Task No. 35: Prepare a questionnaire and carry out a survey on the implementation of WIPO Standard ST.50 and on the status of the correction procedures in the industrial property offices. Prepare a proposal regarding this matter for consideration by the SDWG.

Please provide the following contact information so that the International Bureau can, if necessary, contact the person responsible for responding to the Questionnaire:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YOUR DETAILS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Property Office (IPO): <strong>SK</strong> (ST.3 two-letter country/organization code)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**QUESTIONNAIRE**


This questionnaire is a second version of an original survey approved by the SCIT Standards and Documentation Working Group and conducted in 2004. Modifications take into account comments received from the original questionnaire as well as correction procedures of offices’ given their recent experiences with online Internet publication. The original survey results are available at [http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/pdf/07-04-02.pdf](http://www.wipo.int/standards/en/pdf/07-04-02.pdf).
NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED

1. Does your Office issue the following notifications?

   (a) Corrections:
      ☒  YES
      ☐  NO  or
      ☐  Under the following circumstances:

   (b) Alterations:
      ☒  YES
      ☐  NO  or
      ☐  Under the following circumstances:

   (c) Supplements:
      ☐  YES
      ☒  NO  or
      ☐  Under the following circumstances:

   (d) Other similar notification details:

COMPLIANCE WITH WIPO STANDARD ST.50

2. Does your Office use the guidelines described in WIPO Standard ST.50?

   (a) Guidelines for corrections (paragraphs 7 - 32)
      ☐  ALL  ☒  PARTLY  ☐  NO

      (i) If your answer was “PARTLY”, which parts of WIPO Standard ST.50 are used?
         ☒  Kind-of-document codes according to paragraph 10 of WIPO Standard ST.16, e.g., A8, A9, etc.
         ☒  Data element “publication date” of the correction (INID code (48)) according to WIPO Standard ST.9
         ☒  Additional correction information, e.g., supplementary correction codes (example: codes on EP CD-ROMs like W, Z, etc.), together with INID code (15)
Other – Please specify: Relating to the publication of the original version of the patent document the IPO SR uses on the first page of the corrected version of previously published patent document following data preceded by INID codes according to the WIPO Standard ST.9:

- date of publication of the patent application associated with the corresponding issue number of the patent gazette preceded by INID code (40) and/or
- date of publication of the granted patent preceded by INID code (47);
- date of the entry of the utility model into the Register and its publication preceded by INID code (47);
- date of announcement of the entry of the utility model into the Register associated with the corresponding issue number of the patent gazette preceded by INID code (45).

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

☐ YES When?

☐ NO

Comments, if necessary: The INID code (15), which is used only on the first page of the corrected version of patent document (not in Patent Gazette, databases, etc.) indicates the sequence number of version of the corrected document and the page numbers where the correction was made.

The ST.16 kind-of-document code is presented on the first page of corrected version of patent document by using the INID code (13), e.g. B8, U9.

On the first page of 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 the WIPO Standard ST.10/B.

IPO SR announces corrections to patent information previously published in patent documents and Patent Gazettes under the separate parts - headings of announcements-contained in the Patent Gazette, considering the kind of original document and category of correction. Headings of announcements of corrections, coded according to the WIPO Standard ST.17, are associated with a respective Slovak language designation. The announcement of a correction indicates:

- the publication number of 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 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 code of heading according to the WIPO Standard ST.17.

b) Guidelines for alterations (paragraphs 33 – 36)?

☐ ALL  ☒ PARTLY  ☐ NO

(i) If your answer was “PARTLY”, please specify the practice of your Office:
IPO SR announces alterations relating to patent information previously published in patent documents and Patent Gazettes under the separate parts - headings of announcements- contained in the Patent Gazette, considering the kind of original document and category of alteration. Headings of announcements of alterations, coded according to the WIPO Standard ST.17 are associated with a respective Slovak language designation. The announcement of an alteration indicates:
- the publication number of 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 provided by using the respective INID code;
- the date of the entry of the alteration of original information into the Register.

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

☐ YES  When?

☐ NO

Comments, if necessary:

c) Guidelines for supplements (paragraphs 37 – 44)?

☐ ALL  ☐ PARTLY  ☒ NO

(i) If your answer was “PARTLY” please specify the practice of your Office:

(ii) If your answer was “NO”, is your Office planning to introduce the guidelines according to ST.50? If so, when?

☐ YES  When?
Comments, if necessary: *IPO SR does not publish additional information after initial publication of the patent document in the form of the supplement.*

**MEDIA ON WHICH CORRECTIONS, ALTERATIONS, AND SUPPLEMENTS ARE PUBLISHED**

3. On which types of media are corrections, alterations, and/or supplements issued according to the guidelines of WIPO Standard ST.50? Please indicate the specific guidelines used in relation to the media indicated below. Please provide the requested media information for both (i) patent documents, and (ii) patent gazettes, for any media on which they are issued.

- **(a) Paper:**
  - (i) Patent documents: Guidelines for issuing corrections and alterations are used.

- **(b) Optical discs, e.g., CD-ROMs/DVDs:**
  - (i) Patent documents:
  - (ii) Patent gazettes: Guidelines for issuing corrections and alterations are used. Since the begin of the year 2008 the IPO Patent Gazette is published on CD-ROMs. Paragraphs 14, 17-19, 21, 23-31, and 37-44 are not used. Paragraph 10 is not followed in respect of the use of supplementary codes or information relating to previously published versions of corrections.

- **(c) Machine-readable carriers other than optical discs, e.g., magnetic tapes:**
  - (i) Patent documents:
  - (ii) Patent gazettes:

- **(d) Online Internet publication:**
  - (i) Patent documents:
  - (ii) Patent gazettes: Guidelines for issuing corrections and alterations are used.
  - (iii) Other (e.g. web services):
4. Does your Office use correction, alteration, and/or supplement issuing procedures other than provided in WIPO Standard ST.50?

  - Paragraph 10 is not followed in respect of the use of supplementary codes or information relating to previously published versions of corrections.
  - Please also see question No. 2(a)- comments.
  - The IPO SR does not publish corrected patent documents either on CD-ROM or on other machine-readable carriers. Corrected versions are published only on paper.

- Patent Documents on optical discs, e.g., CD-ROMs/DVDs:

- Patent Gazettes/Bulletins (please specify media used): CD ROM. Please refer to the comments relating to “Paper patent documents” above.

- Machine-readable carriers other than optical discs
  (Please specify product, e.g., patent document, patent gazette, etc.):

- Online Internet publication: Patent Gazette. Please refer to the comments relating to “Paper patent documents” above.

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:

IPO SR uses following ST.16 kind-of-document codes for corrected documents:

- A8 - 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
- U8 - 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
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.

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 selections can be made).

- Paper: The most authentic medium for publishing corrections and alterations.
- Optical discs: More authentic medium for publishing corrections and alterations than online Internet publication.
- Machine-readable carriers other than optical discs:
- Online Internet publication:

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

(a) Please indicate if corrections, alterations, and supplements to image data (e.g., WIPO Standard ST.33 data) are handled differently from corrections to full text versions of the same data (e.g., WIPO Standard ST.32 or ST.36 data).

(b) Please indicate if corrections, alterations, and supplements are handled differently on different media (e.g., differently on paper, optical disc, magnetic tape, on-line, etc.):

PROBLEM AREAS

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 SR will harmonize its correction procedures according to the WIPO Standard ST.50 in the near future.
10. In the case that your Office issues corrections, alterations, and/or supplements via online Internet publication:

(a) Does WIPO Standard ST.50 require amendment to cover your procedures?  
☐ YES ☒ NO

(b) If YES, please provide details about what are the problem areas:

(c) And, if YES, please identify any possible solution(s) to amend WIPO Standard ST.50:

11. With regard to problem area(s) other than in relation to online Internet publication:

(a) 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?  
☐ YES ☒ NO

(b) If YES, please provide details about what are the problem areas:

(c) And, if YES, please identify any possible solution(s) to amend WIPO Standard ST.50:

12. Do users have problems in the identification of corrections, alterations, or supplements? If so, choose one or more of the following options:

☒ We do not have this information.
☐ There are problems distinguishing between the different types of corrections, alterations, and supplements.
☐ There are problems identifying which publications have been subsequently corrected, altered, or supplemented.
☐ There are problems identifying what previous publication is now being corrected, altered, or supplemented.
☐ Other, please specify:
TYPE AND CAUSE OF ERRORS REQUIRING SUBSEQUENT CORRECTION

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?

☐ More from the applicant side
☐ More from the Patent Office side
☒ About equally from applicant and Patent Office
☐ Other, please specify:

Comments, if necessary:

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 SR publishes in relating to patent information on average 40 corrections every year._

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

☐ More corrections
☒ Stable
☐ Fewer corrections

Comments, if necessary:

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

☒ The examiner
☐ The formality officer
☐ The internal publication department
☐ An external publication department
☐ All, in cooperation
☐ Other – Please specify:
☐ It depends on the type of correction or error – Please specify:

Comments, if necessary: _The final decision of publishing the correction is made by the same expert, who also made the decision of publishing of original data._
17. Is a request for correction from an applicant usually granted?

☑ YES  ☐ NO

Comments, if necessary:

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

(One or more selections may be made).
☑ In the next publication cycle
☐ Within one working day
☑ Within one month
☐ Within 1-3 months
☐ Within 3-6 months
☐ Longer than 6 months

☐ 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. Does your Office treat one of the notification types differently from the others? If so, please specify how the different types of media and notifications are treated.

☐ Other – Please specify:

Comments, if necessary: 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.

PROVISION OF EXAMPLES OF CORRECTIONS, ALTERATIONS AND SUPPLEMENTS

19. If possible please provide one or more brief examples of corrections, alterations, and/or supplements which may be used to update part 7.4.1 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). An example should preferably be provided in the form of either:

(a) a reference to an Internet address that is likely to be stable for more than three years or
(b) an embedded image within a Microsoft Word or an Adobe PDF document.

Please note that the examples provided will REPLACE those examples existing in part 7.4.1, unless advised otherwise (below).

(a) ☐ The following stable Internet addresses are provided, for updating part 7.4.1 of the Handbook:

(Please include steps to help readers find the information, if necessary.)
The following attached images are provided for updating part 7.4.1 of the Handbook:

(i) *First page of the corrected patent document SK 286377 B9 - including corrected part of the document.*
3. Oceleový kord podľa ktorého kolvek z predchádzajúcich nárokov, vyznačujúci sa tým, že dĺžka zákrutu skupiny sa rovná dĺžke zákrutu kordu.

4. Oceleový kord podľa ktorého kolvek z predchádzajúcich nárokov, vyznačujúci sa tým, že súčasne jedno z prvých oceleových vlákien (10) je predvzorované do zvlhneného tvoru.

5. Oceleový kord podľa nároku 4, vyznačujúci sa tým, že zvlhnený tvar je priestorový zvlhnený tvar.

6. Oceleový kord podľa nároku 5, vyznačujúci sa tým, že priestorový zvlhnený tvar má prvé zvlhnenie a druhé zvlhnenie, príčom prvé zvlhnenie leží v rovine, ktorá je odľahlá od roviny druhého zvlhnenia.

7. Oceleový kord podľa ktorého kolvek z predchádzajúcich nárokov, vyznačujúci sa tým, že prvý počet je v rozsahu od troch do piatich a druhý počet je v rozsahu od štyroch do ôsmich.

8. Oceleový kord podľa ktorého kolvek z predchádzajúcich nárokov, vyznačujúci sa tým, že prvý počet sa rovná štyrom a druhý počet sa rovná šiestim.

2 výkresy
(ii) Corrected first page of the corrected utility model SK 4966 U8.
(iii) Announcements in IPO SR Patent Gazette relating to correction of the name of applicant (HB9A according to the ST.17) and alterations of the names and addresses of applicants (HC9A, HE9A according to the ST.17).

(c) Other – Please specify:

Comments, if necessary: As to item b(i) and b(ii) correction information is preceded by INID code (15) where:
- oprava č.: means version number of correction
- strana č.: means page number(s), where corrected information is located.
The location of both corrections, in examples (i) and (ii) below, is indicated by a short vertical line on the right site of the particular page.
FURTHER COMMENTS

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

[End of Annex]