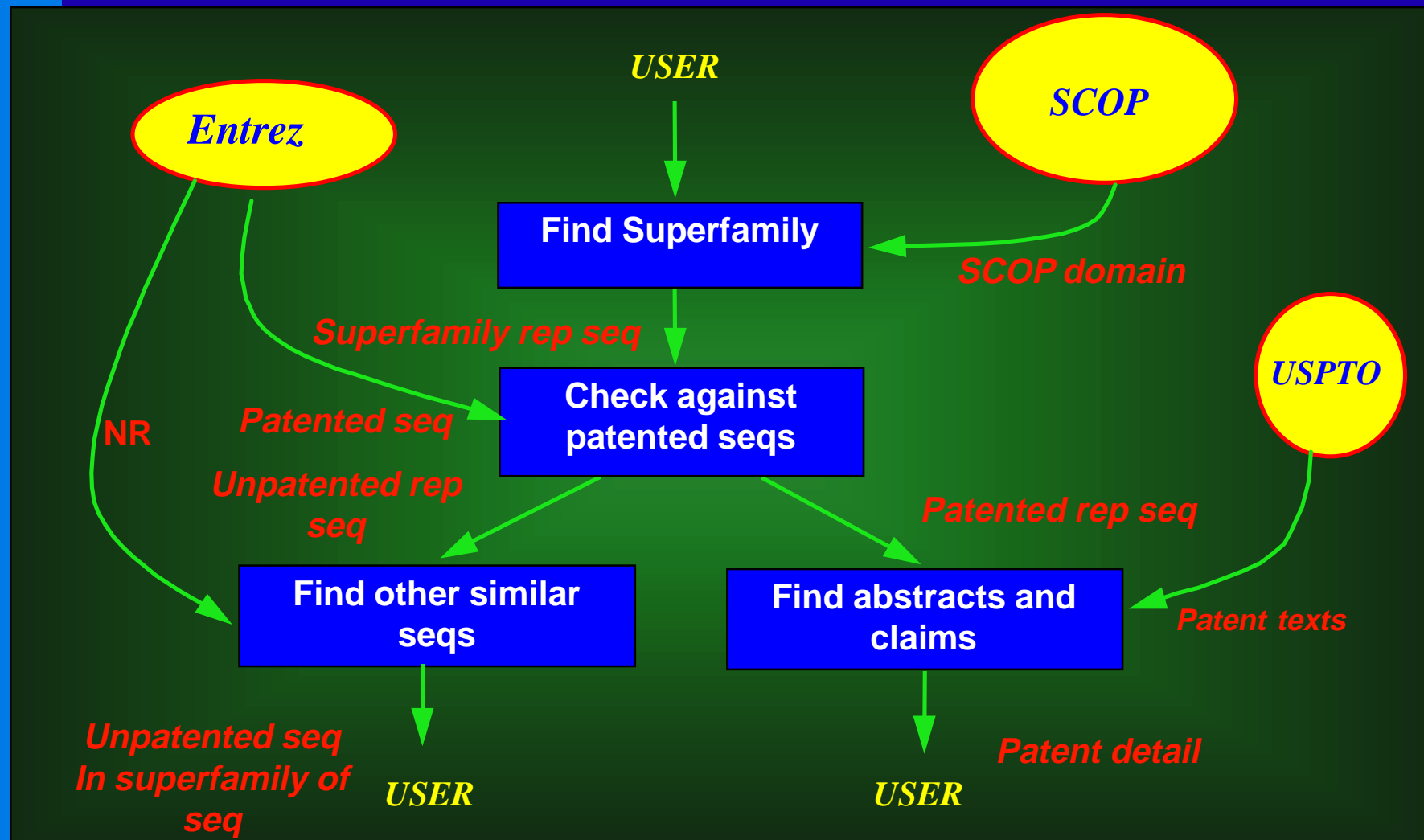
- *Kleisli System*
- Modern query language
 - Theory
 - Implementation
 - Application
- Database integration technology

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A Protein Patent Query System

- Seeks to answer 3 important questions:
 - Is my protein sequence patented?
 - What are the prior arts?
 - How to broaden my patent claims?
- **Example:**
 - a pharmaceutical company deciding what protein sequences to work on first, from a very large choice of sequences.

A Protein Patent Query System





A Protein Patent Query System

- A demo of the system:
 - <http://adenine.krdl.org.sg:8080/examples/patent/>

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Technologies for WIPONet

- Domain-Specific Patent Search
- **Cross-Lingual Search**
- Natural Language/Concept Search

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Cross-Lingual Search

- Need to search for patents filed
 - in different languages
 - in different countries, particularly the Asian countries
 - through single-language query

e.g. inventor in US ascertaining if his invention, that has a potential market in Thailand or Indonesia, has already been patented in these countries.

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Cross-Lingual Search

Our Technologies...

- Cross-Lingual Information Retrieval
 - Current research focusing on Asian languages and English (e.g. Malay, Indonesian, Thai etc.)
- Cross-Language Information Navigation Services on the Internet/WWW Trial
 - Kent Ridge Digital Lab (our National IT R&D arm) -
 - Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)
 - Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT)

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Technologies for WIPONet

- Domain-Specific Patent Search
- Cross-Lingual Search
- **Natural Language/Concept Search**

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Natural Language/Concept Search

- Beyond key-word searching.
- Overcomes difficulties in query formulation of many existing patent search engines.
- Processes on full sentence or paragraph queries.
- Returns not only what we asked for, but also what we meant to ask for.



Natural Language/Concept Search

Our Technologies...

- Text Mining technologies
 - Concept extraction
 - Text understanding
 - Ontology discovery
 - Link analysis
 - Meaning representation



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Conclusion

- Building on its computerisation experience, the Singapore IP Office is looking into integrating various enabling technologies to provide value-added information services not just to meet its own purposes, but also to help realise the WIPONet and IPDL visions.



Thank you for your attention

