The UK Patent Office

WIPO OHIM Forum on Intellectual Property
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E-Filing of Trade Mark applications

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Trade Marks & Designs New Projects

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E-Filing of Trade Marks

• Initially developed under the MIPEX Project (Denmark, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, UK)

• User Group set up to define requirements

What did the customers want?

- A system which followed their business process

Outcomes

- Direct XML facility

- PaTrAS software

How do customers start e-filing?

- Service is advertised on our website

- Customer visits and training sessions

- Customers can link to their own trade mark systems if they wish

Issues & Challenges

- To link to their own trade mark systems they need to export data in the required format

- Need to install software in order to use PaTrAS

- Image scanning – especially colour

- Customer trends have changed

Conclusions

- One size doesn't fit all

- Need to encourage customers to e-file, making them aware of the benefits

- Need to provide support and assistance

What solutions can we offer?

- Different types of customers need different solutions:

Direct XML

PaTrAS

Web Form

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What improvements are we making?

- Introducing a web form

- Allowing payment by credit/debit card

- Enhancements to PaTrAS will make the system more user friendly

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