

EXAMPLES FOR THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON APPLICATION NUMBERING

EXAMPLE 1

A given office administers trademarks, industrial designs, and different kinds of patents (national patents, PCT, plant patents).

All kinds of patent applications have a numbering system which looks like this:

10 2008 123456 patent application filed in 2008 with the serial number 123456

12 2008 666777 plant patent application filed in the same year with serial number 666777

14 2008 987654 PCT international application filed in 2008 that has entered the national phase with serial number 987654

At the same office, trademark and industrial design applications follow a different numbering system:

123456 T 08 trade mark application with serial number 123456 filed in 2008

123456 D 08 industrial design application filed in the same year.

Thus, the Office has two numbering systems, N=2

In the Example 1 above, the first copy of pages 3 to 14, relating to patents, would be marked "1 of 2", the second copy of pages 3 to 14 relating to trademarks and designs would be marked "2 of 2".

EXAMPLE 2

Relating to Example 1 in the introductory section, the office would have copied this page and the following pages twice, one – for the numbering system used for patent (and patent-like) applications, and another – for the numbering system used for trade mark and design applications.

In the first copy, the office would tick all check boxes for the patents it numbers using the first system (i.e. boxes a, b, and f).

In the second copy, the office would then tick the check boxes for trade marks and designs (k, l) which are numbered using the second system.

EXAMPLE 3:

A fictional office has three sub-offices A, B, and C and codes the receiving office in the application number as an additional part. Then the office would indicate "receiving office code" in the last line.

EXAMPLE 4

In the case described in Example 3 above, a different sequence could be
<year><receiving office><type><serial number>

EXAMPLE 5

For the case described in Examples 3 and 4 above, the response could be as follows:

code for the type of IP right: 2

year designation: 4

serial number: 9

Other: receiving office code: 1

EXAMPLE 6

The serial number can have up to 6 digits.

The distribution is: type (2), year (4), serial number (1-6)

EXAMPLE 7

“U” for utility model would be “Only letters”; “20” for utility models - “only numerals”

EXAMPLE 8

The type is coded implicitly in the serial number: all serial numbers in the range [0; 9999] indicate a utility model. All others indicate a patent.

EXAMPLE 9

For the scenario described in Example 1, the table would be filled in as follows:

For copy 1 of 2 (first numbering system which relates to patents and patent-like applications)		For copy 2 of 2 (second numbering system relating to trademarks and designs)	
Code	IP right	Code	IP right
10	patents	T	trade marks
12	plant patents	D	industrial designs
14	PCT applications		

EXAMPLE 10

For the case described in Example 6 above the response could be: The serial number begins at 100 each year, and can reach up to six digits at the end of a year. No leading zeros are used.

EXAMPLE 11

Paper filings begin at 1 each year, electronic filings begin at 50000. At the end of the year, there is usually a gap of about 15000 between the last paper filing and the first electronic filing.

EXAMPLE 12

In digits 1 and 2 of the serial number.

EXAMPLE 13

Three sub-offices in towns A, B, and C, as assumed in Example 3, could be coded as:

Sub-office in town A: Code “a”

Sub-office in town B: Code “b”

Sub-office in town C: Code “c”

EXAMPLE 14

For the system with fixed length of the application numbers

In part <serial number>, digit in position 6 (leftmost position is 1) of the application number

For the system with variable length of the application number

In part <serial number>, last digit of the Example 16: Our office additionally codes e-filing information in the application number. E-filings have serial numbers 50000-100000, where 50000-74999 are e-filings using epline, and 75000-10000 are e-filings using PCT-SAFE.
application number

EXAMPLE 15

The last answer could be:

“The control number can be a number from 1 to 12, or the letter A.”

EXAMPLE 16

Our office additionally codes e-filing information in the application number. E-filings have serial numbers 50000-100000, where 50000-74999 are e-filings using epoline, and 75000-10000 are e-filings using PCT-SAFE.

EXAMPLE 17

Between the type of IPR and the year designation there is a space, between the year designation and the serial number there is a slash and between the serial number and the check digit there is a dot. <IPR type>space<year>/<serial number>.<check digit> e.g. 10 2010/345678.4

EXAMPLE 18

In the case described in Example 17 above the application number is "10 2010/345678.4", the Office could recommend using presentation "10 2010 345678 P" as the priority application number. Then the discrepancies take place for:

Code for the type of IPR:

In priority application numbers the type of IPR is coded with both letters and numerals

Control numbers (check digits):

There is no check digit in priority application numbers

Use of separators:

Only spaces are used as separators in priority application numbers

Other fields, i.e. Year designation, Serial number, Code for internal use, and Other information, remain empty.

EXAMPLE 19

In the case described in Examples 3 and 4 above the response could be as follows: Deviations in the ordering of parts, additional part for regional filing information.

EXAMPLE 20

Table filled in by various Offices

Country or Organization	Example of application number	Recommended presentation as a priority application number	Remarks
EP European Patent Office	79100953.3	79100953	(Used from XXXX) - Explanation of numbering system - Type of IP rights (Position: N/A) - Year designation (Position: 1-2) The first two digits indicate the last two numbers of the year of filing of the application. - Serial number (Position: 5-8) - Code for Internal Use (Position: 3-4) - Control Number/Check Digit (Position: 9, after the dot)

Country or Organization	Example of application number	Recommended presentation as a priority application number	Remarks
DE German Patent and Trademark Office (DPMA)	10 2004 000 001.7 20 2004 000 001.3 50 2004 000 001.4 60 2004 000 001.9	10 2004 000 001 20 2004 000 001 U	Used from 2004 - Explanation of numbering system - Type of IP rights (Position: 1-2) 10: DE patent application. 11: PCT patent application in the national phase. 12: SPC application 20: Utility models 21: Utility models resulting from PCT applications 22: topographies 50: Patents granted by EPO, filed in German 60: Patents granted by EPO, filed in English or French - Year designation (Position: 3-6) - Serial number (Position: 7-12) - Code for Internal Use (Position: N/A) - Control Number (Check Digit) (Position: 13, after the dot)

Country or Organization	Example of application number	Recommended presentation as a priority application number	Remarks
DK Denmark	PA 1998 01234 BA 1998 00123	1998 01234 1998 00123 U	Used from 1998 - Explanation of numbering system - Type of IP rights (Position: 1-2) These letter codes do not appear on the first pages of the published documents. The letter "U" indicating applications for utility model appears only in the Recommended Presentation in Abbreviated Form as a Priority Application Number. PA: Patent application BA: Utility model applications - Year designation (Position: 3-6) The numerals in the third to sixth positions represent the year of filing of the application. - Serial number (Position: 7-11) The last five numerals represent a serial number assigned to the application. - Code for Internal Use (Position: N/A) - Control Number (Check Digit) (Position: N/A)

Country or Organization	Example of application number	Recommended presentation as a priority application number	Remarks
MX Mexico	GT/a/2003/000001 GT/f/2003/001234 GT/t/2003/000321 GT/u/2003/123456 JL/a/2003/000001 JL/f/2003/001234 JL/t/2003/000321 JL/u/2003/123456 NL/a/2003/000001 NL/f/2003/001234 NL/t/2003/000321 NL/u/2003/123456 PA/a/2003/000001 PA/f/2003/001234 PA/t/2003/000321 PA/u/2003/123456 YU/a/2003/000001 YU/f/2003/001234 YU/t/2003/000321 YU/u/2003/123456	GT/a/2003/000001 GT/f/2003/001234 GT/t/2003/000321 GT/u/2003/123456 JL/a/2003/000001 JL/f/2003/001234 JL/t/2003/000321 JL/u/2003/123456 NL/a/2003/000001 NL/f/2003/001234 NL/t/2003/000321 NL/u/2003/123456 PA/a/2003/000001 PA/f/2003/001234 PA/t/2003/000321 PA/u/2003/123456 YU/a/2003/000001 YU/f/2003/001234 YU/t/2003/000321 YU/u/2003/123456	Introduced on January 1, 2000 - Explanation of numbering system The application number is composed of four elements, which represent the minimum significant part of the application number, as described below: - Type of IP rights (Position: 3) One alphanumeric character in lower case letter to indicate the type of industrial property right application: "a" for patent applications; "f" for industrial design or model applications; "t" for applications for layout-designs (topographies) of integrated circuits; "u" for utility model applications. - Year designation (Position: 4-7) Four digits to indicate, in compliance with the Gregorian calendar, the year of filing of the application; Examples: 1991, 1999, 2001, 2003 - Serial number (Position: 8-13) Six digits to indicate a sequential number identifying a single application. This sequential number is fixed in length and may be completed by leading zeros, if necessary. Examples: 123456, 000001, 004321. - Code for Internal Use (Position: 1-2) Two alphanumeric characters in capital letters to indicate the receiving office of the application: "GT" for the Regional Office of Zona Bajío (León, Guanajuato); "JL" for the Regional Office of Zona Occidente (Zapopan, Jalisco); "NL" for the Regional Office of Zona Norte (Monterrey, Nuevo León); "PA" for the Central Office (México, Federal District); "YU" for the regional Office of Zona Sureste (Mérida, Yucatán). - Control Number (Check Digit) (Position: N/A)