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< For PAJ/CD-ROM users >

Please execute the “update.exe” file stored on the PAJ CD-ROM issued on July 27, 2006. The function for searching IPC will be available by executing it.

In addition, please refer to “PAJ News 39, Page 7” about how to execute the “update.exe” file.

1. Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Program between the USPTO and the JPO

The JPO and the USPTO have started accepting the requests for pilot program on Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) from applicants since July 3, 2006.

The PPH was taken up as an important challenge in the Joint METI-DOC Initiative for Enhanced Japan-U.S. Cooperation on IPR Protection and Enforcement and other Global Issues (METI-DOC Initiative) signed by Mr. Toshiaki Nikai, Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and Mr. Carlos M. Gutierrez, Commerce Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce on March 30, 2006. The PPH is also based on the "Action Plan for Expeditious and Efficient Patent Examination", which is decided by the Headquarters for Expeditious and Efficient Patent Examinations.

1. Purpose and Outline of the PPH

The PPH enables an application whose claims are determined to be allowable/ patentable in the Office of First Filing (OFF) to undergo an accelerated examination in the Office of Second Filing (OSF) with a simple procedure according to a request from an applicant [see the figure 1]. Thus the application can be patented at an early stage relatively easily in the OSF. Moreover, it is expected to reduce the burden of examination and enhance the quality of examination since the PPH encourages the utilization of search and examination results of the OFF at the OSF

Current accelerated examination systems of the JPO and the USPTO require an applicant to conduct a pre-examination search and to submit the search results (references), an explanation of comparison between the claimed invention and prior arts and an explanation of patentability of the claims. Under the Patent Prosecution Highway scheme, however, each Office permits an applicant to submit to the OSF office actions of the OFF together with patentable claims of the OFF and references cited by an examiner of the OFF, as an alternative to those documents required in the current accelerated examination system.

2. PPH Pilot Program between the USPTO and the JPO

The purpose of the pilot program is to examine the requirements of the PPH and the operating procedures. It is also preferable to have a trial period to familiarize applicants and examiners with the PPH scheme and the procedures. The Offices will conduct an evaluation

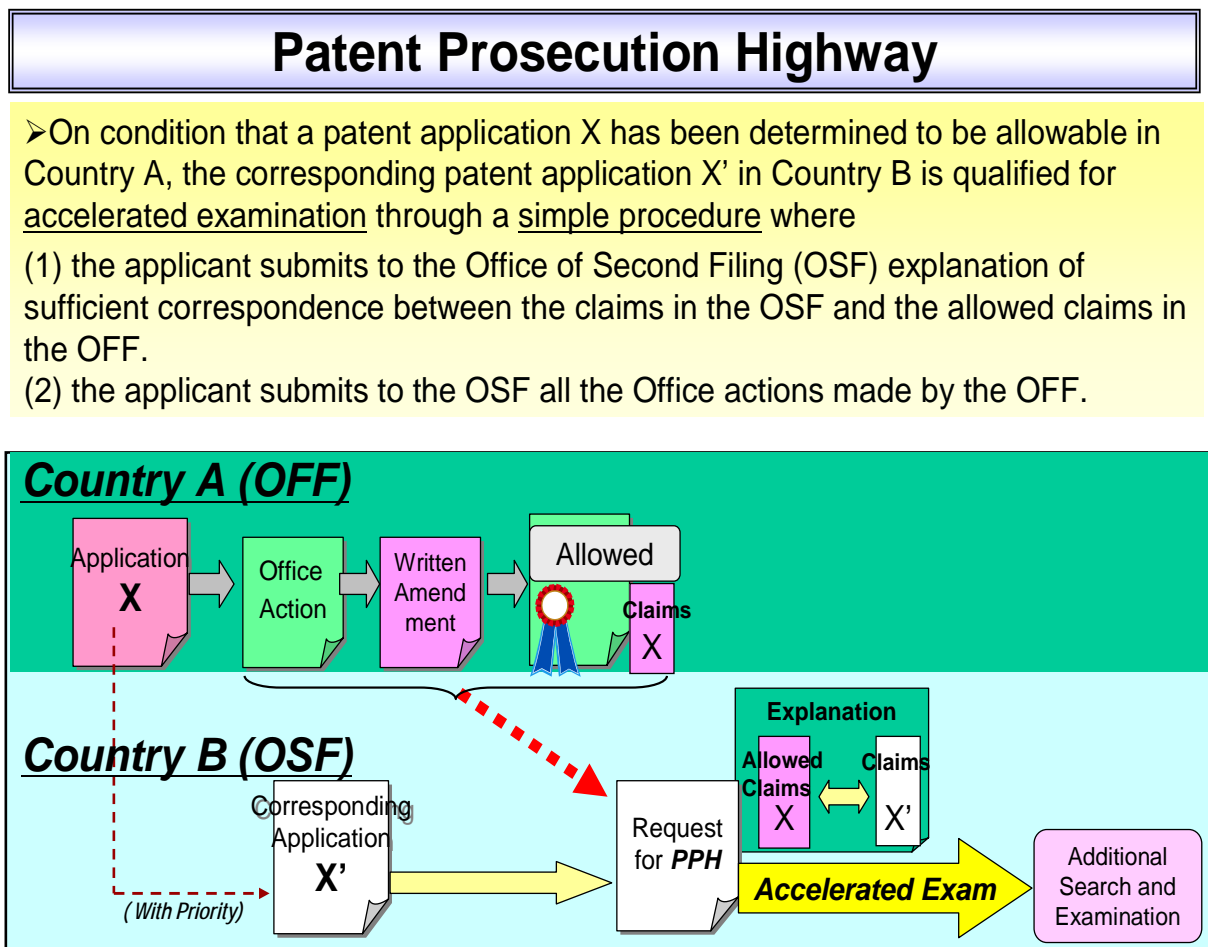
of the results of the pilot program. The Offices aim to commence full implementation in July 2007 based on the results of the pilot program.

3. Future prospects of the PPH

The JPO has already reached an agreement with the KIPO on the PPH and the two Offices plan to start implementing it by the end of 2007. The JPO has also been discussing the PPH with other central IP Offices in industrialized nations. The EPO has been considering the possibility of taking part in the pilot program. The JPO also officially started discussing the PPH with the UK Patent Office, the German Patent and Trade Mark Office, and the Canadian Intellectual Property Office.

In this way, the JPO will work to establish a system which will enable Japanese companies to obtain patents in both industrialized and developing countries.

Figure 1:



2. Data addition to 120 themes in F-term Description of IPDL/PMGS

120 themes of F-term Description were additionally made available in IPDL/PMGS on June 30, 2006.

We should appreciate it if you would utilize the information from F-term Description of IPDL/PMGS. The new 120 themes are as follow;

http://www5.ipdl.ncipi.go.jp/pmgs1/pmgs1/pmgs_E

NO	THEME CODE	THEME NAME	IPC Coverage
1	2C017	FILING APPLIANCES	B42F1/00-21/12
2	2C028	ELECTRICALLY OPERATED EDUCATIONAL APPLIANCES	G09B1/00-9/56;17/00-19/26
3	2C032	DEVICES FOR INSTRUCTION	G09B23/00-29/14
4	2C057	INK JET, e.g. PARTICLE FORMATION, SCATTERING CONTROL	B41J3/04,103-3/04,104@Z
5	2C058	PAPER HANDLING	B41J11/00-11/70
6	2C061	ACCESSORIES OR OVERALL CONTROL	B41J29/00-29/70
7	2C062	DOT PRINTERS; OTHERS	B41J3/00;3/00@K-3/00@C;3/00@E-3/04 ;3/06-3/10,101@Z;3/10,106-3/10,106@Z ;3/10,114-3/10,114@Z;3/12-3/15;3/22
8	2C162	ELECTROMAGNETIC PRINTERS AND OPTICAL PRINTERS	B41J3/16-3/18,103;3/21-3/21@Z
9	2C262	COLOUR; GRADATION	B41J3/00@A-3/00@B
10	2C362	LASER BEAM PRINTER	B41J3/00@D-3/00@Q
11	2E002	BEARING WALL; CURTAIN WALL	E04B2/56-2/70;2/88-2/96
12	2E016	FIXING OF GLASS PANES OR THE LIKE AND DOOR LEAVES	E06B3/54-3/88
13	2E042	CLOSURES, e.g. SHUTTERS	E06B9/00-9/00@Z;9/02-9/02@Z ;9/06-9/18;9/56-9/92
14	2E125	CONNECTION OF BUILDING STRUCTURES IN GENERAL	E04B1/38-1/60,512@Z
15	2E163	ROD-SHAPED CONSTRUCTION MEMBERS	E04C3/00-3/46
16	2F002	ELECTRONIC TIME-PIECES	G04G1/00-15/00@Z
17	2H001	OPTICAL FIBRE CABLES	G02B6/44,351-6/44,396
18	2H002	EXPOSURE CONTROL FOR CAMERAS	G03B7/00-7/28
19	2H087	LENS SYSTEMS	G02B9/00-17/08@Z;21/02-21/04 ;25/00-25/04
20	2H090	LIQUID CRYSTAL 3 (SUBSTRATES, INSULATION LAYERS, AND ALIGNMENT MEMBERS)	G02F1/1333,500-1/1333,505 ;1/1337-1/1337,530
21	2H099	OTHER OPTICAL SYSTEMS OR APPARATUS, LIGHT INTERFERENCE, OR COLOUR CONTROL	G02B27/00-27/64;G02F1/21-1/25
22	2K008	HOLOGRAPHY	G03H1/00-5/00
23	3B001	TABLE-WARE	A47G19/00-19/34
24	3B005	DECORATIONS BY TRANSFER	B44C1/16-1/175@Z
25	3B053	TABLES, DESKS OR SERVICE WAGONS	A47B1/00-41/06
26	3B069	DETAILS OF FURNITURE	A47B91/00-97/08@Z
27	3B084	CHAIR LEGS, SEATS, BACKRESTS AND ACCESSORIES	A47C7/00-7/74@Z
28	3B096	MATTRESSES AND OTHERS FOR CHAIRS OR BEDS	A47C27/00-27/22@Z;31/00-31/12

29	3B110	SHOWCASES; RACKS FOR DISPENSING MERCHANDISE	A47F1/00-3/14;11/00-11/10
30	3B118	DISPLAY SHELVES	A47F5/00-8/02
31	3B202	BRUSHWARE AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF	A46B1/00-17/08;A46D1/00-9/06
32	3D014	AXLE SUSPENSIONS AND SIDECARS	B62K25/00-27/16
33	3D036	ARRANGEMENT OR MOUNTING OF CONTROL DEVICES FOR POWER TRANSMISSION	B60K23/00-23/08@Z
34	3E064	BAGS	B65D30/00-33/38
35	3F015	DISCHARGE OF ARTICLES FROM CONVEYERS	B65G47/34-47/51
36	3F016	RELAY 1 BETWEEN CONVEYERS; ORTHOGONAL TYPE	B65G47/53-47/54@Z
37	3F017	SPECIAL CONVEYANCE 1(RECIPROCATING MEMBERS, SEPARATING AND STOPPING MEMBERS)	B65G47/82-47/82@Z;47/88-47/88@Z
38	3F049	CONVEYANCE BY BELTS OR ROLLERS	B65H5/02-5/02@Z;5/06-5/06@Z;5/22-5/22@Z ;29/12-29/24@Z;29/32-29/32@Z
39	3F050	ASSOCIATION OF SHEETS OR WEBS	B65H39/00-39/16
40	3F053	SEPARATION, SORTING, DECELERATION OR CURVING OF SHEETS	B65H29/54-29/70
41	3F101	FEEDING BY MEANS OTHER THAN BELTS OR ROLLERS	B65H5/00-5/00@Z;5/04;5/08-5/20 ;5/24-5/38;29/52
42	3F106	DELIVERING BY OTHER MEANS	B65H29/00-29/10;29/26-29/30;29/34-29/51
43	3F321	ESCALATORS OR MOVING WALKWAYS	B66B21/00-31/02@Z
44	3G005	SUPERCHARGER	F02B33/00-41/10@Z
45	3G006	CARBURETTOR (only for start-up and warm-up)	F02M1/00-5/16@Z;9/00-19/12@Z
46	3G031	USE OF INTAKE OR EXHAUST INERTIA	F02B27/00-27/06@Z
47	3G062	EXHAUST GAS RECIRCULATION ARRANGEMENT	F02B47/08-47/10;F02M25/06-25/07,580@Z
48	3G065	CONTROL OF THROTTLE VALVES AND RELATED MECHANISMS OR THE LIKE BETWEEN THROTTLE VALVES AND THE OPERATING MEANS THEREOF	F02D9/00-11/10@Z
49	3G091	AFTER TREATMENT OF EXHAUST GAS	F01N3/00-3/02@Z;3/04-3/38;9/00-9/00@Z
50	3G092	CONTROL OF ENGINE OUTPUT AND CONTROL OF SPECIAL TYPE ENGINE	F02D13/00-28/00@Z
51	3H031	NON-POSITIVE-DISPLACEMENT BLOWERS	F04D17/00-23/00@Z
52	3J009	REDUCTION GEAR 1	F16H1/00-1/26
53	3J032	FLEXIBLE SHAFTS	F16C1/00-1/28
54	3J040	GASKET SEALING	F16J15/00-15/14@Z
55	3J044	PISTONS, PISTON-RINGS, AND CYLINDERS	F16J1/00-1/24;7/00-10/04
56	3J048	ANTIVIBRATION ARRANGEMENTS	F16F15/00-15/36@Z
57	3J069	FLUID DAMPERS	F16F9/00-9/54
58	3K003	COMBUSTION SYSTEM	F23N1/02-1/06,105;3/00-5/00@Z ;5/18-5/18,101@Z;5/24-5/24,113@Z
59	3K023	AIR SUPPLY	F23L1/00-17/16,609@Z
60	3K039	OUTSIDE LIGHTING DEVICES OR SIGNALS OF VEHICLES	B60Q1/00-1/56
61	3K047	BURNERS USING CAPILLARY ACTION	F23D3/00-3/40@Z
62	3K064	FLUIDISED BED COMBUSTION AND RESONANT COMBUSTION	F23C11/02-11/04;F23G5/30-5/30@Z
63	3K090	HIGH-FREQUENCY HEATING; CONSTITUTION THEREOF	H05B6/46;6/52-6/64@Z;6/70-6/80@Z
64	3K095	LIGHTERS CONTAINING FUEL	F23Q2/00-2/52
65	3L049	ROOM UNITS OR SELF-CONTAINED UNITS IN GENERAL	F24F1/00-1/00,316;1/02-1/02,321

66	3L092	COMPRESSION REFRIGERATORS WITH REVERSIBLE CYCLES	F25B13/00-13/00,371
67	3L113	DRYING OF SOLID MATERIALS	F26B1/00-25/22@Z
68	4D021	SEPARATING SOLIDS FROM SOLIDS	B07B1/00-15/00
69	4D043	ADJUSTMENT AND PROCESSING OF GRAINS	B02B1/00-7/02,109
70	4D075	PROCESSES FOR APPLYING OR COATING FLUENT MATERIALS	B05D1/00-7/26
71	4E016	ROLLING ROLLS, ROLLING STANDS, OR DRIVES FOR ROLLING MILLS	B21B27/00-35/14@Z
72	4F033	NOZZLES AND SPRAYING APPARATUSES	B05B1/00-3/18;7/00-9/08
73	4F050	FOOTWEAR AND ITS ATTACHMENTS, MANUFACTURING METHODS OR DEVICES	A43B1/00-23/30;A43C1/00-17/06 ;A43D1/00-119/00
74	4F074	MANUFACTURE OF POROUS ARTICLES AND RECOVERY OR WORKING-UP OF WASTE MATERIALS	C08J9/00-9/42
75	4F100	LAYERED PRODUCTS (2)	B29D9/00;B32B1/00-35/00
76	4F201	TREATMENTS OF MOULDING MATERIALS SUCH AS PLASTICS, AND HANDLING IN GENERAL	B29B7/00-11/14;13/00-15/06 ;B29C31/00-31/10;37/00-37/04;71/00-71/02
77	4F301	SEPARATION, RECOVERY OR TREATMENT OF WASTE MATERIAL PLASTICS	B29B17/00-17/02;C08J11/00-11/28
78	4G001	CERAMIC PRODUCTS	C04B35/56-35/58,302@Z
79	4G026	JOINING OF CERAMICS	C04B37/00-37/04
80	4G077	CRYSTALS; AFTER-TREATMENTS FOR CRYSTALS	C30B1/00-35/00
81	4H011	AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS; PRESERVATION OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS	A01N1/00-65/02
82	4H027	LIQUID CRYSTAL MATERIALS	C09K19/00-19/60@Z
83	4J015	POLYMERISATION CATALYSTS	C08F4/00-4/58;4/72-4/82
84	4K037	HEAT TREATMENT OF STEEL SHEETS	C21D9/46-9/46@Z;9/48-9/48@Z
85	4L035	SYNTHETIC FIBRES	D01F1/00-6/96;9/00-9/04
86	5B015	S-RAM	G11C11/34-11/34,345;11/36-11/40,305
87	5B042	DEBUGGING AND MONITORING	G06F11/28-11/34@Z
88	5B069	DIGITAL COMPUTER DISPLAY OUTPUT	G06F3/14-3/153,340@Z
89	5B075	RETRIEVAL DEVICES	G06F17/30-17/30,419@Z
90	5B089	COMPUTERS OR DATA COMMUNICATIONS	G06F13/00,351-13/00,357@Z
91	5C006	CONTROL OF LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICES	G09G3/18;3/36
92	5C040	GAS-DISCHARGE-TYPE DISPLAY TUBES	H01J11/00-17/64
93	5C052	RECORDING OF TELEVISION SIGNALS	H04N5/76-5/76@Z;5/80-5/907@Z
94	5C053	TELEVISION SIGNAL PROCESSING FOR RECORDING	H04N5/91-5/95@Z
95	5C059	TELEVISION SIGNAL COMPRESSION; CODING METHOD	H04N7/12-7/137@Z
96	5C077	FACSIMILE IMAGE SIGNAL CIRCUITS	H04N1/40-1/40,104
97	5C079	COLOUR IMAGE COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS	H04N1/46-1/46@Z
98	5D029	OPTICAL RECORD CARRIER AND MANUFACTURE THEREOF	G11B7/24-7/24,572@Z
99	5D031	DIGITAL MAGNETIC RECORDING	G11B5/09-5/09,371@Z
100	5D044	SIGNAL PROCESSING FOR DIGITAL RECORDING AND REPRODUCTION	G11B20/10-20/16,351@Z
101	5D378	ELECTROPHONES	G10H1/00-7/00,541
102	5E501	USER INTERFACES FOR DIGITAL COMPUTERS	G06F3/00,601-3/00,680@Z

103	5F031	CONTAINERS, TRANSFERRING, SECURING OR POSITIONING OF WAFERS OR THE LIKE	H01L21/68-21/68@Z
104	5F033	INTERNAL WIRINGS OF SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DEVICES	H01L21/88-21/90@Z
105	5F044	BONDINGS	H01L21/447-21/449;21/60-21/607@Z
106	5F045	VAPOUR PHASE GROWTH EXCLUDING METAL LAYERS	H01L21/205;21/31-21/31@Z;21/365;21/469;21/86
107	5F049	LIGHT RECEIVING ELEMENTS 3: PHOTODIODES AND TRANSISTORS	H01L31/10-31/10@Z
108	5F110	THIN FILM TRANSISTOR	H01L29/78,611-29/78,627@Z
109	5G015	RESERVE POWER SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS	H02J9/00-11/00
110	5H029	SECONDARY BATTERIES; OTHER BATTERIES	H01M10/36-10/40@Z
111	5H115	CONTROL OF ELECTRICALLY-PROPELLED VEHICLES	B60L1/00-3/12;7/00-13/00@Z;15/00-15/42
112	5H560	CONTROLLING OF NON-COMMUTATOR MOTORS	H02P6/00-6/02,371@Z
113	5J006	WAVEGUIDE TYPE FREQUENCY SELECTIVE DEVICES AND RESONATORS	H01P1/20-1/219;7/00-7/10
114	5J100	CONTROL DETAILS OF AMPLIFIERS OR GAIN CONTROL	H03G1/00-3/34
115	5J103	CHANNEL SELECTION CIRCUITS ; AUTOMATIC TUNING CIRCUITS	H03J5/00-5/02@Z;5/14-5/30;7/00-7/32
116	5J104	CIPHERING AND DECIPHERING APPARATUSES, AND SECRET COMMUNICATION	G09C1/00-5/00;H04K1/00-3/00;H04L9/00-9/04
117	5J106	STABILISATION OF OSCILLATORS, SYNCHRONISATION OR FREQUENCY SYNTHESISERS	H03L1/00-7/26
118	5J108	PIEZO-ELECTRIC OR MECHANICAL OSCILLATORS, OR DELAY OR FILTER CIRCUITS	H03H3/007-3/06;9/00-9/135;9/15-9/24@Z;9/30-9/40;9/46-9/62;9/66;9/70;9/74
119	5K004	AC SYSTEM DIGITAL TRANSMISSION	H04L27/00-27/30
120	5K030	WIDE AREA DATA EXCHANGE	H04L12/00-12/26;12/50-12/66@Z

3. PAJ Issuance Schedule

[2006]

Date of publication of PAJ	PAJ			PAJ index
	Serial number for the year	Total serial number	Number of PAJ stored	Coverage
Jan. 31 (Tue.)	2006-1	133	34,400	2005-1[121]/2005-12[132]
Feb. 28 (Tue.)	2006-2	134	24,400	
Mar. 31 (Fri.)	2006-3	135	26,200	
Apr. 26 (Wed.)	2006-4	136	25,600	2006-1[133]/2006-3[135]
May 29 (Mon.)	2006-5	137	29,400	
Jun. 28 (Wed.)	2006-6	138	32,300	
Jul. 27 (Thu.)	2006-7	139	28,400	2006-1[133]/2006-3[138]
Aug.29 (Tue.)	2006-8	140	20,500	
Sep.27 (Wed.)	2006-9	141	38,500	