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01. MyEPO services to fully replace several tools, as of 1 July

**NEW TOOLS AND
FEATURES HAVE BEEN
ADDED AND OLD
ONES REPLACED**

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Since the launch of the first online filing tool in 2001, the European Patent Office (EPO) has been working towards a modern, fully digitalized patent granting process. New tools and features have been added, old ones replaced, and functionalities redesigned to create a suite of services that support a simplified, easy-to-use and interactive process. This process of continuous modernization of our tools will continue under our Strategic Plan 2028.

In the framework of the continuous improvement of our services and as outlined in our strategic MyEPO Roadmap, on 1 July 2024 we will decommission a series of tools and services.... [Read more](#)

02. Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) news and announcements

**THE NEW DOLLAR
AMOUNT OF THE
SEARCH FEE REQUIRED
BY THE EPO WILL BE
\$1,989**

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The International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization has informed the United States Patent and Trademark Office that a new dollar amount has been established for the search fee required by the European Patent Office (EPO) when acting as an International Searching Authority. The new dollar amount of the search fee required by the EPO will be \$1,989 and will go into effect April 1, 2024 .

Effective 06 March 2024, the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOP HL) may act as an International Searching Authority (ISA) and International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) for international applications filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) as a Receiving Office (RO/US). The dollar amount of the search fee required by the IPOP HL when acting as an ISA is \$600.... [Read more](#)

03. TM Checker results are in – it's a success!

**TM CHECKER HELPS
INCREASE AWARENESS
OF TRADE MARKS AND
PROVIDES A SIMPLE
AND USER-FRIENDLY
ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE (AI)**

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Our TM Checker tool successfully exits pilot, empowering small businesses with AI-driven trademark assistance.

On 30 April, our TM Checker tool advanced out of pilot. Launched in October 2022, TM Checker helps increase awareness of trademarks and provides a simple and user-friendly artificial intelligence (AI) tool to help users check the potential availability of their trademark for registration..

What were the results of the pilot?

Small businesses have traditionally been under-represented in the trade mark system, so TM Checker was designed to increase their participation. 2024 figures show an average of 660 daily views and 140 weekly applications which is an encouraging sign of innovation and brand protection.... [Read more](#)

04. Trinidad and Tobago join TMview

**TMVIEW NOW
PROVIDES
INFORMATION AND
ACCESS TO MORE THAN
121 MILLION
TRADEMARKS IN TOTAL**

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As of 15 April 2024, the Trinidad and Tobago Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO) has made its trademark data available to the TMview search tool. With TTIPO on board of TMview, the tool now contains data from 77 participating offices. With the addition of more than 55,500 trademarks from TTIPO, TMview now provides information and access to more than 121 million trademarks in total . Since the introduction of TMview on 13 April 2010, the tool has served more than 128 million searches from users worldwide, with United States, Spain, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and China among the most frequent visitors. The integration of TTIPO in TMview is a concrete result of the EU funded project called CarIPI, which is directed by the European.... [Read more](#)

05. Improving search documentation for the international patent system

**NEW PROVISIONS
GOVERNING PCT
MINIMUM DOC.'N
WILL INCREASE THE
NO. OF PATENT
COLLECTIONS
AVAILABLE TO ISA**

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The PCT Minimum Documentation Task Force met to discuss forthcoming changes that will improve the quality of international patent searches. From 22 to 25 April 2024, the EPO hosted the 7th session of WIPO's PCT Minimum Documentation Task Force online. Good progress was made on the implementation of the new legal and technical requirements, to which PCT Authorities and other major offices should conform by 1 January 2026. These new provisions governing PCT minimum documentation will increase the number of patent collections available to International Searching Authorities, facilitate their accessibility, and thus further enhance the quality of international searches for the benefit of all stakeholders of the patent system, especially the users. At the Task Force meeting, the 28 delegations agreed on new technical.... [Read more](#)

06. Eight newspapers sue OpenAI, Microsoft for copyright infringement

**CHATGPT, WHICH
RELIES ON VAST
AMOUNT OF DATA
SCRAPED FROM THE
INTERNET**

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Eight daily newspapers including The New York Daily News and The Chicago Tribune sued OpenAI and Microsoft on Tuesday seeking to stop the tech companies' from using copyrighted articles to train artificial intelligence chatbots. The copyright infringement suit claims the maker of ChatGPT copied stories from the newspapers "with impunity," never seeking permission or payment for the use of millions of articles that were used by the popular chatbot to respond to questions. ChatGPT, which relies on vast amount of data scraped from the internet, has become a direct competitor... [Read more](#)

07. USPTO issues guidance concerning the use of AI tools by parties and practitioners

**GUIDANCE REMINDS
INDIVIDUALS
INVOLVED IN
PROCEEDINGS BEFORE
THE USPTO OF THE
PERTINENT RULES**

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As mentioned in our February 6, 2024 guidance to ensure AI is not misused – or left unchecked – in practice before our judicial boards, we are publishing additional guidance in the Federal Register for practitioners and the public to inform them of the important issues that patent and trademark professionals, innovators, and entrepreneurs must navigate while using artificial intelligence (AI) in matters before the USPTO. The guidance reminds individuals involved in proceedings before the USPTO of the pertinent rules and policies, helps inform those same individuals of the risks associated with the use of AI, and provides suggestions to mitigate those risks. "Today's notice is part of our work shaping AI policy,... [Read more](#)

08. China's National Intellectual Property Administration Joins the Patent Prosecution Highway Improvement Initiative in Cooperation with the IP5

**CNIPA WILL AIM FOR
AN AVERAGE TIME TO
ISSUANCE OF A FIRST
OFFICE ACTION FROM
GRANT OF A PPH
REQUEST**

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China's National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) announced on April 11, 2024 that it will join the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Improvement Initiative (PPH改进倡议) in cooperation with the IP5 (China, the United States, Europe, Japan and South Korea). The Initiative's goal is to provide a more predictable examination cycle. Accordingly, CNIPA will aim for an average time to issuance of a first office action from grant of a PPH request at 3 months. Similarly, CNIPA will aim for an average time of Examiner response to Applicant's reply at 3 months. The Patent Prosecution Highway is an international cooperation... [Read more](#)

09. PHAP joins IPOPHL in anti-counterfeiting E-Commerce MOU and promoting healthcare innovations

**BY CREATING AN
ENVIRONMENT THAT
STIMULATES
INNOVATION
THROUGH IP**

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The Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) has partnered with the Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Association of the Philippines (PHAP) to better protect the public against counterfeit drugs and build a local environment that encourages more affordable, quality healthcare innovations. "By creating an environment that stimulates innovation through IP, we can ensure widespread access to quality and affordable medicines for our people even as we protect IP rights from possible infringement and the public against counterfeit drugs," IPOPHL Director General Rowel S. Barba said last April 8 at the signing of the two memoranda of understanding with PHAP.... [Read more](#)

10. The Regional Patent Collection of the Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf is Now Available in PATENTSCOPE

**THE REGIONAL
COLLECTION OF THE
GCC, PATENTSCOPE
NOW PROVIDES
ACCESS**

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The regional patent collection of the Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) is now available in WIPO's global patent search system PATENTSCOPE. It includes over 11,500 bibliographic documents. Records include a direct link to the website of the GCC for more information.

With the inclusion of the regional collection of the GCC, PATENTSCOPE now provides access to a total of 80 national and regional collections, in addition to the collection of all published PCT applications.... [Read more](#)

11. USERS FROM ONE MORE COUNTRY APPLIED FOR THE EURASIAN DESIGN SYSTEM

**THE MOST ACTIVE
USERS OF THE SYSTEM
ARE APPLICANTS
FROM THE RUSSIAN
FEDERATION**

Today, the range of users of the Eurasian system for legal protection of industrial designs has been expanded to one more country. The first Eurasian application for industrial design was received from an applicant from Spain. During almost three years of functioning of the regional system for patenting industrial designs, applications have been filed by applicants from 27 countries. The most active users of the system are applicants from the Russian Federation as well as from the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan and China.

One Eurasian application may include up to 100 industrial designs related to one class of the International Classification of Industrial Designs (ICID). An applicant may also supplement the application with a 3D model... [Read more](#)

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12. PPH pilot program between the Japan Patent Office (JPO) and the Moroccan Office of Industrial and Commercial Property Office (OMPIC)

**OMPIC HAVE BEEN
IMPLEMENTING A PPH
PILOT PROGRAM SINCE
1 JANUARY 2021**

The Japan Patent Office (JPO) and the Moroccan Office of Industrial and Commercial Property Office (OMPIC) have been implementing a PPH pilot program since 1 January 2021. On 1 April 2024, the two Offices indefinitely extended the program instead of renewing a pilot period.

How to make a request

Guidelines (Requirements and procedures in detail) and Request form for Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH)... [Read more](#)

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