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CORRECTION PROCEDURES BY PATENT OFFICES (TASK No. 35)

Document prepared by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. The Standards and Documentation Working Group (SDWG) of the Standing Committee on Information Technologies (SCIT), at its fifth session, held in November 2004, approved a questionnaire on "Correction Procedures in Patent Offices". The survey was prepared by the SDWG Correction Procedures Task Force on the basis of the replies by industrial property offices to the said questionnaire, which was distributed by Circular C. SCIT 2604, issued on December 14, 2004 (<http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/mailbox/circ04.htm>).
2. At its seventh session, held in May/June 2006, the SDWG approved the publication of the survey of responses to the survey "Correction Procedures in Patent Offices" in Part 7 of the *WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation* (http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/part_07.html#7.4). The SDWG also agreed that a further review of the Standard should, however, be conducted in 2009, and should take into account possible changes to WIPO Standard ST.50 to reflect the offices' experiences with online Internet publications (see paragraph 24 of document SCIT/SDWG/7/9).

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Correction Procedures Task Force Activities and Results

Correction Procedures Survey

3. Following a revision of the original questionnaire, referred to above, the survey was reissued, on March 12, 2009, as Circular C. SCIT 2663 inviting patent offices to participate in a new survey the objective of which was to discover the practices of, and consider if the current WIPO Standard ST.50 (<http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/pdf/03-50-01.pdf>) still met the needs of, patent offices and patent information users with respect to corrections, alterations, and supplements relating to patent information. The revised questionnaire took into account comments received from the original questionnaire as well as correction procedures of offices given their recent experiences with online Internet publication.

4. The Circular C. SCIT 2663, the questionnaire, and the 43 responses received by the IB are available on WIPO's website (<http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/mailbox/circ09.html>). The individual responses received are available in English and the original language submitted by the respondent, if the original response was in French or Spanish.

5. The summarized and collated results of the responses to Circular C. SCIT 2663 are reproduced in this document as Annex I. Part 1 of Annex I, summarizing the results of the survey concerning Correction Procedures in Patent Offices, is followed by Part 2 collating the results from each country, question by question.

6. The Task Force recommends that the content of Annex I to this document replace the previously published "Correction Procedures in Patent Offices" in Part 7.4 of the WIPO Handbook. The previous version could then be made available in the Archive area of the WIPO Handbook.

7. Question 19 of the questionnaire asked offices to provide one or more brief examples of corrections, alterations, and/or supplements which may be used to update Part 7.4 of the WIPO Handbook entitled "Examples concerning corrections, alterations, and supplements relating to patent information". The collated set of these examples from 23 offices can be found at http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/taskfrce/correction_procedures/background.htm.

8. The Task Force recommends that the content of the examples referred to in the preceding paragraph replace the previously published "Examples concerning corrections, alterations, and supplements relating to patent information" in Part 7.4 of the WIPO Handbook. The previous version could then be made available in the Archive area of the WIPO Handbook.

9. The International Bureau intends to reverse the order of Parts 7.4.1 and 7.4.2 of the WIPO Handbook (see on http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/part_07.html#7.4) in order to have the main survey content precede the subset of examples.

Revision of WIPO Standard ST.50

10. The Task Force has considered the responses in relation to whether WIPO Standard ST.50 should be revised to take account of correction procedures using online Internet publication.

11. The Task Force also considered how much to revise the WIPO Standard ST.50. Of the three options (below) considered, the second moderate option (b) was favored as a balanced approach to attain some modernization and clarification of the Standard without imposing undue compliance costs by introducing a drastically re-engineered Standard. The options considered were:

- (a) leave ST.50 as it is for now;
- (b) amend ST.50 moderately (but not to disturb the structure, e.g., paragraph numbers, to which comments in the recent survey relate); and
- (c) substantively rewrite ST.50.

12. The Task Force has recommended that WIPO Standard ST.50 be modified as can be seen in Annex II to this document. Modifications include:

- (a) media neutrality across most paragraphs;
- (b) broadening the paragraphs relating to CD-ROMs to the broader category of optical discs which also includes DVD-ROMs;
- (c) providing general and specific references to online Internet (keeping the same structure of the Standard);
- (d) removing outdated media forms, i.e., floppy disc and magnetic tape; and
- (e) updating some definitions and references.

13. *The SDWG is invited to:*

- (a) *consider and approve the replacement, in the WIPO Handbook, of "Correction Procedures by Patent Offices" with the content reproduced from the survey questionnaire Circular C. SCIT 2663 as contained in Annex I to this document;*

(b) consider and approve the replacement, in the WIPO Handbook, of “Examples concerning corrections, alterations, and supplements relating to patent information” with the examples provided by Offices in response to Question 19 of the survey questionnaire Circular C. SCIT 2663;

(c) consider and adopt the proposal concerning the revision of WIPO Standard ST.50 as reproduced in Annex II to this document.

[Annexes follow]

ANNEX I

SURVEY CONCERNING CORRECTION PROCEDURES OF PATENT OFFICES

*Survey for presentation to the SCIT Standards and Documentation Working Group
at its eleventh session in October 2009*

PART 1 – SUMMARY OF RESULTS

BACKGROUND

1. Users (e.g., patent searchers, commercial providers, patent offices, and patent professionals in industry) of patent correction information are interested in knowing the practices of patent offices (industrial property offices) and their compliance with WIPO Standard ST.50, which provides guidance on and aims to standardize the issuance of corrections, alterations, and supplements relating to patent information.
2. Users, outside patent offices, are an increasingly important consumer of correctional notifications. Indeed such external users are perhaps more numerous and frequent consumers of correction information than are the primary producers of correction notifications, i.e., patent office staff. External users (experienced professionals, commercial providers, and a growing community of non-professional end-users) must deal with patent information, including correctional information, worldwide and every deviation of a patent office from a common standard may result in unnecessary difficulties and elevated costs. External users increasingly appreciate that patent offices publish corrections, alterations, and supplements in a standardized and structured manner as provided by the guidelines of WIPO Standard ST.50.
3. In recent years, publication mechanisms (including for corrected patent information) have developed as Internet technologies and other media for electronically delivering information have gained in popularity and functionality. Have the producers of corrections, alterations, and supplements relating to patent information and the associated WIPO Standard ST.50 been keeping up-to-date? Or can ST.50 be improved to better promote an unambiguous and uniform presentation of such notifications?
4. Circular C. SCIT 2663 issued on March 12, 2009 (see <http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/mailbox/circ09.html>) invited patent offices to provide information about their experience and compliance with WIPO Standard ST.50.
5. Responses were received from the following 43 patent offices:

African Intellectual Property Organization (OAPI) (OA)	Georgia (GE)	Slovakia (SK)
Argentina (AR)	Germany (DE)	Spain (ES)
Armenia (AM)	Greece (GR)	Thailand (TH)
Austria (AT)	Hungary (HU)	Turkey (TR)
Belarus (BY)	Ireland (IE)	Ukraine (UA)
Brazil (BR)	Israel (IL)	United Kingdom (GB)
Bulgaria (BG)	Japan (JP)	United States of America (US)
China (CN)	Kazakhstan (KZ)	Uzbekistan (UZ)
Croatia (HR)	Lithuania (LT)	Viet Nam (VN)
Czech Republic (CZ)	Madagascar (MG)	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (WO)
Democratic People's Republic of Korea (KP)	Mexico (MX)	
Ecuador (EC)	Monaco (MC)	
Estonia (EE)	Pakistan (PK)	
Eurasian Patent Organization (EA)	Poland (PL)	
European Patent Office (EP)	Republic of Korea (KR)	
	Republic of Moldova (MD)	
	Romania (RO)	
	Russian Federation (RU)	

6. The circular, the questionnaire and the individual responses received are available on WIPO's website (<http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/mailbox/circ09.html>).

7. The current document summarizes the results of the 2009 correction procedures survey, the second version. Part 1 includes the background, definitions, related material as well as analysis of the 43 responses by patent offices. Part 2 collates the results, in question order, including options selected (if any) and any comments made by each office. The examples provided by patent offices in response to Question 19 are collectively available only in electronic form on the web page containing the Documentation of the Correction Procedures Task Force (see http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/taskforce/correction_procedures/background.htm).

8. Throughout Part 2 of this document, comments have been amended from the original individual responses from offices for the purpose of clarification, abbreviation, and/or standardization. Any deviation in meaning from the original comment was not intended.

DEFINITIONS

9. For the purposes of this document, the expression:

(a) "patent document(s)" includes patents for invention, plant patents, design patents, utility certificates, utility models, documents of addition thereto and published applications therefor;

(b) "patent gazette" means a journal issued by a national, regional or international industrial property authority (referred to as "industrial property office") and which contains announcements with respect to patent documents. A patent gazette may be issued in one or more media type, e.g., paper and online as an Internet publication. A patent gazette may be published as an "official bulletin", "official journal", etc.;

(c) "publication" means making information available to the public for inspection, supplying a copy on request, or producing multiple copies by using any medium (paper, magnetic tape, optical disc, online publication, etc.);

(d) "correction" means data issued with the aim of replacing erroneous information previously published, deleting spurious information, or adding data erroneously omitted from the information previously published. For example, publishing IPC symbols in replacement of other IPC symbols erroneously allotted to a patent document is a "correction". A correction may sometimes be called "corrigendum", "erratum", or "error";

(e) "alteration" means data issued with the aim of updating or replacing initially correct information previously published. Alterations may be called amendments. For example, publishing the new name or address of the owner of a patent and publishing new IPC symbols after the scope of claims has been amended are "alterations";

(f) "supplement" means data issued with the aim of giving information that is in addition to the information previously published. For example, a search report, a supplementary search report or a revised version of a search report issued after initial publication of a patent document are "supplements". Translations of patent documents are not covered by this expression;

(g) "subscriber(s)" means (a) customer(s), including (an) industrial property office(s), which has (have) an agreement with the industrial property offices or other suppliers of patent information, to be supplied with patent documentation products on a regular or continuous basis, e.g., using media such as optical disc or online Internet subscriber access;

(h) "entry in a patent gazette" means at least one comprehensive announcement in a gazette regarding the making available to the public of the complete text, claims (if any) and drawings (if any) of a patent document;

(i) "search index" is a collection of stored data to facilitate fast and accurate information retrieval. A search index may be compiled regularly and automatically by a machine. A search Index design may incorporate interdisciplinary concepts from linguistics, cognitive psychology, mathematics, informatics, physics and computer science; and

(j) "machine readable carrier" means a medium capable of storing data in a form that can be accessed by an automated sensing device.

EXISTING STANDARDS AND OTHER RELATED MATERIAL

10. WIPO Standard [ST.9](#) provides INID codes (Internationally agreed Numbers for the Identification of (bibliographic) Data) to overcome difficulties (e.g., language and technical) in identifying the bibliographic data (including correction data) on or concerning patent information.

11. WIPO Standard [ST.16](#) provides groups of letter codes to identify and distinguish patent documents (including corrections and supplements) published by patent offices.

12. WIPO Standard [ST.17](#) provides guidance for coding headings of announcements (including corrections and alterations) in official gazettes published by patent offices.

13. WIPO Standard [ST.32](#) provides guidance for marking up patent information (including correction information) with SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language).

14. WIPO Standard [ST.33](#) provides guidance for data exchange of patent information (including correction information) in facsimile (image) form.

15. WIPO Standard [ST.36](#) provides guidance for marking up patent documents with XML (Extensible Markup Language).

16. WIPO Standard [ST.50](#) provides guidance to patent offices and other suppliers of patent information on how to issue corrections, alterations and supplements relating to patent information published in paper form or on machine-readable media, for the purpose of promoting an unambiguous and uniform presentation of such corrections, alterations, and supplements.

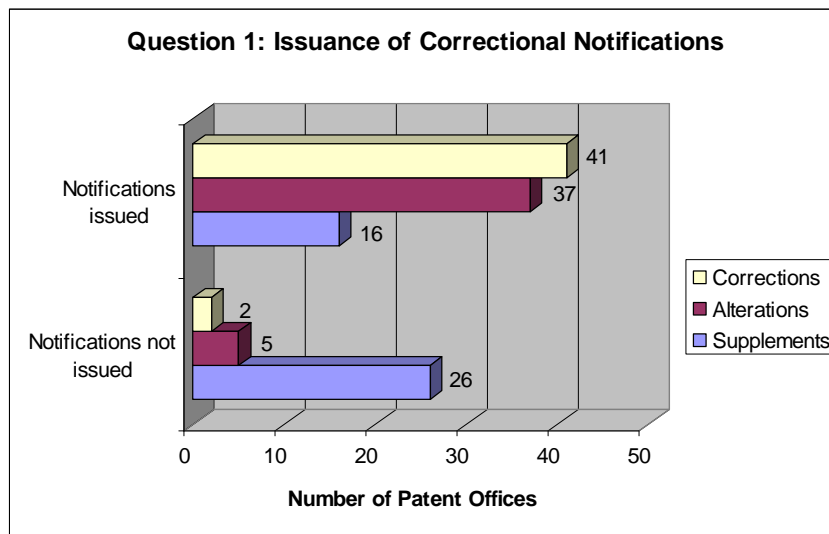
CURRENT PRACTICES

(as determined from Circular C. SCIT 2663 responses)

Notifications Issued

(from Question 1)

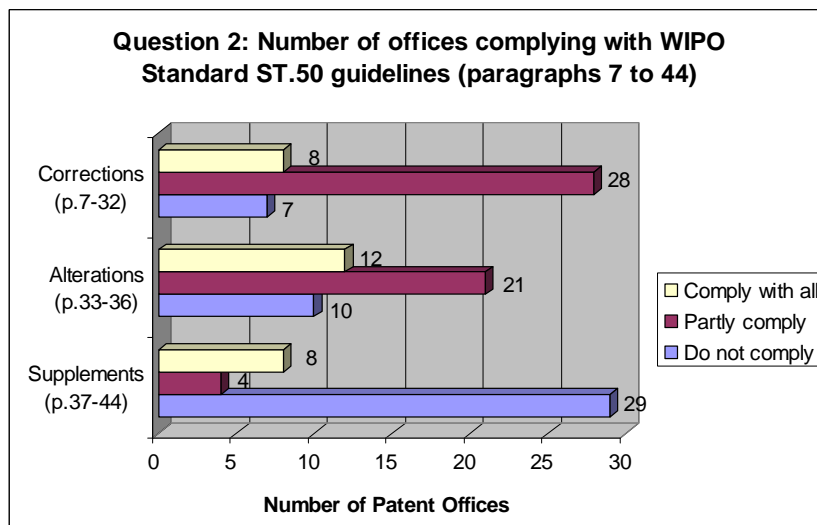
17. Almost all (95%) Patent Offices / Industrial Property Offices (hereinafter called offices) issue correction notices. Most offices (88%) issue alteration (e.g., change of ownership) notifications. Over one third issue supplements (e.g., search reports). The only other type of notification indicated (by IL) were typographical errors noted in the file wrapper.



Compliance with WIPO ST.50 guidelines

(from Questions 2 to 8)

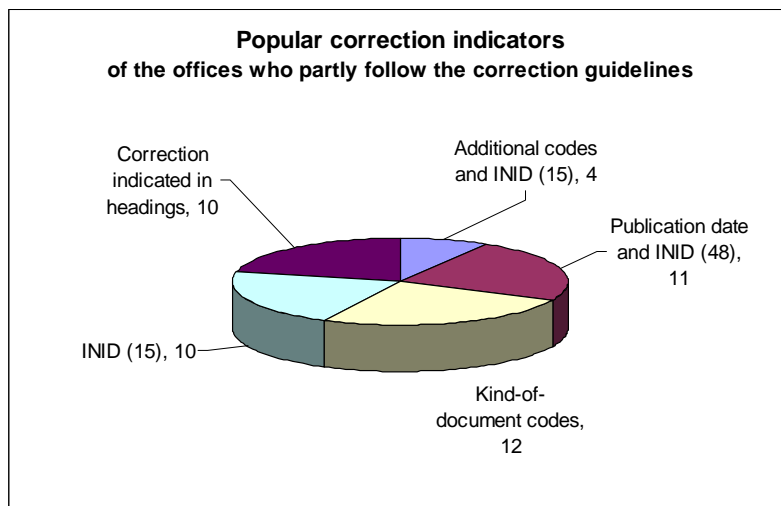
18. As can be seen in the graph below, for those offices who both issue¹ notifications as well as (at least partially) comply with the guidelines of WIPO Standard ST.50, marginally more comply with correction (88%) guidelines than with alteration guidelines (85%) or guidelines for supplements (80%). It is noted that there are more guidelines in ST.50 to comply with for corrections (26 paragraphs) than for alterations (4 paragraphs) or supplements (8 paragraphs.)



¹ Offices who do not issue notifications (e.g., PL makes a note on the register, but does not issue an alteration) have been taken out of the equation.

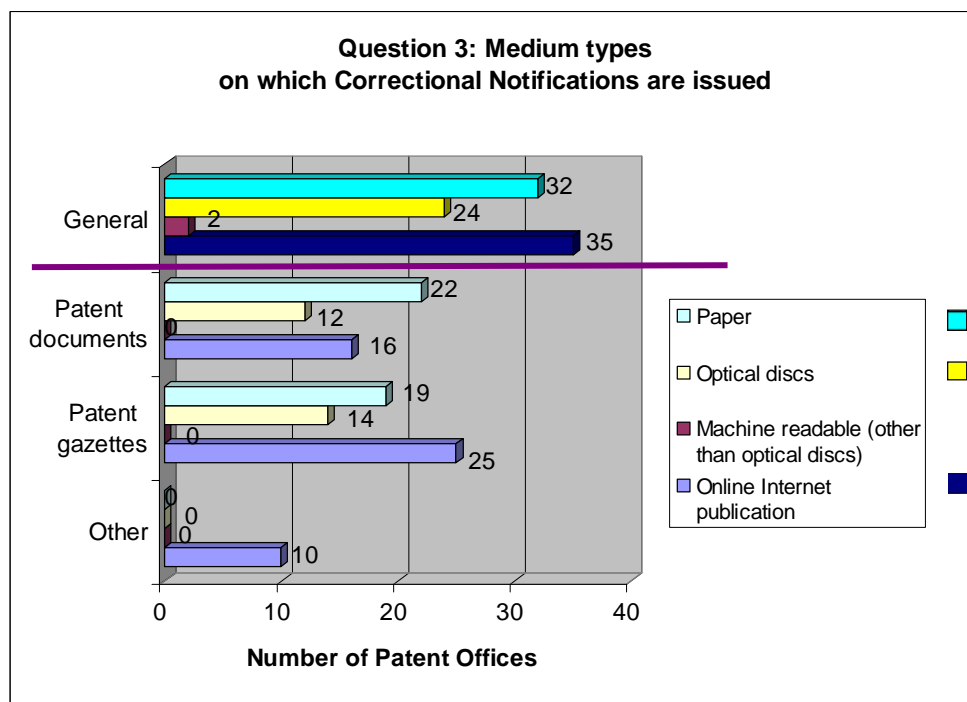
19. Of the offices who do not comply with the guidelines of WIPO Standard ST.50, 3 are planning (2 offices in 2010) to implement correction guidelines according to paragraphs 7 to 32. Two offices will (in 2010) implement alteration guidelines. And 4 offices will introduce supplement guidelines indicated in paragraphs 37 to 44.

20. Of the correction guidelines that are only partly complied with, the most common indicator² provided is the kind-of-document codes which are applied by 43% of the partially compliant offices (and 59% of offices with some level of compliance). 39% of the partially compliant offices use INID code (48) ("Date of issuance of a corrected patent document"). 36% of partially compliant offices indicate a correction (e.g., *Corrigendum*) in a heading and/or use INID code (15) ("Patent correction information"). And at 14%, additional codes in conjunction with INID codes are not widely used.



21. Information contained in the comments of questions 2 to 5, although largely unstructured, is very rich. For example, offices have been specific about which (parts of) paragraphs of WIPO Standard ST.50 are followed. Coupled with the images provided in response to Question 19, a good picture of correction procedure practices in the responding offices can be seen.

22. The online Internet publication, used by 83% of the offices, is the most popular mechanism to notify corrections, alterations, and supplements. Paper, at 76 %, is still a popular medium for issuing notifications, and is the most popular medium (52%) for issuing corrected patent documents.



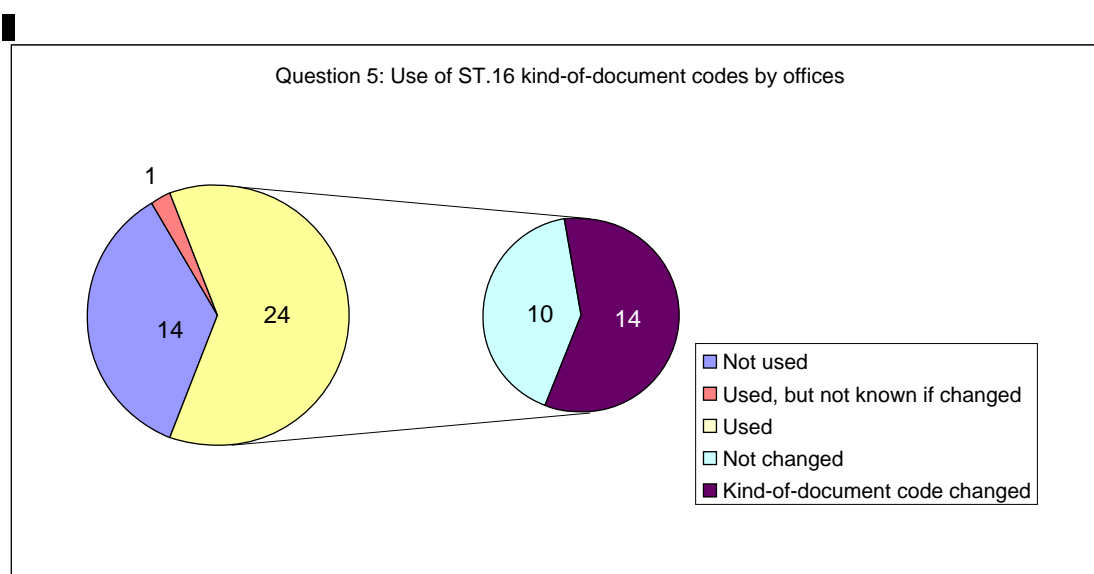
² Information is taken from the answers to questions 2 to 5, and the examples.

23. Paper is the most prevalent means for issuing notifications for patent documents while the Internet is favored for issuing notifications in patent gazettes. But, judging from the comments dispersed throughout the responses, paper is being phased out as offices find the time and budget to assert electronic means (particularly the Internet) as their authentic publication medium for patent documents (and their correction). Optical discs, used by 57% of offices, are still popular. Only 2 offices (5%) use a machine readable carrier (as distinct from optical discs and the Internet).

24. Other types of notification media types mentioned as being used on the Internet include register inspection (AT, HU) and online databases (BY, DE, HU, IL, UA).

25. Of the 24 offices using optical discs as a publication means, and noting offices were not specifically asked, 2 offices (KR, JP) stated they use DVD-ROMs and 9 (AR, AT, DE, EA, KZ, RO, SK, TR, UA) offices stated they use CD-ROMs. It is noted that WIPO Standard ST.50 at the time of the survey does not discuss DVD-ROMs or other kinds of optical disc.

26. Nearly two thirds of offices issuing corrected documents use kind-of-document codes as prescribed by WIPO Standard ST.16. 58% of those using codes change the code for a corrected document, e.g., a corrected A1 becomes A8 or A9. One office (GR), which does partially use ST.16 codes, did not indicate if codes are changed and thus is not included in the right hand part of the adjacent graph.



27. The most popular corrected kind-of-document codes used by offices are A8 (86%) followed by A9 and B8 (both 64%), and then B9 (57%).

Specific WIPO Standard ST.16 codes used ³		Count
A6 – correction of a published unexamined application:	JP	1
A8 – correction of first page of a published application:	AT, BG, CN ⁴ , DE, EP, GB, HR, KZ, MD, RO, RU, SK, WO	13
A9 – corrected complete republication of a published patent application:	AT, CN ⁴ , DE, EP, GB, HR, MD, SK, US, WO	10
B2 – amended republication of a granted patent after the opposition period:	AT	1
B4 – correction of the first page of a consensual patent:	HR	1
B5 – corrected complete republication of a consensual patent:	HR	1
B6 – correction of a granted or examined application:	JP	1
B8 – correction of the first page of a granted patent:	AT, CN ⁴ , DE, GB, EP, HU, MD, RO, SK	9
B9 – corrected complete republication of a granted patent:	AT, CN ⁴ , DE, EP, HU, MD, RO, SK	8
C – complete republished B specification:	GB	1
C2 – complete republished C specification:	GB	1

³ Parts 7.3.2 and 7.3.3 of the WIPO Handbook includes similar type of information from a survey published in June 2001.

⁴ To be implemented in the near future.

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Specific WIPO Standard ST.16 codes used ³		Count
C8 – correction of the first page:	HR ⁵ , RO, RU	3
C9 – corrected complete republication:	HR ⁵ , RO, RU	3
P9 – correction of a plant patent application publication document:	US	1
S9 – corrected complete republication of an industrial design grant:	CN ⁴	1
T4 – correction of translation of a granted EP patent:	HU	1
T5 – correction of translation of a granted EP patent into the local language:	HR, HU	2
T8 – correction of first page of a translation of the granted EP patent:	AT, DE, HR, HU, SK	5
T9 – corrected complete republication of the translation of a granted EP patent:	AT, DE, HU, SK	4
U6 – correction of a registered utility model specification or an unexamined utility model application:	JP	1
U7 – correction of a registered utility model specification:	JP	1
U8 – correction of first page of registered utility model:	AT, CN ⁴ , DE, MD, SK, RU	6
U9 – corrected complete republication of registered utility model:	AT, CN ⁴ , DE, MD, SK	5
Y6 – correction of a granted or examined utility model application:	JP	1
Y8 – correction of utility model:	MD, SK	2
Y9 – correction of utility model:	MD, SK	2

Total offices: 14

28. Of the 28 offices who responded to Question 6 (and for whom this question is applicable), the overwhelming majority (86%) treat the correction, alterations, and supplement notifications in the same way, independently of which media type is used. Only 4 offices (14%) treat notifications differently, depending on media type. And the differences are minor. Offices perhaps use different media types as a convenience to suit multiple user types with different needs. Offices have further indicated they will publish the correction information first in one (usually authentic) medium which is quickly followed by one or more other media types.

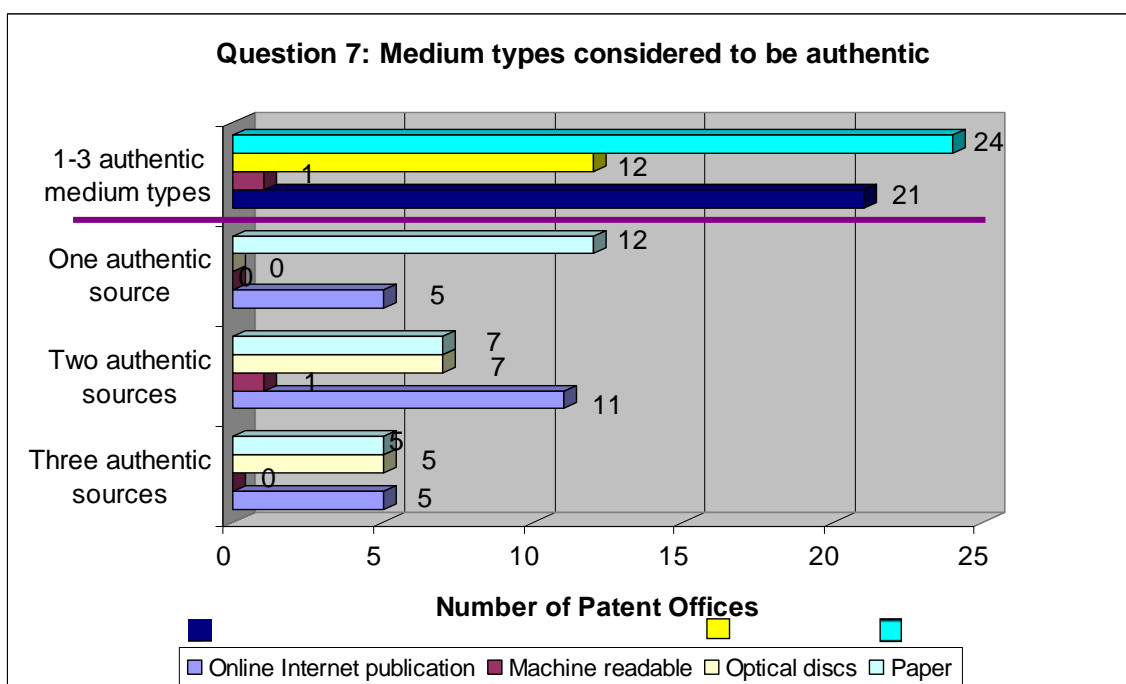
29. PDF is a popular publication format for electronic media: optical discs and the Internet.

30. Of the 35 respondents who answered Question 7, 69% consider paper as (at least one of) the most authentic (important and/or dominant) media, where 60% considered the Internet as the most authentic. Optical discs were considered the most authentic by 34% of offices. And lastly, only DE considered machine readable carriers (other than optical discs) as the most authentic medium for their office.

31. It should be noted that offices were permitted to choose more than one authentic medium. Some offices consider one medium as authentic for one type of document (e.g., unpublished A document) where a different medium was required for another type of document (AT, US).

32. Some offices (MX, RU) noted their choice was made on dominance (e.g., number of users). Convenience of updating was cited by one office (TH.)

⁵ This kind-of-document code relates to the Croatian HR-C document (converted consensual patent).



33. As can be seen in the graph above, nearly half (17) of the offices (BR, BY, EE, GR, HR, HU, IE, KR, KZ, LT, MD, MX, OA, RO, TH, UA, US) consider one medium to be the sole authentic source, the most popular being paper. Eighteen offices (AM, AR, AT, CN, CZ, DE, EA, EP, GB, GE, PK, PL, RU, SK, TR, UZ, VN, WO) indicated more than one medium to be authentic, at least one of which was the Internet for all but 2 offices (AM, SK). Five offices (AR, CN, GE, TR, UZ) considered paper, optical discs, and the Internet to be equally authentic. As optical discs were the sole authentic source for no offices, perhaps optical discs are a convenience for the users rather than the producers of correctional patent information.

34. Of the 17 applicable offices who responded to Question 8(a), only 2 (12%) handle full text, (e.g., XML) and image data (e.g., PDF) in different ways, and then only slightly differently. Most treat the data types in the same way, sometimes producing one format from the other (e.g., JP produces PDF from XML).

35. Most respondents (84%) to Question 8(b), if the question was applicable, indicated they treat corrections, alterations, and supplements in the same way independent of media type. Question 8(b) is asking essentially the same question as Question 6. Some offices who made comments (AT, EE, IE, KZ, TH) in relation to this question described the order of media type processing (e.g., EE stated the paper medium is corrected first and all other media types follow).

Concerns with the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.50 guidelines

(from Questions 9 to 12, and 20)

36. Some Offices (BR, CN, BY, GE, IE, US) indicated they have plans to (further) implement WIPO Standard ST.50 guidelines within their office.

37. Some offices (BY, CZ, GR, KR, LT) noted the complexity and strictness of the WIPO Standard ST.50. Cost was mentioned as an inhibiting factor to further implement ST.50 by some offices (BY, KR, LT, PK, UA, WO). Cost was described also in terms of programming resource (WO) and lack of equipment and software (OA).

38. Language was a concern for the TH Office. Understanding the WIPO Standard ST.50 guidelines was also a concern (OA, TR). One office (US) noted the publishing of the survey findings would help with understanding the correction, alterations, and supplement notification practices of offices.

39. One office (AT) indicated the lack of suitability of supplementary codes for their office. It is noted that only 3 offices, responding to the survey, indicate they use supplementary codes. Further the supplementary codes mentioned in paragraphs 10 and 30 to 31 of ST.50 are rather complex but notably optional.

40. One office (JP) indicated the lack of provision for optical discs such as DVD-ROMS within WIPO Standard ST.50.

41. One office (UA) indicated the lack of detail in regard to updating procedures of published documentation in databases within WIPO Standard ST.50.

42. The most frequently noted concern (BG, EE, GB, JP, RU, UA), however, was that ST.50 does not (clearly) provide guidance for issuing notifications on an online Internet publication.

43. While there were concerns with WIPO Standard ST.50, the majority 83% did not see a need to amend the standard with respect to online technologies. Further, 94% of offices did not see a need to amend the standard with respect to matters other than online Internet publication.

44. Most offices (74%) lacked information about the problems users encounter. No office noted problems distinguishing between the different types of notifications. Six offices noted problems for users identifying which publications have been subsequently corrected, altered, or supplemented. One office found also the reverse, the user can have a problem identifying which previous publication has now been corrected, altered, or supplemented.

45. Further problems proffered by offices were firstly (RU) that unofficial on-line publications may not clearly identify notifications. And secondly (UA), there are problems of identifying amendments made in online databases. And lastly, (WO) users lack experience with identifying corrections for non-national/regional databases (such as WIPO's). Such respondent's comments indicate that users who must deal with information on an unfamiliar database or system can find difficulties owing perhaps to a lack of conformity between systems and to a common standard. It may well be that the three quarters of responding offices who did not know what problems users encountered could likewise have external users (experienced professionals, commercial providers, and a growing community of non-professional end-users) who also face difficulties and complexities in determining correctional information published in a manner that deviates from WIPO Standard ST.50.

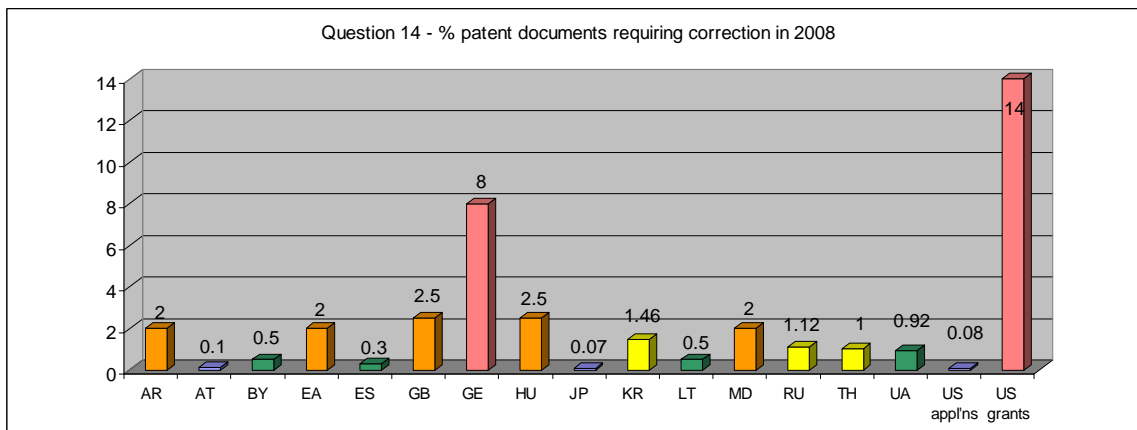
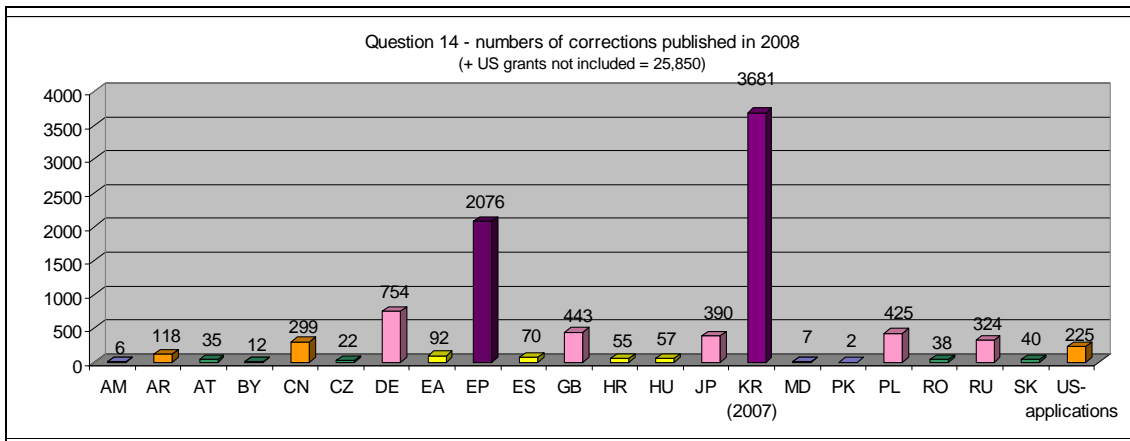
46. The EP Office noted that currently there is no way to mark up corrections, in XML, according to WIPO Standard ST.36. The EP Office are proposing an extension to WIPO Standard ST.36 which will handle this mark up. This matter is in discussion within a Trilateral/WIPO Standards work group.

Nature (type, cause, and volume) of errors requiring subsequent correction

(from Questions 13 to 15)

47. There was no one culprit for causing errors. Applicants and the patent office staff can be the cause of errors. Further causes for correction of errors are: errors occurring during electronic processing or digitizing and law offices informing of translation errors.

48. Of the 37 offices who responded to the Question 14 to indicate the volume of corrections published each year, 8 offices (BR, EC, EE, GR, IE, IL, KZ, MX) did not keep statistics. For the year 2008 (2007 for KR), the absolute numbers of corrections published and percentages of corrections published per total documents published are depicted below. The results are presented in country order. Color is associated with 'like volume' ranges.



49. The number of corrections published each year vary wildly, from 2 (PK average corrections per year) to 25,850 (US patent grant corrections for 2008). Even regarding the US Office, it is interesting to note the rate of corrections published jumps when comparing corrections of applications to corrections of patents granted. A similarly wide variance is seen in the second graph which varies from the low end at 0.07% corrections (JP) or 0.08% (US application corrections) to the high end at 14% for US patent grants published. WO volumes have not been included in the graph relating to corrections because their figure (> 30%) relates to publications for alterations and supplements as well as corrections.

50. Informed respondents (33 offices) to Question 15 overall indicate stability with regard to the number of corrections issued each year. Over half report there is no significant change. Over a third note there is a trend of fewer corrections from year to year, while 13% note an increase of corrections published. Influencing factors on the number of corrections include that the changing of a management system has reduced errors (MX) while law changes can increase numbers (JP). An increasing number of total applications also has a bearing on the number of corrections published.

Republication management information

(from Questions 16 to 18)

51. The results of Question 16 dealing with who is responsible for making the final decision about whether a correction is published is mixed. Examiners, formality officers, publication departments, and others all play a role (often in cooperation). Other roles making final decisions include legal staff (MX) or managers (PK, TR). Sometimes the question of who will decide will depend on what kind of error is being corrected; typically it falls to the examiner to correct patent document technical content errors but changes to bibliographic data are dealt with by a formalities officer. In other cases (e.g., TH, US), the stage of the life cycle the patent document is in can determine who makes the decision; the type of change (e.g., cancellation or correction of obvious error) may require different experts (MX) to decide.

52. Most (90%) offices grant a request for correction from an applicant.

53. More than half the offices publish corrections in the next available publication cycle, after the error has been noticed. Republication timing can be from more than six months (MG) to within one working day (CZ, HU, KZ). The more common timing stated was 30% of offices publish within one month.

Examples

(from Question 19)

54. Twenty-three respondents provided examples of correction information, which can be viewed in the individual responses (see <http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/mailbox/circ09.html>). Alternatively a collation of examples appears in draft format (at http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/taskforce/correction_procedures/background.htm). The intention of this examples collation is to form the substance of Part 7.4 of the Handbook dealing with *Examples concerning corrections, alterations and supplements relating to patent information* (at http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/part_07.html#7.4).

[Part 2 follows]

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PART 2 – COLLATED RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

Start date: March 12, 2009
Completed responses: 43

DETAILS ABOUT THE SURVEY TAKER

Information about the person(s) who completed the survey on behalf of the Industrial Property Office (IPO) has been removed, for security reasons, from each survey response published at <http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/mailbox/circ09.html>.

NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED

Question 1(a). Does your Office issue correction notifications?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent ⁶
Yes:	AM, AR, AT, BG, BR, BY, CN, CZ, DE, EA, EE, EP, ES, GB, GE, GR, HR, HU, IE, IL, JP, KP, KR, KZ, LT, MC, MD, MG, MX, OA, PK, PL, RO, RU, SK, TH, TR, UA, US, UZ, VN, WO	41	95%
No:	EC, MC	2	5%

Total responses: 43

IPO	Comments – Question 1(a)
ES	Corrections are issued for bibliographic data.
GR	Correction notifications mainly relate to European Validations to Greece which are communicated to the GR Office.
JP	Corrections are issued when errors in a published patent document are detected by JP Office ⁷ staff or reported by third parties including applicants. A final decision whether to issue the correction or not will be made by the JP Office publication department.
LT	Corrections to patent documents are announced in the LT Office gazette (the Official Gazette of the State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania ⁷).
MX	Correction notifications for obvious errors (errata) are issued.

Total comments: 5

Question 1(b). Does your Office issue alteration notifications?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Yes:	AR, AT, BG, BR, BY, CN, CZ, DE, EA, EE, EP, ES, GB, GE, GR, HR, HU, IE, IL, JP, KP, KZ, LT, MD, MG, MX, OA, PK, RO, RU, SK, TH, TR, UA, UZ, VN, WO	37	88%
No:	EC, KR, MC, PL, US	5	12%

Total responses: 42

⁶ Throughout the survey, percentages are calculated based only on the responses received for the question. If an IPO did not respond, that IPO was not included in the calculation total for that question.

⁷ Throughout the survey, after the first occurrence, the Office and bulletin names have been regularized to the two letter country code preceding "Office". Thus, e.g., the *State Patent Bureau of the Republic of Lithuania* becomes the *LT Office*.

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IPO	Comments – Question 1(b)
ES	The ES Office issues change of ownership notifications.
JP	Alterations are issued when a written amendment is filed for adding description, claim(s) or drawing(s), which were not furnished at the time of publication of the unexamined patent application or which was late for the publication.
MX	The MX Office issues notifications of changes affecting the status of a patent application or registration.
WO	An alteration notification may be related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a change of name(s) for applicant(s), inventor(s) or agent(s) (IB/306 under Rule 92bis); - where the international application has been the subject of international preliminary examination: or - various details, such as the IPC may have been updated.

Total comments: 4

Question 1(c). Does your Office issue supplement notifications?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent ⁸
Yes	AT, BR, EA, EP, ES, HU, MD, MG, OA, PK, RO, TH, TR, UZ, VN, WO	16	38%
No	AR, BG, BY, CN, CZ, DE, EC, EE, GB, GE, GR, HR, IE, IL, JP, KP, KR, KZ, LT, MC, MX, PL, RU, SK, UA, US	26	62%

Total responses: 42

IPO	Comments – Question 1(c)
ES	The ES Office issues search reports.
IL	No supplements are allowed (according to article 65) once the patent is issued. The article allows only corrections or alterations which narrow the scope of the claims.

Total comments: 2

Question 1(d). Does your Office issue other similar notification details?

IPO	Comments – Question 1(d)
IL	Corrections of <i>lapsus calami</i> (typographical errors) are not published, but noted in the file wrapper.

Total comments: 1

COMPLIANCE WITH WIPO STANDARD ST.50

Question 2(a). Does your Office use the correction guidelines described in paragraphs 7 to 32 of WIPO Standard ST.50?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
All:	DE, EA ⁹ , EP, MD, RO, RU, UZ, VN ⁹	8	19%
Partly:	AM ¹⁰ , AR, AT, BG, BY, CN, CZ, EE, ES ¹⁰ , GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, JP, KP, KR, KZ, LT, MG, MX, OA, PL ¹⁰ , SK, TR, UA, US, WO	28	65%
No:	BR, EC, GE, IL, MC, PK, TH	7	16%

Total responses: 43

⁸ Throughout the survey percentages are calculated based only on the responses received for the question. If an IPO did not respond, that IPO was not included in the calculation total for that question.

⁹ In the individual responses both "All" and "No" have been checked. For the purposes of the analysis, it is assumed that "All" is meant.

¹⁰ In the individual responses both "Partly" and "No" have been checked. For the purposes of the analysis, it is assumed that "Partly" is meant.

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Question 2(a)(i). If your answer was "PARTLY", which parts of WIPO Standard ST.50 are used?

(Multiple item selection was allowed.)

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Kind-of-document codes according to paragraph 10 of WIPO Standard ST.16, e.g., A8, A9, etc.:	AT, BG, GB, HR, HU, JP, KZ, OA, SK, TR, US, WO	12	46%
Data element "publication date" of the correction (INID code (48)) according to WIPO Standard ST.9:	AT, BG, EE, GB, GR, HR, HU, JP, KR, KZ, LT, OA, SK, US, WO	15	58%
Additional correction information, e.g., supplementary correction codes (example: codes on EP CD-ROMs like W, Z, etc.), together with INID code (15):	AT, HR, SK, WO	4	15%
Other – Please specify:	AR, AT, BY, CN, CZ, EE, ES, GB, IE, KP, LT, MG, PK, SK, UA, US, WO	17	65%

Total responses: 26

IPO	Comments – Question 2(a)(i)
AR	When detecting an error (made by the applicant or AR Office staff) in the publication of the patent applications bulletin the AR Office publication staff (National Administration of Patents or Department of Technological Information) publishes the correction in a later edition under the title 'List of errors' (<i>Fe de Erratas</i>) as indicated in paragraph 17 of the WIPO Standard ST.50. Paragraph 20 of WIPO Standard ST.50 is also followed.
AT	The AT Office does not publish data on machine-readable data carriers other than CD-ROMs; the related guidelines of WIPO Standard ST.50 are therefore not used. Apart from this, the AT Office fully follows the recommendations of ST.50 with the following exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An indication such as "correction" or the like under INID code (12) is not given (paragraph 12 of ST.50). • Publications of corrected versions of patent documents are not mentioned in the patent gazette (paragraph 17) up to now. • Supplementary correction codes are not used (paragraphs 30-32).
BY	Paragraphs 7, 17(a), (c), (d), 18, 20 to 22, 28, and 29 are followed.
CN	Corrections to the bibliography, other than the abstract or the representative drawing, are published in patent gazettes. Corrections to the abstract or the representative drawing are published by issuing corrected versions of the first page. Corrections to any part of patent documents are published by issuing corrected versions of the complete patent document (pamphlet). Corrections to patent gazettes are made in the relevant entry of a subsequent issue of the gazette itself.
CZ	Paragraphs 7, 10, and 13 are followed.
EE	Paragraphs 7(b), 9, 11, 14, 17, and 20 to 22 are followed.
ES	Paragraphs 13 to 16 and 20 to 22 are followed.
GB	The GB Office publish a front page footnote containing the correction type and date of publication.
IE	Paragraphs 7, 17(a), (c), (d), 18, and 20 to 23 are followed.
JP	The JP Office publishes patent documents including corrections and alterations only in the form of DVD-ROM. Utility model documents are published only via the Internet.
KP	Paragraphs 12, 14, 15, and 23(a) and (b) of WIPO Standard ST.50 are used. * Paragraph 7(b) is used, as corrections to information contained in patent documents lead to replacement sheets in the fixed form, unless only several characters are corrected, inserted, or deleted. A brief note explaining the reason, location, etc., of the correction is enclosed with the replacement sheets. The full text of the corrected version is disclosed in the electronic form on the website.
LT	Corrections to patent documents together with INID code (15) are announced in Announcements in the LT Official Gazette under headings according to WIPO Standard ST.17.
MG	The corrected version of the complete patent document is published.
MX	WIPO Standards ST.2, ST.3, ST.10/D, and ST.22 are followed.

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IPO	Comments – Question 2(a)(i)
PK	The PK Office notifies corrections relating to patent documents in paper form in the PK Official gazette part V (which is published weekly) under sub-section (4) of section 51 of the Patent Ordinance 2000 as amended in 2002 in the form as set out in Form P-21. The gazette is divided into different sections, where such corrections are published under the heading of "Corrigendum". The notification provides all information regarding the date of issue of the previously published version.
SK	<p>Relating to the publication of the original version of the patent document, the SK Office (IPO SR) uses (on the first page of the corrected version of previously published patent document) the following data preceded by INID codes according to the WIPO Standard ST.9:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the date of publication of the patent application associated with the corresponding issue number of the patent gazette preceded by INID code (40), and/or - the date of publication of the granted patent preceded by INID code (47), - the date of the entry of the utility model into the Register and its publication preceded by INID code (47), - the date of announcement of the entry of the utility model into the Register which is associated with the corresponding issue number of the patent gazette preceded by INID code (45).
TR	<p>The TR Office applies paragraph 11 of the WIPO Standards ST.16 guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group 1 for patents: A - First publication level and B - Second publication level - Group 2 for utility models: U - First publication level and Y - Second publication level
UA	<p>Paragraphs 7, 13-15, 18, 20, and 21 are applied completely. Paragraphs 17(a),(c), and (d), 22, 23(b), and 24(b) are partially applied.</p> <p>Paragraph 22 is followed partially as, unlike the recommendations given in paragraph 22, the defective entry is not repeated (as shown in the example in square brackets "[]") and announcements of corrections in a patent gazette contain only correct information (see examples 1, 2, and 3).</p> <p>The information concerning corrections is presented in the Notifications chapter of the UA Official Bulletin "Promyslova Vlasnist" ("Industrial Property") and the corresponding data are entered into the Register.</p>
US	<p>For patent application publications, the correction kind-of-document codes (A9, P9) and date of correction are provided. The complete corrected patent application publication document is republished with a new publication number to aid in uniquely identifying the document by its US publication number alone.</p> <p>For patent grants, corrections are published using certificates of corrections. The correction information is captured electronically in image format, but not in text format.</p> <p>Republications of patent application publications (A2, P4), reexamination certificates (C1, C2, etc.) and reissue granted patent (E) documents are not considered "corrections" as defined by WIPO Standard ST.50.</p>
WO	<p>The additional correction information codes do not appear in printed format, but are available in XML format output - reasons for correction are available in normal text form as associated notices on WO Office website patent search site called <i>PatentScope</i>.</p> <p>Most of the differences from WIPO Standard ST.50 relate to the location of the relevant information (some is arranged differently on the front page; reasons are usually given in associated notices rather than on the front page of the republication itself). However, defective information is not repeated (paragraph 22) and the "Gazette" is now an electronic publication which does not lend itself to structured corrections in the manner implied by paragraph 21.</p>

Total comments: 20

Question 2(a)(ii). *If your answer was "NO", is your Office planning to introduce the guidelines according to WIPO Standard ST.50? If so, when?*

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Yes:	BR, GE, MG	3	33%
No:	EC, GR, IL, KR, TH, US	6	67%

Total responses: 9

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IPO	Comments – Question 2(a)(ii): If so, when?
BR	As soon as possible, probably in 2010.
GE	In 2010.
MG	The MG Office can not yet specify a date, but is currently reviewing work methods in order to comply with different WIPO Standards.

Total comments: 3

Comments relating to guidelines for corrections

IPO	Comments – Question 2(a)
BY	The BY Office is considering the possibility of publication of additional correction information relating to patent documents. No specific timeline has been determined.
CN	Kind-of-document codes, INID code (48) and INID code (15) will be implemented in the near future.
KR	The KR Office just use and indicate in patent gazettes, the INID code (15), without any additional correction information, e.g., (15) 정정정보: 발명자.
PK	The PK Office notifies corrections relating to patent documents in paper form in the PK Official gazette part V (which is published weekly) under sub-section (4) of section 51 of the Patent Ordinance 2000 as amended in 2002 in the form as set out in Form P-21. The gazette is divided into different sections, where such corrections are published under the heading of "Corrigendum.. The notification provides all information regarding the date of issue of the previously published version.
SK	<p>The INID code (15), used only on the first page of the corrected version of patent document (not in Patent Gazette, databases, etc.), indicates the sequence number of the version of the corrected document and the page numbers where the correction was made.</p> <p>The WIPO Standard ST.16 kind-of-document code is presented on the first page of the corrected version of the patent document by using the INID code (13), e.g., B8, U9.</p> <p>On the first page of the corrected version of the patent document and on each of the following pages of the corrected document the ST.16 kind-of-document code is published as a part of the ST.1 unique identifier, i.e., ST.3/ST.6/ST.16 code, which is presented according to ST.10/B.</p> <p>The SK Office announces corrections to patent information previously published in patent documents and Patent Gazettes under the separate parts <i>headings of announcements</i> contained in the Patent Gazette, and taking into consideration the kind of original document and category of correction. Headings of announcements of corrections, coded according to ST.17, are associated with a respective Slovak language designation. The announcement of a correction indicates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the publication number of the previously published patent document by using INID code (11) and/or the publication number of the patent application by using INID code (21); - the corrected version of information provided by using the respective INID code; - the number and the year of issue of the Patent Gazette, in which the publication of the original version of the document had been announced, and the location of the previously published (erroneous) information by using the respective ST.17 heading code.
US	The US Office is considering publication of corrected patent grants. No specific timetable has been determined.
WO	See PCT Newsletter 12/2008 for modification of kind codes as from January 1, 2009. A8 or A9 are used instead of either A1, A2, or A3 for corrections.

Total comments: 7

Question 2(b). Does your Office use the alteration guidelines described in paragraphs 33 to 36 of WIPO Standard ST.50?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
All:	BG, EA, EP, GB, HU, LT, MD, RO, RU, UZ, VN, WO	12	28
Partly:	AR, AT, BY, CN, CZ, DE, EE, ES, HR, IE, JP, KP, KZ, MG, MX, OA, PK, PL, SK, TR, UA	21	49
No:	BR, EC, GE, GR, IL, JP, MC, KR, TH, US	10	23

Total responses: 43

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Question 2(b)(i). If your answer was "PARTLY", please specify the practice of your Office?

IPO	Comments – Question 2(b)(i)
AR	Paragraphs 33 and 34 are applied in full.
AT	<p>The AT Office does not publish data on machine-readable data carriers other than CD-ROMs; the related guidelines of ST.50 are therefore not used. Apart from this, the AT Office fully follows the recommendations of ST.50 with the following exception relating to paragraph 33:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where alterations, such as changes in ownership, or the like, relate more to the intellectual property right than to published documents, and where notifications of such alterations are related to the property right itself (register number of the concerned patent or utility model), these alterations do not lead to republications of documents. The register numbers equal the publication numbers. - The only possible legally allowed case of an alteration of a previously published document itself would be a republication in amended form after an opposition procedure (kind code B2), which would be notified in the gazette. Notification of partial or full declaration of nullity is provided only in the register.
BY	Paragraphs 33(a), (c) to (e), 34, and 36 are followed.
CN	Alterations relating to the transfer of ownership and change of the name or address of the applicant are announced in the patent gazette and patent register.
CZ	Paragraph 34 is followed.
DE	<p>If necessary (legally, procedurally), alterations will be published in the Patent Gazette. The DE Office follows paragraphs 33(a) to (c), and (e), and paragraph 34.</p> <p>With respect to paragraph 36, alterations are published on a machine-readable carrier, but a user must read the complete set of data.</p>
EE	With regard to paragraph 36 the EE Office does not use a machine-readable carrier (CD-ROM)
ES	The data relating to the new owner of the patent, identified by the application number, are published under the heading "Transmissions" (transfer) of the Official Gazette.
HR	Alterations are only published in the gazette and are entered into the Register, but not as a new document.
IE	Paragraphs 33(a),(c),(d), and 34 to 36 are followed.
JP	The JP Office publishes patent documents including corrections and alterations only in the form of DVD-ROM. Utility model documents are published only via the Internet.
KP	<p>Paragraphs 33(a) and (c) and 34 are used.</p> <p>In the KP Office, alterations relating to information previously published in the patent documents are announced in the patent gazette disclosing patent registrations and grants. When the exclusive right is transferred, information about the patent right holder alteration is also announced in the patent gazette as quickly as possible.</p>
KZ	Alterations to titles of protection are published in the Gazette of Industrial Property where the number (of the title of protection), page, column, line, as well as the correct and wrong spellings are shown. The corrected version is submitted to the IT Service for correcting PDF documents and written to CD-ROM.
MG	<p>The changes listed below are included in the patent register and published in the MG Official Gazette of Industrial Property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - change of name or address of the applicant or holder, - change of firm name of the applicant or holder, - withdrawal of the application, - abandonment of the application, - transaction in respect of industrial property protection, - cancellation of industrial property protection, - removal from the industrial property register.
MX	Corrections are published according to the guidelines of WIPO Standards ST.2, ST.3, ST.9, and ST.10/D.
PK	The PK Office notifies alterations relating to patent documents in the PK Official gazette part V in the form of announcement under sub-section (1) of section 54 of the Patent Ordinance 2000 as amended in 2002 in the form as set out in Form P-23 which indicates the publication date and patent number of the previously published information in the Official Gazette part V and the information being altered and the alteration itself. An alteration, or at least the fact that an alteration was made, is recorded by PK Office in its patent register.
PL	An alteration is recorded in the register when data already in the register are altered. There is no information on alteration of the description, claims, or drawings recorded in the register.

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IPO	Comments – Question 2(b)(i)
SK	<p>The SK Office announces alterations relating to patent information previously published in patent documents and Patent Gazettes under the separate parts <i>headings of announcements</i> contained in the Patent Gazette, while considering the kind of original document and category of alteration. Headings of announcements of alterations are given according to the WIPO Standard ST.17 and are associated with a respective Slovak language designation. The announcement of an alteration indicates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the publication number of the previously published patent document by using INID code (11) and/or the publication number of the patent application by using INID code (21), - the replaced information using the respective INID code, - the date of the entry of the alteration of original information into the Register.
TR	Paragraphs 33 to 35 of WIPO Standard ST.50 are applied. The TR Office does not yet apply paragraph 36.
UA	<p>Paragraph 34 is followed completely. Paragraphs 33(a), (c), (e), and 36 are partially followed.</p> <p>Alterations which refer to information previously issued on CD-ROMs, are not communicated in such a way so as to allow automatic updating of databases. Such updating requires a user to refer to a special Notifications section of the Official Bulletin "Promyslova Vlasnist" ("Industrial Property") and the corresponding data entered into the Register.</p>

Total comments: 20

Question 2(b)(ii). If your answer was "NO", is your Office planning to introduce the guidelines according to WIPO Standard ST.50? If so, when?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Yes:	BR, GE	2	25%
No:	EC, GR, IL, KR, TH, US	6	75%

Total responses: 8

IPO	Comments – Question 2(b)(ii): If so, when?
BR	Guidelines will be introduced as soon as possible, probably in 2010.
GE	Guidelines will be introduced in 2010.

Total comments: 2

Comments relating to guidelines for alterations

IPO	Comments – Question 2(b)
CN	Alterations, relating to information previously published in any part of the patent document, are not announced.
GR	The GR Office is not planning to introduce the guidelines at present.
LT	The Official Gazette of the LT Office in PDF format (exact replica of the paper version) contains alterations announced under headings according to WIPO Standard ST.17. The paper version will be discontinued from July 1, 2009.
WO	As from January 1, 2009, the A4 code (see WIPO Standard ST.16) is used for later publication of amended claims and/or statement (PCT Article 19) with revised front page. See PCT Newsletter 12/2008 for modification of kind codes as from January 1, 2009. A8 instead of either A1, A2 or A3 is used for alterations.

Total comments: 4

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Question 2(c). Does your Office use the guidelines relating to supplements described in paragraphs 37 to 44 of WIPO Standard ST.50?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
All:	EA, EP, HU, MD, RO, UZ, VN, WO	8	20%
Partly:	AT, ES, TR, PK	4	10%
No:	AR, BG, BR, BY, CN, CZ, DE, EC, EE, GB, GE, GR, HR, IE, IL, JP, KP, KR, KZ, LT, MC, MG, MX, PL, RU, SK, TH, UA, US	29	71%

Total responses: 41

Question 2(c)(i). If your answer was "PARTLY", please specify the practice of your Office?

IPO	Comments – Question 2(c)(i)
AT	The AT Office does not publish data on machine-readable data carriers other than CD-ROMs; the related guidelines of ST.50 are therefore not used. Apart from this the AT Office fully follows the recommendations of ST.50 with the following exception: - The only supplements provided are search reports after initial publications of patent applications or registered utility models without search report (kind codes A2, U2). These search reports are published as A3, A5, or U3 documents. Indications such as "Supplement" or the like are not given (paragraph 37).
ES	All the guidelines are met, except for the designation of the supplement.
OA	Before grant, supplements are taken into account.
PK	The PK Office publishes supplements in the PK Official gazette part V under sub-section (3) of section 42 of the Patent Ordinance 2000 as amended in 2002 in the form as set out in Form P-16.
TR	Paragraphs 37 to 39 of WIPO Standard ST.50 are applied. Published CD-ROMS are the same as the paper form.

Total comments: 5

Question 2(c)(ii). If your answer was "NO", is your Office planning to introduce the guidelines according to WIPO Standard ST.50?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Yes:	BR, GE, KZ, MG	4	15%
No:	AR, BG, CZ, DE, EC, EE, GB, GR, HR, IE, IL, JP, KR, LT, MC, MX, PL, RU, SK, TH, UA, US	22	85%

Total responses: 26

IPO	Comments – Question 2(c)(ii): If so, when?
BR	The guidelines will be introduced as soon as possible, probably in 2010.
GE	The guidelines will be introduced in 2010.
KZ	The guidelines will be introduced in 2010 or 2011.

Total comments: 3

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Comments relating to guidelines for supplements:

IPO	Comments – Question 2(c)
BY	The BY Office does not issue supplements and does not intend to do so in the future.
CN	Search reports or their revised versions are not published due to legal and procedural reasons.
EE	Supplemental information is published as corrections or alterations.
EP	The EP Office publishes A3 documents as supplements.
IE	The IE Office does not publish supplements.
KP	The KP Office does not use guidelines for supplements because it does not issue a Search Report or a Supplementary Search Report.
KR	The KR Office neither allows alterations nor supplements in patent documents as defined in the WIPO Standard ST.50. Thus the KR Office has no guidelines for alterations or supplements.
LT	In accordance with Patent Law of the Republic of Lithuania, supplements are not issued.
MX	The MX Office has not considered the publication of supplements.
RU	The RU Office doesn't publish supplementary information, since the Search reports are not published.
SK	The SK Office does not publish additional information after initial publication of the patent document, in the form of the supplement.
WO	See PCT Newsletter 12/2008 for the modification of kind codes as from January 1, 2009. A9 is used instead of either A1, A2 or A3 for supplements.

Total comments: 12

MEDIA ON WHICH CORRECTIONS, ALTERATIONS, AND SUPPLEMENTS ARE PUBLISHED

Question 3. *On which types of media are corrections, alterations, and/or supplements issued according to the guidelines of WIPO Standard ST.50?*

(Multiple item selection was allowed.)

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
(a) Paper:	AM, AR, AT, BG, BY, CN, CZ, EA, EE, ES, GB, GE, GR, HR, HU, IE, KP, KZ, LT, MD, MG, OA, PL, RO, RU, SK, TH, TR, UA, US, UZ, VN	32	76%
(i) patent documents:	AT, BG, BY, CN, CZ, EE, ES, GB, HR, HU, IE, KZ, LT, MD, MG, PL, RO, RU, SK, TR, UA, US	22	52%
(ii) patent gazettes:	AR, AT, BG, BY, CN, EA, EE, GR, HR, HU, IE, KZ, MD, MG, PL, RO, RU, UA, US	19	45%
(b) Optical discs, e.g., CD-ROMS/DVDs:	AR, AT, CN, DE, EA, EP, ES, GE, GR, IE, JP, KR, KZ, MX, OA, RO, RU, SK, TR, UA, US, UZ, VN, WO	24	57%
(i) patent documents:	AT, DE, EA, EP, ES, IE, JP, KZ, RO, RU, TR, US	12	29%
(ii) patent gazettes:	AR, CN, DE, EA, EP, GR, JP, KR, MX, RO, RU, SK, UA, US	14	33%
(c) Patent documents on machine-readable carriers other than optical discs, e.g., magnetic tapes:	DE, US	2	5%
(d) Online Internet publication:	AR, AT, BR, BY, CN, CZ, DE, EA, EE, EP, ES, GB, GE, GR, HR, HU, IE, IL, JP, KR, LT, MD, MX, PK, PL, RO, RU, SK, TH, TR, UA, US, UZ, VN, WO	35	83%
(i) patent documents:	AT, BR, BY, CZ, DE, EP, ES, GB, HU, JP, MD, MX, PL, RO, RU, US	16	38%
(ii) patent gazettes:	AR, AT, BR, CN, CZ, DE, EA, EE, EP, GB, GR, HU, IE, IL, JP, KR, MD, MX, PK, PL, RO, RU, SK, UA, US	25	60%
(iii) other (e.g., web services):	AT, BY, CZ, DE, ES, HU, IL, LT, TR, UA	10	24%

Total responses: 42

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IPO	Comments – Question 3
AT	<p>Patent documents on paper and the Internet: No paper version of published patent applications (kind codes A) are available, therefore corrections / alterations / supplements of patent documents (B,U,T) are published on paper; corrections / alterations / supplements of patent documents (A,B,U) are published on the Internet.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on paper and the Internet: Alterations/supplements are notified in the patent gazette.</p> <p>Patent documents on optical disc: MIMOSA CD-ROMs are produced including all corrections/alterations/supplements of documents (A,B,U).</p> <p>Other Internet publications (e.g., web services): The AT Office (APO) offers register inspection via the Internet.</p>
AR	<p>Patent gazettes (paper, optical disc, and the Internet): Paragraph 17 is followed.</p>
BG	<p>Paper patent documents and gazettes: The BG Office uses the kind-of-document code; INID code (15) for patent correction information including the location of the error, etc.; and includes the publication date (INID code (48)).</p>
BR	<p>Patent documents on the Internet: The BR Office has a special agreement with the European Patent Office. The BR Office sends the digitized patent collection (first publication) to the EP Office, so the collection is available to the public.</p>
BY	<p>Paper patent documents: Paragraphs 7, 17 (a), (c), (d), 18, 33 (a), (c) to (e), and 34 are followed.</p> <p>Paper patent gazettes: Paragraphs 20 to 22, 33(a), (c) to (e), and 34 are followed.</p> <p>Patent documents on the Internet: Paragraphs 28 and 29 (for the PDF format) are followed.</p> <p>Other Internet publications (e.g., web services): Paragraphs 28 and 36 (for online databases) are followed.</p>
CN	<p>Paper, optical discs, and online Internet publications: Corrections and alterations are published on these media.</p> <p>Patent documents and patent gazettes (paper and optical disc): Corrections to the bibliography, other than the abstract or the representative drawing, are published in patent gazettes.</p> <p>Corrections to the abstract or representative drawing are published by issuing corrected versions of the first page.</p> <p>Corrections to any part of patent documents are published by issuing corrected versions of the complete patent document (pamphlet).</p> <p>Corrections to patent gazettes are made in the relevant entry of a subsequent issue of the gazette itself.</p> <p>Patent gazettes (paper, optical disc, and the Internet): Alterations relating to the transfer of ownership and changes of the name or address of the applicant are announced in the patent gazette and patent register.</p>
CZ	<p>Paper patent documents: Paragraphs 7, 10, 13, and 34 are followed.</p> <p>Patent documents and gazettes published on the Internet: Paragraphs 10 and 34 are followed.</p>
DE	<p>Patent documents on optical disc are contained on DEPAROM.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on optical disc are contained on Patentblatt-CD.</p> <p>Machine-readable carriers other than optical discs: http://www.dpma.de/english/service/e-services/dpmadatenabgabe/index.html is the relevant Internet address.</p> <p>Patent documents and the patent gazette published on the Internet: http://publikationen.dpma.de is the relevant Internet address.</p> <p>Other Internet publications (e.g., web services): http://depatisnet.dpma.de is the relevant Internet address.</p>

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IPO	Comments – Question 3
EA	<p>Paper patent gazettes: Paragraphs 17, 18, 20, 21, 33 (a), (b), (d), (e), 34, and 39 of WIPO Standard ST.50 are followed.</p> <p>Full description patent documents on optical disc: Paragraphs 23, 37, 38, 41, and 42 of ST.50 are followed.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on optical disc and the Internet: Paragraphs 17, 18, 20, 21, 33 (a), (b), (d), (e), 34, and 39 of ST.50 are followed.</p>
EE	<p>Patent documents on paper: Paragraphs 7(b), 9, 11, and 14 are followed.</p> <p>Patent gazettes (paper and the Internet): Paragraphs 17, 20 to 22, 33 to 35 are followed.</p>
EP	<p>Patent documents on optical disc are contained on ESPACE EPAB</p> <p>Patent gazettes on optical disc are contained on ESPACE BULLETIN</p> <p>Patent documents published on the Internet: http://www.epo.org/patents/patent-information/european-patent-documents/publication-server.html is the relevant Internet address.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on the Internet: http://www.epo.org/patents/patent-information/european-patent-documents/european-patent-bulletin.html is the relevant Internet address.</p>
GB	<p>Paper patent documents: The GB Office physically republishes corrected patent documents for forwarding to applicants.</p> <p>Patent documents published on the Internet: The publication server is at the Internet address http://www.ipo.gov.uk/types/patent/p-os/p-find/p-find-publication.htm</p> <p>Patent gazettes on the Internet: The On-Line Patents journal is at the Internet address http://www.ipo.gov.uk/types/patent/p-os/p-journal/p-pj</p>
GR	<p>Patent gazettes on paper, optical disc and the Internet: Paragraphs 9 and 10 (partially) are followed.</p>
HR	<p>Paper patent documents: Paragraphs 7 to 19 are followed.</p> <p>Paper patent gazettes: Paragraphs 33 and 34 are followed.</p>
HU	<p>Patent documents published on paper and the Internet: WIPO Standards ST.1, ST.3, and ST.9, and paragraphs 7 to 9 of WIPO Standard ST.50 are followed. Printed documents are issued, only for the inventors, after granting. Patent documents are accessible via the HU Office online database (PIPACS) on the Internet.</p> <p>Patent gazettes published on paper and on the Internet: WIPO Standards ST.1, ST.3, ST.9, and ST.60, and paragraphs 17 and 20 of WIPO Standard ST.50 are followed. Paper Gazettes are printed only on demand (order or subscription). Gazettes are accessible free of charge on the homepage of the HU Office in authentic PDF format (since January 2006).</p> <p>Other Internet publications (e.g., web services): The HU Office online database; and E-registers.</p>
IE	<p>Paper patent documents: Paragraphs 7, 17(a), (c), (d), 18, 33(a), (c) to (e), and 34 to 36.</p> <p>Paper patent gazettes: Paragraphs 20 to 22, 33(a), (c) to (e), and 34 to 36 are followed.</p> <p>Patent documents on optical disc: Paragraphs 23(a) and (b) are followed.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on the Internet: Paragraphs 20 to 22 are followed.</p>
IL	<p>Other Internet publications (e.g., web services): The IL Office patent database on the Internet is searchable by patent number.</p>
JP	<p>Patent documents and patent gazettes on optical disc: Paragraphs 23 to 27 are followed.</p> <p>Patent documents and the patent gazette are published on the Internet: Paragraphs 28, 29, and 36 are followed.</p>

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IPO	Comments – Question 3
KR	<p>Patent gazettes on optical disc: DVD-ROMs: In addition to the online gazettes, the KR Office publishes gazettes on DVDs for backup and, in some cases, for domestic/overseas distribution.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on the Internet: <i>http://www.kipo.go.kr</i> is the relevant Internet address.</p>
KZ	<p>Paper patent documents: Paragraphs 3(a) to (e), 7(a), 7(b), 15, and 17(a) to (c) are followed.</p> <p>Paper patent gazettes: Paragraphs 20(a) to (c), and 22 are followed.</p> <p>Patent documents on optical disc are contained on CD-ROMs. Paragraphs 23(a) and (b) are followed.</p>
LT	<p>Paper patent documents: Corrections to patent documents are announced in the LT Official Gazette.</p> <p>Paper patent gazettes: The paper version will be discontinued from July 1, 2009.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on the Internet: The Official Gazette of the LT Office in PDF format is published on the website <i>http://www.vpb.gov.lt</i>.</p>
MD	<p>Paper patent documents: Paragraphs 7 to 13, 15, 33, and 37 to 39 are followed.</p> <p>Paper patent gazettes: Paragraphs 7 to 12, 15, 28 to 33, 36 to 39 are followed.</p> <p>Patent documents published on the Internet: Paragraphs 7 to 12, 15, 28 to 33, 36 to 39, 43, and 44 are followed.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on the Internet: Paragraphs 7 to 12, 15 to 22, 28, 29, 33, 36 to 39, 43, and 44 are followed.</p>
MG	<p>Paper patent documents: Publication of the corrected version of the complete patent document.</p> <p>Paper patent gazettes: All amendments enumerated in item 2(b)(i) are published in the MG Official Gazette.</p>
PK	<p>Patent gazettes on the Internet: Corrections are published under sub-section (4) of section 51 of the Patent Ordinance 2000 as amended in 2002 in the form as set out in Form P-21.</p> <p>Alterations are published under sub-section (1) of section 54 of the Patent Ordinance 2000 as amended in 2002 in the form as set out in Form P-23.</p> <p>Supplements are published under sub-section (3) of section 42 of the Patent Ordinance 2000 as amended in 2002 in the form as set out in Form P-16.</p>
RO	<p>Patent documents on optical disc are contained on CD-ROM.</p>
RU	<p>Patent documents on paper, optical disc, and the Internet; patent gazettes on optical disc and the Internet: All recommendations of WIPO Standard ST.50 are followed.</p> <p>Paper patent gazettes: Patent bulletins on paper do not contain patent descriptions, which is why the corrected versions of documents are not provided in the official gazette, only corresponding notifications are provided.</p>
SK	<p>Paper patent documents and patent gazettes published on Optical disc and the Internet: Guidelines for issuing corrections and alterations are used.</p> <p>Paper patent gazettes: Issuing of the SK Office Gazette in paper form was terminated at the end of 2007.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on optical disc: Since the beginning of 2008, the SK Office Gazette has been published on CD-ROMs.</p>

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IPO	Comments – Question 3
TR	<p>Paper and Optical disc: Paragraphs 10, 33 to 35, and 37 to 39 are followed.</p> <p>Other Internet publications (e.g., web services): The TR Office has an official patent bulletin (not a patent gazette) which is issued monthly on paper and CD-ROM format. The Online Internet publication includes publication dates and kinds of publication (e.g., application or grant) Alterations can be tracked via online services. Supplements are not issued online, but can be provided to a person who requests them.</p>
UA	<p>Patent gazettes on optical disc: CD-ROMs are used.</p> <p>Other Internet publications (e.g., web services): Publication of patent documents is in structured form in the databases. Each issue contains information about correction of erroneous information that appeared in the previous issue in the notifications section of the Official Bulletin "Promyslova Vlasnist" ("Industrial Property"). Data in the corresponding database is updated twice a month together with the Official Bulletin publication.</p>
US	<p>Paper patent documents: Paragraph 15 is followed; only granted plant patents are published on paper.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on the Internet: A list of Certificates of Corrections for patents is published and follows paragraph 15. Patent gazettes are not published on paper.</p> <p>Patent documents on optical disc: For patent application publications, paragraphs 7(b), 5, and 23 are followed. For granted patents: paragraphs 15 and 23 are followed.</p> <p>Patent gazettes on optical disc: Patent application publications are not published. Patent grants: paragraphs 15 and 23 are followed.</p> <p>Patent documents on machine-readable carriers other than optical discs: Patent application publications: paragraphs 7(b), 15, 28, and 29 are followed. Paragraphs 15 and 28-29 are followed for granted patents.</p> <p>Patent documents published on the Internet: Patent application publications and granted patents: paragraph 15 is followed.</p>
UZ	<p>Paper, optical disc, and the Internet publications include the official bulletin.</p>

Total comments: 31

Question 4. *Does your Office use correction, alteration, and/or supplement issuing procedures other than provided in WIPO Standard ST.50?*

(Multiple item selection was allowed.)

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Paper Patent Documents:	ES, GE, IE, KZ, LT, RU, SK, US, UZ	9	41%
Patent Documents on optical discs, e.g., CD-ROMs/DVDs:	EA, ES, GE, KZ, MX, US	6	27%
Patent Gazettes/Bulletins (please specify media used):	AR, BR, EA, GE, GR, IE, KR, KZ, MD, SK	10	45%
Machine-readable carriers other than optical discs:	US	1	5%
Online Internet publication:	EA, EE, ES, GB, GE, GR, IE, KR, MX, PK, PL, SK, TH, UA, US	15	68%

Total responses: 22

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IPO	Comments – Question 4
AR	Patent Gazettes/Bulletins on paper, CD-ROM, and the Internet use non WIPO Standard ST.50 issuing procedures.
BR	Patent Gazettes/Bulletins on the Internet use non ST.50 issuing procedures.
EA	Patent Documents on optical discs on CD-ROMs use non ST.50 issuing procedures.
EE	Online Internet publication: Publication of the new bibliographic data in the public Database of the Estonian Patent Applications and Patents, Database of the European Patents Validated in Estonia and Database of Utility Models use non WIPO Standard ST.50 issuing procedures.
ES	Paper patent documents: A section “Modifications” is added to the original document, but is not published in the Official Gazette unless it concerns bibliographic data. Patent Documents on optical discs and the Internet: A section “Modifications” is added to the original document in PDF, but is not published in the Official Gazette unless it concerns bibliographic data.
GR	Patent Gazettes/Bulletins on paper and optical disc use non ST.50 issuing procedures. Online Internet publication: The GR Office Bulletin published at http://www.obl.gr uses non ST.50 issuing procedures.
IE	Paper patent documents: For Patent Applications, corrections to specifications before grant are not published. Corrections to bibliographic data are noted in the Office patent register, but not published. For Granted Patents, corrections after grant require the paper document to be republished with amendments noted. Corrections to bibliographic data are noted in the Office patent register, but not published. Patent Gazettes/Bulletins: Corrections to a granted patent are published in the Patent Gazette using non ST.50 issuing procedures. Online Internet publication: Patent Applications, Granted Patents, and Patent Gazettes published as PDF documents using non ST.50 issuing procedures.
KR	Patent Gazettes/Bulletins on DVD use non ST.50 issuing procedures. Online Internet publication: When errors are found in already published patent gazettes, the KR Office announces the corrections in subsequent editions of the patent gazettes, without necessarily providing an exact distinction between the corrections and alterations as specified in WIPO Standard ST.50. Online softcopy gazettes (in PDF format) are uploaded onto the KR Office website on a daily basis.
KZ	Patent documents on optical disc on CD-ROMs use non ST.50 issuing procedures. Patent Gazettes/Bulletins on paper use non ST.50 issuing procedures.
LT	Paper patent documents: Corrections to patent documents are announced in the LT Official Gazette.
MD	Patent Gazettes/Bulletins on paper and the online Internet publication use non ST.50 issuing procedures.
MX	Patent documents on optical disc and the Internet: The MX Office does not follow all the guidelines.
PL	Online Internet publication: Only the up-to-date version of specification is available.
RU	Paper patent documents: Patent bulletins on paper do not contain patent descriptions, which is why the corrected versions of documents are not provided in the official gazette, only the corresponding notifications are provided. Online Internet publication: With regard to all kinds of media (including online Internet publications), the RU Office (Rospatent) uses only the issuing procedures provided by WIPO Standard ST.50.

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IPO	Comments – Question 4
SK	Paper patent documents, Patent Documents on CD-ROM and the Internet: Paragraphs 14, 17-19, 21, 23-31, and 37-44 are not used. Paragraph 10 is not followed with respect of the use of supplementary codes or information relating to previously published versions of corrections. The SK Office does not publish corrected patent documents either on CD-ROM or on other machine-readable carriers. Corrected versions are published only on paper. Refer also to the comments in response to Question 2(a).
TH	The TH Office uses its own procedure.
TR	Online Internet publication: The TR Office issues the corrected page of the application in the patent bulletin, issued monthly. No other standard (other than WIPO Standard ST.50) is used by the TR Office.
UA	Online Internet publication: Online publications of the cumulative UA Official Bulletin are identical to the publications in paper media. Patent documents (in structured form) are updated according to the corrections and amendments. Procedures other than prescribed by WIPO Standard ST.50 deal with online Internet publication only and concern only the updating of information (including corrections and alterations), that is contained in the corresponding database.
US	Paper patent documents: For granted plant patents only, paper certificates of corrections are used. Patent documents on optical disc: For patent grants, certificates of corrections are provided but no kind-of-document code is provided. The certificates of corrections are included with the pages of the granted patent document image. Machine-readable carriers other than optical discs: For patent grants, certificates of corrections are provided but no kind-of-document code is provided. The certificates of corrections are included with the pages of the granted patent document image. Online Internet publication: For patent grants, certificates of corrections are provided but no kind-of-document code is provided. The certificates of corrections are included with the pages of the granted patent document image.
UZ	Paper patent documents: The publication of descriptions use non ST.50 issuing procedures.

Total comments: 20

Question 5. *List the WIPO Standard ST.16 kind-of-document codes used for each kind of corrected patent document. Please indicate if your Office does not change the ST.16 kind-of-document code for corrected documents?*

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Not used:	AR, CN, CZ, EC, ES, GE, IE, IL, KR, MG, PK, TH, UZ, VN	14	36%
Used:	AM, AT, BG, BR, BY, DE, EA, EE, EP, GB, GR, HR, HU, JP, KZ, MD, MX, PL, RO, RU, SK, TR, UA, US, WO	25	64%
Not changed:	AM, BR, BY, EA, EE, KZ, MX, PL, TR, UA	10	26%
Kind-document-code changed:	AT, BG, DE, EP, GB, HR, HU, JP, MD, RO, RU, SK, US, WO	14	36%
Not known if changed:	GR	1	3%

Total responses: 39

IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 5
AR	The AR Office does not correct patent documents because the full document is not published.

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IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 5
AT	<p>The following kind-of-document codes are used for corrected patent documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A8 - published patent application, correction of the first page - A9 - published patent application, corrected republication of the whole document - B2 - granted patent, amended republication after opposition procedure - B8 - granted patent, correction of the first page - B9 - granted patent, corrected republication of the whole document - U8 - registered utility model, correction of the first page - U9 - registered utility model, corrected republication of the whole document - T8 - translation of the granted European patent, correction of the first page - T9 - translation of granted European patent, corrected republication of the whole document
BG	The BG Office applies at any publication level, and corresponding to the letter code of the original document, digit 8 and digit 9 as it is recommended in paragraph 10 of WIPO Standard ST.16.
BR	The BR Office uses ST.16 kind-of-document codes, but not all of them. When a correction is made, the BR Office does not change the kind-of document code. In addition, the BR Office is planning to publish the granted patent application as it is granted. This plan may be implemented in 2009.
CN	<p>A8, A9, B8, B9, S9, U8, and U9 kind-of-document codes will be introduced in the near future.</p> <p>A8, B8, and U8 announce a correction to the front page of patent unexamined publications, patent grant publications, and utility model grant publications respectively.</p> <p>A9, B9, U9, and S9 announce a correction to any part of the patent document of patent unexamined publications, patent grant publications, utility model grant publications, and industrial design grant publications, respectively.</p>
DE	<p>Kind-of-document codes used are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A8 and A9 for corrected applications - B8, B9, C8, C9, T8, and T9 for corrected patents - U8 and U9 for corrected utility models
EA	The Eurasian Patent Office does not use codes A8/A9 and B8/B9 for publication of corrected documents. These corrected documents are published, when necessary, under the same kind codes as original versions (e.g., A1, B1).
EE	<p>The EE Office uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A1, A2 etc. for corrected patent applications - B2, B3 etc. for granted patent publication documents - U2, U3 etc. for corrected utility model publication documents
EP	The EP Office uses A8, A9, B8, and B9 kind-of-document codes.
GB	<p>The kind-of-document codes used are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A8 - Corrected 'A' front page bibliographic data only - A9 - Complete republished A specification - B8 - Corrected 'B' front page bibliographic data only - C - Complete republished B specification - C2 - Complete republished C specification - Etc.
GE	The GE Office plan to introduce in 2010, for each kind of corrected patent document, the codes according to WIPO Standard ST.16.

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IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 5
GR	WIPO Standard ST.16 is partially used for describing the kind of Patent Documents.
HR	The kind-of-document codes used are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A8 - corrected front page of an HR-A document - A9 - complete reprint of an HR-A document - B4 - corrected front page of a consensual¹¹ patent - B5 - complete reprint of a consensual patent - B8 - corrected front page of an HR-B document - B9 - complete reprint of an HR-B document - C8 - corrected front page of an HR-C document (converted consensual patent) - C9 - complete reprint of an HR-C document - T5 - corrected translation of an EP patent into the Croatian language - T8 - corrected front page of an HR-T document
HU	The types of publication (pursuant to WIPO Standard ST.16) relating to corrections ¹² are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A3 - Additional information on the novelty search carried out after the publication of the patent application filed after January 1, 1996 - B8 - Correction of bibliographical data in patent descriptions - B9 - Correction of patent descriptions - T3 - Publication of correction of translations concerning claims of European (EP) patent applications - T4 - Publication of correction of translations of EP patents - T5 - Publication of the submission of translations of EP patents maintained in amended forms in the opposition proceedings under the European Patent Convention - T6 - Publication of the submission of translations of EP patents maintained in amended forms in the limitation proceedings under the European Patent Convention - T7 - Limited EP patent - T8 - Correction of bibliographical data in translations of texts in EP patents - T9 - Correction of translations of texts in EP patents
JP	The kind-of-document codes used are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A6 - Correction of a published unexamined patent application - A6 - Correction of a published unexamined patent application based on an international application - B6 - Correction of a granted patent application - B6 - Correction of an examined patent application - U6 - Correction of a published unexamined utility model application - U6 - Correction of a registered utility model specification - U6 - Correction of an unexamined utility model application based on international application - U7 - Correction of a registered utility model specification - Y6 - Correction of a granted utility model application - Y6 - Correction of an examined utility model application
KZ	The WIPO Standard ST.16 kind-of-document codes used are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A - preliminary patent for invention - A4 - innovation patent for invention - B - patent for invention - U - patent for utility model
MD	The kind-of-document codes used are: A8, A9, C8, C9, U8, U9, Y8, and Y9.
MX	A first level of publication is used. There are no WIPO Standard ST.16 kind-of-document code changes for the corrected documents.
OA	The OA Office follows WIPO Standards ST.3 and ST.9.
RO	The kind-of-document codes used are: A8, B8, B9, C8, and C9.
RU	The RU Office changes the kind code of a document only in case of republication. In this case the RU Office uses the following codes: C8, C9, U8, and A8.

¹¹ A *consensual patent* is granted without a substantive examination procedure being carried out.

¹² Kind-of-document codes provided by the HU Office, not specifically relating to correction procedures, can be seen on the individual response published at <http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/mailbox/circular/circ2663/hu.pdf>

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IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 5
SK	<p>The SK Office uses the following ST.16 kind-of-document codes for corrected documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A8 - Corrected Patent Application - according to the Act No. 435/2001 - A9 - Corrected Patent Application - according to the Act No. 435/2001 - B8 - Corrected Patent Specification - according to the Act No. 435/2001 - B9 - Corrected Patent Specification - according to the Act No. 435/2001 - U8 - Corrected Utility Model - according to the Act No. 478/1992 - published by the end of the 2007 - U9 - Corrected Utility Model - according to the Act No. 478/1992 - published by the end of the 2007 - U8 - Corrected Utility Model Application - according to the new Act No. 517/2007 - published from the January 1, 2008 - U9 - Corrected Utility Model Application - according to the new Act No. 517/2007 -published from the January 1, 2008 - Y8 - Corrected Utility Model - according to the new Act No. 517/2007 - first published on August 21, 2008 (as from the Utility Model No.5014) - Y9 - Corrected Utility Model - according to the new Act No. 517/2007- first published on August 21, 2008 (as from the Utility Model No.5014) - T8 - Corrected version of the Translation of European Patent Specification - according to the Act No. 435/2001 - T9 - Corrected version of the Translation of European Patent Specification - according to the Act No. 435/2001.
TR	The TR Office uses A1, A2, A3, U, U1, T1, T2, T3, T4, Y, and B as kind-of-document codes for publications. The kind-of-document code is not changed for corrected documents.
US	<p>The kind-of-document codes used are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A9 - Correction of a patent application publication document - P9 - Correction of a plant patent application publication document <p>For patent grants, certificates of correction are provided but no kind-of-document code is provided. The certificate pages are included with the pages of patent grant document images.</p>
WO	<p>International application republished with corrections to front page bibliographic data are published with an A8 kind-of-document code.</p> <p>International application or ISR republished with corrections, alterations or supplements are published with an A9 kind-of-document code.</p>

Total comments: 25

Question 6. *In terms of what type of media the notification types (corrections, alterations, and supplements) are issued on, does your Office treat one of the notification types differently from the others? If so, please specify how the different notification types are treated.*

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Treated the same:	AR, BG, BY, CZ, EE, ES, GB, GR, HU, IE, IL, JP, KR, KZ, LT, ML, MX, OA, PK, RO, RU, TH, UA, US	24	75%
Treated differently:	AT, CN, EA, TR	4	13%
Not Applicable:	BR, EC, GE, KP	4	13%

Total responses: 32

IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 6
AT	As specified in the answer to Question 3, the online internet publications are with exception of the A-publications in essence electronic forms of the paper publications. Therefore the AT Office does not, apart from the stated exception, treat these publication forms differently. CD-ROMs are produced according to the MIMOSA-standard. The data in the online register includes the currently valid data regarding the individual intellectual property right and information about deleted entries. Details about erroneous information, corrected by republications of documents, are not available.
BR	The BR Office uses only one type of media, that is, the BR Office gazette.
CN	Corrections to the abstract, the representative drawing, and any part of the patent document are only issued on paper. This type of correction will be expanded to the optical discs and online Internet publication in the near future.

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IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 6
EA	<p>All three notification types are published in the paper, optical disc, and online Internet versions of the Gazette in the same manner. There can be only a slight difference in the layout of the announcements: table form or list form.</p> <p>Optical disc products with full descriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - do not contain information on alterations, - contain announcements on corrections only for erroneous information that was previously published on the same optical disc product; - in addition to the announcement, the full description optical disc also contains the PDF of the document body in the following cases: <p>(a) corrections in the description of a patent, (b) separate publication of a search report (an A3 kind-of-document).</p>
GE	The GE Office has only one type of notification about corrections, which is issued in the GE Official Bulletin.
GR	The GR Office (Industrial Property Organization (OBI)) is not producing patent documents in paper form (pamphlets). Instead the GR Office makes patents available to the public upon publication according to WIPO ST.50, paragraph 3(c). Corrections and alterations are kept within the respected paper folders and announced to the public through Bulletins (in paper form, on optical disc, and through the Internet).
HU	The HU Office does not treat the notification types differently. Some alterations cannot be seen on the first page of the patent document (e.g., succession in title, or change of name). The information of these changes are accessible via online databases (E-register and PIPACS) as part of the bibliographic data. The patent documents are accessible via these online databases.
IE	Corrections on all media follow the initial correction of the paper document and publication in the paper gazette. Publications on CD-ROM/DVD and Online Internet publication show a PDF version of the paper document.
KP	The KP Office issues the notification (corrections and alterations) only on paper form.
LT	The LT Official Gazette in PDF format (exact replica of the paper version) contains corrections and alterations announced under headings according to WIPO Standard ST.17.
PK	No, the notification (corrections, alterations, and supplements) are issued on the same media and advertised by publication of the application (including the nature of the notification) in the PK Official Gazette.
TR	Corrections, alterations, and supplements are issued in paper publications and in electronic form on CD-ROM and are available from the Internet via online services. Notification of the availability of a search report and license offers are also issued in the monthly patent bulletin.

Total comments: 12

Question 7. *In the case that your Office issues corrections, alterations, and supplements on more than one type of media, and in the case that one or more types are more important/dominant/authentic than the other(s), please specify which type(s) of media are the most important.*

(Multiple item selection was allowed.)

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Paper:	AM, AR, AT, BY, CN, CZ, EE, GB, GE, GR, HR, IE, KZ, LT, MD, OA, PK, PL, RO, SK, TR, UA, US, UZ	24	69%
Optical disc:	AM, AR, CN, EA, EP, GE, RU, SK, TR, UZ, VN	12	34%
Machine-readable carriers other than optical discs:	DE	1	3%
Online Internet publication:	AR, AT, BR, CN, CZ, DE, EA, EP, GB, GE, HU, KR, MX, PK, PL, RU, TH, TR, UZ, VN	21	60%

Total responses: 35

IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 7
AT	<p>Paper is the authentic medium for all but A-documents. The Internet is the dominant medium and is authentic for A-documents.</p>
BR	Online Internet publication is the dominant medium but only for the official gazette.
BY	Paper is the dominant medium for patent documents and patent gazettes.

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IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 7
DE	Machine-readable carriers and the Internet at http://www.dpma.de/english/service/e-services/dpmadatenabgabe/index.html and http://publikationen.dpma.de , and http://depatinet.dpma.de , respectively, are the most important media.
GB	Paper is more dominant as it is currently the GB Official publication means. Online Internet publication is the most important medium to the GB office.
HU	Online Internet publication is the authentic version of the HU Office Gazette. The industrial property databases and the patent documents are also accessible as online Internet publications.
LT	Paper: The LT Official Gazette authentic medium currently is the paper version. But this will be replaced by the Official Gazette in PDF format (exact replica of the paper version) as from July 1, 2009.
MX	Online Internet publication is considered more important because of worldwide access.
RU	Online Internet publication dominates because of the higher number of users.
SK	Paper is the most authentic medium for publishing corrections and alterations. Optical discs are a more authentic medium for publishing corrections and alterations than is the online Internet publication.
TH	Online Internet publication: The applicant has to check if the optical disc or the paper media are corrected via the TH Office (DIP) online Database.
US	Paper is the more dominant medium for plant patent grant documents only.

Total comments: 12

Question 8. *In the case that your Office issues corrections, alterations, and supplements on machine-readable media (including online Internet publications):*

Question 8(a). *Are corrections, alterations, and supplements to image data (e.g., WIPO Standard ST.33 data) handled differently from corrections to full text versions of the same data (e.g., WIPO Standard ST.32 or ST.36 data)?*

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Treated the same:	AM, AR, AT, BY, CN, DE, EE, ES, HU, IE, JP, KR, MX, TH, WO	15	58%
Treated differently:	CZ, US	2	8%
Not Applicable:	EC, EP, GB, RU, TR, UZ, VN	7	27%
Other	GR, UA	2	8%

Total responses: 26

IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 8(a)
CN	Full text versions will be published in the near future. Corrections, alterations, and supplements of full text versions will be handled in the same way as image data is.
CZ	Image data are replaced as a whole.
EP	Today, only ST.36 is applied.
ES	Corrections are published in both image data (PDF published on the Internet) and the full text versions published on the Internet (XML version of the full text).
GB	ST.33 only is used for all publications including corrections.
GR	Bulletins are also available through the Internet (see http://www.obl.gr).
IE	Corrections on all media follow the initial correction of the paper document and publication in the paper gazette. Publications on CD-ROM/DVD and Online Internet publication show a PDF version of the paper document.
JP	The XML data is the source of the image (PDF).

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IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 8(a)
KR	Generally, the KR Office publishes patent gazettes on DVD-ROMs and on the Internet according to WIPO Standard ST.36. Therefore, corrections to image data are handled in the same way as corrections to full text versions.
RU	The RU Office doesn't publish patent documents as image data according to ST.33.
TR	No, the TR Office does not use such a standard.
UA	The WIPO Standard ST.36 (MIMOSA) is used.
US	Where the defect is technical (not related to the content), in both image (Yellow Book based on WIPO Standard ST.33) and text (Red Book based on WIPO Standard ST.36) situations, a new document is disseminated to replace the defective document. If the defect is in the content which must be corrected, then for Yellow Book, a replacement image file is disseminated with appended images pages of certificates of correction. At present, the content of the certificates of correction is not distributed in Red Book text format. On occasion, a complete replacement for a Grant Red Book file is disseminated, but with no change to the document number or the kind code.
VN	The VN Office only makes notifications of corrections, alterations or supplements relating to the name, address, and author. The VN Office does not make modification in image data/full text.

Total comments: 14

Question 8(b). Are corrections, alterations, and supplements handled differently on different media (e.g., differently on paper, optical disc, magnetic tape, on-line, etc.)?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Treated the same:	AR, BY, CZ, EE, ES, GB, GR, HU, IE, IL, JP, KR, KZ, LT, MX, PK, RU, TH, US, VN, WO	21	78%
Treated differently:	AT, CN, DE, UA	4	15%
Not Applicable:	EC, UZ	2	7%

Total responses: 27

IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 8(b)
AT	The online internet publications are, with exception of the A-publications, in essence electronic forms of the paper publications. Therefore the AT Offices does not, apart from the stated exception, treat these publication forms differently. CD-ROMs are produced according to the MIMOSA-standard. The data in the online register includes the currently valid data regarding to the individual intellectual property right and information about deleted entries. Details about erroneous information, corrected by republications of documents, are not available.
CN	Corrections to the abstract, the representative drawing, and any part of the patent document are only issued on paper. These types of corrections will be expanded to the optical discs and online Internet publication, in the near future.
DE	Yes, these are handled differently as there are different publication procedures regarding the Patent Gazette and patent documents.
EE	Corrections on all media follow the initial correction of the paper document and publication in the patent gazette.
IE	Corrections on all media follow the initial correction of the paper document and publication in the paper gazette. Publications on CD-ROM/DVD and Online Internet publication show a PDF version of the paper document.
KZ	Corrections and alterations are made in the titles of protection. Amendments are published in the Gazette Industrial Property and converted into PDF format and downloaded onto disc.
PK	Handling of all such notifications are same for both media, i.e., paper and online Internet publication. The handling comprises the publication of the notifications (correction, alteration and supplements) in the form of paragraphs. Neither the first page nor the whole patent document is published by the PK Office. To see the whole patent document one has to file a form P-26 and pay a fee of PKR 750 for each patent document.
RU	The notifications are processed in a similar way for all media types
TH	The correction is made on an online database first, and secondly on paper. The users of CD-ROMs need to check for corrections on the online database.

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IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 8(b)
US	The process is essentially the same for all electronic media, but there may be some slight variations for online products.
VN	All notifications on paper, optical disc, and on-line Internet have the same content and information.

Total comments: 11

PROBLEM AREAS

Question 9. If you use correction, alteration, and supplement procedures that are not fully in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.50 and do not plan to be fully in line with this Standard in the future, please explain why. In particular, please indicate any concerns (e.g., procedural, technical, cost) you have with WIPO Standard ST.50 that cause problems with its implementation.

IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 9
AT	The AT Office does not plan to use supplementary correction codes (paragraphs 30 to 32), due to technical concerns. It is also not felt suitable to relate to any published patent documents in cases where alterations concern the intellectual property right itself rather than an individual published document (paragraph 33, see also the answer to Question 2(b)) or mark search reports as supplements (paragraph 37, see also the answer to Question 2(c)).
BG	On-line publications and machine readable carriers are a concern.
BR	The BR Office is planning to do be fully in line with WIPO Standard ST.50 in the future, however the dates have not been finalized.
BY	Further compliance with WIPO Standard ST.50 will be implemented along with the revision of the BY Office (NCIP) publication system, which is time-consuming and costly.
CN	The supplement notification procedures, such as for search reports or their revised versions, are not adopted due to legal and procedural reasons.
CZ	The WIPO Standard ST.50 is too complex for the CZ Office needs; it is also not too compatible with the procedures provided by the CZ Office internal electronic system.
DE	Probably caused by the historical development of the Patent Gazette (published on paper since 1877) in combination with modern technical procedures, there will always be small deviations from ST.50, especially as, reasonably, our publications try to satisfy all individual requirements of the German patent law.
EC	Not applicable
EE	The EE Office is in favor of the developing the ST.50 in regard to Internet technologies
GB	Not applicable
GE	Due to a number of different reasons, WIPO Standard ST.50 has not been used in the GE Office. The office has become aware of the necessity of the use of ST.50 and it is planned to implement it in 2010.
GR	WIPO Standard ST.50 is rather complex and strict. The GR Office has only a small number of corrections and alterations every month.
IE	Several of the WIPO Standard ST.50 Guidelines are in everyday use at the Irish Patent Office. The IE Office hopes to fully implement correction procedures in compliance with ST.50 in the future.
IL	The implementation of the WIPO Standards ST.50 has not yet being considered from its different aspects (legislation, IT, etc).
KR	To fully observe ST.50, the KR Office would need to establish more complicated procedures and settle the technical and financial issues that will arise therefrom. For this reason, the KR Office intends to keep the current procedures relation making corrections to patent gazettes.
LT	Implementation of WIPO Standard ST.50 requires procedural and technical changes to the internal systems of the LT Office which changes are time-consuming and costly.
MG	To conform to WIPO Standard ST.50 the MG Office would need to revise its procedure.
MX	Administratively speaking, the MX Office would be required to modify its procedures so examiners send, in due course, corrections, modifications and supplements to the publication department. In addition, the MX Office would also need to adapt the electronic publication system technically so that publications be made periodically according to the guidelines set out in WIPO Standard ST.50.
OA	To implement WIPO Standard ST.50: staff training, acquisition of software and equipment are required.

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IPO	Substantive Comments – Question 9
PK	<p>The PK Office uses correction, alteration and supplement procedures which may not be fully in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.50 but the basics of publishing of notifications in the Gazette of Pakistan Part V are similar. The differences between the PK Office procedure and ST.50 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in the publishing standards, - that the PK Office does not use kind-of-document codes (paragraph 11 of WIPO Standard ST.16), and - the PK Office does not use INID codes. <p>The major concern for not being compliant with ST.50, is the cost involved for the publication of either the first page of the application or the complete patent document.</p>
RU	The RU Office does not use non-WIPO Standard ST.50 procedures.
SK	The SK Office will harmonize its correction procedures according to the WIPO Standard ST.50 in the near future.
TH	The WIPO Standard ST.50 remains interesting. However, the TH Office (the Department of Intellectual Property of Thailand) has its own procedures and applications which are in the Thai language. All staff, applicants, and the public understand Thai much better than English.
TR	Implementation would require approval by the TR Office management. The TR Office would find the assistance of WIPO helpful to understand, manage, and apply WIPO Standard ST.50 (and other standards) within the technical procedures at the TR Office.
UA	<p>Correction procedures according to the WIPO Standard ST.50 are carried out partially. The use of this Standard in its full scope requires certain organizational, technical, and technological measures, which entail considerable financial expenditure.</p> <p>Due to above-mentioned reasons, the use of the Standard, in the near future, is not planned.</p>
US	The US Office (USPTO) is working towards this Standard, when possible, for patent documents. Obstructions in the past were the legacy computer storage and software systems. The US Office will continue to publish patent application publication corrections with a different number from the original publication to help users uniquely identify documents by the US publication number alone. Optical disc products follow industry standards. These products reflect the content of the document at a particular point in time. When corrections are necessary, the document is corrected and provided on the next appropriate publication of the product. The cumulative index is updated accordingly. WIPO Standard ST.16 kind-of-document codes and publication date are not currently needed in the cumulative index since publication and patent numbers uniquely identify US patent documents.
UZ	The UZ Office fully complies with WIPO Standard ST.50.
WO	The cost of revision of systems is too great and programmer time is too limited to consider any changes unless a clear immediate benefit can be perceived.

Total comments: 28

Question 10. *In the case that your Office issues corrections, alterations, and/or supplements via online Internet publication:
Does WIPO Standard ST.50 require amendment to cover your procedures? If YES, what are the problem areas and possible solution(s) to amend WIPO Standard ST.50?*

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Yes:	CN, GB, IL, JP, RU, UA	6	17%
No:	AM, AR, AT, BR, BY, CZ, DE, EA, EE, EP, ES, GE, GR, HR, HU, IE, KR, KZ, LT, MD, MX, PK, PL, SK, TH, TR, US, UZ, VN, WO	30	83%

Total responses: 36

IPO	Comments – Question 10
CN	The CN Office is working to upgrade procedures and examination tools to be partly in line with ST.50.
GB	In terms of on-Line publication systems/processes (e.g., Publication Server: used to publish GB Office corrections; On-Line Patents Journal: used to publish our alterations), ST.50 could be updated to cover/acknowledge on-line publication processes as well as paper documents. ST.50 could be updated generally to reflect that many Offices publish on-line.
IL	Section 20 of ST.50 is not fully implemented in Israel. The correction codes are not used.

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IPO	Comments – Question 10
JP	It is not clear whether "Machine-readable carriers other than CD-ROM" of ST.50 encompass online Internet publication. The possible solution would be, in line with the new era of highly-advanced and rapidly-developing information technology, to add specific paragraphs for "On-line Internet Publication" or to modify relevant paragraphs in the Standard, e.g., "Machine-readable carriers other than CD-ROM" so that clear guidelines for "On-line Internet publication" can be provided as well as for older media.
RU	The RU Office would find it useful to include detailed recommendations on specifics and potential of on-line publications (for instance links from notifications to corresponding (correct) version of a corrected document.)
UA	No recommendations concerning corrections and amendments to online publications are available in the Standard. To include recommendations concerning the updating procedure of the published documentation in databases.
US	It would be helpful to publish the corrections, alterations and/or supplements practices of the Offices to better understand how the other Offices handle corrections.

Total comments: 7

Question 11. *With regard to problem area(s) other than in relation to online Internet publication, do you see a need to update or amend WIPO Standard ST.50 in any area(s) other than in relation to online Internet publication?*

(If YES, respondents were asked to provide details about the problem areas and possible solutions to amend WIPO Standard ST.50.)

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Yes:	GR, JP	2	6%
No:	AM, AR, AT, BG, BY, CN, CZ, DE, EA, EE, EP, ES, GB, GE, HR, HU, IE, IL, KR, KZ, LT, MD, MX, PK, PL, RO, RU, SK, TH, TR, UA, US, UZ, VN	34	94%

Total responses: 36

IPO	Comments – Question 11
GR	The GR Office would like the Standard made simpler.
JP	WIPO Standard ST.50 is not designed to provide guidelines for publication of patent documents/patent gazettes on DVD-ROM. The possible solution would be either to add specific paragraphs for publication in DVD-ROM or to replace the wordings of "CD-ROM" relevant to this question with "optical discs" so that both "CD-ROM" and "DVD-ROM" can be covered".

Total comments: 2

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Question 12. *Do users have one of the following problems in the identification of corrections, alterations, or supplements?*

(Multiple item selection was allowed with respect to the last four options.)

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
We do not have this information:	AM, AR, AT, BG, BY, CZ, EA, EE, GB, GE, GR, HR, IE, IL, JP, KR, LT, MD, OA, PK, PL, RO, SK, TR, US, UZ, VN, WO	28	74%
There are problems distinguishing between the different types of corrections, alterations, and supplements		0	0%
There are problems identifying which publications have been subsequently corrected, altered, or supplemented:	CN ES KZ MG MX TH	6	16%
There are problems identifying what previous publication is now being corrected, altered, or supplemented:	MG	1	3%
Other, please specify:	HU, MG, RU, UA, WO	5	13%

Total responses: 38

IPO	Comments – Question 12
EC	The WIPO Standard ST.50 is not applied by the EC Office.
HU	Users are accustomed to have correct information in the HU Office online databases, and they require more information to be available online.
IL	There are no problems the IL Office is aware of.
RU	Problems could arise when using on-line publication which is not an official publication of the RU Office. These problems could be settled down if ST.50 contains clear recommendations on corrections in on-line publications
UA	On paper, it is possible to identify amendments which have been made to the previously published patent information; there is no possibility in online publications (databases) to identify amendments which have been made.

Total comments: 5

TYPE AND CAUSE OF ERRORS REQUIRING SUBSEQUENT CORRECTION

Question 13. *Is the origin of errors leading to corrections mainly due to the applicant or to the internal processes of your Office, or another source?*

(Multiple item selection was allowed.)

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
More from the applicant side:	AM, EC, GR, IE, IL, KP, PK, PL, TH, UA, UZ, VN, WO	13	31%
More from the Patent Office side:	AT, BY, CN, EA, ES, HR, JP, LT, MD	9	21%
About equally from applicant and Patent Office:	AR, BG, BR, CZ, DE, EE, EP, GB, GE, HU, KR, KZ, MG, MX, OA, RO, RU, SK, TR, US	20	48%
Other, please specify:	EP, GR	2	5%

Total responses: 42

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IPO	Comments – Question 13
BR	Unofficially, probably the BR Office generates errors from both the applicant and the BR Patent Office.
EP	Errors occur during electronic data processing.
GR	Alterations are mainly requested by applicants or representatives. Corrections are usually communicated from the EP Office for European (EP) Validations.
HU	Numerous letters are received from Patent and Law Offices regarding the translations of the EP Patents.
KR	Errors occur as a result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - applicants making mistakes in the preparation of their original applications, - KR Office staff making mistakes while digitalizing paper-based applications, or - KR Office examiners making mistakes in taking a decision to publish a correction.
MX	A few cases of corrections are required to correct obvious errors and to limit the extent of claims.
TH	In the majority of cases, applicants require alteration after publication
US	The US Office only corrects material errors in an A9 or P9 published application. A material error must affect the public's ability to appreciate the technical disclosure of a patent application publication, to determine the scope of the patent application publication, or to determine the scope of the provisional rights that an applicant may seek to enforce upon issuance of a patent. The origin of errors leading to certificates of correction for granted patents are about equally divided between applicant and the US Office.

Total comments: 8

Question 14. If known, please indicate the number of corrections published by your Office every year, in absolute values and/or percentage of the overall publication volume?

IPO	Comments – Question 14																
AM	6 corrections are made per year.																
AR	Based on 118 corrections of an annual volume of 5426 publications, the AR Office has an approximate rate of 2% corrections per year.																
AT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10-15 corrections of A/B/U documents are made per year - 20-25 corrections of T documents are made per year <p>The above equates to about 0.1% of the overall publication volume.</p>																
BR	These statistics are not known.																
BY	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Year</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Total Number of Publications*</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Number of Corrections</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Ratio (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2006</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2487</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2007</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2845</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2008</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3130</td> <td style="text-align: right;">12</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*applications for inventions, patents for inventions, utility models, and industrial designs</p>	Year	Total Number of Publications*	Number of Corrections	Ratio (%)	2006	2487	13	0.5	2007	2845	9	0.3	2008	3130	12	0.4
Year	Total Number of Publications*	Number of Corrections	Ratio (%)														
2006	2487	13	0.5														
2007	2845	9	0.3														
2008	3130	12	0.4														
CN	The number of corrections published by the CN Office in 2008 is 299, which is extremely low compared to the huge overall volume.																
CZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2008 - 22 corrections - 2007 - 28 corrections - 2006 - 13 corrections - 2005 - 21 corrections - 2004 - 30 corrections 																
DE	<p>The following numbers are from 2008:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A8/9 - 171 corrections - B8/9 - 236 corrections - C8/9 - 3 corrections - T8/9 - 303 corrections - U8/9 - 41 corrections 																
EA	92 corrections equals 2% of all patent document publications per year.																
EC	No data is available.																
EE	No data is available.																
EP	In 2008: A8 - 235, A9 - 53, B8 - 701, B9 - 333 corrections are made.																

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IPO	Comments – Question 14																								
ES	In 2008, 70 corrections (relating to 27,468 published patent documents) were issued (equating to 0.3% of total publications).																								
GB	In 2008 the GB Office published 11,055 A documents and 5363 B documents. During 2008 the GB Office received 652 requests for errata in total: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 334 As (3.02% of total A documents published) - 109 Bs (2.03 % of total B documents published) - 111 Section 117 (dealing with correction of errors / mistakes) - 70 EP(UK) - 27 Section 13 and Rule 10(2) (adjustment of inventor) - 1 Section 8 (adjustment of applicant) 																								
GE	The number of corrections published by the GE Office every year is about 8% of the overall publication volume.																								
GR	This has not been calculated so far.																								
HR	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Year</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>A8</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>A9</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>B4</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>B8</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>B9</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>T5</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>T8</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2007</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">22</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2008</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Year</i>	<i>A8</i>	<i>A9</i>	<i>B4</i>	<i>B8</i>	<i>B9</i>	<i>T5</i>	<i>T8</i>	2007	7	22	-	4	1	1	1	2008	11	24	1	5	3	9	2
<i>Year</i>	<i>A8</i>	<i>A9</i>	<i>B4</i>	<i>B8</i>	<i>B9</i>	<i>T5</i>	<i>T8</i>																		
2007	7	22	-	4	1	1	1																		
2008	11	24	1	5	3	9	2																		
HU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2005: Patent documents: 1059, Corrections: 19, Rate: 1.8 % - 2006: Patent documents: 1538, Corrections: 9, Rate: 0.6 % - 2007: Patent documents: 1712, Corrections: 10, Rate: 0.6 % - 2008: Patent documents: 2323, Corrections: 57, Rate: 2.5 % 																								
IE	Statistics are not kept.																								
IL	No statistical data is available. Corrections are not published, about 10 amendments are published per year.																								
JP	<p>Statistics for the year 2007: Total of publications: 554,123 Total of corrections: 402 Ratio of correction (%): 0.07</p> <p>Statistics for the year 2008: Total of publications: 557,554 Total of corrections: 390 Ratio of correction (%): 0.07</p>																								
KR	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Year</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>Total Number of Patents</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>No. of Corrections</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>ratio (%)</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2003</td> <td style="text-align: center;">181,206</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3,935</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2.17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2004</td> <td style="text-align: center;">193,829</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5,183</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2005</td> <td style="text-align: center;">230,872</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5,047</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2.19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2006</td> <td style="text-align: center;">287,161</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3,976</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2007</td> <td style="text-align: center;">251,510</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3,681</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.46</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Number of Patents</i>	<i>No. of Corrections</i>	<i>ratio (%)</i>	2003	181,206	3,935	2.17	2004	193,829	5,183	2.67	2005	230,872	5,047	2.19	2006	287,161	3,976	1.38	2007	251,510	3,681	1.46
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2003	181,206	3,935	2.17																						
2004	193,829	5,183	2.67																						
2005	230,872	5,047	2.19																						
2006	287,161	3,976	1.38																						
2007	251,510	3,681	1.46																						
KZ	The rate is different every year.																								
LT	0.50% of total publications require correction.																								
MD	6 to 8 corrections per year equates to about 2% of the total publication.																								
MX	These statistics are not available. It is considered necessary considering, in due course, to follow WIPO Standard ST.17 to facilitate the accounting of these statistics.																								
PK	Sometimes there are corrections, i.e., 0-4 times per year.																								
PL	400-450 corrections are made per year.																								
RO	2007 – 66 corrections 2008 – 38 corrections																								
RU	2006 - 223 corrections (0.93%) 2007 - 197 corrections (0.86%) 2008 - 324 corrections (1.12%)																								
SK	The SK Office publishes, in relation to patent information, on average 40 corrections each year.																								
TH	Approximately 1/100 (1%) of publications require correction.																								
TR	The TR Office does not have this information.																								

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IPO	Comments – Question 14																																										
UA	In 2005 - approximately 1.28% of the total volume of publications required correction. In 2006 - approximately 0.78% of the total volume of publications required correction. In 2007 - approximately 0.85% of the total volume of publications required correction. In 2008 - approximately 0.92% of the total volume of publications required correction.																																										
US	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th># Patents</th> <th>#Certificates</th> <th>Ratio</th> <th>#Patent Application Publications</th> <th># A9s</th> <th>Ratio</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2008</td> <td>185246</td> <td>25850</td> <td>14%</td> <td>320523</td> <td>242</td> <td>0.08%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2007</td> <td>182928</td> <td>26670</td> <td>14.6%</td> <td>300198</td> <td>290</td> <td>0.10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2006</td> <td>196437</td> <td>23919</td> <td>12.2%</td> <td>294538</td> <td>293</td> <td>0.10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2005</td> <td>157741</td> <td>25720</td> <td>16.3%</td> <td>289617</td> <td>312</td> <td>0.10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2004</td> <td>181318</td> <td>27622</td> <td>15.2%</td> <td>268398</td> <td>225</td> <td>0.08%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	# Patents	#Certificates	Ratio	#Patent Application Publications	# A9s	Ratio	2008	185246	25850	14%	320523	242	0.08%	2007	182928	26670	14.6%	300198	290	0.10%	2006	196437	23919	12.2%	294538	293	0.10%	2005	157741	25720	16.3%	289617	312	0.10%	2004	181318	27622	15.2%	268398	225	0.08%
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2004	181318	27622	15.2%	268398	225	0.08%																																					
UZ	Statistics are not kept.																																										
WO	More than 30% are publications of corrections, alterations, or supplements.																																										

Total comments: 17

Question 15. If known, has a significant change occurred in the number of corrections issued in the past five years?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
More corrections:	DE, EP, HU, RU, US	5	13%
Stable:	AR, AT, BG, BY, CZ, EA, EE, ES, GB, JP, KP, KR, MD, PL, SK, UA, US, WO	18	46%
Fewer corrections:	AM, BR, EC, GE, IL, KZ, LT, MX, PK, RO, TH	11	28%
Not known:	CN, GR, HR, IE, TR, UZ	6	15%

Total responses: 39

IPO	Comments – Question 15
BR	Probably, the number of corrections has diminished.
HR	No comment is possible since the HR Office started to publish corrections only in 2007.
HU	Numerous letters are received from Patent & Law Offices regarding the translations of the European Patents.
JP	The number of corrections might increase unexpectedly when the patent law changes but the publication system does not change.
MX	The MX Office Patent Management System (for IMPI) has been modified so that the number of errors has reduced.
US	As the number of published patent applications increases, so does the number of corrected documents. Patent grant corrections are stable.

Total comments: 6

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Question 16. Who makes the final decision of publishing a correction?

(Multiple item selection was allowed.)

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Examiner:	AM, EP, GR, HU, KR, LT, MX, PL, SK, TH, TR, UZ	12	29%
Formality officer:	CN, EE, EP, GR, MX, PL, TR	7	17%
Internal publication department:	CZ, EE, EP, HU, JP, TH	6	14%
External publication department:	RU	1	2%
All, in cooperation:	AR, AT, BY, CZ, EA, ES, GB, GE, KP, MD, MG, OA, RO, UA, US, VN	16	38%
Other– Please specify:	IL, MX, PK, TR, US	5	12%
It depends on the type of correction or error – Please specify:	BG, BR, DE, EC, HR, IE, KZ, WO	8	19%

Total responses: 42

IPO	Comments – Question 16
BG	If an error is due to internal technical reasons - the publication department makes the final decision, in other cases - the patent examiner.
BR	An official decision to publish any kind of information is necessary.
DE	Examiners are responsible for the content of the document, the formality officer takes care of the bibliographic data.
EC	The applicant may request a modification, if there is an error.
HR	The formality officer decides about corrections to the first page, an examiner decides about corrections to the complete documents.
IE	Depending on the type of correction needed, the final decision may fall with either the examiner or the formalities officer.
IL	Publishing a correction which is not <i>lapsus calami</i> (typographical error) is obligatory according to the law and is published for oppositions.
KZ	If an error is made during examination (or formalities examination), then the correction is made by an examiner. If an error is made by the applicant, then the correction is made by an examiner on the basis of supporting documents
MX	When there is a change in industrial property rights, in case of cancellation of a patent or registration, the decision is made by legal staff.
PK	The Controller of Patents makes the decision about a correction.
SK	The final decision of publishing the correction is made by the same expert who made the decision of publishing of original data.
TH	The examiner has the final decision before the grant of the patent, while the Internal Publication section has the final decision after grant.
TR	The Manager of Division 2 in the Patent Department makes the decision about a correction.
US	For published patent applications, the decision to make a correction is dependent on the type of error. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Office of Patent Legal Administration decides for published patent applications. Changes in 35 U.S.C. 102(e) date, however, are automatically accepted. - For granted patent documents, all make the decision in cooperation.

Total comments: 14

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Question 14. Is a request for correction from an applicant usually granted?

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
Yes:	AM, AR, AT, BG, BR, BY, CN, CZ, EA, EC, EE, EP, ES, GB, GE, GR, HR, IE, IL, JP, KP, KR, KZ, LT, MD, MG, MX, OA, PK, PL, RU, SK, TH, TR, US, UZ, WO	37	90%
No:	DE, HU, RO, UA	4	10%

Total responses: 41

IPO	Comments – Question 17
BR	If correct, yes, the request is granted.
CN	If the origin of errors leading to corrections is from the patent office side, the request is granted.
GR	Yes, the request is usually granted after thorough examination on a case-by-case basis.
IL	Publishing a correction which is not <i>lapsus calami</i> (typographical error) is obligatory according to the law and is published for oppositions.
KR	After confirming from a patent gazette that shows their application(s), applicants can request for corrections to their applications by calling the KR Office examiners or the Call Center. For such requests received from applicants, only KR Office examiners can decide to publish the correction.
PK	Any person wishing to oppose the application shall, within 2 months from the date of advertisement in the PK Official Gazette, give notice to the Controller in the form as set out in Form P-7.
RO	A request is usually granted, but only after analyzing the request.
UA	No, a request for correction from an applicant is not always granted. For example, a request is not granted if the correction changes the scope of protection conferred. Since the scope of protection is determined by the claims of the invention (utility model), interpretation of the claims is made within the description of invention (utility model) and corresponding drawings. Therefore a request from an applicant for a correction of the invention (utility model) claims, description, and corresponding drawings always needs to be agreed on with the examiner.
US	For published patent application publications, only material errors are corrected. For granted patents, a request from an applicant for a certificate of correction is usually granted if it is a material error.

Total comments: 9

Question 18. How long, on average, does your Office take to publish a correction once an error becomes known?

(Multiple item selection was allowed.)

Option	Responses	Count	Percent
In the next publication cycle :	AM, BG, BY, CZ, EC, EE, ES, GE, GR, HR, IL, KZ, MD, MX, OA, PK, RO, SK, TR, UZ, VN, WO	22	52%
Within one working day:	CZ HU	2	5%
Within one month:	AR, EC, GB, GE, GR, HU, KP, KR, MD, RU, TH, TR	12	29%
Within 1-3 months:	EA, EP, HU, IE, JP, LT, PL, SK, UA	9	21%
Within 3-6 months:	AT, BR, DE, EP	4	10%
Longer than 6 months:	MG	1	2%
It depends on the types of media (paper, optical discs, machine-readable carriers other than optical disc, online Internet publication) the notifications are issued on and on the types of notifications (corrections, alterations, and supplements) issued.	CN	1	2%
Other – Please specify:	KZ, US	2	5%

Total responses: 42

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IPO	Comments – Question 18
CZ	Publication in the Official Bulletin is made in the very next weekly issue.
EP	B8 corrections are issued within 1-3 months, and B9 within 3-6 months.
HU	The E-register is updated every day. The PIPACS database and Gazette are updated/issued every month. Patent documents/corrections are produced/published monthly, but the production period lasts 6 weeks.
IE	A correction is published within two weeks of it becoming known and presented in the following patent gazette.
IL	Publishing a correction which is not <i>lapsus calami</i> (typographical error) is obligatory according to the law and is published for oppositions.
KR	About 10 days are required for issuance of a correction. If an examiner decides to correct an application, a staff member is assigned to compare the examiner's correction request with the original application filed by the applicant and then the corrected application is published.
KZ	The titles of protection are amended within one to three days
SK	Correction of erroneous information is usually published in the subsequent issue of the Patent Gazette along with publication of the corrected version of the patent document.
US	For patent application publications, once the Office of Patent Publications grants a correction, the correction is scheduled to publish in fourteen weeks. For granted patents, the average number of days to publication is: 51.67 days.

Total comments: 9

EXAMPLES OF CORRECTIONS, ALTERATIONS AND SUPPLEMENTS

Question 19. Brief examples of corrections, alterations, and/or supplements which may be used to update Part 7.4 of the WIPO Handbook entitled "Examples concerning corrections, alterations, and supplements relating to patent information" (see http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/part_07.html#7.4) were requested.

Option	Examples provided by	Count
(a) Internet addresses provided:	CN, EA, GB, GR, HU, RU, US, WO	8
(b) Images provided:	AR, AT, BG, CN, CZ, EP, ES, GB, IL, JP, KR, KZ, LT, MG, RU, SK, TR, UA, US, WO	20

Total responses: 23

The examples provided by the 23 patent offices can be seen in draft format at http://www.wipo.int/scit/en/taskforce/correction_procedures/background.htm

The examples, if approved by the SDWG may be used to update Part 7.4 (relating to Examples concerning corrections, alterations and supplements relating to patent information) of the WIPO Handbook on Industrial Property Information and Documentation.

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FURTHER COMMENTS

Question 20. Please indicate below any further comments you wish to make in relation to Correction Procedures.

IPO	Comments – Question 20
BR	<p>The BR Office issues some corrections, alterations, and supplements but they do not follow the WIPO Standard ST.50.</p> <p>The BR Office intends to introduce the guidelines according to WIPO Standard ST.50, as soon as possible, probably in 2010.</p>
EP	<p>At this time there is no way to mark up corrections, in XML, according to ST.36. The EP Office is proposing an extension to WIPO Standard ST.36 which will handle this mark up. This is in discussion within the Trilateral/WIPO Standards work group.</p>
GE	<p>Due to a number of reasons, the GE Office has not devoted sufficient attention to correction procedures, but are planning to change the situation not only in relation to ST.50, but to other recommended WIPO Standards in near future.</p>
MX	<p>The MX Office considers the WIPO Standards are used to facilitate understanding between users and industrial property offices in the area of legal certainty. Therefore, the MX Office will continue to perform its administrative and technical work to progressively fully adopt WIPO Standard ST.50 and thus facilitate the consultation of documents.</p>
PK	<p>The PK Office of Pakistan uses correction, alteration and supplement procedures which may not fully in accordance with WIPO Standard ST.50 but the basics of publishing of notifications in the Gazette of Pakistan Part V are similar. The differences between the PK Office procedure and ST.50 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) in the publishing standards,b) the PK Office does not use kind-of-document codes (paragraph 11 of WIPO Standard ST.16), andc) the PK Office does not use INID codes. <p>It is suggested that to make member state office procedures fully compliant with WIPO Standard ST.50, training is recommended, so that Offices may develop expertise to make correction procedures consistent with WIPO Standard ST.50.</p>

Total comments: 5

[Annex II follows]

ANNEX II

STANDARD ST.50

GUIDELINES FOR ISSUING CORRECTIONS, ALTERATIONS AND
SUPPLEMENTS RELATING TO PATENT INFORMATION

Revision ~~adopted by the PCIPI Executive Coordination Committee~~ proposed to the Standards and Documentation Working Group at its ~~twenty-second~~ ~~eleventh~~ session on ~~May 28, 1999~~ October 30, 2009

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Guidelines aim at providing guidance to industrial property offices and other suppliers of patent information on how to issue corrections, alterations and supplements relating to patent information published in ~~paper form or on machine-readable media~~ any format, for the purposes of promoting an unambiguous and uniform presentation of such corrections, alterations and supplements. Unless specified otherwise each guideline paragraph is media neutral and concerns all media types including paper and electronic media (such as a DVD-ROM optical disc or an online Internet publication).

2. These Guidelines have been established on the basis of the experiences of several industrial property offices and users of patent information.

DEFINITIONS

3. For the purposes of these Guidelines, the expression:

(a) "patent document(s)" includes patents for invention, plant patents, design patents, utility certificates, utility models, documents of addition thereto and published applications therefor;

(b) "patent gazette" means a journal issued by a national, regional or international industrial property authority (referred to as "industrial property office") and which contains announcements with respect to patent documents. A patent gazette may be issued in one or more media type, e.g., paper and online Internet publication. A patent gazette may be published as an "official bulletin", "official journal", etc.;

(c) "publication" means making information available to the public for inspection, supplying a copy on request, or producing multiple copies by using any medium (paper, magnetic tape, optical disc, floppy disc, online database publication, etc.);

(d) "correction" means data issued with the aim of replacing erroneous information previously published, deleting spurious information, or adding data erroneously omitted from the information previously published. For example, publishing IPC symbols in replacement of other IPC symbols erroneously allotted to a patent document is a "correction". A correction may sometimes be called "corrigendum", "erratum", or "error";

(e) "alteration" means data issued with the aim of updating or replacing initially correct information previously published. An alteration may be called an amendment. For example, publishing the new name or address of the owner of a patent, publishing new IPC symbols after the scope of claims has been amended are "alterations";

(f) "supplement" means data issued with the aim of giving information that is in addition to the information previously published. For example, a search report, a supplementary search report or a revised version of a search report issued after initial publication of a patent document are "supplements". Translations of patent documents are not covered by this expression;

(g) "subscriber(s)" means (a) customer(s), including (an) industrial property office(s), which has (have) an agreement with the industrial property offices or other suppliers of patent information, to be supplied with patent documentation products on a regular or continuous basis, e.g., using media such as an optical disc or online Internet subscriber access;

(h) "entry in a patent gazette" means at least one comprehensive announcement in a gazette regarding the making available to the public of the complete text, claims (if any) and drawings (if any) of a patent document;

(i) "search index" is a collection of stored data to facilitate fast and accurate information retrieval. A search index may be compiled regularly and automatically by a machine; and

(j) "machine readable carrier" means a medium capable of storing data in a form that can be accessed by an automated sensing device.

USE OF WIPO STANDARDS AND OF CODES

4. The following WIPO Standards should be applied when issuing corrections, alterations and supplements:

WIPO Standard ST.2	Standard Manner for Designating Calendar Dates by Using the Gregorian Calendar;
WIPO Standard ST.3	Recommended Standard on Two-Letter Codes for the Representation of States, Other Entities and Intergovernmental Organizations;
WIPO Standard ST.9	Recommendation Concerning Bibliographic Data on and Relating to Patents and SPCs;
WIPO Standard ST.10/D	Guidelines on Physical Characteristics of Patent Documents Particularly Relevant to Reproducibility and Legibility of Such Documents;
WIPO Standard ST.16	Recommended Standard Code for the Identification of Different Kinds of Patent Documents;
WIPO Standard ST.17	Recommendation for the Coding of Headings of Announcements Made in Official Gazettes;
WIPO Standard ST.22	Recommendation for the Presentation of Patent Applications Typed in Optical Character Recognition (OCR) Format;
WIPO Standard ST.32	Recommendation for the Markup of Patent Documents Using SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language);
WIPO Standard ST.33	Recommended Standard Format for Data Exchange of Facsimile Information of Patent Documents
WIPO Standard ST.36	Recommendation for the Processing of Patent Information using XML (Extensible Markup Language)
WIPO Standard ST.40	Recommendation Concerning Making Facsimile Images of Patent Documents Available on CD-ROM.

5. The INID codes provided for in WIPO Standard [ST.9](#), the two-letter codes under WIPO Standard [ST.3](#) and International Standard ISO 3166:1993, the kind-of-document codes provided for in WIPO Standard [ST.16](#), the codes for identifying headings of announcements provided for in WIPO Standard [ST.17](#), as well as the methodology for coding corrections contained in WIPO Standard [ST.32](#), [ST.33](#) or [ST.36](#), should be used, whenever suitable and applicable, when issuing corrections, alterations and supplements. The presentation of calendar dates in any of the announcements of corrections, alterations and supplements should be in the sequence and format as recommended in WIPO Standard [ST.2](#).

6. The physical characteristics of announcements regarding corrections, alterations and supplements provided in paper form should comply with the respective guidelines contained in WIPO Standard [ST.10/D](#) for the purposes of reproducibility and legibility.

GUIDELINES FOR ISSUING CORRECTIONS

Corrections to patent documents ~~in paper form~~

7. Any significant error detected in the bibliography or in other parts of the patent document should lead to a ~~reprint of the paper form~~ **republication**. Errors are considered significant if the correct information is not immediately and clearly identifiable. Corrections to information contained in patent documents should be identified as corrections and be published by using, at least, the same medium of publication as the original document, that is, by issuing:

- corrected versions of the first page, or
- corrected versions of the complete patent document (pamphlet).

If an industrial property office cannot follow this provision, it should publish, at least, the individual corrected parts of the document together with the updated first page.

8. Corrected versions referred to in paragraph 7, above, should be identified, on the first page, by one of the numeric codes provided for in paragraph 10 of WIPO Standard [ST.16](#), preceded by the appropriate letter code corresponding to the publication level of the corrected document. (See the AT (i) example in the document "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.)

9. The first page of a corrected version should always indicate the date of issuance of the corrected document. It is recommended to indicate that date by using INID code (48) of WIPO Standard [ST.9](#). (See the US (ii) example in the document "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.)

10. An industrial property office should provide additional correction information if it is necessary for unambiguous identification of the category and nature of the correction.

(a) It is recommended to indicate such additional correction information by using supplementary correction codes as defined in paragraphs 30 and 31, below. If such additional correction information is published on the first page of the corrected document, it should be provided by using INID code (15) of WIPO Standard [ST.9](#). It is recommended to indicate, in plain language, the most important legal consequences of the correction, if necessary.

(b) In addition, the information providing the date of issue of previously published versions of corrections may be indicated under this INID code. Each previously corrected version should be identified by indicating at least the following information of that corrected version:

- [ST.16](#) kind-of-document code;
- Date of issue;
- Issue number of the gazette containing the announcement of the correction, where the publication date of the correction is different from the date of announcing the correction in the gazette;
- Supplementary correction code, if used, associated with the [ST.16](#) kind-of-document code of the original, first published version of the patent document. This information should be printed in parentheses. (See the EP (i) example in the document "[Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information](#)", Part 7.4.1, Section 1, Example 4 "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.)

(c) It is further recommended to provide the date of publication of the original version of the patent document, by using the appropriate INID code, e.g., (43), (45), etc., immediately below the listing of previous versions of corrections given under INID code (15). That information should also contain the [ST.16](#) kind-of-document code and the issue number of the patent gazette in which the publication of the original version of the patent document had been announced, if necessary.

(d) In case of an online Internet publication, it is recommended to provide a hyperlink to a corrected document from the Internet page on which the original document (or notification on correction) is published. (See the second image of the WO (i) and (ii) examples in the document "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.)

11. The information given under INID codes (15) and (48) should be provided using plain language, whenever possible, in addition to any codes used. (See the KZ (i) example in the document "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.)

12. The information that a complete patent document or a part thereof is a corrected version should be given either by a printed indication "Correction", "Corrected Version", "Corrigendum" (or an equivalent expression in the language of the document) on the first page, or by a respective plain language designation under INID code (12) according to WIPO Standard [ST.9](#). (See the RU (i) example in the document "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices" (Part 7.4.2).)

13. Where the medium is paper, the publication of corrections contained on paper strips stapled or stuck to the original patent document should be avoided.

14. The fact that a correction was made should be recorded by the industrial property office in its patent register or, if not possible, in a way appropriate to the national practice.

15. Corrected versions should be distributed to subscribers free of charge and in the same way in which the original document was delivered, i.e., without a separate order.

16. Examples of corrected first pages of patent documents are reproduced in Section 1 for corresponding example in any revised version of Part 7.4.1 can be seen in AT (i), BG (i), EP (i) and (ii), GB (ii), HU (i), KR (i), KZ (i), SK (i) and (ii), RU (i), US (ii), and the third images of WO (i) and (ii) of the document "[Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information](#)" (Part 7.4.1). Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.

Announcements of corrections to patent documents

17. In addition to the publication of the corrected versions of patent documents, or of parts thereof, referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8, above, the correction should, preferably, be announced in the patent gazette by indicating:

- * (a) the publication number of the patent document;
- * (b) the kind-of-document code provided for in WIPO Standard [ST.16](#);
- (c) the location of the error in the original document (e.g., paragraph, page, column, and/or line number) if the location of the correction is not clearly defined by the respective INID code according to WIPO Standard [ST.9](#);

* Minimum data which should be indicated in a patent gazette if an announcement is decided upon.

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(d) the kind of correction (to be) made by giving the previously published (erroneous) information, as well as the correct information.

The announcement of a correction should be made in the issue of the gazette corresponding to the publication date of the corrected document.

18. It is recommended to present corrections to patent documents announced in a patent gazette in a structured layout (see document "Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information", Part 7.4.1, Section 3, Example 5). (See the EA (i) example in the document "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.)

19. Examples of corrections to patent documents as announced in a patent gazette are reproduced in document "Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information" (Part 7.4.1, Section 3 for corresponding example in any revised version of Part 7.4.1) can be seen in AR (i) and (ii), BG (ii), CN (i) and (ii), CZ (i) to (iv), EA (i) to (iv), EP (i) and (ii), ES (i), GE (i), GR (i), JP (i), KZ (ii), MG (i), SK (iii), and UA (i) to (iii) in the document "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.

Corrections to patent gazettes

20. Where erroneous information relating to patent documents has been published in a patent gazette and not in the patent documents themselves, corrections should be made in the relevant entry of a subsequent issue of the gazette itself, and not ~~of~~ in a separate location, e.g., a different paper sheets, a different optical disc, or a different Internet address. The announcements of corrections should contain, as a minimum:

(a) the publication number or, if no publication number has yet been assigned, the application number of the patent document;

(b) the number and the year of the gazette in which the erroneous information was published, and sufficient indications which allow for the locating of such information in the gazette;

(c) the kind of correction to be made by giving the previously published (erroneous) information, as well as the correct information.

21. It is recommended to present corrections to a patent gazette in a structured layout. (See EA (ii) of the document "Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information", Part 7.4.1, Section 3, Example 2 "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.)

22. In order to facilitate the handling of announcements of corrections related to the adding of erroneously omitted information to entries in a patent gazette, it is recommended to repeat the defective entry and to give information which denotes exactly the location and particular form the correction takes. If spurious information previously published in a patent gazette is to be deleted, the same principle should be applied appropriately. (See GE (i) of the document "Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information", Part 7.4.1, Section 3, Example 3 "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.)

Additional special recommendations for corrections to patent documents on CD-ROM optical disc

23. If a patent document published on an optical disc, e.g., a CD-ROM or DVD-ROM contains significant errors or if the patent document is not completely accessible due to technical defects of the CD-ROM optical disc, a correct and complete version of the patent document should be issued on the same CD-ROM optical disc series as soon as possible.

(a) If a patent document published on paper and CD-ROM on optical disc in addition to one or more non-optical disc media types (e.g., paper and/or the Internet) and containing erroneous information is corrected on paper the non-optical disc media type, that document should be reissued at least on the same CD-ROM optical disc series as initially published and at the same time as the correction relating to the paper form non-optical disc media type was announced. The identification of the document reissued on CD-ROM optical disc should correspond exactly to the corrected paper non-optical disc media type version of the patent document.

(b) If a patent document published on paper/the Internet and CD-ROM optical disc is not completely accessible on the CD-ROM optical disc due to technical defects of the data carrier, the document should be reissued on the same CD-ROM optical disc series as early as possible. The patent document reissued on the CD-ROM optical disc should correspond exactly to the paper/the Internet version initially published.

24. If a patent document is reissued on CD-ROM optical disc, it is recommended to include (a) reference(s) to the document in any search index which relates to the patent documents published on the same CD-ROM optical disc series. The reference should enable the user to immediately locate all versions of the same patent document published in fully accessible form on the said CD-ROM optical disc series.

(a) If a patent document is reissued on CD-ROM optical disc because the original document, published on paper/the Internet and CD-ROM optical disc, contained significant errors, it should be possible to locate the original erroneous document.

(b) If a patent document is reissued on **CD-ROM optical disc** because the original document was not accessible due to technical defects of the **CD-ROM optical disc**, only those versions of the patent document which are fully accessible are of interest.

25. The information given in the search index, which refers to the reissue of a patent document on **CD-ROM optical disc**, should enable the user to determine unambiguously the **ST.16** kind-of-document code of the original patent document, which has been corrected or has had to be reissued.

26. The information given in the search index referring to the correction of an erroneous patent document on **CD-ROM optical disc** should enable the user to determine easily the date of issuance of the corrected patent document.

27. The information given in the search index, which refers to the reissue of a patent document which was not fully accessible, should enable the user to determine easily the publication date of the original document which was not accessible on **CD-ROM optical disc**, but was accessible on other media.

Corrections to machine-readable carriers other than CD-ROMs optical disc

28. Corrections to information issued on such machine-readable carriers, ~~e.g., on magnetic tapes~~, should be communicated to the user on the same type of carrier and with the same format as the original information which was provided and should be made available as soon as possible.

29. The corrected information should be given in a way which enables the user to update datafiles automatically.

Supplementary correction codes

30. Offices should apply, if found suitable, supplementary correction codes in order to enable the user to uniquely identify the nature of the correction of a patent document.

31. The following supplementary correction codes are available for application:

(a) Wn, where

- W indicates the category of the correction, meaning that, due to errors in the content of the document, the correction takes place in all publication media, ~~e.g., paper and CD-ROM~~,
- n is a counter identifying the version number of the correction, i.e., whether it is the first, second, etc., correction of the same document.

The codes Wn should always be associated with the kind-of-document code, provided for in WIPO Standard **ST.16**, of the original, first published, version of the patent document, e.g., W3A1 for the third corrected version of an A1 document.

(b) ZC, where

- Z indicates the category of the correction, meaning that the document is reissued on only one specific medium due to technical defects of the same,
- C indicates the specific medium, i.e., CD-ROM, on which the document has been reissued due to technical defects of the same.

The code ZC shall not be published on the first page of the reissued document. It should be used only in search indexes to enable the user to retrieve the reissued document.

(c) YF or, alternatively, Yn, where

- YF can be used to identify electronic replacement files, containing corrections solely to errors significant to this medium only and to non-significant errors in the bibliography or text parts of a document, where a corrected version in accordance with paragraph 7, above, has not been issued. "Viscosity" or "aparatus", for instance, can be immediately and clearly identified by a person. However, they would not be hit by searching ~~after~~ for "viscosity" or "apparatus" in a database,
- Yn can be used to identify electronic replacement files, as in the case of code YF, however, with the intention of identifying, by the counter n, the version number of the replacement file, i.e., whether it is the first, second, etc., replacement file for the same document.

(d) DL, to identify the cancellation of an announcement of a corrected version. The code DL should always be associated with the kind-of-document code, provided for in WIPO Standard **ST.16**, of the original, i.e., first published, version of the patent document.

32. An example of the use of supplementary correction codes ~~in a CD-ROM optical disc search index is given~~ can be seen in the BG (i) example in the document ~~"Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information" (Part 7.4.1, Section 2)~~ "Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices", Part 7.4.2.

GUIDELINES FOR ISSUING ALTERATIONS

Patent documents ~~in paper form~~ and patent gazettes

33. Alterations relating to information previously published in patent documents and possibly also in the patent gazette should be identified as such and should, preferably, be announced in the patent gazette; they need not be the subject of a republication of the patent document itself. The announcement of an alteration should indicate:

- (a) the publication number of the patent document;
- (b) the kind-of-document code provided for in WIPO Standard [ST.16](#);
- (c) the location of the updated or replaced information in the patent document (e.g., paragraph, page, column, and/or line number) if the location of the alteration is not clearly defined by the respective INID code according to WIPO Standard [ST.9](#);
- (d) the information being altered, if any;
- (e) the alteration itself.

34. An alteration, or at least the fact that an alteration was made, should be recorded by the industrial property office in its patent register.

35. Examples of alterations relating to information published in patent documents ~~in paper form~~ and in patent gazettes are reproduced in CN (iii) and (iv), EA (v) and (vi), ES (ii), GE (ii), HU (ii), LT (i), UA (iv), and WO (iii) and (iv) in the document "[Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information](#)" (Part 7.4.1, Section 4) "[Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices](#)", Part 7.4.2).

Machine-readable carriers and online Internet databases containing legal status information

36. Alterations which refer to information previously issued on such a machine-readable carrier, e.g., ~~a magnetic tape, a CD-ROM~~ an optical disc, an online Internet database, should be communicated in such a way so as to allow automatic updating of databases without manual interference. This updating should not require a user to maintain the complete set of data.

GUIDELINES FOR ISSUING SUPPLEMENTS

Patent documents ~~in paper form~~ and patent gazettes

37. Additional information issued after the initial publication of a patent document should be published in the form of an updated version of the first page along with the supplement. The new first page should be marked "Supplement" (or an equivalent expression in the language of the document). It is recommended to allot to each publication of a supplement a different kind-of-document code. (See the ES (iii) example in the document "[Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information](#)", Part 7.4.1, Section 5, Example 2 "[Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices](#)", Part 7.4.2.)

38. Supplements should be distributed to subscribers by the industrial property office which issued the initial document in the same way that the initial document was delivered, i.e., without a separate order.

39. In addition to the publication of a supplement mentioned in paragraph 37, above, the supplement should be announced in the patent gazette indicating:

- (a) the publication number of the supplement;
- (b) the kind-of-document code provided for in WIPO Standard [ST.16](#) and allotted to the supplement;
- (c) the designation of the supplement (its title).

The announcement should clearly indicate, when necessary, the publication number and/or the publication level (kind of document) of the patent document that the supplement refers to. (See the HU (iii) example in the document "[Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices](#)", Part 7.4.2.)

40. Examples of supplements are reproduced in EA (vii) to (x), ES (iii), HU (iii), and WO (v) in the document "[Corrections, Alterations and Supplements relating to Patent Information](#)" (Part 7.4.1, Section 5) "[Examples concerning correction procedures of Patent Offices](#)", Part 7.4.2.

Additional special recommendations for ~~p~~Patent documents on ~~CD-ROM~~ optical disc

41. If supplements relating to patent documents previously published in a ~~CD-ROM~~ optical disc, e.g., DVD-ROM are provided, they should be issued as soon as possible by including the additional information in a subsequent issue of the ~~CD-ROM~~ optical disc.

42. It is recommended that producers of ~~CD-ROMs~~ optical disc establish a procedure to automatically inform users of such supplements. This procedure should make it possible for the user:

(a) to determine easily the date on which a supplement was issued;

(b) to locate the supplement in the ~~CD-ROM~~ optical disc (s) concerned, e.g., by way of reference to the disc containing the patent document which the supplement refers to.

A full set of ~~CD-ROMs~~ optical discs, together with cumulative indexes (machine-readable and downloadable), should enable a user to have a set of complete information.

Machine-readable carriers other than ~~CD-ROMs~~ optical discs

43. Supplements which refer to patent documents previously issued on such a machine-readable carrier, ~~e.g., a magnetic tape~~, should be communicated in such a way so as to allow automatic updating of databases without manual interference. This updating should not require a user to maintain the complete set of data.

44. It is recommended to record on the machine-readable carrier the additional information (the supplement) in one record.

[End of Annex II and of document]