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US	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	US

General information

Name of Office:	United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)
Location:	Customer Service Window, Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, United States of America (first floor of the south side of the Randolph Building, with street level access from Ballenger Avenue)
Mailing address:	Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, USA
Telephone:	(1-571) 272 43 00 (PCT Help Desk) (1-866) 217 91 97 (Toll free technical support for electronic filing) (1-571) 272-41 00 (Local technical support for electronic filing)
Facsimile machine:	(1-571) 273 83 00 (PCT Operations – only available for certain documents) ¹ (1-571) 273 83 00 (USPTO Central Fax – only available for certain documents) ¹ (1-571) 273 04 19 (PCT Help Desk)
E-mail:	—
Internet:	https://www.uspto.gov/patentcooperationtreaty
Does the Office accept the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4)?	Yes, by facsimile machine
Which kinds of documents may be so transmitted?	All documents except the following: certified documents including priority documents; documents needed to receive an international filing date under PCT Article 11; authorizations charging the basic national fee to a deposit account; when necessary, a copy of the international application for entry into the national phase; documents directly related to a secrecy order.
Must the original of the document be furnished in all cases?	No, only upon invitation
Does the Office send notifications via e-mail in respect of international applications?	No
Would the Office accept evidence of mailing a document, in case of loss or delay, where a delivery service other than the postal authorities is used (PCT Rule 82.1)?	No
Is the Office prepared to allow applicants to make applications available to the WIPO Digital Access Service for Priority Documents (DAS) (PCT Rule 17.1(b-bis))?	Yes, the Office is prepared to allow applicants to make national applications filed in electronic form available to the WIPO DAS ²

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¹ For details of which documents may be sent by facsimile, see “Does the Office accept the filing of documents by means of telecommunication (PCT Rule 92.4)?”

² For further details on how to request this Office to make applications available to the DAS see <https://www.uspto.gov/patents-getting-started/international-protection/electronic-priority-document-exchange-pdx>. However, the applicant may not request the receiving Office of the United States of America (RO/US) to obtain a priority document from a digital library and transmit it to the International Bureau pursuant to PCT Rule 17.1(b-bis).

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Competent receiving Office for nationals and residents of the United States of America: Does national legislation ⁴ restrict the filing of international applications with the International Bureau of WIPO?	United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) or International Bureau of WIPO, ³ at the choice of the applicant (see Annex C) Yes, filing restrictions apply to: Inventions made in the United States of America
Competent designated (or elected) Office if the United States of America is designated (or elected):	United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (see National Phase)
May the United States of America be elected?	Yes (bound by Chapter II of the PCT)
Types of protection available via the PCT:	Patents
Provisions of the law of the United States of America concerning international-type search:	Sections 1.104(a)(3) and (a)(4) and 1.21(e) of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 37 (37 CFR) Note: The USPTO does not require that a formal report of an international-type search be prepared in order to obtain a search fee refund in a later filed international application.
Provisional protection after international publication:	The patentee is entitled to obtain a reasonable royalty commencing on the date of the publication under PCT Article 21(2)(a) of the international application, or if the publication is in a language other than English, on the date the USPTO receives a translation of the international application in the English language. The right to obtain a reasonable royalty is not available unless the invention as claimed in the patent is substantially identical to the invention claimed in the published international application. For details, see the US National Chapter in National Phase, paragraph US.47 (see also 35 USC 154(d)).

Information of interest if the United States of America is designated (or elected)

WARNING

“Prior art effect” of subject matter disclosed in a US patent issued on the basis of an international application:

The United States of America made a declaration under PCT Article 64(4). However, this declaration only applies to applications that are not subject to the First Inventor to File provisions of the America Invents Act, that is, applications that contain or ever contained a claim having an effective filing date prior to 16 March 2013.⁵

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³ Applicants may file with the International Bureau only if the national security provisions allow filing of patent applications abroad. Compliance with such provisions is the applicant's responsibility and will not be checked by the International Bureau.

⁴ Title 35, United States Code, Patents, Sections 181 and 184-188. See also 37 CFR 5.11-5.20.

⁵ Additional information regarding the applicability of the First Inventor to File provisions of the America Invents Act can be found at: <https://www.uspto.gov/patent/first-inventor-file-fitf-resources>

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Time when the name and address of the inventor must be given if the United States of America is designated (or elected):

May be in the request or may be furnished later. If the data concerning the inventor is missing at the expiration of the time limit under PCT Article 22 or 39(1), the Office will invite the applicant to comply with the requirement within a time limit fixed in the invitation.

Are there special provisions concerning the deposit of microorganisms and other biological material?

Yes (see Annex L)
