

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN NEWS

PAJ News is distributed overseas to provide the latest patent information of Japan and to maintain solid communication with foreign patent offices.

No. **34**

2004



Message from the Chairman of the NCIPI

In the 21st century, when information and knowledge are essential for adding value to products, it is important for us to stimulate intellectual

creation which is a powerful driving force in industrial activities. In order to vitalize our economy and promote the creation of new businesses, the industrial property system must function more effectively than ever as a means to protect intellectual property appropriately and to promote the effective utilization of such property.

Under these circumstances, the National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training (NCIPI) intends to make enormous efforts, in cooperation with the Japan Patent Office (JPO), to fulfill its responsibilities, which include providing access to patent gazettes and other patent-related information, offering consultation services, promoting patent licensing, training specialists, and developing human resources, in a timely and appropriate manner. The NCIPI's underlying objective is to improve and fortify the infrastructure of the industrial property system, which primarily consists of "information" and "human resources" and to create an "environment" to facilitate the effective utilization of the components of this infrastructure.

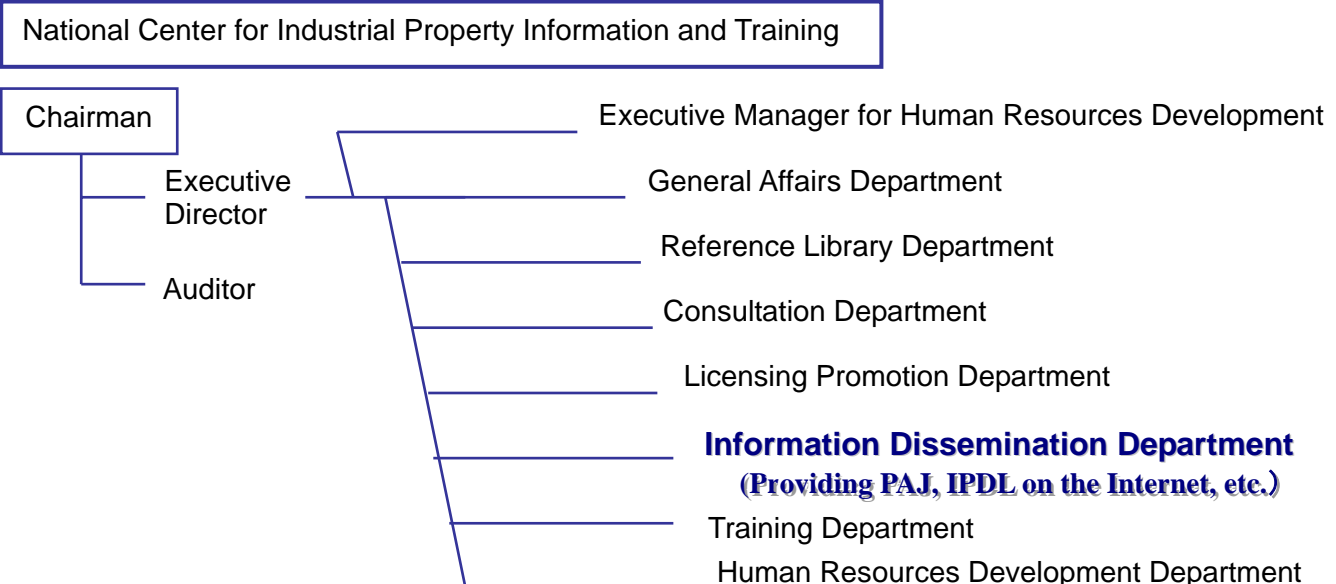
We aim to increase public understanding of the industrial property system. To this end, we continue to make unified efforts to support the creation and exploitation of intellectual property while making the best use of our mobility and flexibility to attain the organization-wide objectives of creating an ideal environment for intellectual property.

Isamu Shimizu
Chairman
National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training

History of the NCIPI

◆ June 1884	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Archives Section of the Trademark Registry within the Engineering Office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce starts to provide access to books, other reference materials, and trademark samples for inspection. ● The Archives Section starts to provide access to patent specifications for inspection in April 1885.
◆ December 1887	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A library is established within the General Affairs Department of the Patent Office in the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce. ● An exhibition hall is established in a (Correct?) branch office of the library.
◆ January 1918	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The exhibition hall is annexed to the library as the Exhibition Center.
◆ December 1924	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The library is integrated into the Exhibition Center.
◆ May 1941	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Application Consultation Office is established within the Application Division of the Patent Office
◆ August 1952	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Exhibition Center changes its name to the Universal Industrial Property Information Center.
◆ October 1986	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Center starts to provide access to a Comprehensive Reference Database (containing electronic data of gazettes already published in paper format) for inspection.
◆ January 1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Center starts to use electronic gazettes (patent/utility model gazettes in CD-ROM format).
◆ April 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Center changes its name to the National Center for Industrial Property Information and starts to provide consultation services on industrial property as well as to promote information diffusion.
◆ January 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The NCIPI starts to provide access to data in the Industrial Property Digital Library for inspection in its Gazette Reading Room.
◆ April 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The NCIPI becomes an independent administrative agency.
◆ October 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The NCIPI changes its name to the National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training and starts to distribute industrial property information and to provide training programs for human resource development.

Organization



How to access the new IPDL homepage

As reported in issue No.33, the National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training (NCIPI) took over from the Japan Patent Office in October 1, 2004 a number of responsibilities including the management and development of both the Patent Abstracts of Japan (PAJ) and the Industrial Property Digital Library (IPDL). Therefore, we have changed our homepage address from "http://www.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/homepg_e.ipdl" to "http://www.ipdl.ncipi.go.jp/homepg_e.ipdl." Our new address is formed by replacing "jpo" with "ncipi".

The various procedures for accessing the new IPDL homepage is explained below.

Homepage address: <http://www.ncipi.go.jp/>



**Homepage address:
http://www.ipdl.ncipi.go.jp/homepg_e.ipdl**



The NCIPI Homepage

The IPDL Homepage



The Japan Patent Office Homepage

From the NCIPI homepage and the JPO homepage (<http://www.jpo.go.jp/>), we are able to access the IPDL homepage. Click on "Industrial Property Digital Library (IPDL)" to access the IPDL homepage.

Users who have a link to the JPO homepage and who have bookmarked the JPO homepage address are kindly requested to replace the old address with the new one immediately. As an interim measure, users were able to access the JPO homepage with the old address, but please note that since the end of November 2004, users have not been able to access the IPDL homepage with the old address.

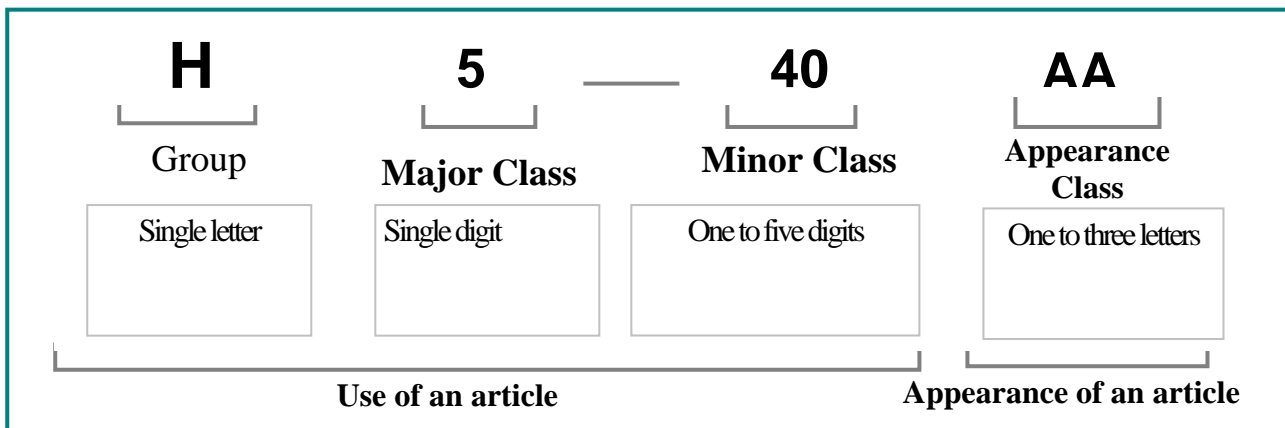
Revision of Japanese Design Classification and D-terms

The Japan Patent Office will adopt a new Japanese Design Classification and new D-terms on January 1, 2005. The notation of the Japanese Design Classification and D-terms will change in accordance with the change in the classification structure, as indicated below.

What is the Japanese Design Classification?

The Japanese Design Classification categorizes articles primarily according to their usage. The Japanese Design Classification is divided into groups ranging from A to N, each of which is further divided into major classes, minor classes, and appearance classes (i.e., classified according to appearance), and consists of about five thousand classification branches.

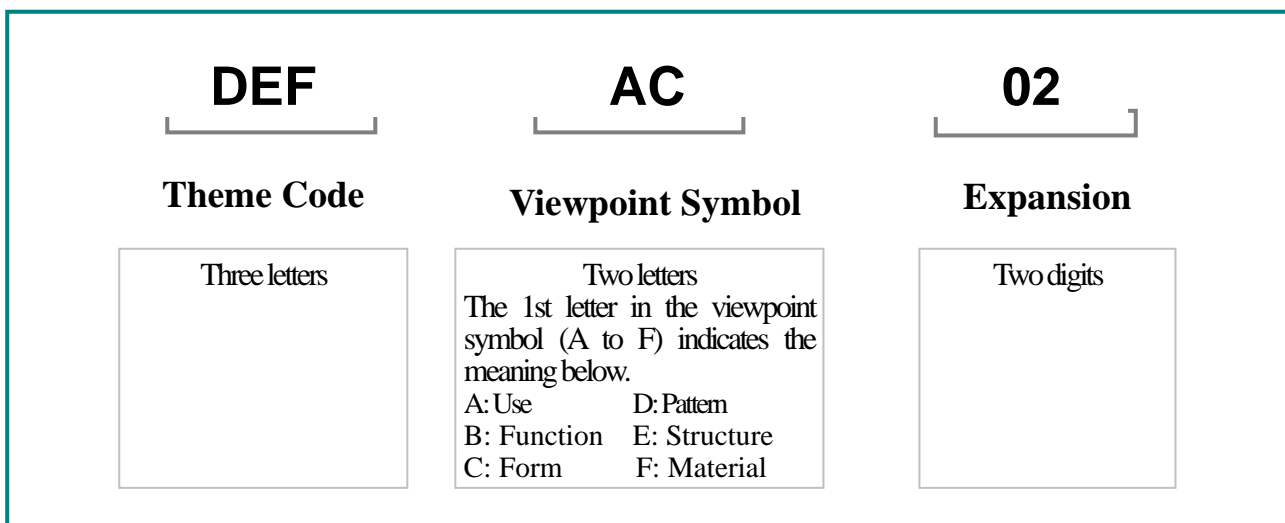
The Classification Structure



What is a D-term?

A D-term is a computer search key which further divides design classifications and categorizations. A D-term takes into account the features of each design from multiple viewpoints and categorizes the materials for examination from a viewpoint which differs from design classification. The IPDL makes available the D-term search keys in Japanese.

The Classification Structure



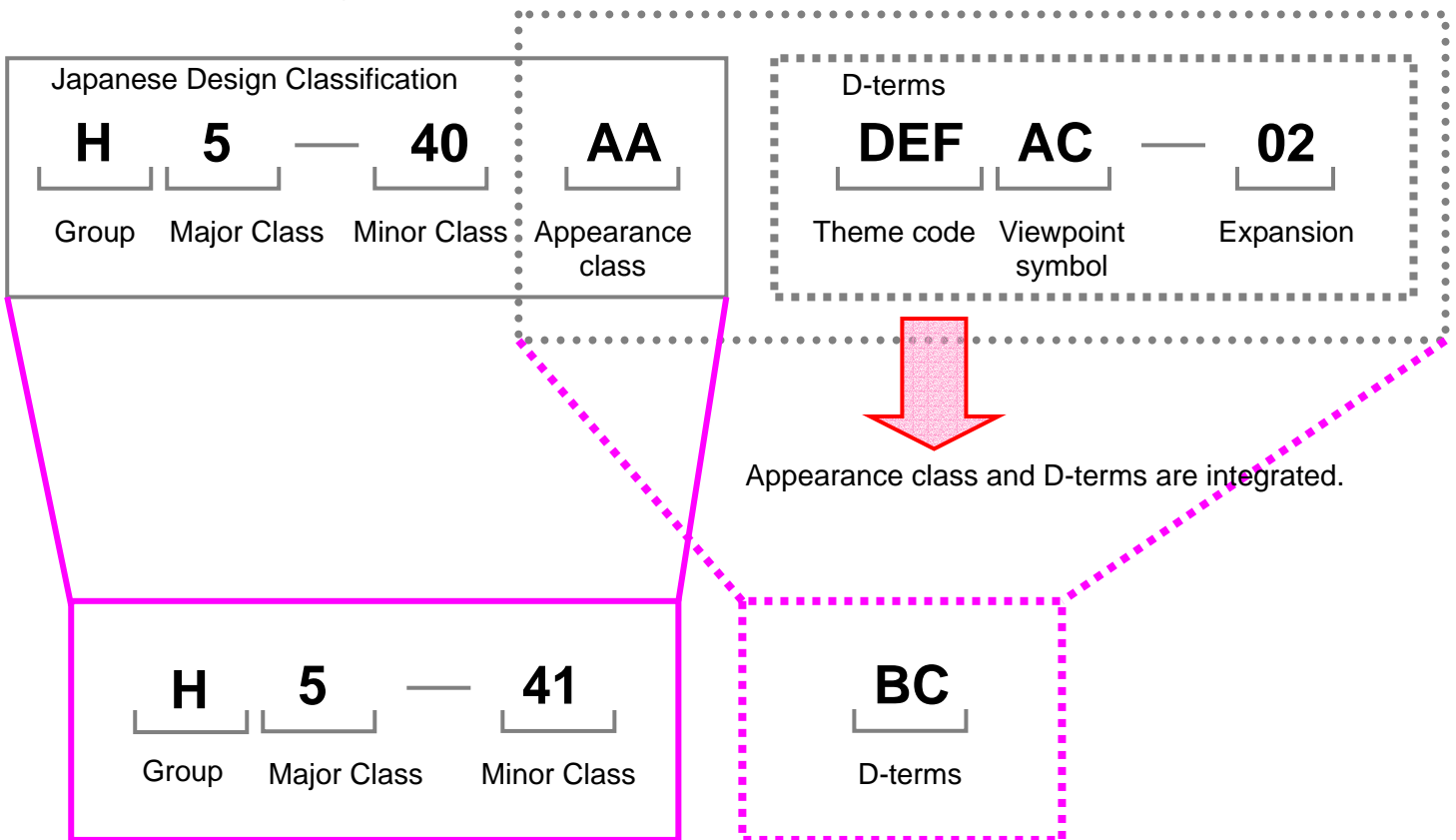
Outline of the Japanese Design Classification/D-Term Revision

- (1) Unification of Appearance Class and D-terms
- (2) Reorganization of the Japanese Design Classification
- (3) Revision adopted as of January 1, 2005

(1) Unification of Japanese Design Classification and D-terms

- ◆ The Japanese Design Classification presently consists of groups, Major classes, minor classes, and appearance classes. However, as of January 1, 2005, it will consist of groups, major classes, and minor classes.
- ◆ Appearance classes are integrated into D-terms.

Present Japanese Design Classification



New Japanese Design Classification & D-terms

Japanese Design Classification and D-terms: Notation**

	Present	As of January 1, 2005
Japanese Design Classification	A1—12345ABC (Maximum: Eleven figures*)	A1—12345 (Maximum: Eight figures*)
D-terms	ZZZYY12 (Maximum: Seven figures*)	A1—12345ABC (Maximum: Eleven figures*)

Note: * A hyphen (—) is counted as a figure.

** The Japanese Design Classification is always indicated before the D-terms.

Usage of new Classifications

- ◆ Each document always has only one classification in the Japanese Design Classification.
- ◆ With regard to D-terms, each document has one or more D-terms.
If a document has more than one D-term, the D-terms belong to the same classification.

Examples

	Present		As of January 1, 2005	
	2004-12345		2005-00001	
Japanese Design Classification	H4-330	One classification →	H7-6242	One classification
D-terms	HTA BA02 HTA CA01	Plural classifications →	H7-6242AA H7-6242BB (× H1-3434A)	Plural D-terms (Maximum: Seven)

(2) Reorganization of the Japanese Design Classification

- ◆ The Japan Patent Office reorganizes the Japanese Design Classification on the basis of current filing trends and adds classifications for new goods in all fields.

〈Vastly Reorganized Classification〉

- ◆ D1 and D2 are abolished and reorganized into D6 and D7.
- ◆ F4 and F5 are abolished and reorganized into F4~6.
- ◆ H3~5 are abolished and reorganized into H6 and H7.
- ◆ L4~L6 are reorganized, L5 is abolished, and L7 is established.

(3) As of January 1, 2005

- ◆ The JPO will start to classify applications for design registration according to the new Japanese Design Classification as of January 1, 2005.
- ◆ The present Japanese Design Classification will be used for applications for design registration filed by December 31, 2004 and the corresponding notation will appear in the Design Gazette when a design registration is published, even in Design Gazettes which are published after January 1, 2005.

Contact

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Notice: Incorrect data in some parts of the abstracts in the PAJ

With regard to the Patent Abstracts of Japan, some errors were discovered in the data in the PAJ CD-ROMs issued from April 2004 to August 2004. For more detailed information, please see "List of the Issue." In order to remedy this problem, we produced a modified version of the PAJ CD-ROMs and in November 2004 sent it to each agency which has been exchanging intellectual property information with us regularly. Please replace the incorrect PAJ CD-ROM with the modified version. We apologize for any inconvenience.

List of the issue

	Month of Publication	Publication Number
1	January 2004	2004- 102
2		2004- 2331
3		2004- 16134
4		2004- 27286
5	February 2004	2004- 35939
6		2004- 36806
7		2004- 41263
8		2004- 44028
9		2004- 45944
10		2004- 49683
11		2004- 51410
12		2004- 53833
13		2004- 57738
14	March 2004	2004- 67543
15		2004- 77773
16		2004- 77957
17		2004- 82163
18		2004- 90587
19		2004- 91270
20	April 2004	2004- 117500
21		2004- 123904
22		2004- 125706
23		2004- 133720
24	May 2004	2004- 137754

In regard to this problem, please feel free to contact the Japan Patent Information Organization (JAPIO), which is in charge of producing the PAJ CD-ROM data, as indicated below.

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Japan Patent Information Organization

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